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Climate Change Assessment

Kids Planet

Rawsons Green, Belper

July 2026

Project	Erection of a detached composite building for use ancillary to existing day nursery
Client	Kids Planet, 1 Rawson Green, Kilburn, Belper, DE56 0LN
Reference	2744
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1 Introduction

1.1 JMI Planning is a Midlands based town planning consultancy. Its directors are Chartered Town Planners with over 40 years' combined experience in both the public and private sector.

1.2 The author of this statement, Claire Preston, has 17 years' experience as a planner in the private sector and she is a member of the Royal Town Planning Institute.

1.3 This Climate Change Assessment has been produced at the request of Amber Valley District Council in support of an application seeking full planning permission for the erection of a detached composite building for use ancillary to the existing nursery Kids Planet validated under application ref: AVA/2026/0297.

2 Climate Change Assessment

2.1 The purpose of this assessment is to demonstrate how the proposal for a single storey building within the nursery's curtilage has been planned to reduce emissions and meet the Government's net zero target.

3 Site Description

3.1 The site comprises the existing nursery building, play area and associated car parking. The site for the building is proposed to the rear of the main nursery building as shown in Figure 1 below.

3.2 The aerial photograph below shows the site and its surroundings.



Figure 1 – Aerial photograph of site and surroundings. The application site is edged red.

4 Assessment under Policy EN1 Climate Change

4.1 Policy EN1 Climate Change states: *'Unless it can be demonstrated that the nature of the proposed development precludes it, all development proposals will be required to maximise opportunities to reduce emissions and meet the Government's net zero target by:-'*

a) *reducing embodied carbon through the reuse of the existing buildings and materials on the site, where possible,*

The modular building is built using construction methods which are straightforward with minimised mechanisation, thus reducing carbon emissions. The transportation is executed in one delivery by a local delivery firm in order to limit carbon emissions. Wherever possible, construction materials are chosen with recycling in mind, for a second use in the future.

b) demonstrating the use of sustainably sourced materials in construction,

All Timber is FSC certified, wherever possible local suppliers are used to minimise carbon miles. EPDM (roof material) offers a lifetime guarantee, meaning that materials are less likely to be replaced, reducing pressure on the supply chain for replacing roofing materials.

c) using design and location to minimise travel distances and incorporate opportunities for sustainable modes of travel, such as walking and cycling,

The building will be sited in the existing nursery grounds, with no material increase in vehicular use proposed. The nursery is located a short walk to the nearest bus stop. The nursery is located within a predominately residential area therefore visitors can access the nursery using the surrounding pavements and footways. The building location has been chosen to avoid any impact on parking provision on site. Parents and their children will continue to use the parking arrangements on site for drop off and collection. Parents and staff members can access the site on foot or cycle to the site.

d) reducing energy consumption through construction by having regard to landform, layout, building orientation, massing, landscaping and by following the Energy Hierarchy,

The proposed building is designed and constructed to meet modern UK Building Regulations.

e) generating and using energy from renewable or decentralised energy sources - where this is not practical at the time of construction, proposals must demonstrate that the buildings are 'net zero ready' and able to incorporate renewable energy solutions in the future,

The proposed building is orientated south so there is potential for solar technology in the future.

f) retaining existing trees and hedges wherever possible,

The scheme does not propose the removal of any trees or hedgerows. However, the proposals do include an element of vegetation removal, such as modified grassland and bramble scrub , as identified in the submitted Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Metric. It states a 10% Net Gain can be achieved off site.

g) protecting and where possible enhancing land that acts as a carbon sink, such as woodland.

Due to the use of the site and the very small nature of the development proposed, enhancements for carbon capture onsite are limited. However, the BNG metric shows how 0.0317 units as a form of carbon sink is achievable offsite.

2. *Unless it can be demonstrated that the nature of the proposed development precludes it, all development proposals will be required to incorporate measures to help to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change and to take the opportunity to provide gains for nature, and the health and wellbeing of residents. The following will be sought where appropriate:*

a) the provision of multi-functional green infrastructure, with climate change mitigations such as street trees and hedges for shading and rain gardens for surface water drainage,

Due to the use of the site as an existing nursey with allocated play areas there is limited space on site for tree and hedgerow planting, however, planters can be filled with wildflowers and vegetables which involve learning for the children.

b) water management solutions such as including natural flood management,

green roofs and grey water recycling, and adherence to the Drainage Hierarchy, and to ensure the use of Sustainable Drainage Scheme (SuDS) wherever practical,

Rain water butts for the purpose of reusing grey water can be located on site.

c) *measures to reduce surface water and other types of flood risk to the site and beyond and taking the opportunities to improve water quality wherever practical,*

Measures to manage run-off are included in the scheme such as guttering and downpipes.

d) *measures to avoid overheating including through orientation* and design.

The proposed building is designed to retain heat during the winter months and keep cool during the summer months. The proposed building is designed and constructed to meet modern UK Building Regulations.

7 Conclusion

7.1 The Climate Change Assessment demonstrates that where possible, this project has maximised opportunities to reduce emissions and meet the Government's net zero target. In summary:

- The building is designed and constructed to meet modern UK Building Regulations.
- The building uses materials that are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), which promotes responsible forestry practices
- Design, build and material quality promotes longevity of the building, thus reducing the need for a replacement.
- Water recycling options, guttering and waterbutts aid reuse of water run-off.

- No trees or greenery to be removed. Planters to be installed with extra bushes, plants and foliage to be grown surrounding the building

7.2 It is concluded the proposed development is therefore considered acceptable in meeting the requirements set out in Policy EN1 Climate Change of the Amber Valley Local Plan.