



# **SCHOOL PLACES PLAN**

**2015 - 2020**

**Including 2015-based forecasts**

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Forecasts in this Plan are produced for medium term planning purposes. Forecasts are based on trends in past numbers on roll, admissions and birth rates, and take into account planned housing and other factors. Pupils are projected in the designated area of schools and forecasts are not constrained by accommodation at the school.

The Admissions Authority for each school will determine, based on their admission arrangements, which pupils can be offered places at the school. The forecasts cannot be used as an indication of admissions in future years.

Further details are included in Annex 1.

## Introduction

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. School place planning is an annual process based on a review of future housing plans, numbers on roll and demographic data. The process continues to be adjusted as actual numbers are known and comparisons made with forecasts in previous years. The School Places Plan is produced annually as a result of the review.

'Creating Opportunities' is the joint strategic plan for children and young people in Bracknell Forest for 2014-2017. The plan contains six Outcome Priorities - Outcome Priority 1 is to *'raise levels of attainment and pupil progress across all phases of learning for all pupils'*. To provide sufficient school places to meet the changing patterns and demand is a specific activity listed under this Outcome Priority.

This School Places Plan supplements the joint strategic plan by providing:

- pupil data and statistics
- forecasts of pupil numbers for the next five years
- commentary on the need to add or remove school capacity
- estimates of future housing growth.

The planning and capital programme processes that deliver places constitute both a major challenge and a major achievement for the Council. In excess of 5,000 school places have been created in Bracknell Forest schools over the last 10 years, including expansions and surge classrooms at existing schools in all three organisational areas, construction of a new primary school at Jennett's Park and the re-provided expanded secondary school at Garth Hill College. The cost of these places has been in the region of £90M. Given the national pressures on school places this is a major success for the Council, with school places continuing to be available for every child in the Borough who wants one.

The forecasts contained in this plan support school estate planning to meet demand for pupil places. The Education Capital Programme has always succeeded in creating sufficient physical capacity in our schools to meet local demand, and the key factors in this have been:

- the ability to plan well in advance
- planning for the worst case (highest) pupil numbers but only building what is actually needed
- working with schools to minimise the disruption and optimise the enhancement of the physical environment through the construction works.

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.

Further information relating to the Council's plans to invest in school buildings can be found in the Asset Management Plan (AMP) 2013-2016 for Children Young People and Learning, which contains more detail on school capacities and construction projects. The AMP can be viewed via the following link:

<http://schools.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/assets/asset-management-plan-2013-to-2016.pdf>

## **School Place Planning**

All local authorities (LA) work within the same national policy framework. Three main activities make up the task of matching the supply of school places with the demand for them:

- managing the supply of places;
- managing demand through admissions and appeals procedures; and
- managing outcomes by tackling problems – such as small schools and schools in difficulties – which emerge as a result of attempts to match pupils with places.

There is a statutory requirement on Bracknell Forest Council to provide sufficient school places. Discharging this duty involves opening new schools or adding places to existing schools where extra capacity is required. It also means reducing in size schools with surplus accommodation. The challenge for the Council is to provide the right number of places in the right locations. This means that projections of pupil numbers must be reviewed at least once a year to ensure that additional places are provided in growth areas but, in addition, that substantial surplus places do not exist in an area, which could represent a waste of resources. This analysis is complex and the current economic climate adds further complexity to the process.

The key internal decision-making body is the Pupil Place Planning Board which is composed of key senior officers and advisers. The board meets quarterly to review and monitor issues relating to school organisation.

Wherever possible the Council will seek to provide places for pupils in their designated area school. This can be achieved in a number of different ways:

- by providing individual ‘surge’ classrooms in primary schools to take an additional form of entry for one year only. The surge class moves up through the school year by year until the pupils leave, after which the classroom becomes available again for re-use as a new surge classroom, or for alternative use in seven years time.
- Expansion by 1 FE (form of entry) in all year groups, involving creation of new classrooms, toilets etc. by refurbishment and/or extensions of existing buildings. Expansion projects are usually implemented in phases to keep pace with pupil numbers as they progress up through the school.
- by building new schools where demand is sufficient, or in response to new housing development. Providers are then sought for these schools.
- by changing designated area boundaries.

There is also a requirement for the Council to review and to remove surplus places which can become costly in terms of building running costs. However, not all surplus places can, or should, be removed; for example:

- it is difficult for parents to have their preference for a particular school place met without the existence of some surplus places;
- some surplus places are needed to cope with future increases in pupil numbers.

Surplus places can be removed in several ways:

- by removing temporary accommodation;
- mothballing part of a school (particularly if demand for places might increase in future years); and/or
- finding alternative compatible users or uses for some of the accommodation.

The Council aims to maintain some overall surplus capacity for planning and managing school places within the Borough. In the past, a surplus of around 5% was regarded as acceptable as this allowed for a degree of parental preference and for future increases in pupil numbers, whilst ensuring value for money and best use of limited resources. The Council still aims to provide spare capacity in each year group, however due to pressure on pupil numbers this can no longer be guaranteed at 5% at each individual school. The Council will however endeavour, wherever possible, to provide sufficient spare capacity in each of the three planning areas to prevent pupils having to travel long distances to school.

Where new housing creates additional demand for places, the Council has a well-organised approach to obtaining funding from housing developers. The Council will always seek to provide school places as near as possible to where they are required. This continues to be a significant issue in Bracknell Forest which is a growing community.

All LAs are required to submit annually a Schools' Capacity Survey (SCAP) to the Education Funding Agency, part of the Department for Education (DfE). The DfE require LAs to submit pupil forecasts annually and explain the methodology for producing these and also to confirm the capacity of each school.

Achieving the correct balance of places in the correct location requires accurate, sustained forecasting and planning over a long period.

Further details of the methodology and changes since the 2014-based forecasts are shown in Annex 1.

## **Context /demographic background**

Bracknell Forest is located in central Berkshire, 28 miles west of London and between the M3 and M4 motorways. It covers an area of some 109 sq km. The economy of the Borough is of above average size and productivity compared to the county and nationally, and benefits from good access links and a well educated labour force.

The population of Bracknell Forest is estimated to be 118,025 (ONS Mid-2014 Population Estimate). The majority of the population lives in the built-up areas of Bracknell, Sandhurst, Crowthorne, Binfield, Warfield and North Ascot.

The 2014 Population Estimates show that there are 30,403 children and young people aged 0 -19 resident in the Borough, representing 26% of the total population. This proportion has remained fairly constant in recent years.

Of these, around 17,241 are pupils on roll in Bracknell Forest primary and secondary schools<sup>1</sup>. Over the last 3 years there have been on average around 1506 births per annum in Bracknell Forest. This is projected to remain at this level throughout the planning period.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> School Census January 2015 – NB all pupils including nursery, 6<sup>th</sup> form and special school

<sup>2</sup> Source: ONS

## Factors Impacting Numbers and School Places

There are a number of factors which will potentially impact the supply and demand for school places over the next five years. The effects of all these factors will continue to be monitored closely at local area level to provide sufficient suitable school places.

- **Demographic trends**

In common with many other local authorities, over the last few years Bracknell Forest has seen a steady increase in pupil numbers and rising rolls in primary schools, resulting in pressure on the intake year and the requirement for additional capacity throughout the Borough.

An additional trend has been the arrival in recent years of an increasing number of families from outside the UK. The proportion of pupils in schools from a minority ethnic background has increased steadily from 6.1% in 2001 to 19.5% in 2015.

- **New Housing**

Bracknell Forest continues to be an area of significant housing growth. Numbers of completions in recent years are shown in the table below. New housing results both from large developments (Jennett's Park, The Parks and Wykery Copse) and the cumulative effect of smaller sites.

<b>Net Number of Dwellings Completed in Bracknell Forest</b>				
<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2011/12</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>
410	264	390	314	376

Phasing of future construction changes frequently and is influenced by a number of factors, including market conditions. The pupil forecasts contained in this plan reflect the position at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. A detailed summary of current and future housing, including other major sites due for development in the longer term is set out in Annex 2.

- **Pupil Yield from New Housing**

As part of its school place planning, Bracknell Forest regularly monitors pupil yield from new housing developments by carrying out research to establish typical numbers of pupils generated. The information is essential to ensure local authority departments are using robust, evidence-based pupil yields.

The latest study conducted in early 2013 by market research company QA Research, focused specifically on new dwellings completed since 2009 and provided us with the yields shown below. The 0-3 age group showed a significant (20%) increase on the previous 2010 study and the primary and secondary yields were also higher than the previous study.

Age group	Average pupil yield				
	1 bed	2 bed	3 bed	4 bed	5 bed
0-3 year olds	0.07	0.40	0.53	0.45	0.57
4-10 year olds	0.00	0.15	0.58	0.43	0.62
11-16 year olds	0.00	0.05	0.17	0.35	0.43
17-19 year olds	0.00	0.00	0.07	0.11	0.05

- **Pupil Mobility**

The extent of within-year mobility decreases with age. Using the recognised formula, expressing mobility as the sum of arrivals plus leavers divided by the number on roll, the averages across all schools in the Borough are generally low in the national context and are typically in the region of:

Primary Schools	13-14%
Secondary Schools	10-11% <sup>3</sup>

However, the averages mask some significant differences between schools. For example, there is significant pupil mobility associated with staffing changes at the Royal Military Academy (RMA) in Sandhurst – this could be individual families or whole units posted into or out of the RMA. Two schools in the Crowthorne and Sandhurst planning area regularly receive new pupils unexpectedly and therefore typically have pupil mobility in excess of 20%, a figure much higher than the national context.

Another aspect of pupil mobility which is difficult to forecast in terms of age and timing is traveller families. The Council has a statutory duty to assess the educational needs of travellers and to provide sufficient school places. There is a permanent designated Traveller Site with 13 pitches in the Crowthorne and Sandhurst planning area.

- **Designated area and boundary issues with neighbouring local authorities**

Two Bracknell Forest primary schools (Ascot Heath CE Junior and Cranbourne) are in the designated area for Charters Secondary School, located in the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead and two primary schools in Wokingham Borough (Hatch Ride and Oaklands) are in the designated area for Edgbarrow Secondary School in Crowthorne.

Parental preference means that some children resident in one local authority choose to attend a school in a neighbouring local authority. The majority of cross-border movement occurs between Bracknell Forest and Wokingham, Windsor & Maidenhead, Hampshire and Surrey boundaries. This makes it more difficult to track pupils between primary and secondary schools, and makes accurate pupil forecasting more difficult.

Housing developments, changes in the popularity of schools or other pressures in Wokingham or Windsor and Maidenhead may create a greater need for places in those authorities, meaning that there is less flexibility for schools in the neighbouring authority to take Bracknell Forest pupils. This will have a consequence of a greater demand for places in Bracknell Forest schools.

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<sup>3</sup> Based on School Census Data

- **Raising of the Participation Age**

As part of the Government's Spending Review and the White Paper, 'The Importance of Teaching', a commitment was made to raise the participation age to 18. This will happen in two stages; from 2013 young people are expected to participate in education, learning or training until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17 and in 2015 it will rise to 18.

However this does not necessarily mean that students have to stay at school – they can still leave school at 16 and access learning through a further education college or a work-based training provider. All sixth form students who wish to stay on can currently be accommodated in secondary schools. The Council anticipates that sixth form capacities will be impacted to a small extent by this change in participation age.

- **Special and Additional Educational Needs**

As many as one in five pupils may have special or additional educational needs at some point in their school life. Most pupils can continue in education in a mainstream school. However the needs of some pupils and students mean that they are educated in a Resource Unit attached to a mainstream school, in the Borough's Special School, Kennel Lane, or in provision outside the Borough. Further details are included in Annex 3.

- **Provision for pupils out of school**

There are a number of pupils for whom a placement in mainstream school is not always sustainable and special school is not appropriate. This group of pupils receive their education through the Pupil Referral Service. Further details are included in Annex 4.

- **New Schools**

New schools may cause some turbulence in demand for school places through parental preference for new facilities. This is difficult to predict or control. The two most recent schools are the new primary school at Jennett's Park which opened in September 2011 and the newly rebuilt Garth Hill College which opened in September 2010. The earliest that any possible future new schools may open is September 2016.

- **Denominational education**

There are ten Church of England and Catholic primary schools within Bracknell Forest and one Church of England secondary Academy. There is no Catholic secondary school in the Borough so parents preferring a Catholic education for their children must apply to schools outside the Borough, notably Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School in Reading, St. Joseph's Catholic High School in Slough or All Hallows Catholic School in Farnham.

- **The Academy programme and Free Schools**

Academy schools are state-funded schools which are independent of the Local Authority. An Academy school is responsible for its own admissions and takes on a wide range of other responsibilities. In relation to School Organisation an Academy can increase its admission number but must consult if any reduction in the number of pupils is planned. Other significant changes, such as a change in the age range, would require permission of the Secretary of State.



A free school is an Academy established where no school has existed previously. Such schools would be established by an organisation or group such as a charity, university, business, community or faith groups, teachers or parents. In all cases they must be approved by the Secretary of State as having suitable expertise to provide sustainable, high quality education. With a number of new schools due to open in coming years as a result of housing developments, more free schools can be expected.

These changes could have an impact on the Authority's capacity to manage the supply of school places although to date local interest in conversion to an Academy school or the establishment of a free school has been relatively low.

- **Selective education**

All secondary schools in the Borough are comprehensive. Some parents seek a selective secondary education for their children and a small number of children attend grammar schools in Reading and Slough.

- **Independent schools**

Some parents opt to send their children to independent schools. There are five independent schools for children of primary and secondary ages in Bracknell Forest – LVS Ascot (Licensed Victuallers School), Heathfield, Wellington College, Eagle House and Lambrook-Haileybury.

## Planning Areas and Schools

### Planning areas

For the purposes of school place planning, the Borough is divided into three planning areas reflecting the geography of the Borough and the designated feeder links between primary and secondary schools;

- Bracknell North (N)
- Bracknell South (S)
- Crowthorne & Sandhurst (C&S)

Maps showing these planning areas and schools are contained in Annex 6.

In the following sections letters in brackets after the school name denote their location within the planning areas in the Borough.

Aided schools are treated as a separate group. Aided primary schools which have designated areas have also been included in the three area groupings as they have an impact on maintained secondary school admissions.

### Schools

#### *Primary*

Bracknell Forest has 31 primary phase schools:

- 25 primary (5-11 years)
- 3 infant schools (4-7 years)
- 3 junior schools (7-11 years)

Of these, 21 are community schools, 4 are voluntary controlled, and 6 are voluntary aided.

#### ***Voluntary Controlled Schools***

There are 4 Voluntary Controlled schools:

- Crowthorne CE Primary (C&S)
- Ascot Heath CE Junior (N)
- Warfield CE Primary (N)
- Winkfield St Mary's CE Primary (N)

The admissions arrangements for these Church of England schools are determined by the LA. They are slightly different to the arrangements for community schools in that they take account of preferences for a denominational education. The LA is the Admissions Authority for these schools.

#### ***Voluntary Aided Schools***

There are currently 6 Voluntary Aided (VA) primary schools and their admissions arrangements are determined by their Governing Body. The Governing Body is the Admissions Authority for each of these schools.

*VA schools with a designated area*

- Binfield CE Primary School (N)
- St Michael's CE Primary School, Sandhurst (C&S)
- Jennett's Park CE Primary School (S)

*VA schools with no designated area*

- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (N)
- St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School (S)
- St Michael's Easthampstead CE Primary School (S)

**Secondary**

There are 6 comprehensive secondary schools (11-18 years) in the Borough. 5 are community schools. Ranelagh Academy, a Church of England school, has no designated area.

## Commentary – Borough

### Pupil numbers – current and projected

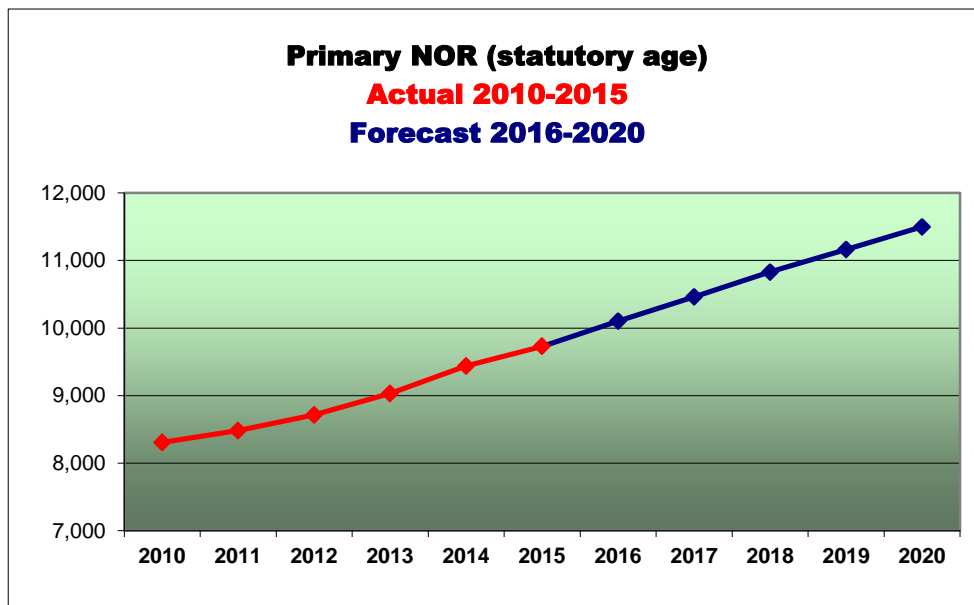
As has been the case for some years now, Bracknell Forest continues to experience increasing pupil numbers and pressure on the intake year in primary schools. This is due to a combination of demographic trends and new housing construction in the Borough.

Total capacity (number of places) in Bracknell Forest was 18,461 in May 2015. There were 16,337 pupils in primary (in May 2015, when primary schools are most full) and secondary schools (in January 2015, when secondary schools are most full) in the Borough therefore there are 2,153 surplus places across all schools. However these places are not spread equally between primary and secondary schools, and between planning areas.

This year's forecasts indicate the total number of pupils will increase to 19,816 by 2020. Based on the current number on roll, this represents an additional 3,479 pupils (a 21.2% increase) over the next five years. The forecasts indicate an overall deficit of 7.3% across the Borough by 2020, however this figure masks much higher shortfalls in particular areas.

### Primary pupil numbers

The graph below shows the historical trends in primary numbers on roll (NOR)<sup>4</sup> for statutory age pupils (i.e. excluding nursery classes) from 2010 - 2015 and forecasts for 2016 - 2020, illustrating the rising trend in the primary population.



In May 2015 there were 9,729 primary pupils on roll in the Borough and a total of 10,588 primary places, on the face of it, a surplus of 829 places or 8.5%. It is important to note that in several primary schools where the net capacity has been increased, the places will be available in phases over the coming years and are not necessarily available currently. Of the 829 places, most are in the upper year groups

<sup>4</sup> source: May School Census

and will be filled by the larger cohorts coming through the school. Lower year groups are close to capacity.

This year's forecasts indicate primary pupil numbers could rise to 11,498 by 2020 (1,769 additional pupils, representing a 18.2% increase over 5 years). This could result in a shortfall of 910 (8.6%) in primary places by 2020. The pressure on places is particularly acute in the North and South planning areas.

### **Primary admissions and intake**

- Reception – at the offer date of 16 April only 7 primary schools had any spare reception places in the Borough for the September 2015 intake. Between them these schools had 98 (42 last year) spare reception places, which provides spare capacity of 6% (2.7% last year) in this year group.
- For Year 1 in September 2015 there were only 51 spare places. Only one school in North Bracknell had places; places were available in the other two planning areas. This provides spare capacity of only 3.25% (1.5% last year) in this year group across the Borough.
- In Year 2 in September 2015 there were only 50 (43 last year) places available for September. Places were available in all planning areas. This represents only 3% (2.8% last year) spare capacity in this year group across the Borough.
- In Year 3 there were only 31 (17 last year) places available. These places were spread across all planning areas. This represents only 2% (1.2% last year) spare capacity in this year group across the Borough.
- In Year 4 there were 40 places available. There are none in North Bracknell, 4 in South Bracknell and the rest are in Crowthorne and Sandhurst. This cohort of pupils, currently in Year 4, is larger than older and younger year groups and pressure can be expected in Year 5 next year.

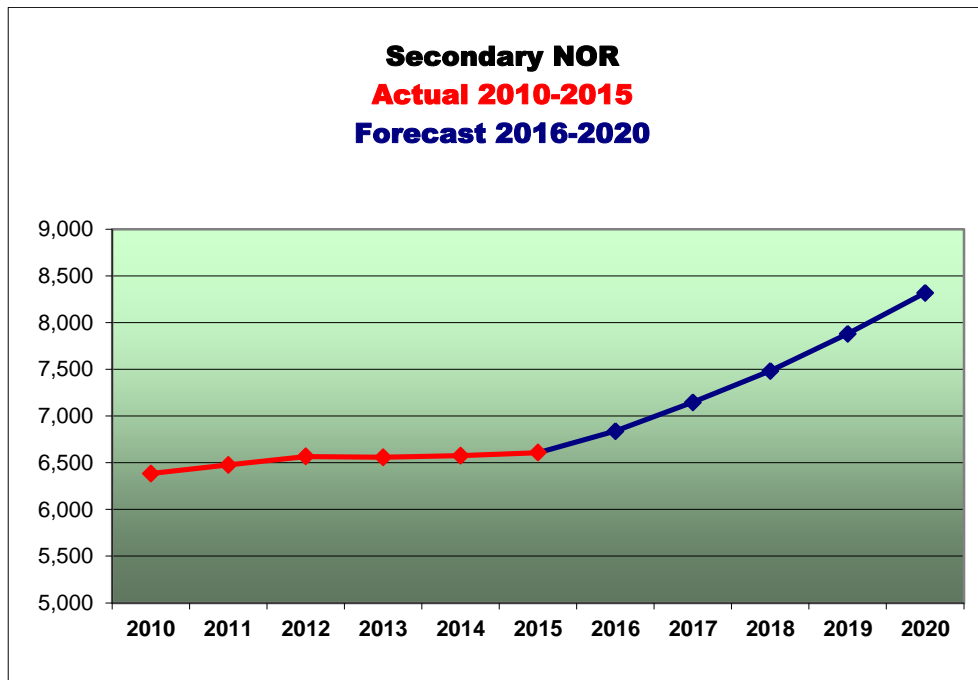
In addition to existing demographic pressure, there were 458 in-year applications for primary education, and 135 applications for secondary education from new families moving into Bracknell Forest. Some children will also have moved away from Bracknell Forest.

### **Secondary pupil numbers**

The graph below shows the historical trends in secondary numbers on roll (NOR)<sup>5</sup> and illustrates a steady increase in recent years. The forecasts from 2016 - 2020 indicate a rising trend throughout the plan period.

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<sup>5</sup> source: January School Census



Secondary pupil numbers in Bracknell Forest are also forecast to rise. In January 2015 there were 6,608 secondary pupils in 5 maintained schools and one academy with a total of 7,873 places. There are currently 1,265 (19.1%) surplus secondary places across the Borough, however this masks more acute shortages, particularly in the North.

This year's forecasts indicate the number of secondary pupils could rise to 8,318 by 2020, an extra 1710 pupils (25.9%). Borough-wide this will represent an overall deficit of 445 places (5.6%).

## Planning Area Commentaries

### *Bracknell North*

#### **Primary**

There are 12 primary/infant/junior schools in this planning area with a total of 4,122 places (excludes places built but still to be opened).

By 2020 we anticipate an increase in pupil numbers of 803 (20.5%) in this planning area resulting in a shortfall of 589 places (-14.3%). Pressure from new housing developments is particularly acute in this area. A deficit is forecast in every year from September 2016.

Actions (current and planned) to address shortage/excess of places include:

- Cranbourne School – a bulge class +30 places from Sep-15.
- Meadow Vale School – a bulge class +30 places from Sep-15.
- Winkfield CE School – a bulge class +30 places from Sep-15.
- Warfield CE School +210 places from Sep-16 and +210 further places by Sep-18.
- Amen Corner North +210 places from Sep-17 (subject to planning, funding & site)
- Binfield Learning Village (Blue Mountain) +210 places from Sep-17 (subject to planning, funding & site)
- Amen Corner South +210 places from Sep-19 (subject to planning, funding & site)
- Expansion of Binfield Learning Village +210 places by Sep-20.

In the medium term (September 2017 onwards) the Council will need to create further new primary places in this area in response to demographics and major new housing developments. These will be created by either expanding existing schools, creating additional surge classrooms or by building new schools.

### **Secondary**

There are currently 2 secondary schools in this planning area, 1 maintained and 1 academy, with a total of 2,630 places. However the academy operates a faith-based admissions policy and serves a much wider catchment.

Pressure for secondary places in North Bracknell is particularly acute. Current forecasts indicate an increase of 888 pupils (35.2%) by 2020 in secondary pupils entitled to attend the single maintained school (Garth Hill College) in this area, in accordance with our Admissions Policy. A deficit is forecast in every year from 2015, rising to a shortfall of 782 (-29.7%) places in this planning area by 2020.

Provision of additional secondary capacity for North Bracknell is a key element of our Capacity Strategy. Actions (current and planned) to address shortage/excess of places include:

- Garth Hill College +352 places from Sep-15.
- At the Binfield Learning Village, arising from the Blue Mountain development, the following schedule (subject to planning, site & funding).

Sept	
2018	+120 places
2019	+210 further places
2020	+300 further places

Rising in future years to 1050 places in key stages 3 and 4 and 315 places in the sixth form.

Pressure on North Bracknell secondary places means that in the short term secondary aged students in the area may need to be educated in South Bracknell secondary schools.

### **Bracknell South**

#### **Primary**

There are 11 primary schools in this planning area with a total of 4,256 places (excludes places built but still to be opened).

By 2020 we anticipate an increase in pupil numbers of 763 (20.2%) in this planning area resulting in a shortfall of 292 places (-6.9%). A deficit is forecast in every year from 2017.

Actions (current and planned) to address shortage/excess of places include:

- Pines School + 150 places from Sep-15
- Great Hollands School – a bulge class +30 places from Sep-15
- Crowthorne area +210 places from Sep-18 (subject to planning, funding & site) with a further 210 places thereafter, in response to the major new housing development on the site of the former Transport Research Laboratory (TRL).
- Great Hollands School +210 places from Sep-16 (subject to funding)
- Pines School +60 places from Sep-18 (subject to funding).

## **Secondary**

There are 2 secondary schools in this planning area with a total of 2,637 places. Current forecasts indicate an increase of 753 pupils (43%) in secondary pupils in this area by 2020 resulting in a falling surplus in every year, with a surplus of 134 places (+5.1%) in 2020.

Easthampstead Park Community School is currently forecast to have relatively high levels of surplus places and this situation continues to be closely monitored. In the medium terms there are plans to extend both Easthampstead Park and Brakenhale schools.

## ***Crowthorne and Sandhurst***

### **Primary**

There are 8 primary/infant/junior schools in this planning area with a total of 2,210 places. By 2020 we anticipate an increase in pupil numbers of 203 (10%) in this planning area resulting in a -1.3% deficit or 29 places across all 8 schools.

Actions (current and planned) to address shortage/excess of places include:

- Owlsmoor School +118 places from Sep-15 by increasing the PAN from 76 to 90, and a capacity of 522 to 630.

### **Secondary**

There are 2 secondary schools in this planning area with a total of 2606 places. Current forecasts indicate an increase of 69 pupils (3%) in secondary pupils in this planning area by 2020, resulting in a falling surplus to 2020 of 203 places (+7.8%).

Actions (current and planned) to address shortage/excess of places include, in the medium term, plans to extend and improve Edgbarrow School subject to planning permission and funding.

## **Aided Schools**

Forecasts indicate that Voluntary Aided (VA) schools in the Borough, all primary, will continue to be popular and the schools are projected to be fully subscribed over the forecast period.

Further expansion is limited in most cases by site area restrictions and planning requirements. Binfield CE, Jennett's Park and St Michael's Sandhurst CE primary schools have adopted the Council's designated area admissions policy and so are included in the pupil forecast tables for their planning areas.

St Michael's Easthampstead, St Joseph's Catholic and St Margaret Clitherow primary schools do not have designated areas and accept pupils on the basis of denominational criteria. Their pupils are drawn from a wide range of areas.

## **Academy Schools**

Ranelagh Academy was the only academy school in the Borough in 2014/15. The Council is still required to produce forecasts of pupil numbers for this school. These indicate that the school is projected to be fully subscribed over the forecast period. The school plans to take 10 extra pupils in September 2015.



St Margaret Clitherow RC Primary School became an academy on 1 September 2015.

In December 2015, Brakenhale School began consultation to become an Academy.

## **Special Educational Needs**

There has been an increase in recent years in the number of children with statements of special educational needs in Bracknell Forest. This is due to more young people staying on in education post 16 and better identification. The projected increases in overall pupil numbers are also a key factor and are resulting in higher numbers of pupils with Special Educational Needs. For more details see Annex 3.

## Pupil Forecasts (Numbers on Roll)

### BRACKNELL FOREST TOTALS

	Capacity 2015	Actual NOR 2015	Projected numbers on roll					Surplus / deficit (No. of places)					Surplus / deficit (%)				
			May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20
<b>Primary totals</b>	10,588	9729	10104	10463	10829	11164	11498	484	125	-241	-576	-910	5%	1%	-2%	-5%	-9%
<b>Secondary totals</b>	7,873	7594	6838	7146	7482	7880	8318	1,035	727	391	-7	-445	13%	9%	5%	0%	-6%

#### Important notes

1) Forecasts in this Plan are produced for medium term planning purposes. Forecasts are based on trends in past numbers on roll, admissions and birth rates, and take into account planned housing and other factors. Pupils are projected in the designated area of schools and forecasts are not constrained by accommodation at the school. The Admissions Authority for each school will determine, based on their admission arrangements, which pupils can be offered places at the school. The forecasts cannot be used as an indication of admissions in future years.

Further details are included in Annex 1.

2) Surplus/deficit numbers of places and percentages are based on the capacity (for NOR) or PAN (for intake) including surge classes, of schools in 2015. No planned increases in capacity or PAN are included.

## BRACKNELL FOREST – SUMMARY NOR TOTALS BY PLANNING AREA

### PRIMARY including Aided

	Capacity 2015	Actual NOR 2015	Projected numbers on roll					Surplus / deficit (No. of places)					Surplus / deficit (%)				
			May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20
Bracknell North	4122	3908	4039	4171	4347	4508	4711	83	-49	-225	-386	-589	2%	-1%	-5%	-9%	-14%
Bracknell South	4256	3785	3999	4169	4310	4442	4548	257	87	-54	-186	-292	6%	2%	-1%	-4%	-7%
Crowthorne & Sandhurst	2210	2036	2066	2123	2172	2214	2239	144	87	38	-4	-29	7%	4%	2%	0%	-1%
<b>Totals</b>	10588	9729	10104	10463	10829	11164	11498	484	125	-241	-576	-910	5%	1%	-2%	-5%	-9%

### SECONDARY including 6th form

	Capacity 2015	Actual NOR 2015	Projected numbers on roll					Surplus / deficit (No. of places)					Surplus / deficit (%)				
			May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20
Bracknell North	1620	2524	1646	1789	1960	2155	2382	-26	-169	-340	-535	-762	-2%	-10%	-21%	-33%	-47%
Bracknell South	2637	1750	1848	1977	2125	2302	2503	789	660	512	335	134	30%	25%	19%	13%	5%
Crowthorne & Sandhurst	2606	2334	2353	2377	2385	2404	2403	253	229	221	202	203	10%	9%	8%	8%	8%
Ranelagh	1010	986	991	1003	1012	1019	1030	19	7	-2	-9	-20	2%	1%	0%	-1%	-2%
<b>Totals</b>	7873	7594	6838	7146	7482	7880	8318	1035	727	391	-7	-445	13%	9%	5%	0%	-6%

## Pupil Forecasts (Intake year only)

### BRACKNELL FOREST TOTALS

	PAN 1.9.2015	Actual intake 2015	Projected intake					Surplus / deficit (No. of places)					Surplus / deficit (%)				
			May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20
<b>Primary totals</b>	1535	1507	1535	1577	1587	1663	1722	0	-42	-52	-128	-187	0%	-3%	-3%	-8%	-12%
<b>Secondary totals</b>	1327	1166	1219	1296	1312	1392	1474	108	31	15	-65	-147	8%	2%	1%	-5%	-11%

#### Important note

1) Forecasts in this Plan are produced for medium term planning purposes. Forecasts are based on trends in past numbers on roll, admissions and birth rates, and take into account planned housing and other factors. Pupils are projected in the designated area of schools and forecasts are not constrained by accommodation at the school. The Admissions Authority for each school will determine, based on their admission arrangements, which pupils can be offered places at the school. The forecasts cannot be used as an indication of admissions in future years. Further details are included in Annex 1.

2) Surplus/deficit numbers of places and percentages are based on the capacity (for NOR) or PAN (for intake) including surge classes, of schools in 2015. No planned increases in capacity or PAN are included.

## BRACKNELL FOREST – SUMMARY INTAKE TOTALS BY PLANNING AREA

### PRIMARY including Aided

	Capacity 2015	Actual intake 2015	Projected intake					Surplus / deficit (No. of places)					Surplus / deficit (%)				
			May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20
Bracknell North	580	576	571	598	622	675	724	9	-18	-42	-95	-144	2%	-3%	-7%	-16%	-25%
Bracknell South	625	611	641	652	644	661	671	-16	-27	-19	-36	-46	-3%	-4%	-3%	-6%	-7%
Crowthorne & Sandhurst	330	320	323	327	321	327	327	7	3	9	3	3	2%	1%	3%	1%	1%
<b>Totals</b>	1535	1507	1535	1577	1587	1663	1722	0	-42	-52	-128	-187	0%	-3%	-3%	-8%	-12%

### SECONDARY

	Capacity 2015	Actual intake 2015	Projected intake					Surplus / deficit (No. of places)					Surplus / deficit (%)				
			May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20	May-16	May-17	May-18	May-19	May-20
Bracknell North	312	271	298	328	339	388	420	14	-16	-27	-76	-108	4%	-5%	-9%	-24%	-35%
Bracknell South	450	340	377	417	425	443	499	73	33	25	7	-49	16%	7%	6%	2%	-11%
Crowthorne & Sandhurst	410	399	389	385	382	393	386	21	25	28	17	24	5%	6%	7%	4%	6%
Ranelagh	155	156	155	166	166	168	169	0	-11	-11	-13	-14	0%	-7%	-7%	-8%	-9%
<b>Totals</b>	1327	1166	1219	1296	1312	1392	1474	108	31	15	-65	-147	8%	2%	1%	-5%	-11%

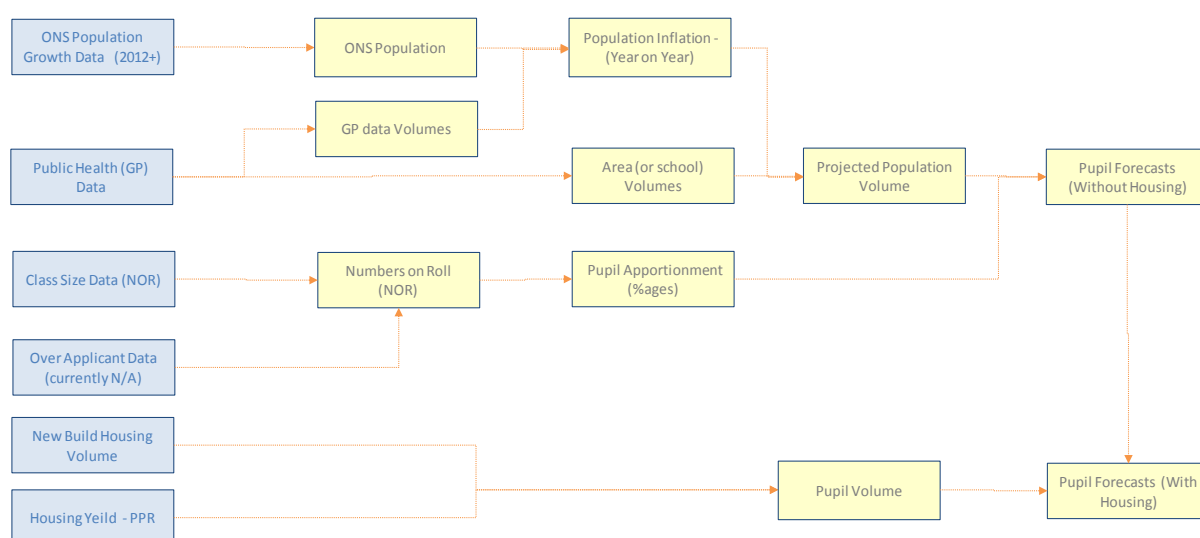
## Annex 1: Pupil forecasting methodology

Forecasts of pupil numbers are produced annually for each school and age group to support the Council's planning process. The forecasts are based on:

- Changes in underlying population as a result of demographic change – birth rates and migration. Office for National Statistics (ONS) data is used, based on the mid-year estimates of population (produced annually) and the projections derived from them (produced every two years, last updated in 2014 with an update due in April 2016).
- the number of pupils in schools for the preceding 5 years (from the School Census returns to the DfE). The Council produces forecasts for secondary based on January NOR and primary based on May NOR.
- predicted admissions, in particular for the first forecast year.
- Data on those aged 0-5 for the preceding 7 years, and data on those aged 6 -18 for the preceding 2 years. Unlike in previous years, no adjustments are now made to this data.
- Detailed data relating to housing completions and growth. This includes the trajectory and phasing of future housing developments and expected house type mix as agreed annually with our Spatial Planners and included in the Council's Site Allocations Development Plan. Our forecasts include development on housing sites of all sizes and assume that all the planned housing growth will be completed. Trajectories are based on the best available information from developers and our Planners, but they may be subject to future slippage.
- Data on pupil yield from new housing from a triennial survey of children in new housing, last updated in 2013, which provides yields of primary, secondary and post-16 numbers. The allocation of these children to year groups is based on evidence from our most recent significant housing development of 2,500 houses of the ages of children joining local schools. In summary, a higher proportion of children are allocated to the younger year groups in both primary and secondary schools.
- base information, including details of school types, school designated areas, entry and leaving ages, building plans, capacities and data on which schools feed other schools.
- local intelligence

In 2015 there has been a significant development to the forecasting methodology. Our new forecasting model is illustrated below:

### PROCESS / INDEX



The model adopts a segmentation/propensity approach, predicting the likely increase in the number on roll, based on an increase in age groups within the base population.

The base population is estimated using ONS population data. The data is split into school catchment areas using Public Health volumes and inflated annually to reconcile with the ONS population volume. As there is no attempt to estimate the increase in volume from new build housing within the ONS data, a second dataset from BFC Planning Team has been introduced, which estimates population yield from new build housing. The sum of the 2 datasets is assumed to be the base population and this is reconciled throughout the model.

Retrospective class size (NOR) data is used to estimate the likely proportion of the population age group that a class captures. The class size % is then applied to the population through the term of the model to yield a NOR estimate.

Local intelligence in 2015 has included:

- increasing numbers in sixth forms based on recent evidence of the implications of raising of the participation age and the likely popularity of two planned sixth form centres;
- expected displacement back to Bracknell Forest of children previously attending school in neighbouring authorities, but where places are no longer available due to local housing growth (Wokingham).

Note that two factors included in previous years have been omitted:

- A future possible designated area change in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.
- An allowance (50% of the total) for in-year admissions.

A feature of the forecasts is that they are not constrained by accommodation at the school – the numbers of pupils are projected in the designated area. If all children cannot be admitted then the schools' admission criteria will be applied and children not allocated a place will need to attend a nearby school.

The forecasting methodology used in Bracknell Forest is based on guidance for Local Authorities provided by the Department for Education. Details are available via the following link.

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/321711/SCAP\\_guide\\_to\\_forecasting.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/321711/SCAP_guide_to_forecasting.pdf)

## Annex 2: Current and Future Housing Development

Residential completions increased during 2014-2015. 376 net dwellings were completed compared with 314 net in the previous monitoring year. The figure for 2014 - 2015 includes 118 affordable dwellings. Two large housing sites, at Jennett's Park and The Parks, were responsible for the majority (49%) of all completions. There are now 88 remaining dwellings to be built as part of the Jennett's Park development and 87 at The Parks.

At the end of the monitoring year (31st March 2015), there were 240 dwellings under construction. 142 of those were on large sites, 23 on medium sites and 75 on small sites. The number of newly permitted dwellings on sites has increased considerably since last year, with permission having been granted for 2,615 new dwellings (compared to permission for 224 new dwellings in the previous year). Many of these were on major development sites at TRL, Amen Corner North and Warfield.

The number of dwellings with outstanding planning permission gives an indication of the amount of development in the pipeline. At 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014, there were 3,397 dwellings with outstanding planning permission. 85% of dwellings with outstanding planning permission were on large sites, including TRL, Amen Corner North, Warfield, Jennett's Park, The Parks and Bracknell Town Centre. A further 825 dwellings have been accepted in principle, the majority of which (550) are at Amen Corner (South).

The Council's Site Allocations Local Plan (SALP) allocates housing sites to accommodate growth in Bracknell Forest to 2026. This includes identifying sites to facilitate the delivery of 11,139 dwellings. These include previously developed and greenfield sites that are outside settlement boundaries. For example, four new urban extensions are allocated:

Land at Broadmoor, Crowthorne – Policy SA4 (270 dwellings)  
Land at Transport Research Laboratory, Crowthorne – Policy SA5 (1,000 dwellings)  
Land at Amen Corner (North), Binfield – Policy SA6 (400 dwellings)  
Land at Blue Mountain, Binfield – Policy SA7 (400 dwellings)

Land is also allocated for the two other urban extensions that were originally agreed in principle through the Core Strategy (Land at Amen Corner South, 725 dwellings, Binfield and Land at Warfield, 2,200 dwellings).

Between 2006 and 2015, 3,178 homes have been completed leaving a residual requirement for 7,961 new dwellings up to 2026. Provision is likely to be met as follows over the remaining 11 years of the plan period:

### For the period 2015/2016 – 2019/2020

3,236 dwellings comprising:

- i. 311 dwellings from the redevelopment of Bracknell Town Centre, at Winchester House.
- ii. 165 dwellings on land at Jennett's Park and The Parks.
- iii. 1,446 dwellings from other large and medium sites with planning permissions at 31 March 2015.
- iv. 100 dwellings (approximately 20 dwellings per annum) on small sites (sites of fewer than 10 net dwellings).



- v. 525 dwellings from developments agreed in principle subject to the completion of S106 Agreements.
- vi. 330 dwellings from the development of strategic sites contained in the SALP (including at Blue Mountain, and Warfield (residual balance).
- vii. 359 dwellings from other new sites released through the SALP (previously developed land in defined settlements - Policy SA1, other land in defined settlements – Policy SA2, and, sites on the edge of settlements – Policy SA3).

**For the period 2020/2021 – 2025-2026**

4,701 dwellings comprising:

- i. 120 dwellings (approximately 20 dwellings per annum) on small sites (sites of fewer than 10 net dwellings).
- ii. The remainder of strategic sites contained in the SALP: land at Amen Corner South, Amen Corner North, Blue Mountain, TRL, Broadmoor and Warfield (3,508 dwellings).
- iii. 1,073 dwellings from other new sites released through the SALP (previously developed land in defined settlements - Policy SA1, other land in defined settlements – Policy SA2, and, sites on the edge of settlements – Policy SA3).

As demonstrated above, a considerable amount of development is proposed over the next few years. It is very important to the quality of life in the Borough that necessary services and facilities are provided with the new development. A number of the SALP policies identify the need to provide key items of infrastructure through, for example, the provision of land and/or financial contributions towards primary schools, secondary schools and special educational needs places.

The SALP is also supported by an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP) which identifies, as far as possible, the infrastructure needed in association with the development of the urban extensions to settlements. The IDP has been prepared in partnership with key infrastructure providers and will be updated as more information becomes available. One of the key issues that are being addressed is the timely provision of associated infrastructure. The Council is already holding discussions with potential developers of a number of the new sites.

The Council is therefore investing considerable resources in managing the impact of growth in the Borough, which includes the need to provide school places.

## Annex 3: Special and Additional Educational Needs

Bracknell Forest Council, as the Local Authority, is responsible for ensuring appropriate educational provision for all pupils and students of school age living in Bracknell Forest. The aim of the Council is to establish and maintain special educational needs (SEN) provision that:

- Achieves excellent outcomes for children with special educational needs;
- Supports children and young people in their own communities, or as close to them as possible;
- Matches the number of places to the changing numbers and needs of children and young people who require them; and
- Ensures all education staff have support from other schools and settings, our special school or from specialists.

### SEN Statistics

Summary statistics for special needs and statemented pupils are complex and can be calculated in a number of ways.

According to Department for Education statistics based on School Census data, 2.9% of Bracknell Forest pupils had statements of SEN, in line with the average for England and the South East region<sup>6</sup>. As this percentage is published externally and comparable nationally, regionally and with other local authorities, this figure was previously used for the purpose of seeking Section 106 contributions from developers and more recently in relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The table below shows trends in placements for children with a statement of special educational needs and EHCP in recent years (January figures):

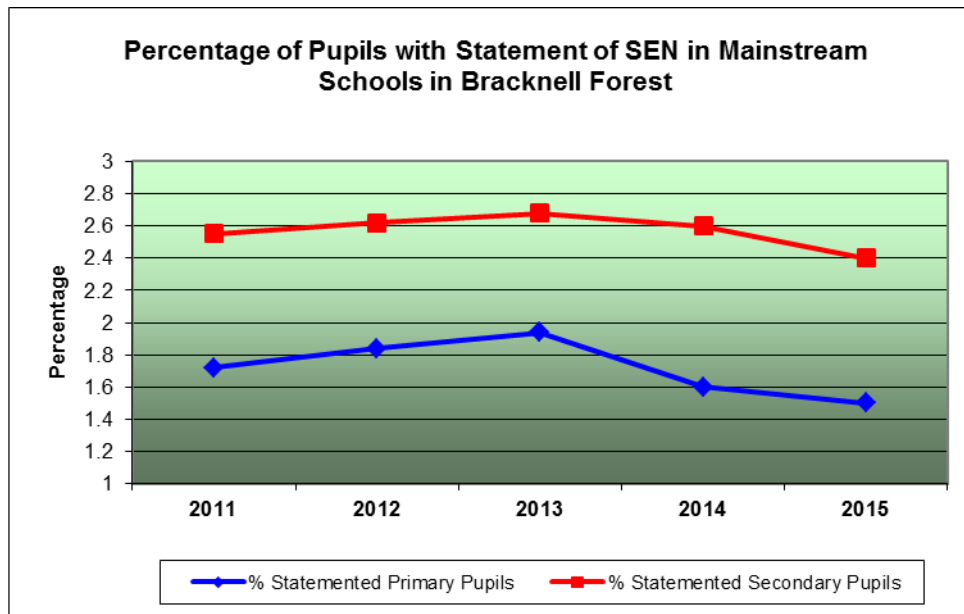
Year	Children from Bracknell Forest attending Bracknell Forest schools and early years settings	Children from elsewhere attending Bracknell Forest schools and early years settings	Totals	Children from Bracknell Forest attending schools elsewhere
2011	453	58	511	166
2012	484	52	536	197
2013	491	54	545	192
2014	474	52	526	199
2015	449	43	492	191

<sup>6</sup> source DfE School Census Table 14a 'All schools: pupils with statements of SEN 2009-2013, based on where the pupil attends school' by Local Authority area. NB this figure includes all schools, including independent schools.

**SEN in Mainstream Schools in Bracknell Forest**

The data below are derived from the January 2015 School Census from schools.

	<b>Statemented Pupils and Pupils with an EHCP</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>SEN Without Statement or EHCP (SEN Support / Action / Action plus)</b>	<b>%</b>
Primary	153	1.5%	1258	12.1%
Secondary	160	2.4%	630	9.5%
<b>TOTALS (Including Kennel Lane School and College Hall PRU)</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>2.9%</b>	<b>1895</b>	<b>11.0%</b>



The decreases in the percentages since 2013 are because schools are now being funded at higher levels to support children through Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) who would otherwise have been statemented.

**Resource Units**

The majority of children with statements of special educational needs or Education, Health, Care Plans attend local mainstream schools. There are currently three resource units supporting pupils with specific needs:

- Great Hollands Primary School (Rainbow) provides 6 full time equivalent places for children from nursery to Year One with social and communication difficulties.
- Meadow Vale Primary School provides 20 full time equivalent places for children with speech and language difficulties.

- Ranelagh CE School provides for 12 full time equivalent places for children with specific learning difficulties.

A secondary-aged 56 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) resource unit, Rise@GHC, is due to open in September 2015. This unit is separate from the Garth Hill College site, but managed by the College.

### ***Kennel Lane School***

In recent years the overall number of special school places within travelling distance from Bracknell Forest has reduced. This has resulted in increased demand for the school in the last four years. The school has capacity for 188 FTE pupils.

<b>Numbers on Roll</b>							
(January School Census)							
<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
166	164	179	181	186	185	180	177

### ***Support Services***

The Local Authority provides a variety of support to schools to enable children and young people to be supported within mainstream schools. These include:

**Educational Psychologists** offer practical help, guidance and advice to teachers and parents of children with physical, social, emotional, behavioural or learning difficulties.

**Early Years Foundation Stage Inclusion Service (EYFSIS)** offers support to early years settings, schools and parents through educational assessment, advice and teaching. Specialist Inclusion Officers visit pre-school children in their homes, pre-school settings and Children's Centres.

**Autistic Spectrum and Social Communication (ASSC)** is an outreach service providing support and advice to mainstream schools for children with social and communication difficulties, including those with autistic spectrum difficulties. The ASSC service staff undertake assessments, training, advice and short-term direct work to assist in implementing strategies.

**The Behaviour Support Team** works with school staff and other professionals to provide advice, support and strategies to help address behaviours that are causing concern in the education setting.

Further information about all support services available can be found in the booklet 'Guide to Special Educational Needs Provision within Bracknell Forest'.

### ***Provision for pupils with statements of special educational needs or Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)***

The statutory framework allows parents to express a preference for the placement of a child with a statement of special educational needs in a maintained school, including both mainstream and special schools. Some parents, especially those close to the borders with other local authorities, choose mainstream schools or Local Authority maintained schools outside Bracknell Forest. With the increased popularity of our special school and the lack of capacity some pupils have needed to be placed in neighbouring Local Authority maintained special schools.

Occasionally parents request and/or the Local Authority will take the view that, due to a child's needs, their child's education needs cannot be met within a Local Authority maintained school. In this instance the Local Authority will work with the parents to identify the most appropriate and cost effective school to meet the child's needs.

On a few occasions parents and the Local Authority may disagree on the particular school needed to meet a child's needs and in rare instances a Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST) may be needed to resolve the matter.

### ***The Future***

There has been a recent increase in the number of children with statements of special educational needs in Bracknell Forest. This can be explained by an increase in the number of young people staying on in education post 16, better identification and an increase in the child school population. The Children's and Families' Act 2014 has also legislated that it is the local authority's duty to provide for children with SEN through EHCP's from 0 to 25.

Changes in school funding in April 2013 and proposed legislation in relation to children with special educational needs and disabilities appear to be having an impact of reducing the need for statements of special educational needs. However with increasing numbers of young people staying on in education post-16, better identification and an increase in the child school population it is not envisaged that the total of statements of special educational needs and EHCPs will reduce.

Bracknell Forest Council is continuing to develop and increase specialist support available to mainstream schools to enable children to attend school locally and achieve their potential. The development of the Early Intervention Hub this year will assist in further co-ordinating this specialist support.

With Kennel Lane School near capacity and the rising child school population in Bracknell Forest, additional capacity to meet the need of children requiring special school placements will be required. This has been evident in the last two years with an increase in the number of special school placements outside Bracknell Forest. This has, and will continue to have, financial implications.

To address this need and to reduce the cost and inconvenience to families of placements outside Bracknell Forest, the Council is exploring the development of additional Resource Units within existing mainstream schools to meet specific areas of needs such as children with speech, language and communication needs. There is also a need for additional special school capacity within Bracknell Forest and consideration is being given to the need for additional special school places. The local authority are working in partnership with Garth Hill College and plans are advanced to open a 56 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) resource for secondary and post 16 children and young people in September 2015.

## **Annex 4: Provision for Pupils Out of School**

There are a number of pupils for whom a placement in mainstream school is not always sustainable and special school is not appropriate. This group of pupils receive their education through the Pupil Referral Service and a range of other alternative providers and may include at any time:

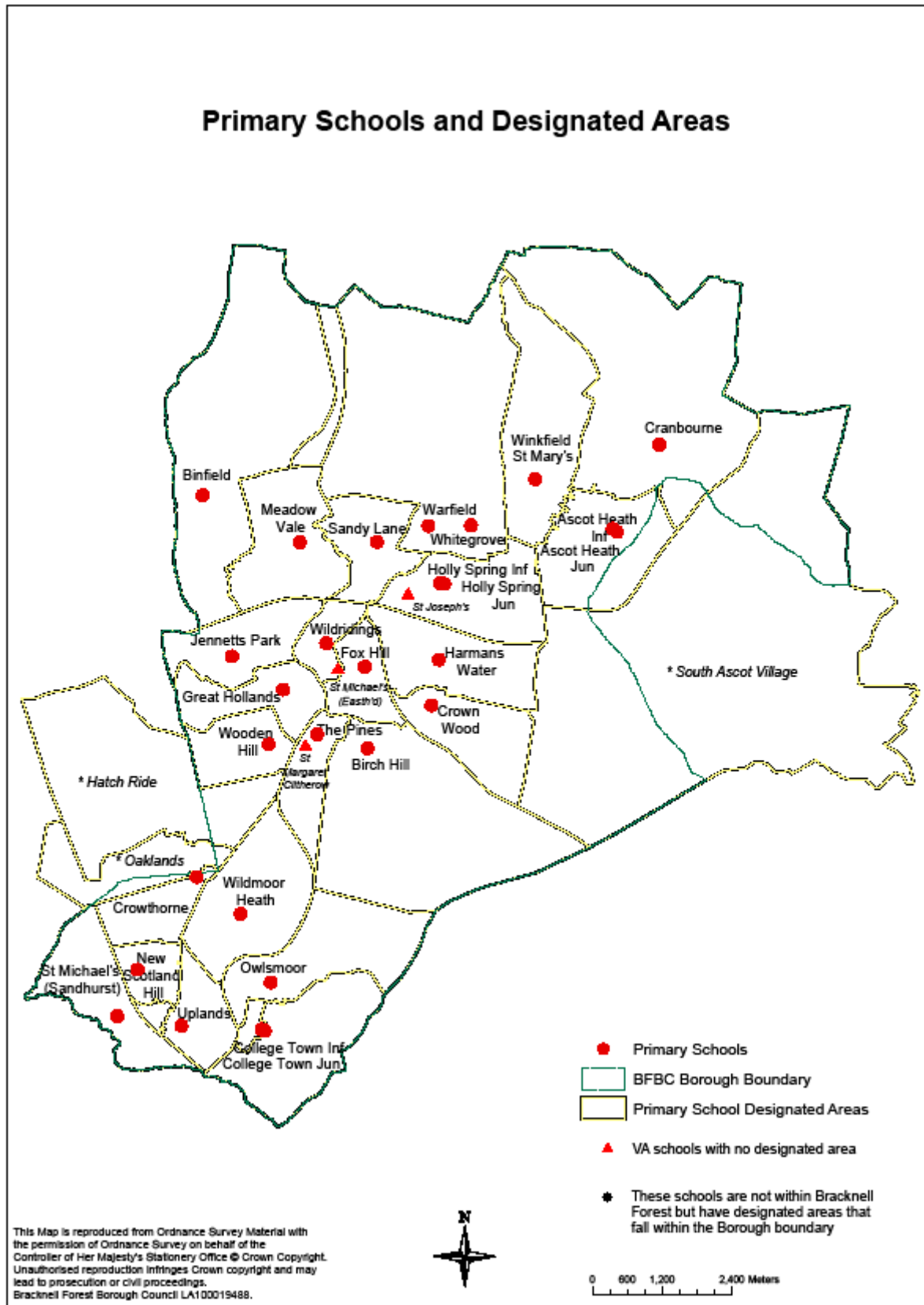
- pupils permanently excluded from mainstream school or those unlikely to sustain a mainstream placement;
- pupils with a pattern of non-attendance, for example because they are school phobic;
- pupils with medical or psychiatric reasons for not being able to attend school;
- pupils identified as being at risk or vulnerable, these may include those at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation.

Primary-age exclusions are very rare and these pupils are supported and re-integrated as quickly as possible into another placement as appropriate.

Education for secondary-age pupils is provided by the College Hall Pupil Referral Unit. Provision at College Hall includes tuition, attendance on college courses and extended programmes of supported work experience. The intention for younger secondary-age pupils is always a swift return to mainstream school or, when necessary, special school. In support of this the LA works with local secondary schools to secure reintegration as early as possible. College Hall is able to provide some support for pupils who are at risk of exclusion through the Outreach Service.

The tuition service includes provision for pupils either in their own home, in school, in a virtual learning environment or where a school phobic is receiving individual tuition outside mainstream classes at other centres as necessary and appropriate.

## Annex 5: Maps



## Secondary Schools and Designated Areas

