



## **Settrington All Saints' Church of England Primary School – Proposed Office Supporting Statement and Heritage Statement**

### **Background**

Settrington CE Primary School is a small school with a growing number of pupils on roll. In addition, the school was appointed as a Research School in 2017, which we are very lucky to have in our area and provides a vital support for schools in this area. As a result of this appointment, meetings are convened on site for the benefit of associated schools. The combined demands of this role and growing pupil numbers has resulted in ever-decreasing office space for the administrative staff alongside the Head who uses the same space.

As part of the Head's vision for the development of the School, following on from the recent rebuild of our classroom and kitchen in a separate new building, the next phase aims to resolve the issues of space outlined above. We have contemplated LOTS of other alternatives, and sought advice from our Local Authority link on what might be an acceptable way of gaining more space, before deciding on the following course of action.

During the 2 year project for the new building a large, temporary Early Years unit was erected at the front of the School. The proposed new office would be sited in the same position but with a vastly reduced footprint (3.34m by 5.88m = 19.64 sqm - about 1/3 of the former building).

In line with the School's aim to educate the children in sustainable living, the preference would be to erect a timber building supplied by a local company which imports the buildings from Finland. The material all comes from sustainable forests.

The aesthetic characteristics of the building sit well with the School's rural character and echo several ancillary buildings erected alongside other properties in the village.

The building would be sited on LABC approved concrete plinths offering foundations as stable as a concrete raft at a fraction of the environmental impact. An added benefit of this system is that since the application is for temporary permission (limited to 6 years), when it comes to removing the building, it could simply be hoisted off the foundations and its dimensions would allow it to be transported away as a complete unit. The foundation plinths would also be removed without any impact to the existing ground (a tarmac playground).

The impact on the day to day running of the School would be most positive and very significant. Administrative staff would be ideally located to observe anyone coming on to

the School premises, further enhancing the School's already excellent safeguarding arrangements. The Head would be able to hold consultations with parents away from the hubbub of the school day. Visitors attending 'Research School' events would have an excellent facility from which to derive maximum benefit.

#### Heritage statement

As part of Settrington School, the proposed office is within 'Settrington' Conservation area and is designed to fit sympathetically within its rural location. There are several examples of ancillary timber buildings around the village. The removable plinth foundations will be placed directly onto the existing tarmac yard (The wooden horses and artificial grass will be removed prior to installation of the proposed office). All door/window frames will be painted to match the School's existing paintwork. High quality roof shingles achieve a tiled effect. The walls are constructed from sustainably sourced, engineered spruce timber logs which will be oak stained. The overall appearance of the Office will be similar to the example below:



