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REPORT AS10106.180530.NMP

52-53 RUSSELL SQUARE LONDON WC1B 4HP

NOISE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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mail@clarkesaunders.com

www.clarkesaunders.com











Head Office -

Westgate House 39 - 41 Romsey Road Winchester SO22 5BE mail@clarkesaunders.com London Office -103 Gaunt Street London SE1 6DP london@clarkesaunders.com Exeter Office -Sowton Business Park Capital Court Bittern Road Sowton, Exeter EX2 7FW exeter@clarkesaunders.com

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This document has been prepared for submission in association with the Section 106 Agreement relating to planning permission granted on 28/08/2018. It constitutes the Noise Management Plan referred to at paragraph 2.9 of the Section 106 agreement and outlines the obligations of the owner in this respect as stated in Section 4.4.

Generally schools are considered to be noise sensitive developments, in that noise impacts on a school from external sources usually require mitigation, rather than the other way around (i.e. a school impacting its surroundings). In this context, it is unusual for obligations to be placed on a school institution to control noise impact on neighbouring properties. However, in response to neighbour concerns, and in the interest of maintaining good neighbourly relations the school is committed to addressing neighbour concerns as detailed within this Noise Management Plan (and the Sound Insulation Strategy that has been submitted to discharge the relevant condition).

2.0 SITE DESCRIPTION

It is intended that 52-53 Russell Square will act as a secondary school building, providing 14 classrooms, including two Science Laboratories, for up to 180 pupils aged 14-18 years, with a further 25 full time staff members. Classes are planned to run from 8.30am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday, with the provision of evening tuition, after school clubs or events lasting until typically no later than 6.30pm. Occasionally the school will remain open to pupils until around 9.00pm during the week (approximately three times a month), or during the weekend (approximately once a month) for specific events, such as pupil-parents' information evenings, conferences and careers events. The school is likely to only be open and operational as a school for a maximum of 175 days per year, accounting for school and public holidays.

3.0 MANAGEMENT OF NOISE IMPACTS

3.1 External Noise Management

3.1.1 Liaison with Residents

The importance of maintaining good relations and communication channels between the school and the neighbours is agreed to be a critical issue considering that the relevant parties will be neighbours for many years. In conjunction with effective communication of school activities, timetables and operations, liaison with local residents is essential in cultivating a positive attitude in the surrounding community and a key element for minimising any potential noise impacts.

Consultation has been undertaken with neighbours. School information and noise management strategies were presented and discussed with local residents at a meeting on 30th April 2018.

A feedback mechanism will be implemented and contact telephone numbers provided to the local residents to ensure that in the event of any issues arising, this can be quickly communicated to decision makers in the school enabling any appropriate actions to be taken promptly. Ward councillors will also be consulted on this document as per the S106 agreement.

Information on school timetables and extra-curricular activities will be made freely available and kept as accurate and current as is practicable. Integration of this information channel within the school's planning and pupil/parent information systems will be key in maximising efficiency.

3.1.2 Day to day logistical arrangements

The school strives to ensure impeccable behaviour from all of its pupils, as outlined in the School Rules and Behaviour Policy. Therefore, any noisy or disruptive behaviour inside or outside the school <u>will not be tolerated</u>. The École Jeannine Manuel's behaviour policy considers 'persistent disruptive behaviour' as a serious breach of school rules, which will result in the offending student being referred to the Head, who may recommend suspension or permanent exclusion from the school.

When pupils are required to leave the school to travel to other destinations, they will be instructed to meet at a gathering point located on Bedford Place (away from 54 Russell Square). Pupils will be supervised at all times by school staff in order to manage behaviour and minimise any possible disruption.

3.1.3 Transport & Deliveries

School staff will be required to ensure that pupils do not loiter outside the Russell Square buildings between classes and before or after school teaching hours. Smoking is not permitted within the vicinity of the school for either staff or pupils.

Pupils will be encouraged to utilise public transport links to minimise any significant increase in private vehicle traffic on Russell Square. This will be secured within the Travel Plan for the school.

The school will also be providing 28 long stay cycle parking spaces for use by staff and pupils.

All school ingress and egress points will be monitored between 8.15am and 6.30pm to ensure the safety of students when they arrive and leave the premises, as well as to encourage good behaviour.

Service and regular deliveries will take place at the Bedford Place entrance, via the existing doors and will not be scheduled late at night or early in the morning to avoid disturbing local residents, and to avoid the busier times of the day in terms of traffic movements.

3.2 Internal Noise Management

3.2.1 Day to day logistical arrangements

The development will be a secondary school with pupils aged between 14 and 18 years. Secondary schools are recognised to have significantly lower mean occupied classroom noise levels that primary schools. Class sizes will vary between 16-20 pupils, and behaviour and noise created will be controlled by teachers and staff, who will be present at all times of the day that pupils are within the school.

Open learning areas, designed for students to undertake homework, assignments and self-directed learning, as well as any spaces and facilities reserved to allow pupils to take appropriate rest periods and breaks, will be monitored by staff in order to ensure good behaviour.

3.2.2 Class Changeover Signals

The alert system to signal class changeover times will be specified, targeted and adjusted as required, rather than relying on a traditional bell system broadcast throughout.

3.2.3 Sound Insulation

A design criterion of 50dB $D_{nT,w}$ + C_{tr} for the separating wall of 54 and 53 Russell Square, 7dB in excess of the minimum performance standard set out in Approved Document E *Resistance to the passage of sound* (2003 Edition), was agreed with Camden Environmental Health and the Acoustician representing the residents in adjacent buildings.

Sound insulation testing of the existing party wall construction at all levels from basement through to third floor level was undertaken on 8th January 2018 following procedures in BS EN ISO 140-4: 1998 Acoustics – Measurement of sound insulation in buildings and of building elements – Part 4: Field measurements of airborne sound insulation between rooms, as required by Approved Document E Resistance to the passage of sound (2003 Edition).

Existing sound insulation measurements have demonstrated that the current performance of the party wall exceeds the proposed performance standard of $D_{nT,w} + C_{tr}$ 50 dB at all floor levels apart from the third floor, which achieved $D_{nT,w} + C_{tr}$ 48 dB. This is believed to be due to a flanking path via a corridor spanning the loft space above 53 and 54 Russell Square, which circumvents the separating wall.

The in-situ sound insulation performance will be maximised by means of a thorough examination of the separating wall, separating wall and floor junctions and treatment of any holes, gaps and other potential transmission paths, upon occupation of the building by EJM (note – the building is currently occupied).

This may include filling any holes present where the floor joists are built into the walls and making good of any obvious cracks/holes/joints, etc. Due to the existing performance of the wall, these works are considered to be the most effectively appropriate steps to maximise the sound insulation between the two properties.

A door within the spanning corridor will also be treated with an acoustically rated doorset.

It is further proposed to introduce an independent drylining to the full-length of the separating wall at levels 1, 2, 3, and 4 (loft) and to infill any fire places. A noticeable performance uplift would be expected as a result of these measures, maximising the sound insulation provided by the existing partitions and structures.

Areas within the school are to be mechanically ventilated, enabling the windows to remain closed and reducing the risk of noise egress.

Internal finishes will be configured to control internal reverberation levels via carpets and absorbent panels, as required.

The internal, physical alterations for these acoustic measures were approved by Camden on 6th November 2018 under planning permission reference 2018/2224/P and listed building consent reference 2018/2491/L.

Ben Dymock MIOA CLARKE SAUNDERS ASSOCIATES