Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan

Site Name:	St Bridget’s Catholic School, Egremont
Date:	16/03/2026
Version:	v1

Author:

Patryk Gruba MCIEEM

Client:

Governing Body of
St Bridget's Catholic
Primary School

Contents

Version Control

The version control is used for updates to the content. Record the initial version and further version control details in this table each time the management plan is altered throughout the management and monitoring period.

Version	Issue Status	Prepared by / Date
Version 1	Draft	Patryk Gruba MCIEEM 16/03/2026

Document Details

Authorship Details

This HMMP was produced by Patryk Gruba MCIEEM, Principal Ecologist at Lakeland Ecology

1. Project Background

Summarise the key aspects of your management plan in this section. Table PB-B01 can be extended to suit the specific needs of individual projects.

Site Overview PB-B01	
Project type	On-Site BNG
Development Name and Address	St Bridget's Catholic Primary School St Bridget's Lane, Egremont, CA22 2BD
Author Organisation	Patryk Gruba MICEEM
Landowner	The Catholic Diocese of Lancaster
Land Manager	Board of Governors St Bridgets Catholic Primary School
Responsible person/organisation for creating or enhancing the habitat	Board of Governors / Head Teacher St Bridgets Catholic Primary School
Period covered by this management plan	30+ year period following the completion of habitats
Planning authority	Cumberland Council
Planning reference (if applicable)	4/24/2425/0F1
BNG register reference (if applicable)	N/A
Central OS grid reference	NY00801077
Metric revision/title	LE076 - St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont – Statutory Biodiversity Metric, Version 1.0.4, updated 16/01/2026
Are any Irreplaceable Habitats present onsite	Yes: ☐ No: ☒

Summary of Management Plan

Habitats to be Retained, Created and Enhanced PB-B02

Provide a high-level summary of the habitats to be retained, created and enhanced as part of this HMMP.

Timescales for Actions PB-B03

Summarise the key timescales for the actions covered by this HMMP.

Monitoring Requirements PB-B04

Summarise the monitoring requirements set out within this HMMP.

Required Consents and Licences PB-B05

N/A

Funding PB-B06

Board of Governors

St Bridgets Catholic Primary School

St Bridget's Ln, Egremont CA22 2BD

Legal Agreement PB-B07

No separate legal agreements are required. On-site biodiversity net gain will be secured within the red line planning boundary under planning application 4/24/2425/0F1, which was granted by Cumberland Council on 6 March 2026.

Site Boundary Plan PB-F01

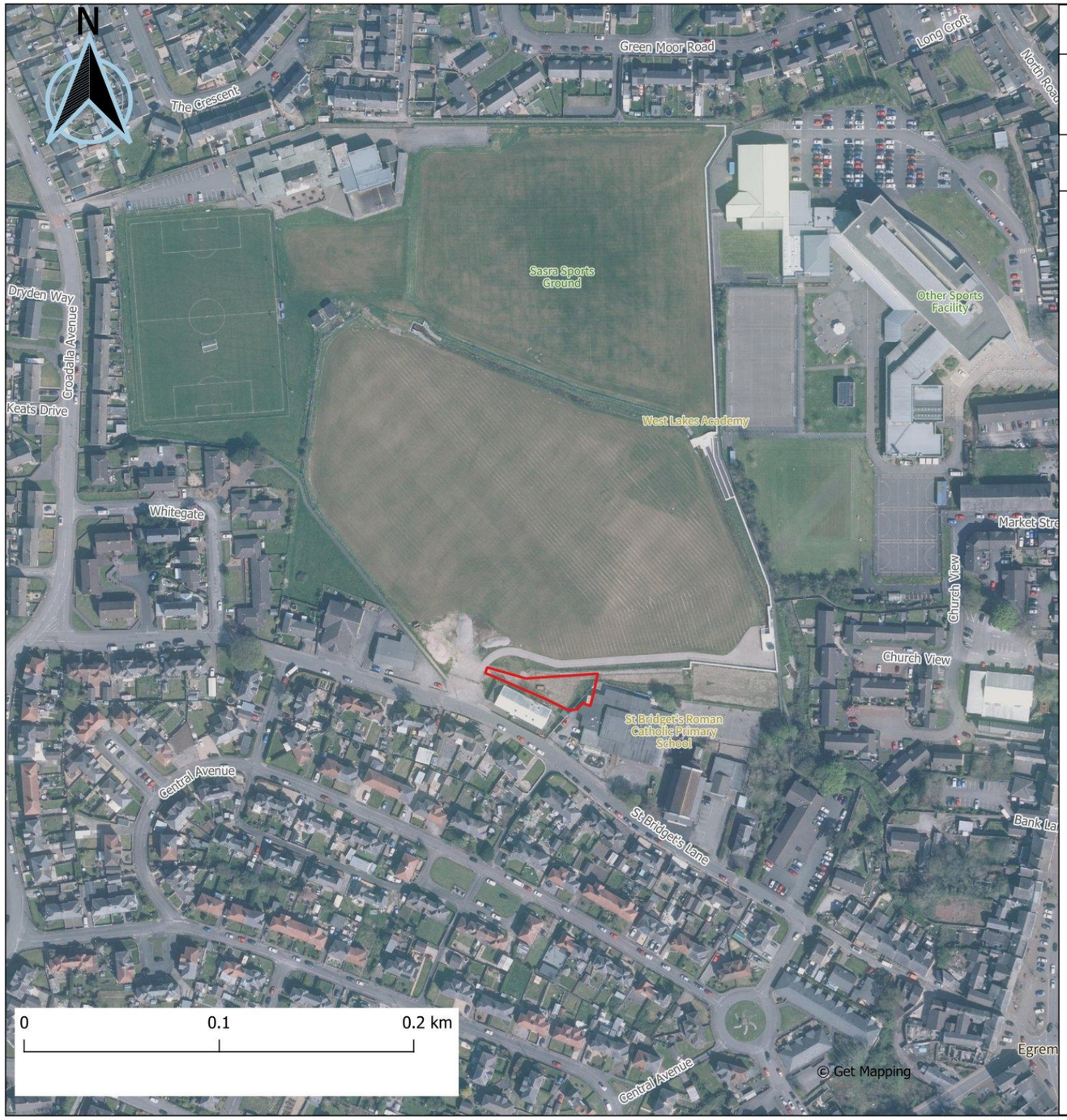

Figure 1 - Site Location

PROJECT
LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont

Date: 10-03-2026	Created By: Patryk Gruba	Scale 1:2,000

Site Location

Site Context Plan PB-F02

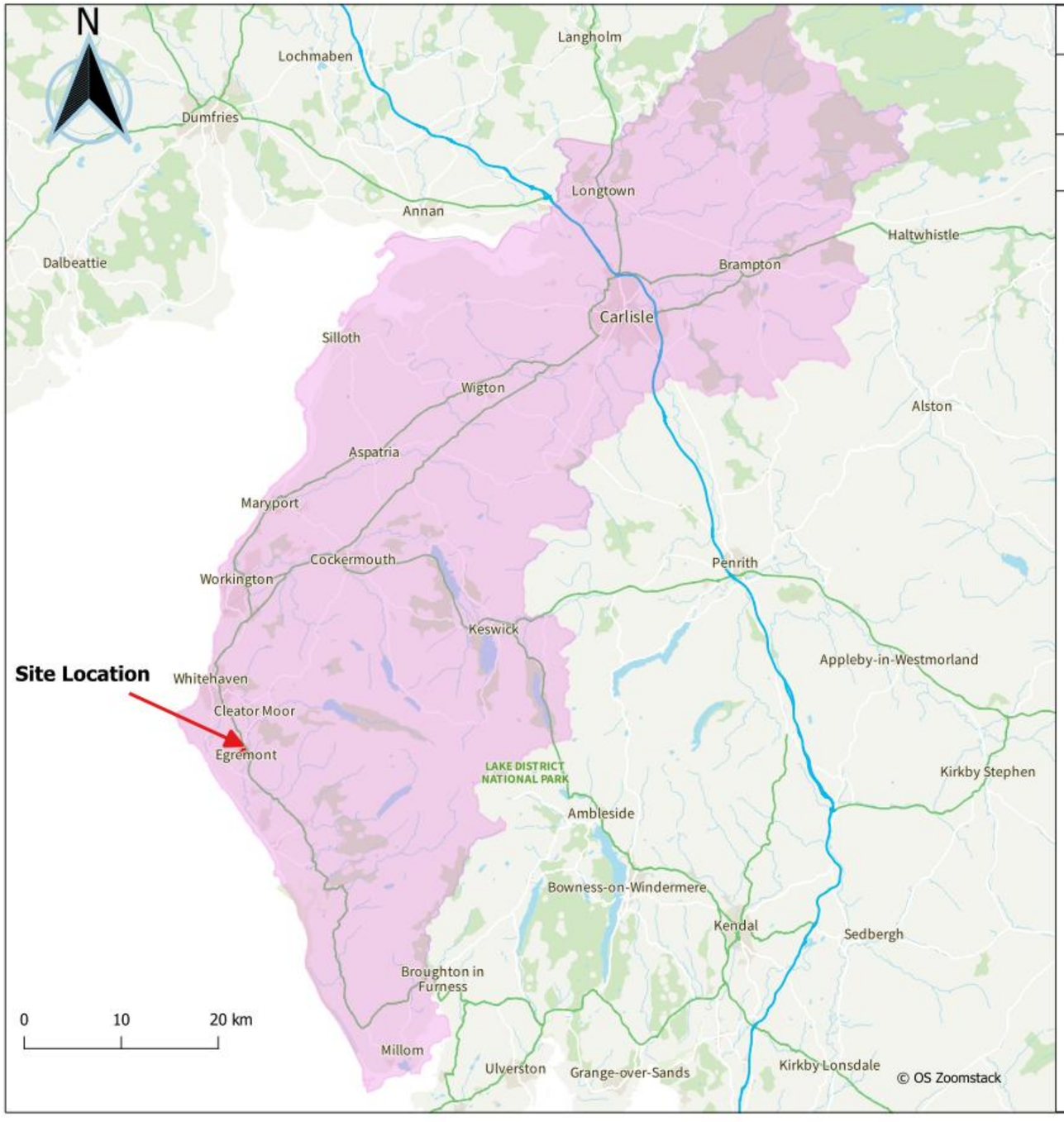

Figure 2 - Site Context

PROJECT
LE-076 - St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont

Date: 10-03-2026	Created By: Patryk Gruba	Scale:400,000

Cumberland Council Boundary

Phasing strategy

Will the proposed work measures be delivered in phases? PB-B08	Yes: ☐ No: ☒
All works will proceed from the first planting season following completion of the development. That will be referred to as Year One.	

Roles and Responsibilities

Provide details of the responsible persons and organisation(s) for delivering this management plan.

Ecologist or Other Professional Responsible for HMMP PB-B09				
Name or Initials		Patryk Gruba		
Organisation		Lakeland Ecology		
Responsibility	Start Date:	2026	End Date:	2026
Patryk carried out baseline habitat surveys and condition assessments, and subsequent biodiversity net gain metric calculations. Patryk prepared this HMMP but is not responsible for its implementation, delivery, or monitoring				
Statement of Competency				
Patryk is an ecologist with over 15 years of professional experience. His responsibilities have included delivering a range of ecological surveys (UK Hab, Phase 1 Habitats, bats, great crested newts, reptiles and birds), preparing professional reports (BNG, PEA, HMMP, HRA, method statements and monitoring reports), and undertaking Ecological Clerk of Works duties for a range of proposals across the renewables, utilities, infrastructure, power, construction and property sectors. Patryk is a Full Member of CIEEM and holds a Natural England Class 2 Bat Survey Licence, a Class 1 Great Crested Newt Licence and a Level 1 Barn Owl Survey Licence.				

Organisation Responsible for Implementing the HMMP PB-B11				
Organisation		Board of Governors St Bridgets Catholic Primary School		
Responsibility	Start Date:	2026	End Date:	2056
Organisation responsible for the implementation of this HMMP and habitat monitoring				

LPA or Responsible Body for Reviewing HMMP PB-B12	
Name or Initials	c/o
Organisation	Cumberland Council

Land Use Summary

Overview of Baseline Site Use PB-B13

The majority of land within the red line planning boundary comprises a parcel of modified grassland. This parcel is fenced off and is not currently in any specific use, although it is occasionally mown.

The other habitats within the red line boundary comprise sparsely vegetated urban land and developed land - sealed surface. These habitats are located within the school grounds and are used by school staff, teachers and students.

See LE076 - St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont – Biodiverstiy Net Gain Assessment Report for detailed information on the baseline habitats present on site.

Overview of Proposed Site Use PB-B14

Part of the land within the red line boundary will be developed to provide a small staff car park. The remaining section, comprising an unused parcel of grassland, will be retained, and 13 new native trees will be planted within this area.

Site Context Photos PB-F03

Site Baseline, Environmental Information and Associated Impacts Checklist PB-T01

Baseline and Environmental Information	Prompts for when these may be relevant. This is not an exhaustive list. Use your professional judgement to determine which are required for your HMMP	Check box if included	Document Reference or Reason if not included
Statutory / Non-statutory Designated Sites	Will your proposals lead to direct or indirect effects on designated sites?	☐	No
Protected and Notable Species	Does the presence or proximity of specific species on or near your site present any constraints or opportunities to project design or management?	☐	No – the grassland on site and other habitats are frequently mown and are located in close proximity to school buildings and playing grounds. As such, these habitats are considered to have negligible suitability for protected species such as ground-nesting birds.
Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)	Are any INNS present onsite that could affect the proposals?		No
Biological Records Plan - Sites and Species	Does the presence of designated sites or specific species on or near the site present any constraints or opportunities to proposals?	☐	No
Baseline Habitats Survey	Is this current and important HMMP information located in a separate document? If so, provide details on where it is located.	☒	Baseline Habitat Survey Located in the following document: LE076 - St Bridget's Catholic School, Egremont – Biodiverstiy Net Gain Assessment Report
Public Access	Has public access, or proposals to allow public access, influenced your management prescriptions? If so, how?	☐	No
Climate	Are local climate conditions and, or, climate change likely to impact the target habitat retention, creation or enhancement?	☐	No
Geology and Topography	Any geological or topographical constraints or opportunities?	☐	No
Agricultural Land Status	Does the site support any land favourable for agricultural management? Could this affect the proposals?	☐	No
Soils and Substrates	Do soils and substrates present any constraints or opportunities?	☐	No
Contaminated Land	If there is any contaminated land, will this present any constraints?	☐	At the time of writing, no specific information relating on contaminated land has been provided to Lakeland Ecology
Hydrology and Drainage	Will the site hydrology present any constraints or opportunities?	☐	No
Flood Risk Zones	Is the site within a flood risk zone? Will that present any site management risks?	☐	No
Landscape Character and Designations	Does the landscape character of the site present any constraints or opportunities?	☐	No
Historic Land Use	Does the historic land use present any constraints or opportunities?	☐	No
Historic Environment and Earth Heritage	Are there any historic environment designations? What are the implications for your plan?	☐	No
Other – please specify	Any other details - for example underground services or overhead powerlines, which may impact habitat management.	☐	No

2. Planned Management Activities

Management Plan Aims and Objectives PM-B01

The overarching aim of this HMMP is to achieve the mandatory biodiversity net gain through the planting and long-term management of native trees on site.

The objectives are to:

- Plant 13 small native trees to deliver the biodiversity net gain.
- Maintain the newly planted trees in moderate condition over the next 30 years.

These objectives will be achieved through regular monitoring and appropriate management interventions to ensure the trees establish successfully and are sustained over time.

The long-term vision is to establish a resilient area of native trees that enhances on-site biodiversity and provides ecological benefits beyond the 30-year period.

Principles Informed by Design Stage

Design Principles Informed by Baseline Information PM-B02

Baseline surveys and a review of the proposed design identified a parcel of modified grassland that will be retained and is potentially suitable for tree planting. These findings informed the decision to plant 13 native trees, which were considered the most effective means of delivering measurable biodiversity net gain on site. The retention of the modified grassland to facilitate the new tree planting is not considered a “significant on-site enhancement” and is therefore not included in the HMMP, allowing the management plan to focus on long-term tree establishment and monitoring.

Habitat and Condition Targets PM-T01

This table presents a summary record of what you have agreed to deliver based on the biodiversity metric. These habitat condition targets form the basis of what the management plan is setting out to achieve. Include the relevant ‘Area’, ‘Hedgerow’, and ‘Watercourse’ types to be implemented and managed throughout the period of 30 years or more.

Baseline Habitat Type	Target Habitat Type	Parcel / Feature Refs	Baseline Condition	Targeted Condition	Years to Targeted Condition	Condition Assessment Targets	Comments
Individual Trees	Rural Tree	N/A	N/A	Moderate	27	Criteria A, B, D, and F will be targeted during the creation of this habitat. Planting will ensure that criteria A, B and F are met. Trees will then be managed to ensure they meet criterion D. However, criteria C and E are unlikely to be met within the period covered by the HMMP, as the trees will not reach maturity during this time.	Trees will be monitored to ensure they maintain moderate condition.

Habitat Retention

Measures to be Implemented to Protect Retained Habitats PM-03

The retention of the modified grassland to facilitate the new tree planting is not considered a “significant on-site enhancement” and is therefore not included in the HMMP, allowing the management plan to focus on long-term tree establishment and monitoring. The area around the trees will be mown as previously, ensuring that none of the trees are damaged during this period. The grassland is unlikely to change in species composition or become colonised by scrub, bracken, or non-native invasive species during the period covered by the HMMP. Monitoring for invasive non-native species will be conducted as part of tree management. Therefore, it is considered that the baseline condition of the modified grassland, which is currently moderate, is unlikely to decline.

Specification of Protective Measures to be Used PM-04

N//A

Habitat Retention Plan PM-F01

Creation, Enhancement and Management Targets and Prescriptions

Individual Trees

Creation, Enhancement and Management Summary (UT-T01)

Target Habitat:						
Condition Assessment Criteria		**Targeted**	**Relevant Features**	**Creation Approach**	**Enhancement Approach**	**Management Approach**
A	The tree is a native species (or more than 70% within the block are native species).	Yes	All trees	All trees on site will be native species of local provenance, purchased from a trusted supplier. Species include Silver birch *Betula pendula*, Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*, Wild cherry *Prunus avium*, and Field maple *Acer campestre*.		
B	The tree canopy is predominantly continuous, with gaps in canopy cover making up <10% of total area and no individual gap being >5 m wide (individual trees automatically pass this criterion).	N/A	All trees	Individual trees automatically pass this criterion		Individual trees automatically pass this criterion.
C	The tree is mature (or more than 50% within the block are mature).	Not target				Trees will be monitored and managed to ensure they survive to maturity. However, as the trees will not reach maturity within the period covered by this HMMP, this specific criterion is not targeted.
D	There is little or no evidence of an adverse impact on tree health by human activities (such as vandalism, herbicide or detrimental agricultural activity). And there is no current regular pruning regime, so the trees retain >75% of expected canopy for their age range and height.	Yes	All trees			Trees will be monitored and managed to ensure that they are not subject to human disturbance and pruning will occur only when necessary.
E	Natural ecological niches for vertebrates and invertebrates are present, such as presence of deadwood, cavities, ivy or loose bark.	Not targeted				
F	More than 20% of the tree canopy area is oversailing vegetation beneath.	N/A	All trees	As the trees will be planted within the existing grassland area all trees will automatically pass this criterion		As the trees will be planted within the existing grassland area all trees will automatically pass this criterion

Individual Trees

Creation, Enhancement and Management Detailed Methods (UT-T02)

Action	Relevant Features	Timing	Prescriptions
Planting of trees	All trees	Immediately	**Planting Method:** • Best planting season: Late autumn to early spring (November–March) when trees are dormant. Avoid planting in frozen or waterlogged soil. • Trees will be supplied as container-grown or bare-root stock from a reputable local supplier of native trees. • Planting holes will be dug to at least twice the width and equal depth of the root ball or root system. • Trees will be positioned with the root collar at ground level and roots carefully spread to avoid bending or circling. • Backfill will consist of native soil, lightly firmed to remove air pockets without compacting. **Protection and Support:** • Each tree will be staked and tied using flexible, tree-friendly ties to provide early support. • Tree guards will be installed to protect against accidental damage and wildlife browsing. • Mulch (e.g., bark or woodchip, 5–10 cm thick) will be applied around the base, leaving space around the trunk. **Maintenance and Management:** • Watering will be provided as necessary during establishment, particularly during dry periods. • Regular inspection of stakes, ties, and guards will be carried out and adjusted as required. • Trees will be monitored for signs of pests, disease, or poor growth. • Trees will be checked for signs of disease, damage, or failing. Any dead / failed trees will be replaced. • Grassland area surrounding the tress will be checked for invasive non-native species and remove as part of routine site management. **Long-Term Objectives:** • Trees will be managed to achieve moderate to good condition within the 30-year period of the HMMP. • Planting will contribute to biodiversity net gain, provide habitat and food resources for wildlife, and enhance the ecological value of the school grounds.

Individual Trees Species Lists (UT-T03)

Common Name	Scientific Name	Abundance / %
Silver birch	Betula pendula	23% (3 No.)
Rowan	Sorbus aucuparia	23% (3 No.)
Wild cherry	Prunus avium	30% (4 No.)
Field maple	Acer campestre	23% (3 No.)

Other Supporting Information

Supporting Information (UT-B02)

Spacing Considerations:

- To ensure healthy growth and long-term survival, trees should be spaced 2–4 m apart. This allows each tree enough light, soil, and root space while minimizing competition.
- Avoid planting too close to fences, buildings, or underground services.
- Consider grouping species in small clusters (2–3 trees per group) to provide visual value and habitat connectivity for birds and insects.

Suggested Layout:

- Place trees in a loose grid or staggered pattern within the parcel.
- For example, a 3 m × 3 m spacing allows up to 16 trees in the area, so 13 trees will fit comfortably with some additional space for pathways or open areas for access.
- **Species Placement:**
  - Silver birch and Field maple in the central area for visual structure and light canopy.
  - Rowan and Wild cherry near the edges or in smaller clusters to provide seasonal flowers and berries for wildlife.

Additional Notes:

- Maintain a minimum 1 m buffer from fences, paths, and play areas for safety and access.

Habitat Creation and Management – Risk Register and Remedial Measures PM-T02

Habitat Type	Risk Factor	Trigger for Action	Remedial Measure
Individual Trees	Failure for trees to establish	If any of the planted trees found dead within the first five years.	Replanting stock, replacing failed specimens on a like-for-like basis.
Individual Trees / surrounding grassland	Presence of invasive or undesirable species	Any Sch 9 invasive species identified or more that 10% undesirable species (non-native or invasive)	Removal of vegetation following correct procedures

3. Monitoring Schedule

Monitoring Strategy

Provide details of the monitoring strategy to encourage successful implementation of the management plan (MS-B01)
Monitoring reports will be submitted to the Council in years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20, and 25 following completion of the habitat creation. Monitoring will be undertaken by a competent person (e.g., ecologist, arborist, or suitably experienced land manager), with reports provided to Cumberland Council. The management approach will be adapted, and remedial measures implemented if necessary.

Monitoring Methods and Intervals MS-T01

Habitat Type	Monitoring Methods	Monitoring Interval and Timing
Individual Trees	Condition assessment	Years 2, 5, 7, 10, 20, and 25 Spring / early Summer

Monitoring Reports

Monitoring Report Schedule MS-T02

Organisation Responsible for Submitting the Monitoring Reports	Organisation Receiving and Responsible for Reviewing Reports
Board of Governors/ Head Teacher St Bridgets Catholic Primary School	Cumberland Council

Project Year	Month Report to be Submitted	Month Management Plan to be reviewed	Comments
Y2	September	September or October	Report on results of initial tree planting measures.
Y5	September	September or October	
Y7	September	September or October	
Y10	September	September or October	
Y20	September	September or October	
Y25	September	September or October	

Adaptive Management

Summary of Adaptive Management Approaches (MS-B02)
Trees planted within the school grounds will be managed using an adaptive approach. Regular monitoring will assess survival, growth, and establishment, with results used to adjust maintenance as needed. Observations of pests, disease, or other site impacts will inform management changes. Any adjustments to prescriptions or replacement planting will be agreed with Cumberland Council and recorded in this HMMP and schedule to maintain a continuous feedback loop between monitoring, reporting, and management actions.