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## **NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL, THREE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND FURTHER EDUCATION COLLEGE PROPOSED FOR THE VALE**

### **Extra spaces will help tackle looming shortfall in secondary places**

North Somerset families could see a new secondary school, three new primary schools and a new further education college if plans for three new villages near Long Ashton go ahead.

The new state-of-the-art secondary school and college would form part of an 'education campus' at Taylor Wimpey's proposed *The Vale* development. The campus would include extensive use of the latest technology, modern bespoke buildings and high-standard sports facilities – possibly with all-weather pitches shared with local sports clubs.

Located to the east of Long Ashton, the education campus would provide an eight-form secondary school and a further education college for about 600 students. One of the three primary schools would also be located at the education campus, while the other two primary schools would be located in the centres of the other two proposed villages.

Currently, the nearest North Somerset secondary school is five miles away, at Backwell. Long Ashton has no secondary school.

Most secondary schools in the area are already close to capacity. In the nearest Bristol secondary schools the projected shortfall for new year-seven pupils will be 165 places within three years.

At a primary level, the local North Somerset primary schools at Birdwell, Northleaze, Dundry and Winford will also have insufficient spaces to meet existing demand for the year of entry, within three years.

“Currently there is no secondary school at Long Ashton, with many local children travelling to Backwell. Add to that the shortfall in local Bristol schools and there is clearly a very pressing need for another secondary school in the area,” said Taylor Wimpey project director Gareth Hawke.

“The education campus we are proposing at The Vale will provide state-of-the-art purpose-built modern schools and a new further education college that will provide excellent education not just for new residents but for existing families too.

“This is the most sustainable location for much-needed school and college places: not only will the dedicated Metrobus lane and service give students quick and easy access to the schools and college, but there will be excellent cycle paths and safe walking routes, not least for the children of Long Ashton.

“By locating primary, secondary and tertiary education facilities alongside each other, there will be fantastic opportunities to offer a joined-up approach to educating local children and young adults.”

The new schools would be built under the Government’s free schools programme, so would not place any financial burden on North Somerset Council as the local education authority.

More details of *The Vale* are available at [www.thevale-northsomerset.co.uk](http://www.thevale-northsomerset.co.uk) where interested parties can provide feedback and sign-up for regular email updates.

People can also find out more and sign up for updates via The Vale Facebook page or Twitter account: <https://www.facebook.com/taylorwimpeythevale/> or @TheVale\_NS

**ENDS**

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**Notes to editors:**

**Taylor Wimpey UK**, part of Taylor Wimpey plc, is one of the largest residential developers in the UK, developing new homes and communities across the country.

Taylor Wimpey operates from 24 regional offices across England, Scotland and Wales and builds over 13,000 homes each year. Taylor Wimpey is a responsible homebuilder that is committed to health and safety, environmental sustainability, providing excellent customer service and engaging with local communities.

1. Taylor Wimpey has a strong and sustainable customer base, with over 90% owner-occupiers. First time buyers accounted for 36% of Taylor Wimpey's completions in 2015, with a range of offers available to help first time buyers purchase a home of their own.
2. Taylor Wimpey's Customer Service Charter is fully compliant with the 2010 Consumer Code.
3. Taylor Wimpey does much more than build homes; it strives to make a positive contribution to both local communities and the local area. In 2015 Taylor Wimpey contributed over £335 million to local communities in which it builds across the UK via planning obligations, providing local infrastructure, affordable homes, public transport and education.
4. Taylor Wimpey is committed to a continuous programme of engagement with local communities throughout the lifetime of a development. Taylor Wimpey actively seeks the views of local communities and other stakeholders, and develops a tailored planning and community engagement strategy for each site, working closely with communities and other local stakeholders throughout all aspects of the planning process.
5. Taylor Wimpey continues to innovate with its range of house designs on developments across the UK. Its range is designed to be high quality and extremely



energy efficient. The house types are very flexible with different internal layouts and a wide range of exteriors that will complement local landscapes and streetscapes.

For further information please visit [www.taylorwimpey.co.uk](http://www.taylorwimpey.co.uk)