Design and Access Statement – Replacement Fencing at Dynamic Centre, Wrexham

1. Introduction

This Design and Access Statement accompanies the planning application for the replacement of internal fencing at the Dynamic Centre in Wrexham. The Centre provides essential services for children and young people with disabilities, and the proposed fencing upgrade is intended to enhance safety, accessibility, and the overall appearance of the site.

2. Site Context

The Dynamic Centre is a specialist facility located in Wrexham, offering day-care and activity services for children and young people with a range of disabilities. The site is currently enclosed by post and rail fencing, which is no longer suitable in terms of security, durability, or inclusive design.

3. Design Proposal

The proposal involves:

- Removal of the existing post and rail fencing.
- Installation of new close-boarded pressure treated softwood fencing and gates.
- The new fencing will provide improved security, privacy, and durability, while maintaining a welcoming and non-institutional appearance.
- The design will be sympathetic to the surrounding environment and consistent with the Centre's inclusive ethos.

4. Access Considerations

- **Pedestrian Access**: All pedestrian gates will be wheelchair accessible, with level thresholds and clear openings of at least 1000mm.
- **Vehicle Access**: Vehicular gates will accommodate accessible transport vehicles used by the Centre.
- **Visual Contrast**: Fencing and gates will incorporate visual contrast to assist users with visual impairments.
- **Safety and Security**: The fencing will be designed to prevent climbing and unauthorized access, while ensuring visibility for safeguarding.
- **Emergency Access**: Emergency services access will be maintained and clearly marked.

5. Inclusive Design

The fencing design supports inclusive access by:

- Ensuring safe navigation for users with mobility or sensory impairments.
- Providing secure boundaries without creating a sense of enclosure.
- Enhancing the overall environment in line with the Centre’s inclusive ethos.

6. Conclusion

The replacement fencing will significantly improve the safety, accessibility, and appearance of the Dynamic Centre. It reflects a commitment to inclusive design and supports the Centre’s mission to provide a secure and welcoming environment for children and young people with disabilities.