



ESHER CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL  
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## Synthetic Turf Pitch Planning Application – FAQs

### What is being proposed?

The school has submitted a planning application for a synthetic turf sports pitch (STP) on the school field, along with associated facilities to enhance sport and community use.

### Why is the school proposing this project?

The vision for the project is to create a high-quality hub for female sport, student development and the wider community. This will provide an inclusive set of facilities that transform the school's PE, enrichment and extra-curricular offer, whilst maximising participation, performance pathways and local engagement.

### When will this happen?

Subject to planning permission and funding approval, construction is anticipated to commence in Summer 2027, with the new pitch expected to be operational from Autumn 2027. The school will endeavour to keep the community informed as much as is practicably possible throughout the process.

### How can members of the school community support the application?

The planning application is open for public consultation, with feedback invited until 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026. Respondents are encouraged to submit comments early to ensure their views are considered. The application can be viewed, and comments submitted on the local planning portal using the link provided [here](#).

This represents a significant opportunity for the school and the wider community, and we encourage everyone to respond to the application, as your engagement is vital in helping to maximise its potential.

### What points may respondents wish to consider in their comments?

Planning authorities tend to place more value on individual feedback, and genuine personal views are usually the most effective. Respondents should avoid including any sensitive personal information in their submissions.

### Benefits of the project you may wish to reflect on:

- **Improved student wellbeing**, mental health and physical fitness through increased opportunities for enhanced PE provision, enrichment opportunities and extra-curricular activities.
- **Creation of a recognised hub for female sport**, helping to support participation, inclusion and development pathways.
- **Greater long-term financial sustainability** through community use and income generation, helping to future-proof investment in school and community sport.
- **Expanded inclusive access to sport** for students, local clubs, and grassroots organisations of all ages and abilities, strengthening the school's community-focused values by creating greater opportunities for participation and connection.
- **Enhanced school reputation and admissions appeal** through strengthened sport, wellbeing and enrichment provision.
- **Stronger community partnerships**, civic pride and equal access to high-quality all-weather sports facilities in the local area.

We would like to thank you in advance for your engagement and support of this project. This is a significant opportunity for the school and wider community, and your contribution is sincerely appreciated.