

Rooftop Solar PV Prior Approval Request LASER Energy

Shears Green Junior School, White Avenue, Northfleet,
Gravesend, Kent DA11 7JB

Version: V1
Date: 08/07/2026

Executive Summary

Site Address: Shears Green Junior School, White Avenue, Northfleet, Gravesend, Kent DA11 7JB

Proposal: Prior approval: Roof mounted solar PV on non-domestic building

This application seeks prior approval for the installation of a rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) system on a commercial property. The proposal aligns with national, regional, and international climate targets and demonstrates our client's commitment to reducing carbon emissions at a local level.

The project forms part of the wider strategy of the Commercial Services Group to deliver against the UK's legally binding carbon reduction targets. By investing in on-site renewable energy generation, this initiative will support long-term sustainability while allowing the client to redirect savings from energy costs to core service delivery.

Shears Green Junior School, the building is well used and occupied during term times. The surrounding community is characterized by a mix of residential housing and local amenities.

Full structural survey has been carried out. Which concludes the proposed can safely be fixed to the existing roof structure with no strengthening works being required.

Proposal Details:

- The proposed system is rated at 54kWp, with an expected annual generation of 51.93 mWh, covering approximately 81% of the on-site energy consumption.
- This installation is expected to offset 11 tonnes of CO₂ emissions annually, contributing to meaningful local action on climate change.
- The technology is mature and reliable, with an expected operational lifespan of at least 25 years, and includes a long-term performance warranty.

Permitted Development Compliance:

The installation will comply fully with the conditions set out under Class J of the General Permitted Development Order (GPDO). Specifically:

- Panels will not exceed 0.2m above the highest part of the sloping roof.
- Equipment will be set back at least 1m from the edge of the roof.
- The solar PV equipment installed on a flat roof will not be higher than 1 metre above the highest part of the roof.
- The building is not listed, not located within a conservation area, and not part of a scheduled monument.

All works will adhere to safe installation distances, ensuring compliance with the GPDO, Gravesham Borough Council Planning policies, and insurance requirements. It is a contractual obligation that the appointed installer meets all regulations.

Visual and Community Considerations:

An indicative layout has been provided based on desktop analysis.

We can revise the module position on the drawings but there is scope of final positioning adjustment by contractor which will be mandated to adhere to any response the Council provide to us.

Care has been taken to minimise the impact of the installation on the visual amenity of the surrounding area. As shown in the supporting images:

- All-black PV modules will be used to blend in with the existing roofscape.
- The installation will have no adverse visual impact on public viewpoints or nearby residential properties.
- No glare will be visible from any public area, ensuring minimal disruption to the surrounding environment.

Conclusion:

This rooftop solar installation represents a sustainable, low-impact solution to meeting energy needs on-site while advancing environmental objectives. It is a vital step in reducing reliance on fossil fuels, lowering operational costs, and engaging building users in climate-conscious behaviours.

The installation offers an excellent opportunity to demonstrate commitment to reducing costs and carbon emissions and promoting positive action amongst staff and visitors to the site. Contributing to the Councils commitment to achieving net zero by 2030.

We trust this application demonstrates full compliance with relevant planning policies and permitted development criteria, and we look forward to your favourable consideration.

If you have any queries, please get in touch.

Kind Regards,

Debbie Lawrence
Projects Assistant



Proposed Array



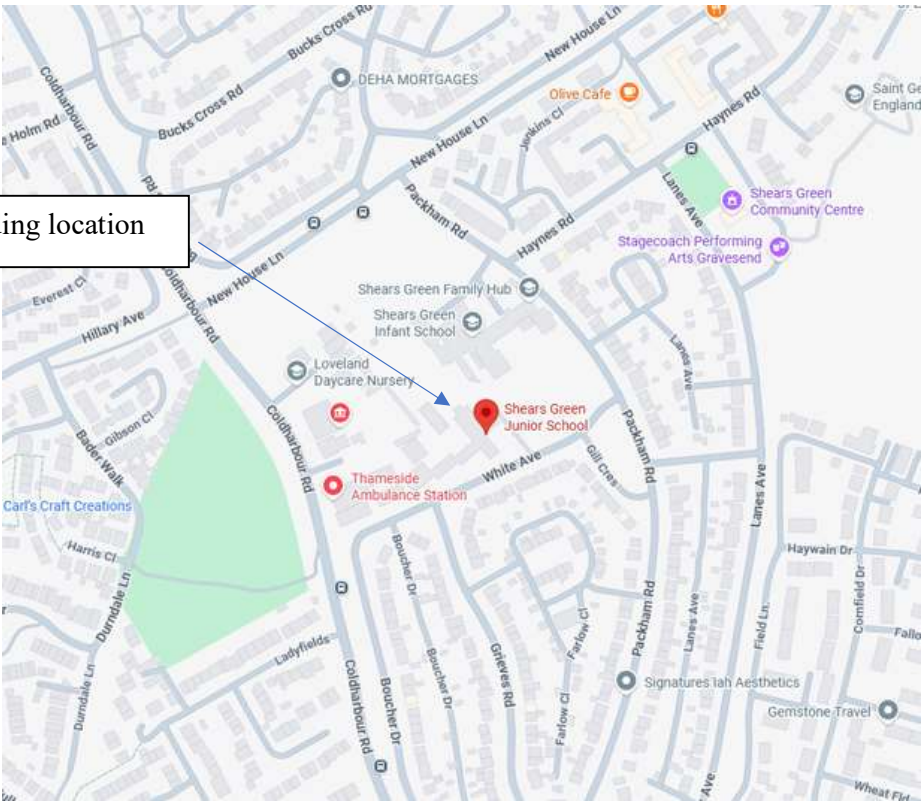
Roof 1
(Main Hall)

Roof 3

Image showing proposed 54kWp array

Roof 2

LOCATION MAP



Building location