

ITEM No ...3.....

REPORT TO: CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES COMMITTEE – 27 JANUARY 2020

REPORT ON: LEARNING ESTATE OPTIONS FOR BRAEVIEW ACADEMY AND CRAIGIE HIGH SCHOOL

REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE

REPORT NO: 42–2020

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report sets out the current and future proposed position regarding the school estate strategy.
- 1.2 This report also seeks Children and Families Services Committee approval for the Executive Director of Children and Families Service to formally consult on the undernoted proposal under the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 and to advise Committee of the consultation process.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that members:

- 2.1 note the areas set out in the current 10 year school estate Capital Investment Strategy;
- 2.2 agree the following as set out in this report in relation to these areas and reflect this within the forthcoming Capital Plan;
- 2.3 instruct the Executive Director of Children and Families Services to formally consult on the following proposal and report the outcomes in due course:
 - i) the closure of Braeview Academy and Craigie High School and the redelineation of existing school catchments to form a new single catchment area for a new joint secondary school/community learning campus from August 2024; and the expansion of the catchment area for Grove Academy from August 2024 to embrace the current Craigiebarns Primary School catchment area.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Estimated capital costs for building a new combined provision is £60m
 - 3.1.1 Potential revenue savings, if the proposal is accepted, will amount to approximately £78,000 in financial year 2024/25 rising to approximately £400,000 in 2025/26 and then £735,000 by 2026/27 and £749,000 in 2027/28. Thereafter this saving would reduce to £682,000 from 2030/31 to reflect projected increase in property maintenance costs. Within the school estate Capital Investment Strategy section of the Council's Capital Plan, sufficient capital will require to be identified and reprioritised to support this proposal, revenue savings will also be needed to support capital financing costs.
 - 3.1.2 A financial template relating to the financial elements of this proposal can be found in Appendix 1 of the proposal paper.

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Article VI of the Minute of the Meeting of the Children and Families Services Committee held on Monday 9 September 2019, report no 297-2019 refers, notes that the Executive Director of Children and Families Services, following completion of a period of related informal consultation, was instructed to execute further work on the options for Braeview Academy and Craigie High School and bring recommendations back to the Children and Families Service Committee for approval.

4.2 The Learning Estate Strategy and Funding model from the Scottish Government are summarised as follows:

- There will be £2bn investment in the Scottish learning estate over a 25 year period from 2019 to 2044. This will comprise £1bn from Scottish Government and £1bn match funding from local authorities;
- Funding is moving to a fully revenue based model. This means Local Government must fund the upfront £2bn capital investment required to build and improve schools. The Scottish Government will provide revenue funding to local authorities, to support their proportion of the funding over a 25 year period to meet facilities management and life cycle maintenance costs. Other revenue costs of supporting the school will be met by the local authority without funding support, e.g. teachers and non-domestic rates.

4.2.1 In order to access the above national funding support the following guiding principles should be adhered to:

- Condition and suitability – The need to improve and maintain learning environments to category A and B ratings and thus support and enhance their function
- The employment of a place - based approach – The need to co-ordinate and integrate local services to support communities, improve outcomes and progress the public sector reform agenda.
- Climate change mitigation and adaption - The need to increase energy efficiency in building performance and move towards zero carbon by 2050.
- Digital approaches to learning and delivery - The need to create new and innovative digital services delivery and infrastructure including remote learning and access.

4.3 Within the current Service Estate Management Report (Article II of the Minute of the Meeting of the Children and Families Services Committee held on 10 December 2018, report 396-2018 refers) and the current Capital Investment Strategy, approved by Policy and Resource Committee in 2017 (Article VII of the Minute of the Meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held on 11 December 2017, report no 419-2017) the school estate section sets out Children and Families Services guiding principles and objectives for future planning and action on the school estate, detailing the following points:

- Schools whose condition supports and enhances their functions
- More 'suitable' and 'inclusive' schools, better future-proofed for flexibility and adaptability
- Schools which are 'greener', more sustainable and environmentally efficient
- Schools which both drive and support effective learning and teaching
- Schools which best serve their communities

4.4 The following education priorities have been identified within the current Capital Investment Strategy across schools estate within the city:

- Secondary estate in the east of Dundee;
- Primary estate within Dundee;
- Early Years;

- Edwardian and Victoria buildings.

- 4.5 The current programme on developing our Early Years infrastructure is well under way to meet the demands of the 1140 hours delivery target. Progress here is reported annually in the School Estate Management Report (SEMP). Significant progress has also been made on our Victorian and Edwardian schools where after planned works are carried out on one remaining school, all Victorian and Edwardian Schools in the city will be rated B for condition and suitability, with further improvement works planned that will enhance these important buildings even further. This is also fully reported in the annual SEMP.
- 4.6 The Council has recently carried out informal consultation on the strategy, in particular the secondary school estate in the east of the city.

5.0 SECONDARY PROVISION IN THE EAST OF THE CITY

- 5.1 Braeview Academy suffered a catastrophic fire on 11 September 2018, significantly damaging the main non practical teaching block, which accounts for around 50% of the teaching rooms within the school. More than 50 firefighters worked throughout the night, attempting to flood the building and arrest the fire. The extensive damage to the main classroom area of Braeview Academy following the fire made it evident that the building would be out of commission for a significant period of time.
- 5.2 A decant of the Braeview pupils to two local schools starting on 18 September with transport arrangements being put in place to support pupil travel to the two schools. A plan was developed to create a village of temporary portacabins on the Braeview site with 110 units, which would provide around 30 classrooms, a fully functional servery canteen, a support for learning unit, a full IT suite with Wi-Fi throughout, accessible toilet facilities and ramped entrances. Fourteen weeks later, on 14 December 2018, after a great degree of effort from contractors, planners, project management team and the Children and Families Service, the pupils returned to Braeview, within the portacabin village which was linked to the unaffected parts of the school. This education village is one of the biggest projects of its kind undertaken throughout the UK and offers very high quality accommodation.
- 5.3 At the Children and Families Services Committee held on the 28 January 2019 (Article VI of the Minute of the Meeting and report 47-2019 refers) a report was presented that received approval to consult informally on options in relation to future schools estate including the future of Braeview Academy in light of the recent fire and possible options for Craigie High School. Options relevant to this proposal were set out as follows:
- Reinstate Braeview Academy on its existing site and continue with the maintenance programme to Craigie High School with the potential, in the future, for refurbishment or replacement of both schools on their existing sites or alternative site within their respective catchment areas; or
 - Closing both Braeview Academy and Craigie High School and creating a new single secondary school serving the east of Dundee located on the Drumgeith Road site.
- 5.4 A report on the consultation was considered at the Children and Families Service Committee on 9 September 2019 (report 297-2019 refers). It was agreed that officers should carry out further work on the options for Braeview Academy and Craigie High School and bring recommendations back to the Children and Families Services Committee for approval.
- 5.5 Having considered both of the proposals set out in 5.3 in relation to, the roll projections for both schools, the financial implications of the options and the educational benefits of the options, it is proposed that a formal consultation be carried out in relation to the closure of Braeview Academy and Craigie High School and the creation of a new merged school on the Drumgeith Road site. This proposal also includes including Craigiebarns Primary School (a current associated school of Craigie High School) as an associated school of Grove Academy. The Consultation Proposal is attached as Appendix A and the proposed new catchments are shown in Appendix 2.

- 5.6 Braeview Academy continues to be supported in part by temporary accommodation and will remain in their temporary accommodation until a more definitive position in relation to the future of the school is agreed.
- 5.7 The Council continues to work closely with the insurers on potential settlement/rebuild costs. A separate report will be brought back to Policy and Resource Committee with final details regarding the Braeview Academy insurance to agree next steps.

6.0 FORMAL CONSULTATION PROCESS AND THE PUBLICATION OF THE FORMAL PROPOSAL PAPERS

- 6.1 If approved, the consultation will begin on Monday 10 February 2020 and formal proposal papers will be:
- published in both electronic and printed form,
 - available for inspection at all reasonable times and without charge
 - at its head office and on its website,
 - at any affected school or at a public library or some other suitable place within the vicinity of the school.
- 6.2 The consultation process will end on Friday 27 March 2020.
- 6.3 Formal consultation will include:
- preparation and publication of a proposal paper on the Council's website,
 - giving notice of the proposal to parents/carers, young people and other statutory consultees,
 - an announcement of the proposal in the local press, inviting any person to make written representation to the Executive Director of Children and Families Services,
 - public consultation in the local areas,
 - consultation with Parent Councils,
 - consultation with staff,
 - consultation with young people at any affected school,
 - consultation with parents of the pupils at any affected school,
 - consultation with the parents of any children expected by the education authority to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper,
 - consultation with representatives of the teacher and support staff trade unions,
 - meetings with other interested bodies such as the Local Community Planning Partnership,
 - consultation with any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant.
- 6.4 At the end of the consultation period, the Executive Director of Children and Families Service will draft a report incorporating copies of all written representations and a summary of oral representations from any person who attended the public meeting. The report and related documents will then go to Education Scotland for consideration and comment. A maximum of three weeks will be set aside for this part of the process.
- 6.5 On receipt of the Education Scotland feedback report, the Executive Director of Children and Families Service, on behalf of the local authority, will prepare, publish and advertise a consultation report containing the views of Education Scotland and including an explanation of how the Council proposes to deal with any issues raised. After a period of no less than three weeks, the Children and Families Services Committee will consider the consultation report and decide whether or not to approve the proposal.

- 6.6 It is anticipated that the Children and Families Services Committee will decide to approve or reject the final proposal at its meeting on 22 June 2020.
- 6.7 In the case of a school closure, Scottish Government Ministers have the power to call in decisions. Ministers have up to 8 weeks to decide whether or not to issue a call in notice. Where the Council approves a closure of a school after consultation this decision will be clearly reported on the council website and, where possible, to all those who have sent in responses to the consultation. Information will also be provided on how consultees can make further representations to Scottish Government Ministers.

7.0 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 This Report has been subject to an assessment of any impact on equality and diversity, fairness and poverty, environment and corporate risk. There are no major issues.

8.0 CONSULTATIONS

- 8.1.1 The Council Management Team have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

9.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 None.

Paul Clancy Executive Director of Children and Families Service

Audrey May, Head of Service, (Chief Education Officer)

Gordon Laidlaw Learning Estate Project Officer

January 2020

Appendix A

1 PROPOSAL

the closure of Braeview Academy and Craigie High School and the redelineation of existing school catchments to form a new single catchment area for a new joint secondary school/community learning campus from August 2024; and the expansion of the catchment area for Grove Academy from August 2024 to embrace the current Craigiebarns Primary School catchment area.

- 1.1 It is proposed that Craigie High School and Braeview Academy be discontinued at the close of school session June 2024.
- 1.2 It is proposed that all pupils enrolled in Braeview Academy and Craigie High School at the point of the closure of both schools will be enrolled in a new secondary school/community learning campus, with a capacity of around 1800, from school session 2024-2025 onwards.
- 1.3 Currently 40% of secondary aged pupils living in Craigiebarns Primary School catchment area attend Grove Academy. It is proposed to expand the catchment area for Grove Academy from August 2024 to embrace the current Craigiebarns Primary School catchment area. As a result, all pupils living in the current Craigiebarns Primary School catchment area, transitioning from primary to secondary would attend Grove Academy from August 2024, unless they choose to make a placing request elsewhere. They would also continue to have the option to attend St Paul's RC Academy. The first group of pupils that this would apply to are currently in stage P3.
- 1.4 It is proposed that the catchment area for the new secondary school/community learning campus would consist of the current catchment area for Braeview and the current catchment area for Craigie with the exception of the current Craigiebarns Primary School catchment area. This is to commence from August 2024.

2 BACKGROUND

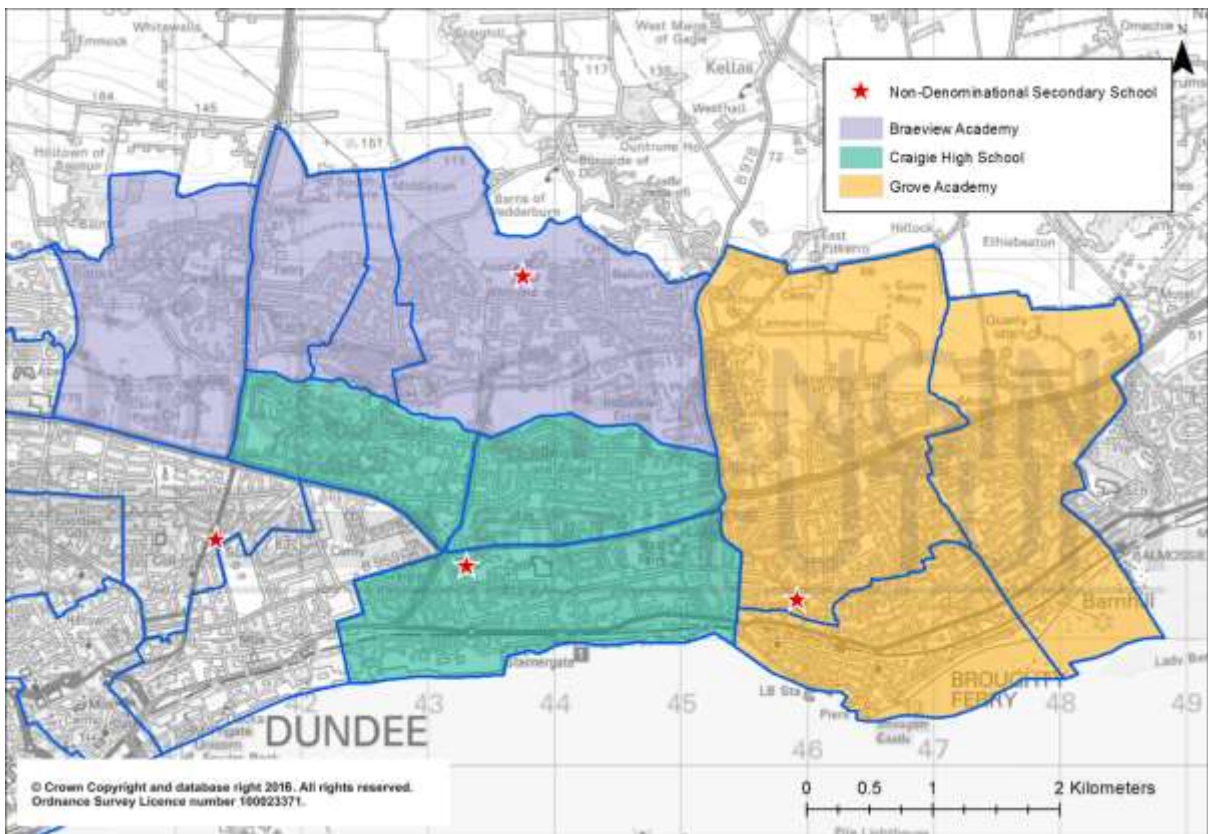
- 2.1 Braeview Academy and Craigie High School serve the suburbs and housing estates on the eastern side of Dundee City, covering the areas: Ballumbie, Claverhouse, Craigie, Douglas, Fintry, Linlathen, Midcraigie, Mill of Mains, Trottick, West Ferry and Whitfield. These areas embrace many of the most deprived areas in Dundee. The catchment areas for the two schools are shown in Map 1.
- 2.2 The annual school estate update report of December 2018 (Article II of the Minute of the Meeting of this Committee of 10 December 2018 and report No 396-2018 refers) notes that both schools are currently rated 'C' (poor) for overall condition. Both schools are, therefore, showing major defects and/or not operating adequately. Both schools are further rated 'B' (satisfactory) for suitability in that they are deemed to be performing well but with minor problems notwithstanding their poor condition.
- 2.3 In September 2018 the conditions in Braeview Academy were tragically exacerbated following the demise of around half the school building as a result of a fire. Following the emergency short-term displacement of pupils to Baldragon Academy and Craigie High School, pupils returned to temporary portacabin accommodation within the Braeview Academy school grounds in December 2018. At the time of writing pupils continue to be educated in such temporary accommodation.
- 2.4 Significantly, 1,220 pupils (16% of Dundee's secondary school roll) are receiving their education within these two poor condition schools. Of these 1,220 pupils, 647 (53%) reside within Scotland's 20% most deprived SIMD data zones. The creation of a new, state of the art secondary school/community learning campus within the East of Dundee will enhance greatly the educational experience currently experienced by these young people and their families, many of whom experience significant poverty and deprivation in their daily lives. In essence,

some 1,500 pupils (projected, see Table 3 and Table 4) will transition from 'poor' C rated conditions to 'good' A rated conditions.

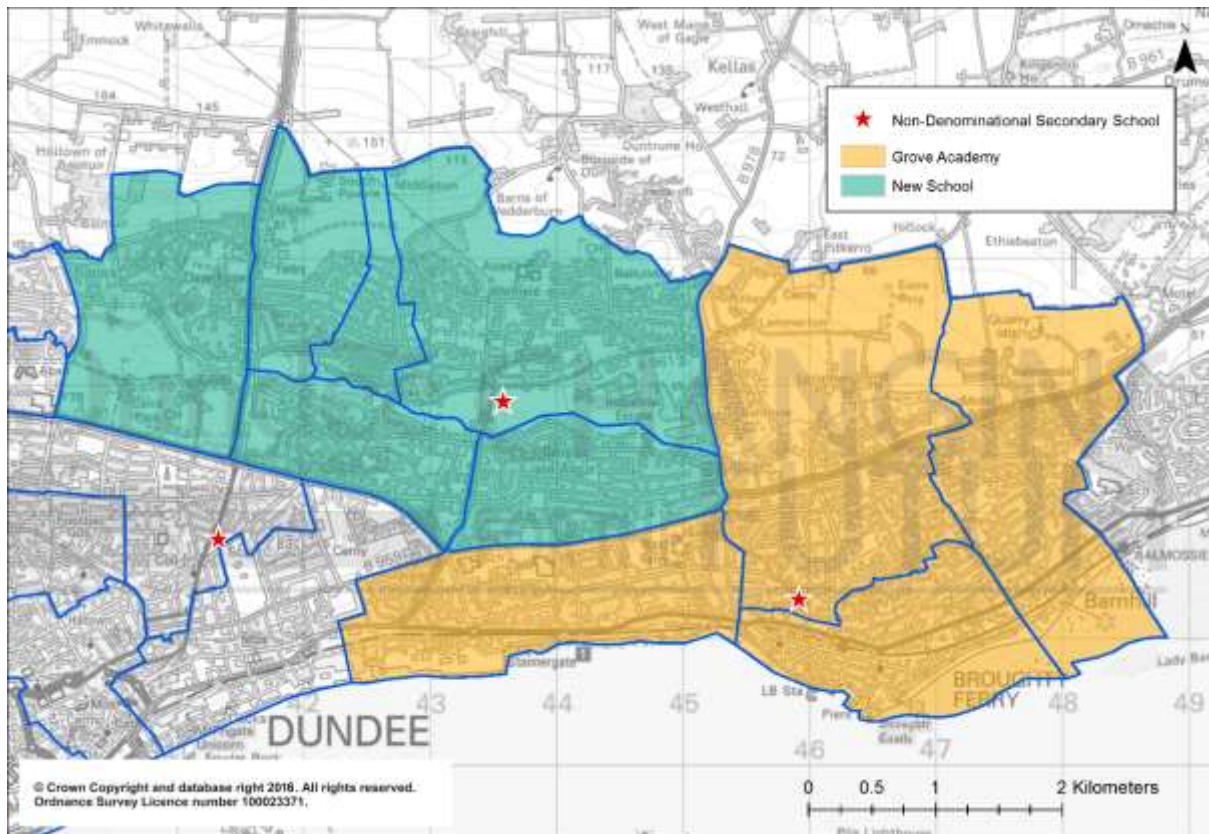
- 2.5 It is proposed that within the new secondary school/community learning campus a joint Dundee City Council and Dundee & Angus College Senior Phase Education Centre for young people with significant and complex additional support needs be established. Building upon existing resource within Craigie High School, currently the deployment of staff from Kingspark Special School along and funding has supported the Enhanced Support Areas (ESAs) in the school in order to meet pupils' diverse and complex needs. Dundee City Council has a strong working relationship with Dundee and Angus College and the construction of a new school will allow the development of opportunities in a range of academic and vocational areas.
- 2.6 The new school will embrace well established vocational partnerships between Braeview Academy and Michelin. The redevelopment of the current Michelin site will enable a more diverse range of opportunities and collaboration, resulting from the investment and formation of the Michelin Scotland Innovation Parc. Work continues to be developed in a range of areas including supporting the work of STEM education. The aspirations of the Innovation Parc are to create a new future for people, place and planet. This ambitious joint venture is done in collaboration with Michelin and Scottish Enterprise to create and drive growth and diversity in the Scottish economy whilst addressing the global climate emergency. Dundee City Council are working closely as part of the collaborative to ensure that schools play a pivotal part in develops. The development of this proposed community learning campus provides a significant opportunity to align the activities of the school with this project.
- 2.7 The proposed site for a new school is the site of the former St Saviours High School to the south of Drumgeith Road. This site location shown in Map 1 is approximately 26 acres in size. The initial proposed catchment of the school would combine the current catchment of Braeview Academy and the contracted catchment of Craigie High School. Throughout this document the new school will be referred to as Craigie-Braeview. Map 2 shows the existing catchments for Braeview Academy, Craigie High School and Grove Academy. Map 3 shows the proposed catchments for the new school (Craigie-Braeview) and Grove Academy to take effect from 2024. Detailed descriptions of the proposed new catchments are given in Appendix 2.



Map 1: Locations and Catchments of schools to the east of Dundee



Map 2: Existing Secondary School Catchments



Map 3: Proposed catchment changes from 2024.

2.8 The size of site for any new school is prescribed in the School Premises (General Requirements and Standards) (Scotland) Regulations 1967 and the 1973 and 1979 amendments to those regulations. For a new secondary school with capacity for around 1800 pupils the total site size should be a minimum 20 acres of usable land comprising two elements for which the appropriate sizes are defined separately:

- A main school site on which the actual school buildings are located of not less than 8 acres; and
- An area for playing fields of not less than 12 acres.

2.9 Development of the site would require to take full cognisance of the flooding profile of the Dighty Burn, acknowledging that, as key infrastructure, any new school would require to be protected in the event of a 1:1000 year flooding event. Flood risk analysis would require to be undertaken, assessing both existing and proposed site levels in relation to the water course, and ensuring that any new building remained protected from rising water levels. Similarly, a series of compensatory and capacity models would require to be prepared and assessed, to ensure that the development and re-profiling of the site does not result in flooding issues at other points along the route of the Dighty Burn.

3 BRAEVIEW ACADEMY AND CRAIGIE HIGH SCHOOL - SCHOOL ROLLS

3.1 Braeview Academy had a school roll of 592 as at the September census 2019. The majority of these pupils (514) live within Braeview Academy's catchment area. A further 46 pupils come from the neighbouring catchment of Craigie High School. The remaining 32 pupils are from the rest of Dundee and the surrounding areas.

3.2 Craigie High School had a school roll of 628 as at the September census 2019. The majority of these pupils (480) live within Craigie High School's catchment area. A further 71 pupils

come from the neighbouring catchment of Braeview Academy. The remaining 77 pupils are from the rest of Dundee and the surrounding areas.

- 3.3 Table 1, below, outlines a summary of the respective schools' populations in relation to catchment lived in and school attended. It is worth noting that currently around 10% of the pupils in the Braeview Academy and Craigie High School population come from the other school's catchment.

Table 1: Summary of secondary pupils' locations

		Catchment Lived in			Total Pupils
		Braeview Academy	Craigie High School	Elsewhere	
School Attended	Braeview Academy	514	46	32	592
	Craigie High School	71	480	77	628

4 CLUSTER PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND PUPIL ROLLS

- 4.1 Braeview Academy has four cluster primary schools: Ballumbie, Fintry, Longhaugh and Mill of Mains primary schools. In the September 2019 census 1,445 pupils attended these primary schools feeding to Braeview Academy. The majority of these pupils (1,214) reside within Braeview Academy's catchment area. A further 111 pupils come from the neighbouring catchment of Craigie High School. The remaining 120 pupils are from the rest of Dundee and the surrounding areas.
- 4.2 Craigie High School has three cluster primary schools: Claypotts Castle, Craigiebarns and Rowantree primary schools. In the September 2019 census 1,052 pupils attended these primary schools feeding to Craigie High School. The majority of these pupils (892) reside within Craigie High School's catchment area. A further 63 pupils come from the neighbouring catchment of Braeview Academy. The remaining 97 pupils are from the rest of Dundee and the surrounding areas.
- 4.3 Table 2, outlines a summary in relation to secondary catchment lived in and primary school attended. It is worth noting that 174 pupils whilst living in the secondary catchment for either Braeview Academy or Craigie High School attend an associated primary school of each other.

Table 2: Summary of primary school pupil locations

		Secondary Catchment Lived in			Total Pupils
		Braeview Academy	Craigie High School	Elsewhere	
Attending Primary School feeding to:	Braeview Academy	1,214	111	120	1,445
	Craigie High School	63	892	97	1,052

4.4 SCHOOL ROLL SUMMARY

- 4.5 Consideration of pupil roll composition within Braeview Academy, Craigie High School and all related associated primary schools indicates that some pupils attend schools other than their priority 1 school within the East of Dundee.

5 PROJECTED SCHOOL ROLLS – BRAEVIEW ACADEMY, CRAIGIE HIGH SCHOOL AND GROVE ACADEMY

5.1 School projections (2019 based) indicating the projected rolls for Braeview Academy, Craigie High School, the new Craigie-Braeview school and Grove Academy under this proposal are outlined in Table 3. The method of roll projection used takes account of where pupils live and which secondary school they are likely to attend from that location, based on existing school populations. It is important to note that as schools approach capacity pupils are redirected to their catchment school if applying via a placing request. From 2024, the model posits that all primary pupils living in Craigiebarns Primary School catchment will elect to take up places at Grove Academy on transition to secondary school.

Table 3: Projected rolls for Braeview Academy, Craigie High School, new Craigie-Braeview school and Grove Academy. Figures for 2019-2024 are based on current catchment arrangements. Figures for 2024 onwards are based on proposed catchments (Map 3)

	Braeview Academy	Craigie High School	Total	Grove Academy
2019/20 (actual)	592	628	1,220	1,259
2020/21	642	694	1,336	1,282
2021/22	682	750	1,432	1,308
2022/23	714	777	1,491	1,326
2023/24	726	809	1,535	1,321
	New Craigie-Braeview			
2024/25		1,525		1,334
2025/26		1,483		1,322
2026/27		1,427		1,306

- 5.2 Two key drivers that are increasing the rolls of Braeview Academy and Craigie High School are:
- Increasing primary rolls: rolls for Braeview Academy and Craigie High School cluster primary schools have increased by 11% in the last five years. These increases will in time feed through to secondary schools
 - As other secondary schools become full, pupils living in the Braeview Academy and Craigie High School catchments will no longer be successful in making placing requests to alternative schools and will need to attend their catchment school.
- 5.3 Long term population projections indicate the secondary school aged population in Dundee should stabilise around the middle of the 2020's and may reduce slightly thereafter.
- 5.4 There are 21 sites identified in Braeview Academy's catchment for new residential building in the next ten years with a program that could see 760 new properties built by 2026. The program for house building within Craigie High School's catchment is insignificant and will not impact the school roll. There are 6 sites identified in Grove Academy's catchment for new residential building in the next ten years with a program that could see 270 new properties built by 2026. It is difficult to forecast exactly how many houses will be built and when, where the occupants will come from and how many new school-aged children could therefore be introduced to the catchment. These caveats notwithstanding, Table 4 gives an estimate of the impact new housebuilding could have on the roll of Braeview Academy until 2026.

Table 4: Projected rolls for Braeview Academy, Craigie High School, new Craigie-Braeview school and Grove Academy, including new house building. Figures for 2019-2024 are based on current catchment arrangements. Figures for 2024 onwards are based on proposed catchments (Map 3)

	Braeview Academy	Craigie High School	Total	Grove Academy
2019/20 (actual)	592	628	1,220	1,259
2020/21	651	694	1,345	1,288
2021/22	704	750	1,454	1,318
2022/23	751	777	1,528	1,341
2023/24	772	809	1,581	1,339
	New Craigie-Braeview			
2024/25		1,582		1,357
2025/26		1,546		1,351
2026/27		1,492		1,338

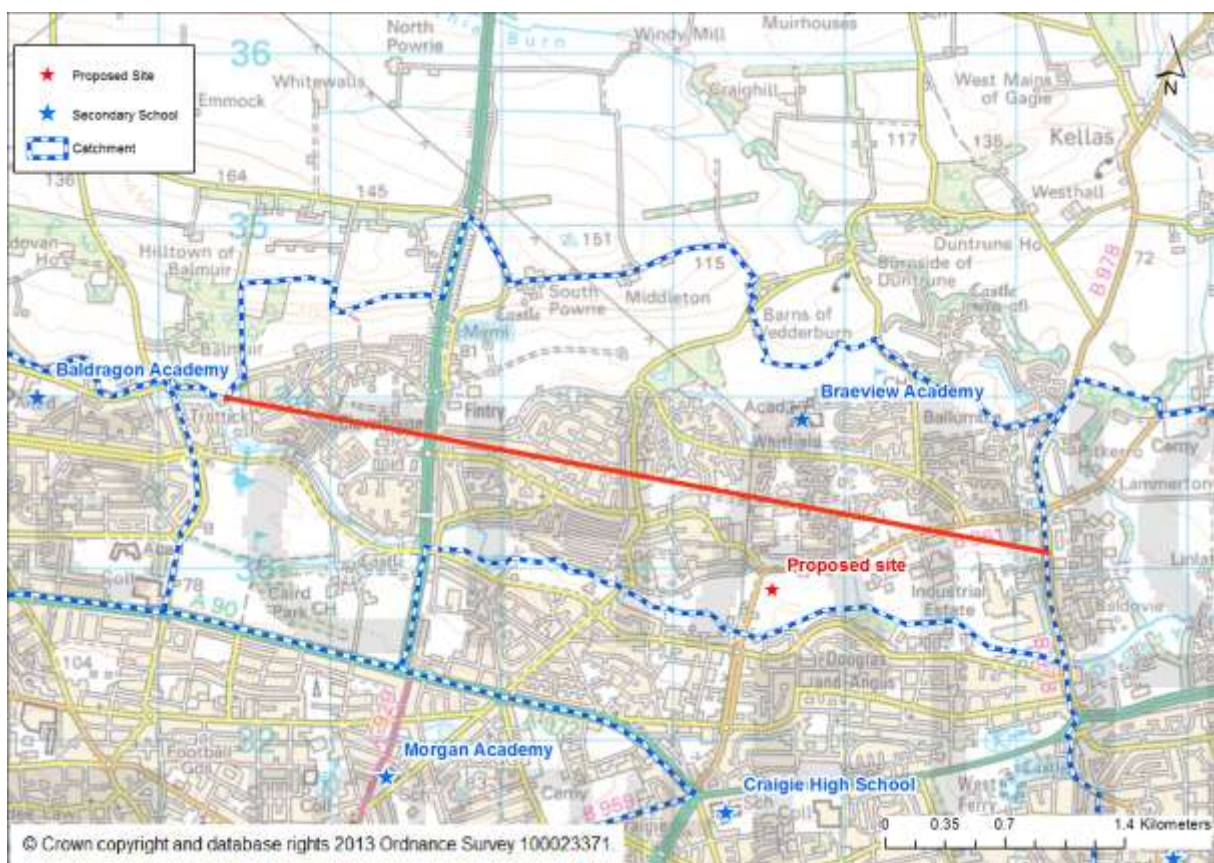
- 5.5 The information provided above demonstrates that the proposals would provide sufficient capacity for growth in future years. Based upon current projected figures, by 2026/27 there would be at least a minimum additional capacity available to accommodate up to 40 pupil places within Grove Academy and 360 places within the proposed combined campus.

6 TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

- 6.1 In considering the new Craigie-Braeview and the possible location of the school, the impact this will have on the travel distances from home to school for pupils will be an important factor.
- 6.2 Whilst it is theoretically possible to calculate travel distances to school for pupils automatically, using the Council's Geographic Information System (GIS), this facility is not yet in place. As a first order approximation, the geographic, or "as the crow flies", distance between pupils' homes and school sites is considered.
- 6.3 Map 4, below, shows Braeview Academy's catchment split into two areas: those that lie closer to the existing Braeview Academy site and those that lie closer to the proposed Craigie-Braeview merger school site.
- 6.4 Of secondary pupils living in Braeview Academy catchment and attending Braeview Academy:

277 live closer to Braeview Academy

237 live closer to Craigie-Braeview merger proposed site



6.5 Map 5, below shows Craigie High School's catchment split into two areas: those that lie closer to the existing Craigie High School site and those that lie closer to the proposed school site.

6.6 Of secondary pupils living in Craigie High School catchment and attending Craigie High School:

219 live closer to Craigie High School

261 live closer to Craigie-Braeview merger proposed site



Map 5: Craigie High School Catchment. Red dividing line shows areas closer to Craigie High School and the proposed site.

6.7 TRAVEL SUMMARY

6.8 Considering all Braeview Academy and Craigie High School secondary pupils living in the combined catchment of the two schools:

496 live closer to their current school

498 live closer to the Craigie-Braeview merger proposed site

6.9 The proposed site therefore has very good geographical proximity to both original catchments.

7 BUS ROUTES

- 7.1 The Proposed site is served by the 9, 10, 15 and 17 National Express bus services. The 15 and 17 buses run from the City Centre to Whitfield (and back). Bus routes for these two services are outlined in Map 6. Whilst the 15 terminates at the City Centre, the 17 continues on to Dundee Technology Park on the western edge of the city. Between them, they provide a service every 10 to 15 minutes at peak times. The 9 (clockwise) and 10 (anti-clockwise) provide circular routes around the outskirts of Dundee and run every half hour. Bus routes for these two services are outlined in Map 7 below.
- 7.2 Pupils living further than 3 miles (4.8 km) walking distance from their catchment school are entitled to a free bus pass. Pupils entitled to Free School Meals and living further than 2 miles (3.2 km) walking distance from their catchment school are entitled to a free bus pass.
- 7.3 At present, the areas likely to benefit from free bus passes are not well connected with the proposed site by bus services. They would rely on the 9 and 10 circular services which only run every half hour. Travelling from Gardyne Road to Whitfield on the number 10 service takes 36 minutes. This is something that would need to be considered with NEX Dundee if the new school were to go ahead.



Map 6: 15 and 17 Bus routes serving the proposed school site.



Map 7: 9 and 10 Bus routes serving proposed school site

7.4 TRAVEL TO SCHOOL CONCLUSIONS

7.5 Overall, more pupils will live closer (as the crow flies) to the proposed new school/learning campus site than to either Braeview Academy or Craigie High School.

7.6 The vast majority of pupils will live inside three miles safe walking distance of the proposed site. Therefore careful consideration will be taken of the walking/cycling routes and travel plans to promote environmentally friendly attitudes and approaches to the school journey.

7.7 A small minority of pupils will live further than two miles safe walking distance from the proposed site. If these pupils are entitled to free school meals, they will also be entitled to a free bus pass. However, the areas concerned are not well connected with the proposed site by bus. This matter would, therefore, require attention during the formal consultation process.

8 CRAIGIEBARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL – BACKGROUND

8.1 It is proposed that the catchment area for Grove Academy is expanded to include the current catchment area for Craigiebarnes Primary School. This is to commence from August 2024.

8.2 Craigiebarnes Primary School Catchment is located within the East End Ward of Dundee City Council. Currently many families residing within the catchment area for Craigiebarnes Primary School choose to make a placing request for their child to attend Grove Academy rather than Craigie High School.

- 8.3 As at the September 2019 Census there are 179 Secondary aged pupils living in the Craigiebarns Primary School Catchment area and attending Dundee City Council secondary provision. Of these, 92 attend Craigie High School and 64 attend Grove Academy. The remaining 23 attend other secondary schools in Dundee.
- 8.4 As at the September 2019 Census there are 264 primary aged pupils living in the Craigiebarns Primary School Catchment area and attending Dundee City Council primary provision. Of these, 159 attend Craigiebarns Primary School, 52 attend Eastern Primary School and 17 attend Forthill Primary School. The remaining 36 attend other primary schools in Dundee.
- 8.5 Of the 264 Primary aged pupils living in the Craigiebarns Primary School Catchment area 35 are in stage P1, 35 are in stage P2 and 31 are in stage P3, the only current primary aged pupils that will be directly affected by this proposal.

9 EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR BRAEVIEW ACADEMY AND CRAIGIE HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS

- 9.1 Dundee City Council aims to provide the best possible learning environment for delivering relevant twenty first century learning for its children and young people. This aspiration is consistent with the shared vision and priorities within the Tayside Plan for Children, Young People and Families 2017-2020. The creation of a modern, vibrant community learning campus within the East of Dundee will be instrumental in the effective delivery of pupil entitlements outlined within the Curriculum for Excellence and the aspirations to achieve excellence and equity outlined within our local and national school improvement frameworks.
- 9.2 Dundee's Council Plan (2017-22), outlines a strong commitment to establishing strong and safe communities and extending community access to a range of cultural, learning, leisure and sport services. It is further envisaged that the new school/learning campus will support the realisation of such aspirations.
- 9.3 The new school/learning campus environment in its entirety will have a positive impact on the motivation, behaviour and aspirations of young people, providing ideal conditions for learners to learn and teachers to teach. Improved outcomes will be achieved including increased attainment and improved post-school positive destinations. It is further envisaged that the 'open' ethos of the school design will have a positive impact upon the mental health and emotional wellbeing of both staff and young people, engendering a calm and purposeful environment for learning.
- 9.4 Co-located curriculum areas will increase and improve opportunities for inter-disciplinary learning. Such adjacent learning areas will facilitate natural cross-curricular links for staff and young people, some of which are not possible due to the existing layout and configuration of both schools buildings.
- 9.5 A well-equipped and modern digital learning environment will be carefully designed to support learners and learning and promote senior phase pathways which stimulate skills for learning, life and work. Accommodation will endorse and extend established educational partnerships with Dundee and Angus College, Michelin Skills Centre/Industrial Park and Dundee Schools Music Theatre, enabling wider access to facilities and supporting the flexibility of service delivery.
- 9.6 The new combined staff team will provide augmented knowledge, expertise, specialism, skills, talents and interests to support learning. A larger team will be instrumental in providing enriched learning experiences for learners including a significantly broader and diverse curriculum and greater personalisation and choice for pupils through varied pedagogy. In tandem with this, increased scope and flexibility in staffing will result in increasing the availability and breadth of National Qualifications including those at Advanced Higher level. Currently maximising consistently pupil subject choice is a challenge within the senior phase (S4-S6) for both schools due to low pupil and staff numbers.

- 9.7 Data would indicate a growing number of young people with significant and complex additional support needs within the east of Dundee. Where possible the Children and Families Service endeavours to provide educational provision for such young people within a mainstream environment within their local community. Craigie High School currently provides enhanced support for pupils who have a range of complex needs including Autism and those who are Deaf or have a Visual Impairment. Staff from the Accessibility and Inclusion Service (AIS), provide specialist support to staff and pupils in order for the learning environment to be fully accessible for pupils who have such barriers to learning and communication.
- 9.8 The AIS supports pupils across the city, including Braeview Academy. It is envisaged that a new single school campus would further integrate this specialist support. The inclusion of bespoke pupil support areas including sensory enhanced support will further enhance the integration and quality of service provision, strengthening existing partnership working within the Children and Families service, external agencies and third sector partners.
- 9.9 Catchment primary schools across both clusters have Enhanced Support Areas to support a diverse range of young people's needs including Autism, Deafness and Visual Impairment. Continuity of this support and planning through effective transitions will be of significant educational benefit, especially for Deaf pupils who use British Sign Language (BSL) as their first language and currently have a small number of BSL-speaking peers within their community.
- 9.10 Both existing school buildings present accessibility and suitability issues which continue to be a barrier to young people including those with complex and additional support needs. A new purpose built facility will overcome these issues, providing a suitable environment to assist them in accessing appropriate educational experiences including senior phase educational experiences and Promote accessible inclusive learning spaces which will meet the needs of all learners and comply with the Council's Accessibility Strategy and the Equality Act (2010).
- 9.11 It is planned, as an integral feature of the new school, to build a senior phase education centre for young people with complex and additional support needs. This will deliver core skills within an accredited pathway, and provide a supportive link into work experience, college courses and the development of independent living skills. Provisional discussions with Dundee and Angus College demonstrate a strong commitment and shared aspiration to exploring on-site partnership. This facility will be jointly designed and delivered between school and college staff, thus strengthening all aspects of the transition process: assessment, planning, pupils' experience and longer term outcomes ultimately result in improved life chances, choices and vocational opportunities.
- 9.12 The combined rolls of the two school communities will afford pupils the opportunity to widen their network of friends. The fostering of new pupil relationships, will enhance young people's personal and social development, creating a sense of place and identity through increased ownership and opportunities to build their leadership capacity. Significantly, in the aftermath of the Braeview fire and resultant relocation of Braeview pupils to Craigie High School - both schools have already experienced a successful fusion of their respective pupil cohorts and experienced the resultant benefits.
- 9.13 A new school/community learning campus within the East of Dundee will provide rich opportunities for citizens to engage in an extended range of cultural, learning, leisure and sporting activities within their immediate community and include wide diversionary Youth Work programmes in the evenings and weekends. Such an approach is entirely consistent with the Children and Families Service philosophy of '365 schools' where schools are perceived as publicly owned assets designed to serve the needs of learners and communities 365 days a year.
- 9.14 Key to the consultation process will be the gathering of citizens views on the requirements and nature of the new school/learning hub. It is recognised that any new build will need to compliment and extend existing resources whilst avoiding unnecessary duplication. An

evaluation of existing resources and needs assessment will, therefore, be integral to the consultation process.

- 9.15 Many services offered within the proposed locality are community led and target those in the most deprived areas of SIMD. It is envisaged that locating the school at the heart of the community will provide a central hub which will contribute to improving people's health and wellbeing. The facility will provide necessary accommodation for children and family support services which is local, accessible and deliverable in partnership with a local management group, providing excellent all day community access for families and wider community.
- 9.16 Existing opportunities and facilities for parents and carers to be involved in their child's education will widen through a range of home and school engagement activities and facilities aimed at supporting their child's learning. As at present, parents will continue to have the opportunity to participate within the school's Parent Council.
- 9.17 The movement of the Craigiebarns Primary School catchment to Grove Academy will allow the young people to operate in a large, recently build local secondary school with the benefits of increased curricular provision and choice. This change will also see a far greater portion of the community of the school attending the same secondary school.
- 9.18 Recent engagement by Council Officers and Dundee learners with Dr Stephen Heppell, evidenced that light, paint and Co2 levels are enormously important in learning space. Significant improvements can be made to the learners experience through careful consideration of the size of windows, circulation of air, use of colour and type of light used to create a suitable ambiance and environment which enables everyone to engage appropriately in learning. In conjunction with this, the application of passive house (Passivhaus) rigorous voluntary standard for energy efficiency principles, will reduce the building's ecological footprint. Reduced energy use and carbon emissions will address issues such as the declared climate emergency, resulting from an ultra-low energy building that requires little energy for space heating, cooling and lighting.

10 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 Potential revenue savings, if the proposal is accepted, will amount to approximately £78,000 in financial year 2024/25 rising to approximately £400,000 in 2025/26 and then £735,000 by 2026/27 and £749,000 in 2027/28. Thereafter this saving would reduce to £682,000 from 2030/31 to reflect projected increase in property maintenance costs. Within the school estate Capital Investment Strategy section of the Council's Capital Plan, sufficient capital will require to be identified and reprioritised to support this proposal.
- 10.2 Any savings as outlined above will be required to cover the capital borrowing costs to finance the project, revenue savings will also be needed to support capital financing costs.

APPENDIX 1

Financial Template for Proposed Merger of Braeview Academy and Craigie High School

Table 1

Current revenue costs for school proposed for closure			
	Projected costs for full financial year - Braeview Academy and Craigie High School	Financial impact on Merged school	Annual recurring savings (column 2 minus column 3)
School costs			
<i>Employee costs</i>	£6,841,000	£5,910,000	£931,000
teaching staff	£5,750,000	£4,906,000	£844,000
support staff	£969,000	£882,000	£87,000
teaching and support staff training (CPD etc)	£1,000	£1,000	£0
Supply costs	£121,000	£121,000	£0
<i>Building costs:</i>	£1,374,000	£1,556,000	(£182,000)
non domestic rates	£348,000	£622,000	(£274,000)
water & sewerage charges	£36,000	£31,000	£5,000
energy costs	£263,000	£221,000	£42,000
cleaning	£297,000	£250,000	£47,000
building repair & maintenance	£123,000	£120,000	£3,000
facilities management costs	£186,000	£186,000	£0
other - Health and safety /maintenance contracts etc	£121,000	£126,000	(£5,000)
<i>School operational costs:</i>	£374,000	£374,000	£0
learning materials	£118,000	£118,000	£0
catering (contract or inhouse)	£213,000	£213,000	£0
other school operational costs (e.g. licences)	£43,000	£43,000	£0
<i>Transport costs:</i>	£41,000	£41,000	£0
home to school	£33,000	£33,000	£0
staff travel	£8,000	£8,000	£0
SCHOOL COSTS SUB-TOTAL	£8,630,000	£7,881,000	£749,000
<i>Income:</i>			
Sale of meals	(£91,000)	(£91,000)	£0
Other	(£25,000)	(£25,000)	£0
SCHOOL INCOME SUB-TOTAL	(£116,000)	(£116,000)	£0
TOTAL COSTS MINUS INCOME FOR SCHOOL	£8,514,000	£7,765,000	£749,000

UNIT COST PER PUPIL PER YEAR	£6,983	£5,091	
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Table 2		
Capital costs	School proposed for closure	Receiving school
Demolition costs	£1,200,000	
Capital Life Cycle Costs	£110,000,000	£76,000,000

Table 3

Annual Property costs incurred (moth-balling) until disposal	
non domestic rates	£170,000
water & sewerage charges	£36,000
energy costs	£50,000
security costs	£105,000
TOTAL ANNUAL COST UNTIL DISPOSAL	£361,000

Table 4

Non-recurring revenue costs	
Removal and decommissioning costs	£20,000
Boarding property and anti-vandalism costs	£40,000
TOTAL NON-RECURRING REVENUE COSTS	£60,000

Table 5

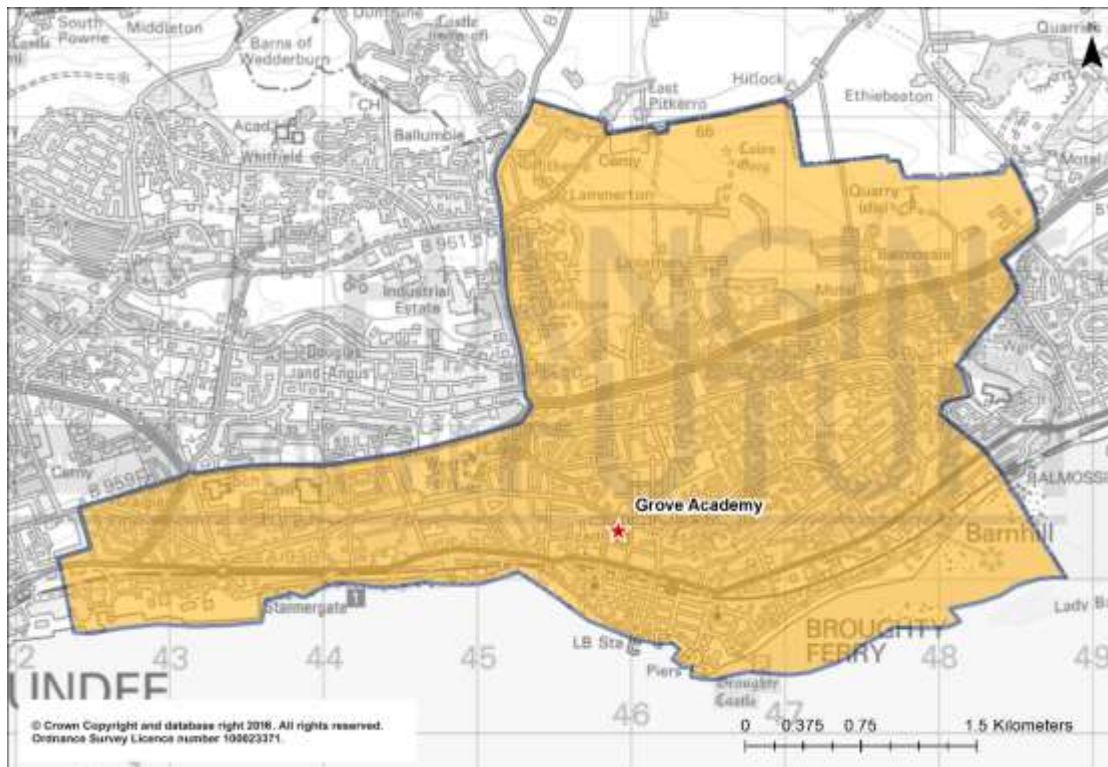
Impact on GAE	
GAE IMPACT	76,000

APPENDIX 2

Proposed Catchment Boundaries

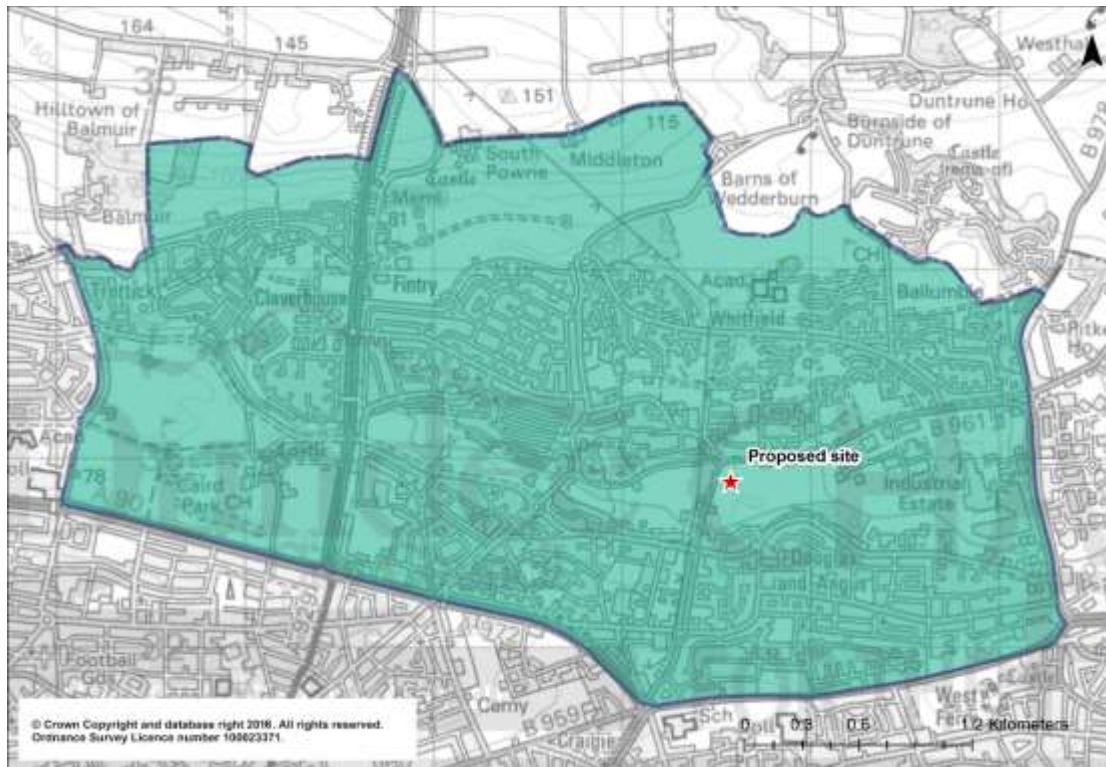
Grove Academy

Map 8: Proposed new catchment boundary for Grove Academy



The proposed new boundary for Grove Academy's catchment will run from the Dundee City Council boundary at Grid reference NO423306 north through the docks to Carolina Court. It will then run north along the eastern property boundary of 5 Carolina Court then across Broughty Ferry Road and north along the centreline of Murray Street continuing east along the centre line of Murray Street to the junction with Dalglish Road. Then north along the centreline of Dalglish Road to the junction with the Arbroath Road (B959). Then east along the centreline of the Arbroath Road transitioning into the Arbroath Road (A92), continuing along the centreline of the Arbroath Road (A92) to the Claypotts junction with Baldovie Road. Then north along the centreline of Baldovie Road to the junction with Drumgeith Road and Kellas Road. Then north along the centreline of Kellas Road (B978) to meet the Dundee City Council Boundary at grid reference NO452338. The catchment boundary will then follow Dundee City Council's boundary clockwise to close at Grid reference NO423306.

Map 9: Proposed catchment for the new learning estate replacing Braeview Academy and Craigie High School



The proposed boundary for the new learning estate would run from the centerpoint of the roundabout at the junction of the Kingsway (A90) and Old Glamis Road, north along the centre line of Old Glamis Road to the junction with Harestane Road and Emmock Road. Then north along the centre line of Emmock road to the Dundee City council Boundary. Then east along Dundee city Council's boundary to Kellas Road (B978). Then south along the centreline of Kellas Road to the junction with Baldovie Road and Drumgeith Road. Then south along the centre line of Baldovie Road to the Claypotts junction with the Arbroath Road (A92). Then west along the centreline of the Arbroath Road (A92) to the centerpoint of roundabout at the junction with Kingsway East (A972). Then northwest to west along the centreline of the Kingsway East (A972), continuing along the centreline of the Kingsway (A90) to the centerpoint of the roundabout at the junction of the Kingsway (A90) and Old Glamis Road.