

# COTMANDENE CHILDREN'S HOSPICE

A Children's Hospice is a place to support and treat children facing terminal illness and their families by providing a range of therapies (both physical and mental) at a facility that is equipped to deal with their condition. Typically, due to the diagnosis and treatment undergone by patients referred to this service they may not be able or willing to socialise with others which may bring feelings of isolation and separation. The aim of our proposal is to reduce the feeling of separation through the layout of our design, giving patients the opportunity to meet and socialise with others like them whilst receiving the treatment they need.

The proposed site for our hospice design is situated at Cotmandene, Dorking an area a short distance away from our own office. It is currently a nature spot surrounded by residential dwellings at the north, east, and west sides of the land with the A24 located to the south of the site. The site slopes down towards the residential buildings at the north border providing an excellent opportunity to situate the proposal in a position which would provide picturesque views of the prominent local landmark, Box Hill (which featured in the 2012 London Olympics cycling route). The aim of our design is to safely integrate the hospice into the local community at a site that meets its needs.

The existing access routes across the site will remain and be used to provide access to the proposed hospice. There are several surrounding roads used by residents to access the existing dwellings bordering the Cotmandene which could also be considered a shortcut used by traffic to access the high street from the surrounding residential areas.

Our proposal offers a range of facilities to accommodate all children and visitors during their time at the hospice. We have separated our design into two distinct areas; public and private, the public areas are situated at the north of the building consisting of a café (with kitchen and store), entrance lobby, WC's and a plant room. The main entrance is defined by its own draft lobby, which splits the building into the two separate zones. Although the plant room will not be accessible to the public it will need to be accessed by maintenance teams and therefore should be included in the public zone of the proposal to avoid disturbing the private zone of the hospice.

The patient zone of the hospice is situated on the east and south sides of the proposal. These areas are facing away from the surrounding residential buildings and towards the beautiful treeline at the east side of the site. The private zone consists of 1no office/reception, 1no store, 2no WC's, 1no kitchenette, 1no changing room, 3no treatment rooms, 1no chapel/multi faith room, 1no consulting room, 1no private room, 1no quiet room, 1no classroom, 1no sensory room.

Public areas would be situated on the north side, whilst the south side is more restricted and considered private areas. Both areas are divided by the partition walls which define the entrance lobby.

The form orientation of the building have been carefully designed, based on the Cotmandene site's opportunities and solar access. The functions within the building itself are also placed according to the views offered by Cotmandene and the lighting requirements for each of the spatial functions. This consideration has resulted in the orientation of the building at 45 degrees anticlockwise, which not only ensures that the medical and treatment spaces have views of the natural spaces externally, but also ensures that the public spaces on the northern side have good views of nearby Box Hill.

The building orientation and location on the Cotmandene site is also positioned to facilitate the retention of existing desire lines and pedestrian footpaths across the green space, primarily used by pedestrians as a cut through to and from the town centre and nearby primary schools or by dog walkers.

