

Question on Notice

No. 1243

Asked on 16 September 2009

Mr Wellington asked the Minister for Education and Training (Mr Wilson) —

QUESTION:

What formula does the department use to calculate car parking requirements for new schools or extensions to existing schools?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for his question.

For new schools, car parking for parent pickup and drop off, located external to the school site, is provided at the rate of 13 per cent of the estimated long term student numbers and includes disabled parking in accordance with relevant codes.

Limited time set-down car spaces for quick pick-up and set-down of students are provided, wherever possible. The extent is determined by local road infrastructure in consultation with the local authority.

On site staff parking spaces are provided on the basis of 90 per cent of full time equivalent staff numbers, based on the long term enrolment for the school. This parking also includes disabled parking spaces in accordance with relevant codes. It is desirable that staff parking areas should be provided in close proximity to the teaching areas within the school site.

In addition, on site parking for official visitors of between 10 and 20 spaces is provided, depending upon the size and type of school.

The design of car parking, both on and off site is developed using specialist traffic engineering advice and planned in consultation with the local authority. This ensures car park placement, design and entry and exit points are considered in the context of driver and pedestrian safety and the surrounding local roads network.

For extensions to existing schools the provision of on and off site car parking is planned in accordance with the Department's Design Requirements. However the extent to which these requirements can be fully satisfied can be impacted by available land and building configuration, the extent of road frontage, the local road network and local authority requirements.