

**Site PR9, Land West of Yarnton
Cherwell District
Oxfordshire**

Education Strategy

for

Merton College Oxford

7 December 2022

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1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 EFM has been appointed by Merton College Oxford ("the Applicant") to advise on education (school place planning) matters arising from the Proposed Development (as defined in the Introduction to the Environmental Statement) at Site PR9 Land West of Yarnton ("the Site"). Cherwell District ("the Council") is the local planning authority, while Oxfordshire County Council ("the County") has responsibility as local education authority for ensuring a sufficiency of school places for residents of its administrative area.
- 1.2 This report updates the previous Education Strategy dated 3rd September 2021 accompanying the outline planning application for the Proposed Development (Council ref: 21/03522/OUT).
- 1.3 Since submitting the application, significant further discussion has taken place between the Applicant and representatives of the County and the District, and the key issues under discussion are addressed in this report. It is recognised that these discussions will continue as the application moves to Committee resolution and final determination with an associated planning obligation agreement.
- 1.4 The context for the Proposed Development is the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 Part 1 Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan – Oxford's Unmet Housing Needs ("the Local Plan"). The Local Plan was formally adopted as part of the statutory Development Plan by the Council on 7 September 2020 and allocates six sites for development of 4,400 new homes. The Site is allocated for 540 new homes under Policy PR9 – Land West of Yarnton. The Site lies to the west of the A44 whilst the largest allocation, Policy PR8 – Land East of the A44 (Begbroke), is immediately to the east of the A44 and allocated 1,950 new homes. The existing village of Yarnton straddles the A44.
- 1.5 The screening process determined that the Proposed Development requires an Environmental Impact Assessment ("EIA"). The juxtaposition of PR8 (Begbroke) and PR9 (Yarnton) mean that there are opportunities for interaction between the two areas, although PR9 does not rely on education provision at PR8. The other allocated sites are further away and separated by geographical features including railway lines which make interaction less likely.
- 1.6 New housing development creates demand for school places in the sense that it enables more families to live in a particular area, thus adding to demand on local schools as new housing is built and occupied. New housing also supports population growth.

- 1.7 Where demand from new housing for school places cannot be met through existing or already planned provision, national policy and guidance supports the principle that development should help provide for those unmet needs^{1,2}.
- 1.8 In recent years, the usual mechanism for this has been through financial contributions or direct provision secured through planning obligations. More recently, the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy (“CIL”) has provided the opportunity for an alternative approach to funding infrastructure on a broader basis. In this case, the Council has currently not adopted CIL charging and provision for additional school capacity will therefore be secured through planning obligations.
- 1.9 Taken as a whole and ignoring, for the time being, any available capacity in existing schools, the total housing allocations in the Local Plan could require in excess of four forms of entry in both primary and secondary schools in the long term. This is based on a long term average ‘rule of thumb’ of one form of entry per 1,000 dwellings. A form of entry is 30 pupils per year group, throughout the compulsory school years, from Reception age 4 through to Year 11 age 15. 2011 Census information shows that households that move have a younger age profile than average households. Demand for school places, especially primary school places, is therefore likely to be higher when new dwellings are first occupied and for several years after development completion. As development matures, and new dwellings become part of the established background of existing dwellings, demand will tend towards the long term average. Wider demographic changes, such as changes in birth rates, will also affect demand.
- 1.10 Whilst overall requirements are important, the demand and needs arising as a result of each individual development identified by the Local Plan have to be considered, and planning obligations can only be imposed where they meet certain statutory tests³. They must be:
- necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
 - directly related to the development; and
 - fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.
- 1.11 Therefore, the individual circumstances relevant to each development need to be considered on their merits.

¹ Provision of infrastructure, including schools, through planning obligations to meet the needs of development is supported by the NPPF in appropriate circumstances (paragraphs 55-58 and 95) and PPG (Paragraphs: 002 onwards Reference ID: 23b-002-20190901, 004 Reference ID: 23b-004-20190901 & 007 Reference ID: 23b-007-20190315)

² ‘Securing developer contributions for education’, November 2019 is non-statutory guidance from DfE and was produced to help local authorities secure contributions towards new school places.

³ As set out in Regulation 122 of The Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations 2010 (as amended by the 2011 and 2019 Regulations)

- 1.12 The following sections firstly consider the adopted site-specific policy requirements and the proposed response to be provided by the Proposed Development. This is followed by a review of the expected demand from the Proposed Development and an assessment and commentary on the circumstances and mitigation measures likely to be required to support its associated education needs.

2 Local Policy and PR9 Site Specific Requirements

- 2.1 Policy INF1 (Infrastructure) in the Cherwell Local Plan 2011 - 2031 Part 1 Adopted 20 July 2015 provides general policy support for seeking education provision to support housing growth. In addition, Policy BSC7 (Meeting Education Needs) states that the Council will work with partners to ensure the provision of facilities, notes the need for sustainable locations and consideration of co-location of services and facilities to create community hubs.
- 2.2 The Council's Developer Contributions SPD, February 2018 provides guidance on education contribution requirements generally, and explains that where a new school is needed to serve multiple developments the cost will be shared *"proportionately ..., subject to the constraints of the CIL regulations."*
- 2.3 Alongside identifying the PR sites as new housing allocations, the Local Plan identified education requirements in both the relevant policy wording and Appendix 4 (Infrastructure Schedule, which includes education from page 178 of 209).
- 2.4 Local Plan Policy PR9 sets out site specific Key Delivery Requirements for the proposed development at Yarnton, and includes the following in relation to education:
- "3. The provision of 1.8 hectares of land for use by the existing William Fletcher Primary School to enable potential school expansion within the existing school site and the replacement of playing pitches and amenity space.*
- "4. The provision of facilities for formal sports, play areas and allotments to adopted standards within the developable area (unless shared or part shared use with William Fletcher Primary School is agreed with the Education Authority)."*
- 2.5 Policy PR9 also requires a development brief that includes an outline scheme for access to William Fletcher Primary School, and the reservation of land for the school.

- 2.6 The Proposed Development includes the education provision required by the policy and will provide land to enable William Fletcher Primary School to expand (“the School Expansion Land”).
- 2.7 Whether or not there will be agreement to “shared or part shared use” of formal sports facilities with William Fletcher Primary School has not yet been discussed with the County in detail – and will be a matter for the school governing body to consider as well as the County as education authority.
- 2.8 Discussions have taken place with the County at various stages in the evolution of the Proposed Development, with the previous pre-application discussions supplemented by further engagement since October 2021. Notably, the Applicant has continued to ensure that the proposed School Expansion Land is suitably shaped and can meet the technical requirements of both the Council and the County.
- 2.9 The result is a proposal for 1.80 ha of School Expansion Land and that reflects the discussions that have taken place. The proposed area is in line with the 1.8 ha stated in Policy PR9, and is the result of detailed feasibility work that has included layout, gradients, access and drainage considerations.
- 2.10 The School Expansion Land is separated from the existing school site by a private road that provides access to Yarnton Residential and Nursing Home (“the Home”) from Rutten Lane. Earlier proposals that enabled this road to be replaced with an alternative access to the Home, and could have allowed the existing school site and the School Expansion Land to be amalgamated, have been withdrawn following discussions with Sanctuary Care led by the County.
- 2.11 While the focus of education discussions with the County and the Council has principally been concerned with ensuring an appropriate technical solution for the School Expansion Land, the provision of land to enable the expansion of the school is a justifiable planning obligation requirement in terms of CIL Regulation 122 as it will allow the impact of the Proposed Development on primary and early years provision to be mitigated.
- 2.12 Key Delivery Requirement 19 in Policy PR9 requires a comprehensive approach to the allocation and developer contributions to be secured through a legal agreement. Policy PR11 of the Local Plan (Infrastructure Delivery) provides a general framework for identifying infrastructure requirements and ensuring that those requirements are delivered. For education this requires an understanding of the expected demand arising from the Proposed Development, existing capacity and existing and forecast demand from existing housing and commitments. These matters are considered in the following sections of this report.

3 Expected Demand for Education Infrastructure

- 3.1 The County uses a model, POPCAL 10, to assess the likely demand for school places arising from major housing developments. It is a sophisticated model and takes a number of factors into account to calculate the likely population and age profile of residents in new housing development. The factors are: location (by district), number of dwellings by size (bedroom count) and tenure (market or affordable) and the building trajectory.
- 3.2 Results from the County's POPCAL 10 model for 540 dwellings were provided on request in April 2022 and showed the following expected demand for places from the Proposed Development:
- early years nursery 31 pupils
 - primary 159 pupils
 - secondary 108 pupils in Years 7 to 11 and 22 sixth form pupils
- 3.3 The overall dwelling mix used in the model was approximately 15% 1 bed, 30% 2 bed, 40% 3 bed & 15% 4+ bed. This dwelling mix is based on discussions with the Council about the housing mix, and the Council's advice provided in March 2022. It is considered to be the best indication of the likely dwelling mix currently available, although it should be understood that the planning application seeks consent in outline and the mix of dwellings that is built may vary from the mix that has been assessed.
- 3.4 For consistency with other early assessment work, the results have been scaled up to 600 dwellings to give an indication of a worst-case assessment. In addition, assessments based on alternative dwelling mixes have been tested by the County and resulted in similar figures – thus providing a “sensitivity check”.

4 Primary Education Including Early Years

Primary Provision

- 4.1 The majority of the Proposed Development lies within the designated area (or catchment area) of William Fletcher Primary School, which is located just to the south of the Site. The northernmost part of the Site lies within the catchment area of Woodstock CE Primary School.
- 4.2 The same two catchment areas cover the PR8 Begbroke allocation, although all of the residential area indicated on the Policy PR8 Policies Map falls within the catchment area of William Fletcher Primary School. None of the other housing site allocations in the Local Plan are within these catchment areas.

- 4.3 The Proposed Development will have a close physical relationship with William Fletcher Primary School. The new residents will have the opportunity for easy and sustainable access to the school, without the need to use Rutten Lane, principally via the proposed Primary 5m Cycle/Footway and connecting routes as shown the Parameter-Indicative Movement plan, and it is likely to be the future residents' first preference primary school.
- 4.4 Policy PR8 includes requirements for provision of two primary schools and one secondary school as part of the allocation. The scale of development on the eastern side of the A44 justifies new primary provision in its own right, and those schools are likely to be favoured by residents of that development for accessibility reasons, while expansion of William Fletcher Primary School is ideally suited for providing additional capacity for the Proposed Development at PR9. Subject to timing of the two developments there may be scope for some 'interchange' of primary education demand and capacity, which may affect when the expansion of William Fletcher Primary School takes place. This could be a positive benefit in terms of efficient education provision, and there are no adverse implications for either development. However, each development can provide for its own primary education needs, and neither development has to rely on the other.
- 4.5 Until 2013, William Fletcher Primary School was a one form entry school, catering for up to 210 pupils. It was then expanded in phases to enable annual admission of 45 pupils to Reception Class and up to 315 pupils in total (1.5 forms of entry). Page 132/139 of the County's Pupil Place Plan ("PPP") 2021/22-2025/26, January 2022, notes the need for additional site area to enable the school to expand to meet the needs of the Proposed Development :

"To meet the needs of an earlier housing development, William Fletcher Primary School [2354] in Yarnton was expanded to 1.5 form entry. Intakes at the school have since fluctuated as the housing development matured. The Cherwell Local Plan allocates a site for 540 new homes just north of the school site; to meet the school capacity needs which will be generated by this, William Fletcher will need to expand to 2 forms of entry, and additional site area for the school to enable this is identified in the Local Plan."

- 4.6 The potential interaction between PR9 Yarnton and PR8 Begbroke is also noted:

"The scale of growth planned at Begbroke will require one or two new primary schools. The timing and order of delivery of the new school(s) and the expansion of William Fletcher will depend on how the associated housing developments progress, and current pupil forecasts indicate that additional capacity will start to be required in the second half of this decade."

- 4.7 The PPP 2021/22-2025/26 demonstrates a general trend of declining births in Oxfordshire, whilst noting that this decline is not being seen consistently. It is suggested that areas that showing departure from the general trend are likely related to large-scale housing development attracting young families. This is reflected by the comments about William Fletcher Primary School, quoted in paragraph 4.5 above, and how demand for places has reduced as previous housing development has matured.
- 4.8 For September 2020 William Fletcher Primary School had an admission number of 45, and 38 children were admitted. For September 2021 and September 2022 the admission number has been reduced to its pre-expansion figure of 30. However, this has not changed the physical capacity of the school. Allocations information dated 16 April 2021⁴ showed 29 places were offered for September 2021 admission – with 3 of these being to children living outside the school’s catchment area. Corresponding information for September 2023 admission shows 23 places offered with 2 of these to children living outside the school’s catchment area.
- 4.9 In May 2021, the capacity of the school was 315, and there were 270 pupils on roll. This shows the school had capacity to accommodate 45 additional pupils in all school year groups.
- 4.10 Having capacity to offer 45 admission places each year, and only having needed to offer 26 places to catchment area pupils for September 2021, and 21 the following year, demonstrates that considerably more pupils could have been admitted from the catchment area of the school had there been demand (19 for 2020, and 24 for 2021). Over the seven primary school years (Reception age 4 through to Year 6) this could amount to well over 100 places, or more in the future.
- 4.11 It is reasonable to apply a degree of caution when drawing conclusions from the intake data for two years. However, the population estimates shown in Table 1, overleaf, support an expectation of lower demand in future years. Higher numbers are shown against a darker grey background. Children age 4 to 10 are primary age, so children age 3 in 2020 will be primary age from 2021 onwards.

⁴ https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-05/2354_2122_alloc_williamfletcher.pdf

Age	Year 2016	Year 2017	Year 2018	Year 2019	Year 2020
Age 0	48	30	27	23	21
Age 1	37	52	32	27	25
Age 2	45	38	48	31	27
Age 3	32	48	36	50	30
Age 4	38	29	46	36	44
Age 5	45	45	33	51	39
Age 6	39	49	45	32	48
Age 7	38	43	49	42	30
Age 8	29	36	43	50	37
Age 9	34	32	38	41	48
Age 10	36	37	29	33	35

Table 1 Small Area Population Estimates, for an area that approximates to the catchment area of William Fletcher Primary School

Source: ONS (www.nomisweb.co.uk)

- 4.12 Notwithstanding the availability of some capacity, it is clear that additional capacity will be required to meet demand from the Proposed Development. Based on current spare capacity figures – about 45 spare places and expected demand for about 160 places based on 540 dwellings or (or as a “worst case” sensitivity check) 180 places based on 600 dwellings – approximately 115 to 135 additional places would be needed. However, these figures do not allow for the likelihood of the number of surplus places increasing in future years. Expansion of William Fletcher Primary School to 2 forms of entry would provide an additional 105 places, and this is considered by the County to be a good match with the expected additional demand from the Proposed Development taking into account surplus places.
- 4.13 Woodstock CE Primary School is also a 1.5 form entry primary school, having previously expanded to that size, and had an admission number of 45 for September 2020 and September 2021. 45 places were allocated for both of these intakes, including a number of children living outside the school’s catchment area – 7 for September 2020 and 11 for September 2021. The total number of pupils as of May 2021 was 309, which shows the school is close to capacity. However, there will be some capacity available to meet additional demand from within the school’s catchment area, as children living within it will have priority for admission over those living outside the school’s catchment area. Whilst part of the Proposed Development is within the school’s catchment area, this school will be less accessible from the Proposed Development than William Fletcher Primary School. It is also expected to experience increasing demand as a result of housing growth in Woodstock town, as explained in the PPP 2021/22-2025/26.
- 4.14 The County does not generally publish forecasts for individual schools. Pupil place planning is based on an area approach, with the two catchment schools being part of the Woodstock primary planning group of nine primary schools. This provides some flexibility for pupils to attend a school other than

the one in whose catchment area they live, although admissions policies come into play when schools are oversubscribed. The County's forecasts published in the PPP 2021/22-2025/26 include the housing allocations in Local Plan's, and previously adopted local plan allocations.

- 4.15 The forecasts for the Woodstock primary planning area overall suggest a fairly consistent demand initially, followed by increasing demand as the effect of housing growth is felt.
- 4.16 The School Expansion Land being provided as part of the Proposed Development will free up space on the existing school site which is currently used for formal sports. The expectation is that the School Expansion Land will be used for formal sports and the school buildings will be expanded on the existing site. The total area available to the school, including the School Expansion Land, will therefore support expansion to 2 forms of entry – and potentially more, subject to design considerations.
- 4.17 Discussions with the Council and the County are continuing to ensure timely and suitable arrangements are made for access to the School Expansion Land together with an appropriate financial contribution for school expansion works. An invitation was extended to the staff and governors of William Fletcher Primary School in August 2020 inviting them to engage with the Applicant prior to submission of the planning application. However this has not been progressed and it is understood, from the County, that the school is content for the County to continue taking the lead in discussions.
- 4.18 The County has undertaken initial design studies into the expansion of William Fletcher Primary School and identified its preferred option, including an extension to the pre-school, and is seeking funding secured through planning obligations from the Applicant for the necessary works. The cost of the works is estimated by the County as £3.564,000.
- 4.19 At the time of writing, discussions led by the County about arrangements for access between the existing school site and the School Expansion Land are ongoing. The two areas are separated by the existing vehicular access to the Home, operated by Sanctuary Care. Sanctuary Care wishes to retain the existing access to the Home, and it is expected that details of an “at grade” crossing of the access will be agreed.
- 4.20 Discussions are ongoing with the County and the Council to agree the amount and timing of financial contributions towards the school expansion .
- 4.21 In January 2022 the County suggested the extension to the school would need to be open by the September following the 200th occupation, and a timetable for works related to the School Expansion Land was set out. This envisaged initial works starting three years prior to the opening of the extension, effectively at about the same time as housing construction.

- 4.22 The County's timetable is being reviewed in light of increasing availability of existing primary school places. It is now considered that there is scope to push back the timetable for works, and the opening of the school extension, by around 200 occupations such that the school extension would open at around 400 occupations.

Early Years' Provision

- 4.23 The principal early years' provision west of the A44 is Yarnton Pre-School. Although it is located within the grounds of William Fletcher Primary School, it is run independently of the school. There is also one childminder providing an early years' service west of the A44.
- 4.24 As noted in paragraph 4.17, the County's preferred option for the expansion of primary provision also includes the pre-school. There is potential to expand the existing provision on the school site, in the form of an additional class space with other supporting spaces and facilities commensurate with the expected demand from the Proposed Development, and it is logical to implement this proportionately with the expansion of the school.

5 Secondary Education and Sixth Form Provision

- 5.1 Both the Proposed Development and PR8 Begbroke are within the catchment area of The Marlborough Church of England School, which is the only secondary school in the Woodstock secondary planning area. None of the other housing site allocations in the Local Plan are within this catchment area.
- 5.2 Policy PR8 Begbroke includes a requirement for, "*A secondary school on 8.2 hectares of land*". The details of this requirement will be considered in relation to the PR8 Begbroke development proposals. However, the Infrastructure Schedule at Appendix 4 of the Local Plan makes it clear that this secondary school relates to all the PR allocations in the Local Plan, not PR8 alone. Moreover, the County's approach to secondary education to support the development of the PR allocations does not rely only on this new school but also on existing school capacity and expansion, as explained below.
- 5.3 Notwithstanding the policy requirement, section 3.3 of the PPP 2021/22-2025/26 confirms the County will explore expansion of existing schools before considering establishing new and additional schools.
- 5.4 The Marlborough Church of England School is a six-form entry secondary school, admitting up to 180 pupils to Year 7 each year, and it also has a sixth form. Admissions information for September 2020 shows that the school is popular and full. However, 14 children who lived outside its catchment area

and had no 'admissions connection' with the school were able to be allocated places for September 2020, which was more than in previous years. A further 17 children living outside the school's catchment area but with admissions connections were also allocated places. Admissions information for September 2021 showed place allocations were made to 30 children living outside the school's catchment area (six of these had no admissions connection).

- 5.5 The County reported on the school in its PPP 2021/22-2025/26, published in January 2022, as follows:

"Marlborough CE School is working with the county council to plan a one-form expansion. In the first instance the academy will take a "bulge" class in 2022 to meet a spike in demand, ahead of developing plans for a more permanent expansion, which is subject to consultation and approval from the Regional Schools Commissioner and will require additional accommodation. The timing of this permanent expansion is not yet confirmed.

"This expansion is related to the housing growth in the town, as set out in the West Oxfordshire Local Plan. It is not expected to be able to also meet the scale of growth in the Cherwell Local Plan at Yarnton and Begbroke (as well as between Kidlington and north Oxford). This will be met through a combination of increasing pupil numbers at Gosford Hill and new school accommodation, with a secondary school site included within the Begbroke development area. As this and the wider area has a complex pattern of housing growth and school capacity expansion, at this stage the timing and exact scale of the new provision at Begbroke cannot be confirmed, but it is unlikely to be required before the end of the decade."

- 5.6 In general, pressure on school places that was being experienced in primary schools a few years ago is now being felt in secondary schools. The PPP 2021/22-2025/26, indicates secondary intake numbers peaking in 2022, having seen a considerable increases in recent years. Beyond 2022 pupil numbers are expected to remain high with overall numbers on roll (including the expected demand from housing growth) continuing to increase steadily.
- 5.7 The PPP 2021/22-2025/26 also confirms that there is available capacity at Gosford Hill School, and that its location means it is well placed to serve housing growth to the north of Oxford City. This school is closer to the Proposed Development, and will be well within the 'statutory walking distance' of 3 miles for all of the Proposed Development. The previous PPP also confirmed that the site offers scope for expansion of the school. However, the school's admission number has been reduced to 150 from 180, due to lack of demand. The catchment area of Gosford Hill School covers

the adjoining area to the east of The Marlborough Church of England School catchment and includes the other four housing allocations in the Local Plan.

- 5.8 There are various figures available for the current capacity of the school, which affect any calculation of surplus places. The range is 1,221 (stated in the PPP 2021/22-2025/26) to 1,050 (stated by the County's Pupil Place Planning Manager in an email dated 26 January 2022). However, in July 2022 the DfE announced the major refurbishment or rebuilding of Gosford Hill School as part of its 'school rebuilding programme'. The programme prioritises projects according to the condition of buildings. It is understood that DfE's project will fund the replacement/refurbishment of 900 places, which is less than the current capacity. The timing of the project is uncertain, as are the potential implications for the County's expressed intention to expand capacity at Gosford Hill School.
- 5.9 Within Oxford City, the forecasts indicate 2023-24 as the peak in demand. The Swan School which opened in 2019 and is located in the northern part of the city is not yet operating in all year groups. Available capacity within the city will therefore be an important factor, with potential implications for the amount of additional capacity that will be needed for the PR sites.
- 5.10 It is understood that the County currently considers a new secondary school will be needed at Begbroke, albeit not for some years. However, the scale of growth makes school place planning difficult, not least due to the 'step change' increase in scale of housing delivery in the area. As recognised in the second excerpt from the PPP above, the timing of additional demand created by new housing, along with supply and demand for places will need to be considered. It is therefore possible that an alternative approach to a new school could be taken. The County will continue to review the implications of the Local Plan, and update its thinking as necessary.
- 5.11 Whatever decision is made about whether a new school is required, it is expected that some additional secondary school capacity will be needed, and that financial contributions will need to be secured through planning obligations. It is agreed that any available spare capacity should be shared by relevant local plan allocation sites, rather than being allocated to particular developments on a 'first come, first served' basis to developments as they come forward.
- 5.12 Discussions between the Applicant and the County as part of the planning application determination process are ongoing to agree the appropriate amount and timing of financial contributions towards secondary education. The availability of surplus places supports deferring the secondary education contributions until a late stage in the construction of the Proposed Development.

6 Special Educational Needs

- 6.1 The County is seeking contributions towards special education needs (SEN) provision. It is accepted that additional SEN provision is likely to be needed in view of the expected increase in population. The County's assessment is that 4.1 special school places will be needed, based on the proportion of pupils expected to require places. However, it is not reasonable to base the contribution on the assumption that the entirety of the population resident in new dwellings will all be new and additional.
- 6.2 The principle of making an appropriate contributions towards additional SEN provision is accepted and further discussions will take place to agree the appropriate amount and timing.

7 Summary and Next Steps

- 7.1 The planning application for the Proposed Development was made in the context of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 Part 1 Partial Review of the Cherwell Local Plan – Oxford's Unmet Housing Needs.
- 7.2 This report updates the previous education strategy dated 3rd September 2021 accompanying the planning application.
- 7.3 PR9 Land West of Yarnton has a close relationship with PR8 Land East of the A44 (Begbroke). Nonetheless, in education terms, the Proposed Development and its mitigation can stand on its own merit. Furthermore, the education strategy set out in this document does not have adverse implications for the development or mitigation of other allocation sites identified in the Local Plan.
- 7.4 The Proposed Development makes physical provision for education in line with adopted local plan policy, through the identification and safeguarding of 1.80 ha land that will enable William Fletcher Primary School to be expanded to at least two forms of entry and also facilitates expansion of existing early years' provision.
- 7.5 Financial contributions will also be provided towards additional early years, primary, secondary and sixth form education, and SEN provision. These will be secured through planning obligations. It is agreed that any available spare capacity should be shared by relevant local plan allocation sites.
- 7.6 Discussions with the Council as local planning authority and the County as local education authority are ongoing and will continue through the development management process, including the completion of a planning obligation agreement.