

## **DESIGN STATEMENT**

- PROJECT:** Office extension at -  
Hereward House School  
14 Strathray Gardens  
Hampstead  
London  
NW3 4NY
- PROJECT No:** 1278
- CLIENT:** Mrs L Sampson (Headmistress)  
Hereward House School  
14 Strathray Gardens  
Hampstead  
London  
NW3 4NY
- DATE:** 16 October 2006
- PREAMBLE:** Our client has requested a small office extension at the school for a secretary and additional filing cabinets. This office needs to be physically near the existing school offices and accessed from within the existing building. There is no suitable spare room within the existing building that could be converted into an office. The only suitable position for such an office, which meets with the above criteria, is over the existing changing rooms.
- DESIGN:** It is felt important to keep the gap between the school and adjacent building as 'open' as physically possible, particularly with the large existing tree in the rear of the playground. Therefore, it is intended to build a flat roof over the office. The existing building displays some fine brickwork detailing, which includes moulded brick 'plat' courses and soldier arches over the windows. It is intended to match these features in the design of the office. The new brickwork 'plat' course will match and align with the existing and the new windows will be in the same proportion as the existing (hence, the need for two windows in both the front and rear elevations) with soldier arches over.
- MATERIALS:** It is intended to match the existing brickwork as closely as possible in colour and texture. The new sash windows will be of the same configuration and colour as the existing. All rainwater goods will match the existing.

## **ACCESS STATEMENT**

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**ACCESS:** Currently there are no major disabled access facilities within the school. Whilst a ramp could be provided up the entrance stairs and into the main hallway, the entrance to the proposed office is off of an existing landing, half way down a series of steps. The landing is very short and narrow (about 1.5m x 1.2m). Therefore, there is not enough room to safely provide an access ramp onto this landing. Further, it may be necessary, due to construction reasons, to provide a step up into the new office.

**EXIT:** The intended primary fire exit from this office is via the landing, which leads directly out to a flight of stairs down into the rear playground. A secondary means of escape would be through the front windows, onto the flat roof at the front of the extension.