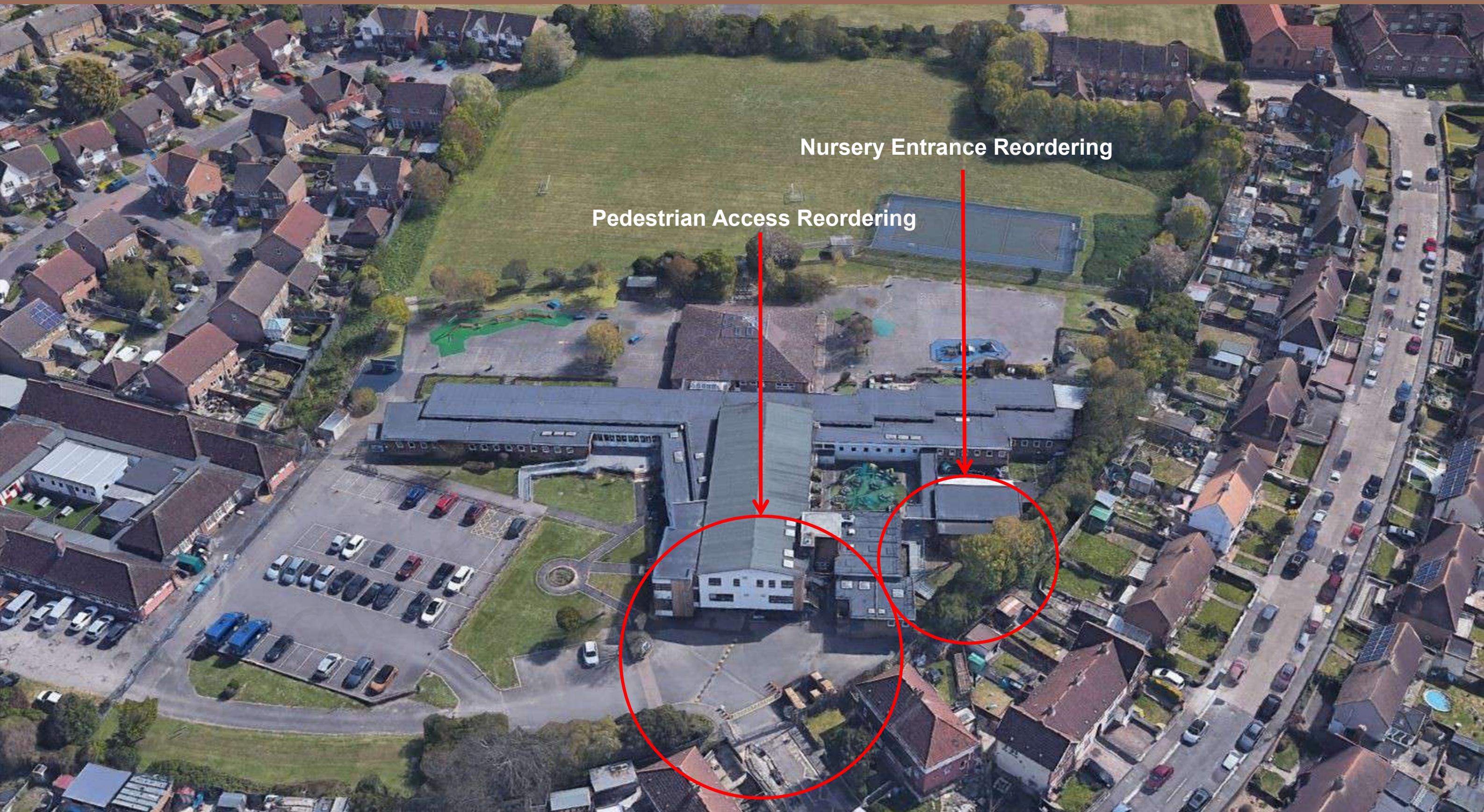


DESIGN & ACCESS STATEMENT: Westcourt Primary & Nursery School

Version 1 08/12/2022

clay architecture



	Page
The Proposal	3
Photographs	4
Illustration	6
Material Examples	13
List of Drawings and Documents	14

Westcourt Primary & Nursery School is a 2 Form Entry primary school in Gravesend, Kent. The school currently has two reception classes of 30 pupils each and a nursery school with a morning and afternoon session, accommodating a maximum of 26 children for each session. The school also holds a breakfast club that runs weekly in the morning.

Pupils attending the nursery school, reception classes and the breakfast club all share the same entrance on the west wing side of the school, albeit at different times. Because of the narrow access and small waiting area for parents, this area becomes overcrowded in the morning and afternoon when parents drop off or pick up their children. Therefore, the Primary First Trust have commissioned Clay Architecture to design the reordering of the nursery entrance, moving it from the south to the north-facing side of the nursery building and using the grounds to the north of the new entrance, transforming it into a pleasant waiting area for parents, visitors, and pupils.

The new proposal comprises an entrance with a short canopy formed onto the existing north-facing wall of the nursery building and a new, more compact ramp to replace the existing one accessing the compass garden, Foxes' Den, and breakfast club. The proposal has carefully considered tree root protection zones, existing ground levels and existing drainage runs. The new proposal will also involve internal alterations to the nursery, including removing part of an interior wall in line with the previously filled windows (planning application number: 20160520) to create an open plan space for the nursery.

The existing pedestrian access to the school is not ideal, as it involves visitors, parents and pupils crossing the main vehicular access to the school within school grounds, and the existing vehicular entrance gate is not welcoming and conveys the wrong images to visitors.

The proposal therefore also includes:

- Reordered pedestrian routes to provide safer access.
- Replacing the existing entrance gate with a new pedestrian gate to the right-hand side (west), which creates a clear separation between foot traffic and vehicular traffic, improving road safety within school grounds.
- Providing additional landscaped waiting areas for parents during school drop-off and pick-up.
- Removal of the entrance gate to the nursery, reception, and breakfast club.

and

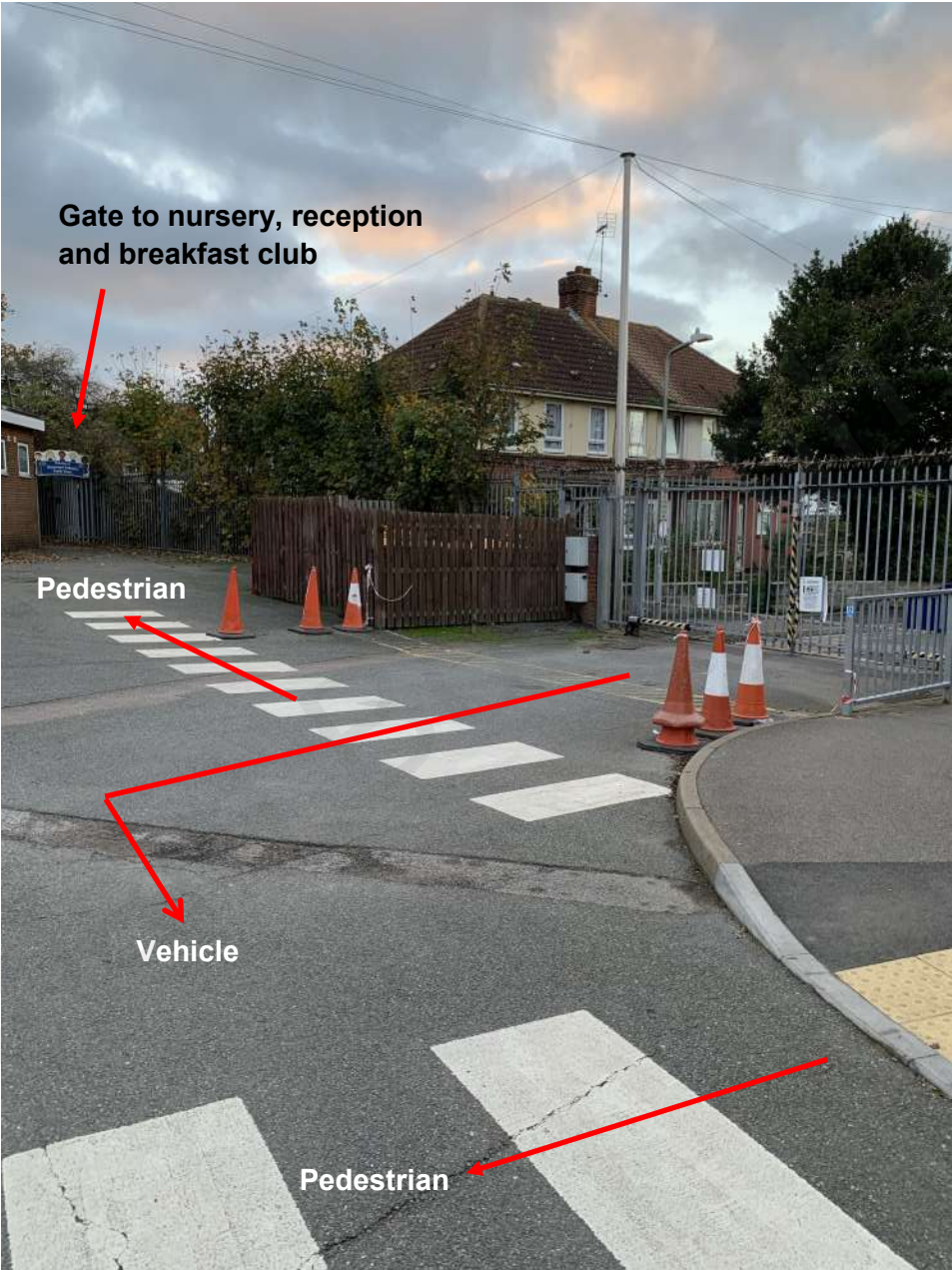
- An access gate provides fire engine access within 45m of escape doors

- Relocating the bin store.

We trust that the information submitted is in order and ask that the local authority grant planning permission for the proposal.



View of the pedestrian gate sited to the left hand side of the vehicular entrance gate



View of the existing pedestrian crossing within the school



Existing narrow gate and pathway to nursery, reception and breakfast club which is to be removed



Existing north-facing side of the nursery building and existing ramp to foxes' den and breakfast club



Existing narrow gate, pathway and ramp



Existing entrance to the nursery and curved waiting area

Before



After



Before



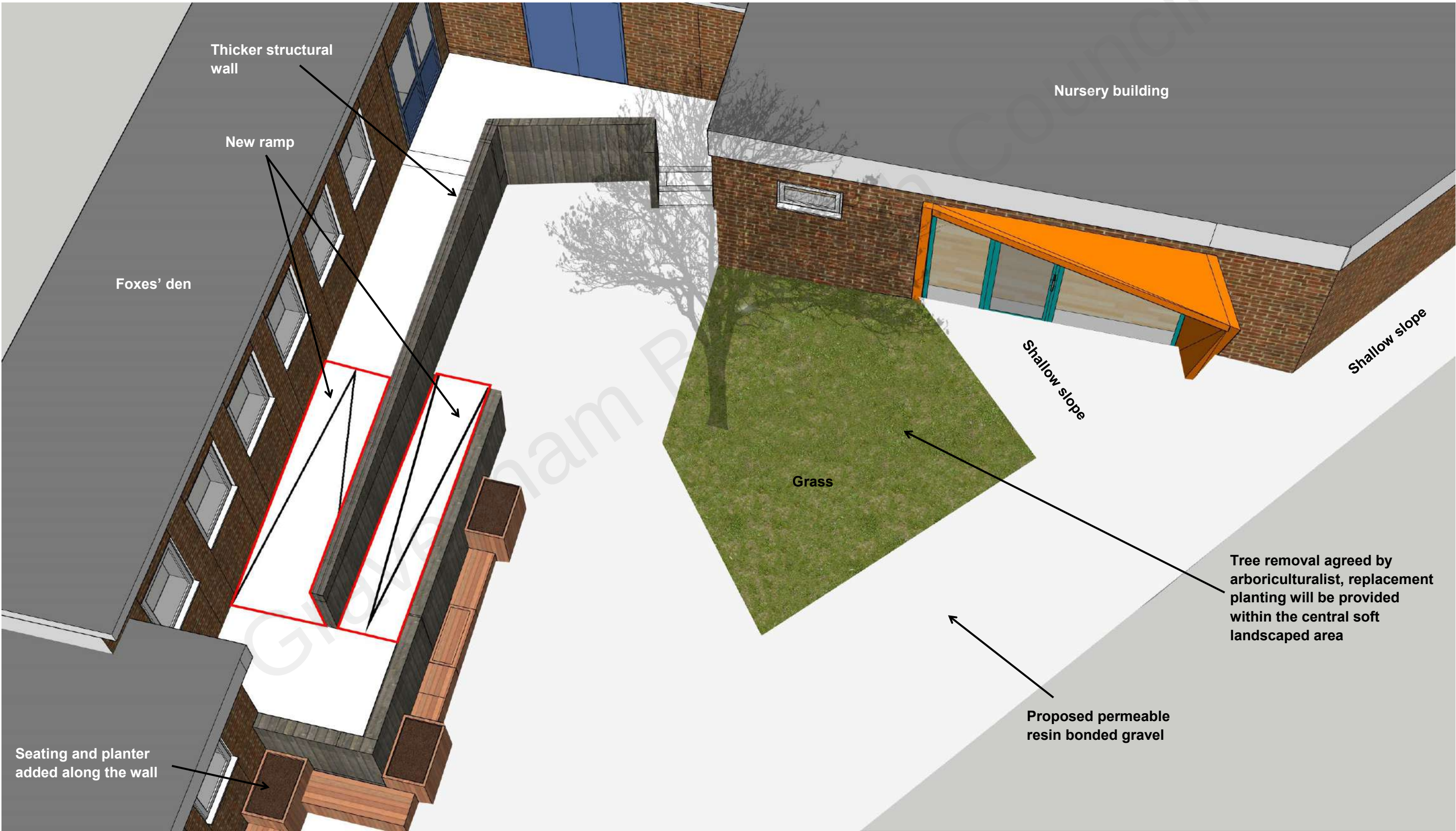
After



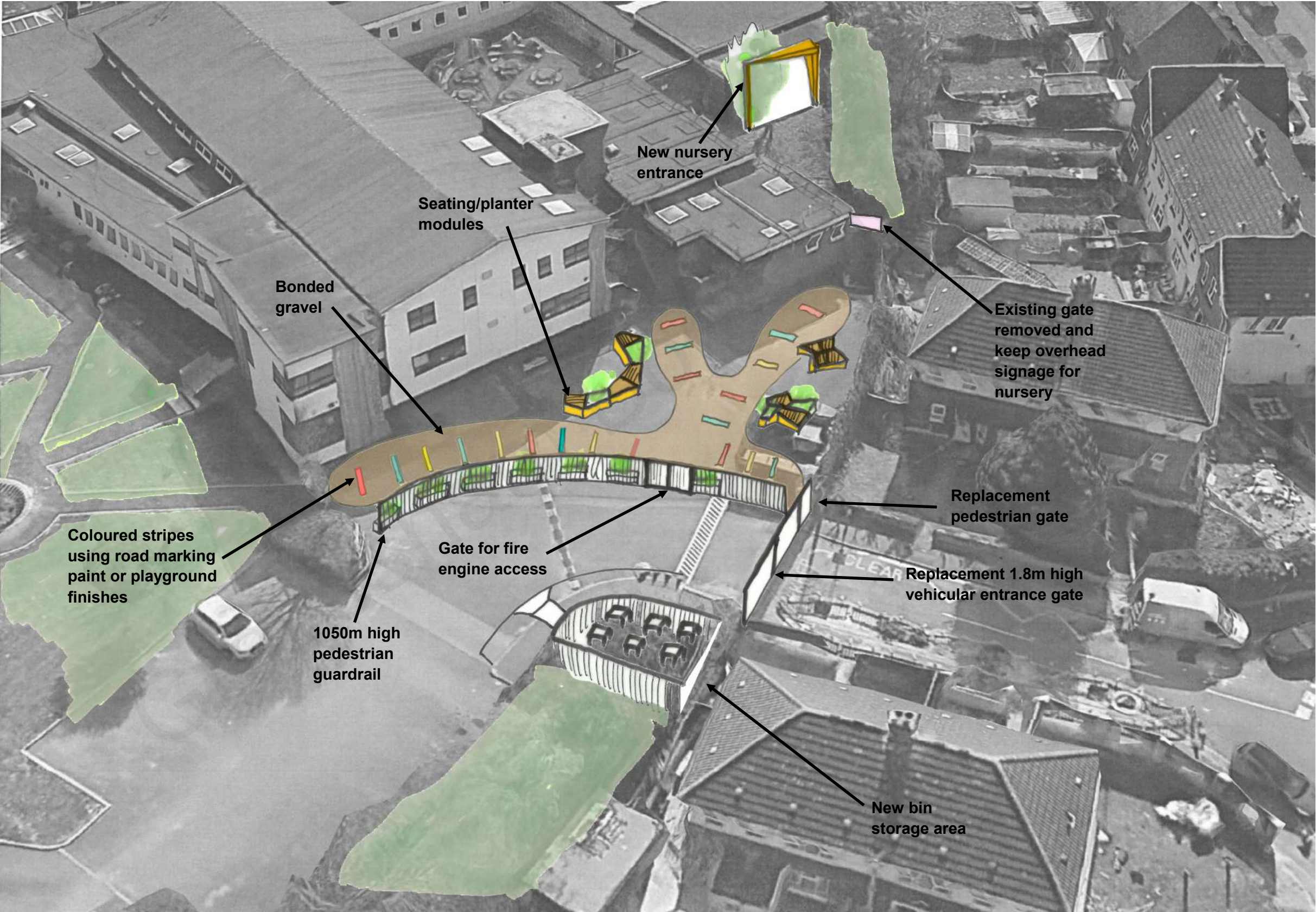
Birds Eye View (Early Feasibility Sketch)



Birds Eye View (Submitted Design)



Pedestrian Reordering





Concrete planter



Seating & planter



Seating & planter



Seating & planter



Pedestrian guardrail

GENERAL ARRANGEMENT					
Plans					
5279/PL/	100	A3	Location Plan		1:1250
5279/PL/	101	A3	Existing Site Plan		1:500
5279/PL/	102	A3	Proposed Site Plan		1:500
5279/PL/	110	A3	Existing Ground Floor Plan		1:100
5279/PL/	111	A3	Existing Roof Plan		1:100
5279/PL/	120	A3	Existing North Elevation		1:100
5279/PL/	121	A3	Existing West Elevation		1:100
5279/PL/	122	A3	Existing Section A-A		1:100
5279/PL/	130	A3	Proposed Ground Floor Plan - Trees		1:100
5279/PL/	131	A3	Proposed Ground Floor Plan		1:100
5279/PL/	132	A3	Proposed Roof Plan		1:100
5279/PL/	133	A3	Proposed School Entrance Plan		1:200
5279/PL/	134	A3	Fire Access Plan		1:200
5279/PL/	140	A3	Proposed North Elevation		1:100
5279/PL/	141	A3	Proposed West Elevation		1:100
5279/PL/	142	A3	Proposed Section A-A		1:100
		A3	Design and Access Statement		