

SOUTH EASTERN EDUCATION AND LIBRARY BOARD



**STRATEGIC REVIEW OF PROVISION IN
NORTH EAST ARDS AREA**

MARCH 2006

Strategic Review of Provision – North East Ards Area

Foreword

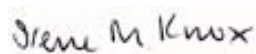
Last year the Board published its Strategic Capital Development Plan 2004-2009. That plan indicated the Board's intention to carry out reviews of school provision in various geographical areas. A Draft Review was undertaken in relation to the North East Ards area and issued for consultation in April. The Board welcomed the comments received from schools and others and after careful consideration this revised document has been adopted.

The Strategic Review of Provision outlines the main issues impacting on the Board's school estate in this area. In particular the implications of declining school aged population and existing spare capacity will have to be addressed. It is also noted that significant housing developments planned in some areas will lead to increasing demand in certain locations. The current condition of school buildings and the suitability of accommodation for the delivery of a modern curriculum are also areas of concern. Various example proposals are made to show some of the options which will be considered in order to resolve these issues, but it must be remembered that these represent only some of a number of possible options for the way forward and they should not be viewed as definitive.

The purpose of these reviews is to provide a strategic framework in which to progress a prioritised programme of capital development schemes. Each scheme arising from the reviews will be subject to economic appraisal of a range of options, the publication of development proposals where appropriate, statutory approvals such as planning permission and financial approval from the Department of Education. Therefore the implementation of the final reviews will include further involvement and consultation with relevant schools and might take 10-15 years to complete. Naturally the Board will monitor enrolment trends and other information during that time and any material change in circumstances may lead to further review of proposals.

At this time, in the light of demographic trends and the issue of surplus capacity in some schools, it is important that we look strategically across our schools estate to make sure that any decisions in relation to capital planning and development are taken after full consideration of all available information. We will continue to work closely with our schools as the strategic plans are implemented.

The Strategic Reviews of Provision will be published on the Board's website at www.seelb.org.uk.



Irene Knox
Chief Executive
South Eastern Education and Library Board

March 2006

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1.0 Background

1.1 This paper will examine the long term requirements of controlled education at the following schools

- Donaghadee Primary School
- Ballyvester Primary School
- Millisle Primary School
- Donaghadee High School
- Movilla High School

The document will also take into consideration the potential impact of capital projects which have been given or are waiting on financial approval at the following schools

- Bangor Academy and 6th Form College
- Priory College,
- Comber High School, and
- Glastry College

1.2 The tables below compare the 1991 census and 2001 census data for 0 – 18 year olds for Ards and North Down Borough Council areas and include projected figures up to 2017. These figures have been obtained from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency.

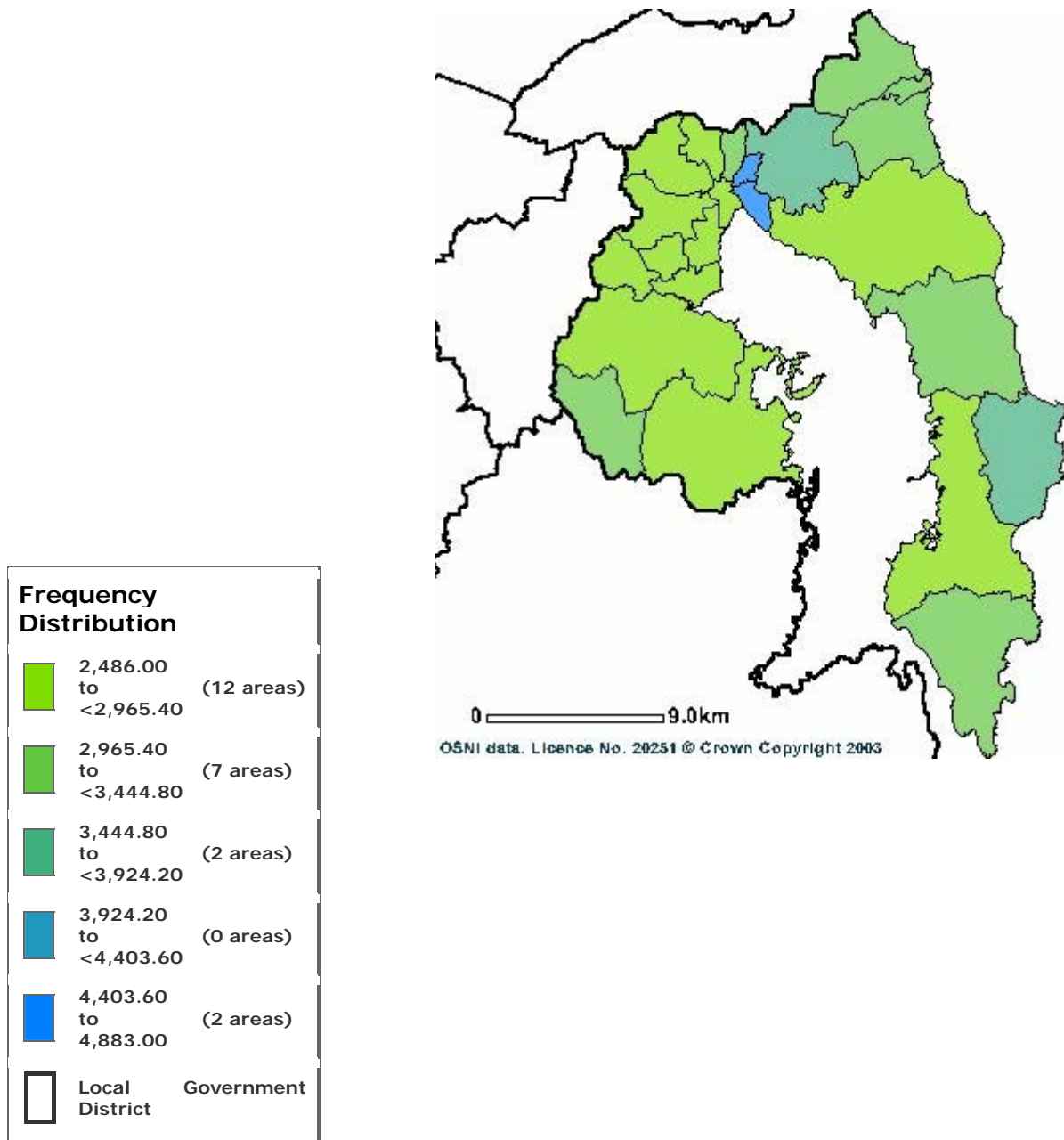
Ards Borough Council

Age Group	1991 Census	2001 Census	2017 Projected Figures	% Difference between 2001 - 2017
0 - 4	4,761	4,614	4,415	4
5 - 11	6,771	6,821	6,275	8
12 - 16	4,955	5,177	4,523	13
17 - 18	2,009	2,005	2,100	-5
Total	18,496	18,617	17,313	7

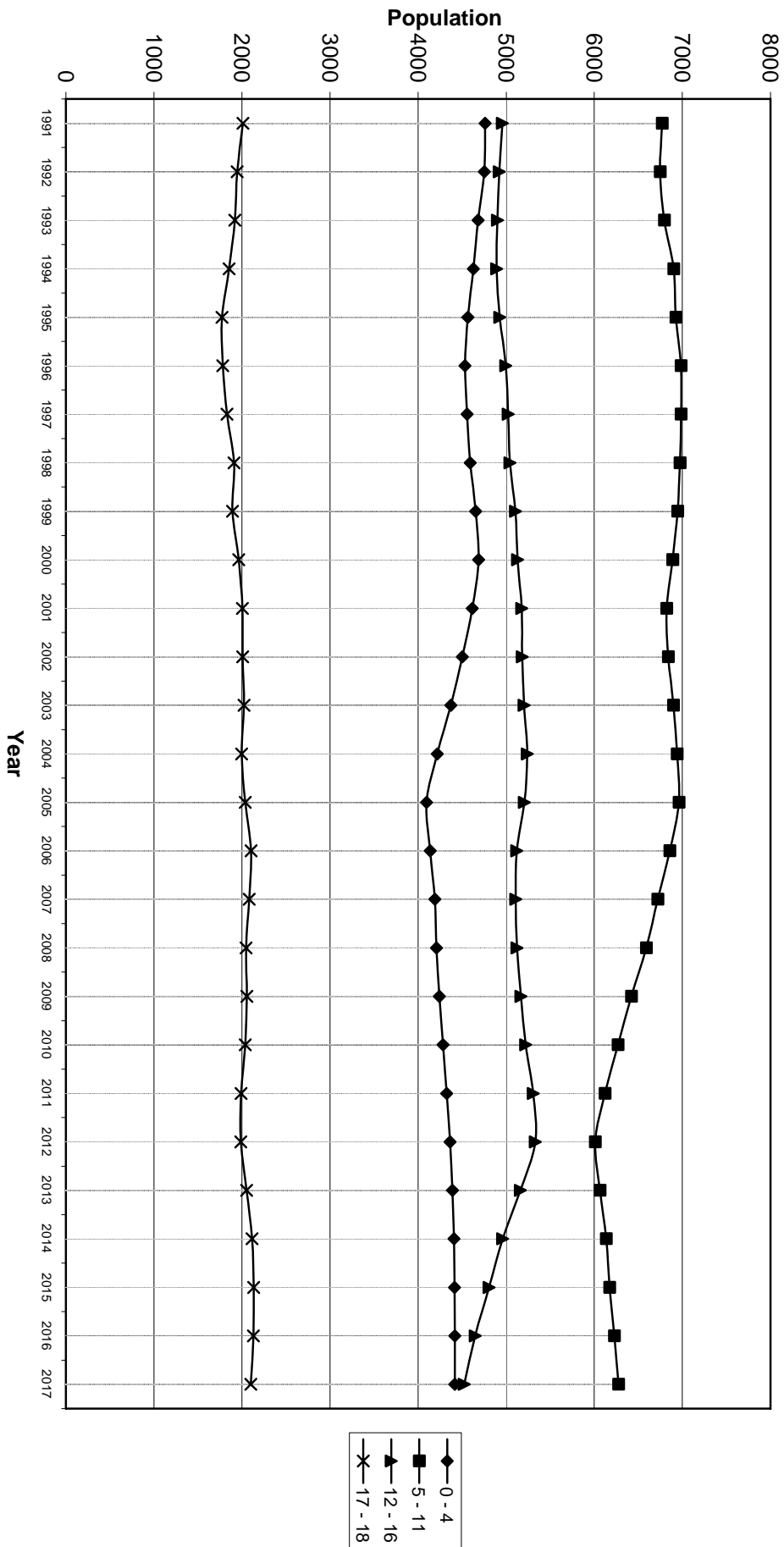
This table clearly shows that the overall number of children in the Ards Borough Council area has grown by less than 1% between 1991 and 2001, with a small decline in the 0 – 4 and 5 - 11 year olds and a slight increase in the other groups. The projected figures show an anticipated decline in all age groups except the 17 – 18 year olds and overall the Council can expect an overall decline of 7% between the 2001 census and 2017.

Within the Ards Borough Council area there will be large areas of housing development and this will have an impact on the demand for controlled education at the schools detailed within this paper. According to the Planning Service approximately 984 additional houses will be built within Newtownards and 340 additional houses in Donaghadee and 251 houses in Millisle, these figures will include those areas designated as Phase 1 housing under the Ards and Down Area Plan.

The map and table below have been obtained from the Northern Ireland Statistical Research Agency and shows the population, or frequency, distribution throughout the council by ward area. It is evident from this data that certain areas of the council hold higher percentages of the total council population, i.e. those areas in blue to dark green, when compared to other areas, i.e. those areas in light green. This is in keeping with the areas of development with the council.



Ardara Council School Age Population 1991 to 2017



2.0 Current Controlled Primary School Position

2.1 At present the three schools have the capacity to hold, between them, a total of 800 children with 109 pupils at Ballyvester Primary School, 466 pupils at Donaghadee Primary School and 225 pupils at Millisle Primary School. The table below shows the enrolment history of the three primary controlled primary schools.

	97/98	98/99	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05
Ballyvester Primary	91	90	87	79	80	79	90	86
Donaghadee Primary	486	484	451	450	427	402	373	366
Millisle Primary	143	134	140	138	142	131	116	112
Total	720	708	678	667	649	612	579	564
Total surplus	80	92	122	133	151	188	221	236

The table clearly shows that the number of surplus places has steadily increased over the past eight years with the majority of surplus places at Donaghadee and Millisle Primary Schools.

Below is a brief description of the surplus numbers at the schools for 2004/2005, detailed enrolment information for each school is given in Appendix A:

SCHOOL NAME	Total School Surplus	P1 Surplus
Ballyvester	23	0
Donaghadee	100	8
Millisle	113	10
Total	236	18

3.0 Current Post Primary Provision

3.1 Between Donaghadee and Movilla High Schools there are a total 1,280 places available, with 256 year 8 intake places. The table below shows the enrolment history of the two high schools over the past 8 years:

ADMISSION	ENROLMENT	% OF SURPLUS PLACES	YEAR	SCHOOL NAME	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	L6	Total	SU
76	380	45	2004/2005	DONAGHADEE	24	38	35	60	45	8	210	49
		41	2003/2004	DONAGHADEE	36	33	43	45	63	4	224	46
		36	2002/2003	DONAGHADEE	37	45	33	62	60	8	245	39
		26	2001/2002	DONAGHADEE	58	38	58	62	56	8	280	43
		21	2000/2001	DONAGHADEE	39	61	57	59	76	7	299	33
		16	1999/2000	DONAGHADEE	61	53	58	76	61	12	321	27
		23	1998/1999	DONAGHADEE	46	49	66	61	59	10	291	23
		17	1997/1998	DONAGHADEE	50	62	51	58	94		315	12
		25	1996/1997	DONAGHADEE	55	45	58	46	80		284	
180	900	13	2004/2005	MOVILLA	127	160	152	164	176		779	
		7	2003/2004	MOVILLA	159	158	168	178	171		834	
		5	2002/2003	MOVILLA	157	173	178	174	170		852	
		3	2001/2002	MOVILLA	175	177	178	172	171		873	
		1	2000/2001	MOVILLA	181	180	179	173	178		891	
		1	1999/2000	MOVILLA	183	175	176	178	178		890	
		1	1998/1999	MOVILLA	176	180	180	180	179		895	
		1	1997/1998	MOVILLA	180	178	180	180	170		888	
		5	1996/1997	MOVILLA	176	175	178	174	155		858	

It is noted that a growing number of the “surplus” places in Donaghadee High School are in fact filled due to the increasing enrolment of children with special educational needs.

The table clearly shows that the level of surplus places at both of the schools has gradually increased over the years with a total of 242 surplus places as at October 2004.

3.2 The Board has a number of other controlled post primary schools in the Ards and North Down area all of which have been reviewed and are currently either waiting on advancement in the procurement process or the economic appraisal is waiting on full Department of Education approval. All of the long term enrolments for these schools have been approved by the DE however, as with all major capital projects, these projected figures are subject to change if demanded.

The table below shows the current and planned controlled post primary provision:

School	DE enrolment	Current enrolment (October 2004)	Approved LTE	Current Position
Bangor Academy & 6th Form College	1440	1461	1440	Part of PFI bundle
Comber High School	400	356	400	Part of PFI bundle
Glastry College	600	598	600	Appraisal & LTE approved
Priory College	450	478	450	LTE approved - waiting appraisal approval
	2890	2893	2890	

The projected enrolments and location of these schools will be taken into account when considering the appropriate long term enrolment number for Movilla and Donaghadee High Schools. However it should be noted that few of the main contributory primary schools of Movilla and Donaghadee also contribute pupils to the four post primary schools listed above.

- 3.3 The table below indicates the enrolment history of Donaghadee and Movilla High Schools with the figures in index showing the percentage increase or decrease compared to the previous year (these figures include those children attending special units). In addition the total enrolments of the main contributory primary schools for the two high schools are shown over the same period.

	1998/1999	1999/2000	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005
Total Post Primary Places	1209	1238	1223	1196	1174	1149	1038
% increase / decrease		2	-1	-2	-2	-2	-10
Total MCPS enrolment	3304	3240	3174	3126	3082	3013	2965
% increase / decrease		-2	-2	-2	-1	-2	-2

The table shows that the post primary schools have been operating with an overall surplus over the past five years. Analysis of the enrolment trends of the main contributory primary schools to the post primary schools indicates the declining pool of children who will require a post primary place in the future. The table above indicates a year on year decline of 1% - 2% since 1998 in the number of primary aged children. In the long term it is estimated that the pool of primary aged children will decline by 8% by 2017 and the post primary aged children by 13%.

4.0 Future Demand

4.1 As stated previously there are areas of housing which will have a direct impact on the three controlled primary schools and the two controlled post primary schools.

	ADAP / Planning Service Reference	Location	Hectares	Approximate Housing Left
DONAGHADEE	DE 02 / 7786	Stockbridge Road / Warren Road	2.7	12
	DE 03/12236	Warren Road	0.99	8
	DE 05/11200	Shore Street	0.11	12
	DE 06/12246	Manor Farm	1.28	17
	DE 08	Manor Street	0.37	11
	DE 09/12524	Millisle Road	0.63	16
	DE 10/11669	Edgewater development - extension	4.46	112
	DE 11	South of Newtownards Road	18.82	282
	Totals		29.36	470
	MILLISLE	7677	Donaghdee Road	3.8
7678		Donaghdee Road	2.21	36
7680		Carmichael Park	1.45	28
7681		Ballymacruise Park	1.55	29
7682		Ballywalter Road	1.14	22
7683		Ballywalter Road	0.35	6
7687		Park Crescent	0.01	1
11207		Main Street	0.1	6
11657		South of Ballywalter Road	0.2	1
HPA3/11659		Ballywalter Road	0.15	4
HPA1/11665		Main Street	0.15	8
12221		Donaghdee Road	0.29	2
12224		Moss Road	0.04	1
12225		Shore Road	0.03	3
12226		Walkers Cottages	0.19	5
Totals		11.66	212	

According to these figures there is approximately 29.36 hectares of development land in Donaghadee which has the potential for housing this in turn would result in approximately 470 new dwellings. Within Millisle the Planning Service has indicated that 11.66 hectares of development land is available which would result in 212 additional dwellings. There are an additional 984 houses approved for Newtownards. These figures include those areas assigned as Phase 1 housing under the Ards and Down Area Plan but does not include any Phase 2 housing which would only be released on the completion of all Phase 1 developments.

A number of responses to the initial consultation document questioned the housing details and some individuals highlighted the future development of the former carpet factory. When calculating a long term enrolment for a school the Board can only use details on housing which have been obtained from the Planning Service, i.e. sites with planning approval or sites zoned for housing in an area plan.

The details on page 10 are based on information obtained from the Ards and Down Area Plan and the Planning Service. ADAP is currently subject to the appeals procedure therefore some details within the plan are subject to change. However the Board would intend to use the housing figures within the plan and will adjust any figures when the appeals procedure has completed. In addition some details obtained from the Planning Service are not included within ADAP and these areas will also be subject to the planning appeals procedure. As above the Board will use current Planning Service data, with adjustments as necessary after any appeals procedure has completed.

4.2 Controlled primary education in Donaghadee and Millisle

The religious breakdown of the Donaghadee and Millisle areas are 90% protestant and 6% catholic in Donaghadee and 91% protestant and 3% catholic in Millisle.

(470 houses in Donaghadee x 90%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure)

gives 94 children.

(224 houses in Millisle x 91%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure)

gives 46 children.

Therefore a total of 140 children will require a controlled primary school place. The long term enrolment calculation for each of the controlled primary schools, as detailed under Appendix A, shows the distribution of these additional children between the three controlled primary schools. The table below summarises the current and projected requirements at the three primary schools:

School	DE capacity	Current enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	LTE
Ballyvester	109	86	23	125
Donaghadee	466	366	100	420
Millisle	225	112	113	169
Totals	800	564	236	714

The previous table shows that only Ballyvester Primary School would be unable to meet the long term enrolment within its current building. The other two schools have sufficient surplus places to easily absorb the additional children from the new housing. Overall there are enough surplus places between the three schools for the additional children.

However it is the Boards view that the long term enrolment figures should be further reduced in order to allow for the falling population figures. The Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency has recently released projected population data up to 2017 which shows that the number of children will fall, as shown in 1.1. It is estimated that the primary aged numbers in Ards Borough Council will decline by 8% by 2017. Applying the reduction factor to the previous table would give:

School	DE capacity	Current enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	LTE	Reduced LTE by 8%
Ballyvester	109	86	23	125	118
Donaghadee	466	366	100	420	392
Millisle	225	112	113	169	159
Totals	800	564	236	714	669

4.3 Donaghadee High School

In turn it is estimated that of the 140 children approximately 22.47% would select to transfer to Donaghadee High School. This percentage is based on the historic transfer patterns and is a five year average. Applying this percentage to the 140 children results in 32 additional children who would require a place at Donaghadee High School.

The long term enrolment calculation for the high school shows a school of 214 plus the special unit, the full details are given in Appendix A. This figure has allowed for the houses which have been approved by the Planning Service and Phase 1 housing under ADAP but does not include Phase 2 housing.

However this figure does not make any allowance for the forecasted fall in the population of Ards Borough Council. It is the Boards view that an adjustment of 8% in the P1 – P3 average from the main contributory primary schools would be the most appropriate method of allowing for the projected population fall. The table below summarises the current and projected requirements at the high school plus the effect of applying an 8% reduction in the MCPS average:

School	DE capacity	Current enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	LTE	Effect of reducing MCPS by 8%
Donaghadee High School	380	210	170	210	202

The previous table shows that both of the projected long term enrolments are within the current Department of Education capacity figure of 380 for the high school. While some of these places will be taken up by pupils with special educational needs overall the school will retain a high percentage of surplus places for the foreseeable future.

4.4 Movilla High School

The religious split for Newtownards has been estimated at 85% from a protestant background and 9 % catholic. Applying this figure to the 984 new houses planned for Newtownards and multiplying it by the 0.223 extraction figure for Ards Borough Council results in 187 additional children who would require a controlled primary school place. Based on the transfer history it is estimated that approximately 45.35% would select to go to Movilla therefore a total of 85 additional children would require a place at the high school.

The long term enrolment calculation for the high school shows a school of 267 plus the special unit, the full detailed are given in Appendix A. This figure has allowed for the houses which have been approved by the Planning Service and Phase 1 housing under ADAP but does not include Phase 2 housing.

However this figure does not make any allowance for the forecasted fall in the population of Ards Borough Council. It is the Boards view that an adjustment of 8% in the P1 – P3 average from the main contributory primary schools would be the most appropriate method of allowing for the projected population fall. The table below summarises the current and projected requirements at the high school plus the effect of applying an 8% reduction in the MCPSs average:

School	DE capacity	Current enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	LTE	Effect of reducing MCPS by 8%
Movilla High School	900	779	121	884	822

The standard long term enrolment calculation for the high school would seem to indicate a likely increase in demand for places which would push the school close to the 900 capacity for the school as set by the Department of Education. However once the projected fall in the MCPSs is taken into consideration the LTE falls well below the current capacity and this amended LTE figure is more in keeping with the current falling enrolment trend at the school.

5.0 Possible Solutions

5.1 Controlled Primary

There is a definite need for some controlled primary provision within the Donaghadee and Millisle areas however the level of provision must reflect the demand for school places. Between the three controlled schools in the area there are a total of 265 surplus places which equates to 33.13% of all places (the location of the surplus places is detailed in 4.2.)

When the enrolments for each school is examined over the past eight years it becomes apparent that Ballyvester Primary School has been operating continually with a relatively small surplus while the level of surplus provision at the other two schools has been steadily increasing.

A number of factors were taken into consideration in order to formulate a strategy to deal with the surplus places in the area:

- (a) The location of the schools and their proximity to neighbouring schools,
- (b) The condition and suitability of the existing accommodation and sites at the schools and any works at these schools, either planned or completed, which may alter this accommodation,
- (c) The demographics of the area and the addresses of the children attending the three schools,
- (d) The future needs and demands that are likely to be placed on the schools, and
- (e) The enrolment history of the schools and the level of over or under provision at each school.

Examination of these factors has resulted in the following:

Ballyvester Primary School

Ballyvester Primary School is located on the outskirts of Donaghadee and does not have a defined community base of its own and as a result attracts the majority of its pupils from Donaghadee and Millisle. The school building itself is in average condition with three quarters of the teaching space in temporary accommodation, all of which are below the recommended minimum size of 60m². The toilets are also housed in a temporary block. The site size is over three times smaller than that required of Ballyvester Primary School's size. Enrolment at the school has been relatively steady over the past seven years with the number of surplus places remaining fairly constant. Both of the long term enrolments calculated for the school would seem to indicate a strong basis for the future retention of the school. Due to the poor standard of teaching accommodation at the school there is a case for replacing the sub standard accommodation with facilities more in keeping with the Building Handbook. However, the site is entirely enclosed and does not lend itself to extension. Another issue would be that the Board does not own the site plus the listed status of the building may incur additional costs in relation to any major works carried out to the school.

Donaghadee Primary School

Donaghadee Primary School's enrolment has been steadily declining over the past eight years and as at October 2004 there were 100 surplus places. Both of the LTEs calculated for Donaghadee Primary School fail to achieve the 466 enrolment capacity for the school as set by the Department of Education therefore the school will continue to have surplus places for the foreseeable future. An estimated 94% of pupils attending the primary school come from the town with the remaining 6% residing in the neighbouring settlements of Millisle, Carrowdore and Ballywalter.

A third of the classrooms are temporary and the majority all of classrooms are below the recommended minimum of 60m². The site is owned by the Board however the primary school shares the site with the post primary school. Overall the future of the primary school would appear to be dependant on the new housing developments stalling the continuing decline in the enrolment. However, even allowing for the projected new pupils, the school is oversized and the pupils are being taught in sub standard accommodation.

Millisle Primary School

Millisle Primary School's enrolment has been steadily declining over the past eight years and as at October 2004 there were 113 surplus places. Both of the LTEs calculated for Millisle Primary School fail to achieve the 225 enrolment capacity for the school as set by the Department of Education therefore the school will continue to have surplus places for the foreseeable future. An estimated 86% of pupils attending the primary school come from the village with the remaining 14% are resident in the neighbouring settlements of Donaghadee and Carrowdore. Two of the permanent classrooms and all three of the temporary classrooms are below the 60m² minimum as set out in the Building Handbook. The staffroom and assembly hall are also undersized, as is the Board owned 0.39 hectare site, which is below that required for a school with a capacity to hold 225 pupils. Overall the future of the primary school would appear to be dependant on the new housing developments stalling the continuing decline in the enrolment. However, even allowing for the projected new pupils, the school is oversized and the pupils are being taught in sub standard accommodation.

Allowing for the points detailed previously the following sample options are put forward for consideration:

(a) Retain all three primary schools

Retain all three primary schools and refurbish, remodel and extend each to meet their respective long term needs. Under this option there are three possible LTE calculations to follow; all take account of the new housing in the area however one reduces the LTE by 8% in order to take account of the projected fall in the population of Ards Borough Council and one if the mean figure between the normal LTE figure and the reduced figure. This option would result in the following controlled primary places being provided:

School	DE capacity	Current Enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	Normal LTE	Reduced LTE	Mean LTE
Ballyvester	109	86	23	125	118	122
Donaghadee	466	366	100	420	392	406
Millisle	225	112	113	169	159	164
Totals	800	564	236	714	669	692

New housing in Donaghadee / Millisle will generate 140 additional children needing controlled primary school places and are included in the LTE calculations. The 8% reduction is based on NISRA projected population figures

It is recommended that the Board allow for the projected fall in the population and plan for the mean long term enrolment figure. This would result in Ballyvester remaining at its current size, Donaghadee Primary School would be reduced from a 17 classbase school to a 14 classbase and Millisle Primary School would reduce from an 8 classbase to a 6 classbase.

Some work would be required at all the schools in order to meet the Building Handbook standards.

Within this option consideration could also be given to a single school for all ages on the Donaghadee campus, see option (c) on page 21.

(b) Amalgamation of Ballyvester and Donaghadee Primary Schools

Ballyvester and Donaghadee Primary Schools are a short distance apart and would appear to offer the opportunity to amalgamate the two schools onto either one of the school sites or a neutral location. This could take the form of either extending and refurbishing one of the schools to meet the need or build a new school at one of the locations. Millisle Primary School should then be remodelled and refurbished to a size more in keeping with the schools long term needs. As with the previous option there are two LTE calculations available and would result in the following controlled primary places being provided:

School	DE capacity	Current Enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	Normal LTE	Reduced LTE	Mean LTE
Ballyvester	109	86	23	545	510	528
Donaghadee	466	366	100			
Millisle	225	112	113	169	159	164
Totals	800	564	236	714	669	692

As with Option (a) it is recommended that the Board make allowance for the projected fall in the population and plan for the mean LTE figure of 692. The reasons for selecting Donaghadee and Ballyvester Primary Schools as a possible amalgamation are that Ballyvester Primary School is not located within a defined community and draws the majority of its pupils from the Donaghadee and Millisle settlements. In contrast Millisle Primary School does serve a defined community and approximately 86% of the pupils at the school reside within this community. Donaghadee Primary School was selected as the most appropriate partner for Ballyvester due to the close proximity of the two schools.

The remaining issue for this option is the location of the amalgamated Ballyvester and Donaghadee Primary Schools. Of the two existing school sites only Donaghadee would have sufficient area to accommodate the proposed 18 classbase school however the Board should fully investigate the possibility of obtaining a neutral site in the area. Such investigation will take place as part of any economic appraisal that may result from this review document.

(c) Amalgamation of all three schools

Amalgamate all three schools onto a single site. The close proximity of the three schools and the sharing of the same pupil base would indicate the possibility of amalgamating all three primary schools onto either one of the school sites or a neutral location. This could take the form of either extending and refurbishing one of the schools to meet the need or build a new school at one of the locations.

School	DE capacity	Current enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	Normal LTE	Reduced LTE	Mean LTE
Ballyvester	109	86	23	714	669	692
Donaghadee	466	366	100			
Millisle	225	112	113			
Totals	800	564	236	714	669	692

As with the previous options the recommendation would be to plan for the mean long term enrolment figure.

The remaining issue for this option is the location of the amalgamated primary school. Of the three existing school sites only Donaghadee would have sufficient area to accommodate the proposed 23 classbase school however the Board should fully investigate the possibility of obtaining a neutral site in the area. Such investigation will take place as part of any economic appraisal that may result from this review document.

In response to the initial consultation document concerns have been expressed over the above sample options and strong views expressed regarding the role of local schools in rural communities.

The long term enrolment would suggest that each school has a viable future and economic appraisals should be undertaken to investigate the best option for providing suitable accommodation to meet the long term needs of the three primary schools.

5.2 Controlled Post Primary

The level of post primary provision currently provided between Movilla and Donaghadee High Schools is not sustainable in the long term. The enrolments at both schools have been falling over years and there are, as of October 2004, 242 surplus places and in the longer term the decline in the primary sector will have a knock on effect on the post primary requirement at both of the schools.

The same factors detailed in 5.1 were taken into consideration when formulating possible options for the controlled post primary sector.

(a) Retain both post primary schools

Retain both Donaghadee and Movilla High School and refurbish, remodel and extend each to meet their respective long term needs. As with the controlled primary schools there are two LTEs to choose from, with one taking into consideration the projected population decline.

School	DE capacity	Current Enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	Normal LTE	Reduced MCPS by 8%	Mean LTE
Donaghadee	380	259	121	260	252	256
Movilla	900	779	121	884	822	853
Totals	1280	1038	242	1144	1074	1109

The figures for Donaghadee High School include 50 pupils who would attend the special unit in operation at the school.

As with the controlled primary schools it is recommended that the mean LTE is used for both post primary schools. If this recommendation is followed both schools could continue to operate out of their present accommodation as their respective long term enrolments would still be below the DE figure for each school. However some work would be required at both schools in order to upgrade the existing accommodation to meet the current Building Handbook standards.

(b) Amalgamation of Donaghadee and Movilla High Schools

Amalgamate Donaghadee and Movilla High Schools onto one of the school sites or on an alternative neutral location. This option could take the form of either extending and refurbishing one of the schools or build an entirely new school at one of the locations to meet the accommodation needs of the amalgamated school.

School	DE capacity	Current Enrolment	Surplus as @ 2004	Normal LTE	Reduced MCPS by 8%	Mean LTE
Donaghadee	380	259	121	1144	1074	1109
Movilla	900	779	121			
Totals	1280	1038	242	1144	1074	1109

The figures for Donaghadee High School include 50 pupils who would attend the special unit in operation at the school.

As with the controlled primary schools it is recommended that the mean LTE is used for the amalgamated school.

(c) Single Donaghadee School

A further possible option would be to establish a single new school on the Donaghadee campus which would cater for children of all ages, including new build accommodation for nursery, primary, post-primary and special education. The long term enrolments would be similar to previous options relating to the retention of the existing primary and post-primary schools.

In response to the initial consultation document concerns have been expressed over the sample options.

A detailed economic appraisal should be undertaken in order to fully investigate all of the viable options relating to controlled post primary provision at Donaghadee and Movilla High Schools. The views expressed during the consultation will be taken into account within the economic appraisal.

APPENDIX A – PRIMARY SCHOOLS

A1 Ballyvester Primary School

Background

Ballyvester Primary School resides in a listed building that was built in 1906 with conversions in 1953. It comprises 1 permanent classroom, 3 temporary classrooms, office accommodation, canteen, resource room/dining hall, kitchen/servery, temporary pupil toilets, storage and ancillary space.

The school is located on a site of 0.18 hectares and with an internal floor area of 327m² (0.62 hectares recommended minimum site size for a 4-classbase school). The site is owned by the Education Board of the Ards Presbytery, the SEELB currently lease the land from this body.

The most recent building condition survey indicated that the accommodation was in moderate condition requiring immediate attention to the internal wall finishing and internal glazing. Other repairs required in the near future include replacement DPM on floors, replacement DPC on walls, redecoration and replacement built up felt to a flat roof. The total cost of repairs would be approximately £14,855.

The permanent classroom at 48.7m² and all 3 temporary classbases fall well below the recommended minimum of 60m² as set out in the Building Handbook.

There is no multipurpose area for assembly/PE. There are no toilet facilities in the temporary accommodation, which results in the pupils having to go to a temporary toilet block outside of the main school building. The staffroom is undersized, as is the office space. The school also lacks a special educational needs room.

Enrolments

There are currently 86 pupils enrolled at the school, as per DE's statistical returns. Based on 2003/04 pupil address data, 66% of the pupils reside in the Donaghadee area. The remaining 34% reside in the surrounding areas of Millisle (24%), Newtownards, Bangor and Kircubbin.

	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6	Yr7	Total
2004/05	16	14	12	13	11	10	10	86
2003/04	15	13	13	11	10	10	18	90
2002/03	13	14	11	9	9	17	6	79
2001/02	16	12	7	10	16	7	12	80
2000/01	12	8	11	17	7	13	11	79
1999/00	10	12	17	8	14	11	15	87
1998/99	11	15	8	14	12	15	15	90
1997/98	14	7	14	14	16	15	11	91

At May 2005 the school had 10 applicants for September 2005 admission out of a total of 16 places available.

The Long Term Enrolment can be calculated as follows:

P1 intake over the past 3 yrs = 44

$\frac{44 \times 7}{3}$ = 103

Long Term Enrolment = 103

Allowing for the recalculation of the LTE to take account of the 8% reduction in the primary aged pupils in Ards Borough Council vies

Reduced Long Term Enrolment = 96

Based on the distribution of pupils from the three primary schools in the 2003/2004 academic year the following was established:

14.35% of all children in Donaghadee and 17.46% of children in Millisle went to Ballyvester Primary School.

The religious breakdown of the Donaghadee and Millisle areas are 90% protestant and 6% catholic in Donaghadee and 91% protestant and 3% catholic in Millisle.

Therefore

(470 houses in Donaghadee x 90%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure) x 14.35%

gives 14 additional children from Donaghadee.

(224 houses in Millisle x 91%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure) x 17.46%

gives 8 additional children from Millisle

The normal long term enrolment figure for Ballyvester Primary School is therefore

$103 + 14 + 8 = 125$

The reduced long term enrolment figure is

$96 + 14 + 8 = 118$

The school's enrolment figure is 109 and the admissions number 16. There is currently an overall surplus of 23 places. The LTE range would suggest that the school would move from the 4 classbase category, i.e. 86 – 115 pupils, to either a 5 classbase school, i.e. 116 – 145 pupils or remain in the 4 classbase category.

A mean LTE figure of 122, i.e. 5 classbases, will be used for planning purposes.

A2 Donaghadee Primary School

Background

Donaghadee Primary School was built in 1954 with modifications made in 1983 and 1986. The main building comprises 10 permanent classrooms, assembly hall, staffroom, reprographics room, offices, changing room, stores and toilets. The infant annex is a separate building on the site which contains 2 classrooms, play/resource area, library & TV viewing area, special educational needs classroom and office. The site also contains 6 temporary classrooms and a nursery unit, which was built in 2000. The school shares meals accommodation with the adjacent Donaghadee High School.

The school shares its site with Donaghadee High School on a 3.77 hectare combined site. The SEELB is the titleholder of the site.

The accommodation is in a reasonable condition but requires immediate attention to glazing, floor finishes, fire fighting equipment and internal wall finishes. Other reparations would include redecoration throughout, work to both a flat and pitched roof, the mechanical infrastructure, heating and plumbing all require substantial attention, as do the floor finishes in the corridors. The most recent building condition survey indicates that the total cost of all repairs would be in the region of £ 68,765.

Eight of the twelve of the permanent classrooms are below the 60m² recommended minimum as set out in the Building Handbook. The staffroom is undersized, as are the resource areas.

Two of the older teaching mobiles have been replaced with newer models which have in built toilet facilities. Of the remaining four temporary buildings only one is currently in use as teaching accommodation with the others being used for other purposes such as music.

In September 2001 the school had new cladding to the external walls costing £95,000. The school is currently undergoing car parking and site works in conjunction with Donaghadee High School to better accessibility.

Enrolments

There are currently 366 pupils enrolled at the school (as per DE's statistical return). Based on 2003/04 pupil address data 94% of the pupils reside in Donaghadee. The remaining 6% of pupils reside in the surrounding areas of Ballywalter, Carrowdore, Millisle and Newtownards.

	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6	Yr7	Total
2004/05	52	46	47	56	54	45	66	366
2003/04	46	44	57	51	45	66	64	373
2002/03	48	57	50	44	68	66	69	402
2001/02	59	49	46	68	65	68	72	427
2000/01	52	48	69	59	66	70	86	450
1999/00	47	68	60	64	67	86	59	451
1998/99	65	62	64	68	89	60	76	484
1997/98	63	66	67	86	59	85	60	486

At May 2005 the school had 49 applicants for September 2005 admission out of a total of 60 places available.

The Long Term Enrolment can be calculated as follows:

P1 intake over the past 3 yrs = 146

$\frac{146 \times 7}{3} = 341$

Allowing for the recalculation of the LTE to take account of the 8% reduction in the primary aged pupils in Ards Borough Council vies

Reduced Long Term Enrolment = 313

Based on the distribution of pupils from the three primary schools in the 2003/2004 academic year the following was established:

82.78% of all children in Donaghadee and 1.59% of children in Millisle went to Donaghadee Primary School.

The religious breakdown of the Donaghadee and Millisle areas are 90% protestant and 6% catholic in Donaghadee and 91% protestant and 3% catholic in Millisle.

Therefore

(470 houses in Donaghadee x 90%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure) x 82.78%
gives 78 additional children from Donaghadee.

(224 houses in Millisle x 91%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure) x 1.59%
gives 1 additional children from Millisle

The long term enrolment figure for Donaghadee Primary School is therefore

$$341 + 78 + 1 = 420$$

The reduced long term enrolment figure is

$$313 + 78 + 1 = 392$$

The school's enrolment figure is 466 and the admissions number 60. There is currently an overall surplus of 100 places. The LTE would suggest that the school would move from the 17 classbase category, i.e. 466 – 495 pupils to a 14 classbase school, i.e. 381 – 410.

The mean LTE is 406 which is a 14 classbase school.

A3 Millisle Primary School

Background

Millisle Primary School was built in 1959. It comprises 6 permanent classrooms, 3 temporary classrooms, one is used as a library another is used as a technology suite, assembly/dining hall, kitchen, pupil/staff toilets and offices.

The school is situated on a site of 0.39 hectares and the total internal floor area is 912.07m² (recommended minimum 1.06 hectares for a 9 classbase school). The SEELB is the titleholder of the site.

The most recent building condition survey indicated that the main school building is in reasonable condition but requires immediate attention to the glazing, fire fighting equipment and the fencing around the grounds. Repairs required in the near future would include redecoration both externally and internally, resurfacing, replacement insulation of the heating system, major work to the mechanical infrastructure, and work to a built up felt roof (flat). The total cost of all repairs would be £ 62,807.

The temporary classrooms at the school are over thirty years old and are not suitable for the delivery of the full Northern Ireland Curriculum.

Two of the permanent classrooms and all temporary classrooms are below the 60m² minimum as set out in the Building Handbook. The staffroom is also undersized as is the assembly hall which is grossly undersized.

There are no toilet facilities in the temporary accommodation resulting in the pupils having to go to the main school building.

In 2003 the school had a nursery unit added costing £90,000, funding for this project was received from the European Regional Development Fund.

Enrolments

There are currently 112 pupils enrolled at the school (as per DE's statistical return). Based on 2003/04 pupil address data 86% of the pupils reside in Millisle. The remaining 14% of pupils reside in the surrounding areas of Donaghadee, Carrowdore and Newtownards.

	Yr1	Yr2	Yr3	Yr4	Yr5	Yr6	Yr7	Total
2004/05	20	12	24	16	15	9	16	112
2003/04	14	20	17	21	13	15	16	116
2002/03	21	17	24	13	18	16	22	131
2001/02	20	23	15	19	17	25	23	142
2000/01	19	18	19	18	23	25	16	138
1999/00	17	18	17	24	23	17	24	140
1998/99	18	13	23	20	17	24	19	134
1997/98	11	20	23	17	24	17	32	145

At May 2005 the school had 17 applicants for September 2005 admission out of a total of 30 places available.

The Long Term Enrolment can be calculated as follows:

P1 intake over the past 3 yrs = 55

$\frac{55 \times 7}{3}$ = 128

Long Term Enrolment = 128

Allowing for the recalculation of the LTE to take account of the 8% reduction in the primary aged pupils in Ards Borough Council vies

Reduced Long Term Enrolment = 118

Based on the distribution of pupils from the three primary schools in the 2003/2004 academic year the following was established:

2.87% of all children in Donaghadee and 80.95% of children in Millisle went to Millisle Primary School.

The religious breakdown of the Donaghadee and Millisle areas are 90% protestant and 6% catholic in Donaghadee and 91% protestant and 3% catholic in Millisle.

Therefore

(470 houses in Donaghadee x 90%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure) x 2.87%
gives 3 additional children from Donaghadee.

(224 houses in Millisle x 91%) x 0.223 (DE extraction figure) x 80.95%
gives 38 additional children from Millisle

The long term enrolment figure for Millisle Primary School is therefore

$128 + 38 + 3 = 169$

The reduced long term enrolment figure is

$118 + 38 + 3 = 159$

The school's enrolment figure is 225 and the admissions number 30. There is currently an overall surplus of 113 places. The LTE would suggest that the school would move from the 8 classbase category, i.e. 206 - 230 pupils to a 6 classbase school, i.e. 146 - 175 pupils.

The mean LTE is 164 which is a 6 classbase school.

APPENDIX B – POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

B1 Donaghadee High School

Donaghadee High School was built in 1956 and extensions were added to the school in 1977. The school shares its site with Donaghadee Primary School on a 3.77 hectare combined site. The SEELB is the titleholder of the site.

The school's accommodation is split over two floors and has a separate dining hall and kitchen located on site. The teaching accommodation comprises 3 science rooms, 10 general classrooms, lecture theatre, careers room, 1 technical design, 2 manufacturing, 1 music, 2 IT, 1 home economics, 2 art, 1 assembly, 1 gym, 1 special needs plus all the associated support rooms for the teaching spaces. There is a single temporary building located on the school site however this is used for non teaching purposes.

Donaghadee High School has a special needs unit located at the school which it "inherited" from Scrabo High School after its closure in the early 1990s'. The unit provides educational support to those pupils with moderate learning difficulties.

The school has a total permanent floor area of approximately 5,075m².

Historically over half of the pupils attending Donaghadee High School have transferred from schools close to the school, i.e. Ballyvester, Donaghadee and Millisle Primary School. The remaining pupils come from other primary schools in the Bangor and Newtownards areas such as Ballyholme, Londonderry, Clandeboye, Loughries, etc.

There is no condition survey of the school available at this time to give an indication of those areas which require attention however overall condition of the school building is fair as a result of the Board carrying out planned maintenance such as replacing the windows and carrying out work to the roof.

Enrolments

As of October 2004 there were 210 mainstream pupils enrolled at the school (as per DE's statistical return), plus 49 pupils attending the special unit. The Department of Education indicates that the school has the capacity to hold 380 pupils and has an admission number of 76.

Year	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	L6	Total	SU
2004/2005	24	38	35	60	45	8	210	49
2003/2004	36	33	43	45	63	4	270	46
2002/2003	37	45	33	62	60	8	284	39
2001/2002	58	38	58	62	56	8	323	43
2000/2001	39	61	57	59	76	7	332	33
1999/2000	61	53	58	76	61	12	348	27
1998/1999	46	49	66	61	59	10	314	23
1997/1998	50	62	51	58	94		327	12
1996/1997	55	45	58	46	80		284	

At September 2005 the school had 36 applicants for September 2005 admission out of a total of 76 places available.

The long term enrolment for Donaghadee High School indicates a school of 178 pupils plus a special unit however there are a number of housing developments which will impact on the high school. These developments will generate additional 32 children who will require a place at the school and this in turn will raise the LTE to 210. The LTE range for this school is 202 to 210 plus 50 children with special educational needs.

B2 Movilla High School

Movilla High School was built in 1932 and extensions were added to the school in 1972 and 1992. The school site is approximately 2.54 hectares and is split in two by a main road with access to the playing fields via a raised walkway over the road.

The school's accommodation is split into several two storey blocks and has a separate dining hall and kitchen located on site. The teaching accommodation comprises 7 science rooms, 20 general classrooms, careers room, 2 geography, 3 manufacturing, 2 music, 2 IT, 1 systems, 4 home economics, 3 art, 2 gyms, 2 business studies, 3 social studies plus all the associated support rooms for the teaching spaces. There is a single temporary building located on the school site however this is used as youth accommodation.

The school has a total permanent floor area of approximately 9,674m².

Movilla High School attracts the majority of its pupils from primary schools within Newtownards, i.e. Abbey, Loughries, Castle Gardens, Londonderry, Model, West Winds and Victoria Primary Schools.

The school has been well maintained by the Board over the years however the most recent building condition survey indicated that approximately £86,750 still needed to be spent on the property on areas such as decoration, the roofs, internal and external walls and some internal joinery items.

Enrolments

As of October 2004 there were 779 pupils enrolled at the school (as per DE's statistical return). The Department of Education indicates that the school has the capacity to hold 900 pupils and has an admission number of 180.

Year	F1	F2	F3	F4	F5	Total
2004/2005	127	160	152	164	176	779
2003/2004	159	158	168	178	171	834
2002/2003	157	173	178	174	170	852
2001/2002	175	177	178	172	171	873
2000/2001	181	180	179	173	178	891
1999/2000	183	175	176	178	178	890
1998/1999	176	180	180	180	179	895
1997/1998	180	178	180	180	170	888
1996/1997	176	175	178	174	155	858

At September 2005 the school had 98 applicants for September 2005 admission out of a total of 180 places available.

The long term enrolment for Movilla High School indicates a school of 777 pupils however there are a number of housing developments which will impact on the high school. These developments will generate additional children who will require a place at the school and this in turn will raise the LTE to 862. The LTE range for this school is 822 to 884.