A REVIEW OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN CENTRAL BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET – AREA 2

Farmborough C of E Primary School
Marksbury C of E Primary School
St Mary’s C of E Primary School Timsbury

A Discussion Paper
Data Complied by Children’s Service Officers

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October 2008 – April 2009
A REVIEW OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN CENTRAL BATH AND 
NORTH EAST SOMERSET – AREA 2 
AUTUMN 2008

THE AIMS OF THE REVIEW PROCESS ARE TO:

- Maintain and improve educational standards
- Maximise the use of existing resources (land, buildings and funding)
- Increase access to high quality facilities for children, staff and the community
- Make the choice of a local school the natural and easy choice for parents

1. WHY ARE WE REVIEWING THIS AREA?

1.1 The Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Panel will be reviewing all primary schools in Bath & North East Somerset over the period September 2003 to May 2009. Each school will initially be reviewed alongside its partner schools in a geographical area. At the end of each Area Review, elected Councillors may decide that some changes (school closures, new schools, enlarging schools etc.) appear to be necessary and initiate a further consultation process focusing on the school(s) affected. It is equally possible that Councillors may simply acknowledge that the pattern of school provision is working effectively and that no changes are required in the short or medium-term.

1.2 The process to be followed when undertaking an Area Review has been the subject of wide and lengthy consultation. It was finally approved by the School Organisation Committee (a body independent of the Council) on 22 July 2003.

1.3 A document describing the process can be found on the Council website at: www.bathnes.gov.uk/committee_papers/OandSEYCL/EYCL021202/10SchoolReviewProcess.htm. Paper copies are also available on request.

1.4 The schools named below are considered in this Review:

Farmborough C of E Primary School
Marksbury C of E Primary School
St Mary’s C of E Primary School Timsbury

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 The first stage of the Review involves the gathering of information on the following:-

- current numbers on roll (as at September 2008)
- historical numbers on roll (2003-2007)
- anticipated numbers of children in the area (2009 and beyond)
- levels of recruitment against Standard Number / Planned Admission Number
- unit cost per pupil
- outstanding planned maintenance
- school site and building areas
• suitability assessments
• home addresses/location of pupils on roll
• level of surplus or deficit of places
• levels of educational achievement

2.2 On Thursday 13th November 2008, a draft version of the document containing this information was circulated to the Headteacher of each school covered by the Review. The Headteachers were asked to submit any comments or amendments they may have on this data by Thursday 27th November 2008.

2.3 In the week commencing Monday 15th December 2008 a revised version containing amendments, clarifications of facts and some initial officer conclusions will be issued to: the Headteacher and Chair of Governors of each school covered by the Review, the Headteacher and Chair of Governors of the secondary schools serving Central Bath and North East Somerset – Area 2, senior officers and advisors of Bath and North East Somerset Council Children’s Service, the Bath & Wells Diocesan Board of Education, the Roman Catholic Diocese of Clifton and Councillors representing the wards in which the schools are located – Farmborough and Timsbury. The document will also be circulated to members of the Children and Young People Overview & Scrutiny Panel in order to inform their discussions.

3. SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN

3.1 Each school has been assessed against policies, established through the School Organisation Plan, regarding school size. The School Organisation Plan states that:

• Infant and junior schools should be at least one form of entry (FE) and a maximum of three with a planned admission number (PAN) of between 30 and 90. So for example, a 1 FE school with a PAN of 30 would have 210 children on roll.
• No infant school should have less than 60 children on roll.
• No junior school should have less than 90 children on roll.
• Urban/suburban primary schools should be at least one form of entry and a maximum of two with a standard number between 30 and 60.
• No urban/suburban primary school should have less than 180 children on roll.
• The maximum desirable size for a primary school* is 420 pupils.
• Rural primary schools should have a standard number of at least 15, at least 3 classes and an average intake of at least 10 children.

* The definition of a primary school is one that has seven year groups – Reception to Year 6. Another phrase that is also sometimes used to describe a primary school is ‘all-through’.

3.2 The School Organisation Plan agreed on 17 July 2001 stated that “the LEA’s preferred option for school organisation at Key Stages 1 and 2 is all-through
primary schools. This also includes the Foundation Stage in nursery and reception classes." All three of the schools covered by this Review are primary schools.

3.3 All three of the schools covered by this Review are Church schools. Any changes in the area may result in a change in the proportion of denominational places in Bath & North East Somerset and if such changes reduced the proportion of denominational places this would require the support of the relevant Diocese. At present, approximately 54% of primary school places in Bath & North East Somerset are in Church schools. In Central Bath and North East Somerset – Area 2 the percentage is 100%.

3.4 All schools have also been assessed under the Authority’s Asset Management Plan (AMP). The AMP is concerned with the Condition, Suitability and Sufficiency of schools. The Key Data sheets at the back of the document show the position at these schools in relation to the AMP headings.

3.5 All three of the schools covered by this review are categorised by the LA as rural schools – Farmborough C of E Primary and St. Mary’s C of E Primary are further categorised as strategic rural schools. A strategic rural school is one where the next closest school could not easily accommodate the children from this school were it to close and/or the journey to the next closest schools could be deemed unreasonable for very young children.

4. THE CONTEXT

4.1 A map showing the location of each of the schools and where the pupils attending that school live is provided. For legal reasons it is necessary to state that the maps have been reproduced from the Ordnance Survey with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty’s Stationery Office © Crown Copyright under License Number 100023334. The mapped data represents the position as at September 2007.

4.2 Population data from the Primary Care Trust shows the position at 31st August 2008 in the postcode areas in which these schools are located.

5. LEVELS OF EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

5.1 There are various measures of educational performance. Simple examination of headline results may not reveal the success (or otherwise) of a school.

5.2 Care must be taken when analysing results of small year groups and making comparisons with schools that are significantly different in size. In small schools one pupil can have a very marked effect on the percentage figures. OFSTED makes the following statement:

Care should be taken when analysing the results of small year groups and small schools. The effect of one additional pupil on, for example, a school percentage measure can be considerable, whereas in larger schools the effect will be less marked. This does not mean that analysing the performance of small cohorts is invalid. Rather it means that the findings from such analyses should be interpreted carefully, and may need to be augmented with other information or
6. **TIMESCALES AND CONSULTATION**

6.1 The Overview & Scrutiny Panel will visit all schools in mid January 2009 and will hold a public meeting to hear contributions from invited stakeholders. This meeting will take place at the beginning of February 2009 at a suitable venue in the locality to be confirmed.

6.2 All information gathered via the information contained within this discussion paper, the school visits and the contributor session will be considered by the Overview & Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on the 23rd March 2009.

6.3 The final paper will be considered as a Single Member decision in April 2009.

7. **KEY DATA**

- Numbers on Roll, Forecasts and Surplus Places
- Population Data by Ward
- Level of Recruitment against Standard Number/Planned Admission Number
- Financial Information
- Outstanding Planned Maintenance
- Site and Building Areas
- Educational Standards
- Suitability Assessments
- School and Pupil Location Maps
### Numbers on Roll, Forecasts and Surplus Places

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>137</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>107</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>*90</td>
<td>-2</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary's C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>184</td>
<td>195</td>
<td>194</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>391</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>391</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>130</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Notes:

* Marksbury C of E Primary net capacity will rise to 105 on completion of a new foundation stage classroom space during the Autumn term 2008. The total Net Cap for the review area would then be 420, average 140.

PAN means Planned Admission Number. This figure equates to the number of pupils the school **must** admit if demand exists. PAN replaced Standard Number (SN) for admissions from September 2004.

YR means Reception Year in primary school

NOR means number on roll.

Net Cap means Net Capacity. This is the physical capacity of the school and shows the number of places available and is derived from a Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) formula.

Surplus places mean unfilled places. Not all unfilled places are surplus. The calculation of surplus places takes account only of those schools where the number of pupils is fewer than the number of places available. Shortfalls of places in schools are not counted.
The School Organisation Plan 2003-2008 states that 3 – 5% is a reasonable level of surplus capacity. The purpose of showing the average number on roll over the five years prior to 2008/09 is to ensure that an unusual variation in admissions in one year does not provide a distorted picture.

Forecast numbers are shown for the whole area, not for individual schools and are based on the existing numbers of children currently on roll projected forward and on the new births in the postcode areas in which the schools are located entering the school at age 4. The forecast NOR at September 2012 is 383.

It can be seen that the total number on roll at September 2008 is 98% of that at September 2003. Forecasts indicate that by September 2012 the total number on roll will be 98% of the 2003 figure. This forecast does not include any children generated from new housing developments.
Births Data by Postcode

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Postcode Area</th>
<th>Age 0-1 Enter YR in 2012</th>
<th>Age 1-2 Enter YR in 2011</th>
<th>Age 2-3 Enter YR in 2010</th>
<th>Age 3-4 Enter YR in 2009</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BA2 9**</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA2 0**</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>228</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

All data supplied by Bath & NE Somerset Primary Care Trust.

Children’s ages as at 31st August 2008

The number of new births in the review area have remained fairly consistent and level over the past few years. The number of births relating to the pupils that would enter YR (Reception) in 2010 is higher but then numbers fall again for 2011 and 2012 YR pupils.
# Levels of Recruitment Against Standard Number/Planned Admission Number

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary's C of E Primary</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>68</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>241</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>267</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td>23</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>89</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

Levels of recruitment are shown as percentages as changes to Standard Number were implemented at several schools over the period September 1997 to September 2002. This was often as a result of the infant class size legislation, which limits an infant class to a maximum size of 30 children.

Standard Number (SN) was abolished from September 2004 and replaced by Planned Admission Number (PAN).
## Financial Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Formula Allocation</th>
<th>CPN (FTE)</th>
<th>Formula Allocation per FTE Pupil</th>
<th>Other Funding: Standards Fund</th>
<th>Other Funding: Standards Grant</th>
<th>Other Funding: Devolved Formula Capital</th>
<th>Other Funding Total</th>
<th>Other Funding per FTE pupil</th>
<th>Total Funding</th>
<th>Total Funding per FTE Pupil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>287,889</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3,199</td>
<td>24,448</td>
<td>25,277</td>
<td>24,170</td>
<td>73,895</td>
<td>821</td>
<td>361,784</td>
<td>4,020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>324,708</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>3,529</td>
<td>25,179</td>
<td>26,527</td>
<td>24,296</td>
<td>76,002</td>
<td>826</td>
<td>400,710</td>
<td>4,355</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Marys C of E Primary</td>
<td>541,144</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>2,747</td>
<td>32,813</td>
<td>39,667</td>
<td>30,911</td>
<td>103,391</td>
<td>525</td>
<td>644,535</td>
<td>3,272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,153,741</strong></td>
<td><strong>379</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,475</strong></td>
<td><strong>82,440</strong></td>
<td><strong>91,471</strong></td>
<td><strong>79,377</strong></td>
<td><strong>256,288</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,172</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,407,029</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,647</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td><strong>384,580</strong></td>
<td><strong>126</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,158</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,480</strong></td>
<td><strong>30,490</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,459</strong></td>
<td><strong>85,429</strong></td>
<td><strong>724</strong></td>
<td><strong>469,009</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,882</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

FTE means Full Time Equivalent.

CPN means Composite Pupil Number. This is the number of pupils for which a school receives funding. It is based on 5/12 of actual number on roll at January each year plus 7/12 from the estimated September number on roll.

Please note that the above figures are based on the January 2007 School Census and September 2007 estimate.
## Outstanding Planned Maintenance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Average NOR 2003-2007</th>
<th>Outstanding Planned Maintenance (OPM)</th>
<th>OPM per Head Based on Average NOR 2003-2007</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>£21,000</td>
<td>£187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>£28,700</td>
<td>£342</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>£563,200</td>
<td>£2,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>612,900</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

The figures showing the total costs of outstanding planned maintenance show only those works which are regarded as Urgent or Essential, i.e. those items categorised as C1 or C2 and D1 or D2 items on the condition survey.

DCFS and Property Services define Urgent as ‘Work that will prevent immediate closure of premises, and/or address an immediate high risk to the health and safety of occupants and/or remedy a serious breach of legislation’.

Essential is defined as ‘Work required within two years that will prevent serious deterioration of the fabric or services and/or address a medium risk to the health and safety of occupants and/or remedy a less serious breach of legislation’.
# Site and Building Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>% of Recommended Minimum Site Area</th>
<th>% of Recommended Minimum Building Area</th>
<th>% of Required Team Games Playing Field</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>156%</td>
<td>176%</td>
<td>169%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s C of E Primary</td>
<td>Voluntary Controlled</td>
<td>325%</td>
<td>166%</td>
<td>390%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

Figures are based on the current number on roll in YR – Y6 at September 2008.

An assessment of these areas forms part of the Sufficiency element of the Asset Management Plan.

Building Bulletin 99 (BB99) ‘Area Guidelines for Schools’ is a DCSF guidance document which indicates total site and building areas required. Figures take account of the size of school and the age range covered.

A site or building which is too small will make management of the school more problematic. A site or building that is oversized will require more resources in order to maintain it which will come from the school budget and thus leave less to allocate to direct delivery of the curriculum.

Site and building areas have a recommended minimum and maximum range. These figures have been based on the minimum site and building areas.
### Educational Standards

#### 2008

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KS1 % of Children Level 2+</th>
<th>KS2 % of Children Level 4+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s C of E Primary</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEA Average</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KS1 % of Children Level 2+</th>
<th>KS2 % of Children Level 4+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s C of E Primary</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEA Average</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Average</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KS1 % of Children Level 2+</th>
<th>KS2 % of Children Level 4+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Writing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmborough C of E Primary</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marksbury C of E Primary</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Mary’s C of E Primary</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEA Average</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13
### National Average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>84</th>
<th>87</th>
<th>90</th>
<th>79</th>
<th>75</th>
<th>86</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Notes:

Data provided by Bath & North East Somerset Performance Data Unit.

The KS2 data is based on test levels.

Care should be taken when analysing the results of small year groups and small schools. The effect of one additional pupil on, for example, a school percentage measure can be considerable, whereas in larger schools the effect will be less marked. This does not mean that analysing the performance of small cohorts is invalid. Rather it means that the findings from such analyses should be interpreted carefully, and may need to be augmented with other information or considered over more than one year.
Suitability Assessments

In conjunction with sufficiency and condition assessments, suitability assessments help in the targeting of resources where they can have the greatest effect in raising standards and maximising value for money. The assessments help in identifying the educational impact of any deficiencies in accommodation, may identify a need for additional accommodation or improvements to existing accommodation. Assessments are compared to a primary model that takes account of the space requirements identified in Building Bulletin 99 Briefing Framework for Primary Projects (2nd edition) which incorporates the BB82 Area Guidelines for Schools.

Readers are reminded that the issues identified by the Suitability Assessments represent the position at each school on the day of the assessment. Each school received a copy of their Assessment and Headteachers were invited to comment on the findings.

The issues identified below represent the agreed suitability issues facing the school at the time of the Assessment. This Suitability information will have been updated to take into account any amendments to buildings or sites carried out since Autumn 2005. These updates will not however, have been validated with the school. An update of the Suitability Assessments was undertaken in the Summer term 2008.

The definitions below will assist readers in assessing the scale of the suitability problems faced by the schools within this Review.

**Category A - Unable to teach curriculum.**
This is most likely to be associated with numbers and types of teaching spaces available. There should be enough appropriate spaces to accommodate all pupils for the whole of the curriculum

**Category B - Teaching methods inhibited.**
Unsuitability of spaces may mean that schools’ preferred teaching methods are inhibited. This may be associated with numbers and types of teaching spaces, or with the size and other aspects of spaces

**Category C - Management or organisation of school affected adversely.**
Unsuitability of spaces and/or the way they relate to each other may affect the organisation or management of the school

**Category D - Pupil or staff morale or pupil behaviour affected adversely.**
Unsuitability of spaces may affect pupil or staff morale or pupil behaviour.

**Accessibility.**
Terminology to denote if a building meets current DDA regulations in terms of disabled persons being able to enter and use facilities.
Farmborough C of E Primary School

The school has the appropriate number of classrooms for its pupils on roll. The hall is slightly undersized. The school has sufficient small group, library and IT areas and enjoys a music room. Investment in the past two years has provided a refurbished room for the playgroup and the creation of administrative accommodation now meeting suitability and location requirements. The original administration accommodation in the school house is now used for small group, SEN and activity areas. The staff room and staff workspace is on the first floor. There is a playgroup with its dedicated play area on site. There are no temporary buildings on site. The school has an on site playing field.

Marksbury C of E Primary School

The school now has sufficient classrooms for its pupils on roll having just completed an extension to provide an extra teaching resource space. Two classrooms are undersized and one - a temporary classroom - is separate from the main school. The school has sufficient small group and SEN spaces. There is no dedicated IT suite and the library is undersized and has a dual use as a small group space. The hall is very undersized. The staffroom and head’s office are on the first floor. The school is on an undersized constrained site and play space has been maximised by use of artificial surface. There is one temporary classroom on site. An off site playing field is leased for school use.

St Mary’s C of E Primary School

The school has the appropriate number of classrooms for its pupils on roll. One classroom is on the first floor and a stair lift provides access for people with disabilities. The school has sufficient small group spaces and a dedicated Research Centre, which incorporates a library and IT suite. An extension has been recently completed to accommodate the pre-school. The school was originally a secondary school and consequently there is extensive circulation with teaching spaces off. There are no temporary buildings on site. The school has access to a large open playing field on site.

8. SUMMARY AND INITIAL CONCLUSIONS

The initial conclusions and recommendations contained within this section are the views of Children’s Services officers and do not premt the final content of the Overview & Scrutiny Panel report.

Farmborough C of E Primary School

The school is approximately 84% full. Average intake into Reception over the past six years has been 59% of available school capacity and the number on roll over the past few years has gradually fallen. The PAN was reduced from 25 to 20 in 2007 and was further reduced to 15 for admissions in September 2008. There is currently one known proposed development of 24 new homes in the immediate area, at Timsbury, which is projected to generate 5 primary age pupils. Also a possible
development of 30 dwellings at Farmborough would generate approximately 8 primary age pupils if it were to go ahead.

Total funding per pupil at the school is slightly above the area average.

Educational Standards at the school in 2008 at KS1 were below the LEA and national averages for reading and writing and above the national and LEA average for maths. At KS2 English, maths and science were all above the LEA and national averages.

Outstanding planned maintenance required at the school is low.

The school site is approximately 50% bigger than the recommended minimum size, the buildings are two thirds bigger than the recommended minimum size and the team games playing fields are also just over 50% bigger than the required size.

The school has the appropriate number of classrooms for its number on roll and there are no temporary buildings on site. The school has on site playing fields and a playgroup occupies a refurbished space on site. The school has sufficient small group and other space.

The map of pupil locations shows that children currently attending the school come from across quite a wide area to the south of Farmborough as far as Midsomer Norton and Peasedown to the east.

Children’s Service Officer recommendation: no action presently at the school.

**Marksbury C of E Primary School**

The school is over capacity. Average intake into Reception over the past six years has been 100% of available school capacity and the school has experienced steadily increasing numbers over the past few years.

The PAN was increased from 13 to 15 for admissions in September 2008.

There is currently one known proposed development of 24 new homes in the immediate area, at Timsbury, which is projected to generate 5 primary age pupils. Also a possible development of 30 dwellings at Farmborough would generate approximately 8 primary age pupils if it were to go ahead.

Total funding per pupil at the school is higher than the area average.

Educational Standards at the school in 2008 at KS1 were below the LEA and national averages for reading, below the LEA and above the national average for writing and below the LEA and above the national average for maths. At KS2 English and maths were both below the LEA and national averages and science was above both the LEA and national average.

Outstanding planned maintenance required at the school is low.

The school site is approximately a quarter of the recommended minimum size, the buildings are approximately two thirds of the recommended minimum size and the school has no team games playing fields on site.

On completion of a new teaching resource space, the school has sufficient classrooms for its number on roll. Two classrooms are undersized and one is a temporary building and separate from the main school. The hall is very undersized and the library is undersized. There is one temporary building on site. The school is on a very constrained site and has no on site playing fields. An off site field is leased for school use.

The map of pupil locations shows that the children currently attending the school come from a very wide rural area surrounding the school, across the central Bath and North East Somerset area.

Children’s Service Officer recommendation: no action presently at the school.
St Mary’s C of E Primary School

The school is approximately 97% full. Average intake into Reception over the past six years has been 95% of available school capacity and the school has experienced stable numbers over the past few years.

The PAN has remained consistent at 30 for the past six years.

There is currently one known proposed development of 24 new homes in the immediate area, at Timsbury, which is projected to generate 5 primary age pupils. Also a possible development of 30 dwellings at Farmborough would generate approximately 8 primary age pupils if it were to go ahead.

Total funding per pupil at the school is lower than the area average.

Educational Standards at the school in 2008 at KS1 were above the LEA and national averages for reading and writing and above the national and level with the LEA average for maths. At KS2 English was above both the LEA and national average, above the national and level with the LEA average for maths and above the national and below the LEA average for science.

Outstanding planned maintenance required at the school is high.

The school site is over three times bigger than the recommended minimum size, the buildings are just over 50% bigger than the recommended minimum size and the team games playing fields are nearly four times bigger than the required size. The school site was once occupied by a secondary school.

The school has the appropriate number of classrooms for its number on roll. The IT suite is undersized and one classroom is on the first floor. An on site playgroup is accommodated in a newly completed extension. There is extensive circulation space as the school was once a secondary school. There are no temporary buildings on site. There is a large playing field on site.

The map of pupil locations shows that the majority of children currently attending the school come from Timsbury and Camerton and the remainder from quite a wide area mainly to the south.

Children’s Service Officer recommendation: no action presently at the school.