

**The Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames**

**Options for the Expansion  
of Primary Schools  
from September 2011**

**Consultation Paper**

**May 2009**

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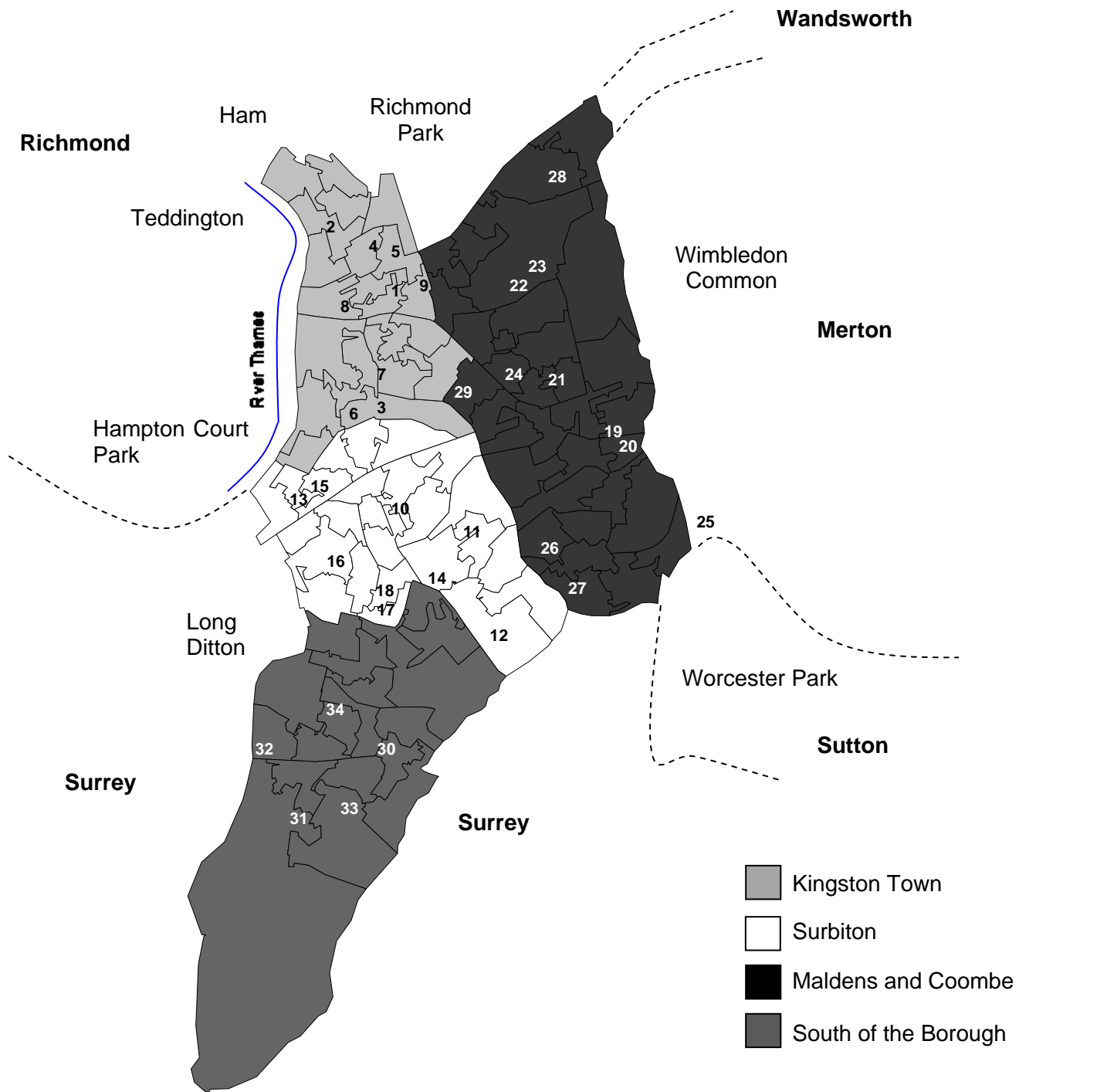
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# Kingston upon Thames: Primary Schools by Planning Area



## Kingston Town

- 1) Alexandra Infant
- 2) Fern Hill Primary
- 3) King Athelstan Primary
- 4) Latchmere School
- 5) St Agatha's Catholic Primary
- 6) St John's C of E Primary
- 7) St Joseph's Catholic Primary
- 8) St Luke's C of E Primary
- 9) St Paul's C of E Junior

## Surbiton

- 10) Christ Church C of E Primary
- 11) Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery
- 12) Knollmead Primary School
- 13) Maple Infant
- 14) Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary
- 15) St Andrew's and St Mark's C of E Junior
- 16) St Matthew's C of E Primary
- 17) Tolworth Infant and Nursery
- 18) Tolworth Junior

## Maldens and Coombe

- 19) Burlington Infant and Nursery
- 20) Burlington Junior
- 21) Christ Church New Malden C of E Primary
- 22) Coombe Hill Infant
- 23) Coombe Hill Junior
- 24) Corpus Christi Catholic Primary
- 25) Green Lane Primary and Nursery
- 26) Malden Manor Primary and Nursery
- 27) Malden Parochial C of E Primary
- 28) Robin Hood Primary
- 29) The Mount Primary

## South of the Borough

- 30) Castle Hill Primary
- 31) Ellingham Primary
- 32) Lovelace Primary
- 33) St Mary's C of E Primary
- 34) St Paul's C of E Primary

## **Introduction**

Kingston upon Thames, like many other London boroughs, is currently experiencing exceptionally high demand for places in its primary schools. School roll projections indicate that the current situation is not a temporary increase but part of a longer term upward trend.

The local authority has a legal responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient school places in the borough for all children who need one. In order to meet the rising demand it is planning to increase the number of permanent primary school places available from September 2011 onwards.

This document sets out some options on how to create these additional places and asks for your views on the proposals. The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The Local Authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation.

Please go to Page 21 to respond to this consultation.

## **Background**

### **Primary education in Kingston upon Thames**

There are 34 primary schools in the borough and all are co educational (for both boys and girls). Of these:

- 24 cover the full primary age range (4 to 11 year olds)
- 5 are infant schools (for 4 to 7 year olds)
- 5 are junior schools (for 7 to 11 year olds)

Of the 34, 14 are church schools (10 Church of England and 4 Catholic)

For primary school planning purposes the local authority has divided the borough into four planning areas:

- 1 – Kingston Town
- 2 – Surbiton
- 3 – Maldens and Coombe
- 4 – South of the Borough

The planning areas are not self contained as far as transport routes or physical barriers are concerned and it is recognised that pupils cross the boundaries between these areas between home and school.

The map on the opposite page shows the four planning areas and the location of each primary school.

### **An increasing demand for primary school places**

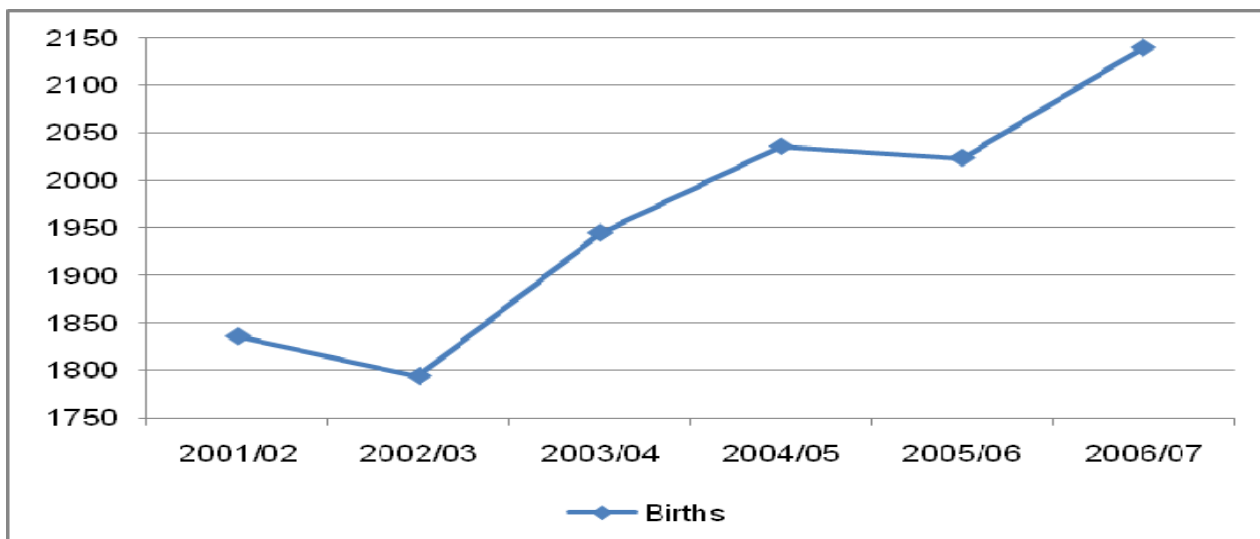
For admissions in September 2008 and 2009 there was a significant additional demand for reception class places in Kingston upon Thames primary schools. A similar trend has been reported across more than two thirds of London local authorities.

The admissions process for September 2009 confirms the increase in applications for a reception school place has been sustained for a second year. For admission to reception in September 2008, 1824 applications were received and for September 2009, 1924 applications have been received.

The total number of permanent reception places currently available in Kingston upon Thames schools is 1575. This compares to an actual number on roll of 1720 (January 2009 spring school census). Current school roll projections for September 2010 and beyond indicate that the number of reception places available needs to be increased on a permanent basis. This could be achieved by expanding existing schools and/or the creation of one or more new schools.

### Reasons for the rise in demand

The main reason for the increase in demand is the rising birth rate in London where it has been increasing at a faster rate than in any other English region. The Office for National Statistics reports that the number of women having children in England and Wales is at its highest level for 34 years - a trend which can mainly be attributed to an increase in the number of older women (women in their late thirties and early forties) giving birth.



Number of Births in Kingston upon Thames, 2001/02–2006/07 (July - June)

Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) birth data

The graph shows that between 2002/03 and 2006/07 Kingston upon Thames experienced a birth rate rise of 19.3%. When the 2007/08 data becomes available later this year it is expected to show a further increase.

As well as a rise in the birth rate the numbers on roll in reception compared to the number of births four years earlier (the birth to reception cohort survival rate) has increased. Up to 2006/07 it had been close to 80% for a number of years. In 2007/08 the figure increased to 85.5% and in 2008/09 to 88.4%. Based on current applications this level is sustained for 2009/10.

Other factors that are thought to have contributed to the rise in demand include:

- the current economic downturn leading to a move away from independent schools and less families with children moving away from the London area
- overall increase in number of housing units across Kingston upon Thames
- the popularity and reputation of borough schools
- an increasing demand for places in neighbouring authorities – this is likely to mean more applications from outside the borough and less opportunity for Kingston upon Thames residents, particularly those close to the border, to secure a place in a nearby school in another borough

- the changing nature of the housing market leading to an increase in children living in one and two bedroom properties and a subsequent rise in the number requiring a school place.

## **Predicting school rolls**

Planning school places is a complex process that relies on a number of variables.

To estimate the number of pupils likely to require a school place in the borough in future years, Kingston upon Thames, in common with many other London local authorities, uses the Greater London Authority's school roll projection service.

This service provides independent and objective forecasts for several years ahead based on sound information sources. The projections look at the actual number of pupils on roll over the last four years based on school census returns to the Department of Children Schools and Families (DCSF) as well as the number in the local population based on Office for National Statistics (ONS) population data. They also take account of a number of other factors such as new housing developments, immigration and fertility rates which might affect the number of children requiring a place in a Kingston upon Thames school.

The local authority supplements the Greater London Authority projections by looking at:

- the birth to reception class cohort survival rate
- figures provided by the Primary Care Trust on live birth rates and the number of children being registered with a general practitioner
- the numbers on roll in private, voluntary and independent nursery provision as well as in nursery classes attached to primary schools
- the impact of local housing developments.

The school roll projections are reviewed regularly by the local authority to ensure that the number of places available is in line with changing demand.

## **Guiding principles on planning school places**

Kingston upon Thames has adopted a number of guiding principles when looking at the provision of primary school places within the borough. The key ones are:

- to minimise the use of temporary accommodation and invest in permanent buildings
- pupils should be able attend a school within their own locality (within two miles of their home)
- consideration should be given to parental preference by expanding popular and high achieving schools which are on sites that are physically capable of expansion and where Government guidelines allow
- schools should be planned within the following range of sizes:
  - primary schools (for pupils aged 4 to 11) with an intake each year of between 30 and 120 pupils
  - infant schools (for pupils aged 4 to 7) with an intake each year of between 60 and 120 pupils
  - junior schools (for pupils aged 7 to 11) with an intake each year of between 60 and 120 pupils
- class sizes at reception and Key Stage 1 (4 to 7 year olds) should be 30 pupils or fewer - the local authority (with governing bodies) is responsible for securing the legal requirement to limit infant classes to 30 or less
- class sizes at Key Stage 2 (7 to 11 year olds) should be of 30 pupils or less – this is an aim of the local authority not a legal requirement
- there continues to be a balance between community and faith schools in line with the local authority's legal obligation to meet diversity of provision

- the local authority aims to retain some surplus capacity in its schools to try as far as possible to accommodate parental preference and allow for the in year admissions of pupils (for pupils moving into the local authority area and requiring a school place during the academic year)

New sites for development within the borough are limited and not all schools have sites that are big enough to increase the size of the school however popular the school might be. Ensuring that we provide value for money as well as a high standard of education and pupil welfare are at the top of our list of considerations when looking to expand our schools.

## How the situation has been addressed so far

### Admission to Primary Schools for September 2008

When the substantial increase in demand for reception places across the borough occurred in 2008, the local authority approached all primary schools with reception classes and asked them to volunteer to accommodate additional places.

Detailed discussions then took place between primary school heads and their governing bodies and officers from the local authority to explore whether it would be appropriate to accommodate the extra classes on their site and whether the necessary arrangements could be put in place in time eg for accommodation and staffing.

The outcome of this process of consultation was the decision to add 210 temporary additional places (7 classes) for September 2008 across all four planning areas. This temporarily increased the total number of places available from 1575 to 1785. The table below shows the breakdown of additional places added for September 2008 by planning area.

Planning area	School	Permanent number of places available	Number of temporary places added for 2008/09	Revised number of places available for 2008/09
Kingston Town	Alexandra Infant	60	30	90
	Fern Hill Primary	60	30	90
Surbiton	Christ Church C of E Primary	60	30	90
	Maple Infant	60	30	90
Maldens and Coombe	Burlington Infant and Nursery	90	30	120
	Coombe Hill Infant	90	30	120
South of the Borough	Lovelace Primary	60	30	90

### Admission to Primary Schools for September 2009

In October 2008, in the early stages of the admissions process, the local authority used data and information to inform the number of places needed and added 150 temporary places across five schools for September 2009. This additional number of places reflected the projected need based on the average trends in the three previous years.

When the application process for September 2009 closed in December 2008 it was clear that further places were needed in the Kingston Town and Surbiton school planning areas. Consequently, in February, a further 150 temporary places in five schools were announced. The places have been added to schools where possible in response to parental preferences. The following table shows the breakdown of additional temporary places added for September 2009 by planning area.

Planning area	School	Permanent number of places available	Number of temporary places added for 2009/10	Revised number of places available for 2009/10
Kingston Town	Alexandra Infant	60	30	90
	Fern Hill Primary	60	30	90
	Latchmere	90	30	120
Surbiton	Christ Church C of E Primary	60	30	90
	Knollmead Primary	30	15	45
	Maple Infants	60	30	90
	St Matthew's C of E Primary	45	45	90
	Tolworth Infant and Nursery	90	30	120
Maldens and Coombe	Burlington Infant and Nursery	90	30	120
South of the Borough	Lovelace Primary	60	30	90

For September 2009 admissions to reception classes a total of 300 places have been added across all four planning areas. This has temporarily increased the total number of places available from 1575 to 1875 ensuring that a place is available for every child who has applied for one.

For September 2011 and September 2012 admissions to Year 3, the paired junior school intake will also be increased where appropriate ie for when the relevant bulge class moves from infant to junior school.

	Number of temporary places added 2011/12	Number of temporary places added 2012/13
St Paul's C of E Junior	30	30
St Andrew's and St Mark's C of E Junior	30	30
Burlington Junior	30	30
Coombe Hill Junior	30	
Tolworth Junior		30

## Plans to meet future need

### Admissions to Primary Schools for September 2010

Due to the scope of some of the building works that will be required at schools with permanent expansion it may not be possible for some of the schools named in this consultation to accommodate additional temporary classes for September 2010. It will therefore be necessary to agree which schools will have additional temporary classes for Reception for September 2010.

The local authority will continue to consult with schools to agree where the additional places will be added for September 2010. Pupils admitted to schools in September 2010 will continue their primary education at the same school regardless of permanent expansion plans. Information on the location of additional temporary classes will be contained in the Primary Admissions Booklet which will be published by 12 September 2009.

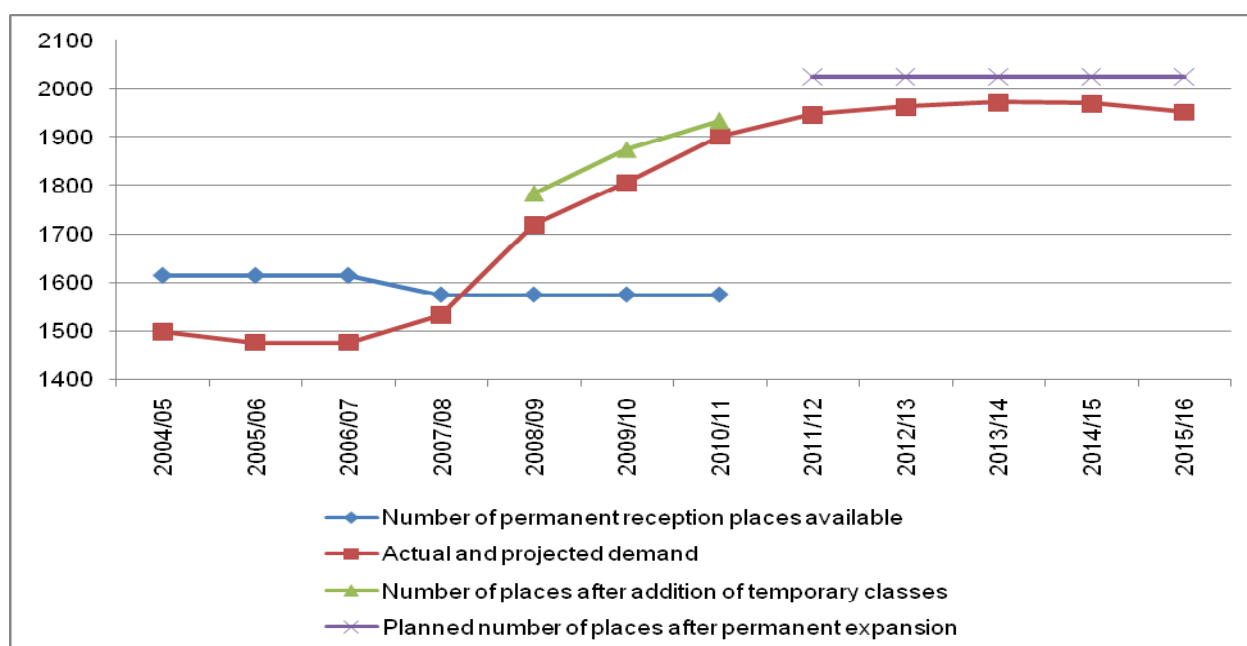
## Admissions to Reception for September 2011 and subsequent years

The latest school roll projections indicate that by 2012/13 an additional 13 reception classes will be required compared to current capacity. Projections for the following three years maintain this level of need.

School year	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Reception pupils projected	1807	1902	1946	1963	1972	1969	1952
Capacity without expansions	1575	1575	1575	1575	1575	1575	1575
Shortfall of places	232	327	371	388	397	394	377
Additional number of classes needed	8	11	13	13	14	14	13

In order to accommodate this increased demand for places and to ensure some flexibility for parents when applying it is proposed that an additional 15 reception classes are required through expansion of existing schools or building a new school(s) from September 2011.

The projected demand for reception places from 2009/10 to 2015/16 is shown below.



The graph also shows the number of permanent reception places available from 2004/05 to 2010/11 and the planned number of places after permanent expansion from 2011. The permanent number of places available decreased by 40 from 1615 to 1575 with effect from September 2007. This was due to:

- the amalgamation of Buckland Infant and Nursery School with Moor Lane Junior School to create Castle Hill Primary School - a move which reduced the number of reception places by 30 in the South of the Borough
- Christ Church New Malden Church of England Infant and Junior Schools taking the decision to amalgamate the two schools to become an all through primary school meaning there were 10 less reception places available.

The need for additional places applies equally across the local authority area with the exception of the South of the Borough where there is less projected demand.

The following table shows the forecast number of additional forms of entry required in each of the four planning areas until 2012/13.

Planning area	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Kingston Town	3	4	4
Surbiton	4	5	5
Maldens & Coombe	3	4	4
South of the Borough	2	2	2
Whole borough	12	15	15

The local authority's policy is to retain some surplus capacity to accommodate parental preference as far as possible and allow for in year admissions (pupils moving into the local authority area during the school year). We therefore consider it sensible to plan for a slightly higher number of places than the projections show.

In line with the preferred policy of addressing increasing rolls through permanent build rather than being accommodated in temporary buildings, the local authority is currently considering a range of options to identify the best pattern of additional permanent places for the future. The local authority has approached all schools asking them to indicate if they wish to be considered for expansion as part of the strategy to expand primary school places.

The options for each planning area are set out on Pages 13 -16.

## **Other Factors Impacting on School Organisation Planning**

### **Children and Young People's Plan**

Kingston's Children and Young People's Plan sets out the priorities to continually improve outcomes for all children and young people in the borough. A key outcome for the Plan is that all children can attend a good school and that they get the best start in life in the early years and succeed well at ages 7 and 11 to enable them to move on with confidence to the next stage of their education and wider development. Ensuring sufficient places in Kingston upon Thames' primary schools is key to the successful delivery of this goal.

### **Primary Strategy for Change**

The options for expanding Kingston upon Thames' primary schools set out in this document form part of the local authority's *Primary Strategy for Change*. This outlines how the local authority will work towards delivering the objectives of the government's Primary Capital Programme, designed to secure step-change improvement and transformation in education through substantial capital investment in school buildings and assets.

### **Continuous School Improvement**

Kingston upon Thames is a high achieving local authority with attainment well above the national average in many schools. The local authority in partnership with schools continues to challenge, to raise standards, narrow gaps and improve performance to ensure that all its schools are good or outstanding and that the quality of the education for children across the borough is consistently high. The local authority will ensure that in the process of expansion of primary schools the high quality of children's education is maintained and improved.

### **Special Educational Needs**

The local authority wants all children and young people who have special educational needs, or a learning difficulty or disability to be able to be included in their local community school. To help achieve this, the range of specialist resources in mainstream schools in Kingston upon Thames has already been extended to meet the needs of a wider range of children with special educational needs. We recognise however that there are a growing number of children with speech, language and communication needs and children with autism in the borough and the local authority wants to be able to meet their parents' (or carers') preferences for a local school.

The local authority believes that every school must offer flexible accommodation that can be adapted to mirror changes in the profile of children in the borough. When looking to expand Kingston upon Thames' primary schools, the local authority will ensure greater access for learners with physical disabilities and those who are technology dependent and improve facilities for physiotherapy and other therapies to be delivered alongside teaching.

## **Nursery Education**

The local authority understands the vital role early years education plays in supporting parents in the education of their children and enabling them to make good progress. This is reflected in the *Early Years Foundation Stage Framework* introduced earlier this year. Kingston upon Thames is able to offer parents a wide range of high quality nurseries or other early years settings in the borough.

The local authority regularly reviews the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment which ensures the places available are sufficient to meet demand.

## **Extended School Services**

Kingston upon Thames' Extended Schools Service provides a range of services and activities beyond the school day to help meet the needs of pupils, their families and the wider community. These services are provided through local schools working together in groups alongside other local organisations. These groups of schools are called 'clusters' and are organised in the same way as the schools in the four school planning areas (see the map on page 4). All children have access to a range of extended services in and around their school organised directly by the school or in partnership with private or voluntary sector providers.

## **Building Schools for the Future (BSF) and Strategy for Planning Secondary School Places**

*The BSF Strategy for Change* sets out Kingston upon Thames' plans to transform education, both in terms of improving overall standards and in particular improving the performance of under-achieving groups of pupils and the schools where performance is currently below national expectations. It addresses the need to expand secondary provision to accommodate the increasing numbers of pupils. Within the strategy the local authority has agreed to establish a new secondary school and consultation on the location of this school will take place late May/early June 2009.

## Options for Planning Area 1: Kingston Town

There are 8 schools in this planning area admitting pupils into reception classes

Projections indicate that **4 additional classes** will be required by 2012/13.

The options for permanent expansion are shown below:

	Current number of classes	Current number of pupils	Proposed number of extra classes	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed total number of pupils per year
Alexandra Infant (*St Paul's Junior)	2	60	1	3	90
Fern Hill Primary 1	2	60	1	3	90
or Fern Hill Primary 2	2	60	2	4	120
King Athelstan Primary	2	60	1	3	90
Latchmere School	3	90	1	4	120
St Agatha's Catholic Primary	2	60	No change		
St John's C of E Primary	1	30	No change		
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	1	30	1	2	60
St Luke's C of E Primary	1	30	No change		

\* Paired junior school.

Junior schools paired with infant schools will expand to take the extra class when it reaches Year 3.

### Public Consultation meetings

The following consultation meetings are open to all parents and members of the public who are interested in finding out more about the proposals. The discussion will not be restricted to the schools in the area in which the meeting takes place.

All from 7 – 9 pm

Monday, 1 June 2009	Hawker Centre, Lower Ham Road, Kingston, KT2 5BH
Tuesday, 9 June 2009	Surbiton Library Hall, Ewell Road, Surbiton, KT6 6AG
Wednesday, 10 June 2009	Hook Centre, Hook Road, Chessington, KT9 1EJ
Thursday, 11 June 2009,	New Malden Library Hall, Kingston Road, New Malden, KT3 3LY

Please let us know your views by completing and returning the response form on pages 21 and 22.

The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The local authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation.

## Options for Planning Area 2: Surbiton

There are 7 schools in this planning area admitting pupils into reception classes

Projections indicate that **4.5 or 5 additional classes** will be required by 2012/13.

The options for permanent expansion are shown below:

	Current number of classes	Current number of pupils	Proposed number of extra classes	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed total number of pupils per year
<b>Surbiton : Planning Area 2</b>					
Christ Church C of E Primary	2	60	1	3	90
Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery	2	60	1	3	90
Knollmead Primary	1	30	No change		
Maple Infant (*St Andrew's and St Mark's Junior)	2	60	1	3	90
Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary	2	60	No change		
St Matthew's C of E Primary	1½	45	½	2	60
Tolworth Infant and Nursery (*Tolworth Junior)	3	90	1	4	120
New School 1 (Surbiton Hospital Site)			2	2	60
or New School 2 (Surbiton Hospital Site)			3	3	90

\* Paired junior school.

Junior schools paired with infant schools will expand to take the extra class when it reaches Year 3.

### Public Consultation meetings

The following consultation meetings are open to all parents and members of the public who are interested in finding out more about the proposals. The discussion will not be restricted to the schools in the area in which the meeting takes place.

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Thursday, 11 June 2009,	New Malden Library Hall, Kingston Road, New Malden, KT3 3LY

Please let us know your views by completing and returning the response form on pages 21 and 22.

The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The local authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation.”

## Options for Planning Area 3: Maldens and Coombe

There are nine schools in this planning area admitting pupils into reception classes

Projections indicate that **4 additional classes** will be required by 2012/13.

The options for permanent expansion are shown below:

	Current number of classes	Current number of pupils	Proposed number of extra classes	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed total number of pupils per year
<b>Maldens and Coombe : Planning Area 3</b>					
Burlington Infant and Nursery (*Burlington Junior)	3	90	1	4	120
Christ Church New Malden C of E Primary	2	60	1	3	90
Coombe Hill Infant (*Coombe Hill Junior)	3	90	No change		
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary	2	60	1	3	90
Green Lane Primary and Nursery	2	60	No change		
Malden Manor Primary and Nursery	2	60	No change		
Malden Parochial C of E Primary	1	30	No change		
Robin Hood Primary	1	30	No change		
The Mount Primary	2	60	No change		
New School 1 (site to be agreed)			2	2	60
or New School 2 (site to be agreed)			3	3	90

\* Paired junior school.

Junior schools paired with infant schools will expand to take the extra class when it reaches Year 3.

### Public Consultation meetings

The following consultation meetings are open to all parents and members of the public who are interested in finding out more about the proposals. The discussion will not be restricted to the schools in the area in which the meeting takes place.

All from 7 – 9 pm

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Thursday, 11 June 2009,	New Malden Library Hall, Kingston Road, New Malden, KT3 3LY

Please let us know your views by completing and returning the response form on pages 21 and 22.

The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The local authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation.

## Options for Planning Area 4: South of the Borough

There are 5 schools in this planning area admitting pupils into reception classes

Projections indicate that **2 additional classes** will be required by 2012/13.

The proposals for permanent expansion are shown below:

	Current number of classes	Current number of pupils	Proposed number of extra classes	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed total number of pupils per year
<b>South of the Borough : Planning Area 4</b>					
Castle Hill Primary	2	60	No change		
Ellingham Primary	1	30	1	2	60
Lovelace Primary	2	60	1	3	90
St Mary's C of E Primary	1	30	No change		
St Paul's C of E Primary	1	30	No change		

### Public Consultation meetings

The following consultation meetings are open to all parents and members of the public who are interested in finding out more about the proposals. The discussion will not be restricted to the schools in the area in which the meeting takes place.

All from 7 – 9 pm

Monday, 1 June 2009	Hawker Centre, Lower Ham Road, Kingston, KT2 5BH
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Thursday, 11 June 2009,	New Malden Library Hall, Kingston Road, New Malden, KT3 3LY

Please let us know your views by completing and returning the response form on pages 21 and 22.

The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The local authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation.

## The consultation process – what happens next?

This document is informed by discussion that has already taken place between schools/dioceses and the local authority. The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The local authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation. The consultation process will continue throughout 2009 and will include all those likely to be affected by the proposals. That is:

- parents and carers
- head teachers
- school governing bodies
- relevant trade unions
- the three church authorities who maintain schools within the borough (the Diocese of Guildford, the Diocese of Southwark, and the Archdiocese of Southwark)
- neighbouring local authorities
- the wider community.

The key stages in the consultation process are:

- In **May and June 2009** the local authority is asking for comments on the consultation paper and at the same time is conducting further feasibility studies on the suitability of schools sites for expansion and potential new sites.
- On **7 July 2009** a report on the strategy for expansion will be submitted to the Council Executive for approval to carry out statutory consultations on expanding schools and/or establishing new school(s) as appropriate.

How the consultation process proceeds depends on whether an existing school is being expanded or a new school is being established.

The local authority plans to start statutory consultation from September 2009 as it is not considered good practice to consult during school holiday periods.

- 1) For **the expansion of an existing school** the timescale for the statutory process is approximately 5 months. However if one or more appeals is received the process is likely to take longer as appeals are referred to the schools adjudicator and there is no set time for them to make a decision.
- 2) For **the establishment of a new school** the process is more involved with a timescale of at least 9 months. This means the local authority would not be able to start work on implementing its proposals before June 2010 at the earliest.

It is the local authority's aim, as far as possible, to have the permanent expansion of its primary schools completed ready for the start of the **autumn term in September 2011** with the need for an interim measure of some schools housing additional temporary classrooms for September 2010 to allow the necessary building works to take place.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Why is the local authority consulting?**

The local authority is obliged by law to ensure that there are enough places in the borough's schools to meet demand and wants to make sure this is done in a way which takes account of parental preference and ensures that the quality and the diversity of schooling that it is able to offer remains high.

### **How have the schools been selected for this consultation?**

All schools were approached to express an interest in the possibility of expanding their schools on a permanent basis. Discussions with Governing Bodies are ongoing and at this stage all schools that expressed an interest are included in this consultation.

### **How will the local authority select the schools for expansion?**

When considering schools for expansion the local authority has looked initially at where demand for places is greatest and how this is likely to change in future years. Other criteria used for selection are:

- the feasibility of expansion on the existing school site
- the estimated cost in line with the need to provide value for money
- the likely impact on school standards and pupil welfare
- the expected level of disruption to members of the school community and those living close to the school
- the potential size of the expanded school in line with local authority policy on maximum size
- the need to accommodate parental preference wherever possible.

### **How does the local authority predict the number of school places needed?**

Kingston upon Thames in common with many other London local authorities uses the Greater London Authority's school roll projection service to estimate the number of pupils likely to require a school place in future years. The projections are based on actual population and school roll data for recent years and include a number of assumptions about things likely to affect future demand such as patterns of migration and planned housing developments. The local authority supplements the Greater London Authority projections by looking at other factors such as the birth to reception cohort survival rate and figures provided by the Primary Care Trust on live birth rates and the number of children being registered with a general practitioner

### **Will the local authority guarantee that once they have added the extra places in reception the same number of places will remain available for these children as they move up through school?**

Yes that will be the case. Once the additional reception places have been created, the number of places available for that cohort will remain the same from reception through to Year 6. The local authority keeps the number of places available in its schools under constant review to ensure that supply is in line with demand allowing for some surplus capacity.

The Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme addresses the need to expand secondary provision to accommodate the increasing numbers of pupils. Within the strategy the local authority has agreed to establish a new secondary school and consultation on the location of this school will take place late May/early June 2009.

**The local authority has said it expects the expansion to cost between £20 million and £30 million. Where is the money for this going to come from?**

The money required by a local authority to expand its schools is provided by central government. Because the increase in demand for primary school places, not only in Kingston upon Thames but across London as a whole, has been much greater than expected this funding is not enough to cover the significant cost of building extra classrooms or new schools.

Kingston upon Thames will use some of the funding received as part of the Primary Capital Programme (a Government initiative to rebuild or remodel up to half of all primary school buildings in England and Wales by 2022/23 to create primary schools that are equipped for 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning) to address the immediate need. In the meantime London local authorities are discussing with central government the need to have enough capital funding to be able to provide a school place guarantee to every child of primary school age.

**How will the current economic climate affect the local authority's plans?**

It is difficult to predict the impact the economic downturn is having on demand for school places however some evidence suggests that the increase in demand for places may be due to fewer parents sending their children to private schools. There is also some evidence to suggest that fewer families with children are moving away from the London area because the current state of the property market is making it harder to sell and this trend is likely to place extra pressure on local schools. The local authority reviews the school projections regularly to ensure that the number of places available is in line with changing demand.

**If the proposals are agreed how will that affect pupils already in the schools where the changes are planned?**

The local authority can assure parents that the quality of the education and the welfare of pupils are always given a high priority when seeking to make changes to the organisation of any of its schools. All pupils already in a school will remain on the school roll. Using our recent experience on major building projects at primary schools we aim to keep disruption to a minimum both for those attending and living close by the school.



# Primary Schools' Expansion – Response Form

Please choose where you would like the new classes to be in each of the planning areas. The number of new classes needed in each area is shown in bold. Please tick the right hand column to tell us your preferred options. The total number of extra classes you choose should equal the number of extra classes needed in the planning area. **Please only return one form.**

## Kingston Town : Planning Area 1

School	Proposed total number of pupils per year	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed number of extra classes	Please tick which options you prefer <b>4 extra classes needed</b>
Alexandra Infant	90	3	1	
Fern Hill Primary 1*	90	3	1	*
Fern Hill Primary 2*	120	4	2	*
King Athelstan Primary	90	3	1	
Latchmere School	120	4	1	
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	60	2	1	

\* Please choose only one of the Fern Hill options.

## Surbiton : Planning Area 2

School	Proposed total number of pupils per year	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed number of extra classes	Please tick which options you prefer <b>4½ or 5 extra classes needed</b>
Christ Church C of E Primary	90	3	1	
Maple Infant	90	3	1	
Grand Avenue Primary and Nursery	90	3	1	
St Matthew's C of E Primary	60	2	½	
Tolworth Infant and Nursery	120	4	1	
New School 1** (Surbiton Hospital Site)	60	2	2	**
New School 2** (Surbiton Hospital Site)	90	3	3	**

\*\* Only one new school can be selected in Surbiton.

## Maldens and Coombe : Planning Area 3

School	Proposed total number of pupils per year	Proposed total number of classes per year	Proposed number of extra classes	Please tick which options you prefer <b>4 extra classes needed</b>
Burlington Infant and Nursery	120	4	1	
Christ Church New Malden C of E Primary	90	3	1	
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary	90	3	1	
New School 1** (site to be agreed)	60	2	2	**
New School 2** (site to be agreed)	90	3	3	**

\*\* Only one new school can be selected in Maldens and Coombe.

## South of the Borough : Planning Area 4

An extra two classes are needed in the South of the Borough. The proposals are to provide an extra class at Ellingham Primary and Lovelace Primary. In this situation there are no options to choose from. If you have any comments please use the box on the next page.

Please  
turn over

Please add any other comments you would like to make on the suggestions for expanding primary school places in the borough. Please continue on an extra piece of paper if required.

**About you**

My postcode is

I am a  Parent/carer  Teacher  School Governor  
 Kingston Resident  Other – Please tell us \_\_\_\_\_

To make sure that we reach everyone in the community we have to monitor all equalities areas. Please fill in the details below to allow us to do this. Many thanks

**Gender:**  Male  Female  I prefer not to tell you

**What is your age?**  Under 16  16 – 25  26 – 35  36 – 45  
 46 – 55  56 – 65  66+  I prefer not to tell you

**What is your religion or belief?**  Christian  Buddhist  Hindu  Sikh  
 Jewish  Muslim  Atheist  Agnostic  
 I prefer not to tell you  Other – Please tell us \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your sexual orientation?**  Heterosexual (Man and Woman)  Lesbian  Gay  
 Bisexual  I prefer not to tell you  Other – Please tell us \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your ethnic group?**

White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British	Chinese or other ethnic group
<input type="checkbox"/> British <input type="checkbox"/> Irish <input type="checkbox"/> Any other White background Please tell us:	<input type="checkbox"/> White and Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> White and Black African <input type="checkbox"/> White and Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Mixed background Please tell us:	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian <input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/> Tamil <input type="checkbox"/> Korean <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Asian background Please tell us:	<input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/> African <input type="checkbox"/> Any other Black background Please tell us:	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese <input type="checkbox"/> Any other background Please tell us:
<input type="checkbox"/> I prefer not to tell you my ethnic group				

**Disability and Health**

Do you have a long-term physical or mental health condition or disability?

Yes  No  I prefer not to tell you

If yes, what is the nature of your disability, mental health or other health issue?

Physical/Mobility  Mental Health  Sensory  Health Diagnosis  
 Learning Disability  I prefer not to tell you  Other – Please tell us \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for completing this form. Please return it to a school or to the address below by **15 June 2009**.  
 Partnerships Team, Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames, Freepost KT644, Kingston, KT1 1BR.  
 (No need for a stamp.) It is also available online at [www.kingston.gov.uk](http://www.kingston.gov.uk).