

Gateacre School

Creation of new external 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP)

Design and Access Statement with Planning Statement

Client	Gateacre School Hedgefield Road Liverpool L25 2RW		
Project	Creation of new external 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP)		
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Surfacing Standards Ltd has been appointed to consider and develop an application for full planning permission for the proposed development at Gateacre School.
- 1.2 In order to assist the application for full planning permission and to facilitate the implementation and delivery of the project; this document describes the project aspirations and illustrates the process that has led to the development proposal, and to explain and justify the proposal in a structured way.
- 1.3 This statement discusses design and access issues regarding the use, amount, layout, scale, landscaping, appearance and context of the scheme. In addition, the wider access implications of the proposal are addressed.

- 1.4 The applicant is:

Gateacre School
Hedgefield Road
Liverpool
L25 2RW

Mr Ian Thornhill
Business Development Manager

- 1.5 The planning agent is:

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2. Design & Access Statement Principles

- 2.1. The National Planning Policy Framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system only to the extent that it is relevant, proportionate and necessary to do so. It provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflect the needs and priorities of their communities.
- 2.2. Guidance on information requirements and validation, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government (March 2012) recommends that a design and access statement is a short report accompanying and supporting a planning application to illustrate the process that has led to the development proposal, and to explain the proposal in a structured way. The level of detail required in a design and access statement depends on the scale and complexity of the application, and the length of the statement varies accordingly. Statements must be proportionate to the complexity of the application, but need not be long. Further published recommendations are:

- Design and access statements help to ensure that development proposals are based on a thoughtful design process and a sustainable approach to access.
- Statements should improve the quality of proposals: in preparing the design and access statement, developers need to consider and subsequently explain the merit of the design and how it relates to the existing setting.
- Design and access statements enable local planning authorities to better understand the analysis which has underpinned the design and how it has led to the development of the scheme. This helps negotiations and decision-making and should lead to an improvement in the quality, sustainability and inclusiveness of the development.
- Design and access statements allow local communities, access groups, amenity groups and other stakeholders to involve themselves more directly in the planning process without needing to interpret plans that can be technical and confusing. This helps to increase certainty for people affected by development and improve trust between communities, developers and planners. It also enables the design rationale for the proposal to be more transparent to stakeholders and the local planning authority.

2.3 What Is Required: The Design Component

The design and access statement should cover both the design principles and concepts that have been applied to the proposed development and how issues relating to access to the development have been dealt with. Statements should evolve throughout the design and development process.

A design and access statement for a planning application should explain the design principles and concepts that have been applied to particular aspects of the proposal. These are:

- Scale: Scale is the height, width and length of a building or buildings in relation to its surroundings.
- Amount: The amount of development is how much development is proposed. For residential development, this means the number of proposed units for residential use and for all other development, this means the proposed floor space for each proposed use.
- Layout: The layout is the way in which buildings, routes and open spaces (both private and public) are provided, placed and orientated in relation to each other and buildings and spaces surrounding the development.
- Landscaping: Landscaping is the treatment of private and public spaces to enhance or protect the amenities of the site and the area in which it is situated through hard and soft landscaping measures. Statements should also explain the function of the landscaping, for instance for sustainable drainage purposes, providing shading or other climate change adaptation purposes, and explain how it will be maintained.
- Appearance: Appearance is the aspect of a place or building that determines the visual impression it makes, including the external built form of the development, its architecture, materials, decoration, lighting, colour and texture.

2.4 What Is Required: The Access Component

It is important to note that the requirement for the access component of the statement relates only to 'access to the development' and therefore does not extend to internal aspects of individual buildings. Statements should explain how access arrangements will ensure that all users will have equal and convenient access to buildings and spaces and the public transport network. The statement should address the need for flexibility of the development and how it may adapt to changing needs.

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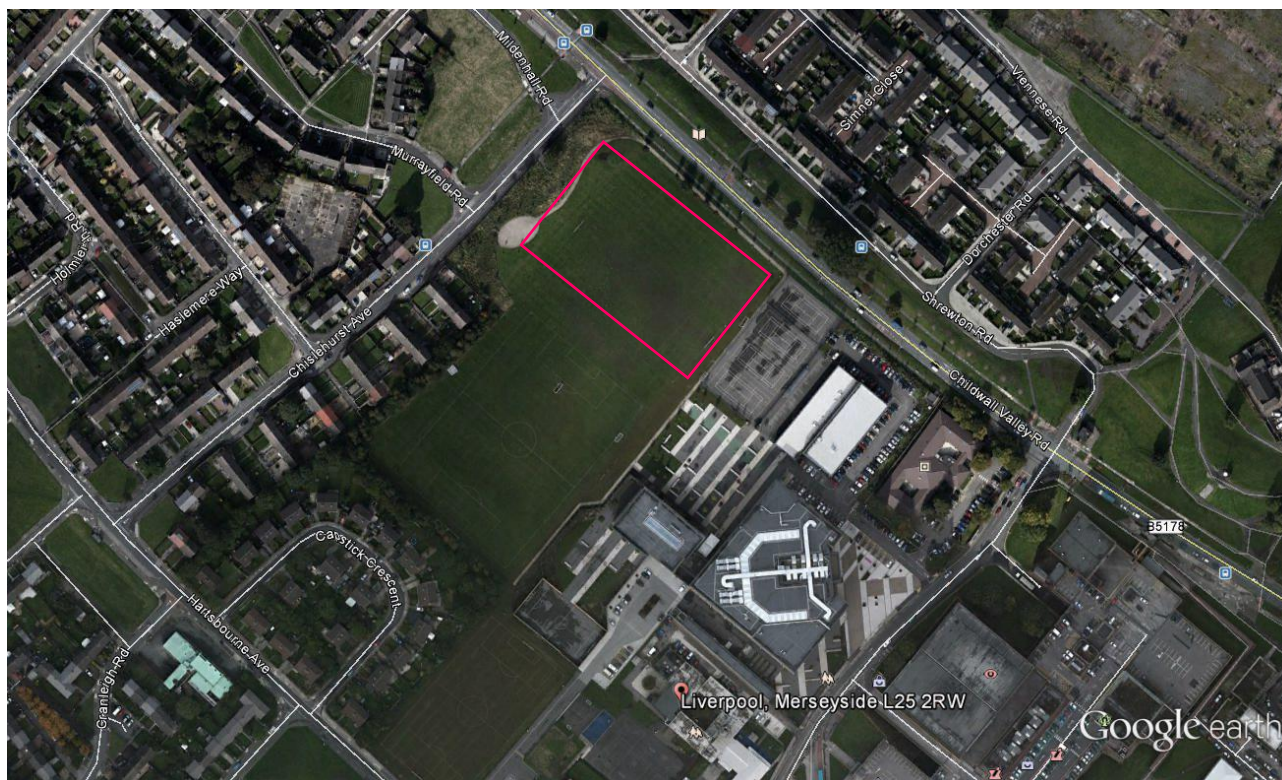
3. Design & Access Statement

3.1 Proposal Description

The proposed development will include the creation of new external sports pitch with associated features including:

- 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP)
- Erection of perimeter ball-stop fencing
- Installation of hard standing areas around the AGP for pedestrians, maintenance and emergency access
- Installation of an artificial (flood) lighting system
- Installation of outdoor store for maintenance equipment

3.2 Site Description



The proposed development site for the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) is situated within the grounds of Gateacre School, Hedgefield Road, Liverpool, L25 2RW.

The site is located onto the school's grassed playing field occupied by a winter playing pitch (football).

The playing field and surrounding land is relatively flat.

The site is situated in a predominantly residential area of Belle Vale, Liverpool within Gateacre School.

The application site is located within a sub urban environment with adjacent land uses comprising residential, highway and the Gateacre school campus.

3.3 Purpose and Use

The provision of the new external 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will provide increased usage in comparison to the existing grassed football pitch, for benefit of Gateacre School and its partner organisations and community groups including local junior and youth football clubs to gain the maximum football developmental outcomes; both during the day and during evenings and at weekends via pre-arranged and structured community access.

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This extended use is possible because the proposed AGP is more durable in comparison to natural turf and especially during winter weather conditions.

The proposed AGP also avoids close season maintenance works.

The new AGP will offer a variety of football pitches and training areas within the same enclosed playing space to support development plans into grassroots football.

In accordance with The Football Association's (FA) current technical guidance (FA FTP Guide Option 4), the aspiration is to introduce multiple pitch markings to gain the maximum football developmental outcomes and economic benefit from the site footprint.

The AGP will be capable of supporting the following formal pitch arrangement:

Age grouping	Type	Pitch size	Quantity
Over 18 and Adult Football	11v11	100 x 64m	1
Youth U11 / U12*	9v9	64 x 46m	2
Mini Soccer U9 / U10**	7v7	55 x 37m	2
Mini Soccer U7 / U8* **	5v5	37 x 27m	4
Training Areas**	Various	48 x 30m	4
*Smaller than recommended size, but acceptable for match play use			
**the variety of over markings will be agreed in due course, to be considered against the football development plan			

3.4 Amount

The proposed development has been prepared in accordance with published Design Guidance Notes (The Football Association (FA) / Sport England) pertinent to external artificial sports facility provision.

The 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) design is in accordance with The FA Guide to 3G Football Turf Pitch Design Principles and Layouts. The proposed amount of development is:

Aspect	Quantity	Area
3G artificial turf pitch area	1no. 106 x 70m	7420m ²
Macadam surfaced Respect spectator area (including 1no. goal storage area)	1no. 76.245 x 4m	305m ²
Macadam surfaced goal storage areas – lateral	3no. 7.50 x 2m	45m ²
Macadam surfaced goal storage areas – longitudinal	2no. 30 x 3m	180m ²
PCC slab surfaced mowing margin	1no. 373 x 0.6m	223m ²
Macadam surfaced clean access (pedestrian / maintenance and emergency)	1no. 5 x 4m	20m ²
Total		8193m²

The new AGP will result in the loss of part of a usable grassed playing field, however overall usage will not decrease and the proposal will result in greater capacity utilisation across the playing season with greater training sessions and match play.

3.5 Layout

The proposed development will replace part of the school's grassed playing field.

An proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be situated adjacent to an overgrown area along the boundary of the playing field bordered the site to the North West, beyond which lay Chislehurst Avenue and a residential area.

Childwall Valley Road bordered the site to the North East, beyond which lay residential housing.

Several semi-mature trees approximately 2-8m high were observed to the North East of the subject area.

3.6 Scale

The proposed height of new open steel mesh ball stop fencing and entrance gates around the entire pitch perimeter enclosing the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be 4.5m above ground level.

The proposed height of new open steel mesh pitch perimeter barrier and entrance gates immediately surrounding the 3G artificial grass playing surface internally within the fenced enclosure will range from 1.20m to 2m above ground level.

The proposed floodlight system comprises six (6no.) masts mounted with associated luminaires at heights of 15m high above ground level to the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP).

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The proposed maintenance equipment storage container will be 2.59m above ground level.

3.7 Landscaping

It is acknowledged that the proposed development will replace part of an existing grassed playing field at Gateacre School.

With the exception of hard landscaping, all other soft ground surrounding the area affected by the development shall be reinstated to grass (soft landscaping) to enable effective grounds maintenance to surrounding grassed areas and retention of grassed playing pitches.

Soil shall be reinstated to grass (soft landscaping) in accordance with BS 4428 Code of Practice for General Landscape Operations.

New hard landscaping treatment around the facility is restricted to porous asphalt surfacing for pedestrian access, goals storage, spectator viewing space, vehicular access for maintenance and emergency.

3.8 Appearance

The intention is develop the pitch with minimal visual impact when viewed from any adjacent properties looking into the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), which is necessary to satisfy local policies which seek to ensure that proposals are sympathetic to its surroundings and will not impact on the visual amenity of the area and the amenity of neighbouring residents.

The proposed finished appearance of principal pitch features is as follows:

3G Artificial Grass Playing Surface

The installed appearance of the playing surface will comprise a 3G artificial turf containing a 60mm pile and partially in-filled with silica sand (for stability) and granulate rubber (for performance).

This is consistent with current Football Association (FA) technical requirements to deliver adequate performance characteristics for the intended sports.

This surface type is recognised as the most suitable artificial playing surface for community football and youth football development.

This surface type is credited as 'preferred football surface' and 'surface for high level competition / training' within Sport England's guidance document 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' Issue 002 / December 2010.

Perimeter Ball-Stop Fencing

The proposed type and quality of ball-stop fencing is consistent with current Football Association (FA) technical requirements for fencing to enclose artificial grass sports pitches.

The installed appearance of perimeter ball-stop fencing (4.5m high) will be finished to polyester powder coated RAL6005 Dark Green, all supported with an intermediate post system and entrance gates of matching colour.

The fencing type will be steel open mesh fencing containing a general 200x50mm aperture (and 66x50mm rebound aperture to the internal pitch perimeter barrier). Fence panels are insulated from the posts using neoprene washers to be fitted to every fence post / mesh fixing point to aid noise reduction and acoustic attenuation by reducing rattle and vibration from ball impacts.

Panels are fixed onto posts with 8mm galvanised security bolts to (U shape) brackets containing threaded inserts and neoprene washers (inserts) to reduce panel rattle and vibration from ball impacts. Panel connectors are applied at horizontal panel joins to increase the overall rigidity of the product.

Hard Standing Areas

The installed appearance of hard standing areas (clean access for pedestrians and spectators as well as vehicular access for maintenance and emergency, goals storage will be grey / black coloured porous asphalt.

Floodlights

The installed appearance of the new artificial lighting system will include six (6no.) 15m high sectional octagonal mid-hinge steel masts with galvanised finish (brushed silver) mounted with sixteen (16no.) luminaires c/w 2kW lamps and fittings finished raw aluminium.

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Maintenance Equipment Storage Container

The installed appearance of the new storage containers includes high tensile rust inhibiting corten steel, finished dark green with polyester powder coating and with steel ramps for easy equipment access and egress.

3.9 Pedestrian And Vehicular Access

The new 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be secured within the new and existing boundaries of Gateacre School to maintain site security out of permitted operational hours.

Pedestrian and vehicular access during the day and during evenings and weekends is provided from the existing school entrances from Hedgefield Road

The location for existing onsite vehicular parking around the school campus provides an optimal opportunity for community users arriving by car.

Gateacre School enjoys sufficient onsite parking that can accommodate the expected vehicular traffic during operational hours of use during the day and at evenings and weekends for pitch users including:

- 118no. standard parking spaces
- 7no. accessible parking spaces

Also, a public car park (Bell Vale) is located in close proximity to Gateacre School, thereby providing offsite parking opportunities.

With the introduction of the AGP, demands on daytime car park use will not increase as use will be restricted to the school's curriculum.

After the school day, daytime onsite parking will be replaced (not duplicated) by evening onsite parking and the expected demand for on site parking and traffic implications of the development during is understood to be as follows:

1. The proposed parking provision onsite offers 125no. car parking spaces in total.
2. If community users all travel to site by car alone, the expected maximum evening and weekend car parking demands are as follows:
 - Presuming the pitch may be used in quarters for training / grassroots development / mini soccer / small-sided football (eight teams in total at any one time using the pitch);
 - Presuming each team will include 6no. players including two substitutes and 1no. coach (or similar) – 7no. persons in total per team;
 - Then the maximum persons to use the pitch at any time will be 56no.
 - Multiply by two for session change-over;
 - Then the maximum participants on site at any time will be 112no.
 - The necessary car parking requirement will be a maximum 112no. parking spaces, presuming every participant reaches the school by car alone (which is considered to be very unlikely with car sharing, public transport, walking and cycling being promoted to pitch users).
 - With 112no. parking spaces in use, 13no. spaces will be available for school staff (management, supervision and administration) and other visitors; which is considered adequate.

As such, and no adverse pressure to the onsite parking provision is envisaged.

It is therefore concluded that onsite parking provision can accommodate the expected vehicular traffic during operational hours of use during the day and at evenings and weekends for pitch users.

Gateacre School will manage traffic volumes accordingly on those evenings when Parents evenings, open evenings and special events are scheduled to mitigate onsite car parking congestion.

The school and the community use of the proposed AGP will be such that traffic movements between the two functions will not overlap and would not create undue congestion.

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At the end of each school day the school site typically clears very quickly with students and staff departing the site. This would then allow for all vacated car parking spaces to then be allocated accordingly for community hirers coming arriving at the site. There will be increased traffic movement as a result of the new facility, but sufficient car parking provision onsite will be available.

3.10 Inclusive Access

Disabled access has been carefully considered throughout the whole design and applied wherever possible. The intention is to provide a smooth transition to and from areas within the sports ground, for use by people of all ages and abilities.

The site is compatible currently for disability parking and access with appropriate circulation routes.

All new pedestrian paths shall be compliant with Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) regulations and Sport England's Technical Design Guidance Note 'Accessible Sports Facilities 2010'.

The proposed pitch playing surface to the shall replicate the qualities of fine sports turf.

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4. Planning Statement

4.1 Planning Policy

We understand that decisions must be taken in accordance with the development plan policies below, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

4.2 National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

Achieving Sustainable Development

7. There are three dimensions to sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. These dimensions give rise to the need for the planning system to perform a number of roles:

- *an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy, by ensuring that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation; and by identifying and coordinating development requirements, including the provision of infrastructure;*
- *a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities, by providing the supply of housing required to meet the needs of present and future generations; and by creating a high quality built environment, with accessible local services that reflect the community's needs and support its health, social and cultural well-being; and*
- *an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.*

Section 8 – Promoting Healthy Communities

73. Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities. Planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. The assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. Information gained from the assessments should be used to determine what open space, sports and recreational provision is required.

74. Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- *an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or*
- *the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
- *the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.*

Section 11 – Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

123. Planning policies and decisions should aim to:

- *avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development;*
- *mitigate and reduce to a minimum other adverse impacts on health and quality of life arising from noise from new development, including through the use of conditions;*
- *recognise that development will often create some noise and existing businesses wanting to develop in continuance of their business should not have unreasonable restrictions put on them because of changes in nearby land uses since they were established; and*
- *identify and protect areas of tranquility which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason.*

125. By encouraging good design, planning policies and decisions should limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light on local amenity, intrinsically dark landscapes and nature conservation.

4.3 Material Planning Considerations

Having reviewed the Council's local validation checklist, we acknowledge the following material planning consideration relevant to the proposal include:

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- *Principle of development*
- *Adequate impact mitigation to residential neighbours*

Information to satisfy these critical factors is discussed below.

4.4 Assessment of Planning Issues

We believe the proposal is in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Liverpool City Council policies specifically in the following policy terms:

4.5 Achieving Sustainable Development

The National Planning Policy Framework introduced a presumption in favour of sustainable development and this can be set out as three dimensions – Economic Role, Social Role and Environmental Role.

This proposal aims to contribute to the above areas.

- Economic Role – providing a self-funding facility for use by Gateacre School and its partner organisations.
- Social Role – providing modern facilities that will encourage the maximum football developmental outcomes with the benefits to health and wellbeing associated with this.
- Environmental Role – ensuring that the existing natural environment is not harmed and that facilities are designed to conserve and reduce energy wastage wherever possible.

In a sporting context, this proposal seeks to:

- Provide opportunities for the local community and sports organisations to participate in sport and physical activity for health improvement and development of their skills, particularly amongst low participant groups;
- Operate in line with the national agenda for sport taking into account nationally adopted strategies;
- Generate positive attitudes in sport and physical activity by young people and reducing the dropout rate in sports participation with age;
- Increase the number of people of all ages and abilities participating in sport and physical activity including people with disabilities;
- Use the facilities to encourage the range, quality and number of school sports club links and to stimulate competition that is inclusive of young people and adults;
- Provide affordable access to the facilities and to be self-financing in terms of community use;

This proposal for a full sized 11v11 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will contribute to the achieving the Plan's objectives.

This proposal is supported with a robust sustainable business plan; satisfying competition play and training needs.

The primary use of the proposal is football and Gateacre School has developed with support from Liverpool County Football Association.

Sustainable usage and business plans are ready to ensure the facility is always maintained correctly and accrues a sinking fund for the eventual carpet replacement.

A Management Committee will be established to develop and monitor the delivery of the football development plan on a regular basis. The committee will review a variety of objectives and controls to ensure the facility is correctly managed, adequately operated and maintained as well as being safe and secure.

On completion, the AGP will be subjected to performance testing to validate necessary quality standards and subsequently added to the FA register of approved sites for match play.

Maintenance Considerations and Sustainability

Maintenance of the the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be managed by Gateacre School's grounds team on a daily and weekly basis with specialist contractors utilised as necessary to perform specialised reports and annual and biannual maintenance routines.

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A sinking fund will be developed using the income from community hire in order to replace the artificial grass surface at the end of its working life, along with other necessary refurbishment works.

Energy and Waste Reduction

The proposed development will require the substantial removal and development of a proportion of the grassed playing field at Gateacre School; however a variety of efficiencies will be applied to the construction stage to mitigate environmental impact and benefit the carbon footprint of the development.

Significant reduction in the use of energy and / or water, and reduce waste in the construction and operation of the facility will be achieved by:

- Excavations limited to the removal of turf and topsoil only.
- Imported granular sub-base aggregates to form the pitch foundations shall be locally sourced from local quarries or suppliers to reduce transportation
- The implementation of the development does not require water supplies.
- Control gears for the floodlight system shall include photocell units and time clocks, to ensure artificial lighting does not illuminate before dusk and lighting does not exceed the permitted curfew hour.
- For the artificial grass playing surface, modern textile manufacturing methods and technology continues to advance. As such, it is common place for artificial turf surfaces to be recycled at the end of their life cycle and be re-made into new similar surfaces or other products. It can be expected that technologies will enable this environmental sustainability to be common place in the future, to the benefit of this proposal when refurbishment is due after an initial life cycle. This will beneficially affect the 3G playing surface (7420 square metre area), silica sand infill (74 tonnes) and granulate rubber infill (112 tonnes).
- With regards to the granulate rubber infill, this material is a recycled product produced from previous vehicle tyres.

In conclusion the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will replace existing grass pitch provision with:

- Better quality provision
- Provide access to greater quantity of provision
- In a suitable location
- Supported by effective and appropriate management arrangements
- Implemented with best practice construction techniques to minimise waste and pollution

4.6 Section 8 – Promoting Healthy Communities

This proposal satisfies the above planning objectives and is beneficial to the advancement of sports activity and development. It will deliver genuine beneficial outcomes as follows:

- Implement social, recreational and cultural facilities and services for community needs to enhance the sustainability of Gateacre School and the surrounding area of Belle Vale and Liverpool.
- Provide access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of the local community.
- Compensate the loss of part of a usable playing field resulting from the proposed development by an equivalent, better provision by more robust and durable 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), whilst retaining playing pitches onto the remaining playing field to satisfy the summer and winter PE curriculum.

The proposed development will provide a clean, safe and modern facility to inspire sporting participation and will enhance the existing sport and recreation provision at Gateacre School.

It will provide a genuine asset for the applicant and local community sporting groups and organisations.

It will encourage and inspire more people of all ages to participate in sport.

For these reasons, we believe the following objectives have been satisfied:

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- Supporting and enhance the continued regeneration in Belle Vale and Liverpool.
- Promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion.
- Health and wellbeing.
- Promoting more sustainable development.

4.7 Section 11 – Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment

Noise Impact

The nearest residential properties to the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) are situated on Chislehurst Avenue at an approximate 40m distance to adjacent residential property (to the building facade). Along Shrewton Road, the closest residential properties are situated approximately 63m from the proposed AGP.

This relationship is already established to existing playing pitches.

Despite this, it is acknowledged that the application proposal would result in extended times of use of the school's external sports facilities; particularly in the darker months of the year.

During the preparation of this proposal, an environmental noise assessment was undertaken to identify expected noise levels to be generated by use AGP and the effect to be experienced at nearby noise sensitive receptors.

This assessment concludes that the proposal is considered acceptable in environmental noise terms with noise emission being adequately controlled at the nearby residential properties and not expected to adversely affect nearby residents by way of noise.

Please refer to the appended document SSL1946 Appendix I Environmental Noise Assessment for full details.

Artificial (Flood) Lighting Impact

The proposal incorporates an artificial (flood) lighting system to provide an optimum sports lighting solution, ensuring that light reaches the sports surface and not into the sky or polluting the environment.

Performance of the proposed artificial lighting (floodlighting) system has been design to and complies with an Environmental Zone E2 (ILP) which is a rural surrounding with low district brightness, for example a village or relatively dark outer suburban locations.

As illustrated within supporting application information, there would be some light spillage beyond the perimeter of the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), however this overspill is controlled within the tolerances of ILP Environmental Zone E2 and is predominantly contained within Gateacre School campus.

This assessment concludes that:

1. The proposed floodlighting system is specifically designed to fulfill sports lighting requirements and is particularly suited to applications where low light pollution is essential.
2. Performance of the proposed artificial lighting (floodlighting) systems satisfies the intended sporting applications and standards of play.
3. A 15m high mounting height to the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) provides the most efficient solution and the proposed masts will offer a slim-line profile, which will minimise daytime impact.
4. The proposed Philips OptiVision MVP507 is an asymmetric down lighting luminaire will provide the optimum sports lighting solution, ensuring that light reaches the sports surface and not into the sky or polluting the environment.
5. Performance of the proposed artificial lighting (floodlighting) system complies with an Environmental Zone E2 (ILP) which is rural surrounding with low district brightness.
6. Light intrusion to the closest residential properties are below the threshold for an E2 environmental zone and as such, does not create an unacceptable impact by way of artificial lighting.
7. Luminaire intensity created whilst floodlights are in operation is below the threshold for the environmental zone E2 location and as such; does not create an unacceptable impact by way of artificial lighting.

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8. Upward waste light will also be minimised and with floodlight elevations used 0% will be projected into the atmosphere. This will meet the recommendations of The Campaign For Dark Skies, an organisation who lobby for low light pollution lighting systems
9. Control switches and time clocks shall be installed to the floodlights to ensure they do not remain on any later than the permitted curfew hour and therefore mitigate impact to the surrounding environment.
10. Time clocks will be set to operate within a pre-programmed time including a seasonal changeover facility for BST and GMT to ensure floodlights are extinguished at the correct curfew hour.

The lighting scheme has been designed to minimise the impacts on surrounding areas outside of the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP), and given the location of the application site within an sub urban area subject to lighting from streetlights, we do not consider that the proposed lighting would result an unacceptable impact by way of artificial lighting on residential amenity.

Please refer to the appended document SS1946 Appendix H Lighting Assessment for full details.

Optimum Location

During a feasibility study, the optimum arrangement for future playing pitches onto the playing field was considered by The Gateacre School to best serve the school's pupils PE curriculum requirements, boys and girls.

Whilst other orientations for the AGP within school campus have been considered, the preferred location will result in convenient player and pedestrian access as well as effective management and withdraw the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) the furthest possible distance from residential neighbours.

The proposed location for the new 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will sit comfortably next to and alongside the school's multi use games area, playground and sports centre with associated onsite car parking.

The close proximity of onsite car parking is ideal for community involvement and participation, helping to create a safe, vibrant and successful place and an accessible environment.

The proposed AGP will be sited close to existing onsite facilities; providing convenient access to and from changing rooms offering changing accommodation and administration facilities.

This location will also afford convenient pedestrian, maintenance and emergency access as well and providing for suitable management, supervision and security.

Residential Amenity

At present, sport may be played on the existing playing field throughout the year. It must therefore be noted that a certain level of impact already results to neighbouring residents through noise and general disturbance.

The proposals request usage of the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) up to 22:00 hours throughout the week (Monday to Friday) and up to 20:00 on Saturdays and Sundays.

During winter months especially, this proposal would represent intensification in the usage of the site by way of an artificial (flood) lighting system, and noise and disturbance felt by surrounding residents would be experienced up to the curfew hour.

It is important to understand that the proposed hours of use have been carefully considered with times limited to those needed by Gateacre School and its partner organisations and community groups to adequately satisfy the demand for football development; both during the day and during evenings and at weekends via pre-arranged and structured community access.

Visual Amenity – 3G Artificial Grass Playing Surface

The new 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will be surfaced with 3G artificial grass coloured dark green. The visual appearance will be similar to existing fine sports turf and in keeping with a playing field environment.

Visual Amenity – Floodlight Masts

The proposals incorporate the provision of six (6no.) 15m high floodlight masts mounted with associated luminaires around the perimeter of the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP).

The masts would be of a relatively slim profile tubular steel masts with galvanised (brushed silver) finish.

These are new structures that would be visible from nearby residential properties and public areas.

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Although these new masts will be visible they are not a feature uncommon in a sub urban area (similar to street lights) in which the application site is located.

It is accepted that whilst the height of the columns would result in features which are prominent within the site itself, they vital to provide artificial lighting for the planned use of the facility after dusk.

Visual Amenity – Ball Stop Fencing

The proposals incorporate perimeter fencing, which is necessary around the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) to ensure the adequate long term protection of the valuable assets for a variety of vital reasons as follows:

- To contain balls within the pitch during training, competition and recreational activities
- To protect the playing surface from contamination that will severely compromise the longevity of the artificial grass playing surfaces
- To help prevent unauthorised use and vandalism

The height of perimeter fencing is 4.5m comprising intended to provide protection and to prevent any ball escaping the playing areas.

In terms of the visual impact of high level fencing, the elevation will consist of a weld mesh design comprising see-through mesh, coloured dark green. This type is commonly installed around artificial sports pitches and permits light and views throughout, reducing the visual impact of the fencing.

Whilst the proposed fencing would introduce a new feature in this area of the wider playing field, given the distances with residential properties; the type of ball stop fencing proposed would not give rise to unacceptable visual impacts to warrant refusal of the application.

We consider the proposals will not create any excessive levels of overbearing or overshadowing impact and fence heights are appropriate for the intended activities and would not appear incongruous within the playing fields surroundings.

Visual Amenity – Size and Scale

The proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) accords with The Football Association's technical guidelines and the facility size is limited to spatial requirements necessary to implement one multi functional artificial grass football pitch with a variety of secondary pitch markings to support youth and mini soccer and training areas, all within the same enclosed playing space.

On this basis, we consider the proposal is complimentary to the built features within Gateacre School environment and will not compromise with the views from any onlookers, looking into the school campus.

4.8 Strategic Context

The Football Association's National Game Strategy 2011 - 2015: Developing Football for Everyone

This strategy has four clear goals:

- To grow and retain participation
- To raise standards and address abusive behaviour
- To develop better players
- To run the game effectively

Supporting the four goals are two key areas of focus:

- A skilled workforce
- Improved facilities

This project is supported by a well thought out and strategic football development plan that will provide a wide range of coaching and participation opportunities for people of all ages and abilities in the Belle Vale and Liverpool area.

With Gateacre School as the key community football delivery partner, this project will support the school to deliver the football development plan which is focused on all four of the key areas identified by the national game strategy.

The Football Association's Facilities Strategy 2013 - 2015

The National Facilities Strategy 2013-15 outlines plans for £150m of investment over the next three years, including improving 3,000 grass pitches, building 100 new artificial pitches and refurbishing 150 existing artificial pitches. The strategy was

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developed after FA research found that “poor facilities” was the most pressing issue facing the grassroots game, with 84% of respondents raising the concern.

The FA’s 2011 Big Grassroots Football Survey found that regular participants want improved pitches (both grass and artificial), floodlighting, changing facilities and toilets, for both playing and training with their clubs.

The strategy aims to ensure all partners work together to improve football facilities and protect them for future generations and over the next three years aims to deliver in excess of £150m (through Football Foundation) into facility improvements across the National Game in line with identified priorities:

- Natural grass pitches improved – target: 3000
- **A network of new Artificial Grass Pitches built – target: 100**
- A network of refurbished Artificial Grass Pitches – target: 150
- On selected sites, new and improved changing facilities and toilets
- Continue a small grants programs designed to address modest facility needs of clubs
- Ongoing support with the purchase and replacement of goalposts

This project is an excellent example of where a new 3G can deliver facilities in an area of strong local need, directly in line with the strategy.

4.9 Surface Water Drainage Strategy

In order to assist the application for full planning permission and to facilitate the satisfactory implementation and delivery of the project; an assessment is required in accordance with the planning policy described below:

National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

Section 10 Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change

Paragraph 103. When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure flood risk is not increased elsewhere and only consider development appropriate in areas at risk of flooding where, informed by a site-specific flood risk assessment following the Sequential Test, and if required the Exception Test, it can be demonstrated that:

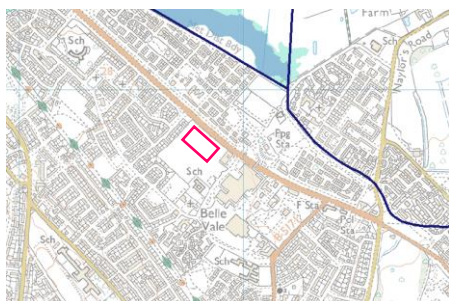
- within the site, the most vulnerable development is located in areas of lowest flood risk unless there are overriding reasons to prefer a different location; and
- development is appropriately flood resilient and resistant, including safe access and escape routes where required, and that any residual risk can be safely managed, including by emergency planning; and it gives priority to the use of sustainable drainage systems.

Paragraph 104. For individual developments on sites allocated in development plans through the Sequential Test, applicants need not apply the Sequential Test. Applications for minor development and changes of use should not be subject to the Sequential or Exception Tests but should still meet the requirements for site-specific flood risk assessments.

Fluvial / Tidal Flooding

The below illustration captured from the Environment Agency website at a scale of 1:10,000 illustrates that the proposed development area is located within a Category 1 flood zone. This zone comprises land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1%).

The likelihood of flooding from the rivers or the sea at the proposed development site is very low.



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Risk of Flooding from Surface Water

From information provided on the Environment Agency website confirmed the site is at very low risk of flooding from surface water (surface water flooding happens when rainwater does not drain away through the normal drainage systems or soak into the ground, but lies on or flows over the ground instead).

Development Proposals and Flood Risk Vulnerability

Whilst the proposal is not situated within a Category 2 or 3 flood zone, best practice to compare the proposal against flood risk vulnerability classifications.

With reference to Table 2 of Planning Practice Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework, the proposed development for an outdoor sports facility would be classified as Water Compatible Development.

An extract from Table 2 of the PPG for Flood Risk and Coastal Change is replicated below in Table 2.4 with the proposed development type highlighted:

Flood Risk Vulnerability Classification	
Vulnerability	Development types
Water-Compatible Development	<p>Flood control infrastructure</p> <p>Water transmission infrastructure and pumping stations</p> <p>Sewage transmission infrastructure and pumping stations</p> <p>Sand and gravel working</p> <p>Docks, marinas and wharves</p> <p>Navigation facilities</p> <p>Ministry of Defence defence installations</p> <p>Ship building, repairing and dismantling, dockside fish processing and refrigeration and compatible activities requiring a waterside location</p> <p>Water-based recreation (excluding sleeping accommodation)</p> <p>Lifeguard and coastguard stations</p> <p>Amenity open space, nature conservation and biodiversity, <u>outdoor sports and recreation and essential facilities such as changing rooms</u></p> <p>Essential ancillary sleeping or residential accommodation for staff required by uses in this category, subject to a specific warning and evacuation plan</p>
Source: Planning Practice Guidance - 2014	

Flood Risk Vulnerability and Flood Zone Compatibility

Based on the above assessment of the site being located within a Category 1 Flood Zone and classified as a 'water compatible development' and with reference to Planning Practice Guidance for 'Flood Risk and Coastal Change' to the National Planning Policy Framework (Table 3), the proposed development of this site would be considered "appropriate".

A copy of Table 3 is presented below to confirm the assessment above.

A sequential test is not required as the proposed development is located in a Flood Zone 1.

No exception test is required.

Flood risk vulnerability and flood zone compatibility					
Flood risk vulnerability classification	Essential infrastructure	Water compatible	Highly vulnerable	More vulnerable	Less vulnerable
Zone 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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Zone 2	✓	✓	Exception Test required	✓	✓
Zone 3A	Exception Test required	✓	✗	Exception Test required	✓
Zone 3B	Exception Test required	✓	✗	✗	✗
<p>Key:</p> <p>✓Development is appropriate</p> <p>✗Development should not be permitted</p> <p>Source: Technical Guide to the National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012</p>					

Sequential Test

As the site is located within a Flood Zone 1, a sequential test is not required; however it is worth noting the site is used (and historically designated) as a sports complex (active playing field) the development can be deemed to have passed the sequential test.

Current Conditions

The proposed development will replace part of the school's existing grassed playing field.

Surface Water Disposal Requirements

In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework and Building Regulations, the site should be drained on a separate system with foul water draining to the public sewer and surface water draining in the most sustainable way.

Building Regulations Approved Document H3 clearly outlines the hierarchy to be investigated when considering a surface water drainage strategy in the following order of priority:

- An adequate soak away or some other adequate infiltration system, (approval must be obtained from local authority / building control / Environment Agency); or, where that is not reasonably practical
- A watercourse (approval must be obtained from the riparian owner / land drainage authority / Environment Agency); or, where that is not reasonably practicable
- A sewer (approval must be obtained from the utility owner)

Surface Water Disposal Options

- Soak away

The potential for an infiltration disposal method was examined during ground investigation surveys carried out during August 2015.

Infiltration testing was positive onto Shirdley Hill Sand Formation underlying the subject area, which was encountered as a granular material and considered permeable. Infiltration test was undertaken and successfully soaked away during three cycles during of fieldwork. Tests were undertaken between depths of 0.9 and 1.2m and produced rates of between 5.59×10^{-6} m/s and 8.55×10^{-5} m/s.

On this basis, it is considered that the disposal of surface water via an infiltration system is appropriate.

- Watercourse

The closest water feature to the subject area is Childwall Brook located North East of the proposed development area and approximately 150-200m from the school campus.

A direct connection to this water feature is not possible and on this basis, it is considered that the disposal of surface water via a water course is not appropriate.

- Sewer

Several existing sewers are located adjacent to the application site, however their outfall is unknown and on this basis it is considered that the disposal of surface water via a sewer is not appropriate.

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Surface Water Disposal Solution

The proposed development and associated surface drainage strategy from this site is such that the surface water will be managed and disposed of within the site boundary, thus complying with the Technical Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework.

Surface water management and disposal performance will be achieved by the following physical implications to the development (the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch):

1. Adequate attenuation (water storage) within pitch base (comprising a permeable granular sub-base) to ensure that excess volumes, which would be experienced during a critical storm event; do not bypass the control system.
2. Adequate onsite soak away connected to granular sub-base pitch base via a positive drainage scheme (land drainage).

Surface Water Drainage Design

FIFA's Quality Concept for Football Turf (Handbook of Requirements January 2012 / 2015 Edition) requires a 3G artificial turf to provide water permeability (for outdoor uses) >180mm/hr and advises that to ensure adequate drainage of a field, all individual elements of the football turf should satisfy this requirement.

It is intended that a positive drainage scheme (land drainage); shall be installed beneath the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) area comprising UPVC perforated carrier and lateral pipe drains.

The granular pitch substrate (typically consisting of Type 3 unbound (SHW 800 Series) to comply with BSEN 13285) is intended to provide onsite containment and attenuation within the granular sub-base, before surface water enters the agreed outfall.

The designed surface water drainage solution should be based upon the following criteria, to maintain satisfactory system performance:

- Provide adequate functionality over a period of twenty years.
- Ensure that surface water is removed from the surface area at a rate necessary to prevent surface flooding experienced during acute rain storms and to ensure the facility will not be lost through rain at the highest intensity which may be expected to occur either once every five years or through continuous rainfall of 50mm over a 24 hour period.
- Ensure that surface water is effectively removed from the facility construction to ensure that load bearing capacity of the substrate is not weakened by an increase in moisture content or becomes more susceptible to frost damage.
- Protect the installation from influences of groundwater or surface water from surrounding areas.
- Prevent the risk of uncontrolled flooding elsewhere (to land adjacent to the development).
- Comply with all applicable Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SUDS) requirements with attenuated flows (containment within the granular pitch sub-base) incorporated wherever necessary, without affecting the performance of the pitch.

Flood Compensation

Flood compensation measures will not be required as finished (floor) levels will not affect current flood plain storage onsite.

Overland Flows

Proposals are to design surface water drainage to accommodate the 1 in 5 year storm event.

Clearly there is a risk of this storm event being exceeded, albeit this risk is considered very low.

In such an event the proposed drainage systems will become overwhelmed and overland flows could occur.

Foul Water Drainage Strategy

There will be no new foul water discharge from the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (3G AGP) development.

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Surface Drainage Maintenance

The drainage system will be designed to minimise maintenance requirements, however, a full maintenance scheme will be established for those elements not being offered for adoption.

Maintenance operations will be carried out by Gateacre School in perpetuity post development.

Conclusions and Flood Risk from Site Drainage Proposals

This proposal seeks to replace the a proportion of the grassed playing field with a 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and associated perimeter ball-stop fencing, hard standing areas around the 3G AGP for pedestrians, maintenance and emergency access and an artificial (flood) lighting system.

The proposed development site for the 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) is situated within the grounds of Gateacre School, Hedgefield Road, Liverpool, L25 2RW.

This proposal seeks to replace part of the school's existing grassed playing field with a 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and associated perimeter ball-stop fencing, hard standing areas for pedestrians, maintenance and emergency access and an artificial (flood) lighting system.

The disposal of surface water via an infiltration system (soak away) would be an appropriate drainage strategy.

Onsite attenuation is provided by the granular pitch substrate (typically consisting of Type 3 unbound (SHW 800 Series) to comply with BSEN 13285) offering onsite containment and attenuation within the granular sub-base, before surface water enters the outfall.

Proposals are to design surface water drainage to accommodate the 1 in 5 year storm event.

Based on the above, providing the above strategies are implemented, the developed site will improve flood risk status to the development area thus satisfying the principles of the National Planning Policy Framework.

4.10 Principle of Development

The application site is presently and predominantly a grass playing field situated at Gateacre School.

This proposal seeks to replace part of the school's existing grassed playing field with a 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and associated perimeter ball-stop fencing, hard standing areas for pedestrians, maintenance and emergency access and an artificial (flood) lighting system.

It is intended that the resultant facilities would not only be used by Gateacre School, but also by partner organisations and community groups from the surrounding Belle Vale and Liverpool area to gain the maximum football developmental outcomes; both during the day and during evenings and at weekends via pre-arranged and structured community access.

The development of an AGP following The Football Association's technical guidelines will especially enable children and young adults to play on appropriately sized pitches with appropriately sized goals, encouraging greater touches of the ball and an increased involvement in the game to enable skill development. The intention is that young players will develop better technical and decision-making skills from a younger age. The nature and layout of the facility will fully accommodate over 18 and adult football, under 11/12's (based on a 9v9 format), under 9/10's (based on a 7v7 format) and under 7/8's (based on a 5v5 format) as well as several training areas within the pitch footprint.

This proposal would meet with the aims of national and local policies and would provide much needed improved sports facility at Gateacre School.

Whilst the proposal would not provide new space, it would provide an enhanced facility which would enable sport to be played throughout the year whereas at present the grass playing field can only be used during periods of good weather.

On the basis of the above, we consider that the proposal would give rise to a considerable benefit to the wider community through the provision of an enhanced playing facility and we request this proposal is accepted subject to an agreement that adequate grassed playing pitches may be retained post development and that the proposals provide satisfactory benefit to the loss of playing pitches.

Sport England will be a statutory consultee on this planning application as the proposal affects a playing field.

The following details are provided to enable Sport England's informed assessment of whether the proposed benefits to sport associated with development would be sufficient to outweigh the detriment associated with the impact on the playing field and satisfy exception policy E5 of Sport England's playing fields policy 'A Sporting Future for the Playing Fields of England 1997'.

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This policy statement defines in planning terms what is considered a 'playing field', which is; the whole of a site that encompasses at least one playing pitch. A playing pitch is a delineated area, which together with any run off is of 0.2 hectares or more.

The aim of the policy is to ensure that there is an adequate supply of quality pitches to satisfy the current and estimated future demands of the pitch sports.

The following details are provided to enable an assessment:

Requirement	Detail provided
Impact the proposed development would have on playing pitch provision including proposed summer / winter playing pitches	<p>It is acknowledged that the removal of an existing usable playing field to enable the development of the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) is unavoidable.</p> <p>Gateacre School is of particular importance to the development of sport in the local area and no alternative site under the ownership of Gateacre School is available to implement this proposal.</p> <p>Whilst other orientations within the playing field have been considered, the preferred location will result in convenient player and pedestrian access as well as effective management and withdraw the proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) the furthest possible distance from residential neighbours.</p>
Existing community use of the playing field	Existing community users include the Netherley League (adult and Junior) Woodlane Legion JFC and Naylorsfield JFC.
Community use of the proposed sports facility	<p>All existing users of the playing field still be adequately accommodated within the site and the AGP will support FA affiliated junior / youth football (highest level of competition), along with mid-week training and coaching activities.</p> <p>The proposed facility is supported by existing and potential future users and several community football clubs have been identified as partner community users of the proposed facility including:</p> <p>Woodstreet Manweb FC Naylorsfield FC Haroldeans FC Old Instonians FC Netherley FC Woodlane FC Chelwood FC Paschals FC Athletico Chelwood FC Dynamo Childwall FC Halewood Town FC Royal Standard FC</p> <p>It is anticipated the new AGP will be used up to 85 hours per week.</p> <p>The impact on the existing playing field land will increase the quantity of playing pitches on site, as the AGP will be able to accommodate multiple junior and mini soccer pitches within the same enclosed playing space.</p>
Community access formally secured through a community use agreement	<p>Community use agreements with key partners will be established and managed on a formal basis to facilitate delivery of the Football Development Plan.</p> <p>The provision of the new external 3G Artificial Grass Pitch</p>

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	<p>(AGP) will provide increased usage in comparison to the existing grassed pitch during the daytime and evenings.</p> <p>This extended use is possible because the proposed floodlit 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) is more resilient during winter weather conditions and with new floodlights, evening activities will enable the facility to be used to its full potential.</p> <p>The AGP also avoids close season maintenance works.</p>
<p>Sport related benefits of the proposed artificial grass pitch for the applicant and the community</p> <p>This explanation should provide detail on the deficiencies of the existing facilities and set out how the new facilities will address such deficiencies and help with the delivery of sport and meet community facility needs.</p> <p>Furthermore, the explanation should provide details regarding which sports the new artificial grass pitch will accommodate.</p>	<p>The Belle Vale area has limited access to state of the art 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (3G AGPs) and this proposal will contribute to satisfying high demand for training and competition football.</p> <p>This site has been strategically identified by The Football Association and Liverpool County Football Association.</p> <p>The Football Association has prioritised this development and has identified a need for improvement in football facilities within the Belle Vale area to help deliver national strategies for grassroots football.</p> <p>The proposed 3G AGP will accord with Sport England's and The Football Association's technical design guidance for 3G Artificial Grass Pitches (3G AGPs).</p> <p>The proposed facility does allow for adequate storage of goals and maintenance equipment, changing provision and access to allow for community use.</p>
<p>Explanation of which sports the new artificial turf pitch will accommodate</p>	<p>With football being the targeted sport, the appropriate surface choice is 3G artificial turf containing a 60mm pile (this being regarded by The Football Association as the most suitable artificial playing surface for community football and youth development).</p> <p>Sport England guidance** describes this as a 'preferred football surface' and capable of high level competition / training (national/international).</p> <p>**Sport England's guidance document 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' Issue 002 / December 2010.</p> <p>Other sports that may be accommodated on the pitch include rugby handling skills / non-contact training and practical PE sessions during school hours.</p>
<p>Proposed surface type</p>	<p>3G artificial turf containing a 60mm pile.</p>
<p>Accurate site plans (to scale) showing the existing and (if applicable) proposed winter and summer playing pitch layouts on the playing field.</p> <p>This information is required in order to make an informed assessment of what impact the proposed development would have on playing pitch provision.</p>	<p>Please refer to the following drawings illustrating the existing and proposed playing field arrangements for winter and summer terms:</p> <p>SSL1946 07 Existing Playing Field Layout SSL1946 08 Proposed Playing Field Layout</p>
<p>Sustainability</p>	<p>Arrangements to ensure the long term maintenance of the facility will be established, along with a necessary sinking fund to ensure the long term benefit of the facility and the appropriate replacement of the artificial surface, floodlights and pitch furniture at the end of life cycles,</p>

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Given the above details, we hope Sport England will agree that the proposed development is acceptable under the following exception policy:

E5 – The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.

In terms of design standards, the schedule of works necessary to implement the proposal are designed in accordance with, and must be constructed in full compliance with; the following sources of appropriate technical guidance and performance quality standards:

3G Artificial Grass Pitches (3G AGPs)

- The Football Association (FA) Guide to 3G Football Turf Pitch Design Principles and Layouts.
- Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Quality Concept for Football Turf – Handbook of Requirements (January 2012 / October 2015) – FIFA*1 / FIFA Quality certification required or equivalent IATS standard.
- Sport England Design Guidance Note 'Artificial Surfaces for Outdoor Sport – updated guidance for 2012.
- Sport England's guidance document 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' Issue 002 / December 2010.

Ball Stop Fencing

- BS EN 15312:2007 A1:2 Free access multi-sports equipment – Requirements, including:
 - Clause 5.5.1.2.1 Resistance to repeated impact of footballs
 - Clause 5.5.1.2.2 Very intense forceful impact resistance to player's kicks

Goals

- BS 8462:2005+A2:2012 Goals for youth football, futsal, mini-soccer and small-sided football.
- BS 8461:2005+A1:2009 Football goals. Code of practice for their procurement, installation, maintenance, storage and inspection.
- BS EN 748:2004 Playing field equipment. Football goals. Functional and safety requirements, test methods.

Floodlights

- The Football Association (FA) Guide to Football Turf Pitch Design Principles and Layouts (FIFA's Class II for Non – Televised events (4))
- BS EN 12193:2007 Light and lighting. Sports lighting
- The Institution of Lighting Professionals (ILP): Guidance Notes for The Reduction of Obtrusive Light GN01:2011

Pathways

- Sport England Design guidance Note – Accessible Sports Facilities – Issue 003 / April 2010

Generally

- Works must comply with current Building Regulations and British / European Standards applicable to the proposal

4.15 Conclusions

In view of the above justification and having been assessed in the light of relevant planning policies and material considerations, we request this proposal is accepted.

In conclusion:

The proposed 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) will replace existing grass pitch provision with better quality provision, thereby providing access to greater quantity of provision in a suitable location and supported by effective and appropriate management

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arrangements; whilst implementing best practice construction techniques to minimise waste and pollution; in accordance with Achieving Sustainable Development of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

The proposal would give rise to a considerable benefit to the wider community through the provision of an enhanced playing facility and the opportunity for usage throughout the year, in accordance with Section 8 – Promoting Healthy Communities of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

The proposal would ensure that surface water run-off is effectively managed and does not increase flood risk elsewhere, in accordance with Section 10 – Meeting the Challenge of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

The proposal would ensure that noise emission created by use of the development is adequately controlled at the nearby residential properties and is not expected to adversely affect nearby residents by way of noise, in accordance with Section 11 – Conserving and enhancing the natural environment of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

The proposal would ensure that performance of the proposed artificial lighting (floodlighting) system complies with an Environmental Zone E2 (ILP) which is rural surrounding with low district brightness, for example a Village or relatively dark outer suburban locations, in accordance with Section 11 – Conserving and enhancing the natural environment of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012).

Equally, the proposal satisfies relevant sections of Liverpool City Council's planning policies.

The proposal satisfies Sport England's E5 – The proposed development is for an indoor or outdoor sports facility, the provision of which would be of sufficient benefit to the development of sport as to outweigh the detriment caused by the loss of the playing field or playing fields.

The 3G Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) and associated facilities would not result in an unacceptable impact upon the character, appearance or visual amenity of the surrounding area. The proposal will complement the immediate surroundings within the sports complex and will not appear inappropriate to any view looking into Gateacre School campus.

The proposal would not result in an unacceptable impact to any residential amenity.

The proposal provides adequate on-site parking and necessary traffic management to meet the needs of the development and would not result in any harm to the safety of the surrounding public highway network.

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