

Survey Monkey Report

Barry Road Primary School

Polling Station Ward – Abington

Easy Access? I consider it atrocious that a whole school has to close for this purpose. While it may be argued by the election officials that they only require access to one room for use as a polling station, anyone who is familiar with modern safeguarding procedures in schools knows that to allow the public access to one classroom is to put all students at an unacceptable level of risk; the school has had the polling station forced upon them and has no choice but to close. As a parent of the school I cannot understand why the sports annexe (PDC) cannot be used for this purpose, as it was previously. Imagine the level of disruption to hundreds of working parents when the school has to close to become a polling station and imagine the frustration that, on that same day, the PDC is available for use as a polling station but instead sits empty.

Suitable? No. As above. The building should be used as a school, not a polling station.

Other Option of Polling Station. Barry Road Primary Schools Sports Annexe.

Easy Access? Yes **Suitable?** No, because the whole school has to close for the day and it is very difficult for working parents.

Other Option of Polling Station. Abington PDC

Easy Access? Yes **Suitable?** Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Barry Road School Sports Annexe

Polling Station Ward – Abington

Easy Access? No, the location is hidden away, down an unlit alleyway, the building entrance immediately enters a kitchen/scullery area. Both of these factors act as disincentives to voting. I found myself wondering if I was going in the right direction, was it the right place? Walking past someone making a drink in the kitchen gave the impression I had come in through the back door.

The lack of lighting and the alleyway approach must surely intimidate some folk. Suitable? No. See previous answer and in my opinion, polling stations should be street front locations – preferably a high street front. The entrance, especially, should be clear and welcoming. The approach route should be safe and well lit.

Other Option of Polling Station. Empty restaurant premises at 247 Wellingborough Road

Bellinge Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Blackthorn Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes. I know sometimes schools are used and I do not agree with that. Children having days off impacts the parents and the children's learning time.

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Blackymore Community Centre

Polling Station Ward - East Hunsbury

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No. Too small with two polling stations but one access door, the queues were out the door with one set of staff busy and the other not. If one centre is going to be used there needs to be separate rooms for people to access.

Other Option of Polling Station. East Hunsbury Primary School or Danes Camp Leisure Centre.

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Appendix 3

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None, the building is much more suitable than closing an entire local school

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Briar Hill

Polling Station Ward - Briar Hill

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No. Unbalanced mobile on a grass verge, hard for disabled to get up, porta loo kept tipping over, no parking, dangerous.

Other Option of Polling Station. Community centre or school nearby or flat surfaced area.

Bridgewater Primary School

Easy Access? Could be better, from where I live both Northampton Old Scouts Rugby Club (Rushmere Road) and the Old Northamptonians Sports Pavilion are more convenient to access and would not disrupt children's education as much as using the primary school. Suitable? No, potential for either causing safeguarding issues (if school remains in use), disrupting children's education (if school has to close for election).

Other Options of Polling Station. The ON's is used as a polling station and the Old Scouts Pavilion would be suitable.

Cedar Road Primary School

Can you please explain to me why you have to constantly use Cedar Road Primary School as a polling station? There are three churches within 400 to 500 yards of the school which I'm sure would be perfectly capable of carrying out this function. Now on 23rd of May the parents of 420 school children are going to have to take time off work or find alternative childcare.

Duston Eldean School

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, very inappropriate having people in and out the school premises with children at school.

Other Options of Polling Station. Co-op

East Hunsbury Primary School

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No – it required closing a whole school for use as a polling station. Should either use the sports hall at Danes Camp, put a marquee in the Tesco car park or am happy to use the existing option at Blackymore. Parents get fined for taking their kids out of school so it is crazy to close a school to use as a polling station.

Other Options of Polling Station. Sports Hall at Danes Camp or put a marquee in the Tesco car park or use existing option at Blackymore

Easy Access? No response Suitable? No, why use a school as a polling station, it is very disruptive to the children and parents of this school.

Other Options of Polling Station. Blackymore Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, a school should not be shut to use as a polling station. We are hammered all the time that even taking our children out of school for one day is detrimental to their education and we will be fined, but the Council think it's ok to shut a school for polling day when there are plenty of other places... it seems rules about children missing school is bad until it suits the Council. If the school is shut for these type of reasons we should fine the Council. So stop shutting the school for polling day... you have libraries, leisure centres etc... use them.

Other Options of Polling Station. Blackymore Community Centre, Abbey Centre, Danes Camp

Easy Access? Could be better. Suitable? No, because it is a school which causes huge inconvenience! If you are closing you should fund childcare for the day.

Other Options of Polling Station. Blackymore Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes. Could be better, a school should NOT be used for a polling station when there are community centres and a library in close proximity. Ridiculous to affect a child's education in this way. Suitable? No, a school should NOT be used for a polling station when there are community centres and a library in close proximity.

Other Options of Polling Station. Blackymore Community Centre or East Hunsbury Library

Easy Access? Could be better, it is unacceptable that this school is used for a polling station as it creates extreme disruption to the school and children, one year the school was closed 4 times! There are numerous other polling station locations in the very near vicinity and these should be used going forward and the school no longer used. Suitable? No. It is unacceptable that this school is used for a polling station as it creates extreme disruption to the school and children, one year the school was closed 4 times. There are numerous other polling station locations in the very near vicinity and these should be used going forward and the school no longer used

Other Options of Polling Station. It is unacceptable that this school is used for a polling station as it creates extreme disruption to the school and children, one year the school was closed 4 times. There are numerous other polling station locations in the very near vicinity and these should be used going forward and the school no longer used.

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No. Being a school where my children attend, it is very disruptive being a working parent.

Other Options of Polling Station. Blackymore Community Centre

Far Cotton ASDA

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No comment

Other Options of Polling Station. None

Far Cotton Rec Centre

Polling Station Ward – Delapre

Easy Access? Yes. Could be better. Automatic doors not working. Suitable? Yes, if doors were working.

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Franklins Gardens

Polling Station Ward – Sixfields

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Great Houghton

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Hardingstone Village Hall

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Hinton Community Room

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Easy Access? No. No parking, causes grief to residents. Totally unsuitable.

Suitable? No. Parking issues.

Other Option of Polling Station. Pub function room, marquee on playing fields.

Lings Primary School

Polling Station Ward – Brookside

Easy Access? No Response Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Parklands Primary School

Could I request that, in future elections, the community centre is used? We are having to close the school on the 23rd as we cannot securely close off an area that would restrict access to our pupils. This is obviously very frustrating for our parents, and I think it would help if they knew that this would not be a

regular thing as I have had lots of questions asking why the school and not the community centre.

Park Lane Duston

Polling Station Ward – Duston

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Reynard Way

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Options of Polling Station. None

St Andrews CEVA Primary

Polling Station Ward - Ecton Brook

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, the building is a school and it has to be closed to pupils in order for it to be used as a polling station. The pupils are missing out on education on polling day.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, affecting my sons education, would fine me for taking my child out of school for a day for no reason. It's wrong and do you not think about the children at all.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, St Andrews CEVA Primary School in Ecton Brook is unsuitable as it has to shut in order to be used as a polling station. The children's education suffers when there is a suitable place next door which could be used. We get fined for taking our children out of school but the authority finds it acceptable to close a school for this.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No. Children should be in school learning and the school should not be shut for voting day. We as parents are not supposed to take them out of school therefore authorities should not shut the school.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? No Response Suitable? No. It's my child's school and I don't think that it's right that my children lose a day from their education. One of my children had their SATs that week and because of the closure had to cram 4 days of SATs into 3. I don't agree with this seen as we get fined for taking them out of school to go on holiday. I would never take my children out of school when they have important tests, so I don't think it's acceptable to use the school as a polling station when there is a community centre that could be used right next to the school, which would not disrupt the children's education.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Station

Easy Access? Could be better, would be better if a building other than a school was used. Suitable? No, disruption to children's education. Unfair on working parents. There are two primary schools in Ecton Brook but it is always St Andrews that is used and therefore always the same children whose education is affected. Council penalises parents who take children out of school but enforce an unnecessary non-attendance day. There is now a community centre Bipin Brook and an unused care home that are used during the day and would be better suited as polling stations than a school.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, it is a school which has had to close for the day which disrupts the children's education.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? No, the parents are concerned the closure of the school is denying our children education and will impact their future.

Other Option of Polling Station. Bipin Brook Community Centre

Easy Access? No Response Suitable? No, children should be learning not be off because some voting, sorry government doesn't allow parents to take children from school during terms, why you taking 2nd time children , it is not easy to parents they have to take time off work.

Other Option of Polling Station. None

St Davids Church

Polling Station Ward - St Davids

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

St Peters Church Hall

Polling Station Ward - Weston Favell

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. Weston Favell Parish Hall

Vernon Terrace Community Centre

Polling Station Ward – Castle

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Wootton Community Centre

Easy Access? Yes Suitable? Yes

Other Option of Polling Station. None

Other

In response to your polling station review Duston Parish Council believes the current arrangements within Duston are satisfactory.

I note we are still using a number of schools. Does it cost too much to put mobiles in the playgrounds or in the case of Barry Road - a mobile the Co-op car park? The Castle Community Hub is no longer in community use.