

THE EUROPEAN FOOD PASSPORT PROJECT

SCHOOL PROFILE

COUNTRY:	United Kingdom
Name of School:	Beaumont Hill School, Darlington
Head teacher:	Principal - Dame Dela Smith
Co-ordinator:	Val Hetherington / Sam Dawson
Number of students:	209
Age of students:	2 - 19 years

Brief Description of School

Beaumont Hill School is in a market town in the North East of England. Beaumont Hill School provides education for pupils aged 2 to 19 years. It is a generic special school catering for the full range of disabilities including profound disabilities, autistic spectrum. The school is placed within Darlington Education Village, a state of the art facility we share with two mainstream schools, one primary, one secondary. The majority of the pupils in Beaumont Hill come from the locality although several pupils travel from neighbouring authorities.

There are 7 secondary schools in the town and 36 primary schools; Beaumont Hill School is the only special school in the town.

Brief Description of town/region

The North East of England was once well known for industry including ship building, coal mining and steel production. It was also recognised as the heart of the railways. This industrial background has now disappeared and there are new companies emerging such as Orange (telecommunications) and small businesses. There is a growing unemployment issue.

The town of Darlington is a bustling market town constantly growing in size with new housing and small industrial parks springing up around the edges of the town. It has excellent travel facilities only being 2.5 hours away from London by train and is very accessible to all areas of the country. The North East coast is under one hour away by car. Parts of Darlington remain prosperous but like all towns, it has pockets of deprivation.