# Eckersley O'Callaghan

# St Catherine's School, Twickenham Flood Risk Assessment and SUDS Statement

Issue P02

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### **1** Summary

#### 1.1 Guidance documents

This report has been prepared using the following documents:

- Richmond Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, March 2021
- The Environment Agency
- British Standard 12056: Gravity drainage systems inside buildings, 2000

#### 1.2 Introduction

The aim of this report is to demonstrate that the proposed development at St Catherine's School will not increase the flood risk to this local site or any properties downstream. The flood risk to the site from a number of sources has been assessed. The proposed surface water and foul water schemes have been outlined and will be fully designed once planning permission has been granted and a geotechnical investigation survey for the site has been performed.

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## 2 Existing site

#### 2.1 Location

The site is located in Twickenham area of Greater London, see Figure 1. The site is part of St Catherine's School and comprises several school buildings. The site is bordered to the north and south by the roads Grotto Road and Pope's Grove respectively.

The surrounding area is predominantly residential, with some small retail businesses. The nearest surface water is the river Thames, which is located approximately 60 m to the east and is flowing from south to north.



Figure 1 – Site location plan – Source: Google Earth

#### 2.2 Site boundary

The St Catherine's school lies in a plot approximately 1.4 hectares. The A310 runs along its east elevation; Grotto Rd runs along its north elevation and the plot is surrounded by residential blocks to the south.

The proposed development sits between the main school building and The Lodge building, replacing the existing music school building and an existing extension to The Lodge which are proposed to be demolished. (See Figure 2).



Figure 2 – Site boundary of proposed development has been highlighted in red.



#### 2.3 Existing buildings and landscape

The campus has a number of existing buildings along Cross Deep and Popes Grove Streets, two of which will be demolished to enable the construction of the proposed development.



Figure 3 – Existing buildings surrounding the proposed development (in red the buildings proposed to be demolished)

The existing development site is surrounded by hard landscaping (asphalt) as shown in Figure 4.

The surface water from the existing building roofs and the impermeable paving is collected and taken to the existing soakaways located to the west of the plot towards the playing field (See Figure 5).

Figure 5 shows the extract of the existing drainage plan from AKS Ward Construction Consultant relating to the works carried out in the neighbouring St Josephs Building – Senior School & Sixth Form for planning application in 2009. It shows a partial footprint area of the new proposed works which are located to the north of the area shown.

There is an existing soakaway between The Lodge and the Swimming Pool building to the south which serves St Josephs Building.



Figure 4 – Existing development site plan highlighting the hard landscaping around the existing music building – Extract from Survey Drawing. Outline in red indicates existing site boundary.



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Figure 5 - The existing plan drainage drawing from AKS Ward showing the existing soakaways (clouded in red).

#### 2.4 Ground conditions

St Catherine's School is located on an area of Langley Silt Member, described as sandy clay and silt ('Brickearth') with London Clay Formation below.



Figure 6 – Superficial surface geology map. St Catherine's School is indicated by the red pin, taken from BGS



Figure 7 – Bedrock geology map. St Catherine's School is indicated by the red pin, taken from BGS

A geotechnical investigation for the site and a number of trial pits will be performed before detailed design commences to assess the existing foundations to the neighbouring buildings.





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Figure 8 – Extract of the Hole Location Plan and Borehole Log from previous SI (2009) by AKS Ward. Water table is at -2.3 m BGL.

### 2.5 Topography

The site is at an elevation of 12 metres above sea level, see Figure 6. The land slopes from west to east. The River Thames runs along the low-lying land.



Figure 9 – Local topography, St Catherine's School indicated by grey arrow, taken from <u>www.en-gb.topographic-map.com/places/DA1-2JT-3953367/</u>



## **3 Proposed development**

#### 3.1 Description

The proposed development is a new two-storey building providing art and music classrooms. The total footprint of the building is 270m<sup>2</sup>, see Figure 10 (Outline of the development site highlighted in red).



Figure 10 – Proposed Music and Art Building - Ground floor plan, from Tim Ronalds Architects.

Minor works will be performed to create hard landscaping over the footprint of the demolished building by creating a new paved courtyard which will provide access to the building. Soft landscaping (approximately 33 m2 of planting beds) will be introduced as part of the development – See Figure 11.



Figure 11 – Mark-up on the Architects Ground floor plan showing the hard landscaping, the new covered area and the soft landscaping of the proposed development.

#### 3.2 The Sequential Test and the Exception Test

As the development is located within flood risk zone 1, and is a minor development, neither the Sequential test nor the Exception test are required.

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### 4 Definition of the flood hazard

#### Flood zone 4.1

St Catherine's School lies in Flood Zone 1, see Figure 12. The Environment Agency states that properties within this zone have a low probability of flooding.

"Flood risk" is a combination of the probability and the potential consequences of flooding. Areas at risk of flooding are those at risk of flooding from any source, now or in the future. Sources include rivers and the sea, direct rainfall on the ground surface, rising groundwater, overwhelmed sewers and drainage systems, reservoirs, canals and lakes and other artificial sources. Flood risk also accounts for the interactions between these different sources.

For areas at risk of river and sea flooding, this is principally land within Flood Zones 2 and 3 or where a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment shows it will be at risk of flooding in the future. It can also include an area within Flood Zone 1 which the Environment Agency has notified the local planning authority as having critical drainage problems.

St Catherine's School is located in an area within Flood Zone 1, However, a Flood Risk Assessment will be required for planning as the site sits within critical drainage area - See Figure 13.









#### 4.2 Sources of flooding

The risk of flooding due to the following sources has been assessed using the Environment Agency flood maps:

- River and tidal flooding
- Groundwater flooding
- Reservoir flooding
- Surface water flooding
- Sewer flooding

Both the risk to the proposed development and its impact on downstream properties have been assessed.



#### 4.2.1 River and tidal flooding

St Catherine's School in Twickenham is not at risk from river and tidal flooding, see Figure 14.



Extent of flooding from rivers or the sea



Figure 14 – Map of flood risk from rivers or the sea showing that St Catherine's School is not at risk – Source GOV.UK (Flood map for planning)

#### 4.2.2 Groundwater flooding

Groundwater flooding occurs because of the underground water table rising, which can result in water emerging through the ground and causing flooding. This source of flooding tends to occur after extensive periods of heavy rainfall, potentially occurring for weeks or months. During these periods, a greater volume of water infiltrates through the ground, causing an underlying aquifer to rise above its regular depth below the ground's surface. Springs and low-lying areas, where the water table is likely to be closer to the surface, pose greater risk of groundwater flooding. Groundwater flooding can occur in areas where the underlying soil and bedrock can become saturated with water. Therefore, ground composition and aquifer vulnerability are significant influences on the potential rate of groundwater flooding

The Richmond SFRA Map shows that St. Catherine's School site is in an area susceptible to Groundwater Flood between 50% and 75%.



Area Susceptible To Groundwater Flood © Environment Agency
 less than 25%
 between 25% and 49.9%
 between 50% and 74.9%
 75% or more

Figure 15 – Blue pin shows location of St Catherine's School – Source London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames

As shown on the above map, the risk is general to a large area around the development site, and it is not local. There is no new basement in the proposed scheme, and we believe that this does not represent a major risk to the proposed development.



#### 4.2.3 Reservoir flooding

It is noted that there is a risk of flooding from reservoirs which affects a large area around the development site (included) – See Figure 16 below. Flooding from reservoirs is extremely unlikely therefore, this should not be a concern.



Maximum extent of flooding from reservoirs:

🔵 when river levels are normal 🥘 when there is also flooding from rivers 🕁 Location you selected

Figure 16 – Map of flood risk from reservoirs showing that St Catherine's area is at risk of flooding from reservoirs – Source GOV UK (Flood map for planning)

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Surface water flooding occurs as a result of high intensity rainfall where water ponds or flows over ground before entering the underground drainage network or a watercourse. Ordinary watercourse flooding occurs under similar circumstances but is associated with non-main river watercourses or ditches. Surface water flooding is often exacerbated by the intensity or duration of the rainfall event overwhelming drainage points, leaving soil, drainage channels and other drainage systems incapable of draining water away at a sufficient rate. Extreme weather conditions can also lead to ordinary watercourses exceeding their capacity, overwhelming systems, and causing water to flow onto land.

The proposed building is at high risk from surface water flooding, see Figure 17.



The proposed development will not worsen the existing condition with regards to surface water flooding. The above risk is very local between the existing buildings, and we believe it is due to local issues with falls and lack of gullies. The external landscaping will be ungraded as part of the project with upgraded falls and gullies.

The existing drains run to the nearby soakaways to the west and the proposed impermeable area is less than the existing. Therefore, we believe that the existing 2 No. soakaways should be sufficient - Refer to Figure 18.



Figure 17 – Map of flood risk from surface water for St Catherine's School area – Source London Borough of Richmond Upon Thames

Figure 18 - The existing plan drainage drawing from AKS Ward showing the existing soakaways (clouded in red to the west).



### 4.2.5 Sewer flooding

Sewer flooding can occur due to drainage system infrastructure failure. Flooding can also occur due to an increased flow and volume of water entering a sewer system, resulting in the system exceeding its hydraulic capacity and surcharging as a result. If sewer outfall points are either blocked or submerged due to high water levels, water can back up in a sewer system and cause flooding. These issues can result in water overflowing from gullies and manholes, causing flooding in the local area. Blockages caused by sediment or debris can further exacerbate the probability of sewer flooding.

The SFRA map for Richmond indicates that 0-10 recorded sewer flooding incidents have occurred within the St Catherine's School area. The relevant Water and Sewerage Company must be consulted to confirm if the development site has historically flooded.



Figure 19 – Map showing recorded sewer flooding incidents near the site – Source GOV UK (Flood map for planning)

#### 4.2.6 Summary of Flood Risk to the Development Site

Source of Potential Flooding to the Development Site	Flood Risk	Mitigation/Comments
River and tidal flooding	Very Low	No mitigation required
Groundwater flooding	High	No mitigation required
Reservoir flooding	Normal	No mitigation required
Surface water flooding	High	New landscaping and improved local drainage systems will mitigate the risk
Sewer flooding	Low	No mitigation required

Table 1: Summary of Flood risks to the site



### 5 Surface water drainage strategy

#### 5.1 Permeable and impermeable surfaces

The areas covered by buildings and hard and soft landscaping have been measured from the Architect's plan drawings for the existing and proposed conditions. This is summarised in the table below.

	Existing (m <sup>2</sup> )	Proposed (m <sup>2</sup> )
Total area of site	788	788
Roofs	318	373 (inc. 48sqm green roof)
Hard landscaping	470	382
Soft landscaping	0	33
Permeable areas	0	33
Impermeable areas	788	755

Table 2: Permeable and impermeable surfaces

There is a minor reduction of impermeable areas between the existing and the proposed development which will improve the existing development site by introducing planting areas.

#### 5.2 Existing surface water scheme

A record drawing from 2009 gives information of how the existing surface water system for St Catherine's School is functioning, see Figure 18 on the next page. The surface water run off from the roofs of some of the existing buildings and hard landscaping is directed to three soakaways. The capacities of these is unknown but the soakaway testing, undertaken by Ground Condition Consultants in September 2018, have confirmed that the infiltration drainage is suitable at the site.

A CCTV drainage survey will be conducted to understand the layout of the existing system.

#### 5.3 SuDs

Richmond Council requires new developments to follow the guidance outlined in their Drainage and Planning Policy Statement. This document is based on the National Planning Policy Framework which favours sustainable urban drainage techniques (SuDs) as a means of surface water disposal.

In order to reduce the risk of surface water and sewer flooding, all development proposals in this borough are required to follow the London Plan drainage hierarchy:

- Store rainwater for later use
- Use infiltration techniques, such as porous surfaces in non-clay areas
- Attenuate rainwater in ponds or open water features for gradual release
- Attenuate rainwater by storing in tanks or sealed water features for gradual release
- Discharge rainwater direct to a watercourse
- Discharge rainwater to a surface water sewer/drain
- Discharge rainwater to the combined sewer

The proposed development should not produce surface water discharge which will cause a flood risk or possible surcharge flooding within the site or further downstream. The proposed surface water system will be detailed to ensure this requirement is met.

#### 5.4 Proposed surface water drainage strategy

The proposed development consists of demolishing the existing buildings and building a new two-three-storey building. The impermeable area of the proposed development is less than the existing and therefore the existing 2 No. soakaways to the north-west of the site should be sufficient to serve the new roof and the hard landscape. The infiltration rates have been tested by Ground Condition Consultants in September 2018 in the near playing field which has indicated an infiltration rate between  $1.05 \times 10^{-5}$  to  $9.83 \times 10^{-6}$  m/s. The ground water level has been determined during the Site Investigation for the playing field in 2009 which has indicated the GWL being at approximately 2.4 m below ground level.

The rainwater from the roof will be collected from rainwater pipes at ground level and slot drains will collect the run-off from the hard landscaping, the surface water will then be directed to the existing soakaways.



### 6 Foul water drainage strategy

#### 6.1 Foul water appliances

The number of foul water appliances for the proposed building have been counted. BS12056 gives a discharge rate for each appliance, and this has been used to calculate the peak wastewater flow rate for the system, see the table below.

Q<sub>wastewater</sub>=K√∑DU

Where K= reduction factor to allow for non-simultaneous use, BS 12056 gives 0.7 for schools

 $\Sigma$ DU= sum of discharge units into the system

Appliance	DU per appliance	Number of appliances	DU total per appliance
Wash hand basin	0.3	6	1.8
WC with 6 litres cistern	1.2	2	2.4
Total discharge units	4.2		
Peak wastewater flow Q=K $\sqrt{\Sigma}$ DU (litres/second)			1.4

Table 3: Wastewater flow in the proposed scheme

Appliance	DU per appliance	Number of appliances	DU total per appliance
Wash hand basin	0.3	3	0.9
WC with 6 litres cistern	1.2	4	4.8
Total discharge units	5.7		
Peak wastewater flow Q=K $\sqrt{\Sigma}DU$ (litres/second)			1.7

system which discharges into the existing foul system as per drainage sketch below (Figure 23).

Table 4: Wastewater flow in the existing scheme

The proposed total discharge units are less than the existing units and therefore the proposed wastewater flow is lower than the existing.

As per above table, the building will produce a wastewater flow of 1.4 l/s. This outflow will be connected to the existing

A pre-development enquiry will be submitted to Thames Water to check that there is capacity in the existing main sewer to serve the proposed development. Given that existing buildings on the site will be demolished to enable the development, it is considered that there is sufficient capacity in the main sewer to carry the 1.4 l/s.

Figure 20: Ground Floor extract from TRA showing the wash hand basin (in red) and WC units (in green)

Figure 21: First Floor extract from TRA showing the wash hand basin (in red)











Figure 22 – Mark-up of the existing drainage on the survey plan extract of the site

## 7 Flood risk management measures

The new development site lies within Flood zone 1. However, due to the site being within the critical drainage area, there is a risk of flooding. We believe that this can be mitigated by the new landscape and by improving the local drainage system around the development site.

## 8 Conclusions

- St Catherine's School lies in Flood Zone 1 and the risk of flooding from various sources has been assessed. The
  proposed works will not increase the risk from any of these sources.
- The proposed development will cause a reduction the impermeable area on the site, replaced by planting areas.
- The proposed surface water scheme uses two soakaways to the west to infiltrate the surface water run-off from the roof and hard landscaping into the soil. The size of the existing soakaways should be sufficient and should not need to be increased.
- See Appendix C for local and site wide drainage layouts.

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## 9 Appendix

- Appendix A St Catherine's School Existing drainage drawings
- Appendix B Foul water appliances marked up on general arrangements
- Appendix C Existing Topographical Survey Drawing

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NOTE: HATCH IN RED REPRESENTS THE HAND BASIN UNITS AND THE HATCH IN GREEN REPRESENTS THE WC UNITS IN THE PROPOSED SCHEME - MARK-UP ON TRA PLAN DRAWINGS





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# Eckersley O'Callaghan

Project Name: St Catherines School, Twickenham

Project Number: 22169 Sketch Number: STC-EOC-SK221031 By: KJ Date: 31.10.2022

A *	07.02.22 09.08.21	Planning Pre-Application Advice Feasibility Study
В	20.05.22	Client Review
c	14.06.22	Client Review
D	15.09.22	Client Review
Е	22.09.22	Client Review
F	16.11.22	Planning Application
G	29.03.23	Reduced Scheme for Client Review
н	03.07.23	2nd Planning Pre-Application Submission
J	08.11.23	2nd Planning Application DRAFT

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St Catherine's School

New Music & Art Building

SCT 101 J

First Floor Plan

As Proposed

Scale at A1 /(A3) 1:100 (/200) Drawn PS

Checked TR

## Appendix C – Existing Topographical Survey Drawing

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