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# Demography, Projections and School Place Planning Methodology



# Contents

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1)	Introduction	pg1
2)	Roll Projection Models	pg2
3)	Pressure for Primary Places and Planned Action	pg4
4)	Pressure for Secondary Places and Planned Action	pg6
5)	Pressure for SEN places and Planned Action	pg7
6)	Provision and Need Tables	
	<a href="#">Table 6.1 - Primary Provision:</a> Additional provision agreed by cabinet and department for education.	pg8
	<a href="#">Table 6.2 - Primary Provision:</a> Additional provision currently at statutory proposal stage (still to be agreed by cabinet and department for education).	pg10
	<a href="#">Table 6.3 - Secondary Provision:</a> Additional provision agreed by cabinet and department for education.	pg10
	<a href="#">Table 6.4 - SEN Provision:</a> Additional provision agreed by cabinet and department for education.	pg11
7)	Glossary of Terms	pg12



# 1. Introduction

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- 1.1 This paper has been prepared as background to the Planning for Schools DPD and sets out the methodology used by the Council to project future pupil numbers, the current expansion programme and the identified future need.

## 2. Roll Projection Models

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### 2.1 How the raw data are processed to arrive at final figures.

- 2.11 The primary and secondary school projections used in this paper are based on a three year replacement ratio model (see glossary of terms), but with the key live births to reception and the year 6 to 7 retention ratios (see glossary of terms) adjusted to take account of projected changes in the pattern of retention.
- 2.12 At primary level, as births have risen, the retention ratio in some areas of the borough has been curtailed by capacity (to a 3 year average of 81.8%). Early figures suggest this ratio has fallen further to just under 80% in 2014/15. The Council feel that a rate of 82.5% (which was reached in 2009/10 and again in 2012/13) is a sensible retention ratio to plan for, given the agreed and planned school expansions.
- 2.13 At secondary level, the year 6 to 7 retention ratio has also been significantly curtailed by the shortfall in capacity in Acton, Ealing and Hanwell (to a 3 year average retention of 80.7%), with an increasing proportion of children unable to gain a place at their preferred school and as a consequence attending secondary schools outside of the borough. Early figures suggest this ratio has fallen further to just under 80% in 2014/15. The Council feel that a rate of 85% which was achieved in 2006/07 is a sensible retention ratio to plan for given the agreed and planned school expansions.
- 2.14 Three year average retention ratios between other year groups range from 99.4% to 101.9%.

### 2.2 How the Overall Projections are broken down into education school place planning areas.

- 2.21 To break the primary school projections down to the nine primary school place planning areas, the council assign actual births to individual planning areas using postcode level birth data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) and assign projected births to planning areas by taking the Greater London Authority (GLA)'s birth projections and applying a three year average of the proportion of births in each planning area. Actual pupil numbers for previous years are then used to produce a three year average retention ratio for each planning area for reception to year 1, year 1 to year 2 and so on to produce whole school projections.
- 2.22 To break the secondary school projections down to the four secondary school place planning areas, the council use a matrix based on the proportion of prior year 6's living in each planning area who went on to attend a secondary school in each planning area (factoring in the current pattern of cross border movement). This matrix is then applied to the number of primary school children living within each secondary planning area by year group to produce a year 7 projection for each forecast year. Actual pupil numbers for previous years are then used to produce a three year average retention ratio for each planning area for year 7 to year 8, year 8 to year 9 and so on to produce whole school projections.

## 2. Roll Projection Models

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### 2.3 Additional factors allowed for.

- 2.31 The retention ratio models used to determine the projections do not separately factor in individual dynamics (such as housing developments or increased migration) as the models assume these are picked up to a large extent by the past trends reflected in the methods themselves. The authority does use a model to estimate the potential child yield for such developments but the actual impact on the school rolls depends on a wide range of factors. These factors include whether the development attracts residents already living in the borough, the type of accommodation that they vacate, and the parental preference element that can be hard to predict.
- 2.32 The Council also subscribe to the GLA roll projection service and use their projections models (which do take these factors into account) as a consistency check and to inform its planning, particularly in the longer term.

### 3. Pressure for Primary Places and Planned Action

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- 3.1 The significant increase in births since 2003 has meant continued pressure on Ealing primary schools. Expansion of primary school places in Ealing began in 2008, with more than one-third of all schools having either already expanded or having taken at least one bulge class to date. The current approved primary expansion programme will provide 31.5 forms of entry (FE) (see glossary of terms) in permanent expansions by 2016 (with 29FE of these already available as permanent school places in September 2014). Most of these have been provided by expanding existing schools, but 5FE have been provided in two new schools in Acton, (Holy Family Catholic School and Ark Priory Academy), and one new free school in Southall, (St Mary's CE Primary School) (see Table 6.1).
- 3.2 In total (including 6.5FE in bulge classes (see glossary of terms)) the Council provided 4,830 reception places in September 2014 (4,635 of which are permanent), compared to the 2008 baseline of 3,769 places. This is to meet the demand generated by 5,829 live births for the cohort of children who reached reception age in September 2014.
- 3.3 Births in the borough increased by 31% in the seven years from 2002/03 to 2010/11. However birth rates in the borough appear to have reached a peak at 5,843 (in 2010/11 which will be the September 2015 intake) and there were provisionally 5,606 births in the borough in 2012/13 and 5,392 in the calendar year 2013, although the GLA are currently still projecting future births in the region of 5,900 (as the latest birth data has not yet been factored into their projections). There is considerable uncertainty at this stage as to whether this downturn in births is the beginning of a declining trend. We will continue to closely monitor this for planning purposes.
- 3.4 Overall, demand for reception places is projected to peak between September 2014 and September 2016. It is anticipated that the cabinet agreed expansions at St Joseph's (1 FE in 2015), which has planning consent, and Mayfield (0.5FE in 2016), which is awaiting planning consent, will provide 1.5FE between them in Ealing and Hanwell by 2016. The rebuild and expansion of St John's will provide a further 1FE in Ealing from 2016, subject to planning consent.
- 3.5 The Council currently project that it will require up to a further 3.5 forms of entry (on top of the 31.5 already agreed) to meet the demand for the children born during the last four years who will enter reception between September 2015 and September 2018. It is anticipated that the Ark Byron free school will provide an additional 2FE in Acton from 2015. Funding has been agreed by EFA and Acton Park Depot has been identified as a potential site but still requires a planning application.



### 3. Pressure for Primary Places and Planned Action

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- 3.6 The remaining shortfall will need to be met in areas easily accessible from Southall, where birth increases have been more recent. This shortfall is expected to be met largely through the expansion of existing provision, with a 1FE expansion of Beaconsfield Primary School from 2016 currently out for statutory consultation (see Table 6.2) and a potential further 0.5FE still to be identified (based on current retention rates). The position is being monitored in case there is a need for further permanent provision, particularly if retention rates in the Southall area recover to the level seen two to three years ago. Such provision could potentially be met through Free Schools.
- 3.7 To date there has not appeared to be significant impact of national policy changes (housing benefit cap and universal credit) on the demand for primary school places, but this is being kept under close review. In addition to this, the Council will continue to closely monitor birth rates and retention ratios in the borough, to determine future demand for primary school places beyond September 2018.

## 4. Pressure for Secondary Places and Planned Action

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- 4.1 The significant increase in births has not yet impacted the secondary sector (with the first year group since birth rates began to rise (currently year 6), transferring to secondary school in September 2015). The Council has to date created an additional 2 forms of entry at Dormers Wells High School in 2012 and an additional 6 forms of entry at the new William Perkins CE Academy in 2013 (see Table 3). In total, the Council provided 3,160 year 7 places in September 2014. There are currently surplus places at secondary school level borough wide, concentrated in a small number of schools in the west of the borough,
- 4.2 However, once the significantly higher numbers of children currently progressing through the borough's primary schools transfer into high school, the Council expect to have an overall shortfall in capacity from September 2016 and are projecting the need for up to 23 permanent additional forms of entry at secondary level by September 2019. This is to meet the need for places generated by the current primary school aged children who will enter secondary school between September 2015 and September 2021.
- 4.3 To help meet this need Cabinet agreed 2FE expansions at Elthorne Park and Brentside will provide 4FE in Ealing and Hanwell by 2016 (subject to planning consent). This leaves a further 19FE shortfall by September 2019 to be identified. Based on current patterns we anticipate that the majority of this will be needed in schools which are easily accessible from Ealing, Hanwell and Acton, where the current secondary schools are already operating at or near full capacity.
- 4.4 It is anticipated that the Ealing Fields free school will provide an additional 4FE in Ealing from 2015. Funding has been agreed by EFA but a permanent site is still to be secured. The Department for Education have also recently approved two free school (see glossary of terms) applications from Twyford Academies Trust for a 6.5FE school (2016) and from Ark for a 6FE school (2017), although neither has an agreed site at this stage. If these are successfully progressed they would go a significant way to meeting the remaining shortfall.
- 4.5 Any additional need for places in Greenford, Northolt, Perivale (GNP) and Southall will depend on retention rates at existing schools and changing patterns of entry caused by additional provision elsewhere in the borough. Any additional shortfall up to September 2021 is likely to be met, if required, through expanding existing provision. There is however likely to be a need for further high school provision in Southall from September 2022 to meet the demand caused by the recent birth increase in Southall.

## 5. Pressure for Special Educational Needs Places and Planned Action

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- 5.1 Once current plans are fully implemented, the Council will have expanded provision at special schools by 131 places (with 91 of these in primary age schools and 40 in an all through school (see glossary of terms)) and also added additional resourced provision across a number of mainstream schools (see Table 6.4). From 2018, the Council anticipate that there will also be additional demand for secondary school places for young people with the highest levels of need and are currently exploring solutions to meet this demand.

## 6. Provision and Need Tables

Table 6.1 - Primary Provision: Additional Provision Agreed by Cabinet and Department for Education

School	Area	Extension / New School	Additional FE	Temporary / Permanent	Status*	Date Permanent Places Available (Sept)**
Berrymede Infant and Junior	Acton	Extension and new build of infants	1	Permanent	On Site	2012
Holy Family Catholic Primary	Acton	New School	2	Permanent	Completed	2012
Ark Priory Primary Academy	Acton	New School	2	Permanent	Completed	2013
West Acton Primary	Acton	Extension	1	Permanent	On Site	2013
West Twyford Primary	Acton	New School Building	1	Permanent	On Site	2014
St John's Primary (Phase 1)	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	0.5	Permanent	Completed	2009
Brentside Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	0.5	Permanent	Completed	2010
Fielding Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2010
Little Ealing Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2010
North Ealing Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2010
Christ the Saviour CE Primary (VA)	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	On Site	2012
Drayton Green Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2013
Grange Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2012
Hobbayne Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2011
St Gregory's Catholic Primary (VA)	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2012

## 6. Provision and Need Tables

Table 6.1 - Primary Provision: Additional Provision Agreed by Cabinet and Department for Education  
(continued)

School	Area	Extension / New School	Additional FE	Temporary / Permanent	Status*	Date Permanent Places Available (Sept)**
St. Mark's Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	0.5	Permanent	Completed	2011
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	1	Permanent	Pre-construction (planning approved)	2015
Mayfield Primary	Ealing and Hanwell	New School Building (priority schools building programme)	0.5	Permanent	Cabinet agreed, planning application submitted	2016
St John's Primary (Phase 2)	Ealing and Hanwell	New School Building	1	Permanent	Cabinet agreed, planning application submitted	2017
Oldfield Primary	GNP	Extension	0.5	Permanent	Completed	2009
Selbourne Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2009
Stanhope Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2009
Wood End Infants and Academy (formerly Juniors)	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2010 (infants) 2012 (Juniors)
West London Academy (primary)	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2011
Gifford Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2012
Ravenor Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Completed	2012
Horsenden Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	On Site	2013
Greenwood Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	Pre-construction (planning approved)	2014
St Raphael's Catholic Primary	GNP	Extension	1	Permanent	On Site	2014
Vicar's Green Primary	GNP	Extension	1 (joint funded with Brent)	Permanent	On Site	2014
Dormers Wells Infant	Southall	Extension	0.5	Permanent	Implemented	2012

## 6. Provision and Need Tables

[Table 6.1 - Primary Provision: Additional Provision Agreed by Cabinet and Department for Education \(continued\)](#)

School	Area	Extension / New School	Additional FE	Temporary / Permanent	Status*	Date Permanent Places Available (Sept)**
Clifton Primary	Southall	Extension	0.5	Permanent	Cabinet agreed, planning application submitted	2014
St Mary's CE Primary	Southall	New free school	1	Permanent	Completed	2014
<b>Total FE</b>			<b>31.5 FE</b>			

[Table 6.2 - Primary Provision: Additional Provision Currently at Statutory Proposal Stage \(Still to be Agreed by Cabinet and Department for Education\)](#)

School	Area	Extension / New School	Additional FE	Temporary / Permanent	Status*	Date Permanent Places Available (Sept)**
Beaconsfield Primary	Southall	Extension	1	Permanent	Statutory Notice Published	2016

[Table 6.3 - Secondary Provision: Additional Provision Agreed by Cabinet and Department for Education](#)

School	Area	Extension / New School	Additional FE	Temporary / Permanent	Status*	Date Permanent Places Available (Sept)**
Dormers Wells High School	Southall	New School Building	2	Permanent	Completed	2012
William Perkin CE High School	GNP	New School	6	Permanent	Completed	2013
Brentside High School	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	2	Permanent	Cabinet agreed, planning application submitted	2016
Elthorne Park High School	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	2	Permanent	Cabinet agreed, planning application submitted	2016
<b>Total FE</b>			<b>12 FE</b>			

## 6. Provision and Need Tables

Table 6.4 - SEN Provision: Additional Provision Agreed by Cabinet and Department for Education

School	Area	Extension / New School	Additional Places	Temporary / Permanent	Status*	Places Available From**
Castlebar School	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	46	Permanent	Completed	2014
Mandeville School	GNP	Extension	45	Permanent	Completed	2015
William Perkin CE High School ARP	GNP	New School	30	Permanent	Completed	2015
Springhallow School	Ealing and Hanwell	New School Building	40	Permanent	On Site	2015
West Acton Primary School ARP	Acton	Extension	21	Permanent	On Site	2016
Elthorne Park High School ARP	Ealing and Hanwell	Extension	15	Permanent	Pre planning (cabinet agreed)	2017
<b>Total Places</b>			<b>197</b>			

*NB. Additional new SEN places will be phased*

*The areas, Greenford, Northolt and Perivale have been abbreviated to (GNP) in order to provide consistency with the Planning for 'Schools DPD Issues and Options' & 'Final Proposals'.*

*\*The definitions of the various Status' can be found below:*

- *On Site: Contractors on school site and building works have commenced.*
- *Completed: Building works completed and new school or new school building is ready for handover.*
- *Implemented: The enlarged published admission number has fully moved through the school.*

*\*\*This is the permanent expansion date. Additional "bulge" classes were required at a number of schools prior to permanent expansion to meet the demand for places.*

## 7. Glossary of Terms

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**All Through School:** a school that takes both primary and secondary age children, providing education for children from ages 4 to 16. Some also have nursery and sixth form provision.

**Bulge Class:** is an additional class into which schools accept children for a single admission year, often provided through the use of temporary accommodation, either to meet a temporary spike in demand or in advance of a permanent expansion.

**Forms of Entry (FE):** the number of classes available in each year group within a school. Often abbreviated to FE.

**Free School:** new independent state schools. Charities, groups of teachers, existing schools and parents can set up these new schools if they can prove that they are needed and wanted by a local community.

**Replacement ratio model:** a method for forecasting the future school population based upon past trends in the retention of the existing population.

**Retention ratio:** the number of children in an individual year group (“cohort”) as a proportion of the number of children who were in that cohort at a given time previously.





