

COPY OF DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Cover Note

DP No.	482	
School	Lagan College	
Proposal	To increase Lagan College's enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over two years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the school's admission number remaining at 200.	
Minister's Decision	*Approve Development Proposal 482.	
Date of Decision	14 February 2017	
Minister's Comments	As above*	
Additional notes	n/a	
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: Lorraine Finlay
Area Planning Policy Team

Date: 13 February 2017

To: PETER WEIR MLA

Copy distribution below

**DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL NO 482 – LAGAN
COLLEGE/INCREASE ENROLMENT**

Issue: Development Proposal No 482 published 24 November 2016 by the Education Authority on behalf of the Board of Governors of Lagan College to increase the school's enrolment from 1200 to 1300 (with admissions remaining at 200 places) from September 2017 or as soon as possible thereafter.

Timescale: Urgent. The proposed implementation date for this proposal is September 2017.

Financial/Resource Implications: **Capital Cost:** Nil. Lagan College's new building was designed and built to accommodate a sixth form of over 340 places.
Funding Requirements: A high-level funding estimate for the implementation of this proposal using 2016-17 Post-Primary Formula Funding values, is £234k (full year 2018-19) and £136k (in-year 2017-18). The funding, therefore, over 2 phased years would be £468k (full year 2018-19 and 2019-20) and £272k (in-year 2017-18 and 2018-19). *The funding requirement may be increased by other allocations, such as the Targeting Social Need (TSN) Factor and Premises Factor (Floor Area element), which cannot be estimated at present as relevant data is not available.*

FOI Implications: The contents of this submission are likely to be fully disclosable.

Statutory Duty Implications: There is a statutory duty on the Department of

Education (DE) under Article 64 of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) 1989 Order, *to encourage and facilitate the development of integrated education, that is to say the education together at school of Protestant and Roman Catholic pupils.*

Presentational Issues:

There may be local and Integrated Sectoral Bodies interest in your decision on this proposal. In the event of an enquiry, Communications Team can draw from this submission.

A draft press release will be provided for your approval following your decision should you think it is appropriate to issue a Press Release during the Purdah period.

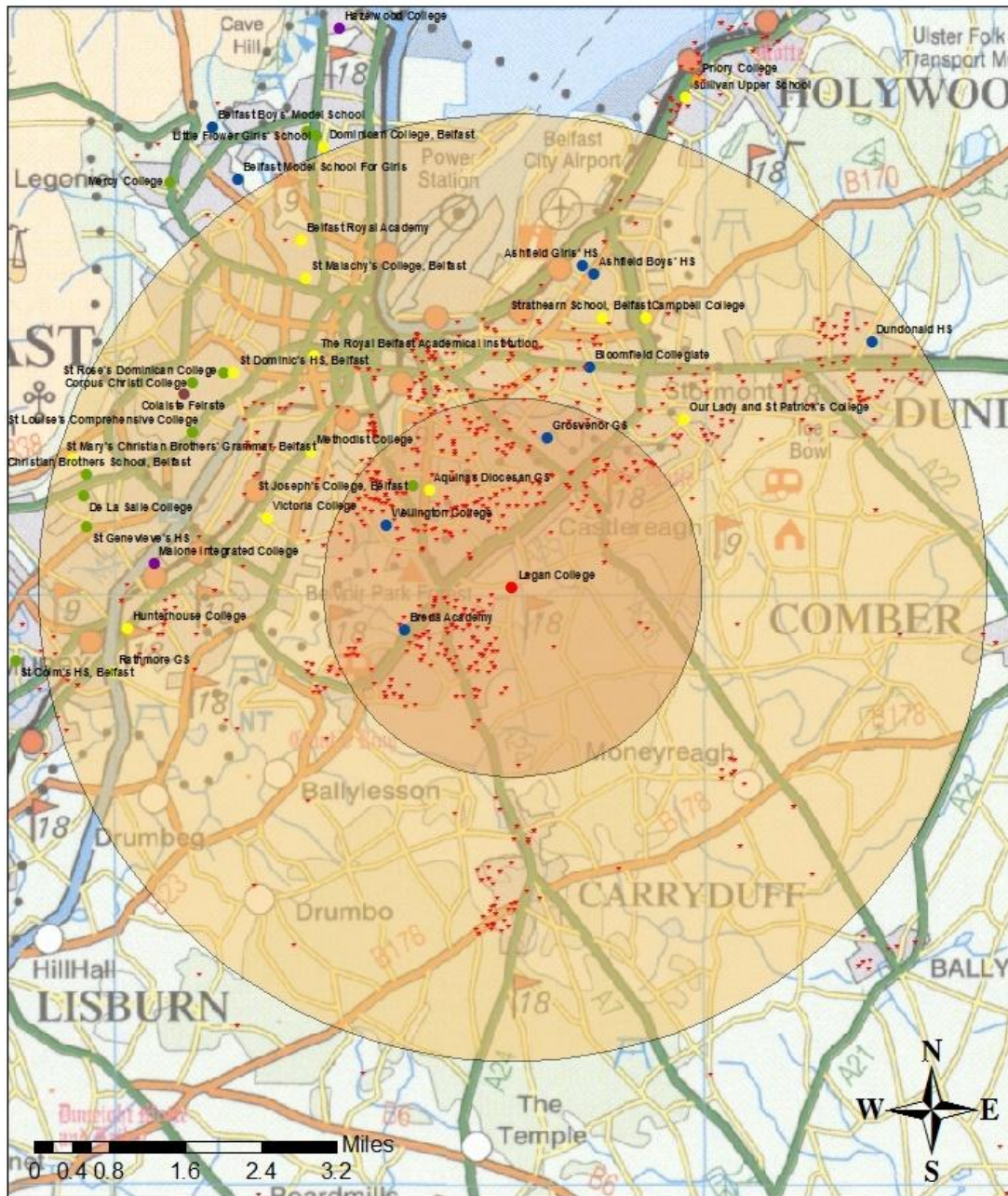
Recommendation:

It is recommended that you:

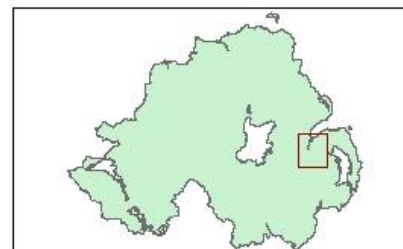
- 1) Approve DP 482 as published. This means that the enrolment number at Lagan College will increase from 1200 to 1300 phased over two years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.**
- 2) Agree that this submission (with appropriate redactions) can be made available on the Department's website once the school and the EA have been notified and the Press Release issued.**

Map 1: Lagan College/Pupil Catchment

Lagan College - All Post-Primary Provision



Key	
● (Red)	Lagan College
● (Blue)	Post-Primary Controlled
● (Yellow)	Post-Primary Voluntary
● (Green)	Post-Primary Catholic Maintained
● (Purple)	Post-Primary Other Maintained
● (Orange)	Post-Primary Controlled Integrated
● (Light Blue)	Post-Primary Grant Maintained Integrated
■ (Light Orange)	Buffer of distance 2 miles
■ (Light Yellow)	Buffer of distance 5 miles



Map 2: Lagan College and neighbouring Integrated provision

Lagan College & Neighbouring Integrated Provision



- Key**
- Lagan College
 - ★ Lagan College Pupils
 - Malone College
 - ★ Malone College Pupils
 - Priory College
 - ★ Priory College Pupils



1. BACKGROUND

Introduction

1.1 On 24 November 2016 the Education Authority, on behalf of the Board of Governors (BoG) of Lagan College, published Development Proposal (DP) 482 to increase the school's enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over two years from September 2017 or as soon as possible thereafter, with the school's (Year 8) admission number remaining at 200 places. A copy of the proposal is at Appendix A.

1.2 It is the school's intention that the additional 100 places created would be allocated to its sixth form provision and implemented on a phased basis with the enrolment number increasing from 1200 to 1250 places at September 2017 and to 1300 places at September 2018. The impact would result in its post-16 year groups (Years 13 and 14) each increasing from 100 to 150 places over two years to provide an overall sixth form of 300 places when the proposal is fully implemented.

School and area

1.3 Lagan College is Northern Ireland's the first planned Integrated school. Founded in 1981, it is a co-educational all ability grant-maintained Integrated post-primary school catering for students aged 11 to 19 years, situated in the Castlereagh hills on land leased from the National Trust. The school has a grammar stream with around 35% of its Year 8 pupils entering the school through an academic selection process.

1.4 In 2014, a new school building was opened which represented £25m of investment through the Public Private Partnership project.

1.5 In 2015/16 Lagan College had:

- 1265 pupils enrolled of which 212 pupils were in Year 8; 1047 at Years 8 to 12 and 218 at Post-16.
- 321 (26%) pupils at Special Educational Needs (SEN) Stages 1-4 and 70 pupils (6%) at Stage 5 of the assessment process.
- 313 (25%) pupils entitled to Free School Meals.
- 504 (40%) pupils from the Protestant tradition; 473 (37%) pupils from the Roman Catholic tradition and 288 (23%) pupils from other regions/or religion unknown.

1.6 On the Northern Ireland Multiple Deprivation Measure 2010, the Moneyreagh 1 Super Output Area (in which Lagan College is situated) is

placed 839 out of 890 (1 being the most deprived and 890 being the least deprived).

2. SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Statutory duty

2.1 There is a statutory duty on the Department (DE) under Article 64 of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) 1989 Order, *to encourage and facilitate the development of integrated education, that is to say the education together at school of Protestant and Roman Catholic pupils*'.

2.2 DE must also be mindful of its statutory duty under Article 44 of the Education and Libraries Order 1986 and under Managing Public Money to ensure effective and efficient use of public funds.

2.3 In relation to a DP to expand a post-primary school, due regard also has to be given to the statutory duty within the framework of ensuring effective planning to meet future educational requirements for the area and alongside other relevant issues including the sustainability of the school in question; the ability of the school to deliver high quality education; the impact on other schools and the achievement of area planning objectives to reduce duplication and ensure appropriate provision to meet future demand. It is also necessary to consider the strategic development of the Integrated sector as a whole, rather than simply to respond to development proposals for individual schools.

3. CASE FOR CHANGE

3.1 Lagan College's BoG has presented a case for change in support of this proposal (attached in full at [Appendix A](#)). It is noted that the school has not used the most current case for change template (which references the '*Education Authority*' rather than '*the Board*'). However the appropriate procedures have been followed.

3.2 In relation to the rationale for this proposal, the case for change states that over the last 15 years the school's 100 Year 13 places have been filled and it has been oversubscribed. The case for change also notes that in addition to turning away its own students who are wanting to progress into sixth form, it also turns away '*significant numbers*' of external post-16 students wanting to enrol there. It is the school's view that this proposal will extend the provision of post-16 Integrated education in the Belfast and South-Eastern Region.

3.3 The case for change notes that the school fulfils all six criteria set out in the Sustainable Schools Policy (SSP). DE's assessment of the school in relation to the SSP is included at Section 5 in this submission.

3.4 The following supporting points are also made in the case for change:

- There is substantial demand for parents annually for the quality and type of Sixth Form provision provided by Lagan College and ...increased...frustration at the shortage of Post-16 places at the College.
- The College has a number of applications from schools that do not have A'level provision.
- There is limited provision for Post-16 integrated provision in the Castlereagh and East Belfast area...students...have the option of Priory College or Malone College. However, both schools require students to travel long distances.
- There is a community based and province wide need and desire for Integrated education.

Area Planning

3.5 In relation to Area Planning, the case for change notes that:

- This proposal will address over subscription, meet parental demand and ensure a network of sustainable sixth form provision.
- Enable the College to provide the Entitlement Framework better and initiate courses which complement the range of general and applied A' levels currently on offer.
- The College also hopes to complement the A' level provision of schools in its Area Learning Community and beyond.

Educational Impact

3.6 In relation to Educational Impact, the case for change notes that:

- The proposal would allow more of Lagan College's own students to access Integrated post-16 education and to meet the needs of pupils who have been educated in the school from Years 8 to 12 by working towards full delivery of the Entitlement Framework.
- The proposal will enhance the quality and provision and raise standards.

Meeting the need of Students

3.7 The case for change states that:

- The present sixth form comprises of 100 places in Year 13 and 100 places in Year 14, giving a total of 200 places. The proposal aims to have a phased increase over two years (50 places per year) making a total of 300 places at sixth form.
- Three additional Post-16 courses would be added to the College's curriculum as a result of this proposal.

- The College continues to be the most oversubscribed school in Northern Ireland at transition from primary to post-primary school.
- Temporary Variations (TVs) to admissions at Lagan College have been approved over the past three years. Its sixth form is consistently oversubscribed and the College has been operating for a number of years with TVs for a number of years at Year 13.

Impact on neighbouring provision

3.8 In relation to the anticipated impact on neighbouring provision, the case for change states that this proposal will not impact negatively on neighbouring schools or Further Education (FE) colleges but that it will create greater opportunities for wider co-operation and course provision.

4. CONSULTATIONS

Pre-publication consultation

4.1 The case for change provides details of the statutory consultation required with the school's Governors, teaching staff and parents of registered pupils and notes that the support for the proposal was unanimous in each of these groupings.

4.2 The EA has provided details of its statutory consultation with all schools which it considered might be affected by the proposal and received 103 responses. It is noted that Down High School, Our Lady and St Patrick's College and Priory College responded during the EA's consultation opposing the proposal because of the anticipated impact on their provision. The latter two schools also expressed concern that the out workings of the public consultation on the EA's draft strategic Area Plan had not yet concluded.

EA's comments

4.3 The EA's comments are attached in full at Appendix B. It does not support this proposal and draws on the findings of a report it undertook (in 2015) regarding of post-primary provision in East Belfast (including Lagan College) to underpin this recommendation.

4.4 The EA's comments on the proposal also highlight the draft strategic area plan which highlights the aim to '*reconfigure post-16 provision to give pupils equitable access to the Entitlement Framework pathways in collaboration with the Further Education sector*' across all Council areas.

4.5 It is the EA's view that a more robust, all-embracing, approach is needed which would tailor current provision, across all sectors, to a model fit to meet the needs of the 16 to 18 year old population in the east Belfast area. The EA notes that while this proposal would increase the number of places available in the area, it would not resolve the fundamental issues raised in the 2015 review or improve pathway choices for the majority of young people in the area.

2-month statutory objection period

4.6 During the two-month statutory objection period on this proposal which ran from 24 November 2016 to 24 January 2017 the Department received a total of **57** letters of support and no letters of objection. The **57** letters were received from:

- Lagan College (*Chair BoG/Principal*): **1**
- Teachers/Staff at Lagan College: **13**
- Parents (*of past and present pupils*): **28**
- Others (*interested in or affected by the proposal*): **9**
- Pupils (*past and present*): **2**
- Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education: **1**
- Integrated Education Fund: **1**
- Strangford College (*Principal*): **1**
- Kellie Armstrong MLA: **1**

4.7 Details of the content of this correspondence is provided at Appendix D. In summary, Lagan College's letter of support highlights that this proposal was included in a previous iteration of the Area Plan and that it would be unjust to its students to object to this proposal on grounds of awaiting a new Area Plan. The letter states that the impact of the proposal will not compromise other provision as the affected students are already enrolled at Lagan College. The letter notes that the school building has the capacity to accommodate the increase and that the proposal is in response to parents and pupils desire that they remain in the school to complete their studies.

4.8 Correspondence from parents supporting the proposal also highlight particular concerns about their children facing the prospect of limited availability of places in Lagan College's Sixth Form and being unable to continue their studies there. They also refer to the uncertainty and stress which parents and pupils face as a result of the current Sixth Form provision and strongly support the difference which the provision of additional places would make. Correspondence from pupils supporting the proposal refers to the key benefits of the proposal and notes that it will benefit children of all abilities.

4.9 Teachers and Staff of Lagan College support the proposal and refer to the fact that pupils wanting to attend Sixth Form there should be given the opportunity to do so through this proposal. Mention is also made in these letters of the benefits of this proposal to students already attending the school (particularly those with SEN) and they refer to a lack of integrated post-primary (sixth form) places in the area.

4.10 The Integrated Education Fund's (IEF) letter of support highlights the benefits of this proposal to Lagan College and its pupils in relation to the availability of more places and courses there. It notes that approval would allow the school to meet local demand for integrated education.

4.11 Kellie Armstrong, MLA and Strangford College each confirmed their support for the proposal.

4.12 The letter submitted by Lagan College and an email submitted by one of its teachers highlight a video made by students at the school in support of the proposal. This video can be viewed at the links provided below:

<https://twitter.com/lagancollege>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qw7m7zxASLA&feature=youtu.be>

4.13 The Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education's letter is attached in full at Appendix E and includes the following key points:

- The proposal should be considered within the contexts of DE's duty under the 1989 Education Reform Order (NI) to '*encourage and facilitate integrated education*'....*the 2014 judicial review of Drumragh College..the Stormont House Agreement.*
- Lagan College is one of the most oversubscribed schools in Northern Ireland. Growth of the school has been rapid..there has been over-subscription for Year 8 and Post 16 for many years.
- The applications and admissions for 6th form at Lagan College are not adequate for a school of its size and do not allow Lagan College to be able to take their own pupils straight through from Year 8 to Year 14.
- Lagan College loses a very significant number of its own pupils at 6th form entry stage and this proposal aims to enable students to be able to complete their education up to Year 14 at Lagan College.
- Lagan College receives applications from other integrated school who do not have a Sixth Form, notably Blackwater College and who wish to continue their

education within the integrated education sector. There is limited provision for Post-16 integrated education in the Castlereagh and East Belfast area.

- It is recognised that there is unmet parental demand for integrated education in the East Belfast and Castlereagh area and this has been included in Area/Action Plans for some years. *(Note: NICIE provide a link in its letter to the former SEELB's 2013 Area Plan which references this proposal and states that the SEELB would support it. NICIE also state that the proposal was raised by the school's Principal at a meeting of the East Belfast Area Learning Community in June 2016).*
- In recent years Lagan students have transferred to about 12 other schools...numbers are small at roughly 6 per year and therefore the impact on any one school ...would also be minimal. The majority of students who leave Lagan in Year 12 go to a college of Further Education or into training or apprenticeships.
- It is unlikely that the expansion will have a detrimental impact on...integrated schools (i.e. Malone, Priory and Strangford College) and may indeed have a positive impact on Blackwater students.
- The school takes in 200 children at year it...only has places for 100 at year 13. This proposal would increase the percentage that could be retained to 75% instead of the current 50%. This proposal will have no impact on admissions into other year groups and it is not Lagan College's intention to increase provision to Year 8.
- NICIE believes that the provision of additional places would enhance the school's ability to deal with the demands placed upon it...this proposal will have little or no impact on other post-primary schools in the area...the impact ...on the FE Colleges will again be minimal as the numbers represent a very small proportion of their intake at that level.
- NICIE asks the Minister to support this proposal as it represents a low cost and positive step to support a sustainable school into the future.

5. SUSTAINABILITY ASSESSMENT

Quality Education Experience

5.1 Education and Training Inspectorate (ETI) input on this proposal is attached in full at [Appendix F](#). It undertook a standard inspection of Lagan College in April 2013 and assessed that the overall performance level was 'good' and Achievements and Standards, Provision for Learning and Leadership and Management at the school were also 'good'.

5.2 ETI note that, at the time of the inspection, the percentage of pupils achieving five A*-C at GCSE level or equivalent, including English and

mathematics was well above the NI average for non-selective schools. The percentage achieving three A' levels or equivalent was also above the average for non-selective schools. ETI state that in 2016, the percentage of students gaining three or more GCE A' levels or equivalent at grades A*-C was 69%, the highest recorded by the school.

5.3 The ETI reports that its inspection identified areas for improvement which the school has demonstrated the capacity to address. The main area for improvement is to develop the effectiveness of the processes of self-evaluation in order to improve further the learning and teaching and the standards pupils attain. In response to the report's findings, ETI notes that the school regularly invites the District Inspector in to consult on the school development planning process and actions to promote improvement.

School Performance at GCSE-level and GCE A'level

5.4 In 2014/15 (currently the most available year for verified outcomes), the GCSE outcomes were below the NI non-grammar school average for pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs or equivalent at grades A*-C (66% compared to 72%) but above the NI non-grammar average for pupils achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C inc. GCSEs English and mathematics (56% compared to 47%).

5.5 The proportion of Year 12 pupils achieving 5+ GCSEs or equivalent at grades A*-C declined from 74% in 2013/14 to 66% in 2014/15. The proportion of pupils achieving 5+ GCSE A*-C inc. GCSEs English and mathematics has remained consistently above the NI average in each of the past 4 years for which verified data is available (2011/12 to 2014/15). It should be noted that Lagan enrolls up to 35% of its Year 8 intake based on academic ability. Table 1 below shows the school's GCSE outcomes in the period 2011/12 to 2014/15.

Table 1	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Proportion achieving 5+ GCSEs or equivalent at Grades A*- C				
Lagan College	74%	71%	74%	66%
<i>NI Non-grammar Average</i>	64%	67%	71%	72%
Proportion achieving 5+ GCSEs or equivalent at Grades A*- C including GCSE English and GCSE mathematics				
Lagan College	51%	46%	56%	56%

<i>NI Non-grammar Average</i>	36%	38%	44%	47%
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5.6 The proportion of pupils at Lagan College achieving 2+ A-levels or equivalent at grades A*-E has remained steady in recent years. In 2014/15, 99% of Year 14 pupils achieved at this level which was above the NI non-grammar average of 96%. The proportion of Year 14 pupils achieving 3+ A-levels or equivalent at grades A*-C has remained above the NI non-grammar average in recent years; in 2014/15, 60% of Year 14 pupils achieved at this level compared to the NI non-grammar average of 48%. The school advises that 69% of pupils achieved at this level in 2015/16 (this data is unverified).

5.7 Outcomes at GCE A-Level or equivalent qualifications between 2011/12 and 2014/15 are detailed in Table 2 below.

Table 2	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Proportion achieving 2+ A-levels or equivalent at Grades A* - E				
Lagan College	100%	99%	99%	99%
<i>NI Non-grammar Average</i>	96%	96%	95%	96%
Proportion achieving 3+ A-levels or equivalent at Grades A* - C				
Lagan College	63%	61%	57%	60%
<i>NI Non-grammar Average</i>	45%	45%	48%	48%

5.8 Compared to other non-grammar schools serving the Belfast area and its immediate environs, Lagan College has a relatively low proportion of pupils entitled to free school meals; in 2015/16, 24.7% of its pupils (313 out of 1,265) were entitled to free school meals.

Curricular Offer

5.9 In 2015/16, in order to meet the statutory requirements of the Entitlement Framework (EF) schools are required to provide access to a minimum of 24 courses at Key Stage 4 (KS4) and 27 courses at Post-16; of which at least one third must be general and one third applied.

5.10 Revised EF arrangements have recently been approved which mean that, from September 2017 onwards, schools are required to offer 21 courses at both KS4 and at Post-16. Schools will still be required to

offer at least one third general and one third applied courses as this is set out in primary legislation. However, at this time, the 2015/16 information is the most current and verified available.

5.11 The table below sets out the data for academic year 2015/16. **Green** indicates that the school met these requirements in 2015/16 and **Red** indicates the school did not meet the requirements.

5.12 Lagan College provided access to the following courses at KS4 and Post-16.

	Key Stage 4 (Year 11)	Post-16 (Year 13)
Applied courses	17	12
General courses	17	13
Total	34	25

5.13 At KS4 Lagan College offered access to 34 courses, where all of the applied and general courses were delivered within the school. At Post-16 the school offered access to 25 courses; all of the 12 applied courses were delivered within the school. Two of the 13 general courses were delivered through collaboration, one with Our Lady and St Patrick's College and one with Breda Academy.

5.14 Therefore, although Lagan College's offer of 25 courses at post-16 did not meet the EF statutory requirement in 2015/16, this offer would be sufficient enough to meet the reduced number of 21 courses in September 2017.

5.15 The case for change states that, '*Currently the College is capable of delivering the EF. However, in any given year, not all subjects may be selected*'. However, it is a school's curricular 'offer' that is counted for the purposes of EF compliance and the uptake of courses by pupils would not necessarily inhibit a school from providing access to the proscribed number of courses.

5.16 It is noted that Lagan College hopes to collaborate and offer courses for other schools within the Area Learning Community (ALC) and beyond. At post-16 two courses were delivered collaboratively in 2015/16, one of which was with a school outside the ALC.

Stable Enrolment Trends

5.17 Table 3 below confirms that Lagan College is consistently oversubscribed at Year 8 and has filled above its admission number in each of the past four years. Unverified details for 2016/17 submitted to

DE by the EA suggest a similar pattern in relation to the school's Year 8 admission numbers.

Year	Approved Admission Number	Yr 8 Total Applications	Yr 8 First Preference Applications	Yr 8 Total Admissions
2016/17	200	398	319	201
2015/16	200	500	419	212
2014/15	200	442	356	214
2013/14	200	285	234	208
2012/13	200	299	236	209

5.18 Table 4 below highlights the enrolments at Lagan College between 2011/12 to 2015/16. The school's enrolment are consistently above the Sustainable Schools Policy (SSP) recommended thresholds of 500 (Years 8-12) and 100 (post-16) for a sustainable and viable post-primary school 9 (*most recently evidenced in the 2015/16 enrolments shown above and excluding the numbers of SEN Stage 5 pupils highlighted in red*).

	2011/12*	2012/13*	2013/14*	2014/15*	2015/16*	2015/16 SEN Stage 5
Total pupils	1246	1249	1260	1270	1264	69
Totals Yrs 8-12	1042	1046	1044	1047	1047	62
Total 6th Form	204	203	216	223	217	7
Year 8 intakes	212	209	208	214	212	10

* including SEN 5 (Yr 15 pupils excluded)

5.19 If a school receives more applications for admission than it has places available it can request a Temporary Variation (TV) of its admissions and/or enrolment number from the Department. For the purposes of post-primary school TV requests the Department defines 'reasonable travelling distance' as a journey that can be completed by public transport in one hour or less and is not further than 15 miles travelling distance from a child's home. For the last five years Lagan College has had the following TVs granted (Table 5 below):

School Year	Approved Admissions Number	Approved Enrolment Number	Temporary Variations Approved (To a total of)*	
			Admissions	Enrolment
2016/17	200	1,200	-	-
2015/16	200	1,200	-	-
2014/15	200	1,200	-	1,209 (Sixth Form)
2013/14	200	1,200	-	1,207 (Sixth Form)
2012/13	200	1,200	-	-

*Numbers exclude statemented children (all year groups) and those admitted on appeal or by the ECB (year of admission only)

5.20 The above figures do not appear to tally with the TV figures quoted in the case for change. According to the Department's records, Lagan College has not been granted any TVs in the past two years. However it is possible that the case for change is actually quantifying the additional numbers admitted to sixth form above the notional Year 13 figure of 100. In reality, the school had a small number of available places across all year groups in some of these years and therefore would not have required a formal TV from the Department.

5.21 Table 6 below confirms that Lagan College meets the required 30% of enrolments from the minority (Catholic) community.

Table 6 Lagan College – Religious Balance	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2015/16 %
Protestant	536	526	548	541	504	40
Catholic	456	456	447	461	473	37
Other religions / religion not known	259	267	265	268	288	23
TOTALS	1251	1249	1260	1270	1265	100

5.22 Lagan College's 50% retention rate of its Year 12 cohort is evidenced in Table 7 below. In contrast, the local grammar schools have the potential to admit between 85% to 100% of their annual cohort into Year 13 (Appendix G: Snapshot 2 refers).

Table 7: Lagan College 'staying on' rates		
Lagan College	Year 12 pupils in the year prior	Year 13 pupils in Lagan College (%)
2016/17 (provisional)	212	101(48%)
2015/16	205	104 (51%)
2014/15	209	115 (55%)
2013/14	205	110 (54%)
2012/13	202	93 (46%)
2011/12	202	102 (50%)

5.23 Table 8 below confirms that there are no issues regarding the level of retention rates of pupils between Years 13 and 14 at Lagan College, which were 83% or above during the period 2011/12 to 2014/15.

Table 8: Lagan College – Retention Rates	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Year 13	111	105	120	123	115
Year 14	93	98	96	100	102

Sound Financial Position

5.24 Lagan College has no deficit of public funds and the Department has no immediate financial concerns.

Strong Leadership and Management

5.25 ETI's 2013 inspection report notes that the overall quality of leadership and management of the school was good. It notes that the Governors are very well informed and that effective governance arrangements are in place. The report refers to the Principal as having a clear vision for the direction of the school, focused on raising standards and matching provision to the needs of individual pupils. It notes that the Vice-Principal leads very effectively in a number of key aspects of school improvement and that the senior leadership team carry out important roles in improving aspects of provision.

Accessibility

5.26 There are no apparent accessibility issues for pupils. The case for change describes the distance which pupils have to travel in order to attend as reasonable.

Strong Links with the Community

5.27 The case for change notes that Lagan College is an active member of the East Belfast Area Learning community and refers to 'excellent links' with the community. Close links between the school and local primary schools, churches and charities are also highlighted.

5.28 The Department notes that ETI's 2013 inspection report states that the school has developed very effective links with parents, local businesses, external agencies and the wider community which support well the pupils' educational and pastoral needs. Further, Lagan College has an active website which helps to keep the school and local community informed about activities there.

Overall Sustainability Summary

5.29 The above information confirms that there are no sustainability or viability issues regarding Lagan College. It is a popular, well managed and accessible school with strong community links and offers pupils a good standard of education provision. Although the school is currently EF compliant at KS4 but not at post-16, it will be compliant at both phases in 2017 in view of the recently announced revised EF offer requirements.

6. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

Department Enrolment Policy

6.1 The Department sets one overall approved enrolment number. It does not set a separate enrolment number for Sixth Form. Where schools are not oversubscribed, they all have the same obligations to admit applicants to all available places, the only exception being for Year groups other than Year 8 if the BoG of a post-primary school can demonstrate that the admission of a child to the school would prejudice the efficient use of resources (Article 13 of the Education (NI) Order 1997 refers).

Former Development Proposals (2013/14)

6.2 In 2013, the then South Eastern and Belfast Education and Library Boards (SEELB/BELB) published six DPs to reshape (non-selective) post-primary provision in the “Corridor”, a distinct geographical area running from Holywood along the Knock dual carriageway to Newtownbreda (*and within which Lagan College is situated*). The purpose of those proposals was to re-shape controlled secondary and controlled integrated provision, largely for the East Belfast area but did not feature Lagan College specifically.

6.3 As a result of the proposals, Orangefield High School (HS) closed, Dundonald HS remained open, Newtownbreda and Knockbreda HSs amalgamated and Priory College’s enrolment number increased. Proposals to increase the admission and enrolment numbers at Ashfield Boys and Girls HSs were each turned down.

6.4 Priory College had sought to increase its approved enrolment number from 450 to 600 places in 2013 (SEELB DP 238 refers) but issues about the school’s enrolment at that time resulted in modifying the proposal to facilitate admission and enrolment numbers of 100 and 500 respectively to enable the school to demonstrate the need for provision for unmet demand for integrated education in the area and to ensure that any growth was managed from Year 8 upwards. It was agreed that if there was a marked increase in the lower school within three years and as a result an overall increase in demand for places there, the school’s managing authority (formerly the SEELB, now EA) could consider a further DP at that stage. There are currently no published DPs for Priory College.

6.5 Further to the announcements regarding the development proposals for post primary provision in east Belfast in January 2014 the then South Eastern and Belfast Education and Library Boards were commissioned to work with all other school sectors to ensure adequate places (at Years 8-12 and at post-16) across the 'Corridor' area. The report produced by the EA in 2015, which includes Lagan College, is attached in full at Appendix C. It concluded that current sixth form provision in the east Belfast area was adequate but needed to be more effectively and efficiently managed to avoid issues of duplication, small class sizes and inefficient timetabling.

Annual Action Plan (December 2015 to March 2017)

6.6 The EA's current Annual Action Plan (which is the work programme for the relevant school planning authorities) includes this proposal. Reference to the proposal was also contained in previous iterations of the then South Eastern Education and Library Board's published Area Plans which confirm that this proposal would be initiated within the 'medium term' (*i.e. a five-year period*). This proposal aligns with that intention and has been in the public domain for some years.

Strategic Area Plan (2017 -2020)

6.7 A draft strategic Area Plan ("Providing Pathways") for primary, post-primary and special school provision has been developed by the EA working with its planning partners, for the period April 2017 to March 2020. The consultation findings are being analysed and a final Area Plan will be published in due course. An updated Annual Action Plan will supplement that the final Area Plan from which proposals for change will emanate.

Anticipated requirements and costs

6.8 An increase to Lagan College's enrolment number phased in over two years (with no change to admissions) would in effect increase its potential sixth form cohort by 100 and would increase the funding available to the school as post-16 provision attracts a higher level of funding per pupil.

6.9 The case for change states that three additional Post-16 courses would be added to the school's curriculum over this period. In relation to staffing requirements, a total of six additional teachers would be required (three to be appointed in 2017 and three in 2018) plus other additional salary, educational and administrative related expenses. The school anticipates that in 2017/18, the anticipated amount of funding due through the uptake of the additional places would not fully cover all of the associated expenses but it anticipates being in a surplus position in 2018/19. It will however be a matter for the school to live within its budget.

6.10 The Department's high level estimate of funding for this proposal (using 2016/17 Common Funding Formula values), assuming a phased increase for Year 13 from 100 to 150 pupils (i.e. an additional 50 Year 13 pupils per year over two years) is as follows:

AWPU Factor	$50 \times 2.18 \times \text{£}2,067.98$	= £225,410
Premises Factor - Pupil (FTE) Funding	$50 \times \text{£}169.02$	= £8,451
GMI Admin Costs	Already receiving	= £0
TOTAL (Full Year)	max	= £233,861
TOTAL (Part-Year)	$\text{£}233,861 \times 7/12$	= £136,419

Note: *= multiply

6.11 A high-level funding estimate based on the above, using 2016-17 Post-Primary Formula Funding values, is £234k (full year 2018-19) and £136k (in-year 2017-18). The funding, therefore, over 2 phased years would be £468k (full year 2018-19 and 2019-20) and £272k (in-year 2017-18 and 2018-19). The funding requirement may be increased by other allocations, such as the TSN Factor and Premises Factor (Floor Area element), which cannot be estimated at present as relevant data is not available.

6.12 The case for change notes that the existing management and governance structures would be sufficient to implement and manage the proposed expansion of the school and no additional capital cost requirements are envisaged as the school's new building was built to accommodate a sixth form of over 340 places.

ETI input

6.13 ETI's input ([Appendix F](#)) notes that this proposal is to develop the school's sixth form provision to enable 75% of learners to stay on. It also states that at the time of the inspection (2013) the percentage of pupils going onto another school (in the 2012/13 academic year) was almost 5 percentage points above the NI average. It is noted that the table provided in the school's case for change showing the destination of Year 12 students from the 2013/14 to 2016/17 academic years highlight an increase in numbers of pupils since then have been entering FE institutions instead of enrolling at another school.

6.14 ETI note Lagan College's participation in its Area Learning Community and states that *'although approximately 35% of the school's annual intake is selected on the basis of academic ability, it is unlikely that the DP will impact significantly on grammar school neighbours such as Our Lady and St Patrick's (OLSP) Knock'*.

6.15 It is ETI's view that in light of the continuing upward trend in standards at post-16 level, the development of post-16 provision at Lagan College will:

- better meet the needs of those Lagan pupils who might otherwise be forced to go transfer to another provider for post-16 provision; by being able to

stay on extends the care, support and welfare that they have experienced in key stages 3 and 4, linking this to the outcomes they may achieve at post-16 level;

- enable the school to expand further the curriculum offer at post-16, including collaborative arrangements with other providers; and
- extend the option for parents and students to continue to partake in or experience afresh integrated education, as Lagan is the only integrated college in this area (the nearest alternatives are Blackwater College, Downpatrick or Priory College, Holywood).

6.16 ETI also highlight that the teachers may benefit from:

- focusing on teaching more to their specialism;
- improved opportunities for professional interaction;
- opportunities to be involved in curricular development; and
- improved opportunities for career advancement and leadership development.

6.17 ETI supports DP 482 but highlights concern about the impact of the proposal on Breda Academy. It has requested that this issue is given due attention in the decision making process around this proposal. The impact of this proposal on other schools (including Breda Academy) is considered in the section below.

Impact on other provision

6.18 Lagan College's wide catchment area means that pupils travel past a number of other schools to attend school at this particular setting. Lagan College draws pupils from the immediate Lisburn and Castlereagh Local Government District (LGD) as well as the Belfast and Ards and North Down LGDs. Population projections (stated in the draft Strategic Area Plan) suggest that the population in the 16-19 age range will, by 2024, increase by 1.2% and 0.9% in the Lisburn and Castlereagh and Ards and North Down LGDs respectively and decrease by 1.4% in the Belfast LGD.

6.19 The comments below should be read in conjunction with Snapshots 1 and 2 (Enrolment/general details) and 3 (2015/16 EF offer) attached at Appendix G. As the number of courses school will be required to offer will reduce to 21 qualifying courses at both KS4 and post-16 from September 2017, the comments provided below in relation to EF

compliance are a factual account of the 2015/16 school year (which is the most current verified position).

Integrated

6.20 The two nearest Integrated schools to Lagan College are Priory and Malone Colleges (each are around 6-7 miles away). Priory College is situated in Holywood and forms part of provision along 'the Corridor' and Malone College is located within the Musgrave area of South Belfast.

6.21 Combined, these three schools offer a total of 2,500 places of which 430 are Year 8 and 2150 places at Years 8-12 with potential sixth form provision of 350 places.

6.22 In 2015/16 (less SEN Stage 5 pupils) there were:

- 2,500 available places with 2,258 pupils enrolled (variance 242 places)
- 430 available Year 8 places with 398 pupils enrolled (variance 32 places)
- 2150 available places at Years 8-12 with 1839 pupils enrolled (variance 311 places)
- 350 potential Sixth Form places with 419 pupils enrolled (variance 69 places)

6.23 Although these figures suggest an availability of Integrated places at Years 8-12 but no availability at Post-16, the facts are that only Malone College has capacity at Year 8 and 246 unfilled places. There is currently no capacity at Year 8 or at Sixth Form in either Lagan College or Priory College.

6.24 In 2016/17, unverified figures suggest that:

- Lagan College is oversubscribed at Year 8 first preference applications.
- Although Priory College and Malone College are undersubscribed at first preference, Priory College has accepted applications over its admission number.
- Of the 130 Year 8 places on offer at Malone College, 64 applications were accepted.

6.25 Priory College's Years 8 to 12 enrolment numbers (430) now virtually align with its total enrolment number (500) which has required approval to TVs of 16 and 26 additional sixth form places in 2015/16 and 2016/17 respectively. Table 7 below confirms that growth is emanating from Year 8 upwards. In 2015/16, Priory College was not fully EF compliant at either KS 4 or at post-16.

Table 7 Priory College – Historic Enrols (include SEN St 5)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Total pupils	509	492	500	549	580
Year 8	85	74	83	114	114

6.26 Malone College has capacity at both Year 8-12 and at Post-16. Table 8 below confirms that enrolments at the school are declining and there is no sign of sustained growth from Year 8 upwards. In 2015/16, Malone College was not fully EF compliant at KS 4 but was compliant at post-16.

Table 8 Malone College (include SEN St 5)	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Total pupils	710	708	656	617	591
Year 8	96	72	75	55	92

6.27 Lagan College has four neighbouring Controlled secondary schools (Ashfield Boys' and Girls' HSs, Dundonald HS and Breda Academy) and one Maintained secondary school (St Joseph's College) located within a 5-mile radius.

Controlled

6.28 The four Controlled schools offer a total of 2,860 places of which 513 places are at Year 8 and 2,565 places between Years 8-12 with potential sixth form provision of 313 places.

6.29 In 2015/16 (less SEN Stage 5 pupils) there were:

- 2860 available places with 2443 pupils enrolled (variance 417 places)
- 513 available places at Year 8 with 421 pupils enrolled (variance 92 places)
- 2565 available places at Years 8-12, with 2042 pupils enrolled (variance 523 places)
- 295 potential places at Sixth Form with 401 pupils enrolled (variance 106 places)

6.30 In 2016/17, unverified figures suggest that:

- Both Ashfield schools have filled to capacity at Year 8.
- Dundonald HS and Breda Academy each have capacity from Year 8 upwards.

6.31 Although the evidence suggests that there is unfilled capacity within this sector, in reality this applies only to Breda Academy (with 146 unfilled places) and Dundonald HS (with 386 unfilled places *but does not*

offer Sixth Form provision) as both Ashfield Boys' and Girls' HSs are full to capacity between Years 8 to 14 with no unfilled places.

6.32 In 2015/16, Ashfield Girls' HS and Breda Academy were fully EF compliant at KS4 but not compliant at post-16. Ashfield Boy's HS was not EF compliant at either phase and Dundonald HS was not compliant at KS4 (*and does not offer sixth form provision*).

6.33 ETI has raised particular concerns about the impact of this proposal on Breda Academy which was established in 2015 through the amalgamation of Newtownbreda and Knockbreda HSs.

6.34 Breda Academy has approved admission and enrolment numbers of 170 and 1000 respectively. In 2015/16 (excluding SEN stage 5 pupils) there were 140 Year 8 pupils and a total enrolment of 854 pupils enrolled at the school of which 113 were in its sixth form (i.e. 76 in Year 13 and 37 in Year 14).

6.35 Although Breda Academy has yet to achieve its maximum admission and enrolment numbers, in 2015/16 its Years 8 to 12 and Post-16 enrolments (less SEN Stage 5 pupils) were 741 and 113 respectively making a total enrolment of 854 pupils. These figures are above the recommended SSP thresholds of 500 pupils (at Years 8-12) and 100 pupils (at sixth form). Unverified records for 2016/17 suggest that the school has admitted a total of 122 Year 8 pupils (this figure includes SEN Stage 5 pupils).

6.36 There are no immediate concerns about the enrolments at Breda Academy given that they are compliant with (and in fact exceed) the SSP thresholds. As a newly established school, it is recognised that it may take time for growth there to continue to emanate year on year from Year 8 through to sixth form.

Maintained

6.37 St Joseph's College offers a total of 664 places of which 120 are at Year 8 and 600 places between Years 8-12 with potential sixth form provision of 64 places.

6.38 In 2015/16 (less SEN Stage 5 pupils) there were:

- 664 available places with 559 pupils enrolled (variance 105 places)
- 120 available places at Year 8 with 113 pupils enrolled (variance 7 places)

- 600 available places at Years 8-12, with 461 pupils enrolled (variance 139 places)
- 64 potential places at Sixth Form with 98 pupils enrolled (variance 34 places)

6.39 In 2016/17, unverified figures suggest that the school will again have capacity from Year 8 upwards with 100 pupils being admitted. In 2015/16 St Joseph's College was EF compliant at KS4 but not at post-16.

Grammar

6.40 The ten grammar schools listed in the snapshot offer a total of 10,225 places of which 1435 are at Year 8 and 7,175 places between Years 8-12 with potential sixth form provision of 3,050 places.

6.41 In 2015/16 (less SEN Stage 5 pupils) there were:

- 10,225 available places with 9980 pupils enrolled (variance 245 places)
- 1435 available places at Year 8 with 1437 pupils enrolled (variance 2 places)
- 7175 available places at Years 8-12, with 7265 pupils enrolled (variance 90 places)
- 3,050 potential places at Sixth Form with 2715 pupils enrolled (variance 335 places)

6.42 In 2016/17, unverified figures suggest that:

- The Grammar schools will have no capacity at Year 8 as the number of (first preference) applications (1,537) exceed the number of available places (1,435).

6.43 Although there is no capacity at Year 8, the lower school total enrolments at the Grammar Schools suggest that pupils are being enrolled in these schools from Years 9-12 as most have some unfilled capacity at Sixth Form thus enabling enrolments to be contained within their overall approved total enrolment numbers.

6.44 In 2015/16, six of the ten grammar schools listed were fully EF compliant at KS4 and post-16.

6.45 In summary, the information above confirms that, in addition to Lagan College, sixth form provision at other local popular secondary schools (i.e. Priory College, Ashfield Boys HS and Ashfield Girls HS) are

full to capacity and although a majority of the Grammar schools have some capacity at sixth form it is possible that their requirements for Year 13 admissions may potentially restrict access to those places.

6.46 The outcome of Priory College's DP (in 2014) was that if the school demonstrated growth in its enrolment and evidence of demand for places there, a further DP could be considered. Responsibility for provision at Priory College lies with the EA in the first instance and there are currently no competing published proposals for that school. However, the evidence would suggest that Priory College's catchment largely covers North Down rather than being a natural provider for pupils from the East Belfast area (Map 2 refers). For those reasons the impact of this proposal on provision at Priory College (current and future) is considered negligible. Any future DP for that school would be considered on its own merits and within the local area context.

6.47 The evidence also suggests that the south Belfast location of Malone College does not offer potential sixth form pupils from the East Belfast and Down areas a reasonably accessible alternative Integrated option and while St Joseph's College has potential capacity at sixth form because it is not filling to its enrolment number, growth there has been emanating from Year 8 upwards in recent years and has yet to work through to the upper school.

6.48 In relation to Breda Academy, given that the school is recently established there are no immediate concerns about its enrolment numbers and the challenge at this school will be to attract more students at Year 8 so that growth can emanate through to sixth form.

6.49 Lagan College's proposal is primarily aimed at its existing Year 12 students wishing to continue their sixth form studies there and this rationale has also been repeated through the letters of support received on this proposal.

6.50 Evidence suggests that the impact of this proposal on other local schools including Breda Academy should be relatively minimal, particularly as Lagan College's admission number will remain unchanged. Concerns raised by the EA about this proposal when it was submitted to the Department when published did not include any specific concerns about the impact on Breda Academy for which it is the relevant school managing authority. Furthermore, no objections about this proposal were lodged with the Department during the two-month statutory objection period.

6.51 It is also noted that Lagan College's case for change includes details about the destinations of its Year 12 students post-GCSE. This information highlights that the majority of those leaving the school post-GCSE enter FE rather than enrolling in another school. The information in the case for change does not provide specific details about the level of study being accessed at FE but the evidence above may help put the Year 12 leaver destinations into context.

7. CONCLUSION

7.1 Although the school's case for change highlights that a majority of Lagan College's leavers unable to secure a Year 13 place there attend FE institutions and states that *'increasing the size of the college's sixth form would reduce the numbers going to FE'*, the Department recognises that that some courses may be more appropriately delivered in a FE setting and it may be pupils' preferred choice to access courses there.

7.2 The intention of this proposal has been well rehearsed in the school's case for change as well as the letters of support received, which is to primarily give students already attending Lagan College a reasonable opportunity to complete their studies there. Parents have an expectation that when their children enrol at Lagan College they will have a fair and equitable opportunity to continue into its sixth form. However, that expectation is compromised because of the school's current Year 13 intake (50% of its annual cohort) which falls below that of the local grammar schools which have the potential to admit between 85% to 100% of their annual cohort into Year 13 (Appendix G: Snapshot 2 refers).

7.3 The evidence points to the sixth form situation at Lagan College not being adequate to meet current demand from its own students. Details in the school's case for change about the oversubscription of Year 13 admission applications by its own students concurs with the Department's analysis (Table 7 above). The figures provided in the school's case for change also show that, on average, over the past four years (2013 to 2016), there have been 144 internal applicants for the 100 available Year 13 places and this increases to an average of 163 applicants when external applicants are included.

7.4 The impact of this proposal on other schools is not concerning because there is no change to the school's admission number and it will be pupils already enrolled at Lagan College who will be the primary

beneficiaries of the proposal. A very limited number of Lagan College's post Year 12 pupils currently enrol at Year 13 in another school as the majority of the school's Year 12 leavers tend to enrol in FE and the impact on those settings (particularly Belfast Metropolitan College) is likely to be minimised given its wide catchment areas.

7.5 The Area Planning process continues with the new strategic Area Plan and supporting Annual Action Plan being finalised. The EA's present Annual Action Plan (which includes this proposal for Lagan College) has currency until March 2017 and supports the Department's consideration of any related published proposal. It is noted that in addition to the Annual Action Plan, reference to this proposal being brought forward within a five-year timeframe was also included in the previously published iterations of the post-primary (SEELB) Area Plan. Therefore anyone interested in it or affected by it would have been aware of it and could have availed of the opportunity to send their comments on it directly to the Department during the two-month statutory objection period, but none were received.

7.6 The Department concurs with the outcome of the EA's 2015 report on post-primary provision regarding the adequate number of sixth form places across the greater east Belfast 'Corridor' area. However the evidence above suggests that these places are not necessarily in the right locations or sectors and in some instances present pupils with access difficulties, particularly to the Grammar sector due to high entry requirements. The out workings of that report and any subsequent action required is a matter for the EA to consider in the first instance and progress through the Area Planning structures. There are currently no alternative or competing published DPs for sixth form provision in this area.

8. RECOMMENDATION

8.1 The Department is mindful that parents and pupils make a specific choice for education at an Integrated school setting. Although this proposal will primarily benefit the existing students of Lagan College it may also benefit other students at local Integrated post-primary schools without a sixth form (e.g. Blackwater Integrated College) by providing an opportunity to complete their studies at an Integrated setting, if that is their preference.

8.2 Considered all of the evidence in this case and balancing this against its statutory duty to encourage and facilitate the development of Integrated education, it is recommended that you:

- 1) Approve DP 482 as published. This means that the approved enrolment number at Lagan College will increase from 1200 to 1300 phased over two years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.
- 2) Agree that this submission (with appropriate redactions) can be made available on the Department's website once the school and the EA have been notified.

8.3 I attach the following for your consideration.

Appendix A: Lagan College – DP 482 & case for change.

Appendix B: EA comments and consultation report.

Appendix C: EA's report on post-primary provision in East Belfast (2015).

Appendix D: Summary - correspondence received during two-month statutory objection period.

Appendix E: NICIE comments

Appendix F: ETI input

Appendix G: Supporting statistics.



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CC

Paul Sweeney

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Julie Thompson

Jacqui Durkin

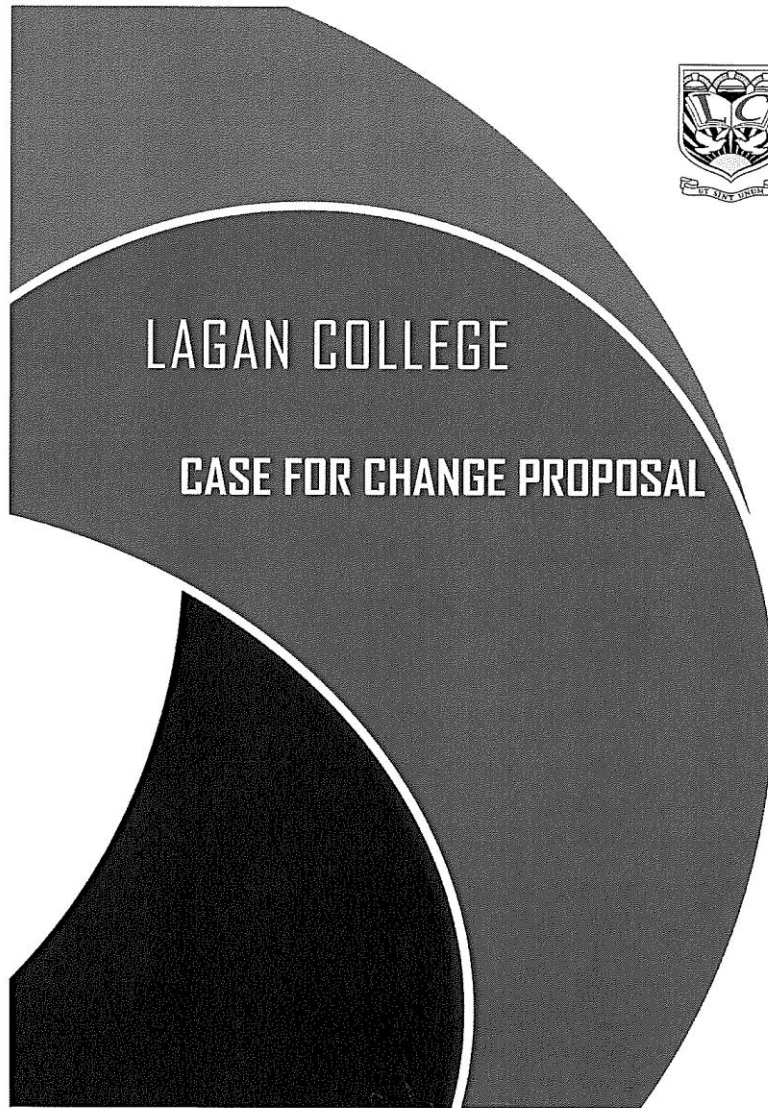
Dorina Edgar

APPT

Press Office

APPENDIX A LAGAN COLLEGE'S CASE FOR CHANGE

Case for Change – Lagan College | 2016



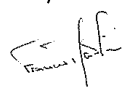

Case for Change – Lagan College | 2016

Lagan College

CASE FOR CHANGE –Supporting Information

BOARD AREA	EA-South Eastern Region
DP NUMBER	482
PROPOSER	<p>The Board of Governors of Lagan College</p> <p>Contact: Mrs Amanda McNamee, Principal</p> <p>amcnamee836@c2kni.net</p> <p><i>(Note:DE will use these contact details for providing notification of the Minister's decision)</i></p>
SCHOOL(S) NAME	Lagan College
SCHOOL REFERENCE	4260255
TYPE	Post-Primary (11-19)
MANAGEMENT	Grant Maintained Integrated College
DP PUBLICATION DATE	Week commencing 21 November 2016
PROPOSAL	<p>To increase Lagan College's enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over 2 years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.</p>

STATUTORY CONSULTATION

BY PROPOSER	<p>I confirm that the school(s) Board of Governors, Staff and Parents of Pupils were consulted by 30th June 2016</p> <p>SIGNED:  DATE: 26 September 2016</p>
BY THE BOARD	<p>I confirm that the schools which the Board consider might be impacted by this proposal were consulted on 3 October 2016.</p> <p>Signed:  M/Nov/16</p>

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- 1. Background**
- 2. Sustainable Schools Policy**
- 3. Rationale for Proposal**
- 4. Area Planning Impact**
- 5. Educational Impact**
- 6. Enrolment information**
- 7. Statistical Information**
- 8. Resource Implications**
- 9. Statutory Consultation**
- 10. Appendices**

BACKGROUND

Lagan College is an integrated, co-educational, bi-lateral, all-ability grant-maintained post primary school catering for students aged 11-19 years. It has established itself as a successful bi-lateral school in Northern Ireland educating students of all abilities. Our academic and pastoral provision has ensured that Lagan College has become a popular choice for Post-16 study. The Board of Governors of the College are committed to ensuring that Lagan College provides the best integrated education for the local and wider communities. However, over the last 15 years our 100 Year 13 places have been filled and we have been over-subscribed.

Each year the College witnesses the disappointment of parents and students studying at Lagan College when they cannot progress with the school into their post-16 study. Moreover, we consistently turn away significant numbers of external students who wish to pursue their Sixth Form study at Lagan College, either because their own school does not provide Post-16 education or they cannot avail of the chosen range of subjects in their present school.

Lagan College is the only integrated post-primary school in the Castlereagh area taking students from Greater Belfast area and North Down. The nearest integrated colleges in our board area are Blackwater College (11-16) and Priory College. This proposal will extend the provision of Post-16 integrated education in the Belfast and South-Eastern Region.

The inability to admit a greater number of students to study Post-16 at Lagan College has forced many families into the non-integrated sector against their wishes. Lagan College also wish to respond positively to enable more year 12 students the opportunity to stay on at Post-16 level or indeed join our school at Post-16 level if that is the student's and their parent's choice.

Accommodation: The College is situated in the Castlereagh hills on land leased from the National Trust. In 2013 Lagan College received a new build as part of a public-private partnership initiative, which was designed to accommodate a Sixth Form of over 340. The school now is a state of the art educational facility. The school has 9 computer suites,

including a suite of Apple Macintosh computers, an all-weather hockey pitch, and a playing field for football, Gaelic football and rugby. There are three eating areas, a study area reserved for Sixth Form and a Sixth Form common room, equipped with modern facilities.

Community: The school has excellent links with the community. There are close links with local primary schools; we hold a range of activities each year for primary schools, including science workshops, sports events and drama productions. Our Sixth Form play an integral role in these activities. The College has close links with a range of local churches, this is fostered by our Chaplaincy, our Sixth Form also work closely with a range of local and international charities, and we work in collaboration with Storehouse UK and Habitat for Humanity. Every year our Sixth Form students have the opportunity to work on an international project through World Challenge or with Serve in South Africa. In particular our students have worked with other young people in post-conflict societies, exploring issues of reconciliation and justice. The school is a fully active member of the East Belfast Area Learning Community, and hosts a significant number of students from our partner schools, to discuss contemporary political, religious and community issues. Our Sixth Form have recently been involved in leading commemoration events with both primary and secondary schools. The College helps to lead the *OLEVI Initiative*, which is a course aimed at developing outstanding teaching for teachers from a range of schools.

Viability Audit: In the viability audit submitted by the Minister of Education in February 2012, Lagan College was clearly defined as viable in both its stable enrolment and its sound financial position. The College forwarded its intention to increase its Sixth Form provision as part of the Area Planning Consultation and the SEELB's published Area Plan in 2012. The size of our Sixth Form will become commensurate with the size of Sixth Forms in two schools, Grosvenor Grammar School and Our Lady and St. Patrick's School, Knock (OLSPCK), with whom we form part of the East Belfast Area Learning Community.

THE SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS POLICY

The school fulfils all six criteria set out within the Sustainable Schools Policy:

- A. Quality Educational Experience** – The school provides a balanced educational experience and has sustained high standards of educational attainment, along with enabling students to have a full set of option choices and pursue their chosen subjects to the highest level. This is evidenced by the most recent ETI inspection; *“The school works well with the pupils and their parents to ensure that the learning pathways are matched appropriately to the interests and career aspirations of the pupils.”* (ETI Inspection Report April 2013)
- B. Stable Enrolment Trends** – The school is significantly oversubscribed every year, both for admission to Year 8 and Year 13. This is evidenced by the school’s applications and admissions data (See Figures 1 and 2).
- C. Sound Financial Position** – Lagan College has managed the resources entrusted to it for the education of its students in a way that provides value for money for the public. Despite reductions in the value of the AWPU and increases in employer’s costs during the year 2015/16, Lagan continues to run within the financial limits set by DENI.
- D. Strong Leadership and Management by Boards of Governors and Principals** – The school is characterised by its strong leadership and effective management. This directly influences the standards of attainment, the quality of the teaching, academic achievement, the attendance behaviour and motivation of the students. This is evidenced by the ETI inspection which stated *“The Principal has a clear vision for the direction of the school, which is focused on raising standards and matching provision to the needs of individual pupils. She has been well supported by the school community in taking forward this vision.”* (ETI Inspection Report April 2013)
- E. Accessibility** – The distance that students travel to school is reasonable and takes into account the *“ages of the pupils and needs of the area.”* (‘Schools for the Future: A Policy for Sustainable Schools’ (Jan 2009 p. 37) The school is situated on the outskirts of Belfast the intake of students comes from the greater Belfast area and North Down.
- F. Strong links with the Community** – Lagan College has strong links and relationships with parents, the local community and local schools. *“The school has developed very effective links with parents, local businesses, external agencies and the wider community which support well the pupils’ educational and pastoral needs.”* (ETI

Inspection Report April 2013) As a school originally founded by parents there continues to be a strong representation of parents on the panel of Board of Governors. The high attendance recorded at parents’ consultations, the good standing that the school has within the community. The school works in conjunction with a large number of outside agencies in the local Area Learning Community (ALC) and further afield. This is evidenced not only by the number of courses we have provided to other members of our ALC, including History, Sociology, Music Technology and Religious Education, but also through our participation at leadership level in Careers, SEN and the most recent shared education programme.

RATIONALE FOR PROPOSAL

This case for change is made in the light of the fact:

- Lagan College is oversubscribed each year

APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS

	Admissions No.	Total Applications (i.e. All preferences)	Total Admissions
2013	200	293	200
2014	200	442	200
2015	200	517	202*
2016	200	443	202*

Source EA (Fig 1)

*includes admission directed by the Exceptional Circumstances Body

- The need for Lagan College to accommodate more of its **own students** into Post-16 study. The College’s long term Sixth Form enrolment limit is too low to cater for the demands of parents and their children, and as a result, a significant number of our

students and students from schools without Sixth Form provision have been denied access to their first choice Post-16 study.

Lagan College 3 Year Enrolment into the Sixth Form

Year	No. of Places	No. of Internal Applicants	No. of External Applicants	Total No. of Applicants	No. of Temporary Variations Granted	No. Admitted
2016	100	141	22	163	6	106
2015	100	136	23	159	14	114
2014	100	157	18	175	13	113
2013	100	142	12	154	9	109

(Fig. 2)

- The Sixth Form at Lagan is currently **oversubscribed**. There is great demand for our Sixth Form integrated education places, particularly from our own students. The current Post-16 provision number of 100 is too low to cater for present and future Year 12 students and external interest.
- There is a substantial **demand from parents** annually, for the quality and type of Sixth Form provision provided by Lagan College and there is an increased student and parent frustration at the shortage of Post-16 places in the College.
- The College also has a number of **applications from students from schools that do not have A level provision**.
- We have applications from other integrated schools who do not have Sixth Form provision, notably Blackwater College and who wish to **continue their education within the integrated education sector**.

Lagan College External Applications by School

Year	Schools	Number of Applications	Number Accepted	
2016	Blackwater College,	8	2	
	Saintfield High School	6	2	
	Our Lady and Saint Patrick's College Knock	1	0	
	St Joseph's College	1	0	
	Wellington College	2	0	
	Sullivan Upper	1	0	
	Royal Belfast Academical Institute	1	0	
	Wallace High School	1	0	
	Other (Outside Northern Ireland/UK)	2	2	
	2015	Blackwater College	10	2
		Saintfield High School	4	1
Our Lady and Saint Patrick's College, Knock		2	1	
Breda Academy		1	0	
Aquinas College		1	2	
Wellington College		2	0	
2014	Blackwater College	2	2	
	Saintfield High School	4	1	
	Strathearn College	2	2	
	Dominican College	1	-	
	Aquinas College	1	-	
	Wellington College	2	-	
	Bloomfield Collegiate	1	1	
	Other	1	1	

- To ensure the College meets the demands of the **Entitlement Framework**.
- There is **limited provision for Post-16 integrated education** in the Castlereagh and East Belfast area and indeed within our locality. Students who wish to access Post-16

integrated education have the option of Priory College or Malone College. However, both these alternative schools require students to travel long distances. Priory College is 6.8 miles and Malone College is 6.2 miles from the Castlereagh area. However, most students who are not accepted back to Lagan College go to colleges of further education, predominantly Belfast Metropolitan College.

Destinations of Year 12 Students

Year	Return to Lagan College	Further Education Inc. Training	Employment	Another School	Emigrated	Unknown	Total
2016	100	86	2	0	0	26	214
2015	108	83	4	6	0	15	216
2014	108	80	2	2	3	5	200
2013	107	79	3	6	2	2	207

- There is a community based and province wide need and **desire for integrated education.**
- **Nationally, more children are encouraged by the Department of Education to stay on at school until 18 years of age.**

AREA PLANNING IMPACT

The College believes that increasing the enrolment into the Sixth Form will address many issues:

Address Oversubscription:- Every year the Lagan College Sixth Form is oversubscribed, particularly from our own students.

Meet Parental Demand: Provide places to meet the wishes of parents who would like their children to continue their Post-16 education in an integrated setting and particularly in Lagan College. Based on recent data the College predicts that demand for places in the Sixth Form will remain high.

Ensure a network of sustainable Sixth Form provision: The increased enrolment of the Lagan College Sixth Form will ensure a reasonable travelling distance for students.

The Entitlement Framework: Currently Lagan College is capable of delivering the Entitlement Framework. However, in any given year, not all subjects may be selected. Given the scale of provision required by the Entitlement Framework, Lagan College will be better able to provide the Framework, with the increased student numbers proposed. Our College Development Plan shows that we will be significantly adding to our Sixth Form provision over the next three years. It is our hope to initiate courses that complement the broad range of general and applied A levels we offer now. We hope also to complement the A level provision of schools in our area learning community and beyond. In the past we have offered courses to Grosvenor Grammar School and OLSPCK. Currently we offer students from Breda College, outside of our area learning community access to our Post-16 courses.

Area Learning Community: Since the expansion we propose is intended largely for our own students, we envisage that the case for change we present will not impact negatively on our neighbouring schools and will only create greater opportunities for wider cooperation and course provision. Examining the destination of the leavers shows the majority of our students go on to colleges of further education, notably Belfast Metropolitan College (BMC), so increasing the size of the college's Sixth form would reduce the numbers going to Further

Education. However, given that that these colleges have such a wide catchment area it is unlikely that this would have a substantial effect on them.

AREA PLANNING

South Eastern Region Area Planning

Since its inception, area based planning for the Castlereagh area has recognised the need for additional Post 16 Provision. In addition, SEELB, prior to the establishment of the South East Region of the Education Authority, acknowledged in 2012 that Lagan College would be seeking to develop its Post 16 provision and admission.

EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

This proposal would allow more of Lagan College's students to access integrated Post-16 education. Lagan College is a school that can demonstrate significant improvements in academic performance along with an expanding curriculum at Sixth Form. Expansion of student numbers in the Sixth Form would allow the school to **enhance the quality of provision and identify and meet the needs of the young** people who have been educated in Lagan College from Year 8-Year 12 by working towards full delivery of the Entitlement Framework.

Enhancing the quality and provision and raising standards: The ETI Report of April 2013 states, *"the percentage of Year 14 obtaining Grades C or above in at least 3 A levels has improved since 2010 and in each of the last three years, achievement has been above the average for non-selective schools. The standards the pupils achieve in the GCE applied subjects are very good."*

The College is significantly improving trends in key examination results. For example in the last three years the percentage of students achieving 3 or more A levels A*-E has risen from 90.5% to 94.9%. 69.4% of our students achieve 3 or more A levels A*-C. Projections for 2017 indicate even further improvement. Students achieving any 2 A levels, at grade E or above, at A2 level, is 100%. The increase in successful achievement at A2 is one of the driving factors in increasing our numbers.

Year	% 3+ A-Levels A*-C	%2+ A-Levels A*
2016	69.4	94.9
2015	60	93.9
2014	57.8	91.1
2013	61.1	90.5
2012	63.3	92.2
2011	64	92.0

Identifying and meeting the needs of our students

Lagan College was Northern Ireland's first integrated post-primary school. It is a grant-maintained, integrated, all-ability post primary 11-19 College. It opened in 1981. The College began to offer Sixth Form provision in 1992. The present Sixth Form provision comprises of 100 places in Year 13 and 100 places in Year14, giving a total of 200 places. The College expanded its enrolment in 2005 to 1200 places. Lagan College continues to be the most over-subscribed school in Northern Ireland at transition from primary to post-primary school.

The College is co-educational and its distinctive features are its planned integrated character and the all-ability education it provides. The central aim of the College is "To educate to the highest standards the daughters and sons of Catholics, Protestants and others of goodwill to of all abilities together." (Lagan College Mission Statement). This mission statement is reflected in our school motto *Ut Sint Unum (That they may be one, John 17:22)*. As members of a Christian School founded in the spirit of Christ's prayer 'that they may be one' and our core values of respect, reconciliation, equality and service. Our latest inspection report concluded, "*Across the school, there is a clear commitment to the integrated ethos, based*

on the principles of equality, respect, reconciliation and service to others. The working relationships between the staff and the pupils are positive and the pupils are friendly and courteous” ETI Inspection 2013. Our aims are clear we seek to educate students from all different together under the same roof. We believe strongly that it is unnecessary and damaging to the community for children of the same family to be labeled as ‘successes’ or ‘failures’ at the age of eleven and educated apart in segregated schools.

The Board of Governors is committed to the maintenance of a balanced enrolment of the two main traditions and others of good will, with a similar balance amongst staff and governors.

The College is a family school and caters for all children. The College motto is *Ut Sint Unum*, (That they may be one) John 17:23. This reflects our core values of respect, equality, service and reconciliation.

Section 64 of the 1989 Education Order imposes a statutory duty on the Department of Education to, “*encourage and facilitate the development of Integrated Education*”; this is underlined in the Good Friday/Belfast Agreement. It is to this end that we make this case for change that our current Sixth Form provision should be increased.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Post-16 Enrolment

Temporary Variations: Department policy on admission numbers is to maximise parental preference within the related responsibility to maintain a viable estate of schools.

Enrolment and admission numbers are set by DE’s School Access Team, having regard to teaching accommodation available.

Should a school receive more applications for admission than it has places available it can make a request for a temporary variation (TV) in its admissions number? DE may approve TVs to a school’s number to respond to particular demographic pressures in an area in a particular year, for example a larger cohort of children seeking admission could lead

insufficient places being available in all schools of a particular type in the area. It should be noted that a TV is granted on the condition that no additional accommodation is required.

The Schools' Access Team has approved TVs to admissions to Lagan College over the past three years. The Sixth Form in Lagan College is consistently oversubscribed. The school has been operating for a number of years with temporary variations for Year 13. Its 2015-2016 enrolment was 114. **Lagan College has no unfilled places.** Every year we turn away over 25% of our Year 12 students.

Religious Balance

All integrated schools must maintain a religious balance within their school population. Under the 1989 NI Education Order schools have to maintain a "reasonable" number of both Protestant and Catholic pupils. In reality the Department of Education view a ratio of 70/30 (30% coming from the minority community in the area), a suitable mix. Lagan College has maintain a long term intake of 40/40/20 (20% being made up of other religion/no religion/unclassified). Since admission to Lagan College is based on GCSE results we make no deliberate attempt to create a religious balance. However, the religious balance is consistent with the rest of the school. It must also be noted that as our Sixth Form mature into adulthood their religious affiliation may change, reflecting a mature process of discernment that we encourage.

Present Year Group	Protestant Denominations	Roman Catholic	No Religion	Other	Unknown	Total
Year 14	43	37	19	1	1	101
Year 13	49	44	20	1	0	114

Case for Change – Lagan College | 2016

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (IF APPROVED)

Teaching Classes: The proposal would be to increase the College enrolment in Year 13 in September 2017 from 100-150 pupils. The growth in numbers at Key Stage 5 would occur in the first year and then in the following year. Three additional Post-16 courses would be added to our curriculum over the years to meet the students' needs. The existing management and governing structure would be sufficient to implement and manage this expansion of the College. The implementation of the plan would require the recruitment of **three additional teachers** in 2017 and a further three additional teachers in 2018.

Full Costing of Case for Change Proposal

To increase Lagan College admission number for year 13 from 100 to 150 from September 2017

	17/18	18/19
Funding	102783	323033
Teaching cost	81366	278970
Additional Salary costs	4088	7008
Educational costs	14583	27083
Administrative Costs	2917	7917
	102954	320978
deficit / surplus	-171	2055

Note:

Based on funding levels for 2016/17

Based on average costs for 2016/17

Assumed employing three full time teacher from September 2017

Assumed three additional teachers in 2018

Capital Cost: There would be no additional capital cost required.

Transport: The majority of students travel to Lagan College by bus, and are in receipt of a bus pass. We believe that overall transport costs are likely to fall as a result of this proposal, as more students will be able to access closer Post-16 integrated education.

STATUTORY CONSULTATION

The initial consultation that led to this case for change occurred over the 2015-2016 academic year.

Governors: In March 2016, the Governors agreed that if the school was to fulfil its obligation to educate its students from 11-19 it should increase Post-16 provision. This was unanimously agreed.

Staff: In March 2016 all staff were consulted at a meeting through a presentation by the Principal. The outcome was 100% of the staff supported the case for change. Many reflected on their sadness in previous years on not being able to keep our Year 12 students through to Sixth Form.

Parents: On 22nd June 2016 we conducted a survey of all our parents. The support for the proposed development was 100%. Two sample responses were as follows:

“A great idea, I hope it's approved and means more success for Lagan”
Jayne T.

“Would be great to offer more places.
I would be interested to know if you intend an alternative to a-levels for 6th years.
My daughter is about to enter 4th year but I'm not sure she could manage A-levels. I didn't realise there was no alternative, especially with you being an all ability school.”
Rosalind C.

Senior Students: Senior students were consulted through assemblies and focused meetings. Students were once again unanimously supportive of the case for change.

East Belfast Area Learning Community: In April 2016 this development proposal was raised at the EBALC steering committee as an area for development for Lagan College. The aim

being to enable more of our Year 12 students to stay at Lagan College for their Post-16 studies.

Appendix 1

Lagan College offer the following subjects for Year 13 for the academic year 2016-2017:

A Level Art and Design

A/AS Biology

A/AS Chemistry

A/AS Drama and Theatre Studies

A/AS English Literature

A/AS French

A/AS Geography

A/AS Government and Politics

A/AS History

A/AS Irish

A/AS Mathematics

A/AS Music

A/AS Physics

A Level Psychology (Breda College)

A/AS Religious Studies

A Level Sociology

A/AS Software Systems Development (Computing)

A/AS Spanish

Applied A/AS Levels

Applied GCE Business Studies

Applied GCE Health and Social Care

Applied GCE Information Communication Technology

Applied GCE Moving Image Arts

Applied GCE Sports Science and the Active Leisure Industry

Applied GCE Technology and Design

Appendix 2 – Current Lagan College Admissions Policy

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 13 – 2016-2017

All A/S Level courses:

1. Students must have a Grade C in either, English Language, English Literature or Mathematics.
2. Students should have a minimum of 5 GCSE passes A* to C.
3. Students with the highest GCSE score – will be considered in descending order - an applicant's GCSE score being calculated on the basis of GCSE results as follows:

A* - 4 points / A – 3 points / B – 2 points / C – 1 point

4. For all A Level subjects, students will be expected to have attained a Grade B or above at GCSE in the chosen subjects or in related subjects, if there is not a GCSE equivalent, (unless otherwise stated in the specification).
5. Students wishing to take 4 A Levels should have a minimum of 7 GCSE passes A* to C (at least one of which must be in English or Maths) and a minimum of 24 points in total.
6. Applied A Levels have specific entrance requirements. Please see subject specific pages for exact requirements for each subject.
7. All students wishing to enter Sixth Form should have a minimum attendance rate of 95% and a good punctuality record. Students whose attendance rate falls below this level must produce medical evidence/special circumstances to explain their absences.
8. Students wishing to enter Year 13 must have a good behaviour record and should have demonstrated a positive attitude to work. External applicants will be expected to provide their last school report and/or a letter of recommendation for their previous school.
9. Students wishing to enter Year 13 should be prepared to make a commitment to participate fully in the daily running of the school.
10. Students with an exceptional circumstance may apply to the Board of Governors for this to be considered.

External Student Applications:

Lagan College welcomes applications for entry into Sixth Form from students from other schools if:

1. They are able to fulfil the admissions criteria;
2. Appropriate places are available within the College's admission numbers and/or places are available in AS subject choices.

We especially welcome students from schools where there is no post-16 provision and, also those whose course of choice is not on offer at their own school.

We look favourably at applications from students coming from other integrated schools, eg Blackwater Integrated College.

Admissions Under-Subscription:

In the exceptional circumstance of Lagan College's Year 13 admissions being under-subscribed, a student with less than the minimum requirement for admission will be considered for a place in Year 13.

Lagan College students will be given priority and then all other external students will be considered.

Students with the highest GCSE score – will be considered in descending order - an applicant's GCSE score being calculated on the basis of GCSE results as follows:

A* - 4 points / A – 3 points / B – 2 points / C – 1 point

A three A Level package will be **offered and agreed** between the student and the College which should ensure that they achieve their full potential and thus facilitating their career progression.

Criteria for all extra places made available by the Department of Education for admission into Year 13 (Sixth Form).

The Department of Education may, in response to a request from a school, increase the number of pupils that the school can admit to its Year 13. Places that become available in this way shall be allocated only to pupils who meet the basic eligibility criteria for Sixth Form study (as set out below) and shall be allocated in the order determined by the criteria to be applied in the order set down.

- 1. Pupils who have most recently completed Year 12 in Lagan College.**

2. Pupils from other schools where admission has been agreed and additional places granted by the Department of Education.*

*Parents should note how the Department of Education (DE) will, in response to a school's request, temporarily increase a school's enrolment number in order to allow extra post-16 pupils to enrol. DE will only increase the school's enrolment number if it is content that each external pupil for whom a place is requested would not be able to pursue their post-16 course-choices at another suitable school without undertaking an unreasonable journey (i.e. a journey, that by public transport, would be over an hour from where the young person lives or is further than 15 miles distance). If DE finds that no other suitable school may provide all of the post-16 courses that the pupil wishes to pursue - then DE will agree a school's request for an extra place.

The criteria above states that the Department will consider what suitable alternatives are available to a pupil for whom an additional place is sought. To determine suitability, the Department first considers all schools to be one of 4 types: (i) denominational (ii) non-denominational (iii) Integrated; and (iv) Irish- medium. A school requesting an extra place for a post-16 pupil will belong to one of these 4 types and the Department will consider any other school from this same type as suitable for the pupil. The Department will also consider as suitable for the pupil any school of the same type as that attended by the child in Year 12.

Mrs Amanda McNamee
Principal

APPENDIX A: ANNEX A - DP 482 AS PUBLISHED

EDUCATION AUTHORITY

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL No 482

Notice is hereby given that, under Article 79 of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, the Board of Governors of Lagan College has submitted a proposal to the Education Authority to the effect that:

The Board of Governors of Lagan College propose to increase the enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over 2 years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.

A copy of the Proposal may be inspected at offices of the Education Authority, Dundonald Offices located at Grahamsbridge Road, Dundonald, Belfast, BT16 2HS between the hours of 9.00 am and 4.30 pm.

Any objections 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@deni.gov.uk within two months of the date of publication of this notice.

NOTE: 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 to 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).

Gavin Boyd
Chief Executive

APPENDIX B ON DP 482

EA's COMMENTS AND CONSULTATION REPORT

Chief Executive Gavin Boyd



14 November 2016

Area Planning Policy Team
Department of Education
Rathgael House
43 Balloo Road
Bangor
BT19 7PR



Dear Sir,

Development Proposal 482 – The Education Authority has been requested by the Board of Governors of Lagan College to publish a Development Proposal to the effect that:

The Board of Governors of Lagan College propose to increase the enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over 2 years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.

I refer to the above development proposal which was published in the week beginning 21st November 2016.

The Education Authority fully recognises the importance of integrated education and will continue to support this sector when warranted however on this occasion the Authority cannot support this increase.

In the 2013 iteration of the former SEELB Post Primary Area Plan a proposed increase to the 6th form of Lagan College was included and the former SEELB indicated that it would support this proposal.

However in June 2015 the Education Authority completed a review of post primary provision in East Belfast – the Minister of Education at the time had directed the Authority to undertake this exercise.

The review concluded that the current 6th form provision in the East Belfast area was adequate but it needed to be more effectively and efficiently managed to avoid issues of duplication, small class sizes and inefficient timetabling.

Given this overarching review findings it would be imprudent of the Education Authority to follow through with the former SEELB commitment.

In addition the current draft area plan, which is presently subject to consultation, states that across all Council areas the Authority would:

Education Authority

Grahamsbridge Road, Dundonald, Belfast, BT16 2HS T: +44 (0)28 9056 6200 W: www.eani.org.uk


“re-configure post-16 provision to give pupils equitable access to the Entitlement Framework pathways in collaboration with the Further Education sector.”

A more robust, all- embracing, approach is needed which would tailor the current provision, across all sectors, to a model fit to meet the needs of the 16 to 18 year old population in the East Belfast area.

Approving the proposed increase at Lagan College would increase the number of places available in the area but would not resolve the fundamental issues raised in the 2015 review paper or improve pathway choices for the majority of the young people in the area.

It is hoped that the Minister will take account of the concerns of the Education Authority and not approved DP 482.

Yours Sincerely



Stephen Martin
Development Officer

Report on Preliminary Consultation

1. Request for Development Proposal

The Board of Governors of Lagan College proposes to increase the enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over two years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter.

2. Consultation with schools affected by the proposal

In accordance with Article 79 of the Education Reform (Northern Ireland) Order 1989 a copy of the proposal was sent, on 3 October 2016, to schools which might be affected by the proposal. Comments were invited from the Boards of Governors and Trustees, staff and parents of pupils to be returned to the Board by 31 October 2016.

A total of 141 schools were forwarded the draft proposal for their comments.

In addition all schools in the Belfast region were forwarded a copy of the proposal for their views.

3. Responses

There were 103 responses to this proposal.

Paula Bradshaw, South Belfast Alliance Party
Mairtin O'Muilleoir, MLA, Sinn Fein
Cedar Integrated Primary School
Lough View Integrated Primary School
Priory Integrated College
Our Lady and St Patrick's College
Bangor Central Integrated Primary School
Down High School
Members of staff at Lagan College
Parents of pupils at Lagan College
Pupils at Lagan College
Strangford College
Millennium Integrated Primary School

Paula Bradshaw, South Belfast Alliance Party

- Integrated schools are important to the diverse nature of South Belfast.
- This proposal would benefit both the school and the students wishing to study there.
- As a member of the Northern Ireland Assembly for South Belfast, the constituency in which the school is located I think this would be a great addition not only to Cranmore School but to the wider community who will avail of the additional places.

Mairtin O Muilleoir MLA, Sinn Fein

- As a local MLA for South Belfast, I am happy to support this request as I know the great work that Lagan College does for its students and increasing the places of their sixth form would open up this opportunity for more students.

Cedar Integrated Primary School

- The proposed increase in enrolment can only benefit the pupils and local community and Cedar IPS would welcome this proposal.

Lough View Integrated Primary School

- Lough View Integrated Primary School support this development proposal.
- As a school we are committed to integrated and non-selective education and would welcome the creation of additional places at Lagan to meet the current shortfall in the area.

Priory Integrated College

- The governors are aware that the Area Plan for sixth form provision across the region is due to be published soon, and that this plan will inform all future decisions regarding such development proposals.
- The governor's request that a decision on the Lagan College proposal be made when the Priory development proposal becomes available. In this way, a holistic view, informed by the Area Plan, can be achieved that will be to the benefit of all young people in the area who wish to have an integrated option available to them post 16.

Our Lady and St Patrick's College

- As the consultation period on the Education Authority's draft area plan ends on 12 December 2016, it would be precipitous to proceed with the Lagan College Development Proposal until the consultation and out workings of the 'Providing Pathways' plan are announced.
- The Board of Governors of Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock, has a concern that if the development proposal is approved then the increase in enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 with an admissions number remaining at 200 could result in unfilled sixth form places being allocated to years 9 to 12.
- In the statutory consultation section of the paper it states that in April 2016, the development proposal was raised with the Steering Group of the East Belfast Area Learning Community. There was no consultation.

Bangor Central Integrated Primary School

- We wholeheartedly support this development proposal. The increase in sixth form provision would enable more pupils to benefit from the high quality provision and integrated education in Lagan College.

Down High School

- The Board of Governors would like to oppose the draft development proposal in its current format requesting 100 additional places.
- The Board appreciated that Lagan would certainly want to offer all internal applicants the opportunity to continue their post 16 education in the same setting however the board also note that a number of applicants from schools that do not have a 6th form currently feed into the Down High School 6th form.

Members of staff at Lagan College

- This proposal supports the integration of pupils with mixed abilities, enabling 75% of our own students to have the opportunity to stay on in their school and complete their school education in an integrated setting that they and their parents have supported.
- The proposal will allow Lagan College to offer a wider choice of A Level and equivalent level 3 courses and will also enable 100 students, over a 2 year period, to experience out integrated and inclusive school ethos and values which supports the Government's Shared Learning Programme.
- As our academic and pastoral standards are second to none that we deserve the opportunity to expand our provision and enable one of the most over-subscribed schools in Northern Ireland to continue to flourish in the future.
- The new building was purpose built in 2003 to house over 300 sixth form students and we would be letting our young people down if we did not utilize the opportunity to develop our sixth form.
- Unfortunately there are a number of young adults ill-prepared to deal with the rigors and harsh world of 'tech' and so giving them a safe, familiar setting to try to achieve at A Level is our duty.

Parents of pupils at Lagan College

- It is vital for our youth to have the opportunities that a distinguished college like Lagan can offer. This idea adds to their vast achievements across the board.
- The facilities at the college are wonderful, it is such a pleasure for the children to learn in such a bright clean environment.
- It would enable Lagan's own students to have the opportunity to stay on in their own school for post 16 education.
- Lagan College's new school buildings opened in 2013 and were purpose built to accommodate over 300 sixth form students.
- I feel integrated education is the way forward. Not only are they receiving good education they have made lots of friends from different faiths and cultural backgrounds.

Pupils at Lagan College

- There were 54 responses from the pupils currently at Lagan College. They all support this development proposal.

Strangford College

- Our Board of Governors and the whole community are very much in support of Lagan's request.

Millennium Integrated Primary School

- We confirm our support for this development proposal.

EA response

The Education Authority is aware of the ongoing pressure for places at Lagan College, both in terms of Year 8 admission and its 6th form; however as a Planning Authority we have a responsibility to take a broader view when assessing the long term educational needs of an area.

4. Action

The proposal will be published in the Belfast Telegraph week commencing 21 November 2016.

Development Proposal 482 – List of Schools consulted

Anahilt Primary School
Ballinderry Primary School
Ballycarrickmaddy Primary School
Ballymacash Primary School
Brownlee Primary School
Carr Primary School
Downshire Primary School
Dromara Primary School
Dunmurry Primary School
Harmony Hill Primary School
Killowen Primary School
Knockmore Primary School
Largymore Primary School
Lisburn Central Primary School
Maghaberry Primary School
McKinney Primary School
Meadow Bridge Primary School
Moira Primary School
Old Warren Primary School
Pond Park Primary School
Riverdale Primary School
Seymour Hill Primary School
Tonagh Primary School
Ballymacrickett Primary School
Ballymacward Primary School
Christ the Redeemer Primary School
Good Shepherd Primary School
Our Lady Queen of Peace Primary School
St Aloysius Primary School
St Colman's Primary School
St Joseph's Primary School
St Kieran's Primary School
Holy Evangelists Primary School
Scoil na Fuiseoige
Fort Hill Integrated Primary School
Oakwood Integrated Primary School
Rowandale Integrated Primary School
Belvoir Park Primary School
Branial Primary School
Brooklands Primary School
Cairnshill Primary School
Carryduff Primary School
Cregagh Primary School
Dundonald Primary School
Glnahirk Primary School
Knockbreda Primary School
Lead Hill Primary School
Lisnasharragh Primary School
Moneyrea Primary School

Tullycarnet Primary School
St Bernard's Primary School
St Ita's Primary School
St Joseph's Primary School
Lough View Integrated Primary School
Millennium Integrated Primary School
Abbey Primary School
Alexander Dickson Primary School
Andrews Memorial Primary School
Ballyvester Primary School
Ballywalter Primary School
Carrickmannon Primary School
Carrowdore Primary School
Castle Gardens Primary School
Comber Primary School
Donaghadee Primary School
Greyabbey Primary School
Killinchy Primary School
Kirkistown Primary School
Londonderry Primary School
Loughries Primary School
Millisle Primary School
Newtownards Model Primary School
Portavogie Primary School
Victoria Primary School
Victoria Primary School, Ballyhalbert
West Winds Primary School
St Anne's Primary School
St Finian's Primary School
St Mary's Primary School, Comber
St Mary's Primary School, Kircubbin
St Mary's Primary School, Portaferry
St Patrick's Primary School, Ballygalget
Kircubbin Integrated Primary School
Portaferry Integrated Primary School
Ballyholme Primary School
Ballymagee Primary School
Bloomfield Road Primary School
Clandeboy Primary School
Crawfordsburn Primary School
Grange Park Primary School
Holywood Primary School
Kilcooley Primary School
Kilmaine Primary School
Rathmore Primary School
Towerview Primary School
St Comgall's Primary School
St Malachy's Primary School
St Patrick's Primary School, Holywood
Bangor Central Integrated Primary School
Glencraig Integrated Primary School

Academy Primary School
St Caolan's Primary School
Derryboy Primary School
St Mary's Primary School, Saintfield
Glasswater Primary School
Cedar Integrated Primary School
St Joseph's Primary School, Crossgar

Glastry College
Movilla High School
Nendrum College
Regent House
Strangford Integrated College
St Columba's College
Dundonald High School
Breda Academy
Lagan College
Our Lady and St Patrick's College
Saintfield High School
Assumption Grammar School
The High School, Ballynahinch
St Colmcille's High School
Blackwater Integrated College
Down High School
St Patrick's Grammar School
De La Salle High School
St Mary's High School
St Malachy's High School
Shimna Integrated College
St Colm's High School
Laurelhill Community College
Wallace High School
Friend's School
Fort Hill Integrated College
St Patrick's Academy
Lisnagarvey High School
Bangor Grammar School
Bangor Academy
Glenlola Collegiate
St Columbanus' College
Priory Integrated College
Sullivan Upper School

EA (2015) REPORT ON EAST BELFAST POST-PRIMARY PROVISION



East Belfast – Post-Primary Educational Provision June - 2015

1. Introduction

Further to the ministerial announcements regarding development proposals regarding post-primary provision in east Belfast in January 2014, there has been sustained engagement between the legacy South Eastern Education and Library Board and the former Belfast Education and Library Board to bring enhanced co-operation to the area planning process. The purpose of this engagement has been to:

- consider trends in post-primary admissions in the area;
- review sixth form provision;
- identify other support and provision that may be needed in the future;
- ensure that these proposed developments are considered within an area planning process, with potential capital planning implications, in particular cases.

2. Trends in post-primary admissions

In preparation for September 2014, and now September 2015, the admissions numbers and preferences of post-primary schools in the greater east Belfast area have been reviewed. The following section summarises the admissions figures for September 2015, as well as any pressures that were identified in the post-primary schools in the area.

In the first instance the admissions numbers, first preferences and specific school based issues are summarised below:

- **Breda Academy**

Admission Numbers 170 - Year 8 enrolment September 2015 to date - 130

The formation of Breda Academy is progressing satisfactorily; indeed, the school will open on the former Newtownbreda site on 1 September 2015.

- **Dundonald High School**

Admission Numbers 120 - Year 8 enrolment September 2015 to date - 58.

The Dundonald High School development is progressing with the support package in place; a permanent principal has been appointed.

A Minor Works programme has started to address a number of the building issues and a rebranding process is in process. Work is continuing with the school to improve the achievements in public examinations.

Dundonald High School has recently obtained a satisfactory grade in the inspection process and DE is currently considering whether the school exits the Formal Intervention Programme.

- **Priory College**

Admission Numbers 100 - Year 8 enrolment September 2015 - to date 106 (Temporary Variation granted)

Priory College continues to progress in line with the approved development proposal. The admissions number for year 8 has been met each year since the proposal was approved. Work is continuing with the College to improve the achievements in public examinations.

- **Lagan College**

Admission Numbers 200 - Year 8 Enrolment September 2015 - 200. It should be noted that the College was oversubscribed at 1st preference stage by 223. However, parents did not necessarily select integrated education for their second preference. Indeed, they accessed a range of options in both the selective and non-selective post-primary schools.

- **Our Lady and St Patrick's College Knock**

Admission Numbers 180 - Year 8 enrolment September 2015 - 180. It should be noted that the College was oversubscribed at 1st preference stage by 40.

- **Ashfield Boys' High School**

Admission numbers - 110 year 8 enrolment number for September 2015 - 110. The school was oversubscribed by 59 places.

This was the first year that the school was over-subscribed in recent years. While the school has worked hard to promote its services and provision, the admissions criteria places proximity to school as criterion 6. It is the view of the Belfast region that the school's admissions criteria could be reviewed. A meeting has been sought with the Principal to progress this matter, in the first instance.

Further expansion could take place on the Ashfield Boys' site, which would have benefits for Ashfield Girls' School also. However, this would be predicated on a Business Case being submitted and approved regarding the transfer of C2K to the Fortwilliam site. This has been put on hold, given the current financial situation.

- **Ashfield Girls' High School**
 - Admissions numbers - 113 year 8 enrolment number for September 2015 - 113. The school was oversubscribed by 56 places.
 - This was the first year that the school was over-subscribed in recent years. The school has worked hard to promote its services and provision, the admissions criteria places proximity to school as criterion 4. It is the view of the Belfast region that the school's admissions criteria could be reviewed. A meeting has been sought with the Principal to progress this matter in the first instance. This has been scheduled for July 2015.
 - There are concerns regarding the mathematical attainments of girls in the school; in this regard, the school has been supported in recent months by officers from the Belfast region to address this particular issue.
 - Ashfield Girls' High School is a PPP school. The principal has, in recent years, expressed the view that she requires more accommodation for her existing school population. Indeed, any future increase in the school admissions would be predicated on a capital planning project. This limits any future increase in the school population, unless this was linked with a capital planning project.
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- **Bloomfield Collegiate**
Admissions numbers - 100 year 8 enrolment number for September 2015 - 100 .

The school had more first preferences this year, and higher scores at point of entry. It had to refuse 56 pupils.

Since the school transferred from voluntary grammar to controlled grammar status, continued engagement has taken place with the school to moderate its financial deficit. Further teaching and non-teaching redundancies are currently being progressed.

Bloomfield has the accommodation to increase its enrolment in future years and could increase its year 8 enrolment by 20. This could assist with further post-primary pressures in the area, without any capital planning consequences. It could also assist with the school's financial pressures. This situation remains under review.

- **Campbell College**
Admissions numbers - 130 year 8 enrolment number for September 2015 - 130. The school has refused 26 pupils.

- **Grosvenor Grammar School**
- Admission numbers - 155 year 8 enrolment number for September 2015 - 155.
- While Grosvenor would like to increase its enrolment , this increase would be marginal, given that this is a PPP school, with limited capacity for growth.
- **Strathearn School**
- Admissions numbers - 110 year 8 enrolment number for September 2015 - 110. The school refused 81 pupils.
- Recent engagement with the school has identified that there is spare capacity in this school. The year 8 enrolment could be increased by 20 without any further capital planning requirements. This voluntary grammar school has demonstrated that it seeks inclusion in future discussions regarding area planning developments in the area.

In summary:

Initial analysis would indicate that there has been an:

- upward trend in all schools. This has been reflected in the number of first preferences for the schools.
- A realisation that there are still sufficient places, although this does necessitate children travelling in some cases in line with further preference.
- The admissions criteria of post-primary schools is having an impact on this perceived pressure and requires redress before other measures that relate the development proposal process are instigated.
- In some cases that attracted media attention, children did not get into their first preference because the form had not been completed correctly, and information that would have been pertinent had been omitted. These cases were dealt with, mainly through requests for temporary variations.

3. Review of Sixth Form provision

Over the past two years, an audit of sixth form provision has been undertaken in both the South Eastern and Belfast regions. While the narrative from schools is that there is co-operation through the area planning process to promote shared opportunities for sixth form provision, the evidence would indicate that further and significant work is required to maximize the full benefits that could be realised.

As a consequence of this audit (Appendices 1 and 2) the following key issues have been identified:

- there is still a high level of duplication across schools in terms of the sixth form curriculum offer;
- overall, there were more issues regarding duplication across schools, rather than gaps in the subject offer;
- while the area learning community was considered to be the hub for engagement, most of the meaningful partnerships that had developed occurred outside of this process;

- class sizes in some schools had less than 5 pupils in relation to a range of sixth form classes; this had an impact on the financial pressures of the school.
- smaller class sizes did not, in itself, yield better results;
- schools were reluctant to promote shared timetables;
- the length of class periods also differed, which has been an impediment to inter-school co-operation;
- in general, it is the pupils who are required to travel to the neighbouring school, with consequent transport costs for the school;
- there are isolated examples where teachers move from school to school.

In summary, the view at this stage, is that the current sixth form provision is adequate and could be used in a more efficient way to promote the quality of educational experience, while assisting the financial pressures on some schools who have continued to small classes, or even a subject through distance learning, rather than co-operation with a nearer school.

In this regard, there are no immediate plans to progress development proposals in this area.

4. Any other developments

It is recognised that there is a paucity of post-primary provision for children in mainstream schools who have special educational needs. This is an area that requires expansion as part of the enhanced continuum of provision for children who required additional support.

In addition to developments in the controlled sector, engagement has also taken place with CCMS with regard to a parallel development process in post-primary maintained schools.

Meetings have been scheduled with the controlled post-primary school principals in Belfast to progress this issue.

CM/30th June 2015.

APPENDIX D – SUMMARY – OF CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED DURING STATUTORY TWO-MONTH OBJECTION PERIOD

The Department received a total of **57** letters of support and no letters of objection regarding DP 482 during the two month statutory objection period. The **57** letters were received from:

- Lagan College (*Chair BoG/Principal*): **1**
- Teachers/Staff at Lagan College: **13**
- Parents (*of past and present pupils*): **28**
- Others (*interested in or affected by the proposal*): **9**
- Pupils (*past and present*): **2**
- Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education: **1**
- Integrated Education Fund: **1**
- Strangford College (*Principal*): **1**
- Kellie Armstrong MLA: **1**

A number of the emails and letters received in support of the proposal (mainly Parents, Pupils, Others and Kellie Armstrong, MLA) all highlighted a number of similar points, which are provided in full below:

- Lagan College's Sixth Form development Proposal would enable 75% of our own students to have the opportunity to stay on in their school. (Annually 25% of students have expressed a desire to study a highly vocational course at Further Education College or connect with bespoke Apprenticeships and Training programmes).
- Lagan College's Sixth Form development proposal would enable the school to offer a wider choice of A Level and equivalent level 3 courses to our young people.
- Lagan College's Sixth Form development proposal would enable 100 more of our students over a 2 year period, to continue to experience our integrated and inclusive school ethos and values – supporting the Government's shared learning programme.
- Lagan College's new school buildings opened in 2013 and were purpose built to accommodate over 300 Sixth Form students.
- Lagan College is currently offering 28 Post-16 courses and our own children would like the opportunity to stay on in their own school and continue to experience an integrated ethos.
- More of Lagan College's students deserve the chance to stay on at their own school, if it is the young person and their parent(s)/guardian(s) desire.

The table below highlights other comments made by the respondents:

Summary of correspondence received by DE during 2-month statutory objection period	Key Statements and Views – <i>correspondence received on DP 482 during two-month statutory objection period (24 November 2016 to 24 January 2017)</i>
Lagan College – Chair BoG & Principal	<p>As of 2013 we received new buildings...we believe it is now an apt time to pursue our Development Proposal to enable more of our students to remain on to Post-16 study in an inclusive and integrated school community.</p> <p>Having consulted with students and parents/guardians we are aware that 75% of Year 12 students (150) would like the opportunity to remain at Lagan College for a further two years....this has not been possible as there are only 100 places in Lower Sixth and 100 in Upper Sixth (200 in total).</p> <p>In response to our initial submission to the EA, the issue of Area Planning was raised. To date the Area Plan of 2012 is still valid. Within it, Lagan College’s potential to develop its Sixth Form provision was included. Indeed, as a result of the Capital Build Project in 2013, Lagan College is in a clear position to meet the educational needs of over 300 Sixth Form students.</p> <p>Please be aware that Lagan College has resided on two Area Learning Communities...Working in partnership with local schools we have always endeavoured to be transparent about our intention to apply for a Sixth Form Development Proposal to benefit our own Year 12 students.</p> <p>In response to a concern raised in November with the Education Authority, in the last three years we have not admitted students from Down High School and believe we would not be compromising Post-16 provision in any other school as the students attend Lagan College already. We would be very concerned and feel it totally unjust if our students were disadvantaged in your decision making because other schools were objecting to our Sixth Form Development Proposal on grounds of waiting for a new Area Plan as a means to simply develop their own Post-16 provision.</p> <p>Links to a student video were provided in this letter. You can view this at the links provided at Section 4 – Consultations in the main submission above.</p>
Lagan College Teachers/Staff	<p>Being a previous Head of Year 12 it is often distressing and painful to give bad news to students who aren’t able to get back into 6th form because of the allocation. The need is there....we just need you to allow this to happen.</p> <p>Every year I witness half of our students having to leave to go to colleges of further education and other schools because we are not permitted to offer them places (links to student video were provided. You can view this at the links provided at Section 4 – Consultations in the main submission above).</p> <p>My role within Learning Support is...to work as a mentor for Sixth Form students identified as requiring some additional support with their studies. ...these students do not hold Statement of Special Educational Needs....if these students were to move on to Further Education post-16, it is likely that they would receive very little – if an- additional support....they feel they would not have been able to cope with the rigours of post-16 study without the additional help which they have received through Lagan’s Learning Support Department. Every year there are students...whose scores fall just below the threshold..with the provision for a larger Sixth Form we</p>

	<p>would be able to maintain up to 75% of our own students beyond the age of 16. We have a massive number of students who are committed to our integrated ethos and are unable to continue in integrated education post-16 due to the current limit on our places and the lack of other integrated schools in the area.</p> <p>This proposal would provide our young people with a choice of routes to reach their Tertiary Education level and would enable 75% of our own students to have the opportunity to stay on in their school.</p> <p>Lagan College's Sixth Form Development Proposal would enable 100 more of our students over a 2 year period to continue to experience our integrated and inclusive school ethos and values supporting the Government's shared learning programme. The new school building is purpose built to accommodate over 300 Sixth Form students.</p> <p>I think this is a good idea because it will allow us to continue to educate more of our own students under the same integrated principals that they succeeded under from Year 8 to 12.</p> <p>This will allow a large number of our pupils to return to sixth form as at the moment half of our year 12 group will have to move school or do a course at Belfast Met – even though we offer that course here....hopefully you can see the potential of extending our 6th form.</p> <p>Due to limitations imposed currently by DENI we are not able to enable the majority of our students to return for post 16 provision...Development Proposal would enable 75% of our own students to have the opportunity to stay on at the school....offer a wider choice of A Level and equivalent level 3 courses which could meet the needs of the wider range of ability of students we would be able to offer places to....it would be of wiser economic management as well as being more academically accountable and fair to all our students, if we were able to offer more student places.</p> <p>It would enable 75% of our own students to have the opportunity to stay on in their school. This is extremely important as the students have already formed meaningful relationships with their teachers and lifelong friendships with their peers. We already are aware that annually 25% of our students have expressed a desire to study a highly vocational course at Further Education College or connect with bespoke Apprenticeships and Training programmes....it would enable 100 more of our students over a 2 year period, to continue to experience our integrated and inclusive school ethos and values supporting the Government's shared learning programme.</p> <p>Pupils join our school due to our integrated and inclusive school ethos and by expanding our sixth form the pupils can continue to experience this ethos which also supports the Government's shared learning programme. The pupils ultimately deserve to have their educational needs met at the school they know....they deserve the opportunity to stay here.</p> <p>I feel this would be a huge benefit for the students who unfortunately in the past have been unable to return to the school they have attended since the age of 11....our own students would like the opportunity to stay on in their own school and continue to experience an integrated ethos.</p> <p>At 16 years old we lose a lot of our students as we do not have the spaces for many students to return. ...would enable 75% of our own students to have the opportunity to stay on in their school...enable the school to offer a wider choice of A level or equivalent level 3 courses....enable 100 more of our students over a 2 year period to continue....more of Lagan College's students deserve the chance to stay</p>
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<p>Parents of pupils past and present and Others interested in or affected by the proposal</p>	<p>on at their own school.</p> <p>I was part of the group of parents and supporters who set up Lagan College in 1981. It was an act of great faith in the future of Northern Ireland that children of all faiths and none, all abilities and of all cultures could be educated together. It is heavily oversubscribed....and need to offer more of those pupils who have made the choice of this college and education into sixth form.</p> <p>As a parent the integrated ethos of the school....is very important to me. I want my children to stay and not have to move to a segregated/non-integrated college.</p> <p>This additional facility at Lagan would...provide a much needed space for pupils to be the best that they can be.</p> <p>I am writing to support the proposal...this would allow my 2 children, who attend the school, to have more opportunity to continue their education at Lagan College.</p> <p>My children are a Junior School in Lagan College and I would hope that they might study to A level. Unless these is funding provided for an extension to the A level provision at Lagan this may not be feasible.</p> <p>X would benefit so much from a further 2 years in Lagan College and without the expansion of 6th form would be unable to do this.</p> <p>I would like both my daughters to continue with their post 16 education at the College. Young people experience significant pressure in Year 12....this would be reduced if students had greater confidence that places would be available for them in the College at post 16.</p> <p>I would be grateful if serious consideration is given to the proposal which will allow a bigger intake of 6th form pupils and also increase the number of available subjects.</p> <p>I am very aware of the number of Year 12 students who would like to return to the College Sixth Form but are unable to do so. To increase the number of places...would allow any student who wanted to return the opportunity to do so.</p> <p>As parents of three children...we are appealing to you to grant the extra places....to allow a greater number of students to continue their education in the sixth form at Lagan College. Having had two children very successfully completing their studies at Lagan College ...we are faced yet again with the stress and uncertainty that our third child might not....because of the limited number of places available in sixth form. Friends... would have loved the opportunity to stay on and complete their studies had to do so at further education college...not only unsuitable for some but unsettling and disruptive to their education. We would ...reiterate the unique integrated status of Lagan College..as well as supporting the Government's shared learning programme.</p> <p>My daughter....will want to stay on in the Sixth Form and the thought of her not being able to do this would be very distressing. The ethos of the school being for all ability should follow through into the Sixth Form. Young people who are at present forced to leave the school may fall by the wayside and end up being unemployed or in dead end jobs.</p> <p>My daughter loves the school and would love to complete all her studies in the integrated environment. It seems only fair that all pupils</p>
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	<p>who have proved they are able should have the opportunity to continue their education at the school where they have been for 5 years.</p> <p>Lagan will offer my child the best range of A level subjects and is the only available post primary integrated school in my area. I think it would be wrong to expect him to potentially leave an integrated setting due to a lack of places in sixth form. Should the Department turn down this proposal....asking my son to transfer to a non-integrated setting for A levels would be the opposite of encouraging and facilitating integrated when a reasonable proposal has been presented to achieve this aim.</p> <p>I would like my child to have every chance to continue to sixth year within the integrated and inclusive ethos which Lagan College and I hold dear.</p> <p>I would be very keen for him to continue to study at an Integrated school and not an FE College.</p> <p>I believe this request to be reasonable and fair. Approving the development proposal would also show your support to an integrated fully 'shared' educational experience. The...proposal does not threaten other local post primary school as the students already attend Lagan College and are on roll.</p> <p>I feel it is of utmost importance that there is enough places for the children who want to stay on at school....it is very sad that more than half of 16 year olds at Lagan College do not have the opportunity to return to Sixth Form after GCSEs. This would help a lot of children realise their potential if they were allowed two more years at school.</p> <p>More of Lagan College's students deserve the chance to stay on at their own school and continue to experience the integrated school ethos and values which supports the Government's shared learning programme.</p> <p>This is a wonderful opportunity for Northern Ireland's first planned integrated school.</p>
Pupils (past/present)	I am a former pupil of the school...it is my belief that integrated schools are the future of Northern Ireland...I chose Lagan College because I would be able to be educated with my siblings...despite our range of abilities. I urge you to support the proposal to expand its sixth form provision so that more young people may benefit from excellent teaching, world class facilities and integrated ethos.
NICIE	NICIE comments are attached in full at Appendix E. <i>Summary of comments at Section 4 – Consultations in the main submission above.</i>
Integrated Education Fund	<p>Increasing the enrolment at post-16 level at Lagan College and offering a wider range of courses...would enable more students to remain in the school, in an integrated education context, after GCSE...the development would be consistent with its commitment to all-ability education.</p> <p>Lagan College's new school buildings...were purpose built to accommodate more than 300 Sixth Form Students so this development if granted would make the best use of the space and investment in the new build, for the benefit of a greater number of young people.</p> <p>Lagan College is a popular school, regularly oversubscribed, and the Fund feels strongly that any development proposal which would allow the school to meet local demand for integrated education should be granted, thus reflecting the wishes of students and parents.</p>
Principal - Strangford College	I am writing on behalf of the Board of Governors at Strangford College, to register our full support for Lagan College's development

	proposal to increase the Admissions number for 6 th Form. We wish Lagan College every success in their bid, and hope that the Minister will respond positively to the proposal.
Kellie Armstrong MLA	In addition to the bullet points highlighted above, Ms Armstrong's correspondence also notes that Lagan College was the first all-ability, co-educational, integrated comprehensive school and 35 years later, more than 1,200 students proudly fly the integrated banner. The proposal to expand Lagan's Sixth Form provision from 200 to 300 places by 2018 would enable 150 per year to stay on at school to study A level and Level three equivalent courses.

APPENDIX E: NICIE COMMENTS ON DP 482

NICIE Commentary on Development Proposal No. 482

Lagan College

Proposal

To increase Lagan College's enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over 2 years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.

1. Introduction

This proposal aims to achieve an increase in enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over a 2-year period from September 2017 with the admissions number remaining at 200. The school wishes to do this by seeking an increase in the number of students retained at post-16 which would mean increasing the intake from 200 to 300 over the two years of the 6th form (50 additional places per year). This proposal should be considered within the context of the Department of Education's (DE) duty under the 1989 Education Reform Order (NI) to '*encourage and facilitate integrated education*' and the 2014 judicial review of Drumragh Integrated College vs DE in respect thereof. In addition, any decision regarding the proposal must also take into consideration the Stormont House Agreement which serves as a reminder of the previous commitments made within the Belfast Agreement, '*to promote a culture of tolerance, mutual respect and mutual understanding at every level of society, including initiatives to facilitate and encourage shared and integrated education*'.

Lagan College is one of the most oversubscribed schools in Northern Ireland. It is located in the Castlereagh area, taking students from Greater Belfast area and North Down. The nearest integrated colleges in the area are Malone College, Blackwater Integrated College (11-16) in Downpatrick and Priory Integrated College in Holywood. This proposal will support the extension of provision for Post-16 integrated education in the East Belfast and Castlereagh areas.

2. Background

Lagan College is situated within the Lisburn and Castlereagh district council area. The religious balance for the population within this Local Government District (LGD) is made up of 23.95% from Catholic backgrounds and 66.9% representing the Protestant and Other traditions.

3. Rationale for Change

Lagan College is the first planned integrated school in Northern Ireland and is currently considered to be one of the most oversubscribed schools in Northern Ireland. The school opened in 1981. It is a popular choice right across all communities.

Table 1 shows the enrolment trend within Lagan College since 2013 for Year 8. The school is an integrated, co-educational, bi-lateral, grant-maintained post-primary school which caters for students aged 11-19. Growth of the school has been rapid with the current enrolment standing at 1263. There has been over-subscription for Year 8 (Table 1) and Post 16 (Table 2) for many years.

Table 1: APPLICATIONS AND ADMISSIONS for Year 8 at Lagan College

Year	Admissions Number	Total No of Applications	Total No Admitted
2016	200	443	202*
2015	200	517	202*
2014	200	442	200
2013	200	293	200

Source: EA

*Includes admission directed by Exceptional Circumstances Body

The applications and admissions for 6th form at Lagan College are not adequate for a school of its size and do not allow Lagan to be able to take their own pupils straight through from Year 8 to Year 14. Lagan College loses a very significant number of its own pupils at 6th form entry stage and this proposal aims to enable students to be able to complete their education up to Year 14 at Lagan College. Table 2 illustrates the number of internal applications for Lagan College annually. Table 3 illustrates the small number of pupils applying for 6th form at Lagan College from other schools.

Table 2: Applications and Admissions for Post 16 at Lagan College including number of Lagan's own students being turned away

Year	No of Places available	No of internal applicants	No of internal applicants gaining places	Shortfall - internal applicants	Total No of applicants	Total No of applicants admitted
2016	100	141	100	-41	163	106
2015	100	136	108	-24	159	114
2014	100	157	108	-49	175	113
2013	100	142	107	-35	154	109

Table 3: External Applications for Post 16 entry to Lagan College

Year	No of applications from <u>other (non-integrated) schools</u>	Total No Accepted from other non-integrated schools	No of applicants from <u>other integrated colleges</u> with no 6th form provision	Number of applicants accepted from other integrated schools
2016	15	4 (inc 2 from outside NI)	8	2
2015	10	4	10	2
2014	12	5	2	2

Table 3 demonstrates that the number of admissions to Lagan College at post 16 from other schools is minimal. Lagan College receives applications from other integrated schools who do not have Sixth Form provision, notably Blackwater College and who wish to continue their education within the integrated education sector. There is limited provision for Post-16 integrated education in the Castlereagh and East Belfast area.

4. Area Based Planning

It is well recognised that there is unmet parental demand for integrated education in the East Belfast and Castlereagh area and this has been included in Area /Action Plans for some years. The Lagan College Case for Change is in the Area Action Plan for the current year to March 2017.

Indeed the 'Area Plan for post-primary schools in SEELB 2013-2018' on page 87 said that Lagan College will submit a development proposal to expand its sixth form within the medium term, which was defined as five years. This document also stated that the SEELB would support this proposal.

Source

http://www.seelb.org.uk/images/files/pdfs/area_planning/Area%20Plan%20for%20Post%20Primary%20Schools%20in%20SEELB%202013-2018.pdf

5. External Consultation on the proposal

In addition to the EA's recent consultation of the affected schools, Lagan College has confirmed that the Development Proposal for additional Post 16 provision at Lagan College was raised by its Principal at the East Belfast Area Learning Community (EBALC) meeting under "Any Other Business" in June 2016. The Principal referenced the school's intention to lodge a Sixth Form Development Proposal and highlighted that it had also been shared during the school's membership of the Castlereagh Area Learning Community (CALC), which included

representation from Our Lady and St Patrick's College, Knock and at that time Knockbreda High School, Newtownbreda High School, Torbank Special School and Longstone Special School.

Table 4: Destinations of Year 12 students at Lagan College; to own and other provision

Year	Total	Return to Lagan College	Further Education including training	Employment	Another school	Emigrated	Unknown
2016	214	100	80	2	6	0	26
2015	216	108	83	4	6	0	15
2014	200	108	80	2	2	3	5
2013	207	107	79	3	6	2	2

6. Impact on Other Post-16 Providers

- **Schools**

In recent years, Lagan students have transferred to about 12 other schools. The schools include Corpus Christi, Methodist College, St. Catherine's, Armagh, St. Colman's, Ballynahinch, St. Columbanus, Bangor, Mercy College, St. Rose's High School, St Louise's College, St. Joseph's College, Wallace High School, Assumption GS and Bloomfield Collegiate.

As can be seen from the **table 4** above, the numbers are small, at roughly 6 per year, and therefore the impact on any one school of the increase in provision at Lagan would also be minimal.

- **Further Education**

The majority (80) of students who leave Lagan in Year 12 go to a college of Further Education or into training or apprenticeships. Most of these students go to Belfast Metropolitan College and a small number attend the South Eastern Regional College.

With Belfast Metropolitan College having 20,000 students at FE levels 0-3, the students transferring from Lagan represent a very small proportion and thus a decrease would have a minimal impact on the FE colleges. (Source: Belfast Met Annual Report 2014/15)

7. Impact on other integrated colleges

There are four other integrated colleges in the wider area, Malone IC, South Belfast, Priory CIC in Holywood, Blackwater IC in Downpatrick and Strangford IC in Carrowdore.

Table 5 Distance to Lagan College from other integrated colleges in the area

School	Distance to Lagan	Sixth form: yes or no
Malone IC	6.4 miles	Yes
Priory CIC	7.0 miles	Yes
Strangford IC	17.1 miles	Yes
Blackwater IC	19.2 miles	No

As **table 5** shows; Malone, Priory and Strangford Colleges all have sixth forms but Blackwater has none.

Priory and Strangford Colleges were both included in the Ministerial announcement in March 2016 for consideration for capital monies under the Fresh Start Agreement fund. Strangford had a Case for Change for expansion approved at the same time and Priory

has plans for expansion too. It is therefore unlikely that this proposed expansion of Sixth form will impact significantly on these two schools.

Whilst Malone is undersubscribed, it is unlikely that this expansion of sixth form in Lagan will affect it, as Malone will be able to accommodate those students who wish to progress to sixth form.

The expansion of the sixth form at Lagan may indeed assist Blackwater students who wish to continue their education in an integrated school to perhaps have more chance of getting a place. Currently only two students a year from integrated schools with no sixth form have obtained a place in Lagan in recent years.

Thus, it is unlikely that the expansion will have a detrimental impact on these integrated schools and may indeed have a positive impact for Blackwater students.

8. Sustainable Schools Policy

Lagan College is a strong sustainable school as evidenced by the high levels of oversubscription at Year 8 and Post 16 annually. As stated in the Case for Change, the school fulfils all six criteria of the Sustainable Schools Policy.

9. Religious Balance

Table 6 religious balance in Lagan College in 2015/16 (Source DE)

Protestant	% Protestant	Catholic	% Catholic	Other	% Other	Total Enrolment
504	39.8	473	37.4	288	22.8	1265

As the table 6 above demonstrates, the religious composition of Lagan College is very diverse, which is very laudable given that the school is situated in the Castlereagh area of Belfast, a predominantly Protestant area. The balance is very close to NICIE's recommendation of 40:40:20, as outlined in the Statement of Principles for Integrated Education.

10. Concluding Remarks

Lagan College is a sustainable school which is heavily over-subscribed at year 8 and sixth form. This proposal is to deal with the fact that, whilst the school takes in 200 children at year 8, it only has places for 100 at year 13. This means that half of the intake has to leave at the end of year 12, aged 16, when many more of the students would like to stay on and to obtain higher level qualifications in an integrated setting that they know and have become accustomed to. This proposal would increase the percentage that could be retained to 75% instead of the current 50%.

This proposal will have no impact on admissions into other year groups and it is not Lagan College's intention to increase provision to Year 8. There is a substantial

demand from parents annually, for the type of Sixth Form provision provided by Lagan College and the school reports that there is an increased student and parent frustration at the shortage of Post-16 places in the College. The College also has a number of applications from students from schools that do not have A-level provision and this proposal could help those students.

NICIE believes that the provision of additional places would enhance this school's ability to deal with the demands placed upon it and more readily meet the needs of those parents and children who have made the choice for integrated education. There are no capital costs associated with this proposal.

NICIE argues that this proposal will have little or no impact on other post-primary schools in the area, as the additional places will enable the children already attending Lagan College in Year 12 to stay on at school. The impact of the expansion on the FE Colleges will again be minimal as the numbers represent a very small proportion of their intake at that level and there will still be students who cannot be accommodated in Lagan or who wish to take the FE or another option.

NICIE highlights the fact that this proposal has been submitted to reflect the recommendations made in the former SEELB's 2013-2018 area plan for the former Castlereagh Borough Council area.

Justice Treacy [2014] NIQB 69 referred to the Article 64 duty "to encourage and facilitate integrated education in Northern Ireland and its practical consequences and legislative significance which includes taking positive steps or removing obstacles which inhibit the statutory objective."

NICIE would ask the Minister to support this proposal as it represents a low cost and positive step to support a sustainable school into the future, a school which serves the children from the two major communities in almost equal numbers.

Lorna McAlpine
Senior Development Officer
24th January 2017

APPENDIX F: ETI INPUT ON DP 482 – LAGAN COLLEGE



THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING INSPECTORATE RESPONSE TO A DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL (DP)

SECTION 1 RESPONSE FORM

PHASE	Post-primary
ELB	SE2
DP REFERENCE NUMBER (S)	482
PROPOSAL (S)	Lagan College – to increase enrolment number from 1200 to 1300 phased over 2 years from September 2017, or as soon as possible thereafter, with the admissions number remaining at 200.
DATE OF RECEIPT OF DP (DI)	01.12.2016
DATE OF RETURN OF DP (DI)	
DATE OF RETURN to APPT Via ACI	Ray Caldwell 17/1/17
ACI DIRECTORATE TITLE	SCHOOLS
NAME OF DE CONTACT AND DATE AS STATED ON EMAIL	██████████
Note about this response: (where relevant)	
DUE DATE	18 January 2017 (extended)

INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING IN THE DRAFT DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL RESPONSE.

PLEASE USE BULLET POINTS.

COLLEAGUES MAY FIND APPENDIX D CIRCULAR 2014/21 PUBLICATION OF A DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL: http://www.deni.gov.uk/de1_14_202314_development_proposal_guidance_-_english_version_issued_26_09_14.pdf A USEFUL REFERENCE WHEN CONSIDERING THE DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL. (A copy of Appendix D is attached on page 6 of Section 1)

EDUCATIONAL PROVISION

(Expand box as required and delete guidance)

Lagan College was most recently inspected April 2013. The overall performance level was 'Good'; Achievements and Standards, Provision for Learning and Leadership and Management were all evaluated as 'Good'.

At time of the inspection, the percentage of pupils achieving five A*-C at GCSE level or equivalent, including

English and mathematics was well above the NI average for non-selective schools; in 2013 this was 51%; in 2015 this had increased to 56% and was 61% last year.

At time of inspection the percentage achieving 3 A levels or equivalent was also above the average for non-selective schools. The report states that the standards for applied A level are 'very good.' In 2016, the percentage of students gaining 3+ GCE A Levels or equivalent at grades A*-C was 69%, the highest recorded by the school.

The conclusion was that the school has important strengths in most of its educational and pastoral provision. The inspection had identified an areas for improvement which the school has demonstrated the capacity to address. The main area for improvement is to develop the effectiveness of the processes of self-evaluation in order to improve further the learning and teaching and the standards the pupils attain.

The school received a 'new build' in 2013.

ETI KNOWLEDGE

(Expand box as required and delete guidance)

- In response to the inspection findings, the school has demonstrated a good buy-in to the work of ETI by regularly inviting the DI in to consult on the school development planning process and actions to promote improvement;
- Most recent DI visit was in November 2016;
- The school has recently submitted its action plans for the new SDP;
- With relevance to the DP, one of the stated aims is: 'To develop Sixth Form Provision to enable 75% of the learners to stay on.' At the time of the inspection the percentage of pupils going on to 'another school' was almost 5 percentage points above the NI average.
- The school reports being consistently oversubscribed for admissions to post-16 and that they regularly have to turn away external students as well as disappoint some of their own students; hence the rationale by wanting to increase the enrolment figures but not the admissions figure;
- The school participates in the ALC, linking with Loughview Integrated PS, Breda Academy and Our Lady & St Patrick's (OLSP Knock) and Grosvenor Grammar; for example: it plans to utilise Eye4Education Intervention and Support for Underachieving Boys in Year 11(2016-17) in conjunction with OLSP Knock and Grosvenor Grammar School;
- Although approximately 35% of the school's annual intake is selected on the basis of academic ability, it is unlikely that the DP will impact significantly on grammar school neighbours such as OLSP Knock.

RATIONALE FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF ETI EVIDENCE

(Expand box as required and delete guidance)

In light of the continuing upward trend in standards at post-16 level, the development of post-16 provision at Lagan College will:

- better meet the needs of those Lagan pupils who might otherwise be forced to go transfer to another provider for post-16 provision; by being able to stay on extends the care, support and welfare that they have experienced in key stages 3 and 4, linking this to the outcomes they may achieve at post-16 level;
- enable the school to expand further the curriculum offer at post-16, including collaborative arrangements with other providers; and
- extend the option for parents and students to continue to partake in or experience afresh integrated education, as Lagan is the only integrated college in this area (the nearest alternatives are Blackwater or Priory.

The teachers may benefit from:

- focusing on teaching more to their specialism;
- improved opportunities for professional interaction;
- opportunities to be involved in curricular development; and
- improved opportunities for career advancement and leadership development.

MATTERS ARISING OR FURTHER QUERIES BY ETI

(Expand box as required and delete guidance)

A significant consideration must be given to how the DP may impact on the newly formed Breda Academy – which came about from the amalgamation of Newtownbreda and Knockbreda Secondary Schools. The Academy has currently about 77 students in Year 13 and 37 in Year 1 and this could well impact adversely on the sustainability of the psot-16 provision in this school

ANY OTHER RELVANT INFORMATION
(Expand box as required and delete guidance)

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATION

(Expand box as required and delete guidance)

Provide a recommendation that ETI supports or does not support the DP. The rationale box above should contain the reasons/justification which underpin and are in harmony with the recommendation below.

Inspection evidence and ETI knowledge:

Based upon the evidence available, the ETI supports the proposal to increase the enrolment for Lagan College. However, the potential adverse impact of this on the newly formed and nearby Breda Academy should be given due attention in the decision-making process around this DP.

SNAPSHOTS

APPENDIX G

SNAPSHOT 1: Lagan College & neighbouring provision/*all pupils*

- **Approved/actual enrolments, unfilled places and inspection report information**

SNAPSHOT 2: Lagan College & neighbouring provision/*less SEN Stage 5 pupils*

- **Approved/actual enrolments at Years 8-12 & post-16**

SNAPSHOT 3: Lagan College & neighbouring provision

- **Curriculum Offer**

SNAPSHOT No 1 SCHOOLS - LAGAN COLLEGE & AREA (INCLUDES SEN St 5)	Appr'd Enrolment	2013/14 Total Enrolment			2014/15 Total Enrolment			2015/16 Total Enrolment			2015/16 Unfilled places	Appr'd Adm Nos	2015/16 Actual Yr 8 Adms	2016/17 First Pref Applies	2016/17 Yr 8 Applies Accepted (unverified)	ETI report assessments
		8-12	Post 16	Total	8-12	Post 16	Total	8-12	Post 16	Total						
Integrated																
Lagan College	1200	1044	216	1260	1047	223	1270	1047	217	1264	8	200	212	324	201	Good (2013)
Priory College	500	430	70	500	472	77	549	496	84	580	0	100	114	70	105	Satisfactory (2015)
Malone College	800	542	114	656	482	135	617	457	134	591	246	130	92	56	64	Important areas for imprvmt (2016)
Sub-total	2500	2016	400	2416	2001	435	2436	2000	435	2435	254	430	418	450	370	
Controlled																
Ashfield Boys' HS	600	579	130	709	583	154	737	583	161	744	0	110	122	112	109	Very Good (2008)
Ashfield Girls' HS	660	590	114	704	579	118	697	568	135	703	0	113	115	111	113	Good (2013)
Dundonald HS	600	237	-	237	241	-	241	276	-	276	386	120	69	39	80	Satisfactory (2015)
Breda Academy <i>(2013 to 2014 enrolls Newt/Kckbreda HSs)</i>	1000	875	99	974	851	81	932	786	114	900	146	170	151	49	122	n/a
Sub-total	2860	2281	343	2624	2254	353	2607	2213	410	2623	532	513	457	311	424	
Maintained																
St Joseph's College	664	463	108	571	516	118	634	524	105	629	105	120	120	66	100	Good progress made since 2005 report (2007)
Sub-total	664	463	108	571	516	118	634	524	105	629	105	120	120	66	100	
Grammar																
Aquinas GS	770	584	224	808	582	220	802	583	216	799	2	110	118	117	110	Very Good (2015)
Bloomfield College	710	517	179	696	511	184	695	513	178	691	23	100	101	72	100	Good (2015)
Campbell College	950	641	250	891	638	259	897	651	248	899	74	130	135	112	137	Areas identified for improvement (2015)
Grosvenor GS	1075	797	293	1090	795	292	1087	794	286	1080	0	155	157	235	155	Good progress in areas for improvement (2010)
Our Lady & St Patrick's College	1260	928	349	1277	927	352	1279	929	341	1270	5	180	183	204	180	Very Good (2010)
Strathearn School	770	575	202	777	570	211	781	570	213	783	1	110	117	140	110	Very Good (2010)
Sullivan Upper	1060	779	295	1074	778	297	1075	773	301	1074	0	150	153	168	151	High level of capacity to sustain improvement(2015)
Wellington College	770	597	207	804	593	222	815	594	196	790	15	110	118	105	112	Areas for improvement (2015). School in FIP
RBAI	1050	776	256	1032	767	237	1004	770	252	1022	49	150	157	137	151	Good (2014)
Methodist College	1810	1245	508	1753	1252	536	1788	1251	525	1776	55	240	241	247	240	Good (2014)
Sub-total	10225	7439	2763	10202	7413	2810	10223	7428	2756	10184	224	1435	1480	1537	1446	
GRAND TOTAL	16249	12199	3614	15813	12184	3716	15900	12165	3706	15871	1115	2498	2475	2364	2340	

SNAPSHOT NO 2 ADMISSIONS & ENROLMENTS (LESS SEN St 5)	Appr'd Enrolment	Appr'd Adm Nos	*Admission No x 5 years (Yrs 8-12)	*Available Balance (potential 6 th fm)	2015/16 Actual Yr 8 (less SEN 5)	2015/16 Yrs 8-12 Enrol (less SEN 5 & Yr 15)	2015/16 Post-16 (less SEN 5 & Yr 15)	2015/16 Total Enrol (less SEN 5 & Yr 15)	COMMENTS	Potential capacity at 6 th form
Lagan Coll	1200	200	1000	200	202	985	210	1195	Actual enrolment below approved number. Limited places available in lower school/no capacity at 6 th form	N
Priory Coll	500	100	500	0	101	430	79	509	Actual enrolment exceeds approved number. Places currently available in lower school but continuation of 100+ Yr 8 pupils over next two years will impact on school's 6 th form intakes.	N
Malone Coll	800	130	650	150	85	424	130	554	Actual enrolment below approved number. Available places in lower school and potentially 6 th form.	Y
Sub-total	2500	430	2150	350	388	1839	419	2258		
Ashfield Boys'	600	110	550	50	110	535	154	689	Actual enrolment exceeds approved number. Although lower school did not fill to capacity the high intake of 6 th form numbers pushed school above approved number.	N
Ashfield Girls'	660	113	565	95	114	552	134	686	Actual enrolment exceeds approved number. Although lower school did not fill to capacity the high intake of 6 th form numbers pushed school above approved number.	N
Dundonald HS	600	120	600	n/a	57	214	n/a	214	This school does not provide 6 th form. Actual enrolment below approved number. School has spare capacity (Yrs 8-12).	-
Breda Academy	1000	170	850	150	140	741	113	854	Actual enrolment below approved number. Available places in lower school and potentially 6 th form.	Y
Sub-total	2860	513	2565	295	421	2042	401	2443		
St Joseph's Coll	664	120	600	64	113	461	98	559	Actual enrolment below approved number. Lower school did not fill to capacity which impacted on school's 6 th form numbers.	N
Sub-total	664	120	600	64	113	461	98	559		
Aquinas GS	770	110	550	220	110	552	204	756	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
Bloomfield Coll	710	100	500	210	100	510	177	687	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
Campbell Coll	950	130	650	300	129	630	246	876	Actual enrolment below approved number. Available places in lower school and potentially 6 th form.	Y
Grosvenor GS	1075	155	775	300	155	785	283	1068	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
Our Lady & St Patrick's Coll	1260	180	900	360	180	915	339	1254	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
Strathearn	770	110	550	220	111	559	211	770	Actual enrolment aligns with approved number. No capacity in lower school or 6 th form.	N
Sullivan Upper	1060	150	750	310	150	763	296	1059	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school or 6 th form.	N
Wellington Coll	770	110	550	220	110	563	192	755	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
RBAI	1050	150	750	300	152	753	247	1000	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
Methodist Coll	1810	240	1200	610	240	1235	520	1755	Actual enrolment below approved number. No capacity in lower school. Potential capacity at 6 th form.	Y
Sub-total	10225	1435	7175	3050	1437	7265	2715	9980		
GRAND TOTAL	16249	2498	12490	3759	2359	11607	3633	15240		

* Note: Where schools are not oversubscribed, they all have the same obligations to admit applicants to all available places, the only exception being for Year groups other than Year 8 if the Board of Governors of a Post-primary school can demonstrate that the admission of a child to the school would prejudice the efficient use of resources (reference: Article 13 of the Education (NI) Order 1997).

Snapshot No 3
Verified curriculum offer 15-16

School Ref	School Name	Region	location	2015-16 Year 11 Applied	2015-16 Year 11 General	Total	Meeting/Not meeting	2015-16 Year 13 Applied	2015-16 Year 13 General	Total	Meeting/Not meeting
1210014	Ashfield Girls' High	BELB	urban	15	9	24	Y	16	5	21	N
1210015	Ashfield Boys' High	BELB	urban	14	9	23	N	14	4	18	N
1230275	St Joseph's College, Belfast	BELB	urban	16	10	26	Y	11	11	22	N
1260294	Malone College	BELB	urban	11	11	22	N	17	11	28	Y
1410079	Grosvenor Grammar	BELB	urban	10	15	25	Y	11	16	27	Y
1410270	Wellington College	BELB	urban	9	15	24	Y	12	15	27	Y
1410315	Bloomfield Collegiate	BELB	urban	11	15	26	Y	11	15	26	N
1420020	Campbell College	BELB	urban	10	16	26	Y	12	15	27	Y
1420022	Methodist College	BELB	urban	12	19	31	Y	11	19	30	Y
1420027	Royal Belfast Academical Inst.	BELB	urban	12	18	30	Y	10	20	30	Y
1420089	Strathearn	BELB	urban	7	15	22	N	8	17	25	N
1420277	Aquinas Grammar	BELB	urban	11	15	26	Y	10	17	27	Y
4210262	Dundonald High School	SEELB	urban	18	7	25	N				
4210316	Breda Academy	SEELB	urban	19	12	31	Y	11	6	17	N
4250024	Priory Integrated College	SEELB	urban	17	6	23	N	14	6	20	N
4260255	Lagan College	SEELB	rural	17	17	34	Y	12	13	25	N
4420044	Sullivan Upper School	SEELB	urban	10	13	23	N	14	14	28	Y
4420259	Our Lady and St Patrick's College	SEELB	urban	11	15	26	Y	9	17	26	N