



School Place Planning Strategy

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

March 2023

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1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the strategic framework for the provision and management of school places within the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames ('the council').
- 1.2 It does so to provide direction to the council in its fulfilment of its statutory school place planning duties as set out in the Education Act 1996, most notably section 14¹, which sets out the requirement to ensure enough state-funded mainstream and specialist school places for residents' children.
- 1.3 In practice, fulfilling this duty is, and always has been, difficult to define in simple terms, since all parents/carers also have the option for applying for state-funded schools outside the borough, and some have the additional option of applying for independent-sector schools both within and outside the borough, the extent of which is greater, but also more variable (per se and in discrete areas), in Kingston than in many LAs. The strategy therefore seeks to outline the impact of that and other factors which make local school place planning more challenging than might seem obvious.
- 1.4 Successful school place planning relies on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the following:
- Accurate data relating to children for whom school admission applications are made and places are allocated, and who are admitted into schools in the autumn.
 - Excellent working relationships with:
 - state-funded schools within the council's area;
 - neighbouring local authorities, of which Kingston has five: Merton; Richmond; Surrey; Sutton; and Wandsworth;
 - the Department for Education; and
 - the diocesan boards of education, of which three cover Kingston's administrative area: the Anglican dioceses of Guildford and Southwark, and the Catholic diocese of Southwark.
 - The provision of proposed large housing developments from which a significant 'pupil yield' – i.e. the forecast number of children who will need new state-funded school places within the vicinity – which might impact the supply of places.
 - Wider intelligence related to: parental perception of particular schools, which can sometimes be unjustly historic or can change very quickly due to circumstances such as the departure of a long-time headteacher; Ofsted judgements; economic circumstances; housing and school developments in neighbouring and other nearby local authorities (LAs); and inward and outward migration.
 - Intuition, born of experience and historical knowledge, which is, of course, difficult to quantify, but is key to interpreting the results of all the factors cited above.
- 1.5 Apart from at the point of release of the once-a-decade general population census data, which quickly becomes outdated, there is no reliable, up-to-date data-set of how many children there are in the borough and their ages which could be used to provide

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/section/14>.

a basis for forecasting likely pupil numbers in coming years. Nonetheless, there are enough data sources to enable the council to plan for, and ensure the supply of, places in a more than reasonably strategic manner. There is always a risk that unforeseen circumstances, especially those relating to external factors, such as rapid economic change and migration patterns, will necessitate re-evaluation of the council's strategy.

- 1.6 There are 51 entirely state-funded schools within the borough: one stand-alone maintained nursery (Surbiton Hill Nursery); 35 primary-phase; 11 secondary; three special and one alternative provision (Malden Oaks). The different governance and phase type of the 51 schools is tabulated below:

Phase	Type	Academies	Foundation	LA-Maintained	Voluntary-aided	Number	
EY	Nursery			Surbiton Hill		1	
Primary	Infant			Burlington Infant		4	
				Coombe Hill Infant			
				Maple Infant			
				Tolworth Infant			
	Junior				Burlington Junior	St Andrew's & St Mark's Junior	4
					Coombe Hill Junior		
					Tolworth Junior		
	All-through primary		Castle Hill	Lime Tree	Alexandra	Christ Church, New Malden	27
			Fern Hill	St Luke's	Ellingham	Christ Church, Surbiton	
			Green Lane		Grand Avenue	Corpus Christi	
			Knollmead		King Athelstan	Malden Parochial	
			Latchmere		King's Oak	Our Lady Immaculate	
			Robin Hood		Lovlace	St John's	
			St Agatha's		Malden Manor	St Joseph's	
					St Mary's		
					St Matthew's		
					St Paul's, Hook		
				St Paul's Kingston Hill			
Secondary		Chessington				11	
		Coombe Boys'					
		Coombe Girls'					
		Richard Challoner					
		Southborough					
		The Hollyfield					
		The Holy Cross					
		The Kingston Academy					
		Tiffin Girls'					
		Tiffin School					
		Tolworth Girls'					
Special		Bedelsford				3	
		Dysart					
		St Philip's					
Alternative provision				Malden Oaks		1	
Number		21	2	16	12		

Although 35 (21 academies, 12 voluntary-aided schools and two foundation schools) of the 51 are independent of the council, relationships with all schools are generally very good, so there have not been any major challenges regarding the provision of places within the borough. If further academisation were to happen to the point where few, if any, schools stay council-maintained, then that might make it more difficult for the council to fulfil its statutory duty. Maintaining good relationships with every school,

whatever their governance, within the local family of schools is a pre-requisite for effective school place planning and should not be under-estimated.

- 1.7 Insofar as reasonable arguments can be made to support them, this strategy makes recommendations for further actions or consideration, as appropriate. However, because any forward-looking document of this type quickly becomes out-of-date, it will need to be periodically refreshed in light of further changes in local circumstances, above all of school admission patterns.
- 1.8 Admissions patterns and other circumstances can occur contrary to expectations, and, as a result, school place planning is not, and never will be, an exact science.
- 1.9 Unless stated, all data given is Achieving for Children (AfC)'s, on behalf of the council.

Background

- 1.10 In November 2020, Kingston Council's then Children's and Adults' Care and Education Committee adopted a revised School Place Planning Strategy², following the adoption of a first version in November 2012 which was revised in March 2013 and June 2017.
- 1.11 This fifth version of the council's strategy therefore:
- provides an update on the provision of new school places since the November 2020 version of the strategy;
 - analyses recent and short- to medium-term forecast demand for mainstream and specialist school places;
 - considers how that demand could be met;
 - considers whether, when and where further school places will be required, giving options, where appropriate, for securing *local* school provision, to ensure that children and young people can be educated within their home community, without being dependent on private car usage for home to school travel; and
 - considers whether temporary reductions in forms of entry in some schools will need to continue and for how long before demand again increases.
- 1.12 The Mayor's London Plan (March 2021)³ states that,

To ensure there is a sufficient supply of good quality education and childcare facilities to meet demand and offer educational choice, boroughs should:

1) prepare Development Plans that are informed by a needs assessment of education and childcare facility needs. Needs should be assessed locally and sub-regionally, addressing cross-boundary issues. Needs assessments should include an audit of existing facilities.

2) identify sites for future provision through the Development Plan process,

² See item 54, here: <https://moderngov.kingston.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=662&Mid=9064>.

³ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf, pp.222–3

particularly in areas with significant planned growth or need for school places (including Special Educational Needs and Disability places).

3) ensure that development proposals for housing and commercial facilities incorporate suitable childcare provision and encourage nursery provision within primary schools, where there is a need.

1.13 The London Plan also states⁴ that there is:

There is a growing need for school places in London, with projected need for 705,000 mainstream state-funded primary school places required for the academic year 2018/19. This is an increase of 7,000 over the number of places required in 2016/17. The level of need is projected to fall to 686,000 places a year by 2027/28. In 2016/17, there was a need for 403,000 places in mainstream state-funded secondary schools. The number of places required is projected to increase by 65,000, over the period to 2027/28. This need, particularly for secondary school places, requires a strategic approach to delivery, making it harder to quantify within individual boroughs. Boroughs are encouraged to work together to meet the needs for secondary school places. [. . .]

There is a need for an increase in Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision in London and it is important that these places are planned for. Some of this provision will be within mainstream schools and some within specialist schools.

While those estimates of required school places already appear outdated, this strategy is focused on the growing need for additional school places where they are needed.

1.14 However, the strategy also provides an assessment of falling rolls at Reception which have had a significant impact on a small number of primary-phase schools.

1.15 The work undertaken to provide additional school places in the last 15 years has given the borough a platform from which it can meet the challenges of the coming years. However, forecasting and meeting demand for places in a borough where educational standards and parental expectations are generally very high is not, and never has been, straightforward, not least because of geography which presents barriers to school admission patterns: the Thames, the Hogsmill corridor including the sewage works, the A3 (Kingston by-pass), the south-west mainline railway and Richmond Park.

1.16 The significant progress made in recent times has involved the usage of much of the usable space on existing schools' sites. It is also the case that opportunities for the council or the Department for Education (DfE) and its agencies to acquire and use new sites for school provision have become much scarcer. The prevailing economic circumstances in the UK have further reduced the likelihood of the acquisition or re-purposing of sites within the borough for new schools or satellite centres.

1.17 It is noted, too, that despite the council's wish to see school places provided locally, where they are needed, its inability, by law, to establish state-funded schools and to

⁴ The London Plan, op. cit., pp.224–5

decide the location of new schools are constraints which impede its efforts to meet its statutory duty, as outlined in Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 (as amended), to provide school places for residents, and particularly within their home community.

- 1.18 The Department for Education (DfE) now have much more oversight of local authority mainstream (but not SEND) school place planning than they used to as a result of: more regular meetings between their Pupil Place Planning team’s advisers and LA place planning officers; more rigorous qualitative assessment and sign-off procedures for the annual School Capacity (SCAP) return; and the publication of ‘Local Authority School Places Scorecards’ to provide inter-authority performance comparisons.
- 1.19 The most recent School Places Scorecards, for 2021⁵, show that the accuracy rates of Kingston’s pupil forecasts compared favourably with those of neighbouring LAs:

Primary phase:

Local authority	Accuracy in the previous year	Accuracy in the previous three years
Kingston	-0.6%	+2.3%
Merton	+1.2%	+5.3%
Richmond	+0.7%	+3.4%
Surrey	+3.2%	+6.9%
Wandsworth	+3.2%	+8.0%

Secondary phase:

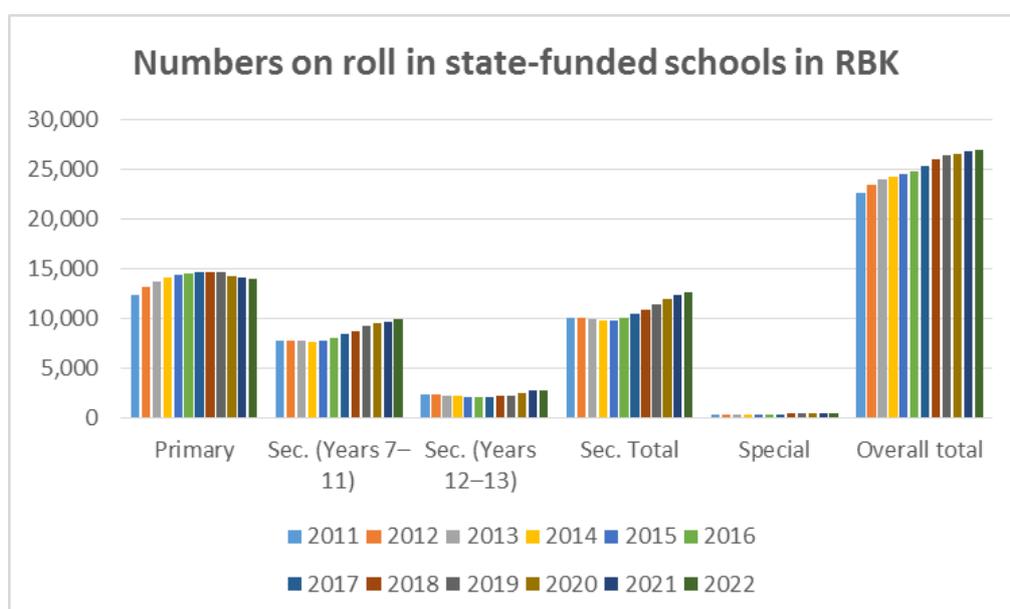
Local authority	Accuracy in the previous year	Accuracy in the previous three years
Kingston	+0.2%	-0.1%
Merton	+0.2%	+3.8%
Richmond	-0.2%	+1.5%
Surrey	+3.2%	+7.0%
Wandsworth	+1.0%	+6.0%

⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-school-places-scorecards-2021>

2. OVERALL PUPIL POPULATION

2.1 As the table and chart below show, the overall pupil population, from Reception to Year 13, of state-funded primary, secondary and special schools within the borough has increased in every year since 2011. In October 2022, there were 4,387 more children and young people (19.4%) in the schools than in October 2012.

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Primary	12,282	13,148	13,727	14,087	14,329	14,443	14,609	14,689	14,584	14,157	14,037	13,910
Sec. (Years 7–11)	7,683	7,740	7,683	7,621	7,708	8,000	8,388	8,702	9,190	9,441	9,654	9,918
Sec. (Years 12–13)	2,376	2,322	2,230	2,183	2,106	2,043	1,985	2,170	2,234	2,472	2,688	2,689
Sec. Total	10,059	10,062	9,913	9,804	9,814	10,043	10,373	10,872	11,424	11,913	12,342	12,607
Special	253	270	267	273	300	308	333	376	406	427	450	464
Overall total	22,594	23,480	23,907	24,164	24,443	24,794	25,315	25,937	26,414	26,497	26,829	26,981



During this period, the number of state-funded schools (excluding Surbiton Hill Nursery) increased from 49 to 51 in 2015, through the opening of Kingston Community School and The Kingston Academy, but then decreased to 50 in 2020, through the DfE's closure of Kingston Community School.

2.2 Within that overall roll-number increase, other changes are apparent:

- The total primary-phase pupil population in autumn 2022 was the smallest since 2013, having increased by 2,407 children (19.6%) from 2011 to the peak of 2018, since when it has decreased by 779 (5.3%).
- The total secondary-phase pupil population has increased by 2,548 children and young people (25.3%): 2,235 (29.1%) in Years 7 to 11, and 313 (13.2%) in the sixth form years, with an increase of 1,216 11–16 students in the last four years.
- The total special school population has increased by 211 (83.4%), including an increase of 156 (51.9%) since 2016.

3. HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS AND PUPIL YIELD

- 3.1 The Mayor’s London Plan (March 2021)⁶ sets a target for an additional 11,870 net housing completions, including 2,250 through small site developments, to be provided in the period between 2019/2020 and 2028/2029, equating to 1,187 per year.
- 3.2 Given local authorities’ limited financial resources, there is innate potential for conflicting priorities between ensuring sufficient local state-funded school capacity and increasing the supply of housing, specifically *affordable* housing.
- 3.3 There are more large major housing developments approved, planned or likely to come forward within the borough than appeared probable in 2020:

	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4+ bed	Total units	Status
Cambridge Road Estate	799	695	489	7	2,170*	Approved
Canbury car park	274	138	33	0	445	To be amended
Cocks Crescent					350	To be submitted
County Hall, Penrhyn Road					500	To be submitted
Eden Walk	9	154	177	40	380	Approved
Former Hotel Antoinette	37	22	26	4	89	Occupied
Hawks Road clinic	39	67	19	0	125	Approved
Kingston East, Kingston Road	112	127	58	0	297	Being occupied
Motspur Park gasholders					400	To be submitted
One New Malden, Blagdon Road	22	48	21	2	93	
Queenshurst, Sury Basin	118	161	36	0	315	Occupied
Royal Exchange, Brook Street	80	201	39	0	320	Being built
Signal Park, Hook Road South	351	491	108	0	950	Being built
Surrey House, and adjacent	57	28	30	0	115	Being built
Tolworth Tower					492	To be submitted

* The net gain from regeneration of the existing estate is **1,338** units

If all these developments were built, in these numbers, they would provide a net addition of 6,000+ units in the next five to 10 years.

- 3.4 Other large developments are likely to be proposed, for, e.g. sites along Kingston Road; part of Surbiton station car park; Thameside Wharf; and sites in Kingston town centre.
- 3.5 In addition, there will be many much smaller developments which will have a cumulative impact on demand for state-funded school places, but which are much harder to track and therefore to quantify in terms of pupil yield.

Assessing child and pupil yield

- 3.6 There is no simple method of assessing the likely *child* yield from a proposed housing development, and then the *pupil* yield, i.e. the numbers of children who will need new state-funded school places within the borough, most likely near the development site.

⁶ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf, pp.163 and 168.

3.7 At its most basic, an assessment can be made using the following model formula:

Number of primary / secondary age children by age and size of property (i.e. number of bedrooms) (child yield)

X Number of units of each particular size

X Percentage of children likely to need a new state-funded school close to the development (pupil take-up)

= Number of children generated for each school type (pupil yield)

3.8 Over the years, housing developers have commissioned research into both the first and third stages of this formula, which naturally sought to minimise the child and pupil yield amounts so that the amounts of s.106 contributions towards education would also be minimised; however, there has been an absence of *independent*, up-to-date research.

3.9 Kingston has never had a robust formula for calculating the likely ‘pupil yield’ – i.e. the amount of children who will need new school places – from future housing developments in the Borough. Some work was undertaken during 2020 to ascertain the pupil yield from the Queenshurst development, to inform a possible formula for Kingston; however, the survey of occupants produced a low response which was statistically unreliable for use in a generic formula.

3.10 While s.106 contributions were still being requested, Kingston’s neighbour Richmond Council for many years used a formula derived from London Research Centre data, based on 1991 statistics, as set out below, which took no account of age.

No of bedrooms	1	2	3	4
Number of children	0.08	1.61	1.99	3.29

3.11 In 2006, a Planning Inquiry was held into the Sandy Lane housing development in Teddington, less than a mile from the Kingston boundary, in which the developer argued that the education contribution which Richmond Council was seeking was too high because the yield numbers took no true account of the first and fourth stages of the model formula above, i.e. that account needed to be taken of age, and that a dampener should be applied for the number of children who would stay in their current school and therefore not need a new school place close to the development. Although the Planning Inspector did not sanction the usage of an alternative formula proposed the developer, he nonetheless agreed that the Richmond formula was generally over-forecasting the number of children who would need new places and therefore the amount of s.106 education contributions which Richmond Council was seeking.

3.12 As a result of the Inquiry findings, Richmond Council’s Housing Department⁷ commissioned new research, based on occupation of a number of new dwellings within

⁷ The principal author of this strategy wishes to acknowledge the work undertaken by Colin Waters.

the borough, which was subsequently peer-reviewed by the GLA Demography Team and recognised as good practice.

- 3.13 That research led to the adoption of a formula incorporating the following average child-yield numbers per bedrooms:

	Number of bedrooms			
Age years	1	2	3	4
0-4	0	0.74	0.66	0.77
5-10	0	0.30	1.00	1.23
11-16	0	0.08	0.72	1.23

- 3.14 If this formula were applied to three developments in Kingston Borough, they would produce the following forecast child yields:

Kingston East, Kingston Road

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	112		127		58		0		
0-4		0		94		38		0	132
5-10		0		38		58		0	96
11-16		0		10		42		0	52
Total		0		142		138		0	280

Queenshurst, Sury Basin

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	118		161		36		0		
0-4		0		119		24		0	143
5-10		0		48		48		0	96
11-16		0		13		26		0	39
Total		0		180		98		0	278

Signal Park, Hook Road South

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	351		491		108		0		
0-4		0		363		71		0	434
5-10		0		147		108		0	255
11-16		0		39		78		0	117
Total		0		549		257		0	806

- 3.15 If the following are taken into account, it might be reasonable to suggest that the yield figures above look somewhat conservative:
- It is possible, perhaps probable, that since 2006, the average numbers of children per bedroom have grown so the rates in the child yield formula at paragraph 3.13 may well be under-estimating yields, particularly for 11–15 year-olds as evidenced by recent in-year admission numbers (even though it is understandable that families are less likely, on the whole, to move if their children are settled in KS3 and/or KS4).
 - As yet unpublished DfE guidance on assessing pupil yield states that recent studies have concluded that housing developments take an average of eight years from initial occupation to reach peak child yield, not least because some initial occupants subsequently have more babies.
 - The idea that one-bedroom units would have no children living within them needs to be revisited in the light of anecdotal information.
- 3.16 The work undertaken following the Sandy Lane inquiry also examined the need for a ‘dampener’ to be applied to estimated child yields in order to forecast *pupil* yields. Cross-checking with the pupil census led to a finding that around 67% of the children moving into the analysed developments were reckoned *not* to create additional net demand for state-funded school places; either because they had been attending the same school at least one year before their house-move as they did after, or because they were already being educated at a school within the borough before moving or because they are not attending an in-borough state-funded school.
- 3.17 If that dampener were applied to the three estimated child yields tabulated in paragraph 3.14, then the resulting pupil yields would be as follows. Please note that for children aged 0–4, it is assumed that the dampener should only be applied to a quarter of this age-group, i.e. the four-year-olds, because all the younger children would not have been attending a state-funded school prior to moving in and would not need a state-funded school place until they subsequently reached Reception age.

Age years	Kingston East	Queenshurst	Signal Park
0–3	33	53	326
4	11	12	36
5–10	32	32	84
11–16	17	13	39
Total	93	110	485

- 3.18 These numbers of children would be the *initial* pupil yields from the first full occupation of each of the three developments. Clearly, the majority of the 0–3 children would, in due course, require a state-funded school place from Reception age onwards.
- 3.19 Since 2006, the take-up rates from birth into Reception and from Year 6 into Year 7 have significantly increased in the borough, so the 67% dampener needs to be reduced; hence the pupil yield numbers in the table in paragraph 3.17 are likely to be under-estimates.
- 3.20 Such pupil yield data would need to be re-visited once the particular development(s) were fully occupied. Allowance would also need to be taken for the different types of tenure: affordable and shared-ownership units would be more likely to yield children and

young people who require new *state-funded* – as opposed to independent sector – school places than those in market units. The average numbers of children which developments may yield are subject to variable skewing by tenure.

- 3.21 It is the case that after the initial occupation of a development some occupants will subsequently move out, for various reasons, e.g. some units will become short-term lets. In every instance, that movement has three potential consequences from a school place planning perspective: (a) any such leavers who already, or will, have children in state-funded schools may need new places for those children in the areas to which they move, but those areas might be outside the borough; (b) any such leavers might be replaced by families who need new local state-funded school places for their children; and (c) if the home vacated by the replacing mover-in is also within the borough, then that property may also be filled by a family whose children need new local state-funded school places (and so on). It would be difficult to track these impacts for any large housing development over the period of time required, perhaps up to 10 years after the initial occupation.
- 3.22 When the DfE publish their pupil yield guidance, applicable best practice will be factored into the council’s forecasts of pupil rolls. It is anticipated that this will include research undertaken into actual pupil yields in the years following initial occupation, and into the dampener to be applied to child yields in order to estimate pupil yields.
- 3.23 An assessment of the *child* yield from all the recently (since 2018) approved major applications, using the methodology outlined above, produces the following data:

Age years	Number of bedrooms			
	1	2	3	4
0–4	0	0.74	0.66	0.77
5–10	0	0.30	1.00	1.23
11–16	0	0.08	0.72	1.23

Age years	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
0–4	2087	0	2608	1930	1160	766	59	45	2741
5–10		0		782		1160		73	2015
11–16		0		209		835		73	1117
Total		0		2712		2761		191	5873

- 3.24 Full, up-to-date occupation dates and phasing of these developments is not readily available so allocating the forecast *pupil* yield from these numbers to particular school years is far from simple. The forecast pupil yields from some developments have been factored into the forecast Reception numbers in section 4, but doing so for Year 7 is much harder, as section 5 outlines.
- 3.25 What is certain is that these and other developments will have profound individual and collective impacts on demand for state-funded school places within the borough.

4. PRIMARY PHASE

- 4.1 Between 2011 and 2016, the Council ensured the addition of 14.5 forms of entry (FE) at Reception, in addition to the original capacity of 51.5 FE, a 28.2% increase:

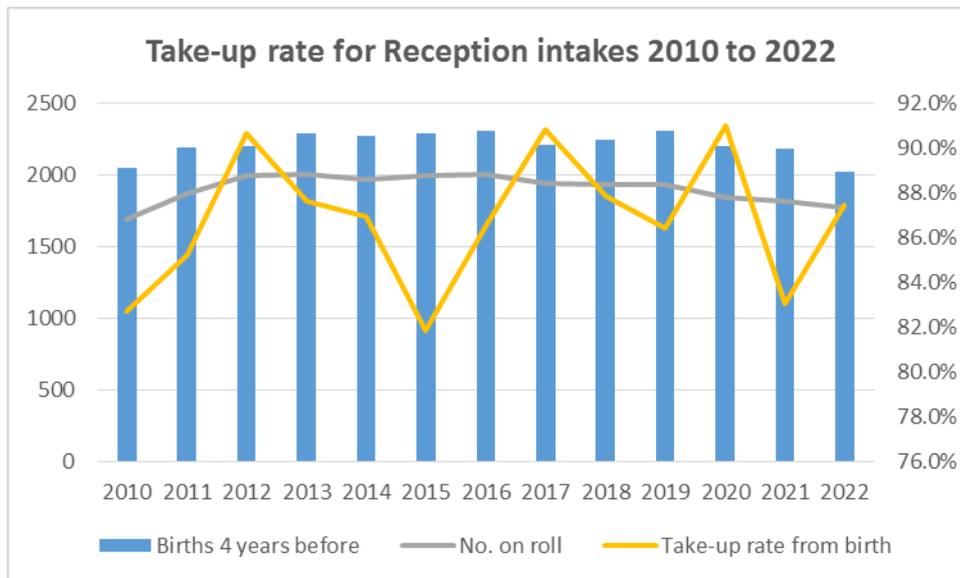
Expansions		Free schools		Other new school		Totals	
FE	Places	FE	Places	FE	Places	FE	Places
10.5	2,205	2	420	2	420	14.5	3,045

- 4.2 Those places were made up as follows:
- 2011: Permanent expansions: Alexandra Infant and St Paul’s Junior (2FE to 3FE); Burlington Infant and Junior 3FE (to 4FE); Ellingham (1FE to 2FE); Fern Hill (2FE to 3FE); Grand Avenue (2FE to 3FE); Latchmere (3FE to 4FE); St Matthew’s (2.5FE to 3FE)
 - 2012: New foundation school: Lime Tree (2FE)
 - 2014: Permanent expansion: King’s Oak (2FE to 3FE); Lovelace (2FE to 3FE)
 - 2015: New free school: Kingston Community School (2FE). Permanent expansion: Maple Infants’ and St Andrew’s and St Mark’s Junior (2FE to 3FE)
 - 2016: Alexandra Infant and St Paul’s Junior (conversion from 3FE infant and junior schools into 2FE primary schools, thereby adding 1FE)
- 4.3 In every year from 2013 to 2021 inclusive, there was a ‘bulge’ class, i.e. a temporary 1FE expansion, at either Christ Church Primary, Surbiton (2013–2017, 2020 and 202) or Tolworth Infant and Junior (2018 and 2019), to meet demand in Surbiton and Tolworth.
- 4.4 A key factor in the birth and roll number increases was the socioeconomic circumstances before and after the Crash of 2008. The table below shows that: the birth-rate grew by 519 children (29%) in the decade from 2002; fluctuated; then rose to a peak in 2015; before falling by 488 children (21.1%) from 2016 to 2020; before increasing again, perhaps due to Covid lockdowns, in 2021:

Birth year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
No. births	1787	1794	1945	2000	2046	2197	2202	2292	2270	2289	2306	2211	2246	2314	2204	2185	2025	1946	1826	1849
Reception year	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
No. on roll					1692	1873	1996	2008	1974	2000	2006	1947	1932	1938	1845	1815	1771			
Take-up rate					82.7%	85.3%	90.6%	87.6%	87.0%	81.8%	86.6%	90.8%	87.9%	86.4%	91.0%	83.1%	87.5%			

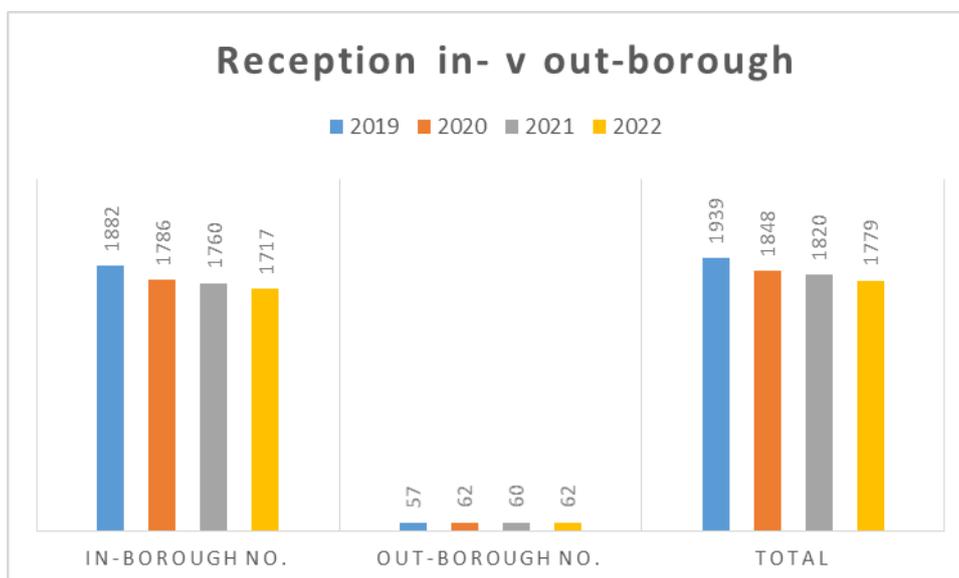
N.B. Roll number data for 2006-2009 has not been retained.

- 4.5 Despite the birth-rate’s net downward trend in the last six years, the take-up rate from birth, i.e. the number of children in Reception in October expressed as a percentage of those born in the borough four years before, has largely stayed high, the main exception being 2021, when the Reception intake was affected by Covid avoidance. The highest rate so far (91.0%) was for the 2020 intake.



- 4.6 What is apparent, therefore, is that the take-up rate doesn't directly correlate to the birth-rate four years before but is also influenced by other factors, most obviously the inward and outward migration in the intervening four years. While that has always been anecdotally known, here is clear evidence.
- 4.7 Six major reasons for the non-correlation are obvious:
- A proportion of Reception places is taken by children born and still living outside the borough at the time of application and admission, especially those near the borough's boundaries with: the Elmbridge part of Surrey; the New Malden and Coombe areas of Merton; the Ham area of Richmond; and the Worcester Park area of Sutton.
 - A proportion of Reception places is taken by children born outside the borough who, since their birth, have (with their family) moved into the borough.
 - Some children who were born in the borough move out of it prior to Reception admission and therefore do not take up a place in a Kingston primary school, but the rate of this is less than the inward migration outlined at (b).
 - Some children who were born in the borough, and are still living within it, take up places in out-borough state-funded primary schools. In practice, though, few Kingston parents/carers apply for, and are then admitted to, out-borough schools – for the September 2022 Reception intake, only 4.7% of in-borough applicants (85 out of 1,767) were offered a place in an out-borough school, whereas 103 out-borough children were offered a place in a Kingston Borough.
 - Economic factors affect the ability of parents/carers to choose independent-sector schools for their children.
 - Kingston schools' educational standards are very high compared with elsewhere and therefore more able to withstand the challenge of an overall reduced number of children within the borough and south-west / west London.
- 4.8 Data from 2018 onwards show that no more than 3.5% of the total Reception cohort in Kingston schools consists of out-borough children, and that neither the number nor proportion has varied much in each of the last three years:

Year of entry	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
In-borough no.	1872	1882	1786	1760	1717
In-borough %	96.7%	97.1%	96.6%	96.7%	96.5%
Out-borough no.	63	57	62	60	62
Out-borough %	3.3%	2.9%	3.4%	3.3%	3.5%
Total	1935	1939	1848	1820	1779



- 4.9 Before examining what impact the take-up rate pattern and its underlying factors might have on short- to medium-term demand for Reception places in the borough, it is necessary to summarise what has changed in the last few years.
- 4.10 [Appendix 1](#) shows how individual schools' Reception capacities changed between 2007 and 2022. No new places have been added, either temporarily or permanently since 2016. Kingston Community School closed in August 2020 (see paragraph 4.11 below); but, unlike in some other LA areas, no schools have *permanently* reduced their intake by a form of entry or more, e.g. by withdrawal, or permanent repurposing, of classrooms.
- 4.11 In 2020, the DfE decided to close Kingston Community School – due to low roll numbers, partly caused by the school's lack of a permanent site, and the financial situation of Chapel Street, the trust which ran the school. The impact of the closure was less significant than was envisaged. However, the DfE's contractor continued to deliver what would have been the school's permanent accommodation, on the Kingstons House site, in Coombe Road, Norbiton, so that a new school could open when needed, i.e. in keeping with demand. That is expected to be no earlier than September 2026, by when demand from Kingston East and other developments, including the first phase of the Cambridge Road Estate regeneration, will have helped to fill King's Oak towards its three-form entry capacity. In anticipation of the new school's eventual opening, the DfE are holding a competition in 2023 to choose a high-quality education provider to run the school. AfC, on behalf of the council, will be involved in the selection process.
- 4.12 Precisely aligning the timing of a new school with enough demand to fill it straightaway, or at least quickly, is not straightforward because new schools are free schools, i.e. established by the DfE; and because, although they tend to be popular with

parents/carers who might otherwise opt for private schools, it is difficult to know how many parents/carers will take the 'leap of faith' to take up places at a school with no track record. Nonetheless, AfC and the council as a whole are working closely with the DfE and education providers to ensure that alignment will be the best that it can possibly be for the new primary in Norbiton, and also for Surbiton Primary Academy and the Church of England secondary.

- 4.13 *Temporary* reductions of published admission numbers (PANs) for Reception entry have been implemented in the following two schools: King's Oak and Lime Tree. Both schools have seen numbers drop due to parental perception: King's Oak has suffered from historical perceptions which do not match the reality of the standards in the school; and Lime Tree's numbers have dropped since Ofsted downgraded the school from 'good' to 'requires improvement' in June 2019.
- 4.14 Compared with other London LAs, Kingston's Reception numbers have held up well and not experienced anything like the scale of falling rolls which has beset some LAs.
- 4.15 Factors to be taken into account when considering permanent reductions of PANs, repurposing of classrooms and other school reorganisations include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:
- a) **Whether reducing capacity might 'fetter' parental preference.** While parental preference is not the be-all and end-all of school place planning, the system of allocating state-funded places in England is based on the right of parents/carers to be able to express at least three preferences (in ranked order) and to be able to make an appeal to an independent appeals panel for any school for which a place cannot be allocated for their child. The Pan-London coordinated admissions scheme for Reception entry in which Kingston participates – along with 37 other LAs, including five adjoining Greater London – enables parents/carers to make up to six preferences. This context means that reducing the permanent capacity for oversubscribed schools in order to produce a more level playing field with undersubscribed schools would not be an option where the reduced capacity would, based on recent admissions patterns, be insufficient to meet a reasonable proportion of demand. The Schools Adjudicator has ruled against this practice in a recent adjudication, and in her annual report for 2021⁸. It could also lead to complaints to the Local Government Ombudsman, which would probably be upheld on the grounds of unfairness. Parental preference therefore ties LAs' and schools' hands because it results in the 'market' dictating pupil numbers.
 - b) **The wider availability of places within the locality.** The LA and the school concerned would need to be satisfied that, on the balance of probability, recent and forecast admissions patterns indicate that there would still be a sufficiency of local state-funded places across the locality for children living within it whose parents want one for them. This assessment carries the innate risk that circumstances can change quickly, as happened in the borough between 2010 and 2012 when, as the table at paragraph 4.4 shows, there was a large (18%), mostly birth-increase-driven spike in

⁸ See paragraph 17 of the report:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1065162/O_SA_annual_report_2021.pdf

demand. For schools which are situated close to the borough's boundary and/or traditionally admit a significant number of out-borough children, the assessment of future demand would also need to involve discussion with the LAs concerned so that the decisions to be taken are complementary and in the wider best interest of both LAs and schools in both LAs. For example, if an under-subscribed Kingston school were proposed for permanent reduction by a form of entry but its nearest primary was one just outside Kingston which the maintaining LA were proposing for closure, it is possible that the Kingston school might end up being filled with more out-borough children at the expense of in-borough children living further away and therefore lead to supply issues within the Kingston locality.

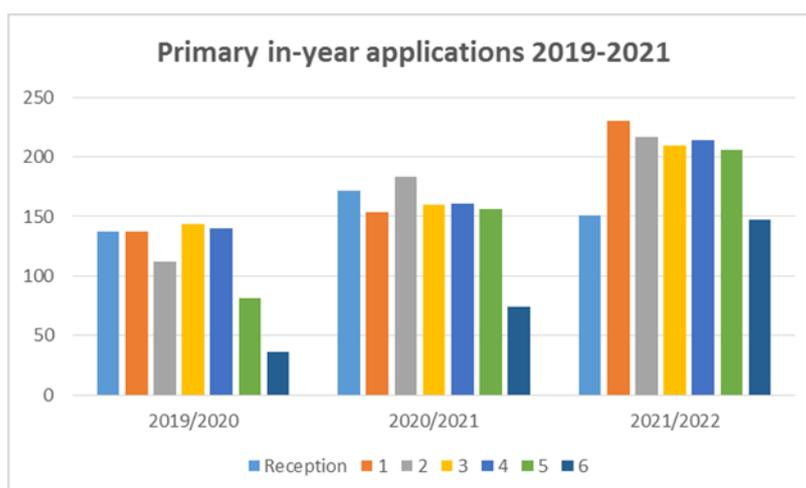
- c) **The longer-term likelihood of higher demand for places, both within the locality and for the school concerned.** Projecting forward much beyond four years (for which at least birth-rate data is available) is difficult to undertake with great precision at the most constant of times, but in periods of considerable demographic change and economic uncertainty it inevitably becomes harder. What needs to be weighed up is whether or not previous cyclical patterns of peaks and troughs of demand are likely to be repeated, in which case it might be prudent to retain permanent capacity for the peaks, because repurposing classrooms for other uses might not very easily be undone – as some LAs found during the immediate post-Crash years. The time and capital investment needed to re-purpose rooms for, say, a specialist resource provision (SRP) mean that, ideally, the new use would be for the long term. In deciding whether an undersubscribed school should use spare accommodation to open an SRP, the LA and the school would need to consider whether the SRP might also end up being under-subscribed, which would add to the council's High Needs overspend. However, there are some schools, such as King's Oak, which, though they are currently under-subscribed for mainstream admissions, have SRPs which are oversubscribed.
- d) **Some alternative uses of spare accommodation might not be helpful.** For example, the borough already has more than enough private, voluntary and Independent (PVI) nursery places to meet demand, so if a school were to lease spare classrooms to a PVI nursery provider it would further saturate the market and add to the sustainability challenges of maintained nurseries run by state-funded primary schools. (Please see the [Early Years](#) section of this strategy for detail.) However, a joint management arrangement between the school and the PVI might prove helpful in the short to medium term, subject to there being a break clause in the event of the classrooms again being required for primary places.
- e) **A permanent reduction means that there is no chance of recovery to the previous full (or near-full) subscription.** Repurposing for a long-term use, without a break clause, would be a final decision and very difficult to reverse. It might also be perceived by parents as a sign that the school has a lack of self-belief, which could lead to deeper undersubscription, in the short term at least, and lead to other schools filling to the point of oversubscription at the school's expense.
- f) **Other school re-organisations might be as, if not more, effective than permanently reducing capacity.** For example, federating with a more popular school or joining a multi-academy trust (MAT), in order to achieve (further) economies of scale and, possibly, rebrand under the umbrella of the other school or MAT.

- 4.16 Determining how soon a temporary reduction ought to become permanent is hard to judge and the decision for any such school would need to be made in accordance with the particular circumstances and the factors set out above. The size of school can be crucial: larger schools can generally withstand the impact of falling rolls because they can achieve greater economies of scale. Conversations with schools will be ongoing, in light of changing admission patterns, so that appropriate and timely action can be taken.
- 4.17 However, the likelihood is that spare places will be filled in the next five to 10 years and that more places will be needed to meet demand. This is considered later in this section.

In-year admissions and leavers

- 4.18 The next factors to be considered in for short- to medium-term decision-making are the numbers of movers-into the borough – for child(ren) concerned who are too old to be allocated a place through the coordinated Reception admissions process – and leavers.
- 4.19 Since 2019, there has been a large increase in in-year admissions – i.e. applications for any year-group other than in the coordinated entry process for Reception entry:

School year	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Reception	137	172	151
1	137	154	230
2	112	183	217
3	144	160	210
4	140	161	214
5	81	156	206
6	36	74	147
Total	787	1,060	1,375



Although up to a third, on average, of these applications in each school year were made by families already resident in the borough who wanted their children to change schools, two-thirds-plus were made by families who have moved here from other areas of the UK

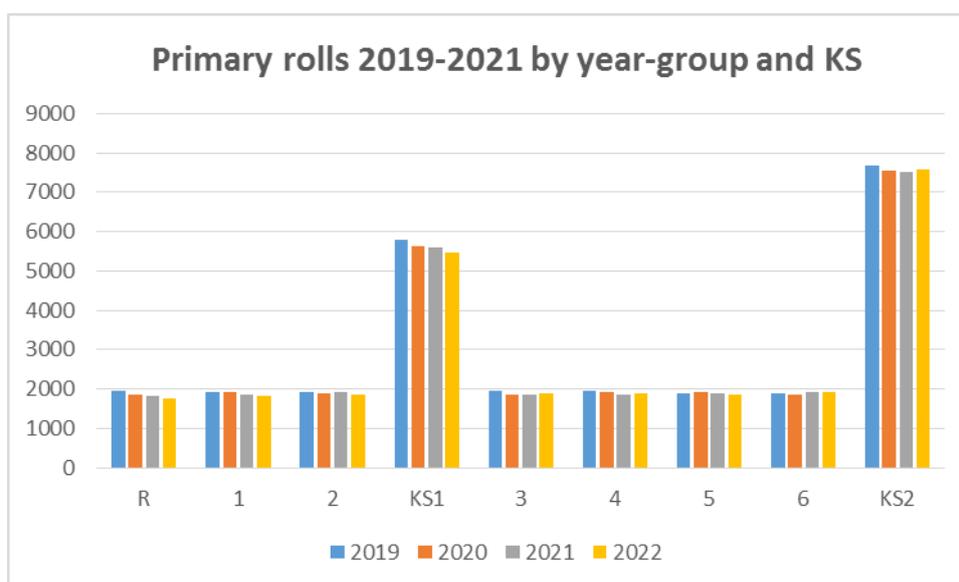
(c.23%) or from other countries (c.44%) and are therefore seeking new school places. The total of 1,375 in 2021/2022 equates to applications for 115 children per month.

4.20 In the first five months of the current school year, there were 591 primary-phase applications for schools within the borough, equating to 118 per month. The numbers of in-year leavers are not recorded.

4.21 These increases have helped to mitigate the lower numbers of children admitted into Reception in the last few years. In part, they have been driven by families who have moved into the borough from Hong Kong; a total of 468 primary-aged children since September 2020, including 42 in the current school year. Kingston is one of four London boroughs which has experienced such large numbers – the others are Barnet, Richmond and Sutton. Many of the Hong Kong arrivals have settled in North Kingston. It is expected that families from Hong Kong will continue to arrive as the situation there develops.

4.22 Year-group totals for the borough’s primary schools for the last four years are as follows:

	R	1	2	EY/KS1	3	4	5	6	KS2	Total
2019	1938	1932	1925	5795	1952	1947	1883	1903	7685	13480
2020	1845	1911	1886	5642	1862	1913	1907	1861	7543	13185
2021	1815	1854	1919	5588	1866	1849	1899	1913	7527	13115
2022	1771	1835	1863	5469	1902	1878	1856	1931	7567	13036



4.23 These data show that during this four-year period:

- The overall number of children in the primary schools has decreased by 444 children from 13,480 in 2019 to 13,036 in 2022, a reduction of 3.3%.
- The number of children in EY/KS1 has decreased by 326, a reduction of 5.6%.
- The number of children in KS2 has decreased by 118, a reduction of 1.5%.
- The number of children in Year 6 has increased by 28, an increase of 1.5%.

4.24 The changes as individual cohorts have progressed through year-groups during those four years in the schools in two halves of the borough can be tabulated as follows:

	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2019	1938	1932	1925	1952	1947	1883	1903	13480
2020	1845	1911	1886	1862	1913	1907	1861	13185
2021	1815	1854	1919	1866	1849	1899	1913	13115
2022	1771	1835	1863	1902	1878	1856	1931	13036

4.25 From these data, the following changes can be discerned:

- The Reception cohort in 2019 decreased by 27 children by Year 1 in 2020, increased by eight by Year 2 in 2021, and then decreased by 17 in current Year 3 – a net reduction of 36 children (1.9%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 1 cohort in 2019 decreased by 46 children by Year 2 in 2020, decreased by 20 by Year 3 in 2021, and then increased by 12 in current Year 4 – a net reduction of 54 children (2.8%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 2 cohort in 2019 decreased by 63 children by Year 3 in 2020, decreased by 13 by Year 4 in 2021, and then increased by seven in current Year 5 – a net reduction of 69 children (3.6%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 3 cohort in 2019 decreased by 39 children by Year 4 in 2020, decreased by 14 by Year 5 in 2021 and then increased by 32 in current Year 6 – a net reduction of 21 children (1.1%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 4 cohort in 2019 decreased by 40 children by Year 5 in 2020 and then increased by six by Year 6 in 2021 – a net reduction of 34 children (1.7%) across the three-year period.
- The Reception cohort in 2020 increased by nine children by Year 1 in 2021, and then increased by a further nine in current Year 2 – a net increase of 18 children (1%) across the three-year period.
- The Reception cohort in 2021 increased by 20 children (1.1%) in current Year 1.
- The Reception cohort in 2022 is smaller than that of 2021 by 44 children.

4.26 More generally from these data, it is reasonable to conclude the following:

- There is significant drift to the independent sector and movers-out of the area in Year 3 (and in KS2 generally), but that is being offset to varying degrees by movers-in. However, we do not have a fully collated dataset for in-year leavers and starters, so discerning patterns which might provide granular trends to be factored into forecasts of Reception (and Year 7 pupil rolls) is very difficult.
- The most recent Year 5 cohort to progress into Year 6 shows a decrease of 22 children, but this has not led to a smaller cohort of in-borough Year 7 transfer applicants; on the contrary, it is substantially larger than for 2022 entry and prior years.

4.27 The increased numbers of in-year applications have led to reduced vacancies; as at February 2023, there are:

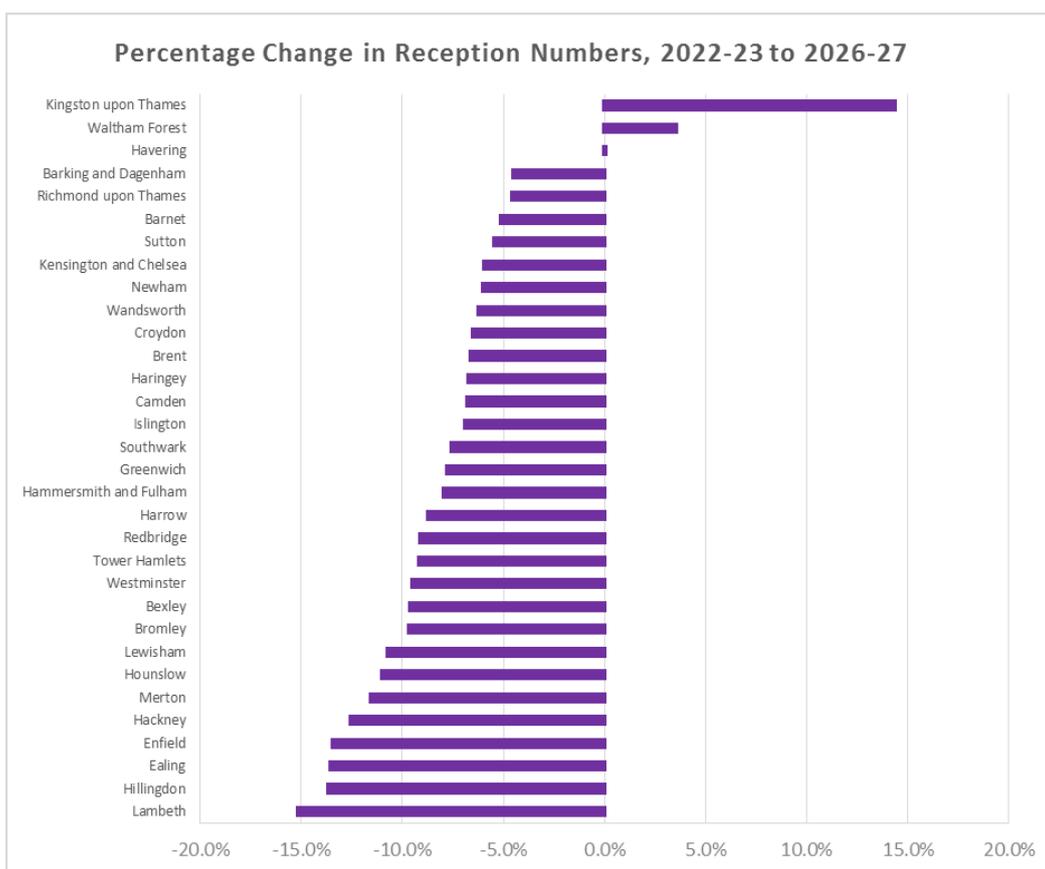
- Five places in KS2 in the six schools in North Kingston: one in Year 3 and five in Year 5;
- No vacancies in Year 6 in the four schools in Kingston Town and Norbiton;
- No vacancies in Reception (due to Lime Tree's 1FE reduction), Year 1 or Year 6 in the four schools in Surbiton;
- Eight vacancies across Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 in the four schools in Tolworth;
- All year-groups in the four schools in New Malden and Coombe are full except Year 5, which has two vacancies, and Reception;

- No vacancies in Reception and just two in Year 3 in the three schools in Old Malden and Worcester Park.
- 4.28 Other LAs in London and beyond have also experienced large increases in in-year admission applications. Richmond received 1,585 primary-phase applications (132 per month), up from 1,128 in 2020/2021 (94 per month), and received 651 applications (130 per month) in the first five months of the current school year.
- 4.29 As well as inward migration, a cause of these increases in applications for state-funded school places has also been the national economic downturn, i.e. movement from the independent sector, but data on this is not collectable.
- 4.30 Anecdotal evidence suggests that the proportion of children with additional needs is higher for in-year admissions than for the Reception and Year 7 coordinated rounds, which can make ensuring appropriate provision for individual children challenging.
- 4.31 In 2021, the number of children born in the borough was higher than in the previous year for the first time since 2015, up from 1,826 children in 2020 to 1,849.
- 4.32 It is likely that the national and individual economic circumstances will lead to higher birth-rates, as happened before and after the 2008 Crash.
- 4.33 [Appendix 3](#) shows the numbers on roll as at the autumn pupil census, in October 2022, in all 46 of the borough’s mainstream primary and secondary schools.
- 4.34 [Appendix 4](#) compares the Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll in October 2022 with initial and waiting-list offers made earlier in the year. Overall, the amount of waiting-list movement, i.e. offers which are refused and then re-offered to other children, is much less than for Year 7. The reasons for that are complex and include the following:
- Parents/carers generally prefer the primary school which their child attends to be much closer to home than the subsequent secondary, to which their children are far more likely to travel independently; which means that the amount of inter-authority ‘traffic’ for Reception entry is much less than for Year 7. For 2022 Reception entry, 85 Kingston children were initially offered a place at an out-borough school and 103 out-borough children were offered a place at a Kingston school; whereas the comparable figures for Year 7 entry were 349 and 581.
 - The number of places available at each primary-phase school is, of course, much lower than at each secondary-phase school. For 2022 entry, only two Kingston schools – Burlington Infant and Latchmere – offered up to 120 places, whereas all the secondary schools offered a minimum of 150 places, up to a maximum of 240.
 - Overall demand for Reception places in the borough has fallen since 2015, despite the take-up rate from birth remaining high.
- 4.35 [Appendix 5](#) compares the October 2021 and October 2022 Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll. For Reception, the principal conclusions to be drawn are as follows:
- Of the 31 Reception-intake schools, nine experienced an increase, 11 experienced a decrease and 11 had the same number.
 - Two – Green Lane and Robin Hood – of the 31 schools experienced an increase of 10 or more children, with the largest increase (16) at Green Lane.

- Two – Christ Church, Surbiton, and Lime Tree – of the 31 had a decrease of 10 or more children, with the largest decrease (28) at Lime Tree; these were due, respectively, to Christ Church reverting to its substantive PAN in 2022 after admitting a bulge class in 2021, and Lime Tree temporarily reducing its PAN for 2022 by a form of entry.
- 24 of the 31 experienced a change of five or fewer children, 11 of which were full.

4.36 For 2023 entry, the initial application numbers for Kingston schools show that there has been a substantial decrease of 129 fewer first preferences expressed for Kingston schools, and, before late applicants accepted as ‘on time’ are added, there are 90 fewer in-borough applicants than for 2022 entry. However, the indications are that these decreases will be a blip before the pupil yield from housing developments, and the impact of the migration referred to above, leads to increased demand for Reception places.

4.37 London Councils has recently published a document entitled *Managing the Drop in Demand for School Places in London*⁹ which indicates that, of the 32 LAs in London*, Kingston is one of just two who forecast increased demand for Reception between 2022/2023 and 2026/2027 inclusive, and Kingston’s is expected to be by far the largest increase. Eight LAs expect to experience a decrease of more than 10%. The graph below shows Kingston’s forecast increase relative to the change expected in the other 31 LAs.



Source: London Councils; used with permission

⁹ <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/members-area/member-briefings/children-and-young-people/managing-drop-demand-school-places-london>

* The City of London is included within Tower Hamlets for the purposes of school admissions.

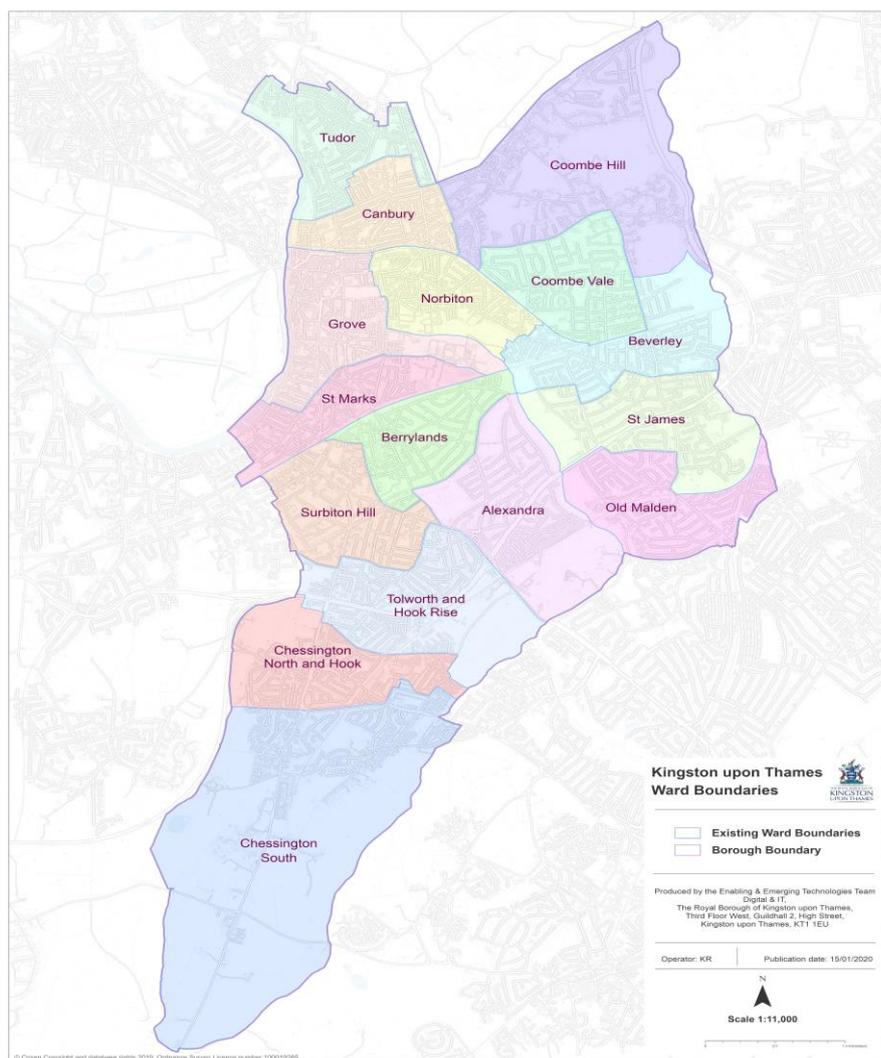
Primary school place planning in Kingston

4.38 For the purposes of primary school place planning, the borough is divided into areas, which are coterminous with one or more of the previous (up to May 2022) electoral wards, as follows:

- Area 1: North Kingston – Canbury and Tudor
- Area 2: Kingston Town and Norbiton – Grove and Norbiton
- Area 3: Chessington and Hook – Chessington North & Hook, and Chessington South
- Area 4: Surbiton – St Mark’s and Surbiton Hill
- Area 5: Tolworth and Berrylands – Alexandra, Berrylands, and Tolworth & Hook Rise
- Area 6: New Malden and Coombe – Beverley, Coombe Vale and St James
- Area 7: Old Malden and Worcester Park – Old Malden
- Area 8: Coombe Hill – Coombe Hill

4.39 The new electoral wards cannot be used for Reception pupil forecasts until there are four years’ worth of birth-data recorded within each of them, so that at least one Reception intake can be compared with how many births there were four years before.

4.40 The pre-May 2022 ward boundaries are shown on this map:



- 4.41 The methodology for forecasting Reception places in the borough is as follows:
- In-borough pupil intakes are projected using a catchment method, deriving the potential demand for Reception places from births, with actual birth data provided by the Office for National Statistics and estimated births for the preceding, current and future years.
 - For Reception roll forecasts, average area level take-up rates from births are applied after consideration of changes planned in the provision of school places. The forecasts are then modified to reflect the most recent data available on admissions for the coming year and for the likely pupil yield from any significantly large housing developments which have received planning permission.
 - Take-up rates take account of out-borough demand for in-borough places and vice versa.
 - Finally, rolls by area are calculated by rolling forward existing year-groups and applying average area-level retention rates for year-group cohorts.
- 4.42 The uncertain economic and political situation in the UK (and beyond) at the moment, makes pupil forecasting more difficult than it might otherwise be, and the assumptions made and conclusions drawn will need to be under constant review, as ever, to ensure that a balance can be struck between having a sufficiency (though not a large surplus) of places to be able to manage a sudden increase in demand for state-funded places and ensuring that schools are as full as possible so as to maximise per-pupil income.
- 4.43 In their SCAP guidance to LAs, the DfE make it clear that they do not prescribe the methodology which each LA should use to create its pupil rolls forecast; they suggest some techniques which could be used, which include those used in Kingston.
- 4.44 Forecasts of any kind will never be 100% accurate, and for school place planning they need to be regularly updated in light of birth data, admission application patterns and actual pupil rolls. As best they can, based on the data which is available, pupil roll forecasts indicate patterns which enable LAs to plan the numbers of places that are likely to be needed. Despite the innate variability of Kingston's particular circumstances, the DfE's local authority scorecards show that Kingston does not over-estimate the number of places to the large degrees that some other LAs do.
- 4.45 Pages 28 to 35 analyse capacity, likely demand and possible options within each of the 10 areas. Where the long-term possibility of expanding individual schools is discussed, the detail relates to the capacity of each school's existing site(s) only. Permanent capacity per school, i.e. what it is built to accommodate, and within each planning area is given in multiples of forms of entry (FE); one FE equates to 30 places per year.
- 4.46 In each area, consideration will be given, in close liaison with the schools concerned, whether or not: the temporary reductions in forms of entry to be offered should be retained in the short to medium term; the local circumstances mean that any of those reductions might need to be made permanent; and, if so, with whom discussions should first need to be held, due, where applicable, to cross-boundary implications.

- 4.47 It is impossible to know whether the small increase in the birth-rate between 2020 and 2021 has been replicated in 2022. However, times of financial downturn – e.g. the post-war baby boom and after the 2008 Crash – usually lead to a sustained higher level of births. That pattern of maximal birth-rate growth in the years immediately following the Crash was experienced in neighbouring LA areas, and across London and beyond.
- 4.48 Without the evidence to substantiate the assumption that the birth-rate did increase again in 2022, and that it will continue to do so for as long as the current recession continues, the assumption is of course speculative.
- 4.49 In each of the eight planning areas, on the following pages, forecasts of pupil numbers are given for each of the next four years.
- 4.50 The DfE say that only the pupil yields from *approved* housing developments can be factored into the SCAP forecasts. Reception forecasts in five of the areas includes a forecast pupil yield: Areas 1, 2 and 4–6.
- 4.51 The combination of recent falling Reception rolls, the lingering impacts of Brexit, Covid, recession, a large increase in in-year admissions (mostly for higher year-groups) and major housing developments happening simultaneously has no precedent in the borough and makes forecasting at this time more difficult than it has been in the last 20 years.
- 4.52 As stated in paragraph 4.3, the council has had to arrange a ‘bulge’ Reception class in Surbiton/Tolworth in every school year from 2013/2014 to 2021/2022, most recently at Tolworth Infant in 2018/2019 and 2019/2020 and at Christ Church Primary (Surbiton) in 2020/2021 and 2021/2022. However, for 2022/2023, demand for Reception places in Surbiton in particular unexpectedly dipped so there was no need for a bulge class to be provided. In the medium to longer term, housing developments, notably Signal Park, are forecast to lead to sufficient demand to necessitate the opening of Surbiton Primary Academy (see next paragraph), and therefore no need for any more bulge classes within the area for the foreseeable future.
- 4.53 As detailed in the 2017 and 2020 iterations of this strategy, the DfE were originally unable to secure a suitable site in Surbiton/Tolworth for the proposed two-form-entry free school Surbiton Primary Academy, which was approved by the then Secretary of State in 2014. So they instead acquired Swan House and two adjacent buildings in High Street, Kingston, with a view to the school opening there as *Kingston* Primary Academy. Planning permission was granted in September 2017 for the school’s permanent accommodation on that site, but the DfE were unable to procure a development partner. As a result, in 2018, they notified the council that the school’s opening had been deferred for a fifth time, to September 2020. Subsequent discussions between the DfE and the council resulted in a proposal for the school to be established in the area it had originally been approved to serve, by the council long-leasing the King Charles Centre site in Hollyfield Road, Surbiton. The council’s Finance and Partnerships Committee agreed the lease arrangements at its meeting in October 2019, with a view to the requisite demolition and new build happening in time to enable the school to open in September 2022. Planning permission was granted in February 2022 for demolition of the King Charles Centre and new build for what will be Surbiton Primary Academy, to be run by the Omnia Learning Trust, whose existing schools include

Twickenham Primary Academy in Richmond Borough. Delays caused by construction market conditions mean that the DfE will not open the new school until September 2024 at the earliest, but that is looking more likely to be 2025. That would allow time for Lime Tree to recover its numbers, and for the first tranche of pupil yield from the Signal Park housing development to enter primary education. If necessary, the new school will open with just one form of entry and open its second form of entry in a subsequent year.

- 4.54 Planning permission was also granted in February 2022 for replacement of the CLASP building at Burlington Junior with a new block which would have capacity to increase the school's intake from four- to five-form entry when needed, i.e. in keeping with the pupil yield from the proposed Cocks Crescent housing development adjacent to the school and other developments, e.g. the Tesco car park site on the Merton side of Shannon Corner. It is likely that Burlington Juniors' new accommodation will be ready for September 2024, with demolition of the CLASP block to follow. However, it is unlikely that the school will need to become five-form entry until 2027 or 2028 at the earliest. Before a Reception bulge class will need to be provided at Burlington Infant, and which would feed into Burlington Junior at Year 3, the council needs first to be sure that spare capacity at King's Oak becomes filled. In order to secure DfE consent¹⁰ for the new build, part of the Cocks Crescent site, where Hobkirk House and the Noble Centre are situated, has had to be transferred to Burlington so that enough play space will be provided.

¹⁰ Under section 77 of the School Standards and framework Act 1998, regarding disposal of 'school playing field'.

Area 1: North Kingston

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Alexandra	2FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011; converted from 3FE infant to 2FE all-through primary from 2016. No room for further expansion.
Fern Hill Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011; no room for further expansion.
Latchmere	4FE	Expanded from 3FE in 2011; may have room for expansion to 5FE.
St Agatha's Catholic Primary	2FE	Has room for expansion to 3FE.
St Luke's C of E Primary	1FE	No room for permanent expansion.
St Paul's C of E Primary, Kingston Hill	2FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011; converted from 3FE junior to 2FE all-through primary from 2016. No room for further expansion.
Total	14FE	

Housing

The recently occupied Queenshurst development on the former gasholder site in Sury Basin has 315 units. The application for the 'Kingston Gate' development on the Canbury car park site is proposing 445 units, and it is possible that the MoD will seek to re-develop The Keep in the longer term. The large number of major developments in the adjacent Area 2, especially those in central Kingston e.g. Royal Exchange, Surrey House, County Hall and possibly Thameside Wharf will also impact demand for places within this area. The regeneration of Ham Close, approved to take place over the next decade just over the borough boundary in Richmond may also have an impact on demand for places in this area over the next decade.

Actual and likely demand

Demand for places remains high and has declined only at St Agatha's, as part of a general decrease in applications for Catholic primary schools in Kingston and elsewhere – possibly due to the impacts of Brexit and Covid – and at Latchmere.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
420	393	373	374	407	376	418	411

Recommendations

Latchmere's application numbers have reduced very significantly for 2023 entry, so it will be capped at 3FE, which may need to be maintained in the short to medium term; but, if approved, Kingston Gate and other possible developments may trigger a longer-term need for places within this area, so thought ought to be given to identifying a site for a potential new primary school to open at some point in the 2030s. However, the new school on the former Kingstons House site in Coombe Road, in Area 2, is within easy reach of most of this area and would need to be sustainably full before any new school were proposed for this area.

Area 2: Kingston Town and Norbiton

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
King Athelstan Primary	2FE	Expanded from 1FE before 2004, although only in recent years has sufficient accommodation being provided to facilitate 2FE in all year-groups; might have room for expansion to 3FE.
King's Oak Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2014; might have room for further expansion.
St John's C of E Primary	1FE	No room for expansion
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	1FE	No room for expansion
Total	7FE	

Housing

Including the completed developments on the former Hotel Antoinette site and Kingston East, it is expected that more than 3,000 units will have been built within this by 2031, including the following developments: Cambridge Road Estate regeneration; County Hall; Hawks road clinic; Royal Exchange (nearly completed); and Surrey House. Whether the approved Eden Walk development of 380 units will also be built is not yet known.

Actual and likely demand

The closure of Kingston Community School in August 2020 reduced capacity by 2FE in this area. Pupil yield from Kingston east and some other completed developments will boost demand for places in this area in the short term, but it will rise significantly in the medium to longer term. The new primary school on the Kingstons House site in Coombe Road will open no earlier than September 2026 and should meet forecast demand until the much longer term – i.e. once the Cambridge Road Estate regeneration has been completed well into the 2030s.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
210*	167	178	166	190	204	224	230

* This was 270 until August 2020.

Recommendations

King's Oak is likely to continue to have a surplus of places in the immediate short term, and it will therefore be crucial to get the timing right for its anticipated reversion to three-form entry. The subsequent opening of the new school will then have to happen only when the council is confident that there is sufficient demand both for King's Oak to remain full and for there to be a need for the new school's places.

Area 3: Chessington and Hook

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Castle Hill Primary	2FE	Has room for expansion to 3FE.
Ellingham Primary	2FE	Expanded from 1FE in 2011; no room for further expansion.
Lovelace Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2014; no room for further expansion.
St Mary's C of E Primary	1FE	No room for expansion.
St Paul's C of E Primary, Hook	1FE	No room for expansion.
Total	9FE	

Housing

No significant development other than the 45 units approved for 11–25 Leatherhead Road has come forward in recent times. The possibility of building on Green Belt in this area – most recently the proposed 'Hook Park' development at land north of Clayton Road, and a previous proposal for the creation of a major 'garden city' housing development beyond Chessington South Station – has sometimes been mooted but has so far not led to planning applications being submitted.

Actual and likely demand

A significant birth-rate decrease of 18.9% – from 270 to 219 – between 2015 and 2020 has led to reduced demand for places within this entry. This has particularly affected numbers at Ellingham and St Mary's, which both received Ofsted judgements of 'requires improvement', in January 2018 and February 2019 respectively. Although Ofsted subsequently restored both schools to 'good', in October 2021 and September 2022 respectively, neither school's Reception pupil numbers have yet recovered to their pre-2020 levels.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
270	258	252	232	213	210	221	211

Recommendations

Ellingham's intake will need to be temporarily reduced to 1FE for 2023 entry and the foreseeable future until demand again picks up within the area.

Area 4: Surbiton

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Lime Tree Primary	2FE	No room for expansion.
Maple Infants' and St Andrew's and St Mark's C of E Junior	3FE	Expanded to 3FE in 2015; no room for further expansion.
St Matthew's C of E Primary	2FE	Expanded from 1½FE in 2011; has room for expansion to 3FE.
Tolworth Infant and Tolworth Junior	3FE	Has room for expansion to 4FE.
Total	10FE	

Housing

A number of small sites, such as the 'Villiers' developments at the South Kingston end of Lower Marsh Lane will add a small pupil yield to an area where demand is already high. No large housing developments are expected in this area unless part of Surbiton station car park is developed.

Actual and likely demand

In 2021, demand for Reception places in this area significantly increased, leading to the collective PAN being exceeded by two children. But for 2022 entry, there was a dip in demand, partly caused by Lime Tree's June 2019 downgrading by Ofsted to 'requires improvement'; as a result, Lime Tree temporarily capped its PAN at 1FE. Until Lime Tree regains its former 'good' status, demand is likely to stay lower than has hitherto been the case, though that will be mitigated by overspill from within the adjacent Area 5, and from within the Long Ditton part of Elmbridge.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
300	283	302	273	256	246	276	260

Recommendations

Lime Tree's intake will need to be temporarily reduced to 1FE for 2023 entry and possibly for 2024 entry also. It will therefore be crucial to get the timing right for its anticipated reversion to two-form entry. The subsequent opening of Surbiton Primary Academy in Area 5 will then have to happen only when the council is confident that there is sufficient demand both for Lime Tree to remain full and for there to be a need for the new school's places.

Area 5: Tolworth and Berrylands

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Christ Church Primary, Surbiton	2FE	Admitted an extra class in each year from 2013 to 2017 and in 2020 and 2021; may have room for full expansion to 3FE.
Grand Avenue Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011; no room for further expansion.
Knollmead Primary	1FE	Has room for expansion to 2FE, which was previously planned but has been put on hold pending the build of the Signal Park development on the ex-Government Offices site on Hook Rise South.
Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Primary	2FE	No room for expansion.
Total	8FE	

Housing

Alpha Wharf (in Howard Road) and Signal Park which alone is set to provide 950 units, will between them add pupil yield to an area of already high demand. If approved, the proposed Tolworth Tower development would significantly add to this demand.

Actual and likely demand

In the short to medium term, demand from within this area will be met by existing capacity and the opening, expected in 2024 or 2025, of Surbiton Primary Academy. But the Signal Park development and the prospect of the Tolworth Tower development mean that further places will be needed in the longer term.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
240*	251	265	238	230	255	287	312

* This will grow to 270 or 300 in 2024 or 2025, depending on when Surbiton Primary Academy opens

Recommendations

In the longer term, towards the end of this decade, Knollmead Primary would need to be expanded, as it is the closest secular school to Signal Park and the proposed Tolworth Tower development. Plans have previously been agreed with the school and the Coombe Academy Trust for how expansion could be achieved.

Area 6: New Malden and Coombe

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Burlington Infant and Burlington Junior	4FE	Expanded from 3FE in 2011; could be expanded to 5FE.
Coombe Hill Infant and Coombe Hill Junior	3FE	From 2015 onwards, Coombe Hill Infant is admitting a fourth class every other year. Feasibility studies have shown that full expansion of both schools would be too difficult to achieve.
Christ Church (New Malden) Primary	2FE	No room for expansion.
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary	2FE	Has room for expansion to 3FE, but most of its extra places would be allocated to children living in Merton Borough or Worcester Park, rather than in New Malden and Coombe.
Total	11FE	

Housing

A number of small developments – One New Malden (1 Blagdon Road), 23-37 Blagdon Road, and the former Roselands Clinic site – will between them add pupil yield to an area of already high demand, but the largest and most significant development is Cocks Crescent, which, if approved, would provide 350+ units immediately adjacent to the Burlington schools. The approved Tesco’s car park development of 456 units on the Merton side of Shannon Corner will also add to demand, especially for the Burlington schools who traditionally admit a quarter of their intakes from Merton.

Actual and likely demand

For 2022 entry, demand for Reception places at Corpus Christi significantly decreased, but its application numbers have picked up again for 2023 entry (53 first preferences compared with just 32 in 2022). In the medium to longer term, the housing developments outlined above are likely to create demand for at least 1FE.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
330	328	325	311	335	325	354	370

Recommendations

At some point in the next five or so years, depending on if and when the Cocks Crescent development is approved and built, Burlington Infant will need to be expanded – but only when it is evident that King’s Oak, in Area 2, is filling up, or will fill, to a level whereby an additional Reception class is needed in New Malden, and in close liaison with colleagues at Merton Council.

Area 7: Old Malden and Worcester Park

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Green Lane Primary	2FE	No room for full expansion, but, despite its location within the London Borough of Sutton (where most of its pupils live) and proximity to the Merton part of Motspur Park, could be part of a shared form of entry with Malden Manor and Malden Parochial.
Malden Manor Primary	2FE	Has room for expansion to 3FE, or could be part of a shared for of entry with Green Lane and Malden Parochial, or – more likely – just the latter.
Malden Parochial C of E Primary	1FE	Has room for expansion to 2FE, or could be part of a shared form of entry with Green Lane and Malden Manor, or – more likely – just the latter.
Total	5FE	

Housing

The only significant development which might happen in the short- to medium-term is on the gasholders site in Motspur Park, though its location means it might be as much of an issue for school place planning in Merton and Sutton boroughs as it would be in Kingston.

Actual and likely demand

After a considerable dip, to only 43 children, in the Reception roll at Green Lane in 2021, its numbers recovered to 59 in 2022. A much lower birth rate in 2019 and 2020, of just 83 children in both years compared with a high of 141 in 2016, means that the 2023 and 2024 intakes are likely to be smaller than that of 2022, though the impact of higher in-year admission numbers in Sutton Borough might offset any potential impact for Green Lane.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
150	148	130	146	110	110	125	149

Recommendations

It is unlikely that the anticipated downturn in demand for places in this area in the next two years will necessitate a temporary reduction in PAN at any point, but if it did then it would be likely to be that of Green Lane. Numbers in this area need to be carefully monitored, in close liaison with colleagues at Sutton Council, in whose administrative area Green Lane is situated.

Area 8: Coombe Hill

School(s)	Current capacity	Comments and scope for expansion
Robin Hood Primary	1FE	Has room for expansion to 2FE.
Total	1FE	

Housing

No development larger than the 52-unit development of Kingston Riding Centre, in Crescent Road, is foreseeable at present.

Actual and likely demand

Robin Hood admitted a bulge class in September 2014, but half of the additional places were filled by Wandsworth and Merton resident children so it is unlikely that providing additional classes at the school again would be especially helpful or cost-effective for the council in meeting its statutory duty to provide places. For 2022 entry, demand for Reception places at the school was significantly higher than for previous years, leading to an intake of 31 children, compared with 20 in 2021 and 2020.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
30	20	20	31	24	25	27	28

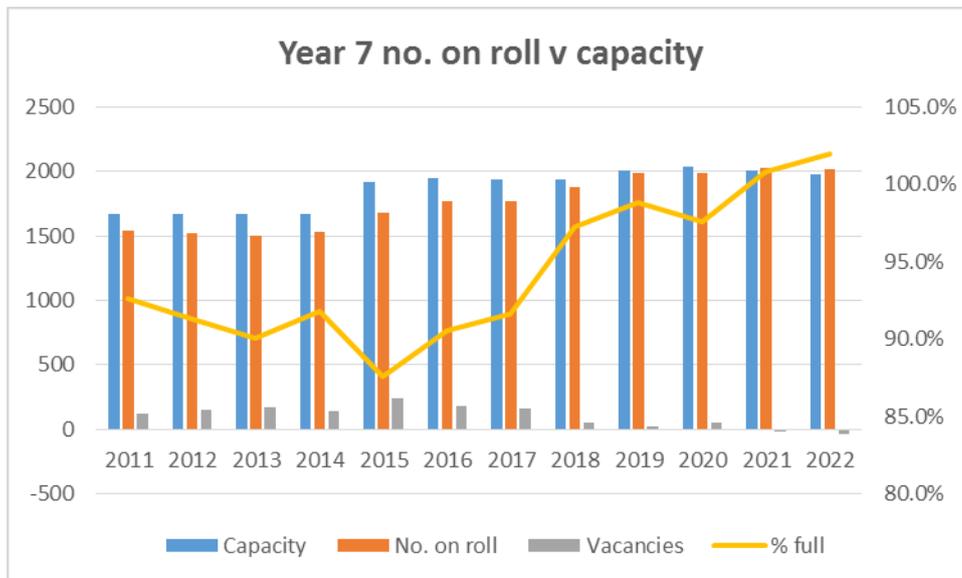
Recommendations

No action required.

5. SECONDARY PHASE

- 5.1 On the face of it, secondary school place planning in any LA area ought to be easier than primary, because:
- Most of the children who enter Year 7 in state-funded secondary schools are already being educated in the local state-funded primary schools within the LA's area.
 - Admissions patterns are generally more predictable and significant *sudden* changes to those patterns are rare.
 - The schools have much larger PANs and are therefore better able than primary schools to adjust their staffing and other resources to manage their intakes.
- 5.2 However, each of those considerations has a flipside:
- The intakes of the state-funded secondary schools also include children – resident both within and outside the LA's area – who attend independent-sector schools for their primary education, and out-borough children who attend state-funded primary schools in their own area (or a third LA's area). The pan-London coordinated admissions process for Year 7 places allows parents/carers the right to express up to six preferences for state-funded schools in Kingston and/or within any other LA area, and parents/carers are generally much happier to see their children travelling further for a preferred school than they are for primary education.
 - While sudden changes in a school's popularity are rare, they can and do happen, as has been experienced in neighbouring boroughs, e.g. much reduced application numbers following changes of longstanding headteachers and/or Ofsted downgrading.
 - While secondary schools can more easily reduce their PANs than primary schools can, increasing their PANs to meet forecast demand is generally more difficult. In Kingston, most of the 11 schools have very little undeveloped space which isn't already being used for outdoor play or isn't subject to insurmountable planning restrictions.
- 5.3 Of the 11 state-funded secondary schools within Kingston:
- All are academies and therefore outside the council's control.
 - All are rated by Ofsted as 'outstanding' or 'good'.
 - The council is the freeholder of the sites of only two of them: Chessington and The Kingston Academy – of the former LA-maintained secondaries in the borough, the Coombe schools, Southborough, the Tiffin schools and Tolworth all became foundation schools in the 1990s and therefore took ownership of their sites.
- 5.4 Since 2011, the numbers of children admitted into Year 7 in the borough's state-funded secondary schools has increased greatly and the numbers of vacancies have reduced to the point where, in the last two intakes, there have been more children admitted than there are places, as the following table and graph show:

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Capacity	1665	1665	1665	1665	1920	1950	1935	1935	2010	2040	2010	1980
No. on roll	1542	1520	1500	1528	1682	1766	1773	1882	1987	1991	2027	2019
Vacancies	123	145	165	137	238	184	162	53	23	49	-17	-39
% full	92.6%	91.3%	90.1%	91.8%	87.6%	90.6%	91.6%	97.3%	98.9%	97.6%	100.8%	102.0%

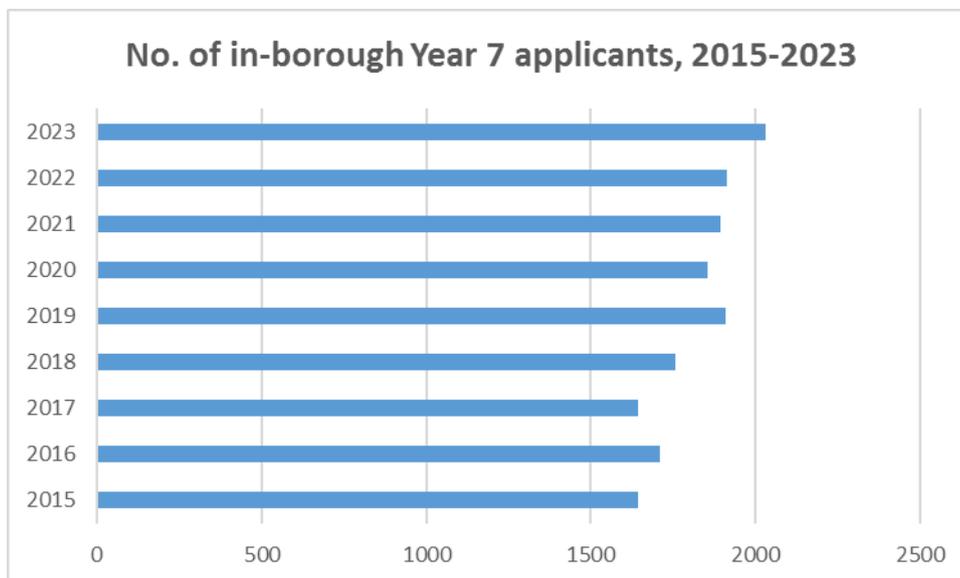


As can be seen, the Year 7 number on roll across the borough has increased by 619 since the low point of 2013, which equates to a 41.3% increase across the last nine years.

Secondary school place planning developments since 2020

5.5 The numbers of in-borough applicants for Year 7 places have continued to increase, notwithstanding an expected dip in 2020, as the table below shows:

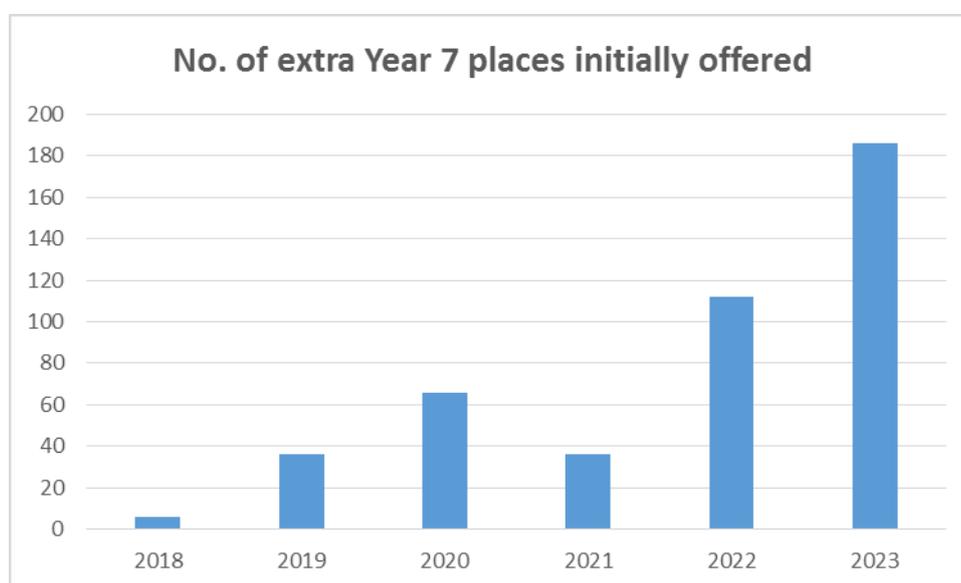
Year of entry	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
No. of applicants	1642	1709	1642	1758	1910	1853	1894	1913	2031



5.6 The increased numbers of applications were absorbed within existing capacity up to and including the 2018 intake, but additional places have been offered since then, in the expectation that the numbers of offers held would come down to below the published admission number before any offers would be made from the waiting-lists:

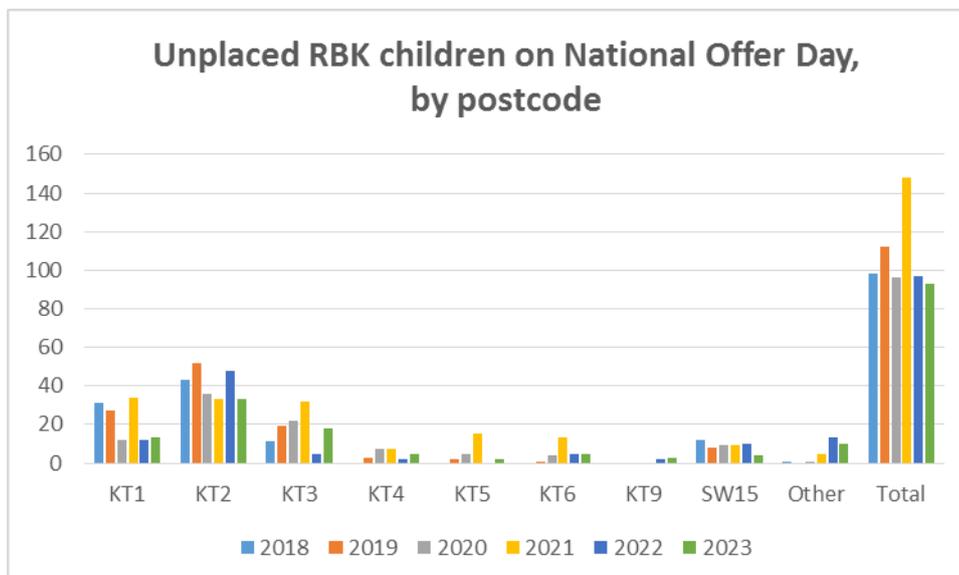
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Chessington	0	0	0	0	0	20
Coombe Boys'	0	0	0	0	10	15
Coombe Girls'	0	0	0	0	11	17
Richard Challoner	0	0	0	0	0	0
Southborough High	0	0	0	0	30	50
The Hollyfield	0	30	30	0	20	20
The Holy Cross	0	0	0	0	0	10
The Kingston Academy	0	0	30	30	20	20
The Tiffin Girls'	0	0	0	0	0	6
Tiffin	6	6	6	6	6	13
Tolworth Girls'	0	0	0	0	15	15
Total	6	36	66	36	112	186

N.B. Numbers in red were actual bulge classes of 30 additional pupils admitted in September; in addition, Richard Challoner is admitting all its EHCP children over PAN.



5.7 Despite the additional places offered, on National Offer Day, there have been substantial numbers of children unplaced in each year from 2018, when the combination of higher application numbers (116 more than in 2017) and increased parental confidence in Chessington School meant that some RBK children were initially unplaced for the first time in the borough since the introduction of pan-London coordination in 2005. As can be seen, the numbers have largely been concentrated in Kingston and Norbiton (including the western part of KT3, i.e. west of the railway bridge on the Kingston Road), and in the discrete area of SW15 (Kingston Vale):

	KT1	KT2	KT3	KT4	KT5	KT6	KT9	SW15	Other	Total
2018	31	43	11	0	0	0	0	12	1	98
2019	27	52	19	3	2	1	0	8	0	112
2020	12	36	22	7	5	4	0	9	1	96
2021	34	33	32	7	15	13	0	9	5	148
2022	12	48	5	2	0	5	2	10	13	97
2023	13	33	18	5	2	5	3	4	10	93



- 5.8 The number of unplaced children was 51 lower in 2022 than it was in 2021 due to the much higher rate of over-offering. Due to space constraints, neither Hollyfield nor The Kingston Academy – the two non-academically-selective schools closest to the main area of need in the north/centre of the borough – was able to accommodate a bulge class for 2022 entry; therefore it was agreed with the schools that additional places would be initially offered in order to minimise the number of children who were unplaced on National Offer Day. That strategy has been repeated in 2023, to a much higher degree, as paragraph 5.6 shows, but the number of unplaced children is still high.
- 5.9 In order to understand the potential impact of over-offering, it is necessary first to understand the complexity of the coordinated admissions process.

The coordinated Year 7 admissions process

- 5.10 Each local authority (LA) has a duty to provide school places to resident parents/carers who want them, in accordance with section 14 of the Education Act 1996.
- 5.11 Places in Year 7 – the main entry-point- for state-funded secondary schools – are by law, subject to allocation processes coordinated across borough boundaries. Kingston is one of the 38 LAs which participates in the Pan-London admissions scheme – all 33 London LAs plus five bordering LAs: Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Surrey and Thurrock. The purpose of coordinated admissions is to ensure that, on National Offer Day (1 March or the first working day thereafter) no child receives more than one offer of a state-funded place and that as many children as possible receive an offer at that point, well in advance of their actual start in Year 7 in September.
- 5.12 Parents are allowed to express preferences, in ranked order, for up to six schools anywhere, i.e. not just in their home LA, by a closing date of 31 October in the year prior to that in which the child is due to start in Year 7. (Children whose parents apply after that date and by mid-December are considered within the initial allocations if the application was made late for a good reason.) The scheme is designed to enable parents, if they wish, to express first and other high preferences for schools at which they may, statistically, have less chance of obtaining places, e.g. academically selective schools (like

the two Tiffin schools) or schools further away from their home, while stating lower preferences for schools much closer to their home as 'bankers'.

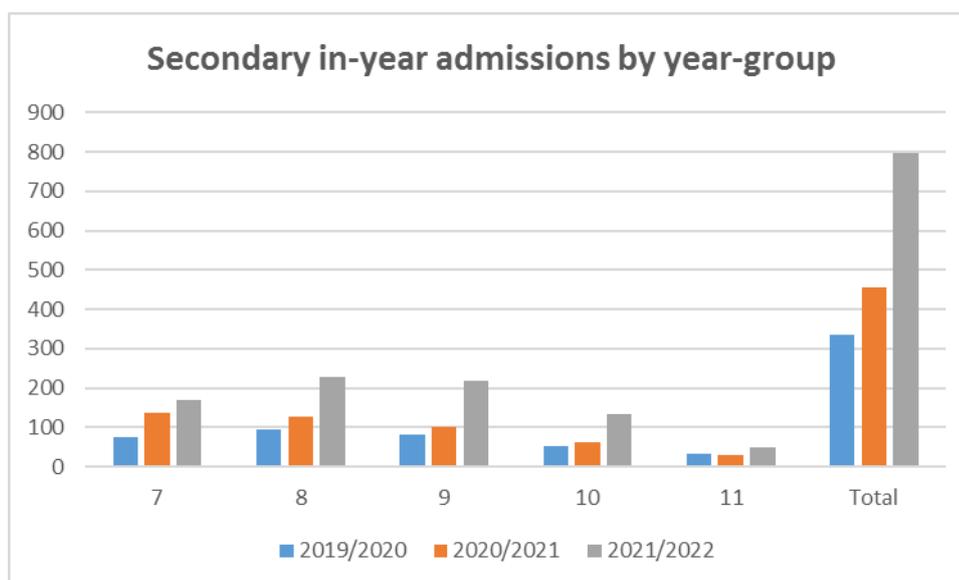
- 5.13 For their own maintained schools, LAs then rank all applicants in priority order of the schools' published oversubscription criteria; and academy, foundation school, free and voluntary-aided schools do likewise for their applicants. In Kingston, all 11 state-funded secondary schools are outside LA control, so they all rank their own applicants.
- 5.14 The automated Pan-London allocation algorithm then seeks to fill all available places for all schools in accordance with those ranked lists of applicants, and in so doing aims to allocate the highest preference for each child that it can.
- 5.15 Each LA – as the coordinating authority for the schools within its area – then fills any unfilled places with children who would otherwise not receive an offer – again in accordance with the relevant schools' oversubscription criteria.
- 5.16 Once parents receive their application outcomes on National Offer Day, they are given two weeks either to accept or refuse the offer which they are allocated. In most LAs, almost all children receive an offer of a preferred school, but, in Kingston, that is not the case, because there are far more applicants than places available. For 2022 entry, 123 Kingston children (6.4% of Kingston applicants) did not receive a preference offer on National Offer Day. Of those 123, 97 could not be offered a place at any in-borough school or at a preferred school outside the borough.
- 5.17 All children who are not allocated a place at their parents' first-preference school are automatically placed on the waiting-list for any higher-preference school(s) than the school at which they have been offered a place (if they have been offered one).
- 5.18 In the subsequent period up to the start of Year 7, places which are refused are re-offered to children on the waiting-lists. As for initial allocations, the lists must, by law, be ranked solely in accordance with the particular schools' published oversubscription criteria.
- 5.19 The main reason why places are refused is because some parents 'hedge their bets' between the state-funded and private school sectors, i.e. they pay deposits for private schools whilst also applying for their preferred state-funded schools. In some LAs, very few parents have the means to opt for private schools, but in Kingston there has traditionally been a fairly high percentage.
- 5.20 Managing the intrinsic variability of demand for places within Kingston is far from easy, because it requires the second-guessing of parental preferences on the basis of historical trends which can change quickly and significantly. As all 11 schools in Kingston are outside LA control, determining in advance how many places should be offered for each school is subject to annual negotiation given that the number of places in schools' PANs are insufficient to meet overall demand. Agreeing the offers of places to additional children in excess of schools' PANs – known as 'over-offering' – may well become more difficult, because schools may not have the space to safely admit children over their PANs.
- 5.21 Over-offering carries an innate risk that the numbers per school might not come back

down to the substantive PANs, especially if the proportion of local parents who can afford to opt for private education decreases, and if, as expected, the overall number of children considerably increases due to housing developments. For example, if we over-offered places by 50 at The Kingston Academy, i.e. offered places to 230 children, but all those offers – or substantially more than in the past – were accepted, the school would not have enough teaching space in which to educate that many children.

Secondary in-year admissions

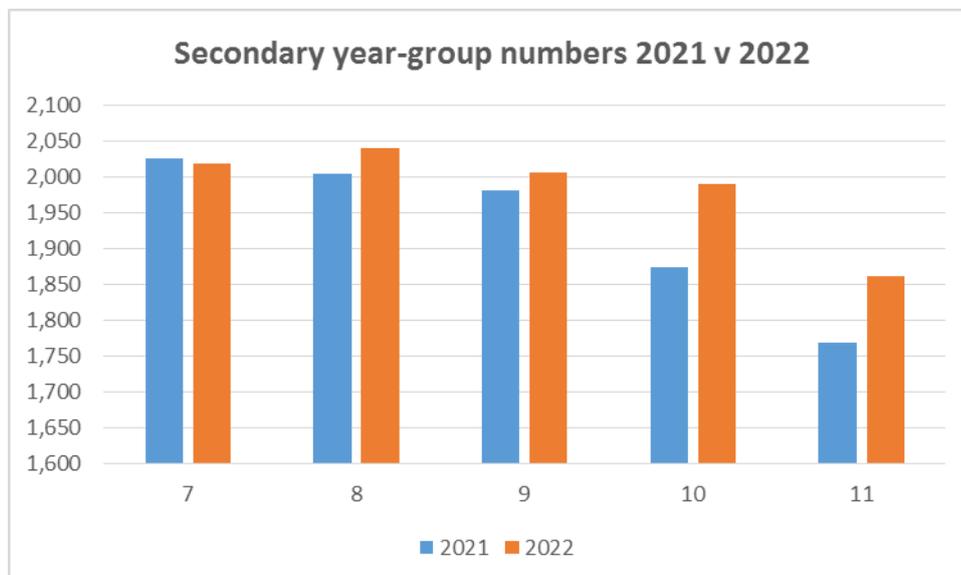
5.22 As at primary level, and as in many other local LAs (including the Elmbridge part of Surrey, Richmond and Sutton), there has been a very large increase in the numbers of in-year admission applications for secondary-phase places, with an especially large, 107% increase between the last two full school-years:

School year	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
7	76	137	169
8	93	126	229
9	82	101	219
10	51	62	132
11	33	28	49
Total	335	454	798



5.23 These applications have led to a 2.7% increase in the total roll in the current Years 7 to 11 compared with autumn 2021: 9,918 children at present, compared with 9,654, an increase of 264 children. Only the Year 7 total is smaller, because, although there was one at The Kingston Academy in 2021, there was no space for a bulge class in 2022.

	7	8	9	10	11	Total
2021	2,027	2,004	1,981	1,874	1,768	9,654
2022	2,019	2,040	2,006	1,991	1,862	9,918
Change	-8	36	25	117	94	264



5.24 Since September 2020, there have been 192 secondary in-year applications made for children from Hong Kong families.

5.25 For the reasons specified above, in the primary-phase section, in-year applications are expected to continue to increase. In the first five months of the current school year, there were 410 in-year secondary admission applications, an average of 82 per month, so the monthly average looks set to be significantly higher than for the 2021/2022 school year.

Other local factors

5.26 As well as over-offering, the borough has also become reliant on the availability of places at Teddington School, in Richmond Borough, and many children living in Kingston and Norbiton who have, or would have, been unplaced have been offered places there. Following Ofsted’s upgrading of the school from ‘Requires Improvement’ to ‘Good’ in November 2021, its application numbers have soared – from 809 in 2022 to 992 in 2023 – and the school’s catchment will therefore reduce accordingly, to the point where the only part of Kingston Borough which it will serve will be Kingston town centre and the western part of North Kingston.

5.27 In April 2021, Chessington School became an academy, by joining the Every Child Every day Academy Trust which also runs Hollyfield and Grey Court (in Richmond Borough). That means that all 11 secondary schools in the borough are outside the council’s control. However, that has made no practical difference to school place planning within the borough, as all 11 schools work very closely and cooperatively with AfC to ensure that enough places are provided and in the right areas.

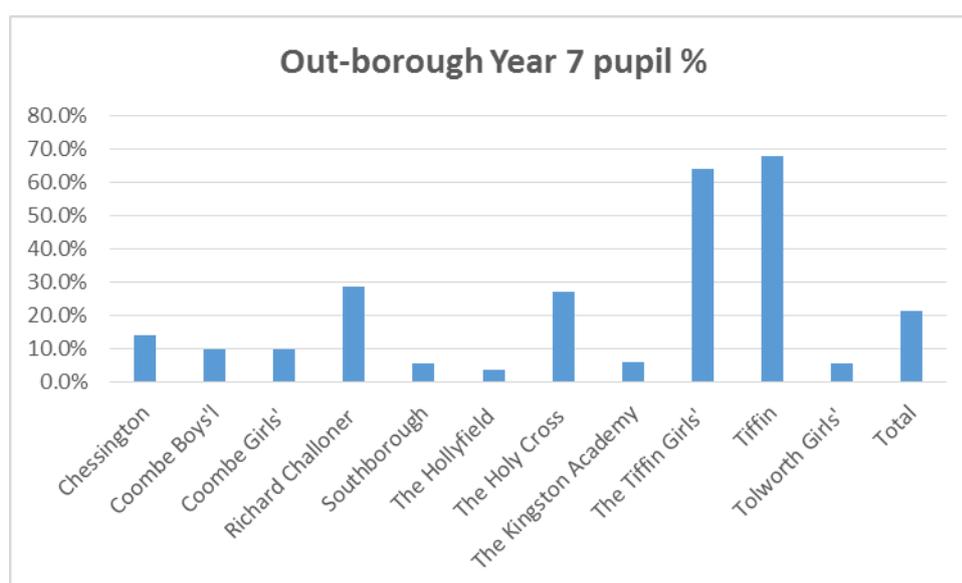
5.28 For 2022 entry, Chessington became oversubscribed for Year 7 entry for the first time in its history, with a waiting-list and appeals. As recently as 2016, the school admitted just 56 children into Year 7, filling only a little more than a third of its 150 places, so its transformation under its current leadership and management has been remarkable. While that is much welcomed, it does mean that all 11 schools in the borough are oversubscribed, which adds to the borough’s school place planning challenges.

5.29 [Appendix 2](#) shows how individual schools' capacities changed between 2012 and 2022.

5.30 To an extent, the availability of Year 7 places for in-borough resident children is cushioned by higher in-borough demand displacing some out-borough children. Overall, 436 of the 2,031 children on roll as at the October 2022 census in Year 7 in the borough's 11 state-funded secondary schools were out-borough residents, but the percentages varied greatly, with by far the largest being the two Tiffin schools, which are effectively sub-regional providers, and, to a lesser, but still significant extent, the two Catholic schools.

5.31 If the two Tiffin schools' roll numbers are excluded, then the average out-borough percentage of the nine non-academically-selective schools is 11.8%. If the two Catholic schools' roll numbers are also excluded, then the average out-borough percentage of the seven secular non-academically-selective schools is 7.9%. Chessington is always likely to admit some children from the Claygate and Ewell areas of Surrey; and the two Coombe schools have traditionally drawn a small, but significant, portion of their cohorts from Merton Borough.

School	In-borough	Out-borough	Total	Out-borough %
Chessington	132	22	154	14.3%
Coombe Boys'	164	18	182	9.9%
Coombe Girls'	220	24	244	9.8%
Richard Challoner	114	46	160	28.8%
Southborough	137	8	145	5.5%
The Hollyfield	183	7	190	3.7%
The Holy Cross	120	45	165	27.3%
The Kingston Academy	172	11	183	6.0%
The Tiffin Girls'	65	115	180	63.9%
Tiffin	60	126	186	67.7%
Tolworth Girls'	228	14	242	5.8%
Total	1595	436	2031	21.5%



5.32 By law, none of the schools is able to grant priority to children on the basis of residence within Kingston Borough; that is because of the 1989 High Court ruling against Greenwich Council ('the Greenwich Judgement')¹¹.

5.33 The other important factors which are specific to Kingston are firstly, the presence of the two Tiffin schools, and the gender make-up of the 11 schools.

5.34 As noted above, although Tiffin Girls' and Tiffin (boys') admit just over and just a third of their pupils from within the borough, they serve wide areas across south-west London. Both schools have introduced priority areas, which extend beyond the borough, to reduce their catchments and this has helped to increase their percentages of Kingston children.

5.35 Eight of the 11 schools are single-sex, effectively in four pairs:

Boys	Girls
Coombe Boys'	Coombe Girls'
Richard Challoner	The Holy Cross
Southborough	Tolworth Girls'
Tiffin	The Tiffin Girls'

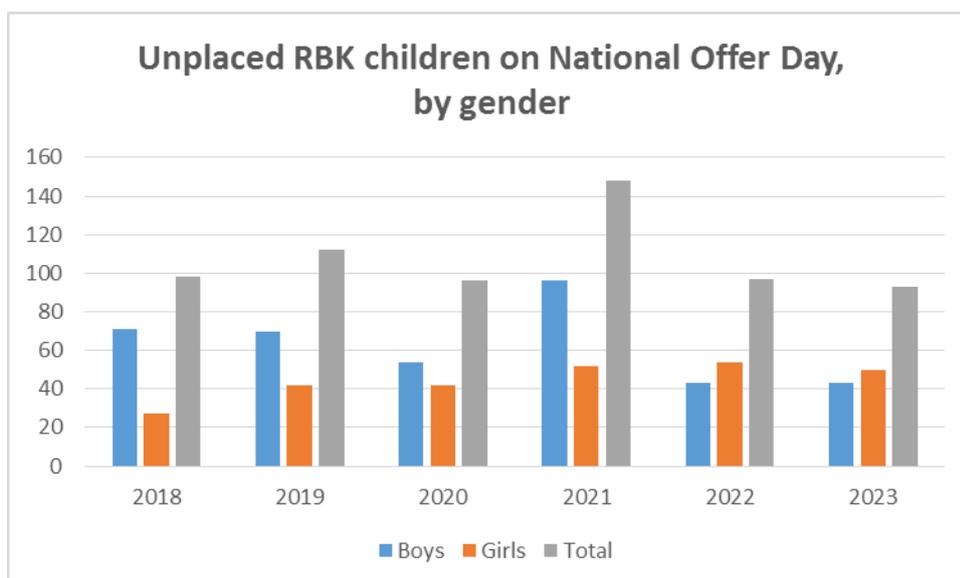
5.36 This is a rare, historical anomaly: Kingston has a much higher proportion of single-sex schools than its neighbouring LAs:

Borough	Boys-only	Girls-only	Mixed-sex	Total	Academically-selective
Kingston	4	4	3	11	2
Merton	2	2	5	9	0
Richmond	0	1	10	11	0
Sutton	5	4	6	15	5

5.37 With only three mixed-sex schools, constituting 27.3% of the total, Kingston state-funded secondary school offer is unusual and adds further complexity to Year 7 place planning within the borough. This comes into focus when the numbers of unplaced children from 2018 to 2022, as tabulated in paragraph 5.7, are analysed by gender:

	Boys	Girls	Total
2018	71	27	98
2019	70	42	112
2020	54	42	96
2021	96	52	148
2022	43	54	97
2023	43	50	93

¹¹ R v London Borough of Greenwich, ex parte John Ball Primary School (1989).



5.38 Ensuring that every in-borough child who is unplaced on National Offer Day subsequently receives an offer of a place before September is not simple. It involves much interaction by AfC's School Admissions team with the parents/carers of those children, to advise them, for example, to add schools – both in- and out-borough, as appropriate – as preferences which they might not have wished to consider, so as to maximise their chances of receiving an offer of a school relatively close to home. Some parents, though, may wish to hold out for a particular school. The speed at which waiting-lists move varies from school to school, and from year to year, depending on a large number of factors, including the level of over-offering and the admissions patterns for out-borough schools.

Secondary school place planning in Kingston

5.39 As noted at paragraph 5.1, Year 7 place planning ought, in theory, to be easier than for Reception. However, for any given year, predicting with any certainty the proportion of Year 6 children who will end up being admitted to schools other than the 11 schools in Kingston and therefore how many children are likely to need places in the 11 schools at the start of Year 7 is difficult, and is becoming increasingly more difficult, due to the factors outlined in the primary section of this strategy.

5.40 The number, and make-up, of the 11 state-funded secondary schools now is the same as in the mid-1980s – with The Kingston Academy instead of Tudor, and name-changes to Coombe Boys' and Chessington – since when the overall population in the borough has increased by 32,000. The GLA's population growth estimates forecast that the population will continue to increase until at least 2041¹².

5.41 There are three groups of children who make up the Year 7 entry cohorts:

- Those, both in- and out-borough resident, in Year 6 in the state-funded primary schools within the borough.
- Those, both in- and out-borough resident, in Year 6 in independent-sector schools.
- Out-borough children in Year 6 in out-borough state-funded primary schools.

¹² <https://apps.london.gov.uk/population-projections/>.

- 5.42 No LA can ever know the numbers, or proportions, of children who will be within (b) and (c). For that reason, Year 7 pupil forecasting in Kingston uses the available data on children within (a) as a proxy for all three groups.
- 5.43 There is, of course, considerable fluctuation between year-groups within individual school cohorts as they progress through the primary year-groups, with both leavers and arrivals, as we have seen from the data within paragraphs 4.22 to 4.26. While the overall trend has been downwards in recent years, as birth-rate decreases have led to decreased birth-rates, it should be remembered that the take-up rate from birth into Reception has remained high, as outlined in paragraphs 4.4–4.6.
- 5.44 Given the variable cohort progression patterns within the borough’s state-funded primary schools, it is therefore logical to use as the base data source the year-group numbers within the most recent October census, for each year that they will eventually transfer to Year 7; e.g. for Year 7 transfer in 2023, the current Year 6 numbers will be used; for 2024, the current Year 5 numbers; for 2025, the current Year 4; and so on. The DfE have never queried the validity of this approach, because for each set of forecasts it uses data which can be directly compared with that used for previous forecasts.
- 5.45 As for Reception forecasts, the DfE permit LAs to include the possible pupil yield from approved major housing developments in addition to the base numbers projected through the Year 6 to Year 7 conversion rate. However, because the yield from large developments which have yet to be approved cannot be included, that means that the Year 7 forecasts for Kingston are dampened.
- 5.46 Neither can the forecasts take account of ‘soft’ factors, such as schools’ reputations based on Ofsted ratings. This is pertinent for estimating the number of out-borough applicants who might prefer schools in Kingston rather than in their home borough.
- 5.47 It is difficult to know exactly how to apply a pupil yield from housing developments which are approved and/or occupied or being built. That is because of the following reasons:
- Developments are often built and occupied in phases, the timing of which is not always available, so allocating proportions of overall yields to particular intake years isn’t easy.
 - Pupil yields are less likely than for Reception entry to predominantly impact demand for the closest school(s), as secondary-aged children are more likely to travel further for their schooling.
- 5.48 For these reasons, it has been decided to apply the pupil yield from all the recently (since 2018) approved major applications in the following manner, using the methodology outlined in section 3 of this document:

Age years	Number of bedrooms			
	1	2	3	4
0–4	0	0.74	0.66	0.77
5–10	0	0.30	1.00	1.23
11–16	0	0.08	0.72	1.23

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	2087		2608		1160		59		
0-4		0		1930		766		45	2741
5-10		0		782		1160		73	2015
11-16		0		209		835		73	1117
Total		0		2712		2761		191	5873

If, for argument's sake, the child yields in the above table are reduced by a 50% dampener, then that would still produce an additional pupil yield of 509 children of secondary age (and large primary yields which would subsequently move into Year 7 and beyond.) Those children would need to be added to the Year 7 forecasts which are estimated by applying the most recent Year 6 to Year 7 transfer rate.

5.49 The Year 7 forecasts below show actual numbers on roll (NoR) for the 2021 and 2022 intakes compared with the permanent, substantive combined PANs of the 11 schools. For the forecasts for the 2023 to 2027 intakes, the cohort numbers from the state-funded primary schools are multiplied by a take-up rate from the previous Year 6 – i.e. for 2022 entry there were 2,019 children on roll in Year 7 in the October 2022 census, 39 more than the 11 schools' collective PANs, 22 more than in 2021, when a bulge class was accommodated at The Kingston Academy.

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Chessington School	136	154	150	150	150	150	150
Coombe Boys' School	184	182	180	180	180	180	180
Coombe Girls' School	242	244	240	240	240	240	240
Richard Challoner School	159	160	150	150	150	150	150
Southborough High School	150	145	150	150	150	150	150
The Hollyfield School	184	190	180	180	180	180	180
The Holy Cross School	152	153	150	150	150	150	150
The Kingston Academy	213	183	180	180	180	180	180
The Tiffin Girls' School	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Tiffin School	186	186	180	180	180	180	180
Tolworth Girls' School	241	242	240	240	240	240	240
Total Year 7 number on roll	2027	2019	1980	1980	1980	1980	1980
Year 7 capacity	2010	1980	1980	1980	1980	1980	1980
Year 6 leavers*	1861	1913	1931	1856	1878	1902	1863
Conversion rate %	108.9	105.5	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2	107.2
Surplus / shortfall of places	-17	-39					
Applying conversion rate of 105.5			2037	1958	1981	2007	1965
Surplus / shortfall of places			-57	22	-1	-27	15
Applying conversion rate of 107.2			2070	1989	2013	2039	1997
Surplus / shortfall of places			-90	-9	-33	-59	-17
Applying conversion rate of 108.9			2103	2021	2045	2071	2029
Surplus / shortfall of places			-123	-41	-65	-91	-49

- 5.50 The table above gives a range of forecasts, using: firstly, the most recent (105.5%) take-up rate from Year 6 to Year 7; secondly, the average (107.2%) of the last two years' take-up rates; and thirdly, the 2021 take-up rate. This range takes no account of likely pupil yield in the next few years. For example, the Kingston East, Royal Exchange and Signal Park developments are all expected to contribute to an uplift in demand for the 2024 and subsequent intakes – as per paragraph 3.17, even applying a 67% dampener gives an initial pupil yield of 89 secondary-age children, but the numbers who will need a local place are, in reality, likely to be higher given the numbers of in-year admission applicants which the borough has recently experienced.
- 5.51 At the end of the pan-London offer-swapping process for the 2023 intake, there are 117 in-borough children – 68 boys and 49 girls – for whom we cannot make a preference offer. It remains to be seen how far the waiting-lists move, given that, as outlined in paragraph 5.6, the level of over-offering this year is much higher than for 2021 – 186 compared with 112 – and that Teddington School's catchment has reduced considerably.
- 5.52 Longer-term, demand for Year 7 places is set to increase further as a result of housing development and inward migration.

Meeting forecast demand for Year 7 places

- 5.53 The council does not have sufficient capital available to expand existing schools in the borough to the extent that enough additional places would be created to meet forecast demand; neither do the schools in the areas of high demand have enough space to be expanded without major and highly disruptive rebuilds. The only way to meet that need, therefore, remains through the provision of another new secondary school.
- 5.54 The Diocese of Southwark has continued to work closely with the DfE, AfC and the council to fulfil their aspiration to open a voluntary-aided Church of England secondary school in the borough. In December 2018, the DfE invited bids for new voluntary-aided schools for which they would pay 90% of the capital costs, on the condition that the local authority in whose area the educational provider wanted to establish the school would provide a site on a peppercorn-rent basis and pay the remaining 10%. Accordingly, after consultation with the Council, the Diocese of Southwark submitted an application for a six-form entry 11–16 Church of England secondary school to be established, subject to formal agreement of a long-lease arrangement, on Council-owned land between Hampden Road and the Kingsmeadow Stadium car park. The Secretary of State conditionally approved the application in April 2020, subject to a number of factors, including: full site feasibility; publication (by the Diocese) and approval (by the Council's Children's and Adult Care Committee, acting as 'local decision-maker') of a statutory proposal to establish the school; formal leasing of the site; and planning approval for the requisite build.
- 5.55 In June 2021, the council's People Committee approved the Diocese's statutory proposal to establish the school in September 2025.
- 5.56 In November 2021, the council's Corporate and Resources Committee approved proposals, subject to planning permission, to long-lease part of the Kingsmeadow site for

the school and to contribute 10% of the overall design and build costs. A planning application for the school's building and landscaping will be submitted later in 2023.

- 5.57 The school would be a natural destination for some of the children attending the 10 Church of England primary-phase school in the borough, but the school's oversubscription criteria would allocate 120 of the 180 places to any applicants, and 60 to children whose families provided evidence of Anglican or other Christian faith/practice. The school's location in Norbiton means that it is:
- Ideally placed to meet demand from KT1, KT2 and KT3 for children who would otherwise be unplaced; and
 - Near the centre of the borough, so is unlikely to admit many, if any, out-borough children solely on proximity.
- 5.58 If the 93 in-borough children unplaced on 1 March 2023 is added to the 186 places offered over the schools' PANs, that gives a total of 279 children who cannot currently be accommodated within the substantive capacity of the 11 schools in the borough. Therefore, there are already far more than 180 local children who could fill a Year 7 intake of the Church of England school. Pupil yield from housing developments will make that situation unsustainable unless the school opens as soon as is realistically possible.
- 5.59 Longer-term, it would be prudent for the council to consider the identification of another site for a state-funded secondary school in the expectation that, in the next 15–20 years, and possibly sooner, pupil yield from housing development and general demographic growth will necessitate it.

6. SPECIALIST SCHOOL PLACES AND SEND FORECASTING

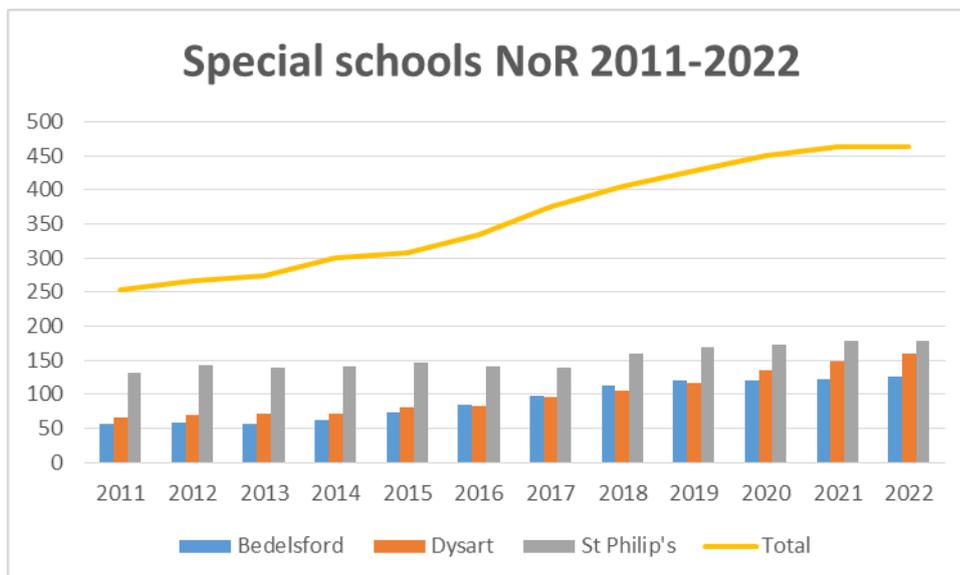
Introduction

- 6.1 If mainstream school place planning can be regarded as an art more than a science, then SEND place planning is even more so because it is subject to more variable factors.
- 6.2 The DfE currently have no oversight of SEND place planning. Before the forthcoming 2023 SCAP return, they have not requested any data from LAs regarding forecasts of the numbers of resident children and young people (CYP) with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and of demand for specialist school places. That can be taken as an indicator of the complexity of SEND place planning.
- 6.3 Except perhaps for large shire LAs, the majority of specialist places accessed by an LA's resident CYP will be outside its own administrative area. That is because the very specialist nature of the different needs means that some SEND schools are effectively sub-regional providers which draw pupils from a variety of LAs.
- 6.4 Moreover, though, a large proportion of school age CYP with EHCPs will be educated within state-funded mainstream primary and secondary schools, and most, if not all LAs, will be working with their local family of schools to empower them to educate a growing number of CYP with SEND but without a need for an EHCP. Of the 1,629 Kingston-resident CYP with EHCPs as at 30 January 2023, 557 (34.2%) are being educated within state-funded mainstream primary or secondary schools (not including those in SRPs).
- 6.5 In the borough, there are three state-funded special schools – Bedelsford, Dysart and St Philip's – which are academies run by Orchard Hill College and Academy Trust (OHCAT). Dysart is a multi-centre school, with two satellites – Apollo 1 and Apollo 2 – in the former School Lane Community Centre in Tolworth and former North Kingston Children's centre.
- 6.6 In the borough's state-funded schools there are 18 specialist resource provisions (SRPs): one in the borough's only stand-alone maintained nursery school; 10 in primary-phase schools; and seven within secondary schools, each of which serves CYP aged 11–16.
- 6.7 Numbers of places in, and designations of, SRPs are in [Appendix 6](#).

Special schools

- 6.8 The growth in numbers of pupils on roll in the last decade in the state-funded special schools in the borough is as follows:

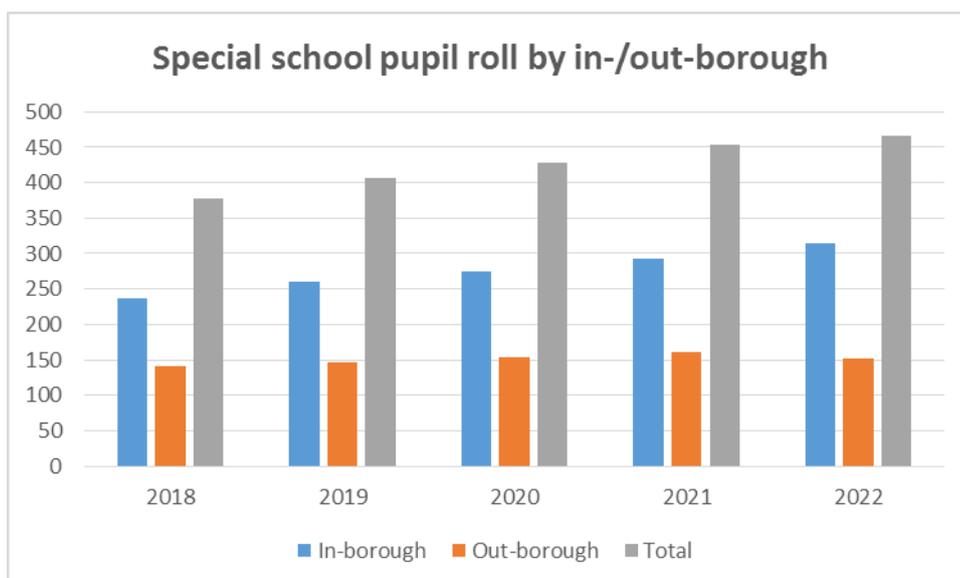
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bedelsford	56	58	57	61	73	85	98	112	121	120	122	125
Dysart	66	70	72	72	81	83	96	105	117	135	149	160
St Philip's	131	142	138	140	146	140	139	159	168	172	179	179
Total	253	267	273	300	308	333	376	406	427	450	464	464



6.9 As can be seen, AfC and the council have worked very closely with OHCAT in the last decade to increase the number of state-funded special school places within the borough – by 83% since 2011.

6.10 The proportions of in- and out-borough CYP on roll within the three schools in the last five years have changed as follows:

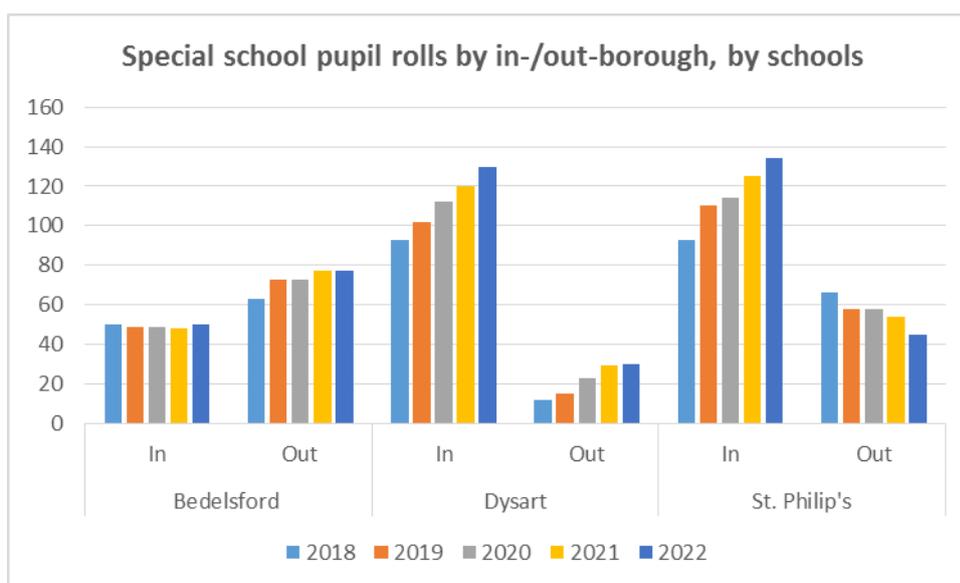
	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	No.	%								
In-borough	236	62.6%	261	64.1%	275	64.1%	293	64.7%	314	67.4%
Out-borough	141	37.4%	146	35.9%	154	35.9%	160	35.3%	152	32.6%
Total	377		407		429		453		466	



6.11 However, these percentages are skewed by Bedelsford, which, due to its very specialist designation, is effectively a sub-regional provider educating CYP from across south and west London and north-east Surrey, whereas Dysart and St Philip's increasingly educate

more in-borough pupils than out-borough, as the following table and graph, showing numbers of in- and out borough pupils by school, both show:

		2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Bedelsford	In	50	49	49	48	50
	Out	63	73	73	77	77
Dysart	In	93	102	112	120	130
	Out	12	15	23	29	30
St. Philip's	In	93	110	114	125	134
	Out	66	58	58	54	45



6.12 Demand for places at the three schools is extremely high, and AfC and the council are working towards providing more places if possible. The challenges to be overcome in that are as follows:

- Bedelsford potentially has space for expansion on its current site, but it would be costly and the additional places to be created would need to be for a cohort of children with needs which are slightly different to those which the school currently caters for, so that the places fill an in-borough gap.
- Dysart does not have room for expansion on its main site or of either its two satellite centres.
- St Philip's has room for expansion, and a planning application has been submitted to create a 14–19 vocational centre which would provide a further 20 places and enhance the school's offer so that more students would stay on roll at the school for their post-16 education.

6.13 AfC and the council are working with the three schools and OHCAT to develop an ambitious proposal for a 16–25 campus, which would co-locate onto a new site some of the sixth form provision of the three schools and the provision currently at the Orchard Hill College site in Beaconsfield Road, New Malden, thereby releasing space for more pre-16 places at the three schools and enabling 20+ new places at Orchard Hill College. The campus would have specialist vocational facilities:

- A digital media, radio and electric wheelchair and alternative communication technology hub;
- A creative and performing arts hub;
- A catering, cafe and learning-for-living hub;
- A workshops and enterprise hub (motor vehicle, bicycle, painting & decorating, up cycling, hair and beauty, gardening and small animal care hub); and
- A customer service, voluntary and community pathways hub.

6.14 Following site searches by both the council and the DfE’s property arm, LocatEd, a possible site for the campus is currently under consideration.

6.15 The designations of the special schools within the borough broadly complement those of the special schools in Richmond so that duplication is minimised and take-up of places by Kingston and Richmond resident CYP is maximised:

	Borough	Designation	Places	Age-range
Bedelsford	Kingston	Physical disabilities, profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD), multisensory impairments and complex learning disabilities including complex health needs	125	2–19
Dysart		Severe learning disabilities (SLD) and a large majority have a diagnosis of autism. Some pupils have profound and multiple learning disabilities and complex health needs.	160	5–19
St Philip’s		Moderate learning difficulties (MLD). Many pupils have additional needs, e.g. mild to moderate autism, language impairment or emotional issues; a few have sensory or medical needs	177	9–19
Spring School		ASC-specific; to open in September 2023	90	4–19
<i>Borough total</i>			552	
Capella House	Richmond	Speech, language and communication needs (SLCN)	72	4–19
Clarendon inc. The Gateway		Moderate learning difficulties and additional complex needs including autism	148	4–16
Strathmore		Severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties and autism	98	4–19
London River Academy		Social, emotional and mental health (SEMH); to open in September 2025	90	7–19
<i>Borough total</i>			408	

6.16 In October 2018, AfC submitted two special free school applications, one in Kingston for children and young people aged 4–19 with autism, and one in Richmond for children and young people aged 7–19 with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. In March 2019, the DfE approved both applications. Each school will have 90 places. In February 2020, the DfE and AfC jointly selected the providers for the two schools: Ambitious about Autism for the Kingston school, named Spring School, to open in September 2023 on part of the council-owned Moor Lane Centre site in Chessington, and the Beckmead Trust for the Richmond school, to be named London River Academy,

to open, subject to planning permission, date not yet known, on part of the Barnes Hospital site.

- 6.17 As an autism-specific school, Spring School will help to fill the largest gap within the SEND Local Offer.
- 6.18 As demand for special school places is, for a variety of reasons, forecast to keep growing, it would, though, be prudent for the council to consider the identification of another site for a state-funded special school in the expectation that, in the next 10–15 years, and possibly sooner, increased identification and incidences of SEND, pupil yield from housing development and general demographic growth will necessitate it.
- 6.19 It is not easy to identify spare or under-utilised school or other spaces/sites which could be used to house specialist places except as a stop-gap. For the reasons noted at paragraph 4.15, there are lots of variable factors which need to be considered in discussions with primary-phase schools with falling rolls which might seem to have space for re-purposing for specialist use – not least of which is that if a school is undersubscribed for its mainstream places, it might find, that if it opened an SRP, that too would be under-subscribed, unless its development were very effectively supported by all parties.
- 6.20 [Appendix 7](#) shows the planned growth in SEND school places from 2017 to 2030.

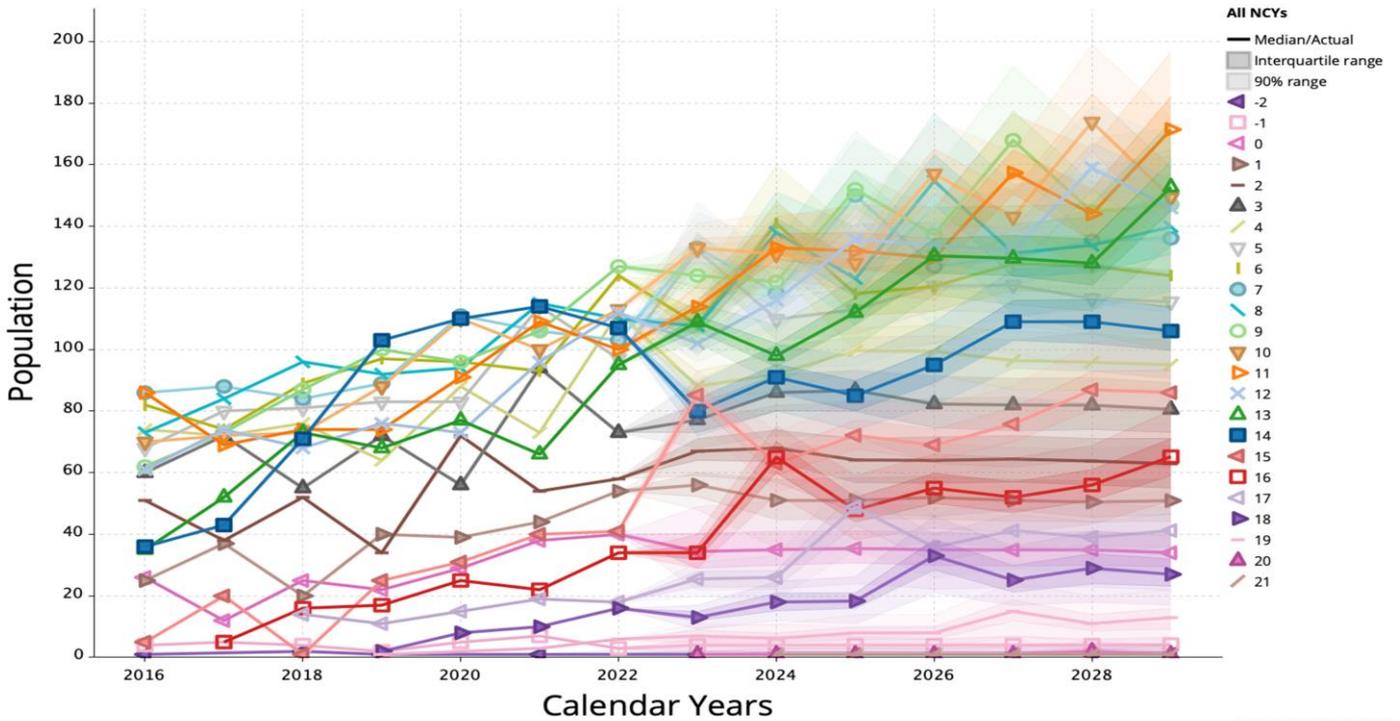
Specialist Resource Provisions (SRPs)

- 6.21 The following recent developments have taken place:
- A 14-place SRP for children with social communication needs including autism and mild to moderate learning difficulties opened at Robin Hood Primary in 2022;
 - Phase 2 of a post-16 SRP for young people with SEMH opened at Malden Oaks, expanding capacity from eight to 24 places; and the permanent accommodation for it will be completed in summer 2023.
- 6.22 A proposal to create a National Autistic Society ‘Cullum Centre’ 20-place SRP at The Kingston Academy is being considered. This would replace the school’s current SRP, which no longer had any bespoke accommodation due to the school’s growth.
- 6.23 The Church of England secondary school will accommodate a 20-place SRP for CYP with social communication needs including autism and mild to moderate learning difficulties.

SEND forecasting

- 6.24 AfC and its data partner have analysed trends and created forecasts (using ONS population data) of the likely need for places in future years. The modelling includes how the new SEND places have filled, or will fill, gaps; and have impacted the costs of placements.
- 6.25 Recent and forecast EHCPs by National Curriculum years within the borough are as follows:

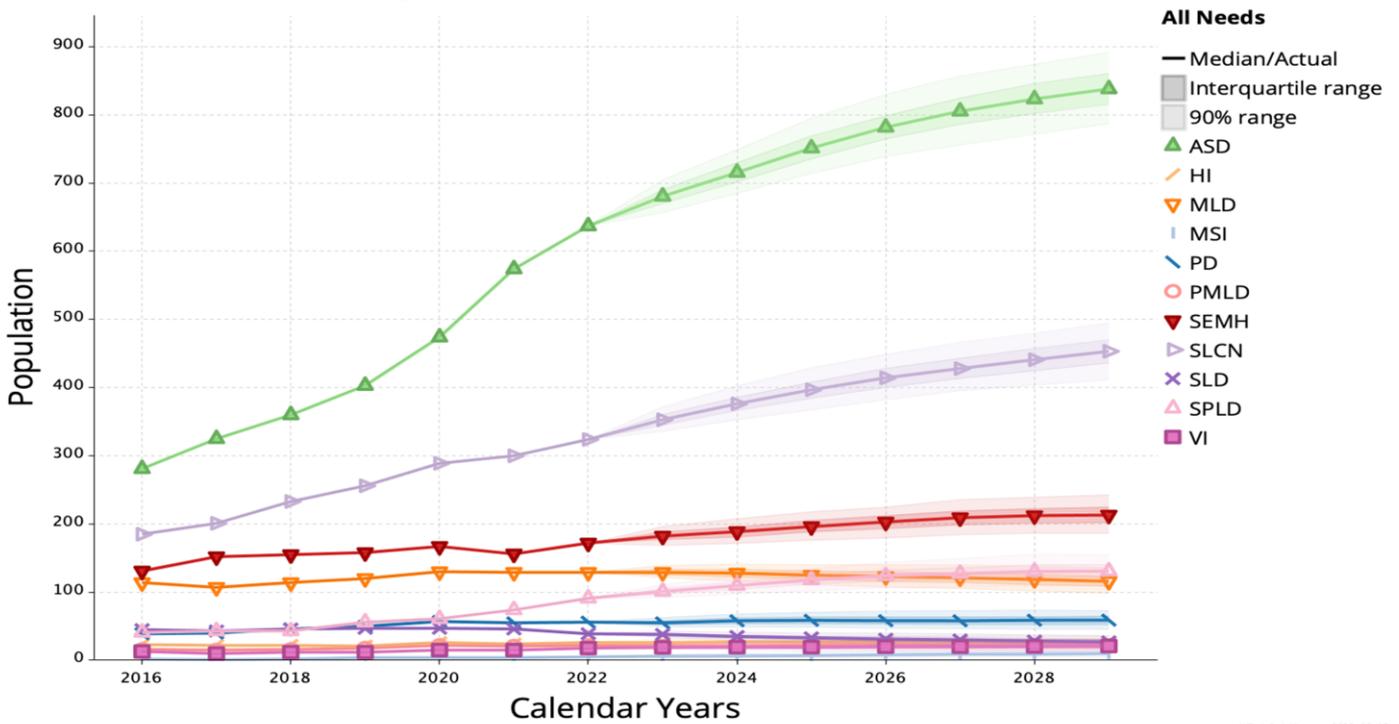
Kingston EHCP Count for All NCYs



6.26 As can be seen, steep increases in secondary-phase and post-16 demand are forecast, partly because there will be many more children within the secondary phase in general.

6.27 The chart below shows the forecast incidence of EHCPs by primary needs:

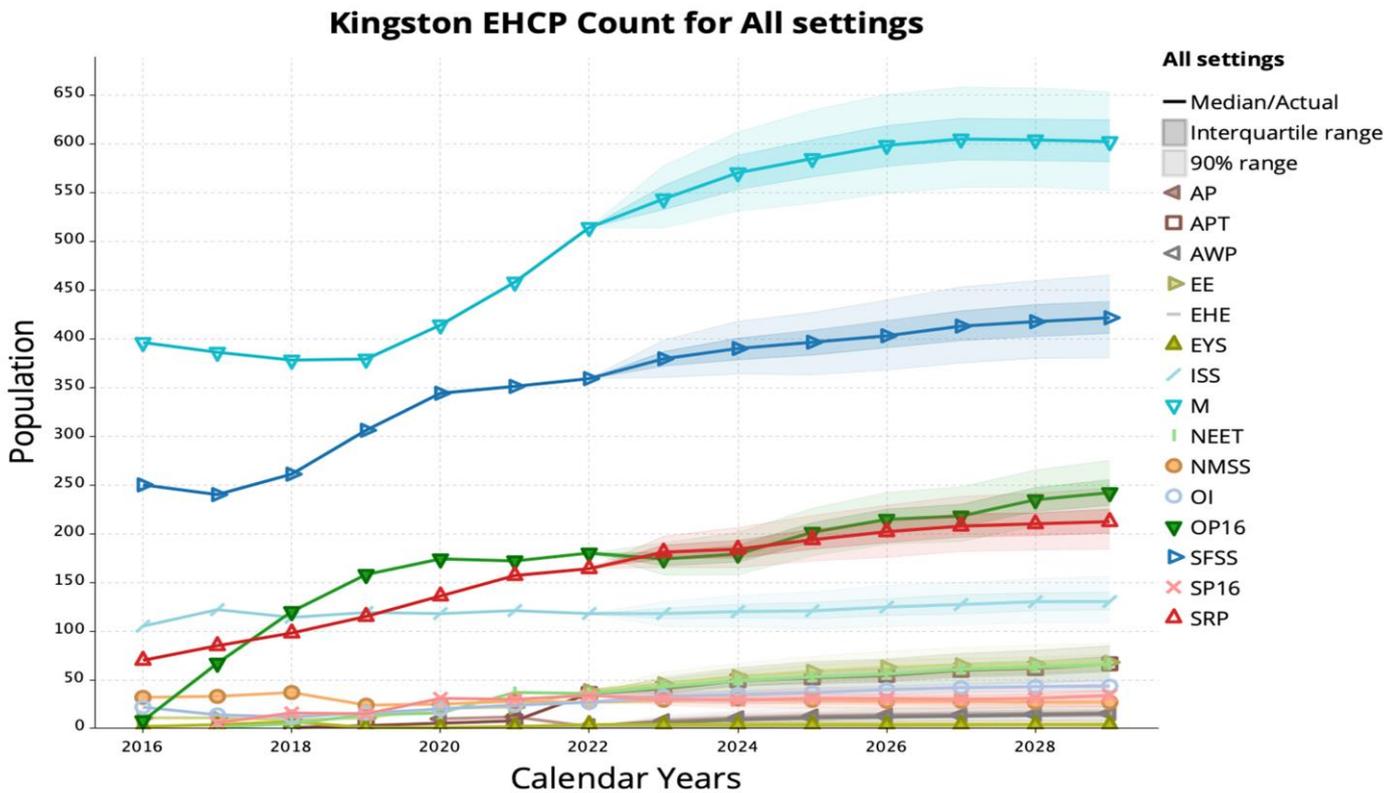
Kingston EHCP Count for All Needs



It is clear that the three main needs will continue to be ASC (autism), SLCN and SEMH, and that they will continue to grow in incidence, most especially ASC. In addition,

significantly large numbers of Kingston-resident children with MLD and SpLD will continue to need EHCPs. However, it should be noted that these forecasts take no account of comorbidity. Work is being undertaken to revise the forecasting model based upon the types of needs which each of the borough's specialist settings have met, as that should provide a more granular picture of how demand has changed and is forecast to change in the next decade.

6.28 The chart below shows how the additional places recently, and set to be, provided, in state-funded special schools and specialist resource provisions have reduced / will reduce, the council's dependence on the independent sector for SEND school places:



6.29 Mainstream schools (M) are forecast to continue to account for the largest proportion of EHCPs, with increased numbers of CYP in state-funded special schools (SFSS) and fewer, proportionally, in independent special schools (ISS) and non-maintained special schools (NMSS). The numbers of YP in other post-16 settings (OP16) are expected to continue to increase, i.e. those in post-16 settings but not in mainstream or special school sixth forms; this is due, principally, to the extension, from 2014 onwards, of the upper age-limit for EHCPs from 21 to 25.

6. EARLY YEARS

6.1 As for Reception places, demand for free Early Years places in the borough is high. Data from August 2022 show a total of 151 childminders and 94 group settings with early years registration; this includes 24 primary schools with a nursery class and one stand-alone maintained nursery School. The table below identifies the number of part-time (15 hours per week) equivalent places currently available at each school. Some schools provide full-time 30 hour places, either via current capacity or in partnership with a PVI as part of wrap-around provision. Most full-time places are taken up using the 30-hours entitlement offered to eligible working parents; however, to support sustainability, any remaining vacancies can be offered as fee-paying to other families.

School	2022/2023	Previous report	Difference
Alexandra	78	78	0
Burlington Infant	112	104	8
Castle Hill Primary	52	78	-26
Christ Church Primary, New Malden	52	52	0
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary	52	52	0
Ellingham Primary	26	26	0
Fern Hill Primary	52	52	0
Grand Avenue Primary	52	52	0
Green Lane Primary	34	34	0
King Athelstan Primary	52	52	0
King's Oak Primary	52	104	-52
Knollmead Primary	42	26	16
Latchmere	78	78	0
Lime Tree	0	26	-26
Lovlace Primary	52	52	0
Malden Manor Primary	52	52	0
Malden Parochial C of E Primary	26	26	0
Maple Infants'	52	52	0
Robin Hood Primary	26	52	-26
St Agatha's Catholic Primary	52	52	0
St John's C of E Primary	52	52	0
St Joseph's Catholic Primary	52	52	0
St Luke's C of E Primary	52	52	0
St Mary's	0	26	-26
Surbiton Hill Nursery	116	118	-2
Tolworth Infant	52	52	0
Overall change	1318	1452	-134

All changes since 2020 have been made due to low take-up of places. Lime Tree has closed its maintained nursery. St Mary's made a decision to not operate the nursery for the current academic year and they are currently reviewing the situation for 2023/2024, including alternative ways to offer a sustainable nursery provision on site. King's Oak has

temporarily reduced its place offer, but is expected to increase again. Robin Hood has reduced to a morning-only base offer, but offers a small number of afternoon places for children who are 30-hours eligible. Castle Hill has returned to a base offer of 52, after a temporary increase to respond to high demand. Knollmead increased places to respond to parental demand for the 30-hour offer.

- 6.2 Each school allocates its own places in accordance with published oversubscription criteria. For the community schools, the nursery criteria are the same as for Reception class places, i.e. most places are allocated to siblings and on the basis of home-to-school distance. (However, it should be noted that attendance at the nursery or having a younger sibling at the nursery does not form part of the criteria for entry to Reception and higher primary year-groups.) Unlike for entry to Reception, the council does not have a statutory duty to coordinate applications for the nursery schools and therefore does not have any central role in nursery admissions.
- 6.3 From the DfE Early Years Census 2022, there are 2,538, three- and four- year-olds accessing an Early Education place in the borough, with a further 1,210 four-year-olds in a maintained reception class. 1,467 (58%) of the Early Education places taken up are within the PVI sector with remainder taken up in the maintained sector. The council has a duty to ensure that there is sufficient childcare for those parents that need it. Ensuring sufficient places at or within the early education funding rate is a significant challenge for the PVI sector, therefore, most of the free three- and four-year-old places are within maintained nursery schools. This places families with a low income at a disadvantage.
- 6.4 Some school and PVI nurseries also offer free places for eligible two-year-olds. Provision for two-year-olds to access early education places has increased, with 40% of the national population eligible. For two-year-olds, the Council has a statutory duty to secure free early education places for every child in their area that is either looked-after, in receipt of Disability Living Allowance or who falls within the eligibility aligned to the criteria for free school meals, but includes household incomes up to £15,400 before benefits. From Department of Work and Pensions information, currently in Kingston 14% (303) of the two-year-old population are eligible, with 97% (294) of those children accessing a place in autumn 2022. 19% (56) of these children were in the seven school provisions which offer two-year-old places
- 6.5 All early years providers who offer the early education entitlement must adhere to the provisions of the Department for Education's Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. However, maintained nurseries, with AfC's support, are reviewing their offer to further meet the increased flexible childcare and early education needs of families and to support the ongoing sustainability of the nursery offer. This may include offering 30-hours funding either to fill vacancies or as a fixed planned offer, offering wrap-around care for early years children or working in partnership to develop and offer a two-year-olds offer.
- 6.6 For three- and four-year-olds, the Council has a statutory duty to secure early education funded places for every child in their area whose parents require it.
- 6.7 From September 2017, for three- and four-year-olds, the Council has a statutory duty to secure early education places offering the extended 15 hours which will give 30 hours

per week for 38 weeks a year, to children of working parents who meet the eligibility criteria. A number of schools offer some 'extended' six-hour-a-day places to children eligible for the funding, this can be a planned offer of a small fixed number of places or a way of filling vacant sessions.

- 6.8 For the current offer of 15 hours, evidence shows that parents are challenged to find places that are entirely free of charge for 15 hours per week for 38 weeks a year. In January 2022, of the three-year-olds accessing Early Education Funding 40% of three-year-olds in the borough were accessing maintained nursery provision, 57% were in PVI's and 3% were in independent schools.
- 6.9 There are three possible methods for providing additional maintained nursery places:
- a. Open new nurseries at other state-funded infant and primary schools within the borough. There is no direct funding available for nursery expansion, but some additional capacity could be created as part of a school expansion. If this option is pursued, the selection criteria must be based on current unmet need.
 - b. Bring private nurseries on state-funded school sites into the maintained sector. Some schools are already considering this option and are in discussion with the Early Years' Service.
 - c. Expand the number of places at some of the existing maintained nurseries.
All options to increase nursery places could also offer some additional new provision within the nursery class for disadvantaged two-year-olds. The introduction of the 30 hours entitlement for working parents has given the opportunity for maintained schools to develop out of school provision either themselves or in partnership with a third party.
- 6.10 The geographical distribution of the current maintained nurseries within the borough is good. The expansion of statutory school age provision over the last decade has enabled the number of places to keep in line with children progressing through maintained school nurseries.
- 6.11 However, demand is reducing for the traditional model of three-hour, five-day, 38-weeks-a-year nursery places. This is causing sufficiency concerns for both maintained nurseries and private traditional sessional pre-schools with more families accessing flexible offers at full-day nurseries or with childminders. Sessional providers are therefore having to consider a more flexible offer; for maintained schools, this may mean looking at expanded hours, either self-delivered or in partnership with PVI providers either on- or off-site, while ensuring that the traditional model, which most maintained schools offer, remains available for those disadvantaged families who might otherwise not access early years education if additional costs were involved.
- 6.12 Across England, Local Authorities are working with schools to consider and make changes, such as reviewing the hours and age-range of the nursery offer, to offer a Governor-Led Pre-School (whereby the nursery becomes a separate voluntary provider, with the governing body as the registered organisation), to invite a private provider on-site who would work closely with the school concerned to offer the early years provision or to offer a combined nursery / Reception class.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Since 2011, the Council has received ‘Basic Need’ allocations¹³ from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of £51,958,602, including the latest amount of £1,049,626 which covers the 2021/2022 period. (No money was allocated for 2020/2021.) Those allocations, supported by additional Council funding, have funded the provision of 12.5 additional forms of Reception entry, including the establishment of Lime Tree Primary School in 2012 and, most recently, the conversion of Alexandra Infant and St Paul’s Church of England Junior into all-through primary schools from September 2016. A breakdown of how additional Reception places have been provided – permanently and temporarily – since 2007 is given in [Appendix 1](#).
- 7.2 The ESFA bear the capital costs of providing free school places. However, if the Council wishes to long-lease sites within its ownership for new free schools (or voluntary-aided schools), then it would need to balance the financial saving of school places being provided without it having to spend any capital against the loss of potential income from the rent or permanent disposal of such sites. In the case of the Church of England secondary school, the Council is required, as a condition of establishing the school, to pay 10% of the capital cost, estimated at £2.5m.
- 7.3 Adding bulge classes in secondary schools would cost more, and be more difficult to achieve, than in primary schools since there would be pressure on specialised spaces, such as science labs.
- 7.4 In addition to the capital costs, each expansion, whether permanent or temporary, would require revenue, to pay for seven-twelfths of the costs of a teacher, teaching assistant and other resources for the period from September to April, of c.£50,000. These costs are paid from the ‘Growth Fund’ element of the Council’s Dedicated Schools’ Grant.
- 7.5 In March 2017, the ESFA allocated £1,688,448 to the Council for SEND capital projects, and topped it up in May 2018 with £392,662 and in December 2018 with £785,325, making a total of £2,866,435. This money has been, and is being, used to fund satellites of the special schools and the expansion and establishment of specialist resource provisions.
- 7.6 The revenue savings to be accrued by having more state-funded SEND places available locally are significant and still being worked through based on average costings.

8. CONTACTS

Matthew Paul, Associate Director, School Place Planning, Achieving for Children;
matthew.paul@achievingforchildren.org.uk.

Anita Board, Early Years Sufficiency and Sustainability Officer, Achieving for Children,
anita.board@achievingforchildren.org.uk.

¹³ See: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/basic-need-allocations>.

Appendix 1: Reception class capacity, 2007–2022

Reception entry year		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Transferring to Yr 7 in ...		2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Area	School																
1	Alexandra	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	90	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	60*	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Fern Hill	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	90	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Latchmere	90	90	<i>120</i>	90	120	120	120	<i>150</i>	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
	St Agatha's	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	St Luke's	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30
	St Paul's, Kingston											60*	60	60	60	60	60
	Total		330	360	390	360	390	390	450	420	420	420	450	420	420	420	420
2	King Athelstan	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	King's Oak	60	60	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Kingston Commun.									30	60	60	60	60			
	St John's	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	St Joseph's	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Total		180	180	180	210	210	240	210	210	270	270	270	270	270	210	210
3	Castle Hill	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Ellingham	30	30	30	30	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Lovelace	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	60	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	St Mary's	30	30	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	St Paul's, Hook	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Total		210	240	240	270											
4	Lime Tree						90	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Maple	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	St Matthew's	45	45	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Tolworth	90	90	<i>120</i>	90	<i>120</i>	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	90	90	<i>120</i>	<i>120</i>	90	90	90
	Total		195	225	270	210	270	330	300	300	300	300	300	330	330	300	300
5	Christ Church	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	60
	Grand Avenue	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Knollmead	30	30	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Our Lady Immacul.	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Total		210	240	270	270	240	240	270	270	270	270	270	240	240	270	270
6	Burlington	90	<i>120</i>	<i>120</i>	90	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
	Christ Church	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Coombe Hill	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	<i>120</i>	90	<i>120</i>	90	<i>120</i>	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	90	90	90
	Corpus Christi	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Total		300	360	330	330	360	330	360	330	360	330	360	330	330	330	330
7	Green Lane	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Malden Manor	60	60	60	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Malden Parochial	30	30	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Total		150	150	150	180	150	180	180	150							
8	Robin Hood	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Total		30	60	30												
Overall total		1605	1785	1860	1860	1920	2010	2070	2010	2040	2070	2100	2040	2040	1980	1980	1950
New permanent FE		0	0	0	0	6.5	2	0	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of bulges		1	7	8.5	9	5	6	8	3	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	0

Figures in bold = permanent provision; figures italicized = temporary provision.

* Alexandra and St Paul's were converted from 3FE infant and junior schools into 2FE all-through primary schools.

Appendix 2: Year 7 capacity, 2012–2022

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Chessington	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Coombe Boys'	180	180	180	180	180	180	<i>150</i>	180	180	180	180
Coombe Girls'	210	210	210	210	210	210	240	240	240	240	240
Richard Challoner	135	135	135	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Southborough High	150	150	150	150	150	<i>135</i>	135	150	150	150	150
The Hollyfield	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	210	210	180	180
The Holy Cross	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
The Kingston Academy				180	180	180	180	180	210	210	180
The Tiffin Girls'	150	150	150	150	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Tiffin (Boys')	150	150	150	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Tolworth Girls'	210	210	210	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240
Total	1665	1665	1665	1920	1950	1935	1935	2010	2040	2010	1980

Figures in bold = permanent expansion; figures in red = temporary expansion; figures italicized = temporary decrease

Appendix 3: Autumn 2022 primary and secondary numbers on roll

Phase	School	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
Pri.	Alexandra	59	57	55	58	60	60	61								459
	Burlington Infant	121	122	120												459
	Burlington Junior				118	120	116	120								474
	Castle Hill	60	64	65	60	56	59	61								503
	Christ Church, Surbiton	54	87	77	53	53	68	77								469
	Christ Church, New Malden	59	60	60	59	60	60	60								447
	Coombe Hill Infant	90	91	89												270
	Coombe Hill Junior				90	90	120	91								391
	Corpus Christi Catholic	41	54	60	60	60	60	60								419
	Ellingham	35	40	59	57	53	51	49								361
	Fern Hill	87	88	90	89	90	90	90								650
	Grand Avenue	90	91	89	90	91	87	90								680
	Green Lane	59	40	56	58	50	51	54								402
	King Athelstan	60	59	60	56	60	61	60								458
	King's Oak	48	56	52	58	59	42	89								473
	Knollmead	34	32	32	32	32	31	32								253
	Latchmere	104	106	118	113	122	117	125								849
	Lime Tree	32	59	43	55	41	39	55								324
	Lovelace	87	89	85	87	82	58	84								606
	Malden Manor	57	54	54	60	60	58	60								430
	Malden Parochial	30	30	30	30	30	30	30								230
	Maple Infants'	89	88	87												300
	Our Lady Immaculate Catholic	60	58	58	61	58	60	60								415
	Robin Hood	31	18	20	24	28	25	26								192
	St Agatha's Catholic	39	43	56	60	59	57	61								398
	St Andrew's St Mark's CE Junior				87	89	89	89								354
	St John's CE	30	30	30	30	30	29	30								233
	St Joseph's Catholic	28	30	30	30	30	27	30								234
	St Luke's CE	30	30	29	30	30	59	29								266
	St Mary's CE	20	25	21	30	27	24	22								169
	St Matthew's CE	60	60	58	60	57	55	56								406
St Paul's CE, Hook	30	31	30	30	28	29	30								208	
St Paul's CE, Kingston Hill	55	55	60	57	60	57	60								404	
Tolworth Infant	92	88	90												315	
Tolworth Junior				120	114	87	90								411	
Total	1771	1835	1863	1902	1878	1856	1931									13910
Sec.	Chessington								154	136	136	115	103			644
	Coombe Boys'								182	183	182	175	148	58	44	972
	Coombe Girls'								244	244	240	244	245	184	188	1589
	Richard Challoner								160	164	160	156	159	145	137	1081
	Southborough High								145	155	117	154	143	86	57	857
	The Hollyfield								190	186	213	210	182	120	112	1213
	The Holy Cross								153	153	154	154	152	108	105	979
	The Kingston Academy								183	218	213	183	183	110	95	1185
	The Tiffin Girls'								180	180	178	180	177	167	170	1232
	Tiffin								186	185	180	185	176	253	255	1420
	Tolworth Girls'								242	236	233	236	194	137	158	1436
	Total								2019	2040	2006	1991	1862	1368	1321	12607
Overall totals		1789	1857	1888	1920	1905	1884	1955	2079	2089	2063	2054	1927	1409	1339	27162

Appendix 4: Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll in autumn 2022 compared with initial and waiting-list offers

Phase	School	Permanent PAN	2022 PAN	Reception			Year 7		
				Offers made	W/L offers	Numbers on roll	Offers made	W/L offers	Numbers on roll
Pri.	Alexandra	60	60	60	11	59			
	Burlington Infant	120	120	120	15	121			
	Castle Hill	60	60	60	12	60			
	Christ Church, Surbiton	60	60	60	8	54			
	Christ Church, New Malden	60	60	59	6	59			
	Coombe Hill Infant	90	90	90	13	90			
	Corpus Christi Catholic	60	60	39	11	41			
	Ellingham	60	60	39	1	35			
	Fern Hill	90	90	90	18	87			
	Grand Avenue	90	90	90	13	90			
	Green Lane	60	60	60	10	59			
	King Athelstan	60	60	60	11	60			
	King's Oak	90	60	50	25	48			
	Knollmead	30	30	30	5	34			
	Latchmere	120	120	120	15	104			
	Lime Tree	60	30	41	8	32			
	Lovelace	90	90	90	5	87			
	Malden Manor	60	60	60	6	57			
	Malden Parochial	30	30	30	6	30			
	Maple Infants'	90	90	90	25	89			
	Our Lady Immaculate Catholic	60	60	60	7	60			
	Robin Hood	30	30	30	7	31			
	St Agatha's Catholic	60	60	54	10	39			
	St John's CE	30	30	30	1	30			
	St Joseph's Catholic	30	30	30	8	28			
	St Luke's CE	30	30	30	6	30			
	St Mary's CE	30	30	24	0	20			
	St Matthew's CE	60	60	60	19	60			
St Paul's CE, Hook	30	30	60	2	30				
St Paul's CE, Kingston Hill	60	60	30	9	55				
Tolworth Infant	90	90	90	15	92				
	Total	1950	1890	1836	308	1771			
Sec.	Chessington	150	150				150	27	154
	Coombe Boys'	180	180				190	57	182
	Coombe Girls'	240	240				251	50	244
	Richard Challoner	150	150				150	11	160
	Southborough High	150	150				180	44	145
	The Hollyfield	180	180				200	50	190
	The Holy Cross School	150	150				150	23	153
	The Kingston Academy	180	180				200	36	183
	The Tiffin Girls'	180	180				180	63	180
	Tiffin	180	180				186	81	186
	Tolworth Girls'	240	240				240	29	242
		Total	1980	1980				2077	471

Appendix 5: Autumn 2022 and 2021 Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll

Phase	School	Reception 2022	Reception 2021	Change +/-	Year 7 2022	Year 7 2021	Change +/-
Pri.	Alexandra	59	57	2			
	Burlington Infant	121	120	1			
	Castle Hill	60	64	-4			
	Christ Church, Surbiton	54	81	-27			
	Christ Church, New Malden	59	59	0			
	Coombe Hill Infant	90	90	0			
	Corpus Christi Catholic	41	49	-8			
	Ellingham	35	42	-7			
	Fern Hill	87	87	0			
	Grand Avenue	90	90	0			
	Green Lane	59	43	16			
	King Athelstan	60	59	1			
	King's Oak	48	52	-4			
	Knollmead	34	32	2			
	Latchmere	104	104	0			
	Lime Tree	32	60	-28			
	Lovelace	87	86	1			
	Malden Manor	57	50	7			
	Malden Parochial	30	30	0			
	Maple Infants'	89	89	0			
	Our Lady Immaculate Catholic	60	60	0			
	Robin Hood	31	20	11			
	St Agatha's Catholic	39	42	-3			
	St John's CE	30	30	0			
	St Joseph's Catholic	28	30	-2			
	St Luke's CE	30	30	0			
	St Mary's CE	20	24	-4			
	St Matthew's CE	60	60	0			
	St Paul's CE, Hook	30	31	-1			
	St Paul's CE, Kingston Hill	55	51	4			
Tolworth Infant	92	93	-1				
	Total	1771	1815	-44			
Sec.	Chessington				154	136	18
	Coombe Boys'				182	184	-2
	Coombe Girls'				244	242	2
	Richard Challoner				160	159	1
	Southborough High				145	150	-5
	The Hollyfield				190	184	6
	The Holy Cross				153	152	1
	The Kingston Academy				183	213	-30
	The Tiffin Girls'				180	180	0
	Tiffin				186	186	0
	Tolworth Girls'				242	241	1
		Total				2019	2027

Appendix 6: Specialist resource provision capacity

School	Age-range	Designation	Date of opening	Number of places
Surbiton Children's Centre Nursery	Nursery	ASD	Already open	12 children in part time placements
Alexandra	Nursery to Year 6	PD	Already open	19: 2–3 in Nursery (part-time places), 6 in Reception/ KS1 8 children in KS2; usually no more than 2 per year group. This is an Enhanced Specialist Teaching Arrangement (ESTA), whereby the children are supported full-time in mainstream lessons. From September 2021, the 8 KS2 places will form an SRP.
Castle Hill Primary	Nursery to Year 6	SLCN	Open N–Y2 Adding KS2 over a four-year period	35 currently: 16 part-time places in Nursery, 15 places KS1, 4 places KS2 Further KS2 places being added as follows: 2019: 8 in KS2 2020: 12 in KS2 2021: 16 in KS2
Grand Avenue Primary	Nursery to Year 6	ASD	Already open	8, no more than 2 per year group. This is an Enhanced Specialist Teaching Arrangement (ESTA), whereby the children are supported full-time in mainstream lessons.
King Athelstan Primary	Reception to Year 6	SEMH	September 2019	2019: 4 2020: 6 (capacity) No more than 2 per year group
King's Oak Primary	Nursery to	ASD	Already open	31: 4 in Nursery, 9 in KS1,

	Year 6			18 in KS2
Knollmead Primary	Nursery to Year 6	ASC	Already open	16: 2 in Nursery, 6 in Reception/KS1, 8 in KS2
Knollmead Primary	Reception to Year 6	HI	Already open	12; usually no more than 2 per year group
Latchmere	Reception to Year 6	ASC	Already open, but expanding	14; usually no more than 2 per year group
Lime Tree Primary	Reception to Year 6	ASC	Already open	21: 9 in Reception/KS1; 12 in KS2
Robin Hood Primary	Reception to Year 6	ASC	Already open	14: 4 in 2022; 8 in 2023; 14 in 2024
Tolworth Infant and Junior	Nursery to Year 6	MLD	Already open	24: 3 in Nursery, 9 in Reception/KS1, 12 in KS2
Coombe Boys'	Year 7 to 11	HI/SLCN	Already open	20
Coombe Girls'	Year 7 to Year 11	SLCN	Already open	21, 4-5 per year group, with SLCN affecting learning and access to the mainstream curriculum Also has a Teacher for the Deaf for children with HI, as a follow-on from Knollmead
The Hollyfield	Year 7 to Year 11	ASC	September 2019	20
The Kingston Academy	Year 7 to Year 11	ASC	Already open	15; usually no more than 3 per year group
Richard Challoner	Year 7 to Year 11	ASC	Already open	20; boys-only. This is an Enhanced Specialist Teaching Arrangement (ESTA), whereby the children are supported full-time in mainstream lessons.
Richard Challoner	Year 7 to Year 11	SEMH	Already open	15; boys-only; usually no more than 3 per year group
Richard Challoner	Year 12 to Year 13	MLD	Already open	16; mixed-sex

Tolworth Girls'	Year 7 to Year 11	SEMH	September 2019	2019: 4 2020: 10 Girls-only.
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Key:

ASC – Autistic Spectrum Condition

HI – Hearing Impairment

MLD – Moderate Learning Difficulties

PD – Physical Disability

SEMH – Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs

SLCN – Speech, Language and Communication Needs

SpLD – Specific Learning Difficulties

Appendix 7: Growth in SEND school places, 2017–2028

School	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Surbiton Hill Nursery (ASC)	6	12	12	12	12	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Alexandra (PMLD)	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Castle Hill Primary (SLCN)	23	35	39	43	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
Grand Avenue Primary (ASC)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
King Athelstan Primary (SEMH)			4	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
King's Oak Primary (ASC)	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Knollmead Primary (ASC)	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Knollmead Primary (HI)	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Latchmere (ASC)	8	12	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Lime Tree Primary (ASC)	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
Robin Hood Primary (ASC)						4	8	10	14	14	14	14	14	14
Tolworth Infant and Junior (MLD)	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Coombe Boys' (HI)					4	8	12	16	20	20	20	20	20	20
Coombe Girls' (HI - SLCN from 2023)		6	12	18	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
The Hollyfield (ASC)			8	16	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
The Kingston Academy (ASC)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Richard Challoner (ASC)	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Richard Challoner (SEMH)	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Richard Challoner (MLD)	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Tolworth Girls' (Emotional Health)			4	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
New C of E secondary school (ASC)									4	8	12	16	20	20
Bedelsford Special School (PMLD)	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
Dysart Special School (SLD)	96	115	130	145	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160
St Philip's Special School (MLD)	143	159	175	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179	179
Malden Oaks (SEMH)		24	24	24	32	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
Spring School (ASC)							36	48	60	72	90	90	90	90
Totals	598	685	744	789	827	857	901	919	943	959	981	985	989	989