



Auden Place Community Nursery  
1 Auden Place  
Manley Street  
London, NW1 8LT  
020 7586 0098

[info@audenplace.co.uk](mailto:info@audenplace.co.uk)  
[www.audenplace.co.uk](http://www.audenplace.co.uk)

Planning Advice and Information Service  
London Borough of Camden  
2nd Floor, 5 Pancras Square  
c/o Town Hall  
Judd Street  
London WC1H 9JE

27<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**R.E. Auden Place Community Nursery planning application - 2016/2173**

Dear Sir/Madam,

As part of Auden Place Community Nursery's (APCN) commitment to providing a healthy, safe and comfortable environment for our staff to work in and, particularly, our children to learn in, an efficient and effective ventilation system is required. During the summer months, temperatures regularly exceed 30C in part of the building, particularly the kitchen area but also in the children's classrooms. This is in spite of efforts over the last years to manage the indoor climate. After consulting a climate engineer in 2014, we replaced all halogen spots with LEDs to reduce heat output from lightning and installed awnings on all classrooms windows. Nonetheless, rooms still overheat regularly, forcing us to rent mobile coolers (£4k) every summer to provide a safe and comfortable setting for both kids and staff. However, these coolers are neither environmentally nor economically sustainable in the long term.

We have therefore spent the last 12 months in consultation with our mechanical engineers (Airtech Air Conditioning Services Limited, East Grinstead) to determine how to best provide the necessary air conditioning solution whilst minimising impacts on space both inside the nursery as well as around it, in respect to our neighbours. External appearance is crucial, positioned as we are in a conservation area and an architect-designed estate of coherent design, so all exterior installations will be painted to match the existing brickwork. Finally, as a charity, we also feel that any solution needs to be cost-effective, and deliver maximum value for money.

As a result of this consultation, we have been advised to install a heat recovery ventilation system (Mitsubishi VL-100U5-E) in all three classrooms. This only requires minimal external





measures, with two 150 mm round vents required on each floor in the east wall. Furthermore, air-conditioning will be required for the kitchen and office on the ground floor, toilet on the first floor and staff room on the second floor, and these will need the installation of three inverter heat pumps (Mitsubishi MXZ-4D72VA).

Having investigated a number of options for placing these units, rooftop installation has proven impractical due to the added engineering requirements to work around the building design (limited or no space for the necessary interior pipework), as well as being cost prohibitive. The only pragmatic solution that allows for all considerations is to install wall-mounted air conditioning units on the wall next to the entrance, where they will be invisible both from the street as well as the courtyard area to the east and south of the nursery. Placed in this way, we are able to minimise interior pipework, a crucial factor in the very tight and low-ceilinged space in which the nursery operates.

This solution has proven to cover all the requirements for an effective air conditioning system to support the operations of the nursery as well as optimising the comfort and best interests of the children. In particular, it will ensure:

- A best practice engineering approach for the air conditioning unit to perform it's intended function
- Affordability
- Minimal external visibility

We would be happy to explain this reasoning and the specific constraints facing the nursery during a site visit at a time convenient to you.

Yours sincerely,

Mikki Parkes  
Nursery Manager

Dr Anne Hultzsch  
Vice-chair Management Committee

