

Energy Statement

Proposed Replacement Canopy and Garden Room
St Hilda's CE Primary School, Prestwich
In accordance with Places for Everyone (PfE) Policies JP-S2 and JP-C2

1. Introduction

This statement accompanies a planning application for small-scale improvements at St Hilda's CE Primary School involving:

- The removal of a deteriorated timber canopy and installation of a freestanding powder-coated and galvanised steel canopy with a polycarbonate roof.
- The replacement of an existing glazed timber shed with a insulated composite garden room for SEND and small-group learning, including role-play activities.

The *Places for Everyone* Joint Development Plan (adopted 21 March 2024) forms part of the development plan for Bury, and this statement demonstrates compliance with policies JP-S2 (Carbon and Energy) and JP-C2 (Digital Connectivity).

2. Minimising Energy Demand and Maximising Efficiency

Although modest in scale, the proposal has been designed to minimise energy use and improve efficiency wherever practicable.

Garden Room

The new garden room represents a significant improvement over the existing uninsulated, glazed and single skin timber shed. The structure will incorporate:

- High-performance insulated composite panels to reduce heat loss
- Energy-efficient doors and glazing
- Good airtightness and reduced thermal bridging
- Heating systems designed to be efficient and responsive.

The garden room is intended for intermittent, short duration use throughout the day. Doors will be open for extended periods, as is typical for role-play and early-years activities, meaning heating will only be used when necessary, mainly during the colder months. This pattern of use significantly limits overall energy demand.

Canopy

The canopy is an unheated external structure and generates no operational energy demand. Use of durable, low maintenance materials, powdercoated galvanised steel and modern polycarbonate roofing, reduces whole life environmental impact and avoids the resource burden associated with repeated repair or replacement.

Both structures provide more efficient, durable alternatives to the deteriorating timber installations they replace.

3. Compliance with 2022 Building Regulations (Part L)

The garden room will be constructed to meet all relevant 2022 Part L energy efficiency and fabric performance requirements, including insulation standards, air permeability criteria, and efficient heating provision.

Part L does not apply to the canopy, which is unheated and open-sided.

4. Electric Vehicle Charging (Part S)

Part S EV charging requirements apply primarily to new dwellings or major non-residential developments.

This application:

- Does not introduce new parking spaces,
- Does not generate additional vehicle movements.
- Relates solely to small-scale external structures within the school grounds.

Provision of an EV charge point is therefore not applicable or practical to this development. This is consistent with the requirement that Part S applies only “where appropriate and practicable.”

5. Summary of JP-S2 Compliance

The development complies with policy JP-S2 because it:

- Reduces energy demand through insulated, high-performance construction.
- Uses heating only intermittently and only during colder months.
- Improves the long-term resource and energy efficiency of the site.
- Meets relevant 2022 Part L requirements.
- Avoids unnecessary carbon or energy impacts associated with alternative solutions (such as extending the historic building).

6. Compliance with PfE Policy JP-C2: Digital Connectivity

PfE Policy JP-C2 requires new development to provide full-fibre capable digital connectivity unless technically infeasible or unviable.

The school already operates using fibre-based digital infrastructure, and extending connectivity to the garden room is technically straightforward and viable, although not required due to the intended outdoor use of space. Therefore, the development complies fully with policy JP-C2.

7. Conclusion

The proposed replacement canopy and garden room have been designed to minimise energy use, improve efficiency, and comply with the requirements of PfE Policy JP-S2, including the relevant parts of the 2022 Building Regulations. The garden room significantly improves thermal performance over the existing structure, while the canopy introduces no operational energy demand. EV charging requirements do not apply in this context.

The project also complies with PfE Policy JP-C2, with the garden room capable of receiving full-fibre digital connectivity as part of the school's established network.

Overall, the development represents a proportionate, efficient, and sustainable enhancement to the school's facilities and is fully aligned with the objectives of the Places for Everyone development plan.