

PLANNING STATEMENT

For:- 61-63 Leigh Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9DF

Ref: - ENF/2022/466

INTRODUCTION

This document is a short statement to accompany the retrospective planning application for 'unauthorised structure on top of platform (balcony)'. The existing balcony has a lower portion surrounded by glass balustrade and the upper portion bounded by a mid-height timber wall. The balcony is used as external play space by the attending children at the nursery setting. Children have free flow to the garden areas during the day, it is therefore important to provide the correct level of shading to protect them from the elements be it sun protection, rain or snow.

SUPPORT

It is important that our nursery gardens should have sufficient means of providing shade and that it should be installed during summer months, the exposure to sunlight could extend from the time the setting opens until it closes.

In line with the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) framework children should be allowed to play outside every day except when it is unsafe to do so.

We are regularly inspected by OFSTED to ensure that we are meeting and where possible exceeding the statutory EYFS standards that school and childcare providers must meet for the learning, development and care of children from birth to 5.

PROPOSAL

The structure that has been constructed on the lower part of the balcony is proposed to give access to shade and shelter whilst being in the open air of the external environment. It allows the children freedom to move between the areas of the nursery and still have the ability to engage in learning activities during all weathers. The canopy is constructed from timber supports and has a finish of clear plastic corrugated sheets fixed to the frame as shelter and shade. The canopy keeps an area underneath comfortable, dry, and safe, helping to create effective and useable EYFS learning environments.

Date: 9th September 2022