

Biodiversity Enhancement Statement

Proposed rear extension and alterations at The Friendly Fish Day Nursery

5 Selborne Place, Selborne Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN17 5NH

Prepared on behalf of Bright Stars Nursery Group

Ref: HAL/8400/BES, November 2025



Aerial view – Google Maps

Existing hardstanding where extension is proposed

INTRODUCTION

This statement has been prepared to support the planning application for a single storey rear extension and alterations at The Friendly Fish Day Nursery, 5 Selborne Place, Selborne Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex. BN17 5NH.

THE EXISTING SITE

The proposed development will be located at the rear of the property, which currently comprises a garden area used by nursery children. The extension is planned to occupy an area of existing hardstanding, as illustrated in the aerial view sourced from Google Maps. Adjacent to this hardstanding, there are two soft landscaping beds with minimal shrub planting, along with some mini-beast boxes mounted on the fence. A large tree is situated behind the hardstanding, with the remaining area covered by artificial grass. At the front of the building, there is a gravel parking area, along with a large tree positioned at the front corner of the property.



Existing hardstanding



Shrub planters & mini beast boxes on fence



Tree and artificial grass behind the hardstanding.



IMPACT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The proposed extension will be constructed entirely on existing hardstanding, an area that does not currently support valuable ecological habitats. The trees located at both the rear and front of the site are positioned well away from the development footprint, ensuring no direct impact from the proposed works. However, should it be deemed necessary, protective fencing can be installed around the trees during construction to safeguard them.

The parking area at the front of the site will remain unchanged. No vegetation, trees, or valuable habitats will be removed because of this development, and the contractor will ensure that all natural surroundings are treated with respect throughout the construction process.

BIODIVERSITY ENHANCEMENTS.

Although the existing site conditions and its use as a childcare nursery offer limited opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, the following measures are proposed to improve local ecological value:

- **Bee Houses and Bug Hotels:** These will be installed to support pollinators, such as bees, by providing safe habitats for them to thrive.
- **Wildflower Planting:** The existing shrub beds at the rear of the site will be supplemented with wildflowers, creating a valuable resource for pollinators such as bees and butterflies.
- **Rainwater Harvesting:** Rainwater from the extension roof will be collected in a water butt, which will then direct the water to the planted beds. This Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) will not only reduce runoff but also assist in the irrigation of the planted areas.

CONCLUSION

The development will not harm biodiversity and the modest enhancements proposed will ensure that the development contributes positively to the local environment.