

Enfield Council Approves £52.1m School Capital Investment Programme Through 2030

16 October 2026



Enfield Council has approved a £52.1 million schools capital programme covering the period from 2026/27 to 2029/30, supporting investment in education buildings, improvements to school facilities and the development of specialist provision across the London borough.

The programme was agreed at a Cabinet meeting on 14 October 2026, with £15.9 million approved for expenditure during the current financial year and a further £36.2 million committed for projects between 2027/28 and 2029/30.

The investment forms part of the council's longer-term approach to maintaining and improving its education estate, addressing changing pupil needs and ensuring school buildings remain suitable for delivering education.

Investment in School Buildings and Facilities

The capital programme establishes a framework for planned works across Enfield's school estate, including projects identified through the council's strategic priorities.

Cabinet members approved the commencement of project delivery, enabling

procurement and tendering processes to proceed in accordance with the council's contract procedures.

The decision also includes contingency funding of £550,000 for 2026/27 and £600,000 for 2027/28, intended to address urgent building works or additional projects that have not yet been identified as priorities.

Such investment is particularly significant as local authorities and schools continue to manage the challenges associated with ageing buildings, maintenance requirements and the need to adapt facilities for changing educational demands.

Special Educational Needs Provision a Key Priority

Expanding and supporting special educational needs (SEN) provision is among the strategic priorities associated with the programme.

Enfield Council has agreed that capital receipts generated through the disposal of vacant educational properties may be reinvested in the schools capital programme, subject to the necessary approval from the Secretary of State.

This approach is intended to help fund the development of SEN facilities and improve the use of existing educational assets.

The council has also authorised applications to the Department for Education where permission is required to dispose of or repurpose vacant education buildings and land.

These measures could support the adaptation of educational premises to better meet changing requirements across the borough.

Opportunities for Education Construction and Estates Suppliers

The approval of the programme creates a framework for future procurement activity involving school buildings and associated professional services.

Potential areas of supplier interest include construction, refurbishment, building maintenance, specialist educational facilities and technical consultancy, depending on the scope of individual projects.

The council has delegated authority for the award of works and services contracts up to £5 million to its Executive Director of People, including associated

professional and technical expenses.

Contracts exceeding £5 million will require approval through the delegated arrangements agreed for the Lead Member for Children's Services.

While the overall programme has been approved, individual procurement opportunities will depend on project requirements, specifications and the council's tendering timetable.

Details of the projects are contained in a restricted appendix to the Cabinet report, meaning the full list of schemes is not currently available through the published decision.

Funding and Long-Term Planning

The schools capital programme will be financed through a combination of Department for Education capital grants, ring-fenced capital receipts and other grant funding.

Cabinet members also approved arrangements allowing additional funding secured during the financial year to be incorporated into the programme, subject to the appropriate authorisation.

The four-year investment framework is intended to provide continuity in the planning and delivery of school capital projects, while allowing flexibility to respond to emerging requirements.

For schools and academy stakeholders across Enfield, the programme represents a significant commitment to the future of educational infrastructure.

The next stage will involve progressing the approved projects, undertaking relevant procurement exercises and delivering improvements across the school estate.

As the programme moves forward, contractors and education suppliers will be able to monitor formal procurement notices for opportunities associated with individual schemes.

****Source:**** Enfield Council, Cabinet Decision KD 6101, Schools Capital

Programme 2026/27 to 2029/30, approved 14 October 2026 and published 16 October 2026.

Editorial note: AI-generated illustrative image, not an actual school in Enfield.