London Borough of Havering
Mercury House
Mercury Gardens
Romford
RM1 3SL

6th October 2026
OUR REF: TSP/2609732

Dear Sirs,

**Ardleigh Green School**

We are pleased to submit an application, on behalf the Empower learning Academy Trust for a lawful development certificate in respect of the boundary fencing that has been installed adjacent to the public highway at Ardleigh Green School.

As recently advised by Havering Council, fencing has been installed without formal planning permission and the purpose of this application is to regularise the works and obtain formal approval accordingly.

The new perimeter fencing was installed in August 2025 as a robust boundary treatment to ensure the following:

Safeguarding pupils during school hours
Deterring trespassers and intruders
Controlling access and visitor management
Complying with government safety standards
Enhancing Ofsted inspection readiness

Empower learning Academy treat safeguarding as a high priority both in terms of keeping the pupils safe within the school environment to prevent unauthorised departure of pupils from the grounds and also in terms of preventing unwanted access by a third-party.

Safe perimeter secure fencing is a requirement for all schools as per the government guidelines and in line with the DfE School Premises Regulations 2012, Empower have ensured perimeters are complete and secure, materials do not pose injury risks and fencing is maintained to a safe standard. As part of the fencing project, controlled access has been installed to vehicle and pedestrian gates were used by staff, pupils and visitors

The fencing selected is a weld mesh system manufactured with galvanised steel and receiving a powder coated finish. The height of the fencing has been selected to reflect the risk areas identified by the School governing body and details of the fencing height is included on the drawing attached with this application. The original railings were approximately 1200mm to 1500 mm in height and were considered to be unsuitable from a safeguarding point of view. Furthermore, they were beginning to corrode resulting in extensive ongoing maintenance works and controlled access was not possible with the old gates.

The new fencing installed is anti-climb design, has high visibility for surveillance and is of long-term durability reducing the need for maintenance over a number of years. The weld mesh design is visually welcoming and the colour matches the school branding colour,

We trust you will find this application to be acceptable and that a certificate of lawfulness can be issued accordingly.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Kevin Stephenson at this office.

Regards

Yours faithfully

*TSP*

**TSP**