

COPY OF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Cover Note

DP No.	DP 612 (Fermanagh & Omagh Local Government District)	
School	Maguiresbridge Primary School	
	DP 612 - Maguiresbridge Primary School will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.	
Minister's Decision	Approved	
Date of Decision	13 August 2021	
Minister's Comments	Approved	
Additional notes		
Information redacted	Some information and personal data may have been removed in line with the principles of the Freedom of Information and Data Protection Act.	
	Key	Details
	■	redaction
	*	refers to less than five cases where data is considered sensitive
	#	means figure has been suppressed to prevent disclosure of sensitive information under rules of disclosure

From: EAMONN BRODERICK
Area Planning Team (South-West Region)

(Cleared by Janis Scallon 4 August 2021)

Date: 4 August 2021

To: MICHELLE MCILVEEN MLA
Minister of Education

Copy distribution below:

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL (DP) 612 – MAGUIRESBRIDGE PRIMARY
SCHOOL (PS), CO FERMANAGH

Issue: To decide on DP 612:

Maguiresbridge Primary School (PS) will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Timescale: Routine.

Financial /Resource Implications: Capital: No additional classrooms are required; however, the school intends to apply to the Education Authority (EA) for additional toilets.

Resource: No additional teaching staff are required.

Transport: Additional transport costs are likely to be minimal.

FOI Implications: The content of this submission is likely to be fully disclosable.

Statutory Duty Implications: The Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

Article 44 of the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986

**Presentational
Issues:**

It is likely that there will be local media interest in your decision. Should any queries arise, the Press Office can refer to this submission and liaise with officials.

(Cleared with Press Office).

Recommendation: It is recommended that you:

- (i) approve DP No 612 that:

Maguiresbridge PS will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

- (ii) agree that this submission (with any appropriate redactions) can be published on the Department's website once the Education Authority and the school have been informed of your decision.

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Appendices

Appendix A - Copy of Published DP 612

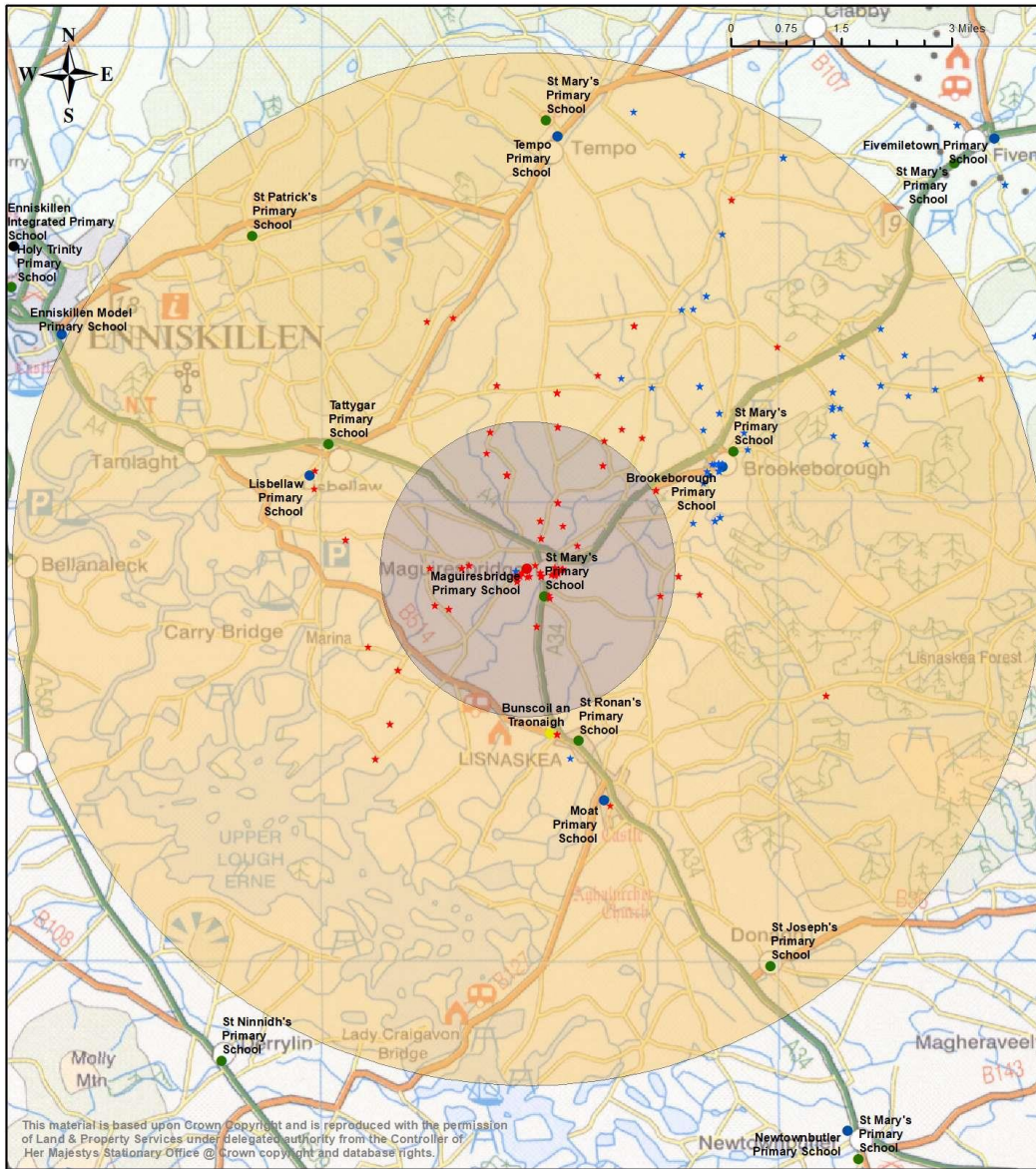
Appendix B - Case for Change for DP 612

Appendix C - Responses received during the Two Month Objection Period

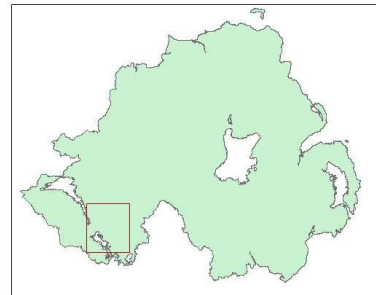
Appendix D - Education and Training Inspectorate Comments

Appendix E - DE (Policy Team) Comments

Maguiresbridge Primary School - Alternative Provision 2 & 5 Mile Buffers & Pupil Locations



- Maguiresbridge Primary School
- ★ Maguiresbridge PS Pupil Location
- ★ Brookeborough PS Pupil Location
- Controlled
- Roman Catholic Managed
- Controlled Integrated
- Grant Maintained Integrated
- Other Managed
- Voluntary
- 2 Mile Buffer Maguiresbridge PS
- 5 Mile Buffer Maguiresbridge PS



INTRODUCTION

1. On 24 March 2021, the Education Authority (EA) published Development Proposal (DP) 612 proposing that:

Maguiresbridge Primary School will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

2. The statutory two-month objection period for this proposal commenced on the date of publication and ended on 24 May 2021. A copy of the published DP and the proposer's Case for Change are reproduced at Appendices A and B respectively.

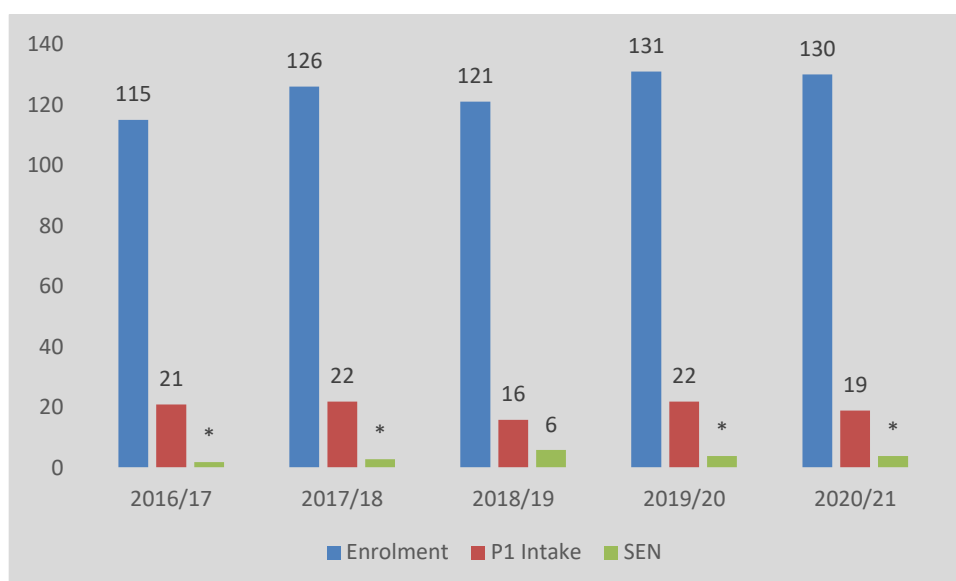
BACKGROUND

3. Maguiresbridge Primary School (PS) is a Controlled, non-denominational primary school on the outskirts of the village of Maguiresbridge, Co Fermanagh, as illustrated on Map 1.

Admissions and Enrolment

4. Maguiresbridge PS has approved admissions and enrolment numbers of 15 and 104 respectively. In 2020/21 there are a total of 130 pupils enrolled at the school, including 19 Year 1 pupils and four pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) at school census date. The school has no available places that could be applied for through the competitive admissions process.
5. Chart 1 below illustrates Maguiresbridge PS' admissions and enrolment trend over the last five years and shows that the school's admissions have ranged between 16 and 22 pupils. The school's total enrolment has increased from 115 in 2016/17 to 130 in 2020/21. These figures include a small number of pupils with Statements of SEN. Even excluding these pupils, Maguiresbridge PS' actual enrolment has equalled (2016/17) or exceeded (2017/18-2020/21) its approved number.
6. The school's approved enrolment number at 104 pupils is set just below the Schools for the Future: A Policy for Sustainable Schools (SSP) recommended minimum enrolment of 105 pupils for a sustainable rural primary school. DP 612 proposes to increase the school's approved enrolment number to 140 which would therefore exceed the SSP threshold.

Chart 1 – Maguiresbridge PS – Historical Admissions and Enrolments*



*Includes pupils with Statements of SEN

- In 2020/21, almost 15% (19 pupils) of the school's enrolment are entitled to Free School Meals (FSM).

AREA CONTEXT

- On the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2017 the Maguiresbridge Super Output Area is placed 394 out of 890 (1 being most deprived and 890 being least deprived).
- The EA's Annual Action Plan (AAP) for April 2019 to September 2022 features Maguiresbridge PS with a key issue to '*Ensure school places are located as required*'. An associated action is for the '*Managing authority to consult on an increase of admission number and enrolment number by January 2020*'.
- The EA's Strategic Area Plan 2017-2020¹ (the Area Plan) was published on 28 April 2017 and includes population projections provided by the NI Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) for the Fermanagh and Omagh Local Government District (LGD) area. The Area Plan indicates that the population of 0-15 year olds is projected to increase by 0.3% by 2024.
- NISRA projections for the former Fermanagh LGD, the smallest geographical area breakdown available in which Maguiresbridge PS is located, provides a better estimate of population numbers as set out in Table 1 below. The table shows the predicted increases and decreases in the school-age population for the periods 2018-2028 and 2018-2043. Table 2 shows a reduction of -5.2% in the 0-15 age group to 2028 and -13.6% to 2043.

¹ The Strategic Area Plan contained three Annual Action Plans with a timeline for implementation extended to 2022

Table 1 – 2018-Based Population Projections for the former Fermanagh LGD

Age Group	2018	2019	2020	2028	2043
Aged 11	858	896	898	875	755
0 to 15	13,721	13,733	13,784	13,012	11,854
16 to 19	3,098	3,278	3,092	3,480	2,945

Source: <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2018-based-population-projections-areas-within-northern-ireland>

Table 2 - Population Change by Age

Age Group	2018 to 2028		2018 to 2043	
	Individuals	Percentage	Individuals	Percentage
Aged 11	17	1.9	-103	-12.0
0 to 15	-709	-5.2	-1,867	-13.6
16 to 19	382	12.3	-153	-4.9

Source: <https://www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/2018-based-population-projections-areas-within-northern-ireland>

Alternative Primary Schools in the Area

- Map 1 illustrates all alternative primary provision in the area within a five mile mapping radius, although distances by road may exceed this. Map 1 includes pupil location data for Maguiresbridge PS and those attending Brookeborough PS, the nearest alternative Controlled primary school. In addition, a snapshot of total provision in the area detailing the admissions and enrolment data and the latest Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) inspection assessment at each school is provided in Table 3 below.

Alternative Controlled Primary Provision

- There are five alternative Controlled primary schools within a five mile mapping radius of Maguiresbridge PS as illustrated on Map 1. Enniskillen Model PS is just on the edge of the 5 mile mapping radius but is 8.2 miles away by road. The closest alternative Controlled provision is at Brookeborough PS 3.4 miles away. The actual enrolments at this school and Tempo PS are below each school's approved enrolment number and the SSP recommended minimum threshold.
- Table 3 shows that the total approved enrolments for 2020/21 for Controlled provision in this area is 1,208 and in 2020/21 there are 1,044 pupils enrolled. At Year 1, there are 170 approved places and 144 first preference applications for 2021/22.
- Taking account of pupils with a statement of SEN, as evidenced in Table 3, each alternative Controlled primary school has available places. There are 220 available places in total in the Controlled sector in 2020/21 that pupils could apply for through the competitive admissions process.

Catholic Maintained Primary Provision

17. Map 1 illustrates that there are seven alternative Catholic Maintained primary schools within a five mile mapping radius of Maguiresbridge PS. St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge is the closest Maintained PS at only 0.6 miles away. Table 3 shows that in 2020/21 the enrolments at four of the schools are above the SSP recommended minimum enrolment of 105 for a sustainable rural primary school.
18. The enrolments of St Mary's PS Brookeborough, Tattygar PS and St Joseph's PS, Donagh are all below the SSP recommended minimum threshold for a sustainable rural primary school. In 2020/21 there are a total of 311 available places in the Catholic Maintained sector. At Year 1, there are 180 approved places and 144 first preference applications for 2021/22.

Irish-medium (IM) Provision

19. Bunscoil an Tranaigh is over two miles from Maguiresbridge PS. This school's enrolment for 2020/21 is 61 pupils, however, with an approved enrolment of only 58, this school has no available places in 2020/21.

Table 3 - Maguiresbridge PS – Snapshot of Alternative Primary Provision (Wider Context)

Ref No	School	Postcode	Distance in Miles New Site (Google maps)	2020/21 & 2021/22 Approved Enrolment Numbers	2018/19 Actual Enrolment (includes SN)	2019/20 Actual Enrolment (includes SN)	2020/21 Actual Enrolment (includes SN)	2020/21 Super numerary pupils	2020/21 Available Places	2020/21 Actual Admissions (includes SN)	2020/21 & 2021/22 Approved Admissions Numbers	2021/22 Total First Preference Applications	2021/22 Over/Under Subscribed at First Preference	ETI reports publication date / assessment
Controlled Sector														
201-6127	Maguiresbridge PS	BT94 4PJ	-	104	121	131	130	*	0	19	15	15	-	May 2018 - ASOS Sept 2011 - Very Good.
201-1894	Brookeborough PS	BT94 4EZ	3.4	116	72	66	63	*	55	*	17	13	Under - 4	Mar 2017 - ASOS. Sept 2013 - Very Good.
201-1789	Moat PS, Lisnaskea	BT92 0JH	3.8	195	127	142	144	9	60	22	28	18	Under - 10	May 2018 - ASOS. Nov 2011 - Outstanding.
201-6218	Lisbellaw PS	BT94 5BF	3.9	232	188	182	195	7	44	31	30	24	Under - 6	Nov 2018 - Demonstrates a high level of capacity for sustained improvement.
201-6102	Tempo PS	BT94 3LU	6.4	141	102	97	93	*	51	13	20	8	Under - 12	Oct 2017 - Demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement.
201-6152	Enniskillen Model PS	BT74 6HZ	8.2	420	429	430	419	9	10	66	60	66	Over - 6	May 2017 - ASOS. Oct 2010 - Very Good.
Total Controlled Sector				1208	1039	1048	1044	34	220	155	170	144		
Catholic Maintained Sector														
203-1895	St Mary's PS Maguirebridge	BT94 4RG	0.6	134	110	122	128	6	8	18	19	20	Over - 1	May 2017 - ASOS. Sept 2013 - Outstanding.
203-1901	St Ronan's PS, Lisnaskea	BT92 0LA	3	406	322	330	325	13	94	45	58	37	Under - 21	Jan 2020 - ASOS. May 2017 - ASOS June 2011 - Outstanding.
203-1876	St Mary's PS, Brookeborough	BT94 4HY	3.4	138	53	57	63	6	81	11	20	6	Under - 14	May 2018 - ASOS. June 2012 - Good.
203-1863	Tattygar PS	BT94 5GT	3.8	73	73	72	72	*	*	12	10	11	Over - 1	Mar 2017 - ASOS. Sept 2013 - Very Good.
203-6356	St Mary's PS, Tempo	BT94 3HU	6.7	175	136	136	146	9	38	15	25	28	Over - 3	Oct 2018 - ASOS. Oct 2015 - Demonstrates the capacity to identify and bring about improvement.
203-1828	St Patrick's PS, Mullanaska	BT74 4FD	7.2	174	197	195	203	6	0	33	25	21	Under - 4	March 2017 - ASOS Mar 2009 - Good.
203-6107	St Joseph's PS, Donagh	BT92 5BE	7.3	158	90	86	77	6	87	10	23	9	Under - 14	Feb 2018 - ASOS. Oct 2011 - Good.
Total Catholic Maintained Sector				1258	981	998	1014	48	311	144	180	132		

Ref No	School	Postcode	Distance in Miles New Site (Google maps)	2020/21 & 2021/22 Approved Enrolment Numbers	2018/19 Actual Enrolment (includes SN)	2019/20 Actual Enrolment (includes SN)	2020/21 Actual Enrolment (includes SN)	2020/21 Super numerary pupils	2020/21 Available Places	2020/21 Actual Admissions (includes SN)	2020/21 & 2021/22 Approved Admissions Numbers	2021/22 Total First Preference Applications	2021/22 Over/Under Subscribed at First Preference	ETI reports publication date / assessment
Irish Medium Sector														
204-6669	Bunscoil an Traonaigh, Lisnaskea	BT92 OPE	2.5	58	59	60	61	0	0	8	15	6	Under - 9	Jan 2019 - ASOS. June 2012 - Good
Total Irish Medium Sector				58	59	60	61	0	0	8	15	6		
Grand Totals				2524	2079	2106	2119	82	531	307	365	282		

Action Short of Strike - ASOS.

2021/22 1st Pref. Info provided by the EA Primary Schools Admissions office on 7.5.2021 (info at the conclusion of the Primary School admissions process)

Actual enrolments and admissions include supernumerary (SN) pupils.

Brookeborough PS and St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge have both admitted reception age pupils in the last 3 years. Brookeborough PS admitted * reception age pupil in both the 2018/19 and 2019/20 school years. St Mary's PS admitted * reception age pupils in both the 2018/19 and 2019/20 school years and * reception age pupils in the 2020/21 school year.

Brookeborough PS and St Mary's PS, Brookeborough are part of a Shared Education Campus scheme.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

20. Rural proofing has been a requirement for all Government Departments in Northern Ireland since 2002 and has been an integral part of the policy development process. In 2016 the commitment to rural proofing was strengthened with the introduction of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016, 'The Act'. The Act places a duty on Government Departments to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans and when designing and delivering public services. It came into operation for Government Departments and District Councils on 1 June 2017 and applied to public authorities from 1 June 2018.
21. Maguiresbridge PS is located near Enniskillen and is defined as rural under the SSP, under the NISRA definitions the school is situated in the Maguiresbridge Super Output Area and is also classified as rural.

Effective and Efficient Use of Public Funds

22. The Department of Education (the Department) must be mindful of its duty under Article 44 of the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986 and under Managing Public Money to ensure effective and efficient use of public funds.
23. More detail on the financial implications associated with the proposal are included at paragraphs 86-88 below.

CASE FOR CHANGE

24. The Case for Change sets out the EA's rationale for the proposed increase at Maguiresbridge PS, as follows:
 - Maguiresbridge PS has experienced an increase in pupil numbers over the past number of years;
 - The school has received temporary variations to increase both the admissions and enrolment numbers;
 - The school is a sustainable school with numbers exceeding its admissions and enrolment numbers;
 - To meet the demand in the area, a permanent increase is required; and
 - This will provide stability to parents applying for admissions to Year 1 as currently the demand outweighs the approved admissions numbers, parents are anxious in seeking admission to the school – this also places pressures on the school.
25. The Case for Change is reproduced in full at Appendix B.

STATUTORY DP PROCESSES

Pre-publication Consultation

26. In accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries Order (NI) 1986, the EA consulted with the Board of Governors (BOGs), teachers and parents/guardians, as well as with 20 local schools which they deemed could be affected by the proposal. A pre-publication consultation questionnaire was distributed and available on the EA's website for the period 26 February – 7 May 2020.
27. Due to Covid-19, the closure of all schools effective from 23 March 2020 and Area Planning activity being temporarily stood down, the EA suspended the pre-publication consultation on 25 March 2020.
28. The Case for Change states that following the resumption of Area Planning activity, the EA restarted the pre-publication consultation for Maguiresbridge PS, running for a full eight weeks, from 11 November 2020 to 20 January 2021, with the BoG, staff and parents of Maguiresbridge PS and with the BoGs and Trustees of other schools likely to be affected via a letter and a consultation questionnaire.
29. The EA received 61 responses – 59 from associates of Maguiresbridge PS, one for St Mary's PS and one from the Controlled Schools' Support Council (CSSC). The CSSC welcomes the careful consideration that has been given to the close proximity of Brookeborough PS and states that *'it will be important that any potential impact on the Shared Campus remains a consideration'*. All agreed with the proposal and a summary of the emerging themes is set out in the Case for Change reproduced at Appendix B.

EA's Comments

30. The EA, as the proposer, supports DP 612 to increase Maguiresbridge PS' admissions and enrolment numbers with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Two-Month Statutory Objection Period

31. The two-month statutory objection period for this proposal commenced on the date of publication and ended on 24 May 2021. During this period, a letter of support was received from the Chairperson of the BoG of Maguiresbridge PS. The governors endorse the proposal and advise that the population in the village has been increasing mainly due to new and affordable housing but due to the school's low enrolment numbers in the past, the school has had to turn away pupils from their local school. The governors feel that the proposal will benefit not only the school but the whole community of Maguiresbridge.
32. A letter of support was also received from the CSSC. CSSC notes that in recent years Maguiresbridge PS has been in receipt of temporary variations to meet the increased demand for places as a result of an increase in population in the local area.

33. CSSC considers that it will alleviate pressures on the school and provide reassurance for parents applying for admissions to Year 1 where demand outweighs the current approved admissions number.

34. Responses are reproduced in full at Appendix C.

SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

35. The Department's SSP sets out six criteria supported by quantitative and qualitative indicators, which provide the framework for consideration of a school's longer-term sustainability. The primary objective of the policy is to ensure that all children and young people receive a high quality education in schools that are educationally and financially viable in the longer term. An assessment of Maguiresbridge PS against the six sustainability criteria and their associated indicators is as follows:

Criterion 1 - Quality Education Experience

36. The ETI carried out an inspection of Maguiresbridge PS in September 2011 and, although this evidence is now dated, the quality of education provided by the school was assessed as 'Very Good'. The ETI concluded that the *'school is meeting very effectively the educational and pastoral needs of the children and has demonstrated its capacity for sustained self-improvement'*.

37. In May 2018, the ETI attempted to carry out an inspection of Maguiresbridge PS but this was hampered by industrial action. The ETI reported that they were unable to assure parents/carers, the wider school community and stakeholders of the quality of education being provided for the children.

Special Education Needs (SEN)

38. In 2020/21, Maguiresbridge PS has * pupils enrolled with a Statement of SEN and a further 22 pupils at SEN Stages 1-4. The ETI inspection in September 2011 reported that *'The provision for special educational needs is good. The children's needs are identified early and a variety of good programmes of support are in place. Most of the teachers meet the individual needs of children effectively; this good practice needs to be embedded in all of the classes.'*

Teaching Staff

39. The Case for Change advises that *'currently the school operates as a 5.4 teacher school with a teaching Principal. Therefore, there will be no additional staffing requirements.'*

40. Statistics confirm that in 2020/21 the school employs 5.4 full-time equivalent teaching staff including a teaching Principal which is above the minimum of four teachers at primary school level recommended in the SSP.

Pastoral Care

41. The ETI Inspection Report of September 2011 states that the ‘*The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care is very good*’ at Maguiresbridge PS and ‘*the school has very good arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements reflect the child protection guidance issued by the Department of Education (DE)*’.

Composite Classes

42. The SSP recommends that there should be no more than two composite year groups in a single classroom at primary school level. Table 4 below sets out the composite classes at Maguirebridge PS. Although the school operates five composite classes, each class only includes two year groups.

Table 4: Maguirebridge PS – Composite Classes

P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total
0	20	7	0	0	0	0	27
19	*	0	0	0	0	0	21
0	0	9	21	0	0	0	30
0	0	0	0	18	10	0	28
0	0	0	0	0	5	19	24
19	2*	16	21	18	15	19	130

Extra-Curricular Activities

43. Maguiresbridge PS’ website states that the school offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities. Pupils in P4-P7 can choose from a menu of crafts, fishing, drama, hockey, netball, photography, computers, music, gardening, beauty, knitting, cookery and technology.

Criterion 2 – Stable Enrolment Trends

44. Maguiresbridge PS currently has an approved enrolment number of 104. Table 5 sets out the school’s enrolment for the last five years and shows that even when pupils with a Statement of SEN are excluded, the school’s enrolment has been consistently above its approved enrolment number. Even though the school’s current approved enrolment caps it below the SSP threshold, its actual enrolment has consistently exceeded this threshold.

45. Table 5 also shows that the school’s P1 intake has ranged between 16 and 22 pupils, thus exceeding its admissions number of 15.

Table 5: Maguiresbridge PS - Historical Admissions and Enrolments

Year	P1 Pupil Intake	Enrolment (excl SEN Statements)	Pupils with a Statement of SEN	Total
2016/17	21	113	*	115
2017/18	22	123	*	126
2018/19	16	115	6	121
2019/20	22	127	*	131
2020/21	19	126	*	130

Temporary Variations (TVs)

46. If a school receives more applications than it has places available it can request a TV to its admissions and/or enrolment number from the Department. The Department may approve TVs to a school's numbers to respond to particular demographic pressures in an area in a particular year.
47. Table 6 shows that Maguiresbridge PS has been granted TVs to its enrolment number in each of the last five years. TVs were also granted to its admissions number in three of the five years.
48. Most primary schools have a variance to their admissions number (unless capped for class size purposes), which they aren't obliged to use. If a school wants to use the variance, then it can only do so if the approved enrolment number isn't exceeded. As Maguiresbridge PS' enrolment exceeds its approved enrolment number, a TV is required for any admissions over 15 pupils.

Table 6 – Maguiresbridge PS, – Historical TVs

Year	Approved Admissions	Approved Enrolment	TV Admissions*	TV Enrolment*
2017/18	15 to 18	104	22	123
2018/19	15 to 18	104		116
2019/20	15 to 18	104	22	127
2020/21	15 to 18	104	17 **	126
2021/22	15 to 18	104		122

*Excludes pupils with a statement of SEN and those admitted by appeal

** A pupil became supernumerary, therefore reverting the admissions number to 17

First Preference Applications

49. Table 7 shows the first preference applications and total applications received over a five year period, evidencing that Maguiresbridge PS is a popular choice for parents. The school has been oversubscribed at first preference stage from 2017/18 to 2020/21, however, 15 applications have been received and accepted for 2021/22, in line with the school's current admissions number.

Table 7 – Maguiresbridge PS – Historical First Preference Applications

Year	Approved Admissions	First Preferences	Total Applications (all preferences)	Total Admissions*
2017/18	15 to 18	21	21	21
2018/19	15 to 18	16	16	15
2019/20	15 to 18	22	22	22
2020/21	15 to 18	19	19	18
2021/22	15 to 18	15	15	15

*Excludes pupils with a statement of SEN and those admitted by appeal

Criterion 3 – Sound Financial Position

50. The school's **Provisional** Surplus budget position as at 31 March 2021 is £3,219. The school's Surplus in the previous year, up to 31 March 2020 was £19,658.

51. The school received a total delegated budget of £448,797 in the 2021/22 financial year for **130²** FTE pupils, which generates a per capita of £3,452. The average for all primary schools is £3,408.

52. The total Free School Meals Entitlement for the school is **19³** pupils, which represents 14.62% of the total FTE, which places the school in Band 1 for funding purposes.

53. The school received £42,336 for Small Schools Support funding, which represents 85% of the maximum funding for this factor, within the Nursery & Primary funding stream. The school also received £13,957 in respect of Primary Principals' Release Time.

54. Increased enrolments for an individual school typically has limited impact on the Aggregated Schools Budget (ASB) for schools – as these pupils would be educated and funded elsewhere. All other financial considerations (including any in-year costs for pupil growth, in the context of a school with an approved DP to increase its enrolment) would be for the EA to consider as Funding Authority for the school.

Criterion 4 – Strong Leadership and Management by Boards of Governors and Principals

55. The ETI Inspection carried out in September 2011 assessed the quality of leadership and management as very good.

^{2 2} The school's funding allocation is based on the previous year's census data (e.g. the October 2020 census data was used to determine the 2021-22 CFF allocation). **The census data on the Schools+ database relates to an academic year, as opposed to the financial year.** In addition, differences between funded pupils and total pupils within the census count may occur for a number of reasons, including, but not limited to, zero rated pupils, some reception pupils, and over age pupils (paragraph 7 of Annex B to the Common Funding Scheme refers).

56. The ETI's evaluation at the time of the inspection states that *'the Principal, who is also the literacy co-ordinator provides outstanding leadership' and 'the governors and parents contribute significantly to the governance and life of the school.'*

Criterion 5 – Accessibility

57. Map 1 shows the location of the pupils who currently attend Maguiresbridge PS and that all pupils live within five miles of the school with the majority living within three miles.

58. Travel times to Maguiresbridge PS are therefore likely to be within the home to school travel time of 30 minutes, as set out in the SSP.

Criterion 6 – Strong Links with the Community

59. The Case for Change states that the school has links with the community and has been part of the Shared Education Signature Programme (SESP) in partnership with St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge since 2016. The schools have a joint choir which performs at the switching on of the Christmas lights in the village.

60. The Parent Support Group (PSG) use the school premises regularly to hold classes in yoga and keep fit for the wider community. The school hall is also used by many church groups.

61. The school annually completes the Business Beginnings Programme with Young Enterprise and engages with local business in the area. Maguiresbridge Running Club grew out of the extended schools funding accessed by the school and the club use the school premises regularly.

62. The ETI inspection carried out in September 2011 states that *'The highly effective links with parents and the wider community support well the development of the children's personal and social skills.'*

Sustainability Summary

63. The quality of education at Maguiresbridge PS was assessed as 'Very Good' by the ETI in September 2011. Although the school's enrolment is capped just below the SSP's recommended minimum threshold, its actual enrolment exceeds this. Maguiresbridge PS is a popular school evidenced by the oversubscription of first preference applications which historically have exceeded the school's admissions number. TVs have been granted in the last five years to the school's enrolment number although only 15 pupils have applied for 2021/22.

64. There are no concerns about the school's budget position or about the quality of leadership and management at the school. There are no accessibility issues for pupils at Maguiresbridge PS and there is evidence of links with the local community.

ANALYSIS OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016

65. The Department's SSP policy was assessed at the time of development against the Rural Development Council's 'Striking the Balance' report and rural proofing checklist and no adverse impact was identified. The needs of rural communities are reflected in the SSP through the lower enrolment threshold for rural primary schools; the accessibility criterion (which provides guidance on home to school travel times); and the criterion strong links with the community (which also recognises the central place a school has for many communities (rural and urban)).
66. The Government's commitment to rural proofing was strengthened with the introduction of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 ("The Act"). The Act requires public authorities to have 'due regard' to consciously consider the needs of people in rural areas when developing policies, strategies and plans and when designing and delivering public services. It defines 'rural needs' as "the social and economic needs of rural areas".
67. The Case for Change confirms that equality screening of the proposal was carried out and the statutory requirements of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 (where appropriate) have been considered.
68. DP 612 proposes to increase the number of Controlled places in an area classified as rural under the SSP. There would not therefore be any adverse impact on the needs of people in the area.

Effective and Efficient use of Public Funds

69. In discharging its duties, the Department must seek to avoid unreasonable public expenditure and to make the best use of resources available to it.
70. Further details on the financial implications of the proposal are set out at paragraph 86-88 below. The Case for Change states that no additional classrooms would be required should the proposal be approved and there are no additional staffing requirements however, the school will apply to the EA for additional toilets. An assessment conducted by Estates Advisory Branch (EAB) has concluded that the school would require an additional toilet entitlement involving 1no. additional class toilets and cloak space @15m².
71. The per capita figure for Maguiresbridge PS, based on the school's 2021/22 budget allocation is £3,452. The average for all primary schools is £3,408.
72. Increased enrolments for an individual school typically has limited impact on the ASB as these pupils would be educated and funded elsewhere.
73. Although there are available places in the alternative Controlled schools in the area, the closest primary school Brookeborough PS is over three miles away.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Demand

74. Demand for places at Maguiresbridge PS has historically been clearly demonstrated. The school's actual enrolment has increased from 115 in 2016/17 to 130 pupils in 2020/21, although this includes a small number of pupils with a statement of SEN. Even when these are excluded, the school's actual enrolment is well above its approved enrolment of 104. Admissions to the school have also risen ranging between 16 and 22 with the number of first preference applications each year historically exceeding its admissions number, however, only 15 first preference applications were received for 2021/22, in line with the school's admissions number. TVs have been granted each year to the school's approved enrolment number but TVs have only been granted to the school's admissions number in three out of the last five years.
75. The Case for Change states that a permanent increase in admissions and enrolment numbers is required to meet the demand in the area. It advises that planning has been granted to create an affordable housing development with over 50 units near to the primary school. Pre-consultation responses commented on young families coming into the area as a result of increased housing and during the two month objection period both the governors and the CCSC commented on an increase in population in the area. However, housing development will not, of itself, necessarily translate into reliable evidence of the need for school places, as matters such as age demographics of those who may move into a development and expressions of parental preference for particular types of education provision will have a bearing on demand.
76. As set out above, population projections for the former Fermanagh LGD, the smallest geography available show a reduction in the 0-15 age group of 5.2% to 2028 and -13.6% to 2043.
77. The demand for Controlled primary schools generally in the area is detailed in the snapshot at Table 3 and in paragraphs 13-15. This reveals that there are 1,208 approved places and 1,044 pupils enrolled overall with 170 approved P1 places with 144 first preference applications for 2021/22. There were 220 available places in total in 2020/21 in the Controlled primary schools. It should be noted however, that the closest Controlled alternative primary provision is 3.4 miles away and the alternative provision included in these figures, although within a five mile mapping radius, includes primary schools up to over eight miles away by road.

Impact on Neighbouring Provision

Controlled Provision

78. In considering the impact of the proposal, the nearest Controlled primary school is Brookeborough PS. The Case for Change focuses on any potential impact on this school and St Mary's PS, Brookeborough which are progressing a shared campus through the Shared Education Campuses Programme (SECP).

The shared campus project is currently at business case stage and the Case for Change states that careful consideration has been given to the close proximity of Brookeborough PS. It is asserted that Brookeborough PS and Maguiresbridge PS have separate catchment areas. Map 1 plots the pupils of both schools and illustrates this to be mainly the case although it would suggest that there is a very minor overlap. Brookeborough PS did have 55 available places in 2020/21.

79. The Case for Change advises that *'the Education Authority and the Board of Governors of Maguiresbridge are mindful that the increase in admissions and enrolment should not have a negative impact on the Shared campus proposal for Brookeborough and would therefore suggest that enrolments in both the Maguiresbridge and Brookeborough villages be closely monitored'*.

Maintained Provision

80. There are seven Maintained primary schools within the vicinity of Maguiresbridge PS. St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge is the closest at only 0.6 miles away. The other schools are three miles or further away. The enrolment of St Mary's PS is above the SSP threshold and the school had eight available places in 2020/21.
81. There are 1,258 approved places in the Maintained primary schools and 311 available places in 2020/21.
82. Almost all pupils enrolled at Maguiresbridge PS are from a Protestant background and therefore DP 612 is unlikely to impact the schools in the Maintained sector.

Irish-medium (IM) Provision

83. There is one IM primary school in this area, Bunscoil an Tranonaigh with an enrolment of 61 pupils in 2020/21. There were no available places in this school in 2020/21. The proposed increase at a Controlled primary school is unlikely to have an impact on this IM school.

Educational Impact

84. The Case for Change states that the proposal will provide for the education needs of pupils in the area and will enable local pupils to attend their local school. It asserts that approval of TVs and projected increases within the area provides a rationale for a permanent increase to the school's admissions and enrolment numbers.
85. In providing comments on the proposal, the ETI states that *'The children may have access to a wider range of teacher specialist areas.'*

Financial Implications

86. The Case for Change states that the school is currently in a good financial position. There are no additional staffing requirements and no additional classrooms are required however, the school intends to apply to the EA's Minor Works Programme for additional toilets. The ETI has advised that '*The school building is relatively new with excellent accommodation in the indoor and outdoor areas*'.
87. The increase in transport costs is expected to be minimal. Implications for the Transport budget or Food In Schools budget would not be significant.
88. An increase in enrolment for an individual school typically has limited impact on the ASB as these pupils would otherwise be educated and funded elsewhere.

Shared Education

89. The EA has stated in the Case for Change that the school has links with the community and has been part of the Shared Education Signature Programme (SESP) in partnership with St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge since 2016. 10 of the 13 listed neighbouring schools are involved in Shared Education through SESP/ 2019/20 Pilot/ Transition Phase including Maguiresbridge Primary School.
90. Also, as stated above, a Shared Education Campus project is being progressed for Brookeborough PS and St Mary's PS, Brookeborough.

CONCLUSION

91. A central aim of Area Planning is to achieve a network of viable and sustainable schools that are of the right type, right size, located in the right place and have a focus on raising standards.
92. The proposal for Maguiresbridge PS has been planned for and features in the EA's extended Action Plan 2019-2022.
93. Maguiresbridge PS is a popular school and although its approved enrolment caps it just below the enrolment threshold for a sustainable rural primary school, its actual enrolment exceeds the threshold; and has done so since 2015/16. The quality of education provided by the school has been evaluated as 'very good', although this evidence is dated.
94. The demand for education at the school is evidenced by the historical oversubscription of first preference applications and its current enrolment exceeds its approved number. The school has been granted TVs to its enrolment number in the last five years, however, the school only received 15 applications for 2021/22. If approved, the proposal would normalise the pattern of admission and enrolment numbers the school has experienced and meet demand without the school having to rely on TVs each year.

95. Population projections for the former Fermanagh LGD, the smallest geographical area breakdown available show a reduction of -5.2% in the 0-15 age group to 2028 and -13.6% to 2043.
96. Responses received during the pre-publication consultation and the two-month statutory consultation as set out above, show that there is support for the proposal from associates of the school. The EA, as proposer also supports the proposal and letters of support were received from the CSSC during both consultations. No letters of objection were received.
97. A strategic objective of Area Planning, however, is to '*maximise the impact of available resources by reducing duplication of provision and the number of unfilled places.*' The analysis above indicates that there is demand for places at Maguiresbridge PS and although this will create additional approved places at the school, the school's actual enrolment for 2020/21 already stands at 130 with the proposed increase to 140. The proposal is unlikely to have any significant adverse impact on the sustainability of the neighbouring Controlled primary schools with the closest being over three miles away and indeed the Case for Change acknowledges the Brookeborough Shared Campus and states '*that enrolments in both the Maguiresbridge and Brookeborough villages be closely monitored.*'
98. There are no significant cost implications associated with the proposal.
99. Approval of the DP would enable the school's approved enrolment number to be set above the sustainability threshold of the SSP and therefore establish it as a sustainable school.

RECOMMENDATION

100. Taking into account the evidence set out above, to meet the evidenced demand for Controlled places at Maguiresbridge PS, it is recommended that you:
- (i) Approve DP 612 that:
- Maguiresbridge Primary School will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.***
- (ii) Agree that this submission (with any appropriate redactions) will be published on the Department's website once the EA and the school have been informed of your decision.

101. The following appendices are attached for your consideration:-

Appendix A - Copy of Published DP 612

Appendix B - Case for Change for DP 612

Appendix C - Responses received during the Two Month Objection Period

Appendix D - Education and Training Inspectorate Comment

Appendix E - DE (Policy Team) Comments



EAMONN BRODERICK

Area Planning Policy & Shared Education Campuses Team

Ext: 69002

Email: eamonn.broderick@education-ni.gov.uk

cc: Mark Browne (Dr)
Lianne Patterson
John Smith
Faustina Graham
Philip Irwin
Lorraine Finlay
Bill Stevenson
Scott Harbinson
Clare Baxter
SpAd
Press Office
APPT
Correspondence

EDUCATION AUTHORITY
DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 612
MAGUIRESBRIDGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Notice is hereby given that a Proposal under Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 has been submitted by the Education Authority to the effect that:

Maguiresbridge Primary School will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

A copy of the Proposal and Case for Change may be inspected at the offices of the Education Authority located at 1 Hospital Road, Omagh, BT79 0AW, between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.30 pm and www.eani.org.uk/school-management/area-planning.

Any objections or support to this Proposal should be lodged with the Area Planning Policy Team, Department of Education, Rathgael House, Balloo Road, Bangor, Co Down, BT19 7PR or emailed to dps@education-ni.gov.uk within two months of the date of publication of this notice. Any letters of objection or support may be published on the Department of Education's website, with appropriate redactions, if they are included in full in the submission on which the outcome of the proposal is decided.

The Department of Education and the Education Authority operate a regime of openness under the Freedom of Information Act. Letters of objection and information supplied to the Department of Education and the Education Authority may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, if requested. (A fee may be charged for supplying this information).

Sara Long
Chief Executive

Area Planning
Case for Change

Maguiresbridge Primary School

Development Proposal No 612

Proposal to: Increase Admission and Enrolment Numbers

Case for Change: Supporting Information - Summary/Overview	
Area Planning District	Fermanagh and Omagh
Development Proposal Number	DP 612
Proposer	Michele Corkey Director of Education Education Authority
School(s) Name	Maguiresbridge Primary School
School(s) Reference	203-1895
Sector	Primary
Management	Controlled
Development Proposal Publication Date	Week commencing 22 March 2021
Proposal	Maguiresbridge Primary School will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter

Case for Change: Statutory Consultation

Note: It may be necessary for documentary evidence to be provided to show that the statutory procedures have been followed. It is essential that relevant parties retain this information.

The following is to be completed by the Proposer and signed off by them.

EDUCATION AUTHORITY COMMENTARY ON PRE-PUBLICATION STATUTORY CONSULTATION

Proposer

Provide detail of consultation with the Board of Governors, teachers and parents of the affected school(s) – dates of meetings/letters. Good practice suggests all staff (including non-teaching) should be consulted as well as pupils.

Summary and assessment of views received – how were these taken into account before publication of the DP?

In accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, the Education Authority undertook pre-publication consultation with:

Staff: Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 26 February 2020
 Board of Governors: Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 26 February 2020
 Parents/Guardians: Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 26 February 2020
 Local Schools (20): Letter and Questionnaire: Thursday 27 February 2020

A pre-publication consultation questionnaire was distributed and available on the Education Authority's website for the period 26 February – 7 May 2020.

However, due to Covid-19, the closure of all schools effective from 23 March 2020 and area planning activity being temporarily stood down, the Education Authority suspended the pre-publication consultation on 25 March 2020.




Following the resumption of area planning activity, the Education Authority restarted the pre-publication consultation for Maguiresbridge PS, running for a full 8 weeks, from 11 November 2020 to 20 January 2021, with the Board of Governors, staff and parents of Maguiresbridge PS and with the Boards of Governors and Trustees of other schools likely to be affected.

The Education Authority undertook pre-publication consultation through a consultation questionnaire with:

Staff: Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 11 November 2020
 Board of Governors: Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 11 November 2020
 Parents/Guardians: Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 11 November 2020
 Local Schools (20): Letter and Questionnaire: Wednesday 11 November 2020

A pre-publication consultation questionnaire was distributed and available on the Education Authority's website for the period 11 November 2020 - 20 January 2021.

In total 61 responses were received. The information below provides a summary/emerging themes of the responses received.


		Agree	Disagree	Total								
	Governors – Maguiresbridge PS	3		3								
	Staff – Teaching and Non-Teaching – Maguiresbridge PS	9		9								
	Other – Local schools	1		1								
	Others - past pupils and parent of past pupil	4		4								
	Parents/Guardians	43		43								
	Other - Controlled Schools' Support Council	1		1								
	Total Responses	61		61								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A much needed increase in availability in our local area. • As a parent of the school this is a most necessary step. • Great school within our community and it will continue to go from strength to strength. • I think it is great as it gives the school more flexibility on intake and less risk of disappointment. • My children are now the third generation of our family to attend the primary school and it is wonderful to see it going from strength to strength. • The education and welfare of the pupils is always at the forefront of the school, but it also has its own local community. • Migration out of Fermanagh is high, and the fact that we currently have young families coming to the area, we want them to stay and be able to go to their local school. • Local children need to be placed in their local school, as if the children end up going elsewhere, they end up not attending the local clubs/activities, as they don't know anyone, potentially detrimental to their wellbeing. • The staff and teachers are a great asset. • Due to the increased housing in the local area, the school has not been able to increase their numbers accordingly. • This is an excellent school and I feel it is necessary for this plan to continue to allow all those in the community who wish to send their children here as their first choice. 											
Confirmation by the Proposer	<p>I confirm that the Board of Governors, Staff and Parents of pupils of Maguiresbridge Primary School were consulted on 11 November 2020 and Equality Screening of the proposal has been carried out and the statutory requirements of the Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 (where appropriate) have been considered.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Name:</td> <td>Michele Corkey</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Office Held:</td> <td>Director of Education</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Signed:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Date:</td> <td>11 March 2021</td> </tr> </table>				Name:	Michele Corkey	Office Held:	Director of Education	Signed:		Date:	11 March 2021
Name:	Michele Corkey											
Office Held:	Director of Education											
Signed:												
Date:	11 March 2021											
Associated Proposals	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Proposal</td> <td colspan="3">N/A</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DP Number</td> <td></td> <td>Date Published</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>				Proposal	N/A			DP Number		Date Published	
Proposal	N/A											
DP Number		Date Published										

Case for Change: Statutory Consultation

EDUCATION AUTHORITY COMMENTARY ON PRE-PUBLICATION STATUTORY CONSULTATION
The following is to be completed and signed off by the EA.

The Education Authority (EA)

I confirm that the schools which the Education Authority consider might be impacted by this proposal were consulted on 11 November 2020.

Name:	Michele Corkey
Office Held:	Director of Education
Signed:	
Date:	11 March 2021

Provide detail of consultation with schools that may, in the EA's opinion, be affected by the proposal - list of schools, dates of letters issued to schools/meetings.

Summary of views received (number of responses, recurring themes, petitions, community support or opposition).

Responses/Assurances in respect of issues raised during consultation.

Dates of EA meetings e.g. Education Committee/ Board etc.

Details of issues raised by members of EA Board

In accordance with Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, a copy of the proposal was sent on 11 November 2020, to schools which, in the opinion of the Authority, might be affected by the proposal. A total of 20 local schools which might be affected by the proposal were forwarded correspondence. Comments were invited from the Boards of Governors and Trustees, to be returned to the Education Authority by 20 January 2021.




The Education Authority received one response from affected schools and one response from the Controlled Schools' Support Council (CSSC).

St Mary's Primary School, Maguiresbridge
Supports the proposal - no additional comments

Controlled Schools' Support Council
Supports the proposal

- Welcomes the careful consideration that has been given to the close proximity of Brookeborough PS - it will be important that any potential impact on the Shared Campus remains a consideration.
- Will alleviate pressure on the school and provide reassurance for parents applying for Year 1.

This development proposal was discussed by the Education Authority's Education Committee at its meeting on 11 March 2021.

<p>EDUCATION AUTHORITY COMMENTS In the context of planning on an area basis - what is the EA's view of the proposal, taking into account any pre-publication consultation. Does the EA support the proposal?</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Name:</td> <td>Michele Corkey</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Office Held:</td> <td>Director of Education</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Signed:</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9e1f2;">Date:</td> <td>11 March 2021</td> </tr> </table>	Name:	Michele Corkey	Office Held:	Director of Education	Signed:		Date:	11 March 2021	<p>The Education Authority, as the proposer, supports Development Proposal No 612 to increase Maguiresbridge Primary School's admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.</p> <p>In consideration of the above, and the Case for Change, the Education Authority is proposing to publish Development Proposal No 612 during the week beginning 22 March 2021.</p>
Name:	Michele Corkey								
Office Held:	Director of Education								
Signed:									
Date:	11 March 2021								

1 BACKGROUND

Maguiresbridge PS is situated on the outskirts of the village of Maguiresbridge, Co Fermanagh.

The school serves Maguiresbridge village and surrounding area. The school currently has an enrolment of 130 pupils. Maguiresbridge PS's approved enrolment number is 104 with an admissions number of 15. The school was granted a temporary variation of 22 admissions and 128 enrolment for 2019/20. Following the closure of applications for September 2020 intake, Maguiresbridge PS is oversubscribed and has applied for and received approval for a temporary variation for three pupils (nearest school is Maguiresbridge PS).

Since 2016, the school has been experiencing an increase in enrolment numbers. In consideration of the increasing enrolment numbers, the school was identified in the 2019/21 Annual Action Plan as 'Managing authority to consult on an increase of admission number and enrolment number by January 2020'.

Table 1, below, details the historical and current enrolment figures.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 7	Total
2009/10	11	13	10	15	13	14	15	91
2010/11	12	13	13	11	15	13	14	91
2011/12	18	12	14	13	10	15	11	93
2012/13	9	18	12	14	13	9	15	90
2013/14	18	10	18	12	14	13	9	94
2014/15	18	19	10	18	12	14	13	104
2015/16	14	19	20	9	19	12	14	107
2016/17	21	15	19	20	9	19	12	115
2017/18	22	20	15	19	21	9	20	126
2018/19	16	22	19	15	19	21	9	121
2019/20	22	16	21	18	15	19	20	131
2020/21 (Source: School)	19	22	16	21	18	15	19	130

Maguiresbridge PS has over the last number of years received temporary variations to its admissions numbers to meet the needs of the local area, in 2019/20 the school received a temporary variation to increase enrolment numbers to 130.

A proposed increase in admission and enrolment numbers is supported in the live birth statistics as detailed in Table 2. St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge is also experiencing an upturn in enrolment numbers from 88 pupils in 2014/15 to 125 pupils in 2019/20. In addition, near to Maguiresbridge PS, planning has been granted to create an affordable housing development with over 50 units.

Resident Live Births 2012	Resident Live Births 2013	Resident Live Births 2014	Resident Live Births 2015	Resident Live Births 2016	Resident Live Births 2017	Resident Live Births 2018
50	50	54	42	46	40	46

Table 3, below, outlines the number of available places in primary schools within a five-mile radius of Maguiresbridge PS.

Table 3: Local Schools - Distance from Maguiresbridge PS					
	Distance (miles) From Maguiresbridge PS	Sector	Enrolment 2019/20	Approved Enrolment Number 2019/20	Available Places 2019/20
St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge	0.6	Maintained	125	134	9
Bunscoil an Traonaigh	2.5	Irish Medium	60	58	0
St Ronan's PS	3.2	Maintained	380	406	26
Brookeborough PS	3.3	Controlled	67	116	49
St Mary's PS, Brookeborough	3.6	Maintained	57	138	81
Lisbellaw PS	3.9	Controlled	208	232	24
Moat PS	4.0	Controlled	142	195	53

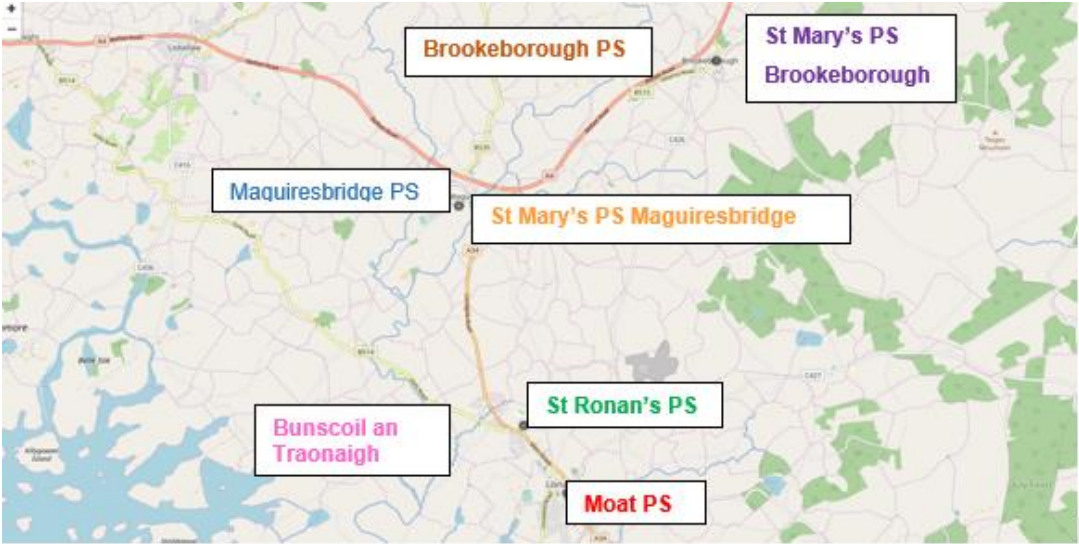
The nearest controlled school is Brookeborough PS with 49 available places.

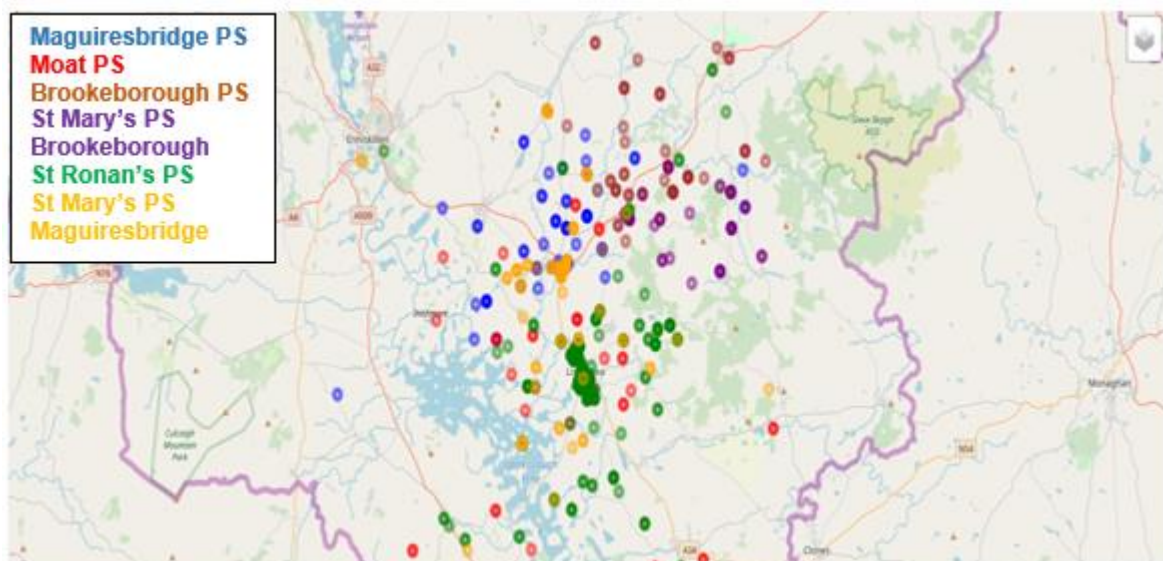
Brookeborough Shared Campus Programme

Brookeborough PS and St Mary's PS, Brookeborough are progressing a Shared Campus through the Shared Campus Programme. Careful consideration has been given to the close proximity of Brookeborough PS and Maguiresbridge PS in taking forward the proposal to increase the admission and enrolment numbers for Maguiresbridge PS. However, both schools have a separate catchment area and the increases experienced in recent years by Maguiresbridge PS have resulted for pupils from the village and Maguiresbridge PS being the nearest school.

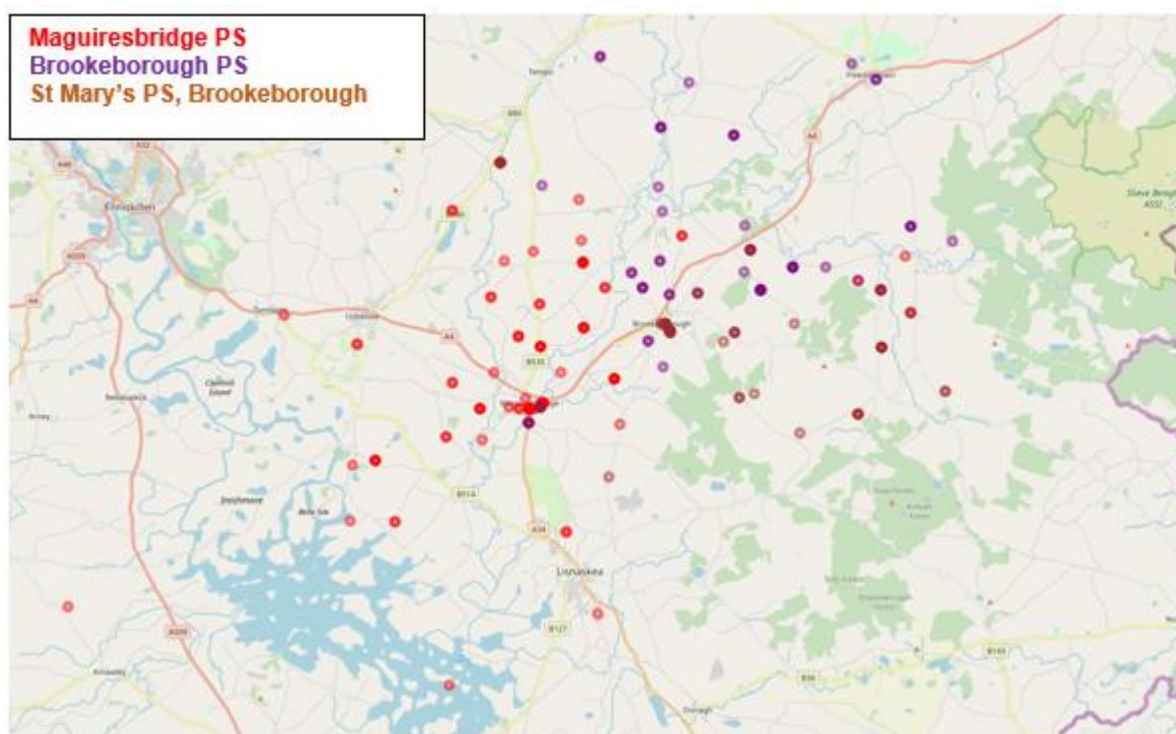
The Education Authority and the Board of Governors of Maguiresbridge PS are mindful that this increase in admission and enrolments should not have a negative impact on the Shared Campus proposal for Brookeborough and would therefore suggest that enrolments in both the Maguiresbridge and Brookeborough villages be closely monitored.

The maps below shows Maguiresbridge PS, the local schools, and their pupil distribution.





The distribution map above shows the pupil distribution for Maguiresbridge PS and the nearest schools. As can be seen from the map, the majority of pupils attending Maguiresbridge PS come from the town and surrounding area with a clear catchment area.



2 SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

The main focus of the Area Planning process is embedded in the Sustainable Schools Policy first published in 2009 and applies to primary and post-primary schools. The policy outlines the criteria that school managing authorities should consider when making decisions affecting the best use of resources in order to deliver an excellent education to children and young people. The policy sets out six sustainability criteria, and associated indicators, which

are identified as the key references for assessing existing and future education provision to ensure it adequately meets the needs of pupils.

2.1 Quality of Education

Maguiresbridge PS is a controlled primary school situated in the village of Maguiresbridge around nine miles from Enniskillen. The children attending the school come from the village and the surrounding rural area. The enrolment has risen steadily over the past four years and the school is oversubscribed.

Due to action short of strike, the last available ETI inspection focusing on the quality of education was undertaken in September 2011 with the overall findings of the inspection as very good:

The inspection focused on:

- the children's achievements and standards in literacy and numeracy;
- the quality of provision for learning; and
- the quality of leadership and management including the school's processes for self-evaluation leading to improvement.

The ETI report indicated:

'The quality of the children's achievements and standards is very good.

In English and mathematics, the children attain very good standards in line with their ability. They apply and use their literacy, numeracy and information and communication skills across the curriculum and are developing well their thinking skills and personal capabilities.

The children identified with special educational needs make very good progress and reach the standards of which they are capable.

The provision for learning is very good.

In most of the classes, the children's behaviour is very good; they are highly motivated to learn and work well independently, in pairs and in groups. By the end of year 7, the children are confident and enthusiastic learners, who ask and respond to stimulating questions from peers, as well as adults.

The quality of the teaching observed ranged from inadequate to outstanding; in most of the lessons observed, it was very good or outstanding. Where the teaching is very good or outstanding, the children think creatively and critically, and they respond well to the challenging practical activities. The classroom assistants provide outstanding support to the children's learning.

The provision for special educational needs is good. The children's needs are identified early and a variety of good programmes of support are in place. Most of the teachers meet the individual needs of children effectively; this good practice needs to be embedded in all of the classes.

The quality of the arrangements for pastoral care is very good. The school has a supportive and inclusive ethos. Through a range of good opportunities, including an active school council, the children make a meaningful contribution to matters that affect them. The governors and parents contribute significantly to the governance and life of the school. The highly effective links with parents and the wider community support well the development of the children's personal and social skills.

The school has very good arrangements in place for safeguarding children. These arrangements reflect the child protection guidance issued by the Department of Education (DE).

The school gives outstanding attention to promoting healthy eating and physical activity through, for example, the provision of award-winning nutritious school meals, the promotion of healthy breaks, the well-planned physical education activities and the creative use of the outdoor space.'

2.2 Stable Enrolment Trends

Maguiresbridge PS has, as detailed in Table 1, experienced an increase in pupil numbers over the past number of years. The school has received temporary variations to both increase the admissions and enrolment numbers. The school is a sustainable school with numbers exceeding the school's admissions and enrolment numbers. The increase in demand for Year 1 places has been experienced in September 2020 with the school applying for and receiving Department of Education temporary variation approval for an additional three pupils. The school had an intake of 19 pupils at September 2020.

2.3 Sound Financial Position

Maguiresbridge PS's financial position at 31 March 2019 showed a surplus of £51,476.

2.4 Strong Leadership and Management

The ETI report in September 2011 stated the quality of leadership and management is very good.

'The Principal, who is also the literacy co-ordinator, provides outstanding leadership and management. She sets high expectations and standards and ensures all development work is focused on improvements in the children's learning. She has put in place very good processes to assess and track the children's progress in learning.

The whole-school self-evaluation and school development planning (SDP) processes are very good. The SDP has been contributed to at all levels and is supported by effective action-planning.

It will be important that the employing authority, school governors and the staff plan for, and manage, issues related to the sustainability of the school provision and school budget, in order to address the current and future needs of the children and the staff.'

2.5 Accessibility

The school can be accessed by foot, car and bus.

2.6 Strong Links with the Community

The school has links with the community and has been part of the Shared Education Signature Programme (SESP) in partnership with St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge since 2016.

Their SESP evaluation for 2018/19 stated:

Shared Musical Pathways lessons and involvement of Young Enterprise improved shared learning experiences, value for money and outcomes for pupils in Key Stage 1. Covering the topic 'People Who Help Us' helped to improve links with different people in our community. The area of Conservation covered by joint shared lessons in Year 5 made the children realise it is their joint responsibility to care for their Shared community. This year strong internal staff capacity facilitated high quality sessions and demonstrated less dependence on external partners. A joint trip for each year group to support shared class work was a positive celebration of friendships made. Governors and Parents were well informed of Shared sessions throughout the year and it went smoothly.

Next year looking forward we will have to engage more the voice of the pupil through a Shared Council and encourage them to organise an event for both Partnership School's parents to attend.

As part of the shared education programme both schools in the village work with Maguiresbridge Village Association and have a joint choir who perform at the switching on of the Christmas lights in the village.

Maguiresbridge PS have a Parent Support Group (PSG) that use the school premises regularly to hold classes in yoga and keep fit for the wider community. The school hall is also used by many of the church groups in the area including the Independent Methodist Church who host a holiday bible club summer scheme.

The school annually complete the Business Beginnings Programme with Young Enterprise and engage with local business in their area.

Maguiresbridge Running Club grew out of the extended schools funding accessed by the school and the club use the school premises regularly.

3 AREA PLANNING IMPACT

The proposal aligns with the key themes of Area Planning. The Area Plan for Northern Ireland aims to ensure that all pupils have access to a broad and balanced curriculum that meets their needs in sustainable schools within a diverse system of education. It sets out the key priorities and objectives in providing access to a network of sustainable schools for the Education Authority, Council for Catholic Maintained Schools and other sectoral bodies in the light of Department of Education policy, in particular the need to raise standards and close the attainment gap through a network of sustainable schools. The focus of the plan is on the educational best interests of children and young people.

Since 2011, statutory planning authorities and school managing authorities have been engaged in implementing the objectives of the Sustainable Schools Policy through Area Planning. The first four objectives are:

- ensure that the excellent quality of education available to some young people is made available to all, in both urban and rural settings, in accessible, modern, fit-for-purpose accommodation;

- improve outcomes for all but, in particular, to provide additional support to those who require it, including those children with special educational needs, to realise their full potential;
- encourage schools to co-operate in sharing best practice to support children with special educational needs and those with other barriers to learning;
- sustain strong, successful and viable schools, well-led by their governors representing local stakeholders, principals and their staff, to be the centre of the education system, supported by effective administrative and strategic direction;

In consideration of the objectives of Providing Pathways Strategic Area Plan for School Provision 2017-2020, the Local Area Working Group identified Maguiresbridge PS as a school to be included within the Annual Action Plan for Primary, Post-Primary and Special Schools April 2019–March 2021. Maguiresbridge PS was identified under key issue as 'ensure school places are located as required' with the action 'Managing authority to consult on an increase of admission number and enrolment number by January 2020'.

In taking forward the Annual Action Plan, EA officers met with the Chairperson of the Board of Governors of Maguiresbridge PS to discuss the issues impacting on the school and to take forward an increase in the admissions and enrolment numbers at the school.

The Education Authority recommended option is to increase Maguiresbridge PS's admissions and enrolment numbers from 15 to 20 and 104 to 140 respectively, with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

4 RATIONALE FOR PROPOSAL

Maguiresbridge PS has, as detailed in Table 1, experienced an increase in pupil numbers over the past number of years. The school has received temporary variations to both increase the admissions and enrolment numbers. The school is a sustainable school with numbers exceeding the school's admissions and enrolment numbers.

To meet the demand in the area, a permanent increase in admissions and enrolment numbers is required. This will provide stability to parents applying for admissions to Year 1 as currently the demand outweighs the approved admissions numbers, parents are anxious in seeking admission to the school. This also places pressures on the school.

Rural Needs Act (NI) 2016 places a statutory duty on the Education Authority to have due regard to rural needs when developing, adopting, implementing or revising policies, strategies and plans, and designing and delivering public services. The areas from which Maguiresbridge PS attracts pupils is, according to the Inter-Departmental Urban-Rural Definition Group, defined as rural. The proposal to increase the admissions and enrolment numbers of Maguiresbridge PS will have a positive impact on the local area. The provision of home-to-school transport will provide for the safe transportation of pupils from the area to their nearest school.

5 EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

The proposal will provide for the education needs of pupils in the area and will enable local pupils to attend their local school. Maguiresbridge PS has, as detailed above, experienced increasing numbers over the past years, which has resulted in the school applying to the Department of Education for temporary variations to meet the demand. The approval to the temporary variations and projected increases within the area provides a rationale for a permanent increase to the school's admissions and enrolment numbers.

6 IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IF THE PROPOSAL IS APPROVED)

The proposal is being brought forward under Article 14 of the Education and Libraries (NI) Order 1986. The implementation date for the proposal is for 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter. The timetable, pending approval from the Education Committee, for the consultation process is:

Development Proposal Timeline	
Proposal: Maguiresbridge Primary School will increase its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.	Proposed Timeline
Consultation with Governors, Staff, Parents - Consultation Questionnaire (8 weeks plus an additional 2 weeks for Christmas holidays) Consultation Responses to be forwarded to the Education Authority Responses will be considered and a Case for Change document compiled before submission to the Education Authority's Education Committee A deputation from the Board of Governors may also choose to attend the Education Committee or the Board meeting	11 November 2020 – 20 January 2021
Consultation with other affected Schools - (8 weeks plus an additional 2 weeks for Christmas holidays) Consultation Responses to be forwarded to the Education Authority Responses will be considered and a Case for Change document compiled before submission to the Education Authority's Education Committee.	11 November 2020 – 20 January 2021
Education Committee to seek Approval To Publish Case for Change to be taken to the March 2021 Education Authority's Education Committee for consideration If approved to publish, a Development Proposal will be published in the local newspapers which begins the start of a two month statutory objection period	11 March 2021
Statutory Objection Period (2 months) Objections/Comments to be forwarded to the Department of Education	March – May 2021
Await Ministerial/Department of Education Decision	August 2021
Implementation If approved, the Development Proposal would take effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.	

7 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The proposal is to increase the admission number from 15 to 20 and enrolment number from 104 to 140 for Maguiresbridge PS. This would bring the school from sitting in a four-classroom school to a five-classroom school.

<i>Finance</i>	The school is currently in a good financial position.
<i>Staffing</i>	Currently the school operates as a 5.4 teacher school with a teaching Principal. Therefore, there will be no additional staffing requirements.
<i>Transport</i>	Transport arrangements will be in accordance with transport regulations and identified preference school. With increased numbers already experienced within the school, the increase in transport costs will be minimal.
<i>Accommodation</i>	No additional accommodation will be required for the school in terms of classrooms. However, the school would require additional toilets, to address this the school will be required to make a bid under the Education Authority's Minor Works Programme.

Responses received during the Two Month Objection Period



Maguiresbridge Primary School

Principal: Mrs H Irvine B.Ed.Hons, P.Q.H.

April 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Development Proposal No. 612

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Governors of Maguiresbridge Primary School. We wish to fully endorse the Development Proposal to increase admission numbers from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1st September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

For many years now the population of Maguiresbridge village has been increasing, mainly due to new and affordable housing. Young families are being attracted to the area because of the good quality housing and they want their children to be able to attend the local school. Unfortunately, in the past, due the school's low admissions and enrolment numbers the Board of Governors has had to turn pupils away. As you can imagine this is heart-breaking not only for the school but also the local community. We feel very strongly that children should be able to attend their local school and as a result build strong community links. Recently, the Department of Education built on an additional classroom and we as governors feel that the school can safely provide an excellent standard of education for 140 pupils. It should also be noted that Maguiresbridge Primary School is in a sound financial position and has always been able to live within its budget.

The governors fully support this Development Proposal as it will benefit not only the school but the whole community of Maguiresbridge.

Yours sincerely

Reverend Rodney Beacom
Chairperson of Maguiresbridge Primary School



Controlled Schools' Support Council
2nd floor, Main Building
Stranmillis University College
Belfast, BT9 5DY
T: 028 9531 3030
E info@csscni.org.uk

23 April 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Development proposal 612 Maguiresbridge Primary School

The Controlled Schools' Support Council (CSSC) was set up in September 2016 to represent and support the interests of the controlled sector in Northern Ireland. CSSC supports controlled schools, which are open to all faiths and none, in providing high quality education for children and young people to enable them to learn, develop and grow together, within the ethos of non-denominational Christian values and principles.

The diversity of the controlled sector is evident in the age range of pupils it serves, 3 to 19, as well as in the types and locations of the schools which it represents. CSSC celebrates the inclusion of Nursery, Primary, Special and Post-Primary schools within its wide reaching community, which welcomes all young people, whoever they are and from wherever they come. The controlled sector is the largest education sector in Northern Ireland accounting for 49% of all schools and catering for over 146,000 pupils.

The Controlled Schools' Support Council (CSSC) is in support of the Education Authority's proposal to increase the admissions number at Maguiresbridge Primary School from 15 to 20 with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

CSSC has consulted with alternative controlled schools within a five mile radius of Maguiresbridge Primary School and welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposal. CSSC notes that in recent years Maguiresbridge Primary School has been in receipt of temporary variations to its admissions and enrolment numbers to meet the increased demand for places as a result of an increase in population in the local area.

CSSC wishes to confirm its support for this proposal in that it will alleviate pressures on the school and provide reassurance for parents applying for admissions to Year 1 where demand outweighs the current approved admissions number.

Yours faithfully

Shane McCurdy
Interim Chief Executive

ETI Development Proposal Commentary Paper

Date of last ETI report: 21 May 2018

DP 612

Web link: <https://www.etini.gov.uk/sites/etini.gov.uk/files/publications/asos-primary-school-maguiresbridge-primary-school-enniskillen-county-fermanagh-201-6127.pdf>

Date⁴: 16 April, 2021

1. Update on relevant/contextual information since the last published inspection report.

The 2018 inspection was impacted by action-short-of-strike.

2. Knowledge of **any contextual information on the quality of education** in the wider local area.

The recent inspections in neighbouring schools (St Mary's Maguiresbridge PS , Brookeborough PS , St Mary's PS Brookeborough, Moat PS Lisnaskea, St Ronan's PS Lisnaskea, Lisbellaw PS and Bunscoil an Traonaigh Lisnaskea) have been impacted by action-short- of-strike.

3. Potential benefits/concerns associated with the claims of **educational** benefits for pupils made in the Case for Change.

The children may have access to a wider range of teacher specialist areas.

There is a shared education partnership with children at the neighbouring maintained St Mary's Primary School, Maguiresbridge.

4. Any concerns about the **implementation date or phasing of implementation** should this be applicable (i.e. curricular, EF, accommodation, LSCs, etc).

No concerns. The school building is relatively new with excellent accommodation in the indoor and outdoor areas.

5. The **SSP Criteria** indicators requiring ETI input (if known and/or for which information is available).

⁴ This commentary paper is based on the information and evidence available to ETI on this date. Please check the ETI website www.etini.gov.uk for any new inspection reports that may have published after this date.

Sustainable Schools Criterion	Indicator	Meets criterion		
		Yes	No (reason(s))	Information not available
Quality Educational Experience	1.1 Attainment levels of pupils, Key Stage tests pending development of new indicators for Primary Schools, GCSE results for Post-Primary Schools.			x
	1.2 In primary, a single classroom contains no more than <u>two</u> year-groups in a composite class; for example, years 1 and 2.	x		
	1.3 A <u>minimum</u> of four teachers at a primary school. This recognises both the needs of pupils and the demands on teachers.	x		
	1.4 The ability of the school to cater for children with Special Educational Needs.			x
	1.5 The ability at post-primary level to be able to provide suitable access to the entitlement framework including, where appropriate, linkages with other schools, the FE sector or other providers.			x
	1.6 The standards and the quality of learning and teaching at the school.			x
	1.7 The range of curricular and extra-curricular activities available for children including career guidance, physical education, music, art, drama and science.			x
	1.8 The quality of the <u>physical</u> environment for learning and teaching i.e. the condition, energy and water efficiency and suitability of the buildings.	X		
	1.9 The quality of, and arrangements for, pastoral care including the active promotion of			x

	the principles of social justice in all areas of the formal and informal curriculum.			
Strong Leadership and Management by Boards of Governors and Principals	4.1 Governors' views on the school based on quantitative and qualitative evidence.			x
	4.8 There is a school development plan in place and progress is being made to achieve the plan's aims and objectives.			x
	4.9 Pupil behaviour, expulsions, suspensions and non-attendance as well as positive behaviours such as involvement in school management (e.g. buddying and mentoring schemes).			x
Strong links with the Community	6.1 Degree and quality of parental involvement (schools will be asked to provide evidence on this).			x
	6.3 Contribution of the school to the community (schools will be asked to provide evidence on this).	x		
	6.4 Presence of other features of provision, e.g. nursery or specialist unit.		x	

6. Summary of impact of the proposal

That the enrolment has risen steadily over the past four years and the school is oversubscribed.

There are no objections from neighbouring schools.

DE (POLICY TEAM) COMMENTS ON DP 612

A	Financial Monitoring Team
B	School Admissions Team (SAT)
C	Education Workforce Directorate
D	Inclusion and Wellbeing Directorate
E	Promoting Collaboration, Tackling Disadvantage Directorate
F	Transport And Food In Schools
G	Investment and Infrastructure

A. Financial Monitoring Team

The school's **Provisional** Surplus position as at 31 March 2021 is £3,219.

The school's Surplus in the previous year, up to 31 March 2020 was £19,658.

The school received a total delegated budget of £448,797 in the 2021-22 financial year for **130¹** FTE pupils, which generates a per capita of £3,452.

The average for all primary schools is £3,408.

The total Free School Meals Entitlement for the school is **19⁵** pupils, which represents 14.62% of the total FTE, which places the school in Band 1 for funding purposes.

The school received £42,336 for Small Schools Support funding, which represents 85.00% of the maximum funding for this factor, within the Nursery & Primary funding stream.

The school also received £13,957 in respect of Primary Principals' Release Time.

Increased enrolments for an individual school typically has limited impact on the ASB for schools – as these pupils would be educated and funded elsewhere.

All other financial considerations (including any in-year costs for pupil growth, in the context of a school with an approved DP to increase its enrolment) would be for the EA to consider as Funding Authority for the school.

⁵ The school's funding allocation is based on the previous year's census data (e.g. the October 2020 census data was used to determine the 2021-22 CFF allocation). **The census data on the Schools+ database relates to an academic year, as opposed to the financial year.** In addition, differences between funded pupils and total pupils within the census count may occur for a number of reasons, including, but not limited to, zero rated pupils, some reception pupils, and over age pupils (paragraph 7 of Annex B to the Common Funding Scheme refers).

Details of the school's budget allocation from the Common Funding Formula, for the last 3 years, is as follows:

Factor	2021-22 £	2020-21 £	2019-20 £
Pupil AWPU	333,005	312,433	276,336
TSN – Social Deprivation	11,658	15,340	17,181
TSN – Additional Social Deprivation	520	703	792
Premises Area	7,520	7,520	7,520
Premises FTE	11,050	11,068	10,196
Small Schools Support	42,336	40,329	40,382
Primary Principals Release Time	13,957	13,875	14,696
Foundation Stage	22,864	21,813	21,813
Teachers Salary Protection	5,887	4,418	5,482

Total School Funding	448,797	427,498	394,398
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Pupil FTE (no.)	130	131	121
Per Capita	£3,452	£3,263	£3,259

B. School Admissions Team (SAT)

Background:

Maguiresbridge Primary School is a Controlled non-denominational primary school in Enniskillen. The approved admissions number is 15 (maximum 18) and approved enrolment number is 104.

The DP proposes that Maguiresbridge Primary School increases its admissions number from 15 to 20, with an annual phased increase in the enrolment number from 104 to 140 with effect from 1 September 2021, or as soon as possible thereafter.

Applications:

Over the past five years the school has received the following applications for admission to Year 1. These figures are correct as at the conclusion of the admissions process each year:

Year	Approved Admissions	First Preferences	Total Applications (all preferences)	Total Admissions*
2017/18	15 to 18	21	21	21
2018/19	15 to 18	16	16	15
2019/20	15 to 18	22	22	22
2020/21	15 to 18	19	19	18
2021/22	15 to 18	15	15	15

*Excludes pupils with a statement of SEN and those admitted by appeal

Temporary Variation (TV):

If a school receives more applications than it has places available it can request a TV to its admissions and/or enrolment number from the School Admissions Team (SAT). Most primary schools have a variance to their admissions number (unless capped for class size purposes), which they aren't obliged to use. If a school wants to use the variance, then it can only do so if the approved enrolment number isn't exceeded. Because Maguiresbridge PS is over its approved enrolment number, it needs at TV for any admissions over 15.

The table below shows the TVs approved for Maguiresbridge over the last five years.

Year	Approved Admissions	Approved Enrolment	TV Admissions*	TV Enrolment*
2017/18	15 to 18	104	22	123
2018/19	15 to 18	104		116
2019/20	15 to 18	104	22	127
2020/21	15 to 18	104	17 **	126
2021/22	15 to 18	104		122

*Excludes pupils with a statement of SEN and those admitted by appeal

** A pupil became supernumerary, therefore reverting the admissions number to 17

C. Education Workforce Directorate

No issues or concerns have been identified, from a policy perspective, in respect of this development proposal for teaching and non-teaching staff as noted in section 7 (Staffing) of the Case for Change.

Should the case be approved and subsequent staffing issues are identified, assurances should be sought from the Education Authority that any potential impact

on terms and conditions of teaching staff are managed in accordance with the following policies:-

- **TNC 2011/8** – Workload Agreement: should the Case for Change result in an increase to enrolment in a school, or surrounding schools, assurance should be provided regarding how potential impact on teacher workload, as a result of the increased class size, will be managed.

D. Inclusion and Wellbeing Directorate

It is noted from the Case for Change that Maguiresbridge Primary School is a sustainable school. Attendance at a sustainable school underpins the fundamental principles of the special educational needs (SEN) Code of Practice, which focuses on a continuum of need and a continuum of provision, which may be made in a variety of forms. Children with SEN require the greatest possible access to a broad and balanced education, including the Northern Ireland Curriculum.

The Case for Change notes that since 2011, implementation of the Sustainable Schools Policy through area planning has objectives which include:

- improve outcomes for all but, in particular, to provide additional support to those who require it, including those children with special educational needs, to realise their full potential;
- encourage schools to co-operate in sharing best practice to support children with special educational needs and those with other barriers to learning.

The Case for Change also notes that the most recent ETI inspection in 2011 reported the school as very good, with the children identified with SEN making very good progress and reaching the standards of which they are capable. It also noted that most of the teachers meet the individual needs of children effectively; (and) this good practice needs to be embedded in all of the classes.

Although SET is mindful of the age of the ETI report relied upon, it would support this DP, subject to any impact on pupils with SEN being considered and managed effectively.

E. Promoting Collaboration, Tackling Disadvantage Directorate

The proposer, the Education Authority, has stated in the Case for Change the school has links with the community and has been part of the Shared Education Signature Programme (SESP) in partnership with St Mary's PS, Maguiresbridge since 2016. 10 of the 13 listed neighbouring schools are involved in Shared Education through SESP/ 2019/20 Pilot/ Transition Phase including Maguiresbridges Primary School. There was no mention of Shared Education in the consultation responses. No evidence was presented of a detrimental or beneficial impact on Shared Education in the local area.

SHARED EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

Programme	School		Partnership	
	Ref No	Name	Number	Membership
SESP	2011789	Moat Primary	53	St Ronan's Primary School Enniskillen
SESP	2011894	Brookeborough Primary School	8	St Mary's Primary School Brookeborough
SESP	2016102	Tempo Primary School	112	St Mary's Primary School Tempo
SESP	2016152	Enniskillen Model	99	St Patrick's Primary School Mullanaskea
SESP	2031895	St Mary's Primary School Maguiresbridge	48	Maguiresbridge Primary School
SESP	2031901	St Ronan's Primary School	53	Moat Primary
SESP	2031876	St Mary's Primary School Brookeborough	8	Brookeborough Primary School
SESP	2036356	St Mary's PS, Tempo	112	Tempo Primary School
SESP	2031828	St Patrick's Primary School Mullanaskea	99	Enniskillen Model Primary School
SESP	2036107	St Joseph's Primary School Lisnaskea	92	St Mary's Primary School Newtownbutler

F. TRANSPORT AND FOOD IN SCHOOLS

Given the numbers involved it would be anticipated the financial implications for the Transport budget or Food In Schools budget would not be significant.

G. INVESTMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE

According to the Case for Change the School requires no additional accommodation in terms of classrooms, the proposal is to increase the admission number from 15 to 20 and enrolment number from 104 to 140. This would place the school in a five classroom bracket which it currently has.

The Case for Change also notes that additional toilet provision may be needed. An assessment was conducted by EAB which concluded that the school would require an additional toilet entitlement.

- 1no. additional class toilets and cloak space @15m²