

# Blakeney CEVA Primary School

Blakeney is a co-educational 4-11 rural primary school which has around 45 children on roll.

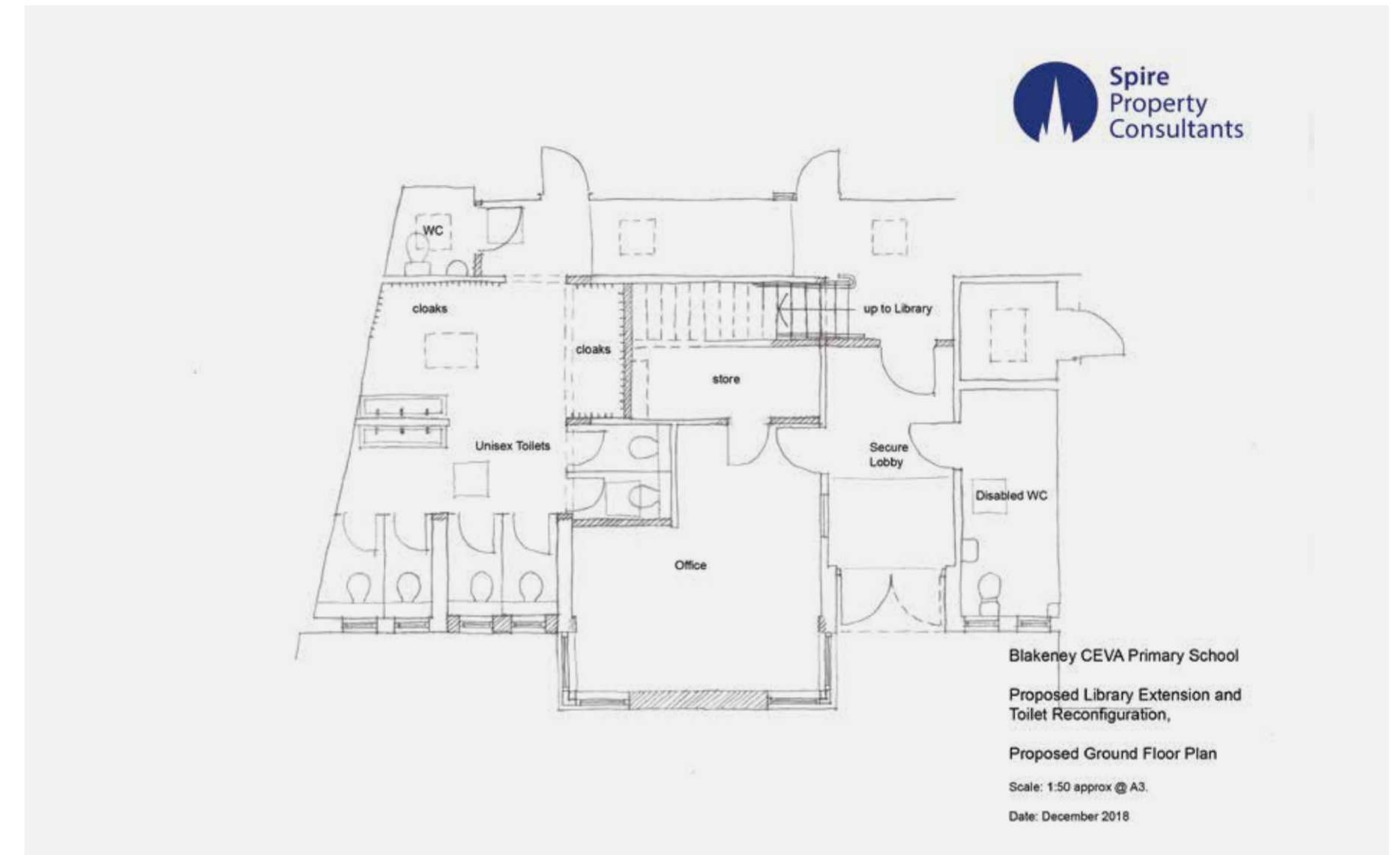
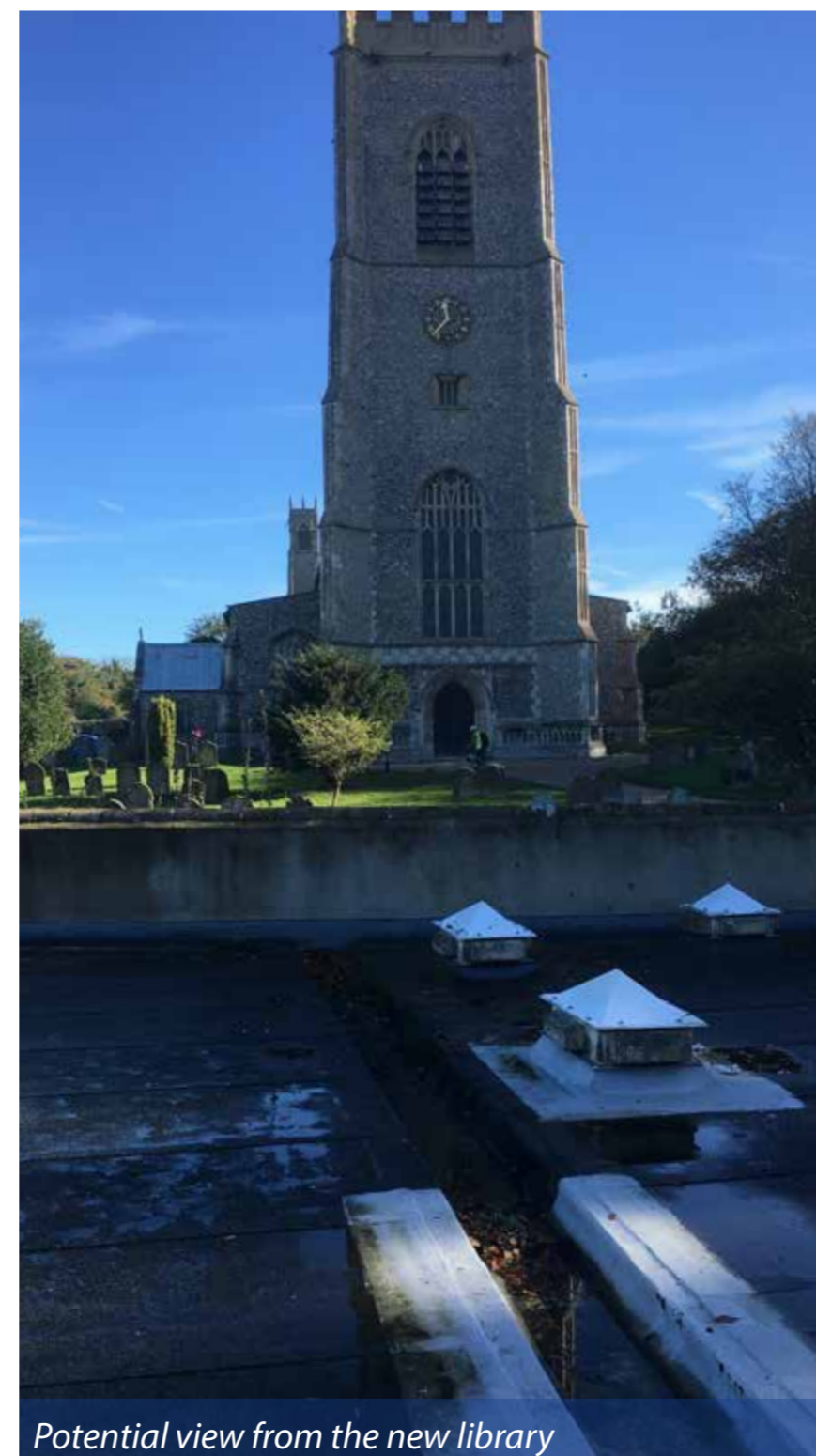
The Grade II listed Victorian school has been extended and remodelled over the years but retains much of its original character. The school building is small, and space is limited. The school governors have identified the lack of a suitable library/ quiet room as a priority and Spire Property Consultants were appointed to look at options for providing such a space, along with the potential remodelling and refurbishment of the toilet areas.

The school's admin area and toilets are housed in a rather unattractive 1980s single storey flat roof extension which offers the opportunity to add an upper floor as well as improve the general appearance of the building.

## The design solution included:

- Reconfiguration of the boys and girls' toilets and cloak rooms, providing a unisex facility.
- Extension of the school's admin office/ reception.
- Provision of a secure entrance lobby to improve safeguarding.
- Construction of a first-floor library/ quiet room with accessible staircase, offering views towards the Grade 1 Listed St Nicholas church.

The governing body is currently looking at potential sources of funding for the project, with LCVAP earmarked to help with the toilet refurbishment element.



# Clover Hill CEVA Infant & Nursery School Bowthorpe

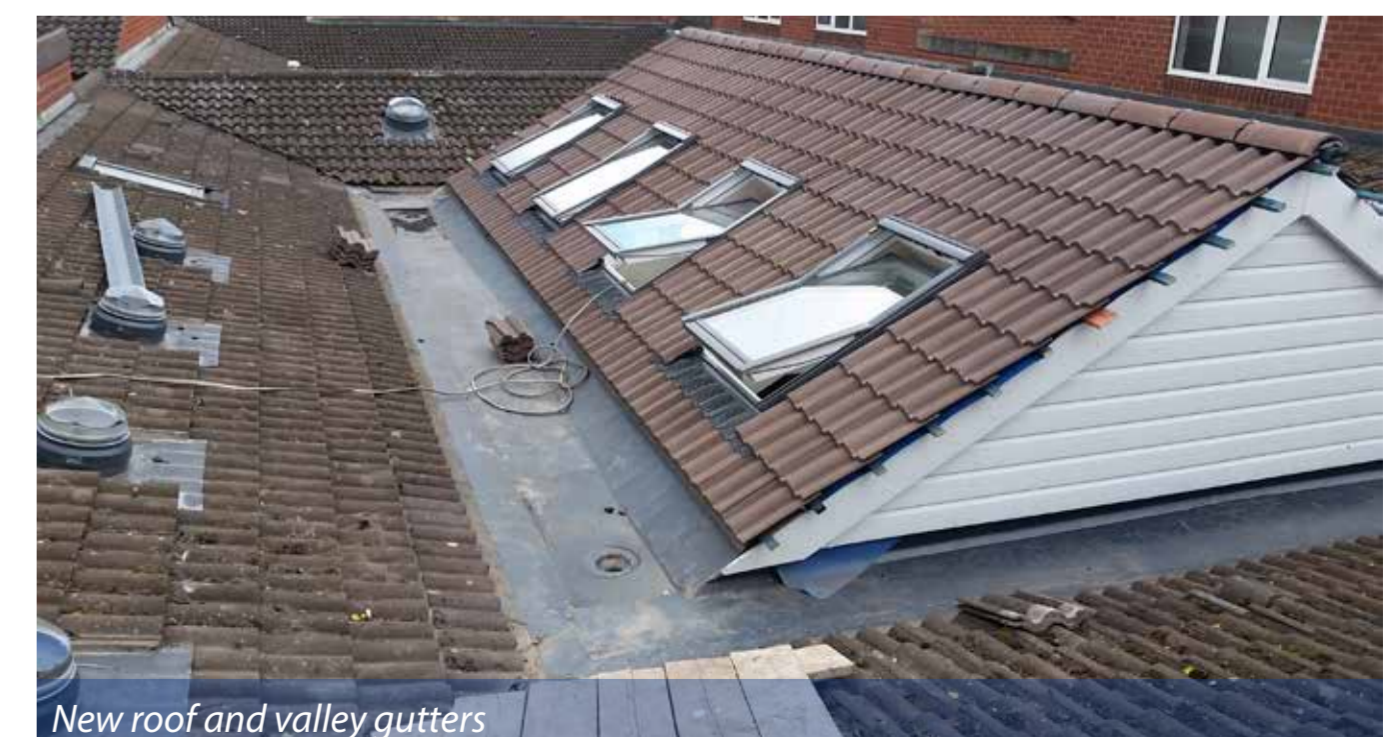
Clover Hill is a co-educational 3-7 infant school (with nursery) that serves the Bowthorpe area of Norwich and has around 180 children on roll.

The school was constructed in the mid-1970s as part of the Clover Hill residential development and has changed little since this time.

The school applied for LCVAP funding to provide a much-needed Group Room to support teaching and had already identified a suitable location. Spire Property Consultants was appointed to design and manage the project.

The works involved the infilling of an open-air courtyard and included alterations to the adjacent rooms to maintain suitable levels of natural light and ventilation. The existing below ground surface water drainage was found to be in a poor state, resulting in flooding of several courtyards, and this was resolved as part of the project.

The existing foundations were investigated and found to be adequate for the additional roof loads. The new room has been constructed with a vaulted ceiling incorporating large electrically operated Velux rooflights on the north slope to provide plenty of natural daylight and ventilation. The new room has proved to be a real asset to the school and was achieved at a relatively low cost.



# Stibbard CEVA Primary School

Stibbard is a co-educational 4-11 primary school serving a number of rural communities and has around 195 children on roll.

The school was opened in 2006, replacing separate infant and junior schools at Stibbard and Great Ryburgh respectively.

Despite its size the school had only been provided with a small kitchen servery with meals having to be cooked off-site and brought in daily. Consequently, the take up of school meals was relatively low. The school applied for LCVAP funding to extend the servery to provide a fully functional kitchen capable of providing freshly cooked meals, as well as the ability to cater for other events, both during and outside of normal school hours.

It was decided to knock through to combine the existing servery, chair store and pe store, providing enough space for a full kitchen with a servery hatch directly into the hall. A small extension was added to offset the loss of the pe store and an underused changing room on the opposite side of the hall converted into a chair store.

Since the kitchen was completed there has been a dramatic upturn in the number of both children and staff eating school meals.



# Tacolneston CEVA Primary School

Tacolneston is a co-educational 4-11 rural primary school which has around 105 pupils on roll.

The original Victorian school underwent significant expansion/ remodelling in 2002, including the replacement of a number of temporary mobile classrooms.

The school applied for LCVAP funding to provide a dedicated Reception classroom and outside play area, enabling the remainder of the school to be split equally into three mixed year groups. This would also free up an undersized classroom to be used as a much-needed group room. Spire Property Consultants was appointed to design and manage the project.

The works involved the construction of an extension to the rear of the school, sized to accommodate up to 20 children. The presence of several significant lime trees and other features restricted the positioning of the extension, and the school opted for a traditional rather than contemporary design. The new accommodation comprises classroom, cloaks/ lobby and toilets, along with a covered external play area and covered access to the remainder of the school building.

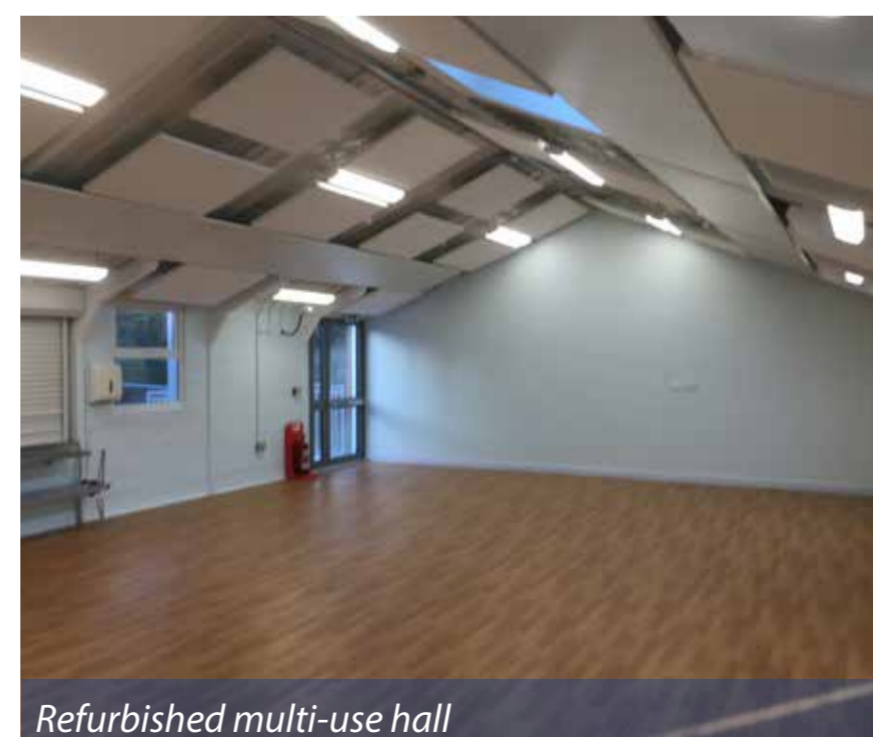


# St Michael's CEVA Primary School Aylsham

St Michael's is a co-educational 3-11 primary school (with nursery), located close to the centre of Aylsham, which has around 130 children on roll.

A 1940s detached Horsa block within the school grounds had been identified as a priority for LCVAP condition funding. Horsa is the acronym for the 'Hutting Operation for the Raising of the School-Leaving Age', a programme of hut building in schools to support the expansion of education under the Education Act of 1944 to raise the compulsory school leaving age to 15. The building is of simple concrete framed construction with corrugated asbestos roof, and originally had an expected lifespan of 10 years. The block comprises 2 linked Horsa buildings and incorporates the school kitchen and dining hall.

The project, which has recently been completed, included the replacement of the asbestos roof, the application of an insulated render system to the façade, replacement of mechanical and electrical services, rectifying issues with the electricity supply, enlargement and improvement of the dining hall to give the school a multi-use space complete with pe/chair storage, and improvements to the kitchen area. The ability to use the dining room for pe has resulted in the original school hall being freed up for other uses and activities.

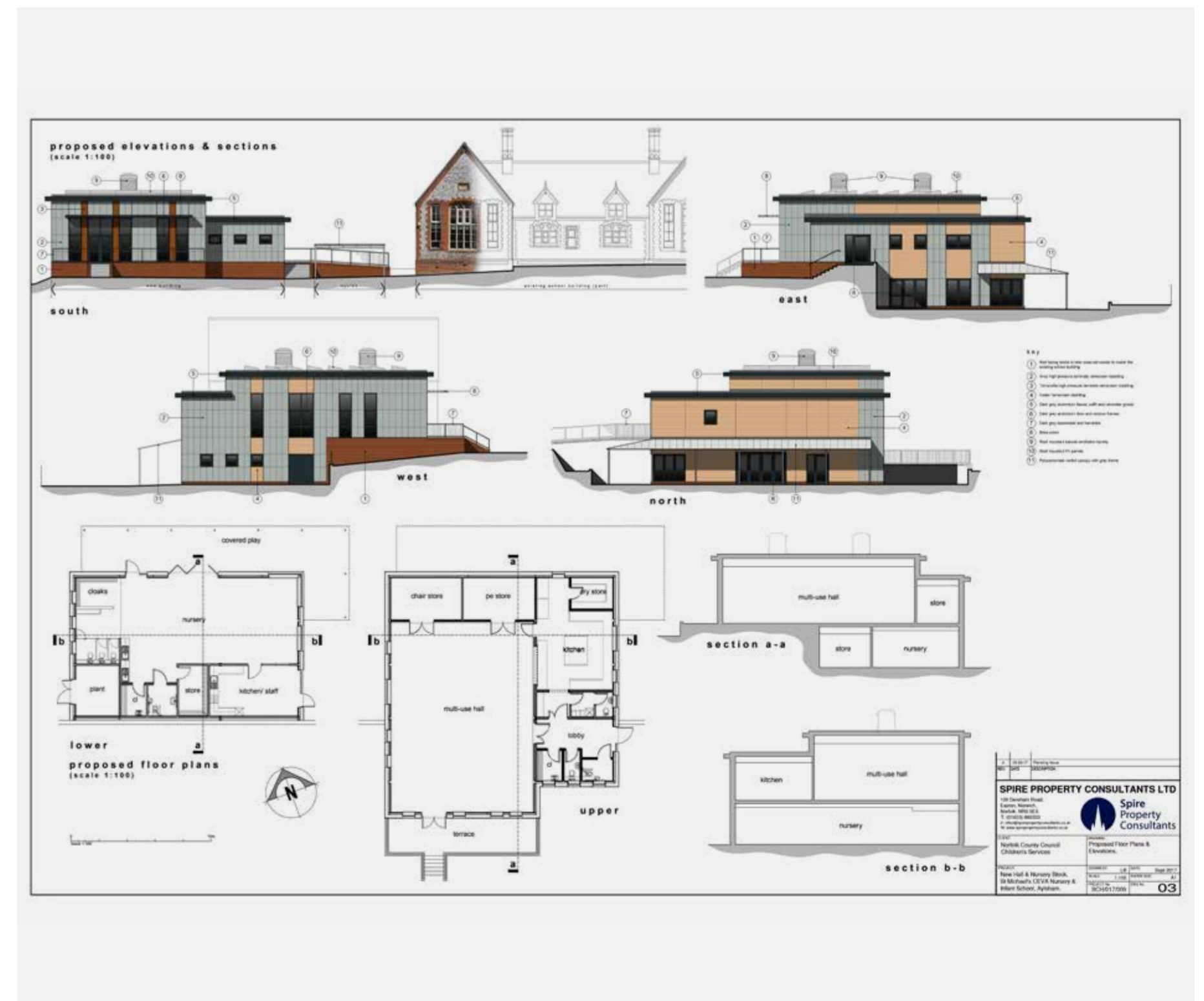
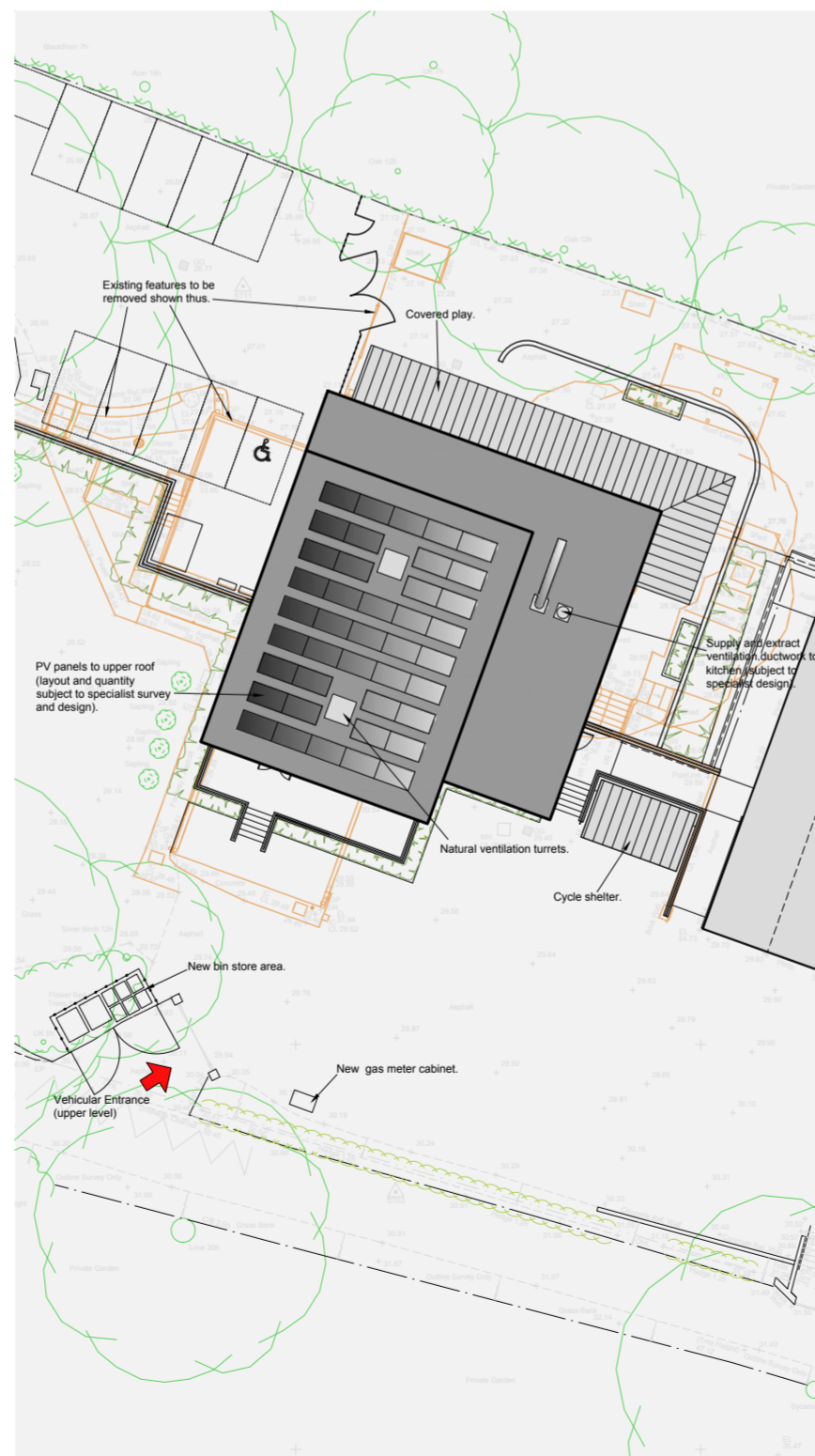


# St Michael's CEVA Primary School Aylsham

St Michael's is a co-educational 3-11 primary school (with nursery), located close to the centre of Aylsham, which has around 130 children on roll.

Previously an infant school, the governing body recently took the decision to expand to an all through primary to ensure the longer-term future of the school. This decision was supported by Norfolk County Council Children's Services and Diocese of Norwich. To accommodate this expansion NCCCS identified the need for an additional classroom.

Whilst considering options for the refurbishment of a 1940s Horsa block on the same site Spire Property Consultants became aware of NCCCS' proposals to add a further classroom to the school and suggested a combined scheme may provide a better solution, particularly given the space limitations and topography of the site. Spire undertook a feasibility study and subsequently obtained planning permission for the demolition of the Horsa block and its replacement with a new 2 storey contemporary design building incorporating kitchen, multi-use hall and nursery, the existing nursery being vacated and used to accommodate the additional classroom. Unfortunately, NCCCS funding for the project was not forthcoming and alternative options for the additional classroom are now being considered.



# The Bishop's CE Primary Academy Thetford

Bishops is a co-educational 3-11 primary academy (with nursery) serving the Abbey Farm area of Thetford and has around 400 pupils. It has a high proportion of children with special educational needs.

The school was constructed in 1969 as part of the London overspill development and underwent a substantial refurbishment in 2012. Spire Property Consultants has since designed and managed a number of construction projects at the school to help improve the learning environment.

As part of the school's philosophy to reduce class sizes and thus the pupil to teacher ratio the school obtained LCVAP funding for the construction of an additional Yr3/4 classroom. An underused and rather unsightly garden area was identified, and a simple flat roofed extension constructed, comprising classroom with wet area, store and cloaks lobby.

The opportunity was taken to provide additional outdoor breakout spaces with sensory gardens using raised planters and composite decking, accessible to a number of classes, which also helped to improve external circulation and security.



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The school received LCVAP funding for an additional Yr5/6 classroom to continue with its philosophy of reducing pupil to teacher ratios. Options for extending the existing building were not straightforward, especially when considering the distribution of year groups within the school. A review of accommodation was undertaken, and the decision made to provide the extra classroom by relocating a reception class into the area occupied by the nursery and moving the nursery into a brand-new purpose-built facility.

A new contemporary design timber framed building was erected on the footprint of a former dental practice at the front of the school. The new building comprises classroom, kitchenette, toilets, store and cloaks lobby. The nursery now has an independent entrance to improve arrangements for the dropping off and collection of children.

