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## All Saints CE Academy – Fencing Project Report

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### Overview

We are pleased to inform the Parish Council that All Saints CE Academy has secured funding for a new fencing project through **School Condition Allocation (SCA)** funding, made available by the Trust.

This project is a proactive response to recent safeguarding assessments and will significantly enhance the **safety, security, and functionality** of our school grounds, in line with government expectations and current best practice.

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### Government Guidance for Schools

**Regulation 6 of The School Premises (England) Regulations 2012**, states that: “School premises and the accommodation and facilities provided therein **must be maintained to a standard such that, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of pupils are ensured.**” The Academy shall be supported in meeting this regulation by the installation of adequate perimeter fencing to safeguard our children from harm.

The Department for Education’s **Site Security Guidance** for schools designates that the boundary is the first line of defence and should be protected with a secure fence or railings such as **Weldmesh fencing to BS1722** or expanded metal or railings over 2.0m high. Gates should be the same height as the fencing, fitted with anti-lift hinges, locking mechanisms that do not aid climbing and secured using an approved locking mechanism.

Martyn's Law, officially the **Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025**, requires schools to **enhance their preparedness for potential threats**, including terrorism, through measures such as risk assessments, evacuation procedures, and communication plans. Schools are specifically tasked with **conducting regular risk assessments to identify and mitigate potential risks**, ensuring they have plans in place for safe evacuation, invacuation, and lockdown during an attack. Risk assessments identify safeguarding and security risks through low level and in areas, poor condition fencing, which can be **mitigated through appropriate and sufficient fencing**.

**School Condition Allocation (SCA)** is **ring-fenced capital funding** provided by the Department for Education (DfE) to improve and maintain the condition of school buildings and infrastructure. It is allocated directly to multi-academy trusts and local authorities and must be used **specifically for premises-related projects**.

SCA must be used for **capital improvements**, such as roofing, boilers, windows, fencing, and other infrastructure essential for the **safe operation of the school**, addressing priorities that directly address **building condition, compliance, health and safety, and safeguarding**.



- **Existing hedging** along the front of the site is planned to be **retained**.
  - The fence will be positioned **on the school side** of the hedge, with the hedge encouraged to **grow to the same height as the fence** to provide natural screening.
  - In the **area where parents typically wait**, the fence will be left **unhedged** to ensure **visibility between children and parents**, maintaining the valued sense of connection during drop-off and pick-up, and external visibility for staff as part of our security risk management approach.
  - The current noticeboard will be replaced and repositioned to make it more **usable and visible**.
  - We plan to replace the current front gate with a metal gate at current height to match the pedestrian gate.
  - We plan to renovate the brick work speedbump into the staff car park renovated to remove loose brickwork.
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## Rationale and Need

This project addresses several important issues raised both internally and externally:

### 1. Safeguarding and Security Concerns

- In line with [\*Keeping Children Safe in Education statutory guidance\*](#), [\*site security best practice\*](#), and the anticipated [\*Martyn's Law \(Protect Duty\)\*](#), secure perimeters are an increasingly standard expectation for schools.
- We have had **incidents of trespass** during holiday periods, and on multiple occasions resulting in broken equipment used by pupils, **parents have lifted children in or out of the playground**, creating serious risks.
- It is becoming increasingly common for children with enhanced safeguarding needs to attend mainstream schools, it is imperative that we are able to assure families and stakeholders of a secure environment both now and in the future.
- A **nearby school has experienced a lockdown incident**, which reinforces the need for robust, preventative infrastructure.

### 2. Condition of Existing Fencing

- Several sections of the current fencing are in a **state of disrepair**, particularly those adjacent to the playground, where wooden fencing has deteriorated due to rot.
- We do not have site staff who are able to maintain wooden fencing due to time as they are employed for 3 hours a week. Budget restraints require fencing that will last with minimal maintenance.

### 3. Enhanced Learning Space for Early Years

- The project will also create a **larger, secure play space** at the rear of the school for our youngest learners, supporting their development in a **safe, stimulating environment**.
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## Next Steps

- A **meeting with the Trust took place 11<sup>th</sup> June** to begin shaping the initial plans.
  - We are now at a stage where we welcome **early input** from the Parish Council before proceeding to quotations and contractor engagement.
  - All procurement will follow **Trust procurement protocols**.
  - Work is expected to take place **a school holiday period** to avoid disruption to pupils.
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## Conclusion

This project reflects our commitment to safeguarding, educational excellence, and community transparency. We thank you for your time and look forward to working together to ensure that All Saints CE Academy remains a safe, welcoming environment for all.

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