



THORNTON O'CONNOR
TOWN PLANNING

Schools Demand Assessment

Schools Demand Assessment

In respect of a Mixed-Use Development on a site
at:

Leydens Wholesalers & Distributors,
No. 158A Richmond Road,
Dublin 3,
D03 YK12

Submitted on Behalf of Malkey Limited

February 2023

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This Schools Demand Assessment has been prepared by Thornton O'Connor Town Planning (TOC), on behalf of Malkey Limited, in support of a planning application for a proposed Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) at 158A Richmond Road, Dublin 3. The report provides a detailed review of the statutory, strategic and policy context that relates to the provision of educational facilities in the area, with the aim to:

- Providing a detailed review of the statutory, strategic and policy context that relates to the provision of school infrastructure;
- Audit of the existing range of educational services for primary and post-primary within the defined Study Area, along with available capacity in the 2023/2024 academic year;
- Calculation of the demand for primary and post-primary places generated by the proposed development; and
- Evaluation of supply and demand pressures with respect to capacity, and the likelihood of the capacity of the existing facilities in supporting the needs of future residents.

The purpose of this report is to examine the capacity of existing primary and post-primary school facilities located in the vicinity of the development site, alongside the demographic demands of the area, to understand the direction of demand and the resulting need for additional schooling infrastructure in the future.

1.1 Approach

A methodology for the assessment of educational facilities and schools has been developed in accordance with the directions provided in planning policy, and it involves the following steps:

1. Defining a Study Area using relevant School Planning Areas (SPA) as developed by the Department of Education (DES);
2. A demographic and socio-economic evaluation of the composition of population within the Study Area;
3. Determining the extent and provision of existing educational facilities and schools within the Study Area; and
4. Estimating the level of demand for schools that may arise from the development proposal.

The School Demand Assessment described in the following sections will follow this methodology as a structural framework. The existing supply of educational facilities and schools were assessed to establish the baseline scenario, followed by a demographic analysis that provides valuable insights into the characteristics of the population of the Study Area, prior to determining the potential demand generated by the proposed development. In assessing potential demand generated by the proposed scheme, it is important to note that a maximum scenario was presented. It therefore follows that it is reasonable to conclude that there will be a lower than depicted demand for enrolment places within the school network and School Planning Area.

1.2 Study Area and Accessibility

The development site area and road works area will provide a total application site area of c. 0.83 hectares (outlined in blue below). The developable site area (outlined in red below), hereafter referred to as the subject site, measuring c. 1.35 acres (c.0.55 hectares), is bound to the north by Richmond Road, to the south and south west it is bound by a site currently seeking consent for 183 Build-to-Rent units (Richmond Road SHD), and is bound to its south-east by Distillery Court a 4-6 storey apartment complex. The site is located at approximately 2.5 km of Dublin city centre. The subject site benefits from very good accessibility with its close proximity to National Road N1 which is also a Quality Bus Corridor. Upper Drumcondra road is also identified to be developed as a Busconnects Corridor. Botanic Avenue stop 46 is located within c. 750m of the site. The site is also located at c. 1.3 km from Drumcondra Station and c. 1.9 km from Clontarf DART station.



Figure 1.1: Site Location (Developable Site Area and Application Site Area)

(Source: Bing Maps, annotated by Thornton O'Connor Town Planning, 2023)

The Study Area for this assessment has been defined by School Planning Areas (SPA) as developed by the Department of Education. In order to plan for school provision and analyse the relevant demographic data, the country is divided into 314 No. school planning areas. A Geographical Information System, using data from a range of sources, including school enrolments, Child Benefit records and information on residential development is used to identify

where the pressure for school places across the country will arise. With this information, nationwide demographic exercises are carried out to determine where additional school place provision is needed at primary and post-primary level. This Schools Demand Assessment has been carried out at SPA level (Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1) to estimate the capacity of primary and post-primary schooling infrastructure near the subject site, what is the nature of current enrolment, what additional infrastructure is planned in the coming years, and what impact the proposed development will have on the strategy.

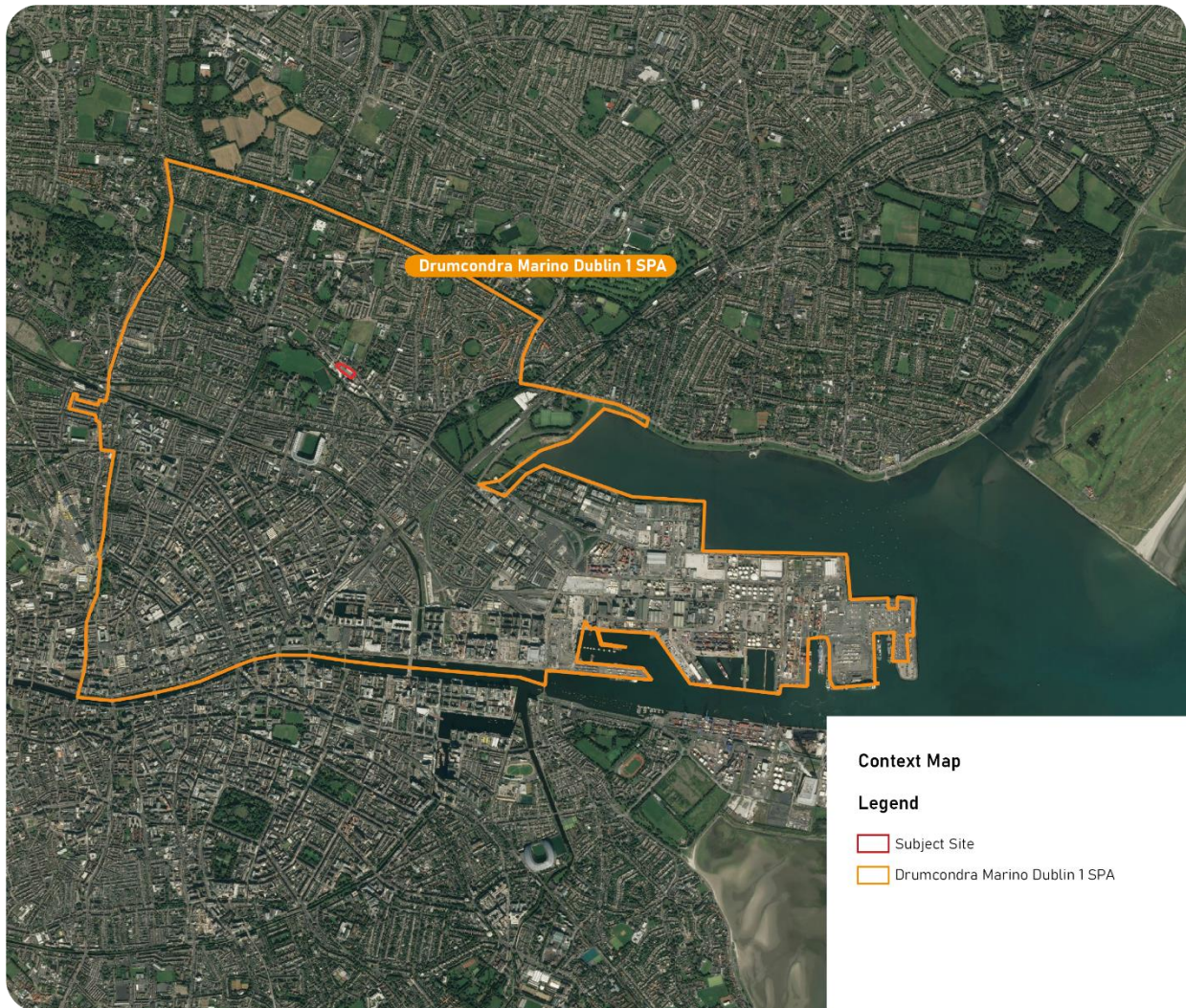


Figure 1.2: Study Area (Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA)

(Source: Bing Maps, DES, annotated by Thornton O'Connor Town Planning, 2023)

The subject site is served by a range of transport options. Botanic Avenue stop 46 is located within 750m of the site (10 minute walk) on Drumcondra Road and is served by a wide range of Dublin Bus routes (1, 11, 13, 16, 33, 41, 44). The site is located 1.3 km away (c.17 min walk) from the Drumcondra train station providing local and commuter services on the Dublin City to Sligo/Longford railway line. Some c. 950 metres to the west of the site, the R105 Clontarf Road provides additional access to a wide range of Dublin Bus routes (6, 14, 15, 27, 42, 43, H1, H2, H3).

BusConnects is the National Transport Authority's (NTA) programme to greatly improve bus and sustainable transport services across the Dublin Region. In this regard, the BusConnects initiative proposes key high frequency 'Spine' Routes along the nearby Drumcondra Road (A

Spine), to the west of the site, and along the R105 Clontarf Road (H and D Spines) to the east of the site. An excerpt of this upgraded network is visualized below in the context of the proposed site in Figure 1.3 below. BusConnects also proposes 'Other City Bound Routes' along the Drumcondra and Clontarf Road (R105) all a short walk from the site. This will provide significantly improved bus transport access to the subject site in the coming years.

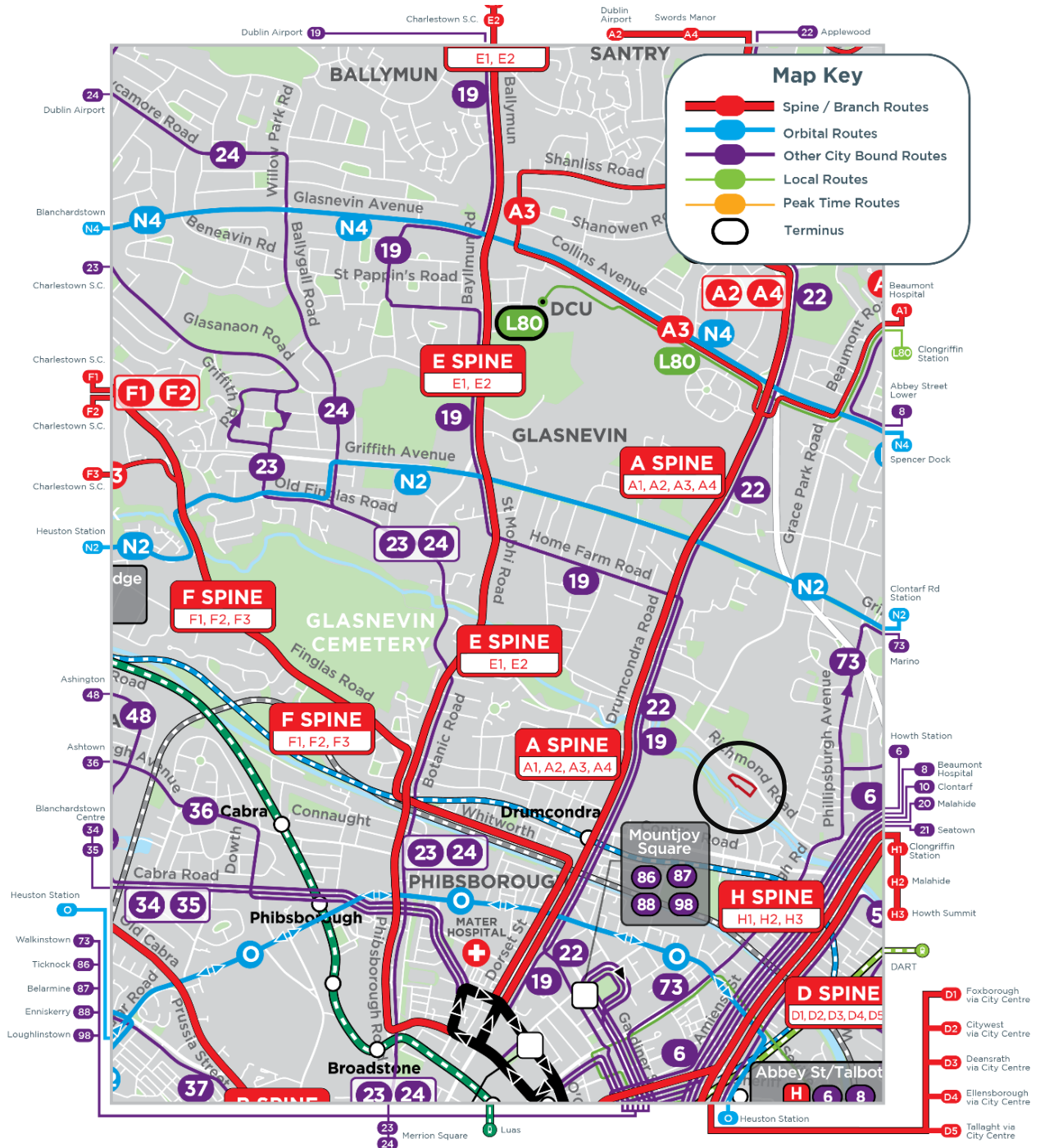


Figure 1.3: Bus Connects Network (Site Identified in Red Outline)

(Source: BusConnects.ie, September 2020, annotated by Thornton O'Connor Town Planning, 2023)

1.3 Proposed Development

Malkey Limited intend to deliver a large-scale residential development on the c. 0.55 ha development site. The development will consist of 133 No. apartments, with supporting resident amenity and commercial facilities. The development is arranged in 3 No. blocks, with public and/or communal open space generally provided in the spaces between each block. The unit mix is provided in Table 1.1 below:

Unit Type	Block A	Block B	Block C	Combined	% of Total
1-bed (2 person) units	10	31	24	65	49%
2-bed (3 person) units	0	9	0	9	7%
2-bed (4 person) units	6	21	32	59	44%
Total units	16	61	56	133	100%

Table 1.1: Schedule of Accommodation

(Source: Thornton O'Connor Town Planning, 2023)

Per the statutory public notices, the proposed development is as follows:

Malkey Limited intend to apply for permission for development (Large-scale Residential Development (LRD)) at this c. 0.55 hectare site at the former Leydens Wholesalers & Distributors, No. 158A Richmond Road, Dublin 3, Do3 YK12. The site is bounded to the north-east by Richmond Road, to the west/south-west by No. 146A and Nos. 148-148A Richmond Road (pending application ABP Reg. Ref. TA29N.312352), to the south/south-west by a residential and commercial development (Distillery Lofts) and to the east/south-east by the Former Distillery Warehouse (derelict brick and stone building). Improvement works to Richmond Road are also proposed including carriageway widening up to c. 6 metres in width, the addition of a c. 1.5 metre wide one-way cycle track/lane in both directions, the widening of the northern footpath on Richmond Road to a minimum of c. 1.8 metres and the widening of the southern footpath along the site frontage which varies from c. 2.2 metres to c. 7.87 metres, in addition to a new signal controlled pedestrian crossing facility, all on an area of c. 0.28 hectares. The development site area and road works area will provide a total application site area of c. 0.83 hectares.

The proposed development will principally consist of: a Large-scale Residential Development (LRD) comprising the demolition of existing industrial structures on site (c. 3,359 sq m) and the construction of a mixed-use development including artist studios (c. 749 sq m), a creche (c. 156 sq m), a retail unit (c. 335 sq m), and a gym (c. 262 sq m), and 133 No. residential units (65 No. one bed apartments and 68 No. two bed apartments). The development will be provided in 3 No. blocks ranging in height from part 1 No. to part 10 No. storeys as follows: Block A will be part 1 No. storey to part 4 No. storeys in height, Block B will be part 1 No. storeys to part 10 No. storeys in height (including podium) and Block C will be part 1 No. storeys to part 9 No. storeys in height (including podium). The proposed development has a gross floor area of c. 14,590 sq m and a gross floor space of c. 13,715 sq m.

The development also proposes the construction of: a new c. 204 No. metre long flood wall along the western, southern and south-eastern boundaries of the proposed development with a top of wall level of c. 6.4 metres AOD to c. 7.15 metres AOD (typically c. 1.25 metres to c. 2.3 metres in height)

if required; and new telecommunications infrastructure at roof level of Block B including shrouds, antennas and microwave link dishes (18 No. antennas enclosed in 9 No. shrouds and 6 No. transmission dishes, together with all associated equipment) if required. A flood wall and telecommunications infrastructure are also proposed in the adjoining Strategic Housing Development (SHD) application (pending decision ABP Reg. Ref. TA29N.312352) under the control of the Applicant. If that SHD application is granted and first implemented, no flood wall or telecommunications infrastructure will be required under this application for LRD permission (with soft landscaping provided instead of the flood wall). If the SHD application is refused permission or not first implemented, the proposed flood wall and telecommunications infrastructure in the LRD application will be constructed.

The proposed development also provides ancillary residential amenities and facilities; 25 No. car parking spaces including 13 No. electric vehicle parking spaces, 2 No. mobility impaired spaces and 3 No. car share spaces; 2 No. loading bays; bicycle parking spaces; motorcycle parking spaces; electric scooter storage; balconies and terraces facing all directions; public and communal open space; hard and soft landscaping; roof gardens; green roofs; boundary treatments; lighting; ESB substation; switchroom; meter room; comms rooms; generator; stores; plant; lift overruns; and all associated works above and below ground.

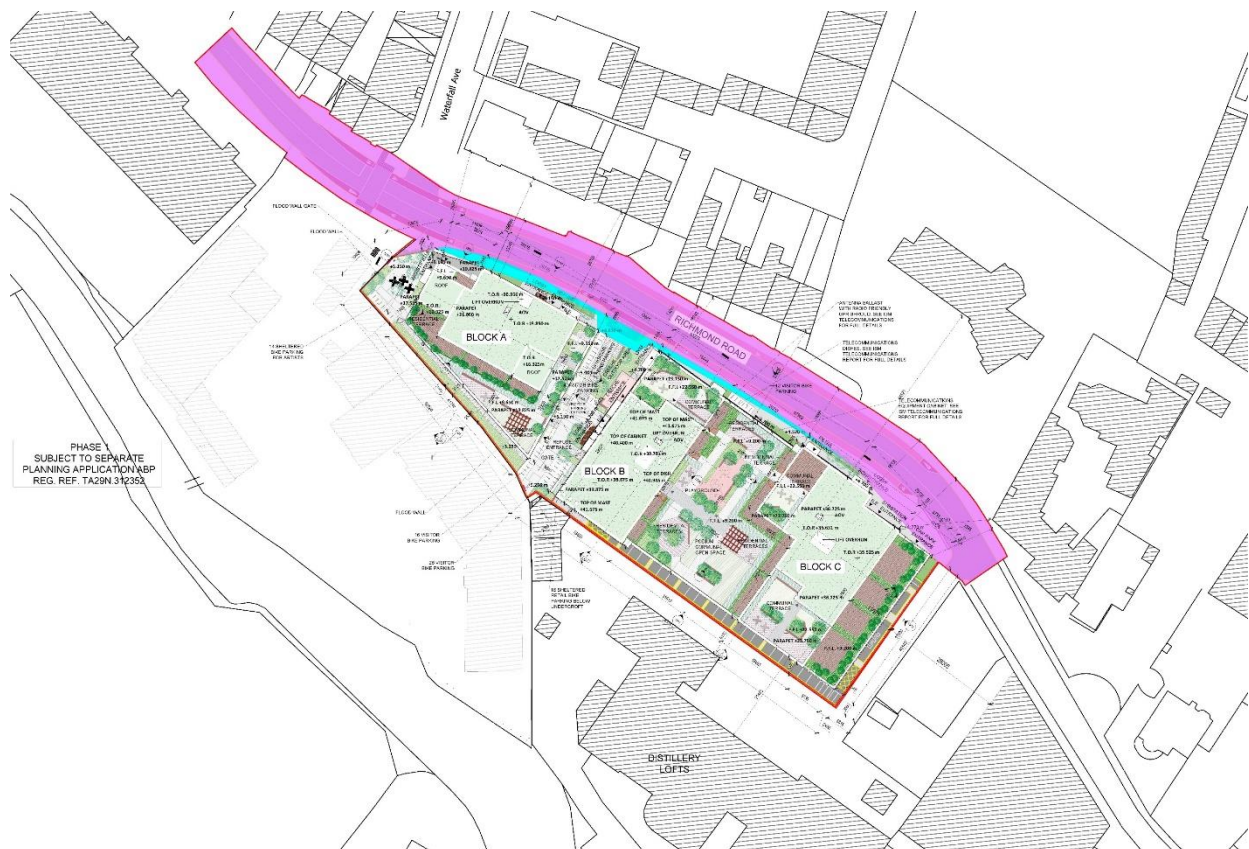


Figure 1.4: Site Layout Plan

(Source: RKD Architects, 2023)

1.4 Report Structure

The remaining sections of the report will follow the approach outlined in Section 1.1 as a structural framework with the current supply of primary and post-primary school facilities first established, followed by a demographic analysis from the DES that provides valuable insight into the characteristics of the population of Dublin City and the Study Area, prior to determining the potential demand impacts of the proposed development. This report will comprise a further four sections:

- Section 2.0 identifies the planning and educational policy context within which this assessment is framed;
- Section 3.0 provides a detailed analysis of the existing supply of schools, historic enrolment statistics, as well as a detailed analysis of the specific future demand for infrastructure based on Department of Education and Skills (DES) projections;
- Section 4.0 provides an overview of the analysis and details the implications on supply and demand within the Study Area, as relevant to the proposed development.

2.0 RELEVANT POLICY GUIDANCE

For the purpose of this Schools Demand Assessment, national planning policy relating to schools and educational facilities, as well as the *Dublin City Development Plan 2022–2028* have been reviewed. The key points relating to this study, as derived from each policy document, will be highlighted in this section.

2.1 National Planning Policy

2.1.1 Action Plan for Education (Statement of Strategy 2021 – 2023)

The Department of Education (DES) has operated an *Action Planning Framework* to provide an overview of the activity associated with the achievement of its strategic priorities since 2016. The plan sets out key priorities, with the most recent Plan published in February 2021.

This Plan translates the strategic priorities to action and makes progress towards achieving the high-level goals for the department and the sector. The Plan has developed a vision, so every child and young person feels valued and is actively supported and nurtured to reach their full potential. As part of this vision, the Plan outlines that;

"... The foundations of Ireland's economy rest with our investment in education. But we know that education transcends economics and what is taught in our schools goes far beyond the core curriculum. We must strive to deliver an education system that is of the highest quality and where every child and young person feels valued and nurtured and where a sense of community is aligned with a global vision. In helping every student to reach their full potential, we are contributing to social and economic development and to the cohesion and well-being of an inclusive society.

We will strive to ensure that every child has access to an educational experience that supports both their academic and personal development. This will continue by increasing investment in our school infrastructure, supporting the continuous professional development of school staff and improving services for children with Special Educational Needs (SEN). Equally, we must redouble our efforts to tackle educational inequality and ensure no child loses out in our education system, including those who have been additionally disadvantaged during the Covid-19 pandemic. This must come not only from increasing resources for students at risk of disadvantage, but by ensuring that the education system is conscious of the needs of all students..."

The Plan provides useful insights into the requirements for new schooling infrastructure and the standards to ensure high-quality learning for all students, alongside a high-level roadmap of how to achieve the Department's priorities over 2021-2023 by the following Goals:

1. Support the provision of high-quality education and improve the learning experience to meet the needs of all students, in schools and early years settings;
2. Ensure equity of opportunity in education and that all students are supported to fulfil their potential; and
3. Together with our partners, provide strategic leadership and support for the delivery of the right systems and infrastructure for the sector.

2.1.2 *The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice*

The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice is part of a wider package of initiatives designed to facilitate the provisions of schools and schools-related infrastructure within the planning system and in line with the principles of proper planning and sustainable development. The following core objectives aim to provide an effective integration of the schools in relation to the planning system:

1. Schools provision should be an integral part of the evolution of compact sustainable urban development and the development of sustainable communities;
2. The provision of any new schools (both primary and post-primary) should be driven by and emerge from an integrated approach between the planning functions of planning authorities and the Department of Education and Science; and,
3. Local authorities, as planning authorities, will support and assist the Department in ensuring the timely provision of school sites.

The document provides guidance when assessing future development potential of certain areas and establishing demand for schools. This document states that in some cases it *"may be more complex as it involves not just an assessment of likely population growth but also an appraisal of the capacity of existing post-primary schools, coupled with an assessment of the enrolment patterns in existing and anticipated 'feeder' national schools."*

The *Code of Practice* stipulates the methodology for forecasting future education demand. Identification of future primary school demands should be based upon:

- *"The anticipated increase in overall population for the city/county plan area over the next nine years (as set out in relevant development or local area plans);*
- *The current school-going population based on school returns;*
- *The increase in school going population, assuming that an average of 12% of the population are expected to present for primary education; and,*
- *The number of classrooms required in total derived from the above."*

The report addresses reasonable estimates of future demand based on the influx of population arising from the proposed development in a manner that is consistent with national and regional estimates sourced by CSO results.

2.1.3 *Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (2009)*

The *Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas (2009)* outline the key principles which should be considered in the establishment of new residential developments. They recognise the significance of social infrastructure, including access to educational facilities, to quality of life and state that new development should take into consideration the social infrastructural needs of the community and the existing provision of same.

Under the chapter entitled 'Planning For Sustainable Neighbourhoods' the provision of certain key community facilities is discussed, with both schools and childcare forming essential elements. As new residential developments can lead to a demand for school places, it is vital that the *"timely provision of new school buildings"* is planned for.

Furthermore, it is stated that “no substantial residential development should proceed without an assessment of existing school capacity or the provision of new school facilities in tandem with the development”. In addition, the Guidelines recommend that development applications with over 200 units should be accompanied by a report that assess the likely school-place demand generated, and the existing capacity. It is submitted that the following report addresses this requirement albeit the scheme provides less than 200 units.

2.2 Local Planning Policy

2.2.1 Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028

The *Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028* provides the overarching planning policy that applies to the subject site and its immediate environs. The subject site is zoned under land use zoning objective Z10 for mixed-use inner suburban/inner city site. A key priority of the *Development Plan* is to create sustainable neighbourhoods, with a range of household types and tenures located in close proximity to community facilities and services in order to deliver sustainable patterns of development in line with the principles of the 15-minute city:

“QHSN11: *To promote the realisation of the 15-minute city which provides for liveable, sustainable urban neighbourhoods and villages throughout the city that deliver healthy placemaking, high quality housing and well designed, intergenerational and accessible, safe and inclusive public spaces served by local services, amenities, sports facilities and sustainable modes of public and accessible transport where feasible.*

Given the aforementioned key priority of the Council to create sustainable neighbourhoods, the *Development Plan* includes several policies relating to the provision of educational facilities and schools, including but not limited to:

“QHSN51: *To ensure all areas of the city, including those that have Local Area Plans, deliver social infrastructure, sports and recreational facilities, retail outlets, schools and infrastructure in accordance to an agreed phasing programme to ensure large neighbourhoods are not left isolated without essential services.”*

“QHSN53: Education Provision - (i) *To support the provision of new schools and the expansion of existing school facilities having regard to the requirements of the DES.*

(ii) To protect and retain the entire curtilage of school sites, including buildings, play areas, pitches and green areas, that may be required for the expansion of school facilities in the future, unless the Council has determined in agreement with the Department of Education that the use of the site for school provision is no longer required.

(iii) To support the ongoing development and provision of third level education, further education and lifelong learning in the city.”

“QHSN53: Shared Use of Educational Facilities - (i) *To encourage the co-location of schools/education facilities as part of education campuses and with other community uses to create community hubs.*

(ii) To support the shared use of school or college grounds and facilities with the local community, outside of core hours, anchoring such uses within the wider community.”

Further objectives relating to allocation of educational facilities and schools and the provision of infrastructure, including but not limited to:

"QHSNO17: Assess Need for New or Expanded Educational Facilities - (i) To continue to work with the Department of Education and Skills on the educational needs of the city through a Joint Working Group in order to assess the need for new or expanded educational facilities and to progress school projects in line with population growth in locations served by public transport and walking / cycling networks.

(ii) To work with the Department of Further and Higher Education and the City of Dublin Education and Training Board in relation to the identification of suitable sites for new and extended education facilities."

"QHSNO17: To seek to reserve lands for educational purposes, including the development of multi-campus arrangements where appropriate, in locations close to the areas of greatest residential expansion or greatest amount of unmet demand for school places and in close proximity to adjacent community facilities so that the benefits of co-location and possibility of sharing facilities can be maximised in accordance with The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008)."

With respect to new significant development, the *Development Plan* states that it should only take place where sufficient schools, parks and other resources are already in place or are proposed for development.

Section 15.8.3 of the *Development Plan* outlines the criteria for the provision of adequate schooling infrastructure. In accordance with the requirements for social and community audit, planning applications for over 50 dwellings shall be accompanied by a report identifying the demand for school places likely to be generated and the capacity of existing schools in the vicinity to cater for such demand.

This Schools Demand Assessment is consistent with each of the relevant National- and Local-guidelines and recommendations. A full assessment of existing educational facilities falling within the respective School Planning Area as identified by the Department of Education and Skills was developed to understand the capacity of existing facilities to serve the current population and accommodate potential demand generated by the proposed development scheme.

3.0 ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK

In accordance with current guidelines, the following section provides an examination of local need for educational facilities at the subject lands and its wider surroundings. Accordingly, the latest data was obtained from the Department of Education and Skills, Primary Online Database (POD)¹ and the National School Census, for existing educational facilities in the locality. Reporting also provides detail on the current and future capacity of existing and planned schools in the area. The aim of this assessment is to establish projected demand for school places within the existing schools network generated by the proposed development.

3.1 Existing Infrastructure Analysis

3.1.1 School Catchment Area

The proposed development site is located within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 School Planning Area identified by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) as shown in Figure 3.1, which is adjoined by the Cabra Phibsboro Dublin 7 School Planning Area to the west, Whitehall Santy Dublin 9 School Planning Area and Beaumont Coolock Dublin 5 School Planning Area to the north, and the Dublin 2 Dublin 4 School Planning Area to the south.

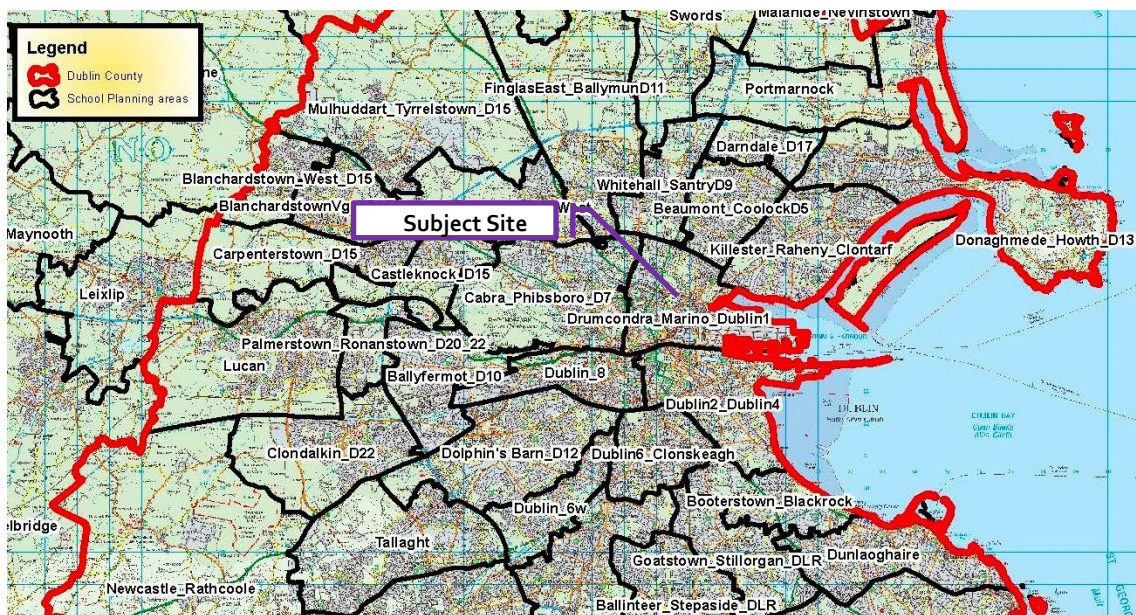


Figure 3.1: Extract of Dublin School Planning Areas (SPAs) identified by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) in proximity to the subject site (in purple)

(Source: DES, 2022)

The Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 School Planning Area (SPA), to which the subject site belongs, is bounded roughly by the Dublin City University Campus to the north, the National Botanical Gardens to the west, the City Centre and River Liffey to the south and Dublin Bay to the east. This SPA comprises 25 No. existing primary schools, 8 No. special education facilities and 9 No. post-primary schools, as indicated in Figure 3.2 overleaf.

¹ Department of Education and Skills – National School Annual Census for 2021/2022, which is returned via the Primary Online Database (POD). This includes both the Census and the Special School Annual Census. Only schools aided by the Department of Education are included in this list. Data was published December 2022.

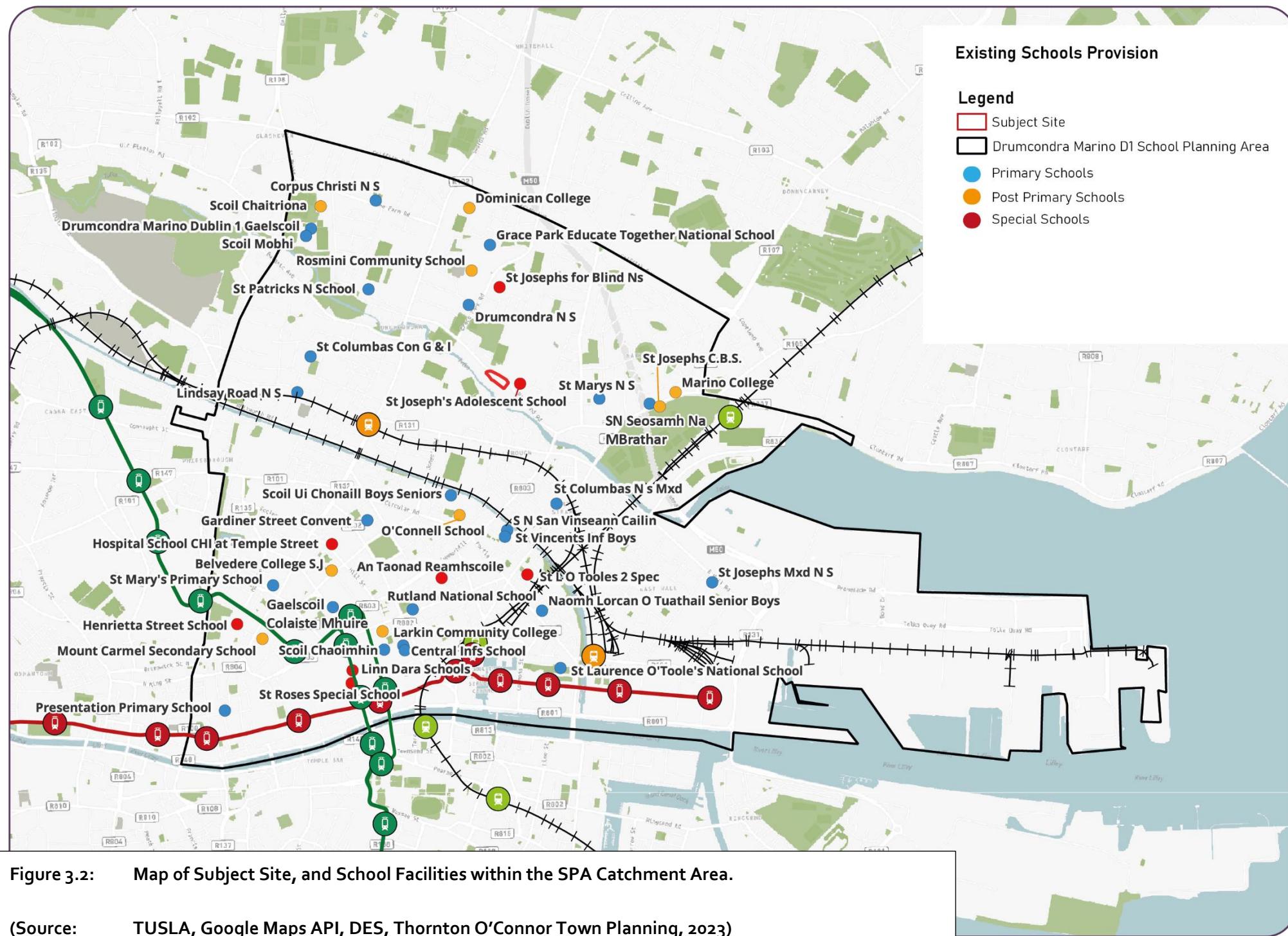


Figure 3.2: Map of Subject Site, and School Facilities within the SPA Catchment Area.

(Source: TUSLA, Google Maps API, DES, Thornton O'Connor Town Planning, 2023)

3.1.2 Primary Schools

The 25 No. existing primary schools identified within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA held a combined provisional enrolment of 5,097 No. students during the 2022-2023 school year as per Department of Education and Skills (DES) records. There were 19 No. co-educational (mixed) schools, 4 No. all-boys school and 2 No. all-girls schools identified. The primary school that is located nearest to the subject site (St Mary's National School - identified in blue in Table 3.1), held a co-educational enrolment of 216 No. students in 2022-2023.

Supplementary to the enrolment information acquired from the DES, a review of the schools' websites and the 2023/2024 Schools' Admission Notice was carried out in January 2023 by Thornton O'Connor Town Planning to ensure that available spaces in classes are captured in this audit. Table 3.1 provides a detailed breakdown of this available capacity per school. As per Section 63 of the Education (Admissions to School) Act², in 2018, the schools are required to publish an Annual Admissions Notice each year with key information about the annual admissions process.

This review helped determine the trend in schools for admitting students into the classes each year. For the 2023/2024 academic year, the admissions notices for primary schools indicated a total enrolment capacity of 657 students in the SPA (629 spaces for Junior Infants, and 28 spaces for Other Years). These 657 places refer to the places made available each academic cycle resulting from graduating students, rather than any additional capacity to the overall schooling infrastructure. Where schools have not provided sufficient information on their intake for the next academic year, these have been assumed to be zero.

No.	Roll No.	School Name	Females	Males	2022-2023 Enrolment	Available Capacity per School Websites (2023/24)		
						Junior Infants	Other Years	Total
1	00752A	Central Senior Mxd N S	128	131	259	0	0	0
2	01795A	Central Infs School	79	83	162	62	0	62
3	05933G	Presentation Primary School	90	41	131	50	1	51
4	11525A	St Patricks N School	-	459	459	63	9	72
5	12448N	Gardiner Street	216	202	418	58	0	58
6	14463T	St Columbas N S Mxd	36	60	96	16	0	16
7	15056L	S N San Vinseann Cailin	220	-	220	0	0	0
8	15816I	St Vincents Inf Boys	-	83	83	45	0	45
9	15895H	Drumcondra N S	28	42	70	8	0	8
10	16177F	Lindsay Road N S	37	53	90	14	0	14
11	16659A	St Columbas Con G & I	333	37	370	0	0	0
12	16860Q	Corpus Christi N S	395	-	395	60	0	60
13	17110B	Naomh Lorcan O Tuathail Senior Boys	-	88	88	0	0	0

² Section 62 of this Act requires that, from 1 February 2020, boards of management have 3 months to revise their Admission Policies in line with the commenced provisions of the act.

14	17881G	Scoil Ui Chonaill Boys Seniors	-	173	173	0	0	0
15	18726W	S N Seosamh Na Mbrathar	-	120	120	30	2	32
16	19395H	Scoil Mobhi	120	127	247	34	0	34
17	19774P	St Josephs Mxd N S	122	123	245	0	0	0
18	19831B	Scoil Chaoimhin	33	29	62	0	0	0
19	19926M	Gaelscoil Cholaiste Mhuire	93	79	172	30	0	30
20	19946S	Rutland National School	76	87	163	21	0	21
21	19981U	St Marys N S	160	56	216	42	0	42
22	20436C	St Mary's Primary School	119	129	248	46	0	46
23	20486R	Grace Park Educate Together National School	170	199	369	50	16	66
24	20507W	St Laurence O'toole's National School	108	44	152	0	0	0
25	20517C	Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 Gaelscoil	51	38	89	0	0	0
Total			2,614	2,483	5,097	629	28	657

**Note: Where there was no information on the number of spaces made available, we have assumed that the capacity is 0*

Table 3.1: Recorded Enrolments for Primary Schools

(Source: DES, 2022, and Individual School Admission Notices, 2022)

Table 3.2 below provides information on each of the primary schools, inclusive of their enrolment numbers for the previous 5 No. academic years 2018-2019 to 2022-2023. The overall enrolment figure associated with the 25 No. primary schools within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA has increased over the past 5 years, but the rate of increase is declining. Between 2018-2019 enrolment grew by 1.8%, declined by 2.3% 2020-2021, grew by just 0.1% between 2021-2022, and grew by 4.0% between 2022-2023. St Mary's National School (identified in blue in Table 3.2) saw a decrease of 10 No. students between the 2018-2019 academic year and the 2022-2023 academic year.

Further to this, 2 No. new National Schools have opened in the last 5 years adding over 200 additional spaces to the SPA. One of these schools, St Laurence O'Toole's National School Gaelscoil has seen a decline in enrollments since its first year of operation in 2018-2019, decreasing by 6 No. students from 158 to 152 pupils over the period. This would indicate that there is available capacity within the existing primary schools.

School	Roll No.	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Central Senior Mxd N S	00752A	268	276	269	257	259
Central Infs School	01795A	166	161	153	165	162
Presentation Primary School	05933G	137	128	122	122	131
St Patricks N School	11525A	495	495	472	472	460
Gardiner Street Convent	12448N	405	407	403	392	418
St Columbas N S Mxd	14463T	127	124	117	113	96
S N San Vinseann Cailin	15056L	231	244	231	224	220
St Vincents Inf Boys	15816I	101	107	87	88	83
Drumcondra N S	15895H	57	58	58	58	70
Lindsay Road N S	16177F	90	91	91	91	90
St Columbas Con G & I	16659A	400	392	378	371	370
Corpus Christi N S	16860Q	443	439	422	403	395
Naomh Lorcan O Tuathail Senior Boys	17110B	56	65	68	65	88
Scoil Ui Chonaill Boys Seniors	17881G	185	182	175	153	173
S N Seosamh Na Mbrathar	18726W	126	125	112	104	120
Scoil Mobhi	19395H	255	254	250	251	247
St Josephs Mxd N S	19774P	220	222	229	235	245
Scoil Chaoimhin	19831B	61	60	51	55	62
Gaelscoil Cholaiste Mhuire	19926M	203	195	194	178	172
Rutland National School	19946S	155	162	159	163	163
St Marys N S	19981U	226	222	202	200	216
St Mary's Primary School	20436C	240	243	237	254	248
Grace Park Educate Together National School	20486R	117	182	232	282	369
St Laurence O'Toole's National School	20507W	158	163	143	136	152
Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 Gaelscoil	20517C	-	16	42	70	89
Total		4,922	5,013	4,897	4,902	5,098

Table 3.2: Existing Primary Schools' Enrolment Figures 2018-2019 to 2022-2023

(Source: DES, 2022)

There are also 8 No. additional special education facilities located within the area (Table 3.3), that held a combined enrolment of 390 No. students in the 2022-2023 academic year. Admissions Notices for each school indicate a healthy level of enrolment capacity in the 2022-2023 academic year with 56 No. places available for the upcoming year.

No.	Roll No.	School Name	Females	Males	2022-2023 Enrolment	Available Capacity per School Websites (2023/24)
1	17890H	Hospital School CHI At Temple Street	39	36	75	6
2	18417J	St Josephs For Blind Ns	25	28	53	8
3	19361N	An Taonad Reamhscoile	41	56	97	0
4	19630O	Linn Dara Schools	37	13	50	0
5	19819L	St L O Tooles 2 Spec	6	16	22	0
6	20010O	St Roses Special School	29	34	63	35

7	20021T	Henrietta Street School	7	13	20	7
8	20153N	St Joseph's Adolescent School	7	3	10	0
Total			390			56

Table 3.3: Recorded Enrolments for Special Education Schools

(Source: DES, 2022, and Individual School Admission Notices, 2022)

Table 3.4 indicates that the enrolment figures for Special Schools have remained generally consistent from the 2018-2019 academic year to the 2022-2023 academic year.

School	Roll No.	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Hospital School CHI At Temple Street	17890H	70	68	64	77	75
St Josephs For Blind Ns	18417J	52	57	56	53	53
An Taonad Reamhscoile	19361N	99	99	88	96	97
Linn Dara Schools	19630O	13	30	32	41	50
St L O Tooles 2 Spec	19819L	22	24	21	22	22
St Roses Special School	20010O	63	63	63	63	63
Henrietta Street School	20021T	19	20	19	20	20
St Joseph's Adolescent School	20153N	19	13	16	14	10
Total		357	374	359	386	390

Table 3.4: Existing Special Education Schools' Enrolment Figures 2018-2019 to 2022-2023

(Source: DES, 2022)

3.1.3 Post Primary Schools

There were 9 No. post-primary schools identified within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA which held a combined co-educational enrolment of 3,907 No. students during the 2022-2023 school year, as per Department of Education and Skills (DES) records. The post-primary school located nearest to the subject site (St Josephs C.B.S. Secondary School – identified in blue in Table 3.5), held an enrolment of 255 No. students in 2022-2023.

Supplementary to the enrolment information acquired from the DES, a review of the schools' websites and the 2023/2024 Schools' Admission Notice was carried out in January 2023 by Thornton O'Connor Town Planning to ensure that available spaces in classes are captured in this audit. Table 3.5 provides a detailed breakdown of this available capacity per school. As per Section 63 of the Education (Admissions to School) Act, in 2018, the schools are required to publish an Annual Admissions Notice each year with key information about the annual admissions process.

This review helped determine the trend in schools for admitting students into the classes each year. For the 2022/2023 academic year, the admissions notices for post-primary schools indicated a total enrolment capacity of 732 students in the SPA (728 spaces for *First Years*, and 4 spaces for Other Years). These 732 places refer to the places made available each academic

cycle resulting from graduating students, rather than any additional capacity to the overall schooling infrastructure. Where schools have not provided sufficient information on their intake for the next academic year, these have been assumed to be zero.

No.	Roll No.	School Name	Females	Males	2022-2023 Enrolment ³	Available Capacity per School Websites (2023/24)		
						First Years	Other Years	Total
1	60520P	Belvedere College S.J	-	1,003	1,003	168	0	168
2	60690R	Dominican College	786	-	786	120	0	120
3	60700R	Scoil Chaitriona	265	244	509	96	0	96
4	60853T	Mount Carmel	399	-	399	90	0	90
5	91344V	Rosmini Community School	17	58	75	0	0	0
6	60390F	St Josephs C.B.S.	-	255	255	50	4	54
7	60440R	O'Connell School	-	213	213	72	0	72
8	76077O	Larkin Community College	203	204	407	72	0	72
9	70250S	Marino College	154	106	260	60	0	60
Total			1,824	2,083	3,907	728	4	732

**Note: Where there was no information on the number of spaces made available, we have assumed that the capacity is 0.*

Table 3.5: Recorded Enrolments for Post-Primary Schools

(Source: DES, 2022, and Individual School Admission Notices, 2022)

Table 3.6 provides an overview of the post-primary schools within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA, inclusive of their enrolment numbers according to data published by the DES of the academic years 2018-2019 to 2022-2023.

School	Roll No.	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023
Belvedere College S.J	60520P	1004	1000	1000	1000	1003
Dominican College	60690R	740	744	760	763	786
Scoil Chaitriona	60700R	441	470	491	507	509
Mount Carmel Secondary School	60853T	384	400	375	375	399
Rosmini Community School	91344V	138	120	102	101	75
St Josephs C.B.S.	60390F	298	258	230	253	255
O'Connell School	60440R	241	206	174	171	213
Larkin Community College	76077O	402	392	404	380	407
Marino College	70250S	256	245	236	248	260
Total		3,904	3,835	3,772	3,798	3,907

Table 3.6: Existing Post-Primary Schools' Enrolment Figures 2018-2019 to 2022-2023

(Source: DES, 2022)

As highlighted in Table 3.6, the overall enrolment figure associated with the 9 No. post-primary schools in the catchment area has increased from the 2021-2022 academic year to the 2022-2023 academic year. Over this period, the total enrolment figures increased from 3,798 No. pupils to 3,907 No. pupils, representative of an increase of 109 No. pupils. Enrolment figures

have remained consistent over the past 5 years increasing by just 0.1% from 3,904 pupils in the 2018-2019 academic year to 3,907 in the 2022-2023 academic year, and it would indicate favorable additional capacity in future years within the SPA.

3.1.4 Historic Enrolment Statistics

Historic enrolment trends for the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA show growth at the primary school level for the historic 5-year interval, with an overall increase of 416 No. students (c. 8.9% increase) within the cohort from 2017/2018 to 2022/2023. The primary school nearest to the subject site, St Mary's National School, recorded a c. 5.2% decrease in enrolments in the recent 5-year period.

More significant growth was identified for the historic 10-year interval. Over the past 10 years, 4 No. additional Primary Schools have been added to the SPA that now have a combined enrolment of 5,098 No. students in the 2022-2023 academic year (accommodating 1,041 more students than in the 2012/2013 academic year). Similarly, 9 No. of the schools have experienced a net decline in enrolments, and the remaining 12 No. experiencing increases in enrolments over the past decade.

Drumcondra Marino D1 SPA		Enrolment Year			Historic Change	
Roll No.	School Name	12/13	17/18	22/23	5-year	10-year
00752A	Central Senior Mxd N S	209	245	259	14	259
01795A	Central Infs School	159	170	162	-8	162
05933G	Presentation Primary School	184	150	131	-19	-53
11525A	St Patricks N School	488	492	460	-32	-28
12448N	Gardiner Street Convent	264	375	418	43	154
14463T	St Columbas N S Mxd	55	119	96	-23	41
15056L	S N San Vinseann Cailin	196	223	220	-3	24
15816I	St Vincents Inf Boys	114	117	83	-34	-31
15895H	Drumcondra N S	57	58	70	12	13
16177F	Lindsay Road N S	96	94	90	-4	-6
16659A	St Columbas Con G & I	386	388	370	-18	-16
16860Q	Corpus Christi N S	395	450	395	-55	0
17110B	Naomh Lorcan O Tuathail Senior Boys	77	57	88	31	11
17881G	Scoil Ui Chonaill Boys Seniors	177	183	173	-10	-4
18726W	S N Seosamh Na Mbrathar	180	129	120	-9	-60
19395H	Scoil Mobhi	261	259	247	-12	-14

19774P	St Josephs Mxd N S	175	205	245	40	70
19831B	Scoil Chaoimhin	49	59	62	3	13
19926M	Gaelscoil Cholaiste Mhuire	188	202	172	-30	-16
19946S	Rutland National School	136	157	163	6	27
19981U	St Marys N S	211	227	216	-11	5
20436C	St Mary's Primary School	-	231	248	17	254
20486R	Grace Park Educate Together National	-	92	369	277	282
20507W	St Laurence O'Toole's National	-	-	152	136	136
20517C	Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 Gaelscoil	-	-	89	70	70
Total		4,957	4,682	5,098	416	1,041

Table 3.7: Historic Change in Enrolment (Primary) in Recent 5- and 10-year Period

(Source: DES, 2022)

With respect to post-primary schools in the area, enrolment rates have decreased in the recent 5-year period, as shown in Table 3.8, with c. 1.0% decline recorded for the cohort from 2017/2018 to 2022/2023. We note that the secondary school closest to the subject site, St Josephs C.B.S Secondary School, has seen a decline of 51 No. pupils in the past 5 years from 306 students to 255 students. More significant decline was also identified for the historic 10-year interval at post-primary level, with all but three schools recorded as having decreased in enrolments from 2012/2013 to 2022/2023. Overall there 603 No. less students enrolled in schools within the SPA than there were 10 years ago. This would indicated significant latent capacity within the existing secondary school infrastructure.

Drumcondra Marino D1 SPA		Enrolment Year			Historic Change	
Roll No.	School Name	12/13	17/18	22/23	5-year	10-year
60520P	Belvedere College S.J	1005	1008	1003	-5	-2
60690R	Dominican College	705	731	786	55	81
60700R	Scoil Chaitriona	439	449	509	60	70
60853T	Mount Carmel Secondary School	338	391	399	8	61
91344V	Rosmini Community School	281	145	75	-70	-206
60390F	St Josephs C.B.S.	305	306	255	-51	-50
60440R	O'Connell School	355	272	213	-59	-142
76077O	Larkin Community College	445	400	407	7	-38
70250S	Marino College	637	246	260	14	-377
Total		4,510	3,948	3,907	-41	-603

Table 3.8: Historic Change in Enrolment (Post Primary) in Recent 5-year Period and 10-year Period

(Source: DES, 2022)

3.2 Future Demand Analysis

3.2.1 Demographic Growth Projection

In November 2021, the Department of Education and Skills (DES) reported that enrolment figures for primary schools in Ireland were likely to have reached peak levels in 2020, and will fall gradually to a low point in 2033 (see Figure 3.3), in line with revised migration and fertility assumptions for the country as a whole. The latest statistical release³ by the DES in this respect states:

"Enrolments in primary schools in Ireland in 2020 stood at 561,411 down by almost 6,000 on 2019 (567,716). Enrolments are now projected to fall over the coming years under all scenarios, and under the M1F2⁴ scenario will reach a low point of 440,551 by 2033. This is 120,860 lower than today's figure. Enrolments will rise again thereafter and are projected to stand at 474,888 by 2040, a rise of some 34,300 over the seven years 2033 to 2040."

The study also concluded that post-primary enrolments, however, will continue to rise in the short-term and will likely reach peak enrolment levels in 2024 (see Figure 3.4). The DES report⁵ states:

"Enrolments in post-primary schools have risen by 26,923 (8%) over the past five years and are projected to continue rising over the short term. Under M1F2 they are projected to peak in 2024 with 408,794 pupils, some 29,610 higher than in 2020."

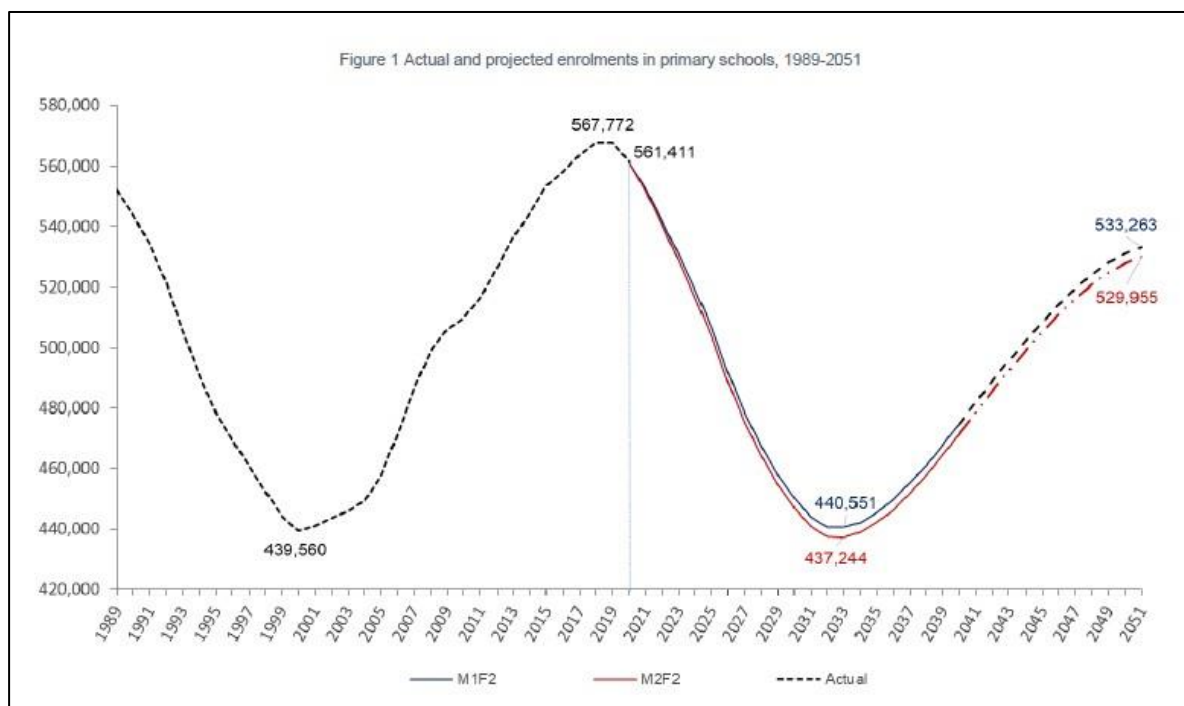


Figure 3.3: Projections of Enrolment at Primary Level, 1989–2051, organized by growth projection scenarios created by the CSO.

(Source: DES, November 2021)

³ Source: Projections of Full-Time Enrolment: Primary and Second Level, 2021-2040 (DES, November 2021), p.6.

⁴ The CSO's Regional Population Projections utilise six variant scenarios with relative assumptions in relation to regional fertility, mortality trends and external migration from and to each region. The Department of Education anticipates that the M1F2 is the most likely scenario regarding migration and fertility, which encompasses the assumption of high migration and low fertility falling from 1.8 to 1.6 by 2031.

⁵ Source: Projections of Full-Time Enrolment: Primary and Second Level, 2021-2040 (DES, November 2021), p.11

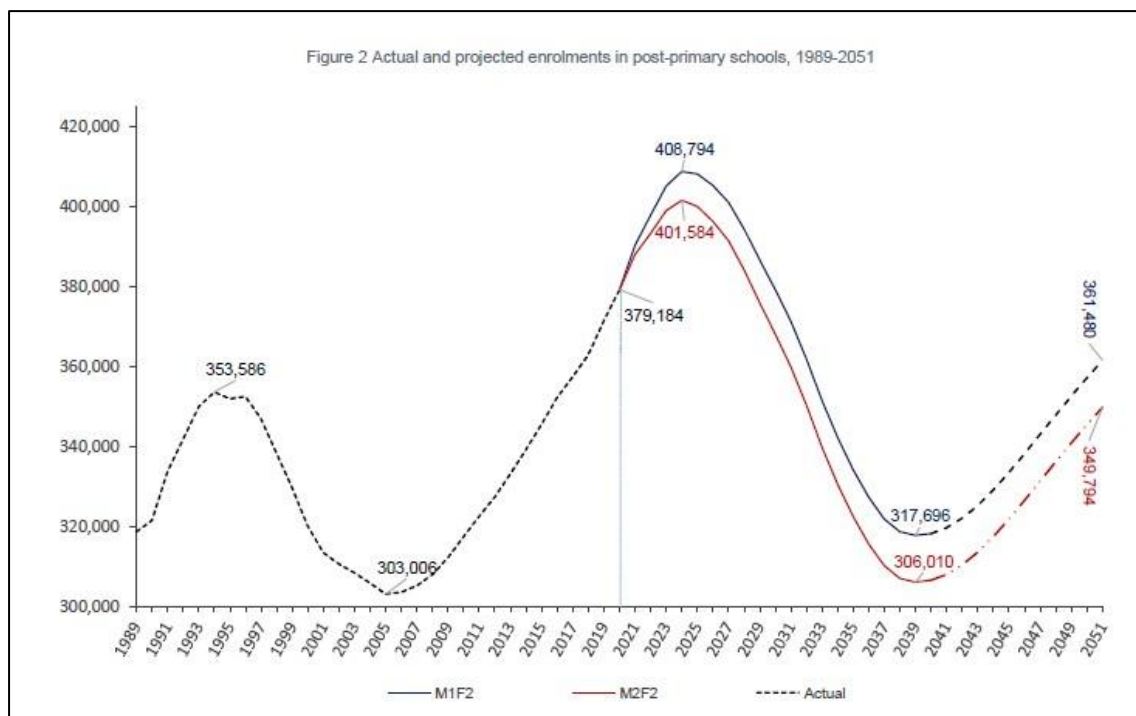


Figure 3.4: Projections of Enrolment at Post-Primary Level, 1989–2051, organized by growth projection scenarios created by the CSO.

(Source: DES, November 2021)

3.2.2 Potential Impact on Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 Schools

Using the projected enrolment figures⁶ for the Dublin Region, produced within the Department of Education’s publication *Projections for full-time enrolment: Primary and Second Level, 2021-2040*, the study can extrapolate future enrolment for the 2026-27 academic year for Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA. The report projects the enrolment figures in primary schools within Dublin region to drop by 9.2% between academic years 2022/23 and 2026/27. Applying this future projection figure to the current enrolment figures within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA it is estimated that the enrolments in 25 No. primary schools identified in the assessment are set to reduce by 469 No. spaces by 2026/27 academic year.

At the post primary level, the report projects the enrolment figures to increase by 0.8% between academic years 2022/23 and 2026/27. This would result in an increase of 31 No. children in the 9 No. post primary schools identified within Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA by 2026/27 academic year. We note that the indicative change figures provided are an estimate of potential enrolments at each school level based on the regional population projections included in the DES report⁷ and do not represent localized values.

⁶ Source: Projections of Full-Time Enrolment: Primary and Second Level, 2021-2040 (DES, November 2021), Table 4.

⁷ Source: Projections of Full-Time Enrolment: Primary and Second Level, 2021-2040 (DES, November 2021), Table 7.

Drumcondra Marino D1 SPA	Enrolment Year			
	22/23	26/27	% Change Est.	Change
Primary Schools (25)	5,098	4,629	-9.2% decrease	-469
Post-Primary Schools (9)	3,907	3,938	+0.8% increase	31

Table 3.9: Projected Enrolment Trends – 2022 to 2027.

(Source: DES, 2022)

3.2.3 Projected Demand Generated by Scheme

The proposed development will comprise 133 No. units of various typologies as indicated in Table 3.10. The average household size in the Study Area recorded by the 2016 Census was 2.36 No. persons per household, which generates a total indicative population of 314 No. persons when applied to the proposed development. It is assumed that only the 68 No. two-bedroom units proposed can reasonably accommodate families, which would comprise c. 160 No. persons within the development.

Unit Type	1-bedroom units	2-bedroom units	Total Units
No. of Units Proposed	65	68	133
% of Total Development	49%	51%	100%

Table 3.10: Proposed Schedule of Residential Units – Combined Developments.

(Source: Thornton O'Connor Town Planning, 2023)

The average number of children per family recorded in the State in Census 2016 was 1.38 children⁸, which generates an indicative population of 94 No. children (between the ages of 0-18 years) when applied to the number of units that can accommodate families within the proposed development.

Of this figure, an estimated 94 No. children would be considered school age (including 38 No. primary school children and 28 No. post-primary school children), as per the age cohorts recorded for Dublin City Council⁹ in 2016 (see Table 3.11).

Age Group	Pre-school children (0-4 years)	Primary school children (5-12 years)	Secondary school children (13-18 years)	All children (0-18 years)
DCC 2016 Population	30,683	42,603	31,884	105,170
% of Total Cohort	29.17%	40.51%	30.32%	100%

Table 3.11: Breakdown of 0-18 Year Age Cohort for Dublin City Council.

(Source: CSO, 2016)

⁸ Source: <https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-cp4hf/cp4hf/>

⁹ Source: <https://www.cso.ie/px/pxeirestat/Statire/SelectVarVal/Define.asp?maintable=E3003&PLanguage=o>

The development has the potential to generate an additional 314 No. persons within the area, including an estimated 94 No. school-age children (including 38 No. primary school children and 28 No. post-primary school children), when the proposal is fully occupied. As stated previously, from a review of the schools' websites the schools have combined total of 1,413 spaces available for incoming First Year/Junior Infants, of which 629 spaces catered to primary schools and 728 spaces to post primary schools and 56 spaces available in Special Schools. Accordingly, it is judged that the potential demand generated from the proposed development can readily be absorbed by the available capacity.

3.2.4 Planned Infrastructure

Having regard for the requirements of *The Provision of Schools and the Planning System, A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (DES & DEHLG, 2008)* and *Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas 2009*, Dublin City Council provide the context for educational need within the city in its identification of school sites throughout the local authority administrative area. With respect to the development of additional schools within the study area, Chapter 5 of the *Dublin City Development Plan 2022-2028* states:

"To continue to work with the Department of Education and Skills on the educational needs of the city through a Joint Working Group in order to assess the need for new or expanded educational facilities and to progress school projects in line with population growth in locations served by public transport and walking / cycling networks.

To work with the Department of Further and Higher Education and the City of Dublin Education and Training Board in relation to the identification of suitable sites for new and extended education facilities."

"To seek to reserve lands for educational purposes, including the development of multi-campus arrangements where appropriate, in locations close to the areas of greatest residential expansion or greatest amount of unmet demand for school places and in close proximity to adjacent community facilities so that the benefits of co-location and possibility of sharing facilities can be maximised in accordance with The Provision of Schools and the Planning System: A Code of Practice for Planning Authorities (2008)."

With respect to new significant development, the *Development Plan* states that it should only take place where sufficient schools, parks and other resources are already in place or are proposed for development.

Section 15.8.3 of the *Development Plan* outlines the criteria for the provision of adequate schooling infrastructure. In accordance with the requirements for social and community audit, planning applications for over 50 dwellings shall be accompanied by a report identifying the demand for school places likely to be generated and the capacity of existing schools in the vicinity to cater for such demand.

The *Development Plan* does not provide specific zoning objectives or designated areas for future schooling infrastructure (primary or post-primary). Site location for new infrastructure will be based on guidance and modelling from DES in combination within DCC and areas likely to experiencing moderate to high housing and demographic growth in the future.

In 2019, the Department of Education and Skills (DES) announced that 42 No. new primary and post- primary schools are to be established throughout the country by 2022 – including 26 No. schools at primary level and 16 No. schools at post primary-level. A number of capital projects have been recently completed or are currently planned or underway in the area, including a new 16 classroom school for Gracepark ETNS and expansions at St. Aidan’s CBS, Dominican College, Clonturk College and Scoil Caitriona. Furthermore, a new primary school and new post primary school were announced to be established to serve the Drumcondra Marino D1 school planning area and the primary school, Gaelscoil Áine, was established in 2019 and is currently located in interim accommodation on St. Mobhi Road. The additional capacity being provided by all of these projects is being considered in the context of the projected future requirements in the area.

We note that are 32 No. additional classrooms for Primary Schools are proposed by DES by 2022, and 1,600 places to be catered for at Post-Primary level within the originally 4 No. new primary schools and 2 No. new post-primary schools proposed to open by 2021 within the catchment Drumcondra_Marino_Dublin 1 SPA or surrounding areas of Dublin 2 and Dublin 4 SPA and the Killester_Raheny_Clontarf SPA (see Table 3.13).

Type	School Planning Area	Size	To Open
Primary	Drumcondra_Marino_Dublin1	8 Classrooms	2019
Primary	Killester_Raheny_Clontarf	8 Classrooms	2019
Primary	Dublin2_Dublin4	16 Classrooms	Planned 2022
Post-Primary	Dublin2_Dublin4	600 Pupils	Planned 2022
Post-Primary	Drumcondra_Marino_Dublin1	1,000 Pupils	Planned 2022

Table 3.13: New Schools to Be Established in Local Feeder Areas 2019-2022

(Source: DES, 2019)

With respect to other large-scale education projects in the vicinity of the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA, there were 7 No. school facilities identified under the DES school building programme¹⁰ currently under development (see Table 3.14). It appears that each of these new schools are at various stages within the planning process, with just 1 No. facility on site or nearing completion (Rosmini Community School).

Ref.	Roll No.	School Name & Address	Status
76	19325J	St Ciarans Spec Sch, Glasnevin, St Canices Rd, Dublin 11	Stage 2b (Detailed Design)
88	19819L	St L O Tooles 2 Spec, North Strand, Aldborough Parade, Dublin 1	Stage 2b (Detailed Design)

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.ie/en/service/c5b56b-major-projects/> Latest: November 2022

91	19926M	Gaelscoil Cholaiste Mhuire, B.a.c. 1, 4 Cearnóg Pharnell	Stage 3 (Tender Stage)
110	20517C / 70321P / 76394D	Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 Gaelscoil, Droim Conrach,, Bóthar Naomh Mobhí, / Ellenfield Community College, The Thatch Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9 / Clonturk Community College, Swords Road, Whitehall, Dublin 9	Project Brief Stage
130	60700R	Scoil Chaitriona, Bóthar Mobhí, Glasnaíon, Ath Cliath 9	Stage 1 (Preliminary Design)
152	91344V	Rosmini Community School, All Hallows College Campus Dcu, Gracepark Road, Dublin 9	On Site
156	TempRoll_o6	Drumcondra Marino Dublin1 Post Primary School, Drumcondra	Site Acquisition Process

Table 3.14: Status of Large-Scale Projects in/around Drumcondra Marino D1 SPA School Planning Area

(Source: DES, November 2022)

3.2.5 Consents Pipeline

An examination of DCC's Online Planning Register showed the planning and development pipeline consisted of 4 No. planning permissions (Table 3.15) for a range of school developments including extensions, upgrade works, temporary facilities and a new school as of January 2023. We note that 1 No. application in 2019 was for the development of a large new Primary School within the catchment SPA. This school has not been developed yet. No other major school development were identified as part of the study.

Reg. Ref.	Location	Type of Development	Final Grant Date	Status
2673/16	St Mary's National School	Change of Use from Sports Club to Childcare	06/10/2016	Completed
2798/16	All Hallows College	Mobile classroom	27/06/2016	Completed
4781/19	PobailScoil Rosmini	Roof and cladding	03/06/2020	Completed
4646/19	Dominic Street (Name TBD)	New 16 classroom primary school building	27/05/2020	Granted

Table 3.15: Schools Planning and Development Pipeline.

(Source: DCC Online Planning Register, January 2023)

4.0 CONCLUSION

There are 25 No. existing primary schools, 8 No. special education facility and 9 No. post-primary schools currently operating in the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 School Planning Area, to which the subject site belongs. These facilities cater to a student population of c.5,098 No. primary school students and c. 3,907 No. post-primary students and have demonstrated contrasting levels of growth or decline in the recent 5-year period, with Primary School enrolments increasing by 8.9%, while Post-Primary enrolments increased by 0.1% over the same period.

A number of new schools were proposed to be delivered within the Drumcondra Marino Dublin 1 SPA in the short term under the national school building programme (i.e., 2019-2022). This is likely to increase the capacity of future enrolments in the area for both Primary and Post-Primary when complete, as per previous Table 3.12. In addition, a number of capital projects have been recently completed or are currently planned or underway in the area, including a new 16 classroom school for Gracepark ETNS and expansions at St. Aidan's CBS, Dominican College, Clonturk College and Scoil Caitriona. Furthermore, a new primary school and new post primary school were announced to be established to serve the Drumcondra Marino D1 school planning area and the primary school, Gaelscoil Áine, was established in 2019 and is currently located in interim accommodation on St. Mobhi Road. The additional capacity being provided by all of these projects is being considered in the context of the projected future requirements in the area.

With respect to future enrolments, we note that a c. 9.2% decrease in enrolments at the primary school level and a c. 0.8% increase in post-primary school enrolments is anticipated from 2022/23 to 2026/27, but will fall gradually to a low point, with respect to the most recent regional population projections published by the DES.

The development has the potential to generate an additional 314 No. persons within the area, including an estimated 94 No. children (including **38 No. primary school children and 28 No. post-primary school children**), when the proposal is fully occupied. As stated previously, from a review of the schools' websites, the schools have combined total of 1,413 spaces available for incoming First Year/Junior Infants, of which 728 spaces catered to primary schools and 629 spaces to post primary schools and 56 spaces available in Special Schools. Accordingly, it is judged that the potential demand generated from the proposed development can be readily absorbed by the existing schools network and other planned schools currently under development within the area.