

**UNIVERSITY COLLEGE SCHOOL  
PLANNING APPLICATION FOR NEW SWIMMING POOL  
LANDSCAPE ISSUES**

The school is located within a neighbourhood of large residential villas screened from the street by well stocked gardens containing shrubs, mature hedgerows, and specimen trees. Although the grounds are dominated by buildings and hard surfaces, landscape features remain a significant contributor to the overall character of the site, particularly the heavily planted terraces at the rear which match the quality of the gardens of the surrounding properties.

The site occupies a significant position both in terms of the school and its wider urban - suburban context. Its relationship to the junction of Arkwright and Frognal increases its importance, key views of the school being enjoyed from this location.

When passing down Frognal the school frontage is set behind a line of Sugar Maple which follow the generous curve of the road. As the swimming pool defines the end of this visual sequence the associated planting needs to be read as an extension to this line of trees. However it is not possible or appropriate to continue the Maples along the front of the pool, due to limited amount of space between its façade and the street. The new landscape should extend the scale and massing of the Sugar Maples while marking the significance of this corner site.

Although there is a strong desire for the establishment of a generous stand of trees it is also necessary to maximise daylight penetration into the pool building. The landscape is therefore conceived as a series of layers or filters which allow light and views through while offering partial screening of the buildings behind.

The key objectives of this proposal are:-

- To establish a notable group of trees at the corner of Frognal and Arkwright.
- To provide a strong conclusion to the stand of Sugar Maple planted down the site frontage.
- To reinforce the layered structure of the pool building.
- To provide a degree of screening while allowing daylight to penetrate deep into the internal spaces.
- To unify the three triangular zones of planting which collectively form the Frognal frontage.
- To enrich the ecological status of the site.

**The scheme is outlined in more detail with exemplary photographs in the original consented scheme planning A3 report document.**