

SCHOOL PLACES PLAN 2014 - 2019
Director of Children, Young People and Learning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The provision of school places remains an essential part of the Council's organisation and planning process and enables the Council to meet its statutory duties in relation to school places.
- The School Places Plan is produced as a result of an annual review of future housing plans, numbers on roll and demographic data.
- Forecasting practice has been further improved this year. Increased scrutiny has been given to input data, the model and the assumptions taken in response to various factors in the model. These improvements can enhance the Council's confidence in the forecasts.
- In summary, the trend of increasing pupil numbers and pressure on the intake year in primary schools that has been seen in recent years continues.
- In total a further 4,090 pupils will be seeking a school place by 2019, a 25% increase.
- This year's primary age forecasts indicate a total of 11,669 places will be needed by 2019. This represents an additional 2,208 additional pupils, or a 23% increase.
- This year's secondary age forecasts indicate a total of 8,458 places will be needed by 2019. This represents an additional 1,882 pupils or a 29% increase.
- Last year's forecasts for 2014 were within 1% of the actual numbers on roll.
- The Plan focuses on the need for additional school places. Subsequent proposals for additional capacity are presented in separate reports, where building plans are aligned with financial forecasts.
- A school place continues to be available for every child in the Borough who wants one.
- On the last occasion that Department for Education grants for targeted basic needs were allocated, the Council's 2012-based forecasts were successful in securing £7.8M of grant through the bidding process to build additional places in the future.

Contacts for further information

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