

Glossary of Terms.

- **Northern Ireland Commission for Catholic Education.**

This is the representative body for diocesan and religious Trustees of all Catholic schools in Northern Ireland. Trustees set the general policy for Catholic schools. especially where that policy touches on ethos, the definitive character of Catholic schools and planning for the whole Catholic sector.

Further information is available at [www.catholiceducation-ni.com](http://www.catholiceducation-ni.com)

- **Entitlement Framework.**

The Entitlement Framework is an integral part of young peoples' education within the Revised Curriculum for ages 14-19. The target date for full implementation of the Entitlement Framework is September 2013. From this date schools will be required to provide pupils with access to a minimum number of courses at age 14-19 [currently 24] and a minimum number of courses at post-16 [currently 27]. In both cases at least one third of the courses must be general [academic] , at least one third of the courses must be applied [vocational, professional, technical] and the remaining one third is at the discretion of the school.

Further information is available at [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

- **Area Learning Communities.**

Schools working with other schools and with further education colleges in the development of learning communities to plan and co- ordinate collaborative provision [ particularly for 14 – 19 students]. There are currently 29 area learning communities across Northern Ireland.

Further information is available at [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)

- **Area Based Planning.**

Area based planning is about anticipating the future needs of an area and planning to meet those needs. Its central objective is to provide sufficient educational places through the appropriate mix of facilities of the right size, in the right locations. Area based planning has a broader focus than just schools and colleges. It covers youth services, early years provision, and could potentially include other community provision.

- **Sustainable Schools Policy.**

The Sustainable Schools policy 2009 sets out six criteria and associated indicators that provide a framework for helping to consider issues of school sustainability. These are quality education experience; stable enrolment trends which should be a minimum of 500 in an 11-16 school and 600 in an 11-19 school; sound financial position; strong leadership and management; accessibility and strong links with the community.

Website [www.deni.gov.uk](http://www.deni.gov.uk)