



WOKINGHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL

Primary School Planning Strategy 2016-2018

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Key recommendations

1. To provide additional capacity through school expansion and early opening of new provision in three priority areas, in accordance with the related implementation plan for 2016/17:
 - a. Earley (up to 315 places)
 - b. Woodley (up to 315 places)
 - c. South West (up to 210 places)
2. To support the development of new schools in the four Strategic Development Locations in a timely manner to meet needs generated by these developments with capacity to expand to create additional places if required.
3. To ensure that new school development considers and supports the wider agenda around education, school standards, childcare, sustainability, family and community support and community services.

Introduction

This strategy establishes how Wokingham will meet its statutory duty that is to ensure there are sufficient primary school places for the period 2015 to 2018 and sets out plans to meet longer term needs generated by new housing development: It sets out to:

- Ensure school places are available within walking distance of home
- To meet the primary education needs of the new Strategic Development Location communities as established in the Council's Core strategy
- To create sustainable, high quality provision.

Where shortfalls are predicted proposals have been identified. The process of determining and implementing the action plan is through consultation with schools, parents, residents and other stakeholders. A member's working party, an Earley parents' group and local school clusters have helped shape this strategy. In addition costs and logistical issues such as traffic congestion and parking are also being taken into consideration.

Overarching these objectives is a priority set out in the Children and Young People Plan that says that the Wokingham Borough Council should:

"Ensure more Wokingham children have access to good or better schools and settings and focus on delivering improvements for those most at risk of poor outcomes through our school improvement offer and delivery of new Primary and Secondary provision (WBC 2014)."

Activity supporting the development of the strategy

Options and recommendations have been derived through the examination of roll projections, demographic data and projections and a range of other relevant data sources. These have been used to predict the number of children that will require primary school places over the life of the strategy. Highway planning was consulted to identify traffic congestion issues and help devise solutions to problems caused by school expansion. The WBC Operational Property and Strategic Assets teams have provided expertise and knowledge regarding the viability of expansion of existing sites and potential new sites. Discussions have taken place with some schools to identify the appetite for expansion.

Overview

Current Provision

There are in total 50 primary schools in the borough. The map below shows the dispersal of the schools. The Woodley planning area has the highest number of primary schools 9, and Wokingham-East planning area has the lowest number of schools 5. The average number of primary schools per planning area is 7.



Planning area	Number of Schools
Earley	7
North	8
South-East	8
South-West	6
Wokingham Town East	5
Wokingham Town West	7
Woodley	9
Total	50

Recent activity

There have been a number of schemes to increase primary school capacity in the last five years, prior to the adoption of the previous provision strategy (2013 to 2016). These included:

- In the south west two bulge classes were created at Lambs Lane Primary.
- In Wokingham Town two bulge classes were created at Winnersh Primary School and 50 places were provided at Hawthorns Primary school.
- In the North planning area two bulge classes were created at the Colleton Primary School originally and subsequently the school expanded to offer 420 places (from 245 places)
- In Earley Hawkedon Primary School expanded from 490 to 630 places.

The Wokingham Primary School Provision 2013-2016 strategy identified pressures in the south-west and north of the borough as well as west and east of Wokingham Town. In the north a new primary school was built in Charvil (part of Piggott School, which changed its age range from 11 to 18 to 4 to 18). In Wokingham Town West two new one form entry primary (210 places) schools were opened: Windmill in Woosehill and Wheatfield in Winnersh. In the south west the expansion of Grazeley Parochial CoE VA Primary School (from 105 to 210 places) and the Shinfield Infant and Shinfield St Mary Junior School (jointly from 420 to 630 offered places) was agreed (and work is currently in progress).

Expansion in the south-west was successful and the prediction that the bulge was required has been justified with just 26 places left available from reception year to year 3 with the total figure for empty places being 7% of the total number of places. In the North there is a similar story although there are fewer places left over in the North (4% of the total number of places) which is 1% less than the 5% recommended by the DfE. Wokingham Town West schools filled their new classes in the Reception year through to year 3 with only 23 places left over. Wokingham Town East shows more places available than the other areas expanded but all schools but one were filled. Only All Saints Primary failed to fill every year group except for in the Reception year where they were just 3 short of full capacity.

Seven new schools are also proposed as core components of the agreed masterplans for the borough's "Strategic Development Locations" (North (1) and South Wokingham (2), South of the M4 (2) and Arborfield (2)). Five of these schools are incorporated into planning consents through Section 106 (developer) agreements. The sites for the second schools in the South Wokingham and Arborfield developments are expected to be the subject of S106

agreements when planning consents are awarded with construction costs met by CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding.

Statutory drivers

Education Act 1996

Key act establishing the duty on local authorities to ensure that sufficient school places are available to meet local needs.

Section 13 General responsibility for education: England and Wales

“A local education authority shall (so far as their powers enable them to do so) contribute towards the spiritual, moral, mental and physical development of the community by securing that efficient primary education, and secondary education are available to meet the needs of the population of their area.”

Academies Act 2010

This Act that sets out the framework for the delivery of new schools through the development of Academies and Free Schools.

Existing schools (including maintained schools) can expand to meet needs. However, any new school required to meet needs created rising school rolls will be a Free School (an Academy). These schools will be brokered by the Council and initial start-up funding and capital costs will be met by the Council. However, they will be agreed by the Regional School's Commissioner acting on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education and funded directly by the DfE.

School Admissions Code 2014

This Code enforces mandatory requirements and includes guidelines setting out aims, objectives and other matters in relation to the provision of admissions.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/389388/School Admissions Code 2014 - 19 Dec.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/389388/School_Admissions_Code_2014_-_19_Dec.pdf)

Admissions arrangements determine who will have priority for school places should a school be oversubscribed. Where Wokingham has funded new provision to meet area needs the expectation will be that oversubscription criteria will give priority to the local community. Faith schools can have criteria that give priority to children whose families can demonstrate adherence to a faith and so not provide places (or all their places) to local communities.

Wokingham objectives

The primary purpose of any primary place provision strategy is to ensure there are sufficient places available in convenient places. However, to be fully successful any strategy needs to take account of:

- School standards – intending to create schools that are excellent educationally and sustainable financially.
- Local community needs – where possible creating facilities that have a dual role – serving the community outside school hours.
- Local community concerns – minimising adverse impacts such as school run traffic issues.

Issue analysis

“Priority area” analysis has been gathered using live birth data patterns, local knowledge concerning: new homes in the borough’s Strategic Development Locations (WBC (2015) Regeneration), future housing development, cross border movement and demographics of those migrating into the borough.

The results of this analysis show that: the South West (Shinfield Parish), Earley and Woodley planning areas are the areas that require new provision.

The Department for Education recommend that authorities should aim for 5% of unfilled places in schools. Chart 2 shows that on average Wokingham Borough have just 3% of unfilled places. Year 1 and Year 2 have the least amount of tolerance and Year 5 and year 6 have the most tolerance. This can be explained by the year on year increase in birth rate that started over 7 years ago and is now progressing through our schools.

2015/16 Wokingham Surplus Capacity by Year (at November 2016)

Year	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Places Available	2191	2161	2131	2101	2057	2057	2053
Surplus	50	21	86	52	61	136	150
%ge Surplus	2%	1%	4%	2%	3%	7%	7%
Whole borough	4%						

Below is a summary of the number of available places in each planning area compared to the total number of places.

	Available Places	Total Places	%ge unfilled places
Earley	3115	8	0%
North	1820	75	4%
South East	1687	74	4%
South West	1785	164	9%
Wokingham Town West	2590	60	2%
Wokingham Town East	1820	76	4%
Woodley	2520	99	4%
Total	15337	556	4%

Admissions – satisfying preferences

The allocation of placements for 2015 were as follows:

- 85% of applicants received their first preference (1 per cent lower than 2014), and
- 96% of applicants received one of their four preferred schools (2 per cent lower than 2014).
- 98 per cent were allocated to schools within the borough (an increase of 4 per cent).

In 2015 there were almost double the numbers of school admission appeals compared to 2014. An appeal can be made if a child hasn't been offered a place at a school of preference. The increase in appeals is not localised to a single planning area although the North of the borough received very few appeals. The high number of appeals is likely to be caused by low level of capacity across the borough; the average spare capacity across the borough is 3%, while the recommended capacity set by the DfE is 5%. In Earley there is less than 1% capacity.

Births in Wokingham

The table below shows the number of live births by calendar year and by academic year. The ONS calendar year data includes 2014 births and shows a rising trend until 2012, with a significant decline from this trend in both 2013 and 2014. This is consistent with national live birth trends. The academic year data shows the same trend

The cohort born in the 2012/13 academic year will enter Reception classes in the 2017/18 academic year – pointing to a marked reduction in demand across Wokingham at that point and a further fall in demand in the 2018/19 academic year. New housebuilding and changing patterns of occupation may offset the declining birth rate, but these are likely to be highly localised impacts.

Calendar year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<i>ONS calendar year data</i>	1,725	1,874	1,941	1,896	1,997	1,880	1,963	1,795	1,811
Academic year	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
<i>From ONS</i>	1,728	1,813	1,913	1,908	1,933	1,939	1,936	1,872	1,767

The map below shows the planned development across the Wokingham area. The greatest impacts will be associated with the planned major housing developments in the borough's Strategic Development Locations (10,000 new homes around Wokingham town (4,000), Shinfield (2,500+) and the Arborfield Garrison (3,500)), with a significant level of activity (1,000 homes) in the Woodley area.



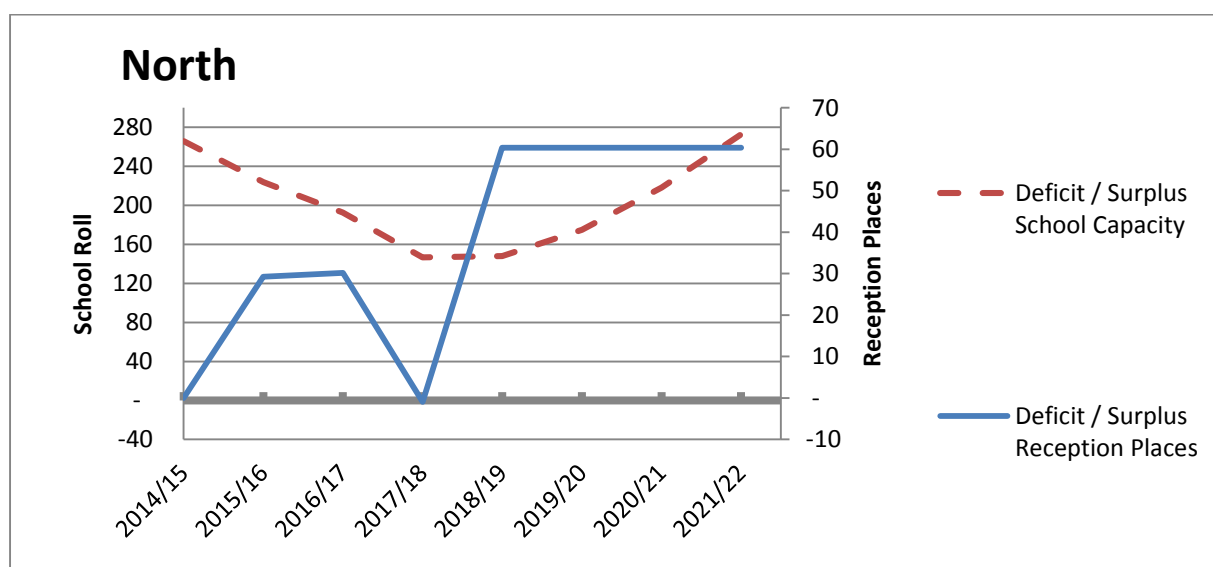
Areas where no action is proposed

North

This area comprises schools serving the Remenham, Wargrave and Ruscombe, Sonning, Charvil, Hurst and Twyford wards.

The North has 1,589 primary school places. After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were 67 surplus places left (or 4% of the total) in the North planning area. This is 1% lower than the recommended level set out by the Department for Education (See chart 3 below). The number of children projected to need primary Reception class places is expected to fall a little until 2018 when the projection suggest that demand will match capacity. There is no planned housing development in the North planning area, there is no evidence of any significant migration of new families into the planning area, and the North's capacity is within the acceptable limits recommended by the DfE. The North is not therefore a "priority area" but capacity will need to be reviewed in 2019 when the projection suggests that the baby boom years are over.

North schools: Reception and whole school surplus / deficit to 2021/22



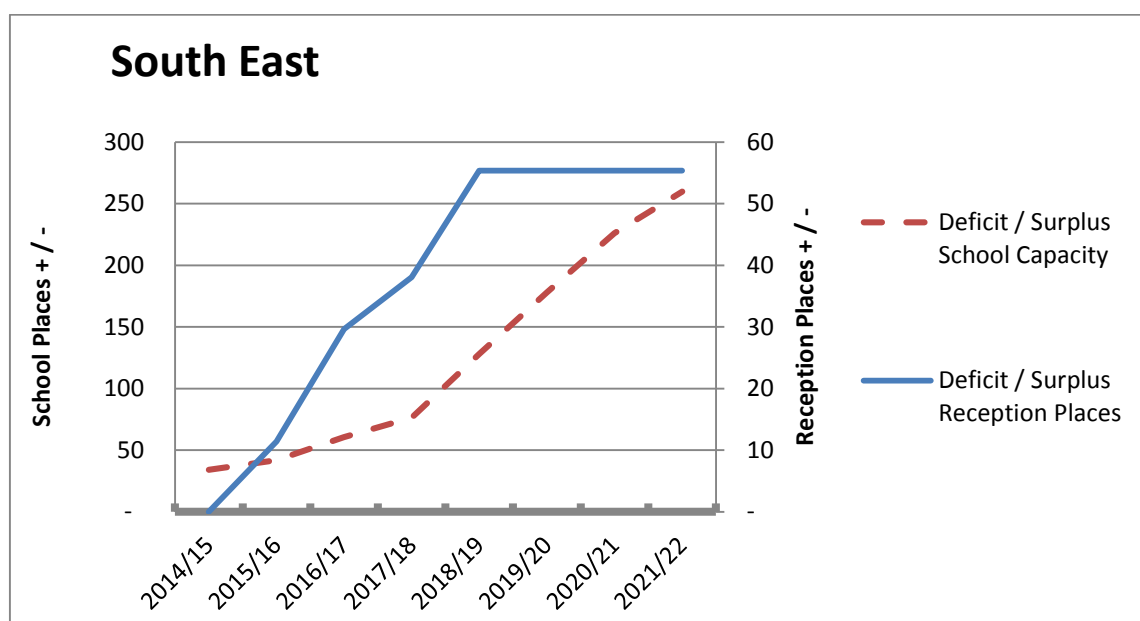
South-East

This area comprises schools serving the Wokingham Without, and Finchampstead North and South wards

The South-East has 1,632 primary school places. After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were 81 surplus places (or 5% of the total) available in the South-East planning area. This is equal to the recommended level set out by the Department for Education (See chart 3 below). The pupil projection for the South-East suggests a steady decline in numbers of pupils requiring Reception places leading to an increasing surplus. The level of planned house building is low (the most significant development is 130 new homes agreed for the United Charities Land on the edge of Crowthorne in the Wokingham Without area). Major developments on the periphery of the area (the Arborfield Strategic Development Location and the Road Transport Laboratory site in Bracknell) will bring bespoke primary school provision. The South-East is therefore not regarded as a priority

area for this strategy because measures are already in place to deal with potential rise in demand for places.

South-East schools: Reception and whole school surplus / deficit to 2021/22



Wokingham Town

This area comprises schools serving the Norreys, Wescott, Evendons, Winnersh and Emmbrook wards

East

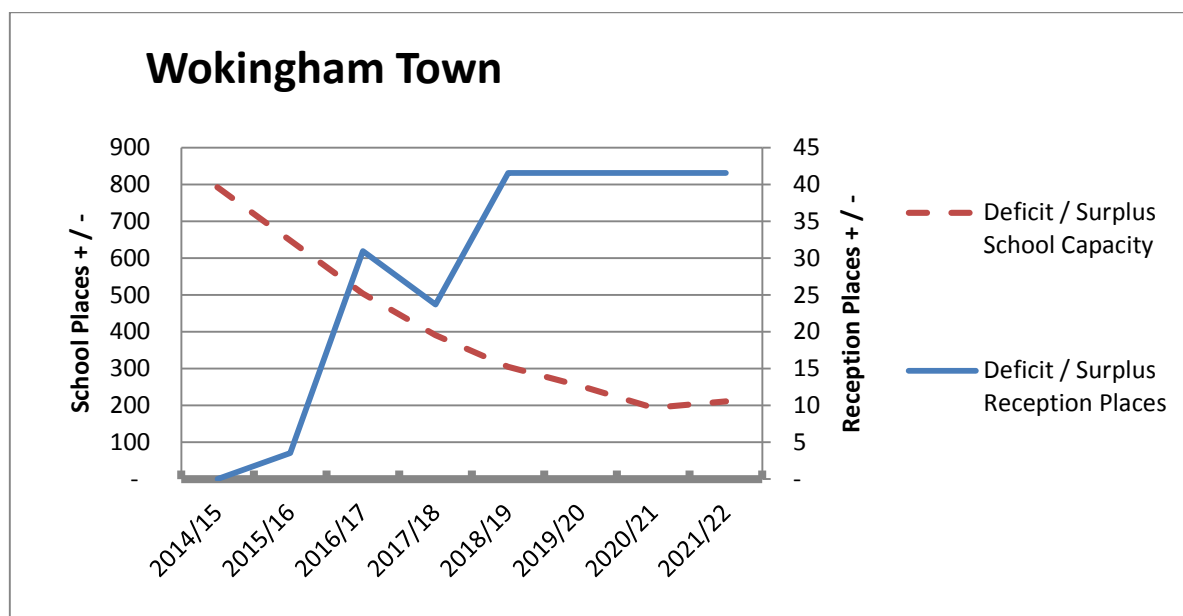
The Wokingham Town East has 1686 primary school places. After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were 76 places left over which represents 4.5% of the total number of places available in the Wokingham Town East planning area which is 0.5% below the recommended level set out by the Department for Education (See Chart 3 below). The pupil projection in the chart below shows that the numbers of children requiring Reception places will rise in 2016 to close to the current capacity. A new school in the planning area (Montague Park) will provide the necessary capacity to deal with the projected rise in numbers in 2016. The school has been built to provide 420 places, with a further 210 places in a part of the building completed to shell only. The projection Vs capacity chart shows that after 2019 extra capacity will become available beyond the 5% recommended by the DfE. The chart does not include the extra pupils generated by the South Wokingham SDL (Montague Park), who will significantly reduce this surplus.

West

The Wokingham Town West has 2,344 primary school places. After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were 72 places left over which represents 3% of the total number of places available in the Wokingham Town West planning area which is 2% below the recommended level set out by the Department for Education (See chart 3). The pupil projection shown in the chart below shows that the Reception numbers are expected to rise in 2016 but the numbers are expected to remain below the current capacity. Approximately 450 new homes are planned (the bulk of these as part of the Hatch Farm Dairies development). These will be delivered over an indeterminate period (which could extend to

the next decade). New primary schools with expansion potential will be built as part of the north and south Wokingham Strategic Development Locations on the periphery of the area as part of the Matthewsgreen development and south of the Wokingham to Bracknell rail line near to Molly Millars Lane. For these reasons Wokingham Town West is not regarded as a priority area for this period.

Wokingham Town schools: Reception and whole school surplus / deficit to 2021/22



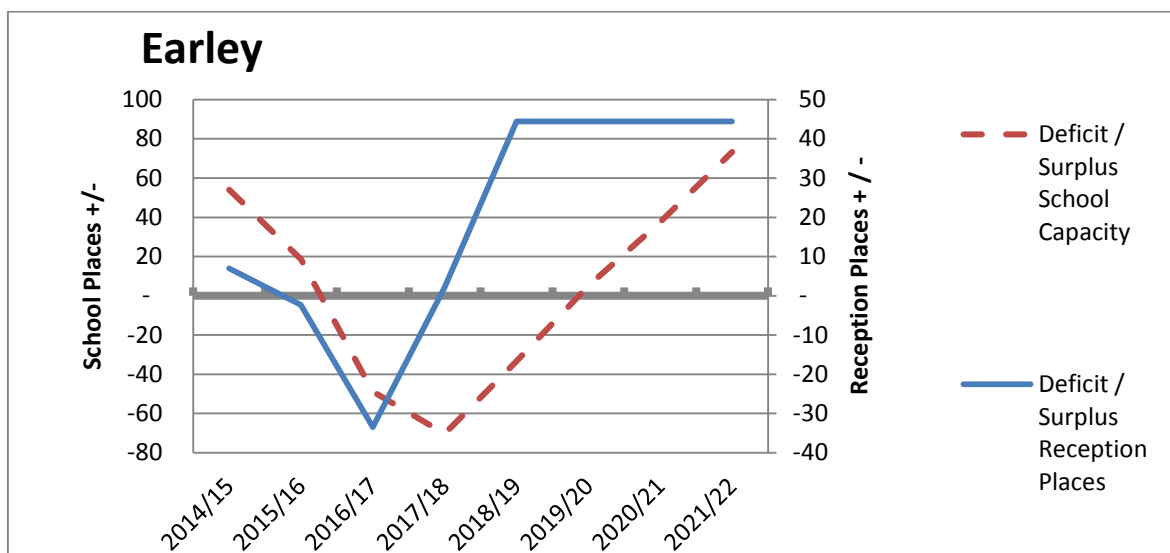
Areas where action is proposed

Earley

This area comprises schools serving the Maiden Erlegh, Hawkedon and Hillside wards.

Earley has more primary school places than any other planning area (3,114 places see chart 3). After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were only 6 available places left in Earley: 1 in year 1, 2 in year 5 and 3 in year 6. 30 children in Earley were diverted to schools in Woodley in 2015. In total Earley has 0.01% of unfilled places in its planning area which is 5% lower than the recommended level set out by the Department for Education (see chart 3 below). The pupil projection suggests that in 2016 there will be an increase in the number of children requiring places in Earley schools and will continue to increase until 2017. The chart below shows the number of predicted children that will require Reception places in Earley compared to the current capacity. A factor that may affect the pupil projection is the movement of families with young children into the planning area. A significant increase in the number of such families in 2015 is likely to have resulted in there being a shortage of places in Earley.

Earley schools: Reception and whole school surplus / deficit to 2021/22



Despite no discernible upwards trend in the number of births and no significant recent housing development taking place in Earley there has been a rise in the number of children requiring school places. The rise in demand for places is likely to have come about because of new families moving into Earley replacing older childless households. For 2015 admissions there were a significant number of children who could not be placed in schools in the Earley planning area, 7% (30 children). These children were diverted to schools outside of Earley into Woodley and Winnersh. The School Place Situation for September 2015 chart below shows that Earley Schools are full to capacity from Reception to year 6.

SCHOOL PLACE SITUATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2015 AS AT 23/7/15									
	Year Groups	Admission Number (Reception/Year 3)	R (2015)	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
PRIMARY, FREE SCHOOLS & AL									
	Earley								
2116	Aldryngton Primary	45	45	46	45	45	45	45	46
3312	Earley St Peter's	70	71	69	70	70	70	69	70
2237	Hawkedon Primary	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	87
2238	Hillside Primary	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
3371	Loddon Primary	60	60	60	60	60	61	60	60
2235	Radstock Primary	60	60	60	60	60	61	60	60
2105	Whiteknights Primary	60	60	60	60	60	61	59	59
		445	446	445	445	445	448	443	442
	Current places available		0	1	0	0	0	2	3

Full
Two or fewer places available
Three or more places available

Capacity required

Earley has 3,114 primary school places covering all year groups. All primary schools in Earley were filled in 2015 and 30 children in the Earley Planning area were unable to be placed in the area and were diverted to schools in neighbouring areas.

Most future school place needs are determined using the standard roll projection model and the analysis of need in Earley commences with this. However, there are some special considerations that apply in Earley and these are dealt with subsequently, to arrive at the final estimation of the number of additional places required.

There are 445 available Reception places and 447 pupils are projected to need places in 2016, numbers are projected to increase to 478 in 2017 before dropping again in 2018 to 443.

Chart 5 Reception year Projected numbers for earley compared to current number of places and recommended numbers of extra places						
Year	Predicted Numbers	Current Places	The difference between Predicted numbers and current places	5% of the current predicted numbers*	Estimate of the total number of extra places required for the reception year**	Forms of entry required
2015	438	445	7	21.9	15	0.496667
2016	447	445	-2	22.35	25	0.823072
2017	478	445	-33	23.9	57	1.913045
2018	443	445	2	22.1	20	0.667469
2019	443	445	2	22.1	20	0.667469
2020	443	445	2	22.1	20	0.667469
2021	443	445	2	22.1	20	0.667469
2022	443	445	2	22.1	20	0.667469
Key						
* as recommended by DfE						
** The difference between Predicted numbers and current number of places - the 5% added to the predicted score = the number of required places						
*** Estimate of the total number of extra places required for the reception year** divided by 30 (one form of entry)						

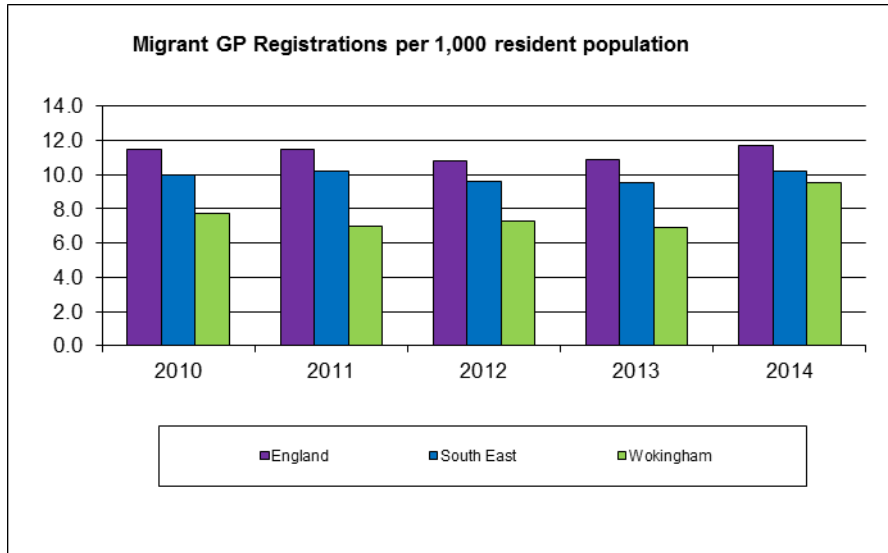
Chart 5 estimates the number of forms of entry that will be required over the next 7 years. The predicted number is based on birth rate statistics and the current number of places available in Earley schools is also known. The DfE's recommendation of a 5% excess is also known. Both migration into the borough and cross border movement are taken account of in these figures, albeit only at (recent) historic rates.

The impact of migration

The Woodley and Earley areas, in particular the latter, have experienced significant changes in their demography due to immigration and changes in house ownership. An analysis of government data from 2014 appears to support this:

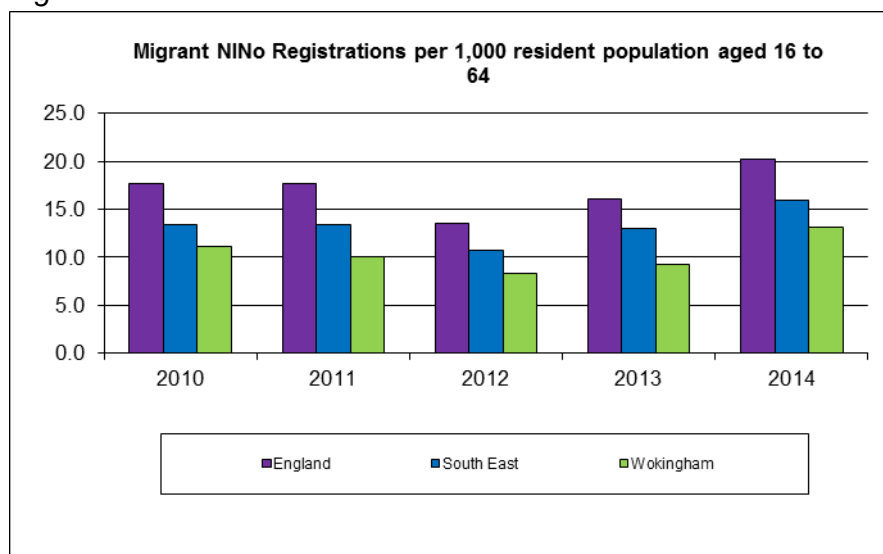
- In Wokingham, GP registrations by migrants for the period 2010-2014 have increased at 5 times the rate for the South East region and England (see Fig. 1);

Fig. 1



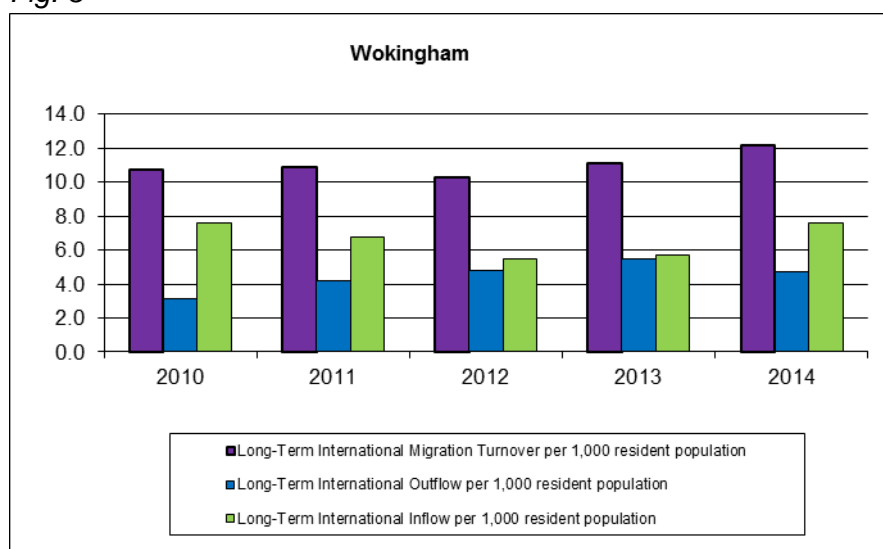
- National Insurance Number registrations for people aged 16-64 years increased by 31% between 2013 & 2014 (compared to 22% and 25% for the South East and England respectively (see Fig 2);

Fig.2



- Wokingham has been a net recipient for international migrants for several years, (see Fig 3) and has seen a 33% increase between 2013 & 2014;

Fig. 3



Housing and age profile

ONS data on population movements in and out of local authorities shows that Wokingham is losing people aged 50+ and gaining a greater number of people aged 20-44 years (see Fig 4). This is in contrast to the South East region (see Fig 5) where there is barely any loss of the 50+ population (i.e. what you would expect from the large numbers of new houses). This pattern was repeated in 2013 and 2012. In 2014, Wokingham lost 460 people aged 50-69 years and gained 670 people aged 25-44 years old.

Fig.4

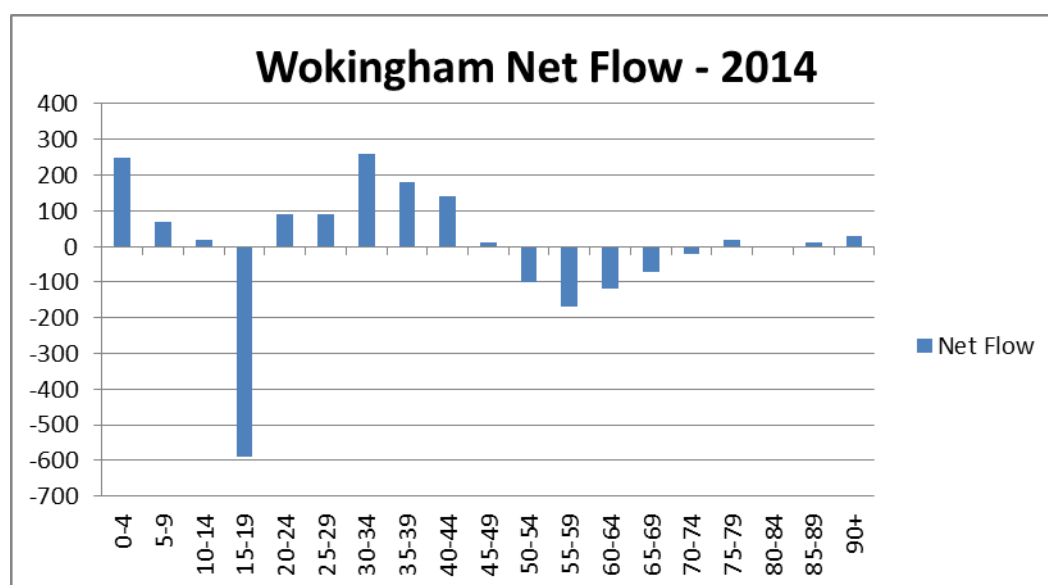
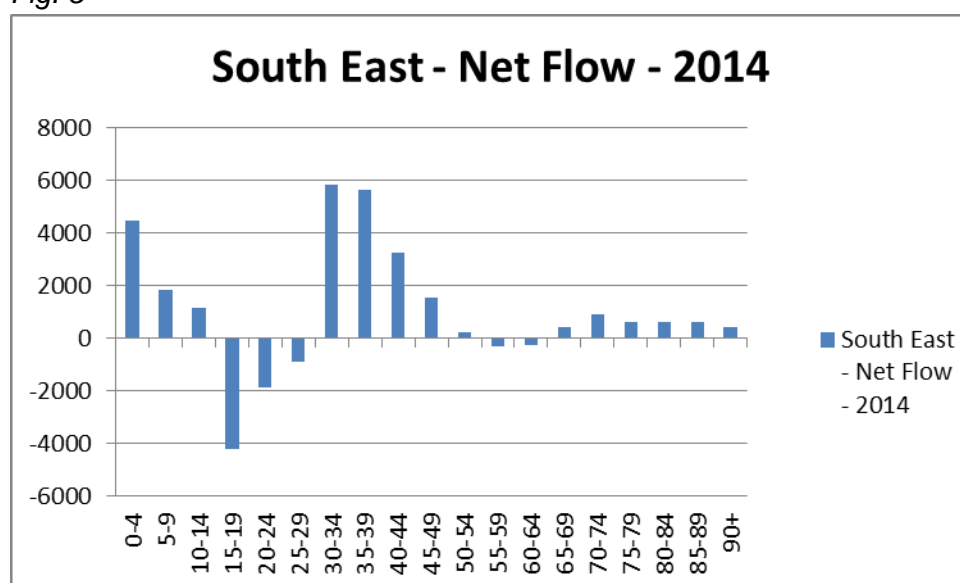


Fig. 5



It isn't possible to break down these figures into planning areas and calculate Earley's share nor can the age profile of the children be determined but if it was assumed that the majority of the older people leaving the borough were from Earley and were being replaced by a similar number of younger couples then an indication of the likely yield could be obtained.

For 2014, 460 people aged 50-69 years left Wokingham, so assuming they were replaced by 230 couples, each with 2 children, aged 0-16, then they could yield 28 children per year group. This figure is considered conservative and the anecdotal evidence from local schools is that new families are much larger.

The following table shows the impact of this influx on the projections for the Earley Area:

Earley Area	Planning	Current			Including housing yield		Including housing yield & new families	
		AN	AN +/-	%AN+/-	AN +/-	%AN+/-	AN +/-	%AN+/-
	2015/16	445	-2	-1%	-8	-2%	-36	-7%
	2016/17	445	-33	-8%	-35	-8%	-63	-12%
	2017/18	445	2	0%	2	0%	-26	-6%
	2018/19	445	36	8%	35	8%	7	2%
	2019/20	445	36	8%	35	8%	7	2%
	2020/21	445	36	8%	36	8%	8	2%
	2021/22	445	36	8%	36	8%	8	2%

Earley has therefore been identified as a “priority area” that will need new provision.

The predicted peak period for reception year provision is 2017 where near to two forms of entry will be required whilst in 2016 1 form of entry will be required. House building will have a limited impact (the most significant new site, Sibly Hall, will only generate 89 new homes). After 2017 the standard projection indicates a fall in demand from the peak of 2017. Taking the projection and the migration impact into account there is a requirement for 1.5 forms of entry above what is available today to meet near future needs.

Earley Area	Planning	With additional 1.5FE		
		AN	AN +/-	%AN+/-
2016	2015/16	490	9	2%
2017	2016/17	490	-18	-4%
2018	2017/18	490	19	4%
2019	2018/19	490	52	11%
2020	2019/20	490	52	11%
2021	2020/21	490	53	11%
2022	2021/22	490	53	11%

Woodley

This area comprises schools serving the Bulmershe and Whitegates, Southlake, Loddon, and Coronation wards.

Woodley has 2,451 primary school places. After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were 67 surplus places (or 3% of the total) in the Woodley planning area (2% below the DfE recommended level) (See Chart 3 below). Woodley’s pupil projection chart below shows that the expected number of pupils for 2016 exceeds the capacity in the area. In addition to this planning permission has been granted for 1,000 homes to be built in the planning area and building work has already begun.

Woodley’s primary schools are near to capacity with very few available places, the school place situation chart shows that 7 of the 8 primary schools in the planning area are near to or at capacity from the reception year to year 6 with only St Dominic Savio Catholic primary school showing any capacity from the reception year to year 1.

SCHOOL PLACE SITUATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2015 AS AT 23/7/15

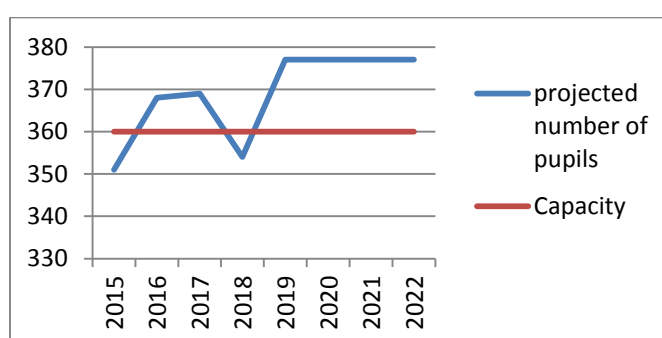
	Year Groups	Admission Number (Reception/Year 3)	R (2015)	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
PRIMARY, FREE SCHOOLS & AL									
	Woodley								
2245	Beechwood Primary	45	45	45	43	45	44	40	41
2246	Highwood Primary *	30	30	32	30	31	28	30	30
2167	Rivermead Primary	60	60	61	48	60	57	60	56
2247	South Lake Primary	60	60	60	60	60	59	60	60
3368	St Dominic Savio	60	49	59	57	60	60	46	57
2160	Willow Bank Infant	60	60	60	60	0	0	0	0
2161	Willow Bank Junior	60	0	0	0	60	60	60	60
3056	Woodley Primary	45	45	46	45	47	45	43	45
		360/360	349	363	343	363	353	331	349
	Current places available		11	1	17	0	6	21	11

	Full
	Two or fewer places available
	Three or more places available

The Woodley birth rate shows no clear trend. Planning consent has been granted for nearly 1,000 homes in the area. The number of pupils generated per year by these new homes will be dependent on how quickly the homes are built. In the long term the new homes are likely to generate over 30 pupils per year over the next 8 years and in the short term could generate significantly more than this. In 2014 11 children were diverted to Woodley from the oversubscribed Earley planning area but for 2016 as recommended above provision may be added to Earley which should negate diversions Woodley. The Woodley reception year projection Vs capacity chart shows significant rise in the number of pupils requiring reception class places from 2016 to 2017 and then after a 1 year dip the numbers are expected to rise again.

It is for these reasons that the Woodley Planning area is identified as a hotspot requiring additional provision. Taking account of the projection and the new housing it is proposed that at least 45 places per year (315 places) will be required.

Woodley schools: Reception and whole school surplus / deficit to 2021/22



Housing impact

The table below shows the projected impact of the new homes planned in the Woodley area until 2022. House building will continue after this period, so demand will continue to rise.

Woodley Planning Area		Current		Inc housing yield	
				AN +/-	%AN+/-
2016	2015/16	-8	-2.33%	-17	-5%
2017	2016/17	-9	-2.60%	-21	-6%
2018	2017/18	6	1.58%	-4	-1%
2019	2018/19	-17	-4.75%	-23	-6%
2020	2019/20	-17	-4.75%	-20	-5%
2021	2020/21	-17	-4.75%	-18	-5%
2022	2021/22	-17	-4.75%	-18	-5%

Taking account of the impact of the additional homes it is recommended that 1.5 FE (45 places per year / 315 places overall) be created in the Woodley area. Taking account of this expansion, projected rolls and the proposed new capacity the place sufficiency position looks like this:

Woodley Planning Area		With additional 1.5FE		
		AN	AN +/-	%AN+/-
2016	2015/16	405	28	7%
2017	2016/17	405	24	6%
2018	2017/18	405	41	10%
2019	2018/19	405	22	5%
2020	2019/20	405	25	6%
2021	2020/21	405	27	7%
2022	2021/22	405	27	7%

South-West

This area comprises schools serving the Barkham, Shinfield North and South, Arborfield and Swallowfield wards

The South-West has 1,686 primary school places. After the school admissions process in July 2015 there were 124 surplus places left over which represents (or 7% of the total) number of places available in the South West planning area which is (2% above the DfE recommended level) set out by the Department for Education (See chart 3 below). The Chart below showing Reception year projection Vs capacity does not provide a trend, instead it shows a turbulent line indicating increases and decreases in predicted numbers of places required over the next 4 years. It also shows that the capacity for the planning area outweighing exceeding the number of pupils expected to require school places. The projection however does not fully take into account new residential development delivered through a number of schemes, the most significant of which form part of the two Strategic Development Locations (SDLs) within the planning area:.

The two SDL schemes (details below) include appropriate education provision to be triggered by house building. However, there are other schemes in the area that fall outside these major planning consents, including recently completed and in progress schemes that are expected to lead to an increase in demand before the SDL triggers are met.

The Arborfield SDL will provide 3,500 new homes and South of the M4 SDL that will provide 2,700 new homes. These new homes will take up the extra capacity and will likely cause a capacity shortage in the future. To alleviate the capacity and meet needs generated by these developments S106 funding has been secured to build a new primary schools at Spencers Wood (as part of the Spencers Wood / Three Mile Cross scheme) (210 places with expansion options), in Shinfield village (as part of the Shinfield West scheme) (420 places with an expansion option) and two schools (420 place with expansion options) in Arborfield. The Spencers Wood scheme and Shinfield village schemes are both in active development (some housing has been completed on the Spencers Wood site) but (in the case of the Shinfield West scheme) the trigger for the school build will not be met until 200 homes have been built with the expected date for completion being September 2017.

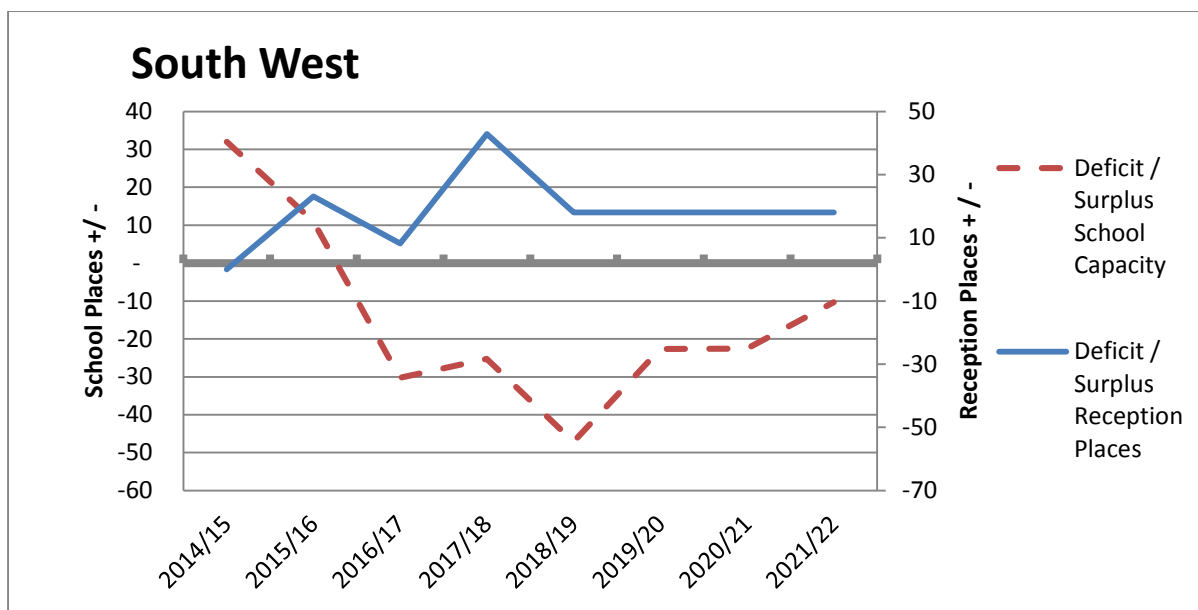
The capacity in the South-West Planning area is already near to full. The chart below (School Place Situation for July 2015) shows that the reception year and year 1 are near to full with only 3 and 1 places available for use respectively.

SCHOOL PLACE SITUATION FOR SEPTEMBER 2015 AS AT 23/7/15									
	Year Groups	Admission Number (Reception/Year 3)	R (2015)	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
PRIMARY, FREE SCHOOLS & AL									
	South West								
3373	Coombes Primary ***	75/90	75	75	68	75	75	82	80
2088	Farley Hill Primary	30	27	29	27	28	28	22	26
3319	Grazeley Primary **	30/15	30	30	19	15	17	12	13
2089	Lamb's Lane *	30 (2 x bulge 60 places)	30	30	30	50	28	42	29
2157	Shinfield Infant	90	90	90	90	86	0	0	0
3041	Shinfield St Mary's **	90/63		0	0	90	61	45	42
		255/240	252	254	234	344	209	203	190
	Current places available		3	1	10	12	6	55	37

Full
Two or fewer places available
Three or more places available

New homes have already been constructed in both SDLs which means that there will like be a need for extra temporary provision for 2016. It is for this reason that the South-West is regarded as a priority area for this strategy (with an identified need to create 30 places per year capacity in advance of the opening of either of the new schools in that area.

South-west schools: Reception and whole school surplus / deficit to 2021/22



New provision in progress

The south-west planning area and Wokingham Town east and west planning areas have long term needs that will be met through seven future-proofed primary schools six of which are incorporated (to provide sites (6) and funding (5)) in S106 agreements. The first of these schools at Montague Park in Wokingham Town is planned to open in September 2016. It is likely that new schools will open in Shinfield (Shinfield West) from September 2017, in Arborfield in 2018 and Spencers Wood from 2018. Programmes for other schools are less certain but will follow on during the following decade. These include the North Wokingham school at Matthewsgreen (2018 on) and the second schools in Arborfield and in south Wokingham.

Options analysis

Having established the level of need by area the strategy now looks at how these needs can be met, taking into account the need to

- promote sustainable schools and communities and
- to raise school standards.

To create viable schools it is proposed, where possible and with the support of schools themselves, to give priority to schemes that create schools based on whole forms of entry (where possible at least 420 places). This is because smaller schools (and particularly smaller schools not based on year groups that are multiples of 30) carry high fixed costs that cannot now be fully compensated for in the funding formula and may have a number of classes of less than 30 (but which carry the costs of a class of 30). Austerity budgets (where overall allocations are “flat cash per pupil” but where costs continue to rise) exacerbate these pressures.

Financial implications

Revenue and capital planning will be integrated in the implementation of the strategy.

Start up revenue costs for new schools and initial funding for school expansions will be met from the Dedicated Schools Grant. New schools will be Academies (badged as “Free Schools” and long term funding will come directly from the DfE through a formulaic arrangement.

Capital costs will be met through a combination of direct delivery of new schools by housing developers, ring-fenced S106 funding and WBC held capital grants.

School Standards and the wider agenda

Based on the research and feedback from officers, members, schools and parents it was agreed that when carrying out any detailed options appraisal a wider range of factors would be considered than have perhaps been used previously. For example, in addition to the more obvious factors such as access, space and condition we would need to consider such factors as:

- a. Co-location and opportunities to free up space for school use.
- b. Increased need for under-4s child care (including the impact of the extension of free childcare to some three year olds and the duty to provide free places for deprived two year olds) and a review of children’s centres.
- c. Impacts on school standards and sustainability
- d. Impacts on the local community.

The following list is not exhaustive and will not apply to all school projects. It does however illustrate the range of opportunities that is created by new and expanded school provision.

School development (whether through expansion or new schools) can bring the opportunity to create additional childcare places. These could be traditional nursery classes, dedicated space for a wider age range or space on site to allow other parties (private, voluntary or independent early years providers) to create affordable child-care places.

Co-location of activities (such as community use sports or other facilities) can both benefit the wider community and bring better facilities than might otherwise have been available to a school. In some cases facilities to support outreach work by Childrens Centres and other Early Help services may be desirable. Childrens Centres work on a “hub and spoke” model with designated children’s centres in Wokingham, Winnersh, Woodley, Twyford, Finchampstead and Shinfield supported by timetabled activities in other community use buildings away from the main sites.

New and expanded schools can bring opportunities to raise school standards.

New schools can allow new providers to bring innovative and challenging models of educational delivery into the borough. Where they are able to establish a local chain of schools they may be more sustainable because costs of leadership, management and specialist support can be spread across a number of schools.

Expanded schools bring economies of scale, making those schools more sustainable. Where schools currently operate mixed age groups they will be able to move to single year teaching. Generally any existing deficiencies in accommodation will be rectified as part of the expansion works. Enlarged schools are better able to sustain the levels of leadership

required (numbers and grades of leaders and managers) and to fund specialist teaching support.

More local provision will help reduce traffic congestion and schemes will include measures to mitigate traffic impacts – whether through on or offsite pupil drop-off areas or through the creation and implementation of robust traffic management plans.

Annex 1

Schools by Neighbourhood		
School	Ward	NH/ Planning Areas
The Loddon Primary	Maiden Erlegh	Earley
Earley St Peter's C of E VA Pr	Maiden Erlegh	Earley
Aldryngton Primary	Maiden Erlegh	Earley
Whiteknights Primary	Hillside	Earley
Radstock Primary	Hillside	Earley
Hillside Primary	Hillside	Earley
Hawkedon Primary	Hawkedon	Earley
Robert Piggott C of E Infant	Remenham Wargrave and Ruscomb	North
The Colleton Primary	Twyford	North
Crazies Hill C of E Primary	Remenham Wargrave and Ruscomb	North
Polehampton Junior	Twyford	North
Robert Piggott C of E Junior	Remenham Wargrave and Ruscomb	North
Polehampton C of E Infant	Twyford	North
Sonning C of E Primary	Sonning	North
St Nicholas C of E Primary	Hurst	North
Oaklands Junior	Wokingham Without	South East
Oaklands Infant	Wokingham Without	South East
Gorse Ride Infant	Finchampstead South	South East
Gorse Ride Junior	Finchampstead South	South East
Finchampstead C of E Aided P	Finchampstead South	South East
Nine Mile Ride Primary	Finchampstead South	South East
Hatch Ride Primary	Wokingham Without	South East
Saint Sebastians C of E Prima	Wokingham Without	South East
Farley Hill Primary School	Swallowfield	South West
Shinfield St Mary's C of E Aide	Shinfield South	South West
The Coombes Primary	Arborfield	South West
Grazeley Parochial C of E Aide	Shinfield South	South West
Shinfield Infant	Shinfield South	South West
Lambs Lane Primary	Swallowfield	South West
Wescott Infant	Wescott	Wokingham Town East
All Saints Primary	Norreys	Wokingham Town East
Westende Junior	Wescott	Wokingham Town East
Keepatch Primary	Norreys	Wokingham Town East
St Teresas Catholic Primary	Wescott	Wokingham Town East
Bearwood Primary	Winnersh	Wokingham Town West
Winnersh Primary	Winnersh	Wokingham Town West
The Hawthorns Primary	Evendons	Wokingham Town West
Walter Infant	Emmbrook	Wokingham Town West
St Pauls C of E Junior	Emmbrook	Wokingham Town West
Emmbrook Infant	Emmbrook	Wokingham Town West
Emmbrook Junior	Emmbrook	Wokingham Town West
Beechwood Primary	Bulmershe and Whitegates	Woodley
South Lake Primary	South Lake	Woodley
St Dominic Savio Catholic Prim	Coronation	Woodley
Highwood Primary	South Lake	Woodley
Rivermead Primary	Bulmershe and Whitegates	Woodley
Woodley C of E Primary	Loddon	Woodley
Willow Bank Infant	Coronation	Woodley
Willow Bank Junior	Coronation	Woodley
Ambleside	Bulmershe and Whitegates	Woodley

References

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