

Altman, Rebecca

From: Oliveira, Marta (Contractor)
Sent: 26 May 2026 15:10
To: Altman, Rebecca
Subject: F/26/101341 - BOORLEY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL, NAIRN ROAD, BOTLEY, SOUTHAMPTON - Urban Design comments

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Hi Rebecca,

I have been asked to provide urban design comments on this application.

The proposal adopts a simple and functional modular form which is considered appropriate for the operational requirements of a SEND facility. The single-storey scale helps ensure the building remains relatively discreet within the wider school setting and limits any significant visual impact. The provision of accessible accommodation and secure external learning space is also welcomed and demonstrates a positive response to inclusive educational needs.

That said, there are some reservations regarding the relationship of the building to the existing campus layout and overall design composition. In line with the Landscape Officer's observations, the siting of the building does not appear to fully reflect the established alignment and spatial arrangement of the main school building. A location more closely related to the existing built form may have provided a more cohesive and integrated addition to the campus environment.

Similarly, whilst the proposed elevations are acceptable in functional terms, the overall appearance is relatively utilitarian and could potentially benefit from subtle architectural detailing to better integrate it within the school setting. The architectural expression lacks a strong relationship with the character and design language of the existing school buildings. Whilst it is accepted that modular construction often necessitates a simple form, there appears to be limited articulation within the elevations or use of materials to soften the appearance of the building or provide a more welcoming and child-centered environment.

Overall, whilst the proposal is not considered to result in significant harm and is supported by the clear educational need, a more carefully integrated approach to siting and design would have strengthened the relationship between the new building and the existing character of the school campus.

I hope these comments are helpful.

Kind regards
Marta

Marta Oliveira
Contractor
Senior Urban Designer

