



St Philip Neri with St Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy  
Safeguarding  
Design and Access Statement

## Document Control

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# Design and Access Statement

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## 1.0 Introduction

This design and access statement accompanies an application for full planning permission in respect of proposed safeguarding (fencing) works to St Philip Neri with St Bede Catholic Voluntary Academy, Rosemary Street, Mansfield.

The works are felt to be desirable given the high levels of reported crime within the vicinity of the school and repeated attacks upon the school.

The proposed works should reduce opportunities for unauthorised access to the school and along with that reduce the vandalism and crime that the school is currently subject to.

## 2.0 Amount

The proposal intends to replace existing fencing as follows:

### 2.1 Rosemary Street

Remove the existing railings, lower the brick piers on the dwarf walls and install a line of 2.4m tall Euroguard Flatform fencing, along with automated vehicular gates (swing gates replacing the existing rising arm barriers) and manually operated pedestrian gates on access control.

In addition, the boundary wall will be retained, but at the location of the existing roadside communications cabinets anti-climb measures are proposed to prevent the use of the aforementioned roadside communications cabinets as a "hop up" location where the wall can easily be overcome.

### 2.2 Playground

The replacement of the existing wire mesh fencing which separates the playground from the car park is to be replaced with new wire mesh fencing, complete with a manually operated vehicle gate, to maintain the existing access provision.

### 2.3 Westfield Lane

Replace approximately 50m of existing wire mesh fencing with Euroguard Combi fencing which will deter anyone from climbing into the site, and also disrupt the line of sight from the housing on Westfield Lane which overlooks the school playing/sports field and "forest school" area.

### 2.4 Tesco car park

Replace approx. 55m of close-boarded timber fencing with Euroguard Combi fencing which will be taller and more robust than the existing timber fence which has already had a section destroyed in an arson attack.

## 3.0 Layout

No changes to the layout other than the replacement of existing boundary treatments in an attempt to improve the security of the site.

## 4.0 Scale

No changes to the area of the site, or the footprint of any buildings.

## 5.0 Landscaping

It is noted that a number of Tree Preservation orders abut the proposed works, particularly in relation to the Tesco car park. Care will be taken to minimise any harm to trees, but some disturbance would be anticipated through the setting of fence posts into the ground, and the possible need to trim back some lower branches to facilitate installation of the fencing.

Where possible existing hedges will be retained.

## 6.0 Appearance

As detailed above, existing ineffective fences etc will be replaced with more effective measures.

The replacement fencing to the boundary with the Tesco car park should be an improvement over the existing installation. It will also tie in more effectively, in terms of appearance with the existing wire mesh and timber slat fencing that currently runs North-South along the boundary between the school and the Tesco car park.

The proposed fencing overlooking Westfield Lane will also tie in with the existing fencing described above, being another wire mesh and timber slat fence.

The measures to Rosemary Street will have more of an impact on the appearance but are considered essential as a means to deter unauthorised access to the site. The proposed measures have been kept to the minimum that is considered necessary to secure the site.

## 7.0 Access

No particular changes to access. Existing entry and exit points will remain as they are, but the methods of securing these access points will become more effective.

## 8.0 Heritage Statement

One corner of the proposed works are known to border onto the Western end of the Westfield Lane Conservation Area. There are two different types of fencing proposed for this area. The fencing which will form the boundary of the school will be “combi fencing” consisting of wire mesh with timber infill slats. This is hard to climb and also blocks lines of sight into the school premises. The line of existing fencing between the school playing field and the Tesco car park is already of this type and appears to provide an effective deterrent to scaling the fence line.

At the end of this run of combi fencing is a short length of mixed fencing, consisting of close-boarded timber and palisade fencing. This is known to be a weak point and the school have reported a number of incidents of people abusing this boundary and gaining access to the school playing field at this point. The intention is to install combi fencing to this corner, and along the Westfield Lane Boundary which is similar to the existing combi fencing along the boundary which runs North South between the School and Tesco car park. This fencing provides an effective deterrent, but in the corner where the School, Tesco and the Myplace Westfield Folkhouse all meet the existing fencing (which is of varying types) is ineffective and has had to be reinforced by the school by piling old branches in the location to remove a clear “landing point” when people had been scaling the existing fence.

It is not thought that the provision of a short distance of close-boarded timber fencing, consistent with that which is already on site, immediately adjacent to that location will have a negative impact upon the local environment, and the qualities of the adjacent Conservation Area. The proposal aims to secure the boundary, using fencing that is commensurate with the existing fencing already on site, and replacing the fencing elements in the corner which are lower, weaker and ineffective.

It is hoped that improving the security in this area will make a positive contribution to the Conservation Area, and remove a section of fencing which is both ineffective and unsightly.

The fencing overlooking Westfield Lane will also be combi fencing in order to obstruct the line of sight from the houses on the opposite side of Westfield Lane. This is a change to the current provision, but is done for clear safeguarding reasons, and will be consistent with other fencing already on site.

In order to limit access into the Myplace@Westfield Folkhouse grounds the proposal includes for the replacement of the existing wire mesh fencing which seeks to obstruct access over the wall into those grounds. The proposal does not extend the run of the existing fencing and therefore is hoped to be deemed acceptable.

## 9.0 Supporting Photographs

### 9.1 Corner overlooking Westfield Lane Conservation Area viewed from within the School grounds.

Note the mixed fencing types of combi, close boarded timber on concrete posts and palisade fencing.  
Note the presence of piled branches and general detritus as a deterrent to scaling the fence at this point.  
Note the close boarded timber fencing to the left of the shot which is similar to the proposed close boarded timber fencing (wire mesh with timber infill slats) proposed for this corner and along Westfield Lane.



*Fig 9.1*

### 9.2 Corner overlooking Westfield Lane Conservation Area, viewed from Westfield Lane.

The boundary overlooking Westfield Lane will be secured with 7' tall wire mesh fence with timber slat infills. A wire mesh fenceline will also be installed in the same location as the existing wire mesh fencing, continuing the North South line of fencing to prevent easy access over the wall into the Myplace@Westfield Folkhouse. This installation is not anticipated to have any impact on the Conservation Area as it will not be significantly different to the current installation.



*Fig 9.2*

If you have any questions or would like some advice regarding our services,  
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