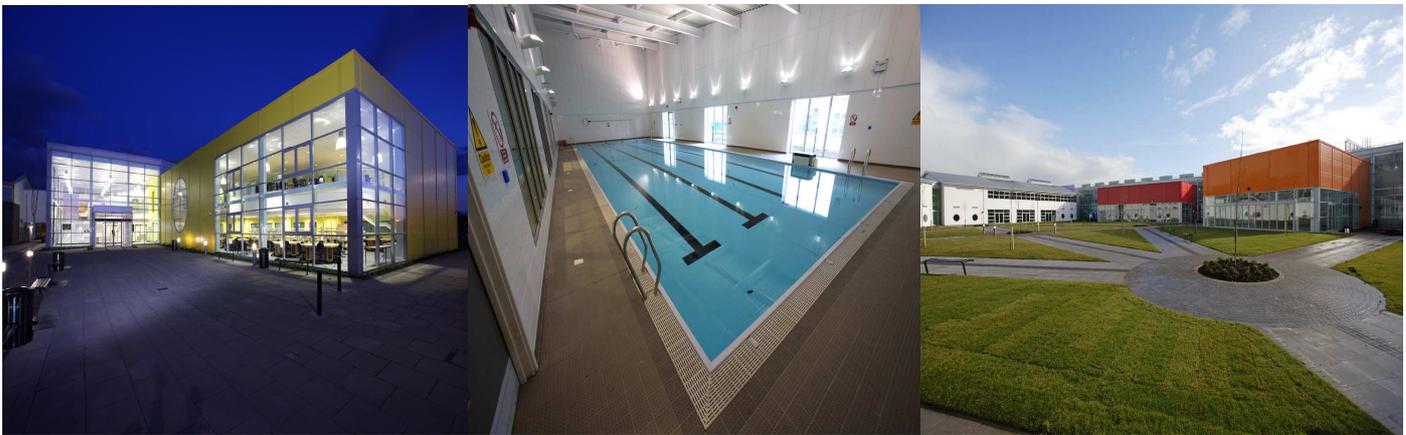


DARLINGTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

Darlington ECM Primary Capital Plan



Education Village
Darlington



Skerne Park Primary School
Darlington



Harrowgate Hill Primary School
Darlington

Explanation of Option Appraisal Criteria

In line with the Authority's vision for Children's Services each school has been assessed against an established set of criteria, based around the principles of the existing strategy and the ECM agenda. The criteria cover eight particular areas and to avoid misinterpretation we have provided an explanation of the 8 criteria used below:

Criteria		Explanation
1	Positive Borough wide impact on Attainment and raising standards	Based on information in Ofsted, PANDA and Key Stage results this criteria identifies projects where building improvement and innovation can be seen as having a direct influence on standards.
2	Improves Condition of estate	Investment is needed to improve the condition and suitability of buildings for teaching within the school estate. In order to continue to raise attainment, schools need buildings fit for purpose.
3	Improves Suitability across the estate	
4	Improves Sufficiency	This criteria ensures that if school are to be redeveloped and investment made, the future population and popularity of the school is secure. This criteria also ensures we provide the right number of places in the right parts of the Borough
5	Minimises Disruption to students during construction	The impact of construction work on existing sites should not be underestimated. It can be very disruptive to the education of the students at that school and can require decanting to temporary accommodation on or off the school site.
6	Deliverability (programme risk, planning risk, land etc) also consideration of potential amalgamations	An individual project will have risks to deliverability - planning permission and other approvals, negotiations on land, technical site matters, etc. For some schools, the proposal to provide a new build will be linked to possible amalgamation. This criteria assess just how deliverable schemes are
7	Every Child Matters	This criteria looks at each outcome within the ECM programme and identifies how effectively each proposal can deliver the required five outcomes.
8	Facilitates Development of Extended Schools and Community Use	The Government's extended schools agenda puts schools at the heart of their community. This criteria looks at the impact a new / improved school will have on the community they serve by providing new, improved and cross cutting services from new school developments

The development of a full option appraisal for all schools will take over 12 months. It is recommended that full assessments are undertaken of all schools in the Borough using both existing data on condition, suitability and sufficiency but supported by more detailed reporting on deprivation, standards, community engagement etc.

The option appraisal will involve wide ranging discussion and consultation with schools, diocese, local communities etc and should ensure Darlington is in place to implement a proposed Primary programme from 2009.

The option appraisal will also address how works to maintain and improve schools not in the 50% within the programme can be funded and will review how formulaic funding is distributed and targeted at present.