

Far Field - Drainage and Sports Fields Improvements



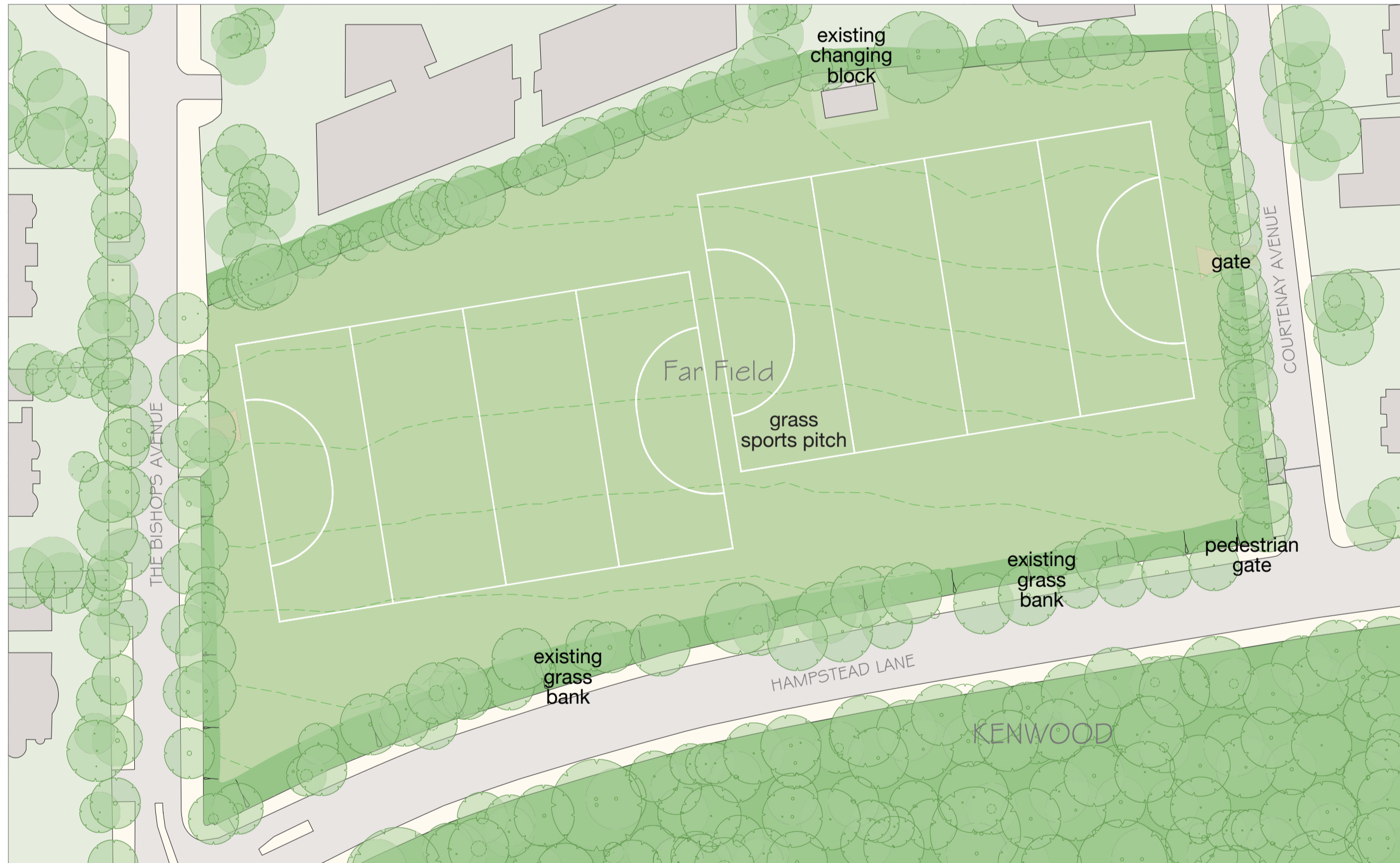
Aerial View and Plan of Existing - hockey pitches shown for reference



Aerial View and Plan of Proposed - showing hockey markings (artist's impression)



existing & proposed - view from south-east



proposed changing pavilion refurbishment



Far Field is regularly used by many pupils for various sports sessions. Unfortunately, due to adverse conditions at the site, it is often impossible to use these sports grounds following poor weather. This requires pupils to be transported off site to alternative facilities not affected in this way. The co-educational nature of the School also now requires a provision for a wider range of sports which has further increased the need to make this space more efficient and usable. The School intends therefore to undertake a series of engineering works to improve drainage and reduce the risk of flooding, as well as covering the main playing field area with a permeable green artificial surface. This will also allow Sport England standards to be attained for the envisaged use. The new facility, dedicated predominantly to hockey with two pitches, will provide also some flexibility for netball, tennis and athletics which can be marked out using temporary line marking techniques as used elsewhere on the School's sports fields. The new all-weather pitch will be incorporated within the existing grass field through banked and regraded landscaping with enhanced biodiversity and habitat features. The existing groomed turf pitches offering little biodiverse value currently. The proposed design is intended to have reduced visual impact with no hard perimeter fencing around the sports pitches (as is typical with other facilities of this nature). It is also proposed to install limited motion-controlled energy efficient low-level lighting along pathways to enhance safety and security. The existing changing building will also be refurbished externally and made more accessible. The existing pedestrian gate on Hampstead Lane will be reinstated with the provision of a synthetic grass path leading to pitch level. A new vehicle and pedestrian access will be formed on The Bishops Avenue for servicing and emergency services and to improve accessibility. As part of the overall improvement strategy of Far Field, railings along Hampstead Lane and The Bishops Avenue have been recently renewed (the Courtenay Avenue railings being completed in 2019) and new (appropriately placed to maintain privacy) perimeter CCTV cameras will be installed to enhance security around the site.

Highgate School Sports Fields Improvements - Far Field