

**APPENDIX B - Schools Capacity Survey 2024 - Local Authority Commentary**

Local Authority Name: [The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead](#)

Local Authority Number: [868](#)

Black text – the template from the Department for Education

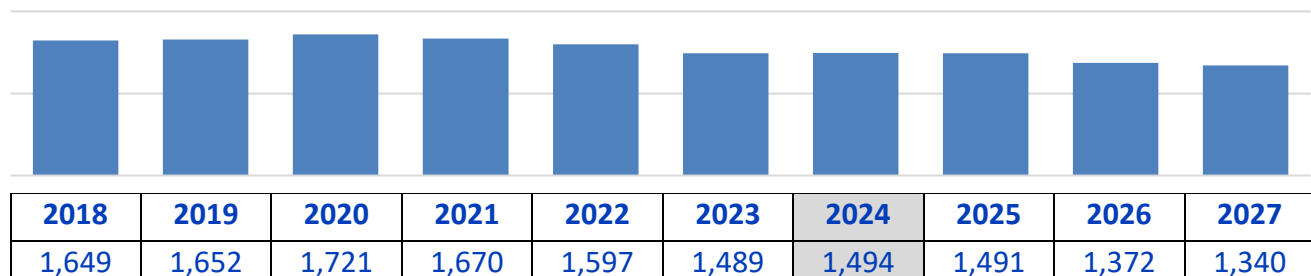
Blue text – the Royal Borough’s response.

**1. General LA overview indicating LA wide trends (Primary and Secondary age).**

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has both a two-tier and a three-tier system. Windsor, Eton and Old Windsor operate a three-tier system with first, middle and upper schools. The rest of the borough, including Maidenhead and Ascot, has a two-tier system.

**2. Factors affecting overall LA pupil numbers e.g. migration, housing development, live births. If you experience cross local authority boundary movement please identify the other local authorities involved and the scale of places affected.**

The chart and table below shows the numbers of children resident, based on the Births data plotted against the year in which that cohort starts Reception. The shaded box indicates the cohort that starts September 2024. The borough does not yet have the 2023/24 births data.



The number of births in the Royal Borough continues to be much lower than the peaks in the last decade.

Net inward migration of children aged 0 to 4 is recovering to pre-pandemic levels in most parts of the borough. This is based on comparisons of the numbers of children resident in the borough by age group, from the NHS GP registrations data.

The number of new dwellings being completed is also rising again, post-pandemic. Significant levels of new housing in Maidenhead in particular will help offset the falling birth rate.

There is significant cross-border movement. Some borough schools have designated areas that cover parts of neighbouring local authority areas (and vice versa). Two neighbouring authorities also have grammar school systems, leading to large flows of pupils in and out of the borough at secondary transfer.

The Royal Borough has a policy of providing 5% surplus places wherever possible. This is to maximise parental choice, ensure that there are places available for children moving into the area and provide some leeway in case the projections underestimate the actual level of demand.

**NOTE – this commentary provides two sets of projections for each area:**

- (a) The Full Projection.** This projection is the borough’s projection of places and Includes demand from the borough’s current best estimates of all future new housing.
- (b) Maximum cohort projection.** This takes into account the impact of inward and outward migration, and new housing as a cohort moves up through the schools and gives the largest projected size of that cohort.

Demographic data for the cohorts starting in 2028 and beyond is based on ONS 2021-based interim National Population Projections and their % change in 4-year-olds in England from the previous year.

**3. Summary of PRIMARY AGE pupil places in individual planning areas experiencing pressure on places either currently or projected and for which action is required to address.**

You should include the local factors affecting each area identified and the impact of those factors, relating them, where appropriate, to the Local Authority wide factors described in 2 above in addition to area specific issues. Schools experiencing particular shortfalls of places, current or projected, should be identified here.

**8680001 Ascot Primary Schools**

There are five primary schools in Ascot. Part of the area is served by a Bracknell Forest School – Ascot Heath Primary School.

**Demographic trends**

- Adjusting for movement in and out of the area, the number of children of Reception age living in Ascot and due to start in September 2024 (169) is much higher than the equivalent 2023 figure (123), reflecting a dip in local demographics in 2023 (row ‘a’).
- Based on the latest school admissions data, however, demand for Reception places in 2024 has actually fallen. This is because much of the demographic increase is in parts of Ascot (North Ascot and South Sunningdale) that don’t send many pupils to the five primary schools. Demand is expected to rise again for September 2025 before possibly dipping in 2027.
- There continues to be net inward migration into Ascot. Discounting (as far as possible) the effects of new housing, the cohorts of children aged 0 to 4 grew by 4% in the year to August 2023 (around 4 new residents in each age group). This is lower than the historical average, excluding the pandemic period.
- In the absence of any local authority-based population projections since 2018, demographic data for the cohorts starting Reception in 2028 and beyond is based on ONS 2021-based interim National Population Projections and their % change in 4-year-olds in England from the previous year.

**New housing**

There is expected to be an increasing level of additional demand arising from new housing in Ascot. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Reception pupils annually by 29 (row ‘b’), reflecting significant new developments now underway in the Ascot area. This is in addition to normal inward migration and will help offset some of the lower demand projected in later years.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Transfer Cohort*	157	161	166	123	169	159	149	126	125	124	124
b	Housing demand					3	6	11	16	22	26	29
c	Total transfer cohort	157	161	166	123	172	165	160	142	147	150	153
d	Reception PAN	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
e	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
f	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Mothballed places**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
i	Actual Intake NOR	138	122	123	121	108	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>111</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>131</b>
k	Surplus/Deficit	+12	+28	+27	+29	+39	+24	+28	+36	+32	+23	+19
l	% Surplus/Deficit	8%	19%	18%	19%	26%	16%	18%	24%	21%	15%	12%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					0	0	0	0	0	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					127	143	134	118	121	130	132
o	Surplus/deficit					+23	+7	+16	+32	+29	+20	+18

\*this is the no. of children resident in Ascot (including North Ascot), based on GP registrations data, adjusted for net migration.

\*\*Mothballed places indicate temporary PAN reductions, which could be reversed if needed. These are *not* included in the places total.

### The projections

- The projections show that there will be sufficient Reception places available in the period to September 2027 (rows 'j' and 'k'). It is expected that there will be sufficient places in subsequent years.
- The surplus of places (row 'l') is expected to be higher than the target of 5% for most of the projection period. The surpluses may fall in the longer term, as new housing starts to have an impact.
- Around 0.8 FE demand comes from out-borough children, and this is projected to continue. Much of this movement is into the Catholic primary school, which traditionally takes from a wider area, but other schools have also taken out-borough children in 2024.
- Historically, Ascot cohorts have grown as they move up through the schools, and this is expected to continue (row 'n'). This will help reduce the overall surpluses of places in lower year groups but could lead to issues in higher year groups, where there are already limited places available.

The projected numbers are lower than the 2023 projections for 2024 (reflecting the local demographics in North Ascot and South Sunningdale referred to above) and 2027 (as that is now based on real data).

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

The relatively high proportion of surplus places in infant classes may continue to present some challenges to local schools. Conversely, limited places in junior classes may lead to difficulties in finding local places for families moving into the area. The local authority will need to work with schools to determine the best way forward on both issues.

In response to planned new housing in the area, feasibility works have already been carried out on the possibility of expanding local primary schools. Any proposals for new school places which be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.

### 8680004 Datchet & Wraysbury Primary Schools

There are two primary schools in Datchet and Wraysbury.

#### Demographic trends

- Adjusting for movement in and out of the area, the number of children of Reception age living in Datchet & Wraysbury and due to start in September 2024 (113) is smaller than the equivalent for 2023 (121) (row ‘a’).
- The cohort starting in Reception in September 2025 (born 2020/21), is expected to be larger than in recent years. This is almost entirely in Datchet, rather than Wraysbury. The impact on demand for Reception is uncertain, however, as a roughly a third of local residents don’t apply for a place at either local primary school. If this changes the demand for Reception places could be significantly higher than availability.
- From September 2026 the number of children living in the area and of Reception age is set to fall, in response to reduced birth rates.
- There is generally little net inward migration into Datchet & Wraysbury. Discounting (as far as possible) the effects of new housing, the cohorts of children aged 0 to 4 grew by 0% in the year to August 2023. This contrasts with the year to August 2022, when there was a significant inward movement, which has directly contributed to the potential for a bulge Reception year in 2025.
- In the absence of any local authority-based population projections since 2018, demographic data for the cohorts starting Reception in 2028 and beyond is based on ONS 2021-based interim National Population Projections and their % change in 4-year-olds in England from the previous year.

#### New housing

There continues to be a low level of additional demand arising from new housing in Datchet and Wraysbury. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Reception pupils annually by 6 (row ‘b’). This is in addition to normal inward migration.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Transfer Cohort*	111	126	99	121	113	134	100	92	88	94	95
b	Housing demand					0	1	1	2	3	4	6
c	Total transfer cohort	111	126	99	121	113	135	101	94	91	98	101
d	Reception PAN	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
e	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
f	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Mothballed places**	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
i	Actual Intake NOR	88	84	74	90	76	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>75</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>80</b>
k	Surplus/Deficit	+2	+6	+16	+0	+15	-3	+10	+16	+17	+12	+10
l	% Surplus/Deficit	2%	7%	18%	0%	17%	-3%	11%	17%	19%	13%	11%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					0	+8	0	0	0	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					75	93	80	74	73	78	80
o	Surplus/deficit					+15	-3	+10	+16	+17	+12	+10

\*this is the number of children resident in Datchet & Wraysbury, based on GP registrations data, adjusted for net migration.

\*\*Mothballed places indicate temporary PAN reductions, which could be reversed if needed. These are *not* included in the places total.

## The projections

- The projections show that there should be sufficient places to meet demand during much of the projection period (rows 'j' and 'k'). There is potential for a shortage of places in September 2025. Whilst this could justify creating additional places, it currently seems unlikely that there would be enough pupils to support a full extra class. This will be monitored as applications for places are made. There will be spare capacity within the Windsor school system, if a bulge class is not viable.
- Around 0.5 FE of Datchet and Wraysbury residents take up Reception places in Windsor each year, and this is projected to continue.
- The surplus of places is expected to vary widely, with surpluses of up to 17% in most years, but a deficit of 3% in September 2025 (row 'l').
- The projections include approximately 0.5 FE out-borough demand.
- Historically, Datchet & Wraysbury schools have generally lost pupils as cohorts move up through the schools. On average, year groups reduce by 5% each year. In the year to Spring 2024, the average loss was 9%. Part of the movement out is because roughly 1.0 FE of residents take up places in Windsor middle schools at the end of Year 4. Around a third are on roll at Datchet and Wraysbury schools (the others mainly having taken up places at Reception).

The projected numbers are broadly in line with those from 2023, though with a lower projected bulge in demand now expected in 2025.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

No additional primary school places are currently planned, but applications for Reception places in September 2025 will be monitored to assess whether a bulge class is needed.

Although there are only a relatively small number of new dwellings expected in the Datchet and Wraysbury area over the longer-term, feasibility works have nevertheless been carried out on the possibility of expanding the local primary schools. Any proposals for new school places will be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.

## 8680011 Maidenhead Rural Primary Schools

The Maidenhead primary planning area has now been split in two, with the town forming one planning area (Maidenhead Town), and the surrounding villages the other (Maidenhead Rural). There are ten primary schools in Maidenhead Rural, including one infant school.

### Demographic trends

- Adjusting for movement in and out of the area, the number of children of Reception age living in Maidenhead Rural and due to start in September 2024 (202) is almost the same as for 2022 (202) and remains lower than the preceding cohorts shown (row 'a').
- Based on the latest school admissions data, however, demand for Reception places in 2024 has risen slightly. This may be due to the temporary reduction in places at Lowbrook Academy in Maidenhead Town, which may have resulted in more families seeking places in village schools. Lowbrook is due to return to its larger intake in September 2027, which means that this effect may continue in the short term.
- The number of children living in the area and of Reception age is, however, set to continue falling, in response to reduced birth rates. There is some variation across the villages, with demand in Bisham and the Cookhams rising for September 2025 then continuing to fall. Demand may rise slightly for Holyport, particularly in September 2026. Demand across Burchetts Green, Knowl Hill and the Walthams is set to fall. In Woodlands Park, demand is likely to continue along current levels.
- There continues to be net inward migration into Maidenhead Rural. Discounting (as far as possible) the effects of new housing, the cohorts of children aged 0 to 4 grew by 4% in the year to August 2023 (around 7 new residents in each age group). This is lower than in the year to August 2022 (when average growth was 11%) but is in line with the historical average.
- In the absence of any local authority-based population projections since 2018, demographic data for the cohorts starting Reception in 2028 and beyond is based on ONS 2021-based interim National Population Projections and their % change in 4-year-olds in England from the previous year.

### New housing

There continues to be some additional demand arising from new housing in Maidenhead Rural, which will affect demand mainly from the Woodlands Park and Cookham areas. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Reception pupils by 17 (row 'c'). This is in addition to inward migration described above, and partially offsets reductions in cohort sizes.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Transfer cohort*	223	214	220	202	203	213	189	174	167	178	180
b	Housing demand					0	0	3	6	9	13	17
c	Total transfer cohort	223	214	220	202	203	213	192	180	176	191	197
d	Reception PAN	311	312	312	312	312	312	312	312	312	312	312
e	Temporary places	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
f	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	'Mothballed' places**	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)
h	Total places	281	282	286	285	282	282	282	282	282	282	282
i	Actual intake NOR	242	230	227	227	238	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>235</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>221</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	+39	+52	+59	+58	+47	+43	+66	+82	+84	+67	+61
l	% Surplus/deficit	14%	18%	21%	20%	17%	15%	23%	29%	30%	24%	22%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					0	0	0	0	0	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					235	239	216	200	198	215	221
o	Surplus/deficit					47	43	66	82	84	67	61

\*this is the number of children resident in Maidenhead, based on GP registrations data and adjusted for net migration.

\*\*Mothballed places indicate temporary PAN reductions, which could be reversed if needed. These are *not* included in the places total.

### The projections

- The projections show that there will be sufficient places overall in Reception (rows 'k' and 'l') during the projection period.
- The surplus of places is expected to be between 15% and 30%, which is well above the target of 5%. One school, Holyport CE Primary School, has already reduced its intake from 60 to 30 due to reduced demand locally.
- The Maidenhead Rural schools take around 2.3 forms of entry (70 pupils) from Maidenhead Town each year, although this has gone up in 2024 to nearly 3 forms of entry. The projections also include 0.5 forms of entry of out-borough demand. Overall, around 45% of the demand for places in the Maidenhead Rural schools comes from elsewhere.
- Historically, Maidenhead Rural schools have generally lost pupils as cohorts move up through the schools. Over the last couple of years this has changed, with some movement into the schools across almost all year groups. Cohort sizes may grow, therefore, as they move up through the schools as net inward migration affects all year groups, although this is not yet reflected in the projections. This could lead to some year groups eventually being larger than they are at Reception (row 'n').

There were no projections for Maidenhead Villages in 2023. The combined projected numbers for Maidenhead Villages and Maidenhead Town are broadly in line with the 2023 projections for Maidenhead as a whole.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

No action is currently planned for Maidenhead Villages primary schools. If demand were to continue falling, then some schools could find themselves with high levels of surplus places, threatening their viability. This is something that the council will keep under review.

Equally, there may be local pressures, particularly in Cookham or Woodlands Park, due to new housing. Whilst this is unlikely to lead to any Maidenhead Villages school expansions in the short term, feasibility works have already been carried out on the possibility of expanding local primary schools.



### 8680010 Maidenhead Town Primary Schools

The Maidenhead primary planning area has now been split in two, with the town forming one planning area, and the surrounding villages the other. There are fifteen primary schools in Maidenhead Town, including three infant and three junior schools.

#### Demographic trends

- Adjusting for movement in and out of the area, the number of children of Reception age living in Maidenhead Town and due to start in September 2024 (777) is lower than for 2023 (794) and remains lower than most of the preceding cohorts shown (row ‘a’).
- The demand for Reception places in 2024 has fallen slightly more than expected based on the cohort size. This may be due to the temporary reduction in places at Lowbrook Academy, which may have resulted in more families seeking places in village schools (Maidenhead Villages). Lowbrook is due to return to its larger intake in September 2027, which means that this effect may continue in the short term.
- Setting aside the impact of planned new housing, the number of children living in the area and of Reception age is set to rise slightly in 2025 and fall again in 2026, in response to reduced birth rates.
- There continues to be net inward migration into Maidenhead Town. Discounting (as far as possible) the effects of new housing, the cohorts of children aged 0 to 4 grew by 1% in the year to August 2023 (around 6 new residents in each age group). This is lower than in the year to August 2022 (when average growth was 3%.
- In the absence of any local authority-based population projections since 2018, demographic data for the cohorts starting Reception in 2028 and beyond is based on ONS 2021-based interim National Population Projections and their % change in 4-year-olds in England from the previous year.

#### New housing

There continues to be significant additional demand arising from new housing in Maidenhead Town, particularly in Central and South East Maidenhead. Whilst there is some new housing planned in North East Maidenhead, few new dwellings are expected in North West or South West Maidenhead. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Reception pupils by 57 (row ‘c’). This is in addition to inward migration described above, and partially offsets reductions in cohort sizes.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Transfer cohort*	837	775	817	794	777	786	713	761	730	782	789
b	Housing demand					2	8	13	21	32	44	57
c	Total transfer cohort	837	775	817	794	779	794	726	782	762	826	846
d	Reception PAN	690	690	690	690	660	660	660	690	690	690	690
e	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
f	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	‘Mothballed’ places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	690	690	690	690	660	660	660	690	690	690	690
i	Actual intake NOR	656	646	647	639	595	allocated places as at July 2024					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>604</b>	<b>626</b>	<b>573</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>629</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>703</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	+34	+44	+43	+51	+56	+34	+87	+52	+61	+6	-13
l	% Surplus/deficit	5%	6%	6%	7%	8%	5%	13%	8%	9%	1%	-2%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					0	0	0	0	0	28	48
n	Maximum cohort size					616	637	583	649	640	696	715
o	Surplus/deficit					+44	+23	+77	+41	+50	-6	-25

\*this is the number of children resident in Maidenhead, based on GP registrations data and adjusted for net migration.

\*\*Mothballed places indicate temporary PAN reductions, which could be reversed if needed. These are *not* included in the places total.

## The projections

- The projections show that there will be sufficient places overall in Reception (rows 'k' and 'l') during most of the projection period. September 2025 is expected to be relatively tight on places overall. By the end of the decade the impact of new housing means that it is likely that there will be a shortage of Reception places overall (assuming that the birth-rate stays level for those cohorts).
- The surplus of places is expected to be between 5% and 13% over the next few years, before potentially falling to 1% by 2029.
- The Maidenhead Town schools take around 0.8 forms of entry (25 pupils) from Maidenhead Villages each year. The projections also include 0.3 forms of entry of out-borough demand.
- Historically, Maidenhead Town schools have generally stayed stable in terms of cohort sizes as pupils move up through the schools. This changed in the year to Spring 2023, when cohort sizes grew by 2% on average, at least part in due to movement in from Hong Kong and Ukraine. In the year to Spring 2023 net movement into the schools has returned to a more normal level - cohorts are, however, still expected to grow, partly as a result of movement into new housing (row 'n').
- The overall projection masks significant variation within the town. Demand from South East Maidenhead is on a clear upward trend, with an initial peak of 105 in September 2025 (compared to the average of 80 in the period 2017 to 2023), then further growth in subsequent years. Demand from Central Maidenhead, which includes the Elizabeth Quarter (the golf course) is set to remain broadly static for the next few years but will accelerate from the end of the decade.
- Conversely, demand from North East and North West Maidenhead is set to continue gently falling. In South West Maidenhead the decline is sharper in 2025 and 2026, though there is some recovery in the 2027 numbers.
- There also remain difficulties with junior year groups which are largely full in the town as the historically larger Reception cohorts have moved into Key Stage 2. This, combined with high inward migration and the reduction of capacity at a junior, has led to low levels of spare places in Years 4, 5 and 6.

There were no projections for Maidenhead Town in 2023. The combined projected numbers for Maidenhead Villages and Maidenhead Town are broadly in line with the 2023 projections for Maidenhead as a whole.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

The vacant primary school site on Chiltern Road, Maidenhead, has been remodelled and refurbished to allow it to return to primary school use, possibly from September 2026. This could assist with the expected shortfall in places expected in South East Maidenhead. A final decision on a 2026 opening is likely to be made later in 2024.

In the longer term, the Elizabeth Quarter will generate demand for new primary school places, and a new primary school is planned within the development. The timing of this new provision will be dependent on when the new dwellings are completed. This demand is included within the projections set out above.

Changes have been made to revenue funding arrangements for schools, to make it more attractive for schools to take small numbers of additional pupils. This may assist with any shortage of places for Key Stage 2 pupils in the town.

Due to the significant numbers of new dwellings planned for the Maidenhead area, feasibility works have already been carried out on the possibility of expanding local primary schools.

## 8680002 Windsor First Schools

There are fourteen first schools in Windsor.

### Demographic trends

- Adjusting for movement in and out of the area, the number of children of Reception age living in Windsor and due to start in September 2024 (450) is slightly lower than for 2023 (456) and remains lower than most of the preceding cohorts shown (row 'a').
- Setting aside the impact of planned new housing, the number of children living in the area and of Reception age is set to continue falling sharply over the projection period, in response to reduced birth rates.
- There continues to be net outward migration from Windsor. Discounting (as far as possible) the effects of new housing, the cohorts of children aged 0 to 4 shrank by 1% in the year to August 2023 (around 5 fewer residents in each age group). This is similar to the pattern in the preceding years, although less than in the pandemic period (when cohorts shrank by 4% on average).
- In the absence of any local authority-based population projections since 2018, demographic data for the cohorts starting Reception in 2028 and beyond is based on ONS 2021-based interim National Population Projections and their % change in 4-year-olds in England from the previous year.

### New housing

There continues to be some additional demand arising from new housing in Windsor. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Reception pupils by 17 (row 'b').

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Transfer cohort*	522	469	476	456	450	437	425	366	351	376	379
b	Housing demand					0	2	4	7	10	13	17
c	Total transfer cohort	522	469	476	456	450	439	429	373	361	389	396
d	Reception PAN	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545	545
e	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
f	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	'Mothballed' places	-	(15)	(15)	(15)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)	(30)
h	Total places	545	530	530	530	515	515	515	515	515	515	515
i	Actual intake NOR	490	458	454	457	461	allocated places as at July 2024					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>458</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>428</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>409</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	+55	+72	+76	+73	+57	+72	+87	+126	+138	+113	+106
l	% Surplus/deficit	10%	14%	14%	14%	11%	14%	17%	24%	27%	22%	21%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					0	0	0	0	0	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					462	447	432	392	380	406	411
o	Surplus/deficit					+53	+68	+83	+123	+135	+109	+104

\*this is the number of children resident in Windsor, based on GP registrations data and adjusted for net migration.

\*\*Mothballed places indicate temporary PAN reductions, which could be reversed if needed. These are *not* included in the places total.

## The projections

- The projections show that there will be sufficient places overall in Reception (rows 'k' and 'l') during the projection period.
- The surplus of places is expected to be between 11% and 24% up to September 2027, and could potentially be higher in subsequent years, although these projections are based on modelled, rather than actual demand.
- The Windsor schools take around 0.6 forms of entry (17 pupils) from Datchet and Wraysbury each year; 0.4 forms of entry from Maidenhead and almost 2 forms of entry from out-borough.
- Historically, Windsor schools have generally lost pupils as cohorts move up through the schools. This has lessened slightly over the past two years, so cohorts may grow as they move up through the schools. This could lead to some year groups eventually being a little larger than they are at Reception (row 'n').
- The overall projection masks some variation within the town. Demand from South Windsor and the surrounding villages (including Old Windsor) is set to continue falling. Demand from East Windsor and North Windsor is projected to remain at similar levels to 2024, whilst Eton is expected to generate high demand in 2025 before then dropping sharply.
- Two schools (Kings Court First School and Homer First School) have now reduced their Published Admission Numbers in response to lower local demand. These places could be brought back into use if necessary (row 'g').

The 2024 projections numbers are slightly lower than the 2023 projections, particularly for September 2027 (which is based now based on actual demographic data). Subsequent years are also corresponding lower.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

The projected surpluses of places at Reception will pose significant challenges to first schools in the area. Two schools have already reduced their admissions to help reduce the level of surplus places, but more measures are now required. A number of schools in the town have unsustainable revenue deficits due to low numbers. The strategy for the next few years is likely to involve further reductions in the number of children admitted to the small number of first schools that currently admit 45 or 60 pupils. More permanent options, including school closures, may have to be considered for consultation, as a last resort, if we cannot reach agreement on the necessary reductions in capacity or if the demand continues to fall.

Any proposal involving school closures will require public consultation. The strategy will be developed in Autumn 2024.

**4. Summary of SECONDARY AGE pupil places in individual planning areas experiencing pressure on places either currently or projected and for which action is required to address.**

**8680005 Ascot Secondary Schools**

There is one secondary school in Ascot, Charters School. It admits children from the five Ascot primary schools, and also has formal links with two Bracknell Forest schools.

**Demographic trends**

- Based on historical primary to secondary transfers.
- The Year 6 transfer cohort starting secondary in 2024 is smaller than the equivalent 2023 cohort (row ‘a’); 138 compared to 150. This seems to be a minor dip.
- Subsequent transfer cohorts are expected to remain at around 145 pupils for much of the projection period (row ‘a’), perhaps starting to reduce by the end of the projection period.
- The Ascot resident Year 6 transfer cohort – those who live in Ascot and go to a primary school in Ascot – follows a similar pattern (row ‘b’).
- Although lower demand at Reception in the local primary schools might be expected to lead to lower secondary school demand, the primary schools continue to experience high levels of inward migration. Although this dipped during the pandemic period, cohorts grew by approximately 2% in the year to Spring 2024. This growth helps boost the numbers that then transfer to secondary school.
- The cohorts at the feeder Bracknell schools are not expected to change significantly.

**New housing**

There continues to be a low level of additional demand arising from new housing in Ascot. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Year 7 pupils annually by 10 (row ‘c’). This is in addition to normal inward migration and will help offset some of the lower demand projected in later years.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Total transfer cohort*	149	151	179	150	138	145	149	145	139	142	140
b	Resident cohort**	120	118	140	106	117	116	112	122	110	104	102
c	Housing demand					0	1	4	5	7	9	10
d	Total transfer cohort	149	151	179	150	138	146	153	150	146	151	150
e	Year 7 PAN	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270
f	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270	270
i	Actual intake NOR	270	270	270	269	271	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>256</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	0	0	0	+1	0	0	0	+1	0	+13	+14
l	% Surplus/deficit	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	5%	5%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					+14	+14	+14	+12	+14	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					272	273	270	270	270	258	256
o	Surplus/deficit					-2	-3	-	-	-	+12	+14

\*this is total number of children on roll in an Ascot school in Year 6.

\*\*this is the number of children resident in Ascot and on roll in an Ascot school in Year 6.

**The projections**

- The projections indicate that there should be enough places during the projection period (rows ‘j’ and ‘k’) to meet demand, particularly when compared to demand from Ascot (row ‘b’).
- The projections include approximately 5 FE of out-borough demand for September 2024. A significant part of this is from within the school’s designated area. The popularity of the school

means that any spare places following the admission of designated area children are usually filled by children from further afield. The projections largely assume that any spare places at Year 7 are taken by out-borough residents – this will impact on demand for secondary school places in neighbouring areas.

- As the school is full, little growth in cohort sizes is expected as children move up through the school (row 'n'). This can create issues for families moving into the area with older children, who are then offered school places in Bracknell, Maidenhead or Windsor.

The 2024 projections are in line with those from 2023.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

No further expansions are currently planned. Due to the numbers of new dwellings planned for the Ascot area, feasibility works have been carried out on the possibility of expanding Charters School. Any proposals for new school places will be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.

### 8680009 Datchet and Wraysbury Secondary Schools

There is one secondary school in Datchet and Wraysbury, Churchmead School. It admits children from the two local primary schools and also has formal links with a number of Slough schools. Many of the children on roll at Churchmead live in Slough and attended a Slough primary school.

#### Demographic trends

- Based on historical primary to secondary transfers.
- The Year 6 transfer cohort starting secondary in 2024 is smaller than the equivalent 2023 cohort (row ‘a’); 61 compared to 75.
- Subsequent transfer cohorts from these schools are mainly expected to be smaller than in recent years.
- The Datchet and Wraysbury resident Year 6 transfer cohort – those who live in Datchet/Wraysbury and go to a primary school in Datchet/Wraysbury – shows a similar pattern (row ‘b’).
- The local primary schools tend to lose children as cohorts move up through the year groups, particularly at the end of Year 4 when some transfer to middle schools in Windsor. This affects the number then transferring into the local secondary school.
- Churchmead is also affected by trends in Slough, as the school’s designated area covers part of the town. Following significant net inward migration into Slough, a second peak in transfers from Year 6 into secondary schools is expected in September 2026 and 2027. This is likely to impact on demand for Churchmead.

#### New housing

There continues to be a low level of additional demand arising from new housing in Datchet and Wraysbury. There is not, however, expected to be any significant impact on secondary school demand during the projection period (row ‘c’). There is new housing in Slough, which may impact on demand for secondary school places in Datchet & Wraysbury.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Total transfer cohort*	88	93	80	75	61	58	74	65	64	58	73
b	Resident cohort**	72	73	67	58	47	47	52	46	54	38	54
c	Housing demand					0	0	0	0	0	0	0
d	Total transfer cohort	88	93	80	75	61	58	74	65	64	58	73
e	Year 7 PAN	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
f	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
i	Actual intake NOR	119	121	119	120	122	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>122</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>124</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	+1	-1	+1	0	-2	-1	-3	0	-4	+5	-4
l	% Surplus/deficit	1%	-1%	1%	0%	-2%	-1%	-3%	0%	-3%	4%	-3%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					+8	+7	+9	+6	+10	+1	+10
n	Maximum cohort size					122	121	123	120	124	115	124
o	Surplus/deficit					-2	-1	-3	0	-4	+5	-4

\*this is the total number of children on roll in a Datchet & Wraysbury school in Year 6.

\*\*this is the number of children resident in Datchet and Wraysbury and on roll in a Datchet & Wraysbury school in Year 6.

## The projections

- The projections now indicate a shortfall of provision at Churchmead (rows 'j' and 'k'). Whilst there is likely to continue to be sufficient provision for on-time applicants applying from Datchet & Wraysbury, there is already a shortfall for demand from Slough feeder schools.
- The level of surplus places is expected, therefore, to remain in deficit during the projection period (row 'k').
- The projections include approximately 3 FE out-borough demand, which is higher than previously and reflects increased popularity. As noted above, a significant part of the school's designated area covers Slough.
- As the school is full, no further growth in cohort sizes is expected as they move up through the school (row 'm'). This means there is a lack of provision for families moving into the area.
- The number of Datchet & Wraysbury children taking up places in selective schools in neighbouring local authorities remains in line with the historical average of around 0.6 FE. 38% of Datchet & Wraysbury applicants put a selective school down as a preferred school for September 2024, and 58% of these were allocated a place at one.
- Churchmead School has opened a sixth form with effect from September 2023. The school takes taking up to 40 pupils into Year 12 and, from September 2024, 40 into Year 13. This will create a sixth form of up to 80 places.

The 2023 projections are in line with those from 2022.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead will continue to work with Slough Borough Council and Churchmead School to assess future demand from the feeder schools in Slough, to assist with a potential case for expansion at the school.

Although there are only a relatively small number of new dwellings expected in the Datchet and Wraysbury area, feasibility works have nevertheless been carried out on the possibility of expanding Churchmead School. Any proposals for new school places will be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.



## 8680008 Maidenhead Secondary Schools

There are six secondary schools in Maidenhead, including two single-sex schools (one for boys and one for girls). One of the secondary schools reserves part of its intake for boarders.

### Demographic trends

- Based on historical primary to secondary transfers.
- The Year 6 transfer cohort starting secondary in September 2024 is substantially smaller than the 2023 cohort (row 'a'); 880 compared to 946. 2023 was a bulge year.
- Subsequent transfer cohorts are expected fall again.
- The Maidenhead resident Year 6 transfer cohort – those who live in Maidenhead and go to a primary school in Maidenhead – follows a similar pattern (row 'b').
- Historically, primary schools in Maidenhead have tended to lose pupils as the cohorts have moved up through the year groups, declining by around 1% on average. In the year to January 2023 every single year group grew in size, by an average of 1% (10 pupils). There has, however, been a return to more normal levels of net inward migration to Maidenhead primary schools in the January 2024, with cohorts declining, on average, by 1%. This will impact on future transfer groups, making them smaller than previously projected.

### New housing

There continues to be significant additional demand arising from new housing in Maidenhead. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Year 7 by 28 (row 'c'). This is in addition to inward migration described above and is also helping to boost future cohort sizes at secondary transfer.

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Total transfer cohort*	894	913	876	946	880	831	838	821	827	812	820
b	Resident cohort**	850	861	829	898	826	769	784	773	768	760	736
c	Housing demand					0	3	8	13	18	23	28
d	Total transfer cohort	894	913	876	946	880	834	846	834	845	835	848
e	Year 7 PAN	1,038	1,064	1,064	1,064	1,070	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082
f	Temporary places	26	-	-	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	(Boarder places)	(18)	(18)	(18)	(18)	(24)	(24)	(24)	(24)	(24)	(24)	(24)
i	Total places	1,056	1,064	1,064	1,064	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082
j	Actual intake NOR	988	928	974	1,012	932	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
k	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>935</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>938</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>893</b>	<b>882</b>
l	Surplus/deficit	+76	+136	+90	+52	+147	+196	+144	+185	+185	+189	+200
m	% Surplus/deficit	7%	13%	8%	5%	14%	18%	13%	17%	17%	17%	18%
n	Places to give 5% surplus					0	0	0	0	0	0	0
o	Maximum cohort size					935	892	938	902	897	893	882
p	Surplus/deficit					+147	+190	+144	+180	+185	+189	+200

\*this is the total number of children on roll in a Maidenhead school in Year 6.

\*\*this is the number of children resident in Maidenhead and on roll in a Maidenhead school in Year 6.

### The projections

- The projections suggest sufficient places available in Year 7 to meet demand during the projection period (rows 'l' and 'm').
- The surplus of places is expected to remain well above the target of 5% for the projection period.
- The number of Maidenhead children taking up places in selective schools in neighbouring local authorities has returned to the historical average of around 150 (as at National Offer Day) for September 2024. This follows a dip in 2023, which appeared to be partly down to proportionally

fewer Maidenhead applicants getting the required score in the 11+, and a peak in demand for secondary school places in those neighbouring local authority areas.

- The return to the historical norm for selective school admissions, together with changes to the admissions arrangements has helped ensure that all Maidenhead applicants could be offered a Maidenhead school on National Offer Day.
- Almost 200 Year 7 places in Maidenhead are taken by out-borough pupils. This is slightly lower than the average in recent years.
- As with primary schools, Maidenhead secondary schools have tended to lose pupils as the cohorts move up through the year groups (about 1% loss each year). This was reversed in the year to January 2023, when cohort sizes grew by roughly 1%. This has dropped in the year to January 2024 so that, on average, there was no growth or decline in the secondary school age groups. Some growth going forward is still expected, so that the maximum cohort sizes may be slightly larger than at intake (row 'o').
- Three schools have, however, now 'capped' admissions into some of their year groups, meaning that they are not admitting pupils to the level suggested by the published admission number. This is because the schools are trying to avoid having empty places, which can be expensive to maintain. It does mean, however, that there are limited secondary school places available for families moving in, particularly for girls. The issue is being discussed with the Department for Education.
- There are, in general, slightly more boys than girls in the Maidenhead primary school age groups - the cohort starting secondary in September 2024 is the only one with more girls than boys as at Spring 2024. The 2026 and 2028 intakes are expected to have comparatively high numbers of girls (although still below the 2024 level), which may lead to higher numbers of applications for Newlands Girls' School in those years.

The 2024 projections are lower than those from 2023, reflecting the reduced rate of inward migration and a return to the historical level of movement out to selective schools in neighbouring local authority areas.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

There are currently no further plans for expansion of secondary schools in the town.

In the longer term, the Elizabeth Quarter will, alongside other new housing, generate demand for new secondary school places, and a new secondary school is planned within the development. The timing of this new provision will be dependent on when the new dwellings are completed and the wider demand for secondary school places in the town.

Feasibility works have also been carried out on the possibility of expanding the existing secondary schools. Any proposals for new school places will be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.

## 8680006 Windsor Middle Schools

There are four middle schools in Windsor: three in Windsor itself; the fourth in Old Windsor village.

### Demographic trends

- Based on historical first to middle transfers.
- The total Year 4 transfer cohort starting in middle schools in September 2024 is smaller than the 2023 cohort (row 'a'); 446 compared to 469.
- The size of the Year 4 cohort is set to gradually decline in size, reflecting reductions in the intakes to the Windsor first schools (row 'a').
- The Windsor resident Year 4 transfer cohort – those who live in Windsor and go to a first school in Windsor – follows a similar pattern (row 'b').
- Historically, Windsor first schools have generally lost pupils as cohorts move up through the schools. This has lessened slightly over the past two years, so cohorts may grow as they move up through the schools. This has the effect of slightly boosting future middle school intakes.

### New housing

There continues to be some additional demand arising from new housing in Windsor. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Year 5 pupils by 10 (row 'b').

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Total transfer cohort*	498	497	482	469	446	468	437	426	437	436	422
b	Resident cohort**	421	409	402	379	365	382	334	336	342	339	322
c	Housing demand					0	2	4	5	8	10	10
d	Total transfer cohort	498	497	482	469	446	470	441	431	445	446	432
e	Year 5 PAN	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540
f	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Planned places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540	540
i	Actual intake NOR	467	479	491	481	447	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>446</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>436</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>431</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	+73	+61	+49	+59	+94	+77	+104	+115	+93	+98	+109
l	% Surplus/deficit	14%	11%	9%	11%	17%	14%	19%	21%	17%	18%	20%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					0	0	0	0	0	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					446	463	436	425	447	442	431
o	Surplus/deficit					+94	+77	+104	+115	+93	+98	+109

\*this is the total number of children on roll in Windsor schools in Year 4.

\*\*this is the number of children resident in Windsor and on roll in Windsor schools in Year 4.

### The projections

- The projections show that there will be sufficient places to meet demand during the period to 2030 (row 'j').
- The surplus of places will be well above the 5% target, potentially rising to over 20% in 2027 and 2030 (rows 'k' and 'l').
- The projections include approximately 1.9 FE out-borough demand, which is higher than the 1.5 FE historically. Most of these children are already on roll in the first schools.
- The projections also include approximately between 0.6 and 1.3 FE from Datchet/Wraysbury residents. Roughly half are on roll in the first schools.
- As cohorts move up through the Windsor middle schools, there is generally some growth in Year 5 numbers, before a loss of pupils at the end of Year 6 when some pupils transfer to secondary schools outside the area. This was particularly pronounced with the September 2022 secondary intake.

There was less movement out in the year to January 2024, but still an average 1% loss from each cohort. The maximum projected cohort size is shown in row 'n'.

- As at National Offer Day, the number of Windsor children taking up places in selective schools in neighbouring local authorities at the end of Year 6 was in line with the historical average (and above the dip experienced in September 2023). The proportion of Windsor residents applying was 10%, in line with the average. The proportion of successful applicants was 62%.

The projections are in line with the 2023 projections, perhaps slightly higher towards the end of the projection period.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

The projected surpluses of places at Year 5 will pose significant challenges to middle schools in the area. Discussions with local schools have already started on reducing capacity to avoid high levels of surplus places, whilst still preserving the capacity within the system to cope with future increases in the birth rate and the impact of new housing.

In response to planned new housing in the area, feasibility works have already been carried out on the possibility of expanding local middle schools in the longer-term. Any proposals for new school places which be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.

## 8680007 Windsor Upper Schools

There are two upper schools in Windsor, one for boys and one for girls, which together form the Windsor Learning Partnership (WLP). Holyport College has previously had a day pupil intake at Year 9, but this stopped from September 2022.

### Demographic trends

- Based on historical middle to upper transfers.
- The Year 8 transfer cohort starting in upper schools in September 2024 is larger than the equivalent cohort in 2023 (row 'a'); 460 compared to 447.
- Although there were sufficient places overall in the upper schools for September 2024 there are no places available for boys.
- The size of the Year 8 cohort is set rise again for the September 2025, 2026 and 2027 cohorts, before falling back from 2028 onwards (row 'a').
- The Windsor resident Year 8 transfer cohort – those who live in Windsor and go to a middle school in Windsor – is not set to grow as significantly (row 'b'), indicating that part of the pressure on the upper schools will be from children living elsewhere who attend a Windsor middle school.
- Historically, there has been movement out of the middle schools as cohorts move up through the year groups, with an average loss of 3% from each cohort annually. This has lessened to an average 1% loss from each cohort in the year to January 2024. The reduced migration out has the effect of boosting future transfer year groups from the middle schools.

### New housing

There continues to be some additional demand arising from new housing in Windsor. By the end of the projection period, recent and planned developments are expected to increase the number of Year 5 pupils by 5 (row 'b').

row	Year	Actual intakes				Projected intakes						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Total transfer cohort*	429	448	437	447	460	486	491	478	429	443	424
b	Resident cohort**	338	367	361	362	367	376	367	341	327	341	297
c	Housing demand					0	0	1	2	3	4	5
d	Total transfer cohort	429	448	437	447	460	486	492	480	432	447	429
e	Year 9 PAN	494	494	468	468	490	490	490	490	490	490	490
f	Temporary places	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Planned places	-	-	22	22	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Total places	494	494	490	490	490	490	490	490	490	490	490
i	Actual intake NOR	468	488	480	495	470	<i>allocated places as at July 2024</i>					
j	<b>FULL projection</b>					<b>469</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>445</b>	<b>434</b>
k	Surplus/deficit	+26	+6	+10	-5	+21	+4	-2	+18	+56	+45	+56
l	% Surplus/deficit	5%	1%	2%	-1%	4%	1%	0%	4%	11%	9%	11%
m	Places to give 5% surplus					+2	+20	+27	+6	0	0	0
n	Maximum cohort size					469	486	492	472	435	445	434
o	Surplus/deficit					+21	+4	-2	+18	+55	+45	+56

\*this is the total number of children on roll in Windsor schools in Year 8.

\*\*this is the number of children resident in Windsor and on roll in Windsor schools in Year 8.

### The projections

- The projections show that the demand will remain close to current levels for most of the projection period. Lower demand is expected from September 2028 onwards (row 'j').
- The surplus of places is expected to be very low during most of the projection period. From September 2028, the surplus is expected to rise, as lower numbers feed through from the middle schools (rows 'k' and 'l').

- Windsor Girls' School has now been expanded, with a new sixth form block completed this year. This expansion has added 22 places per year group (rows 'f' and 'g').
- The projections include approximately a little under 2.0 forms of entry of out-borough demand, which is slightly lower than in the past. Around two-thirds of these children are transferring up from a middle school.
- The projections also include upwards of 1.0 forms of entry of demand from Datchet & Wraysbury residents, almost all of whom attend a middle school.
- The imbalance between the numbers of girls and boys could present challenges in future years. 55% of the cohort transferring to upper school in September 2024 were boys, and a similar proportion is expected for the September 2025 intake. Although there should still be ample places for boys living in Windsor, some young people who live outside the area but go to a middle school may not get a place, including residents from elsewhere the borough. It is also likely that late applicants will be left without a place.
- There is a little growth as the cohorts move up through the schools (row 'o').

The 2024 projections are similar to those from 2023.

Actions (current/planned) to address shortage/excess of places. Include no. of places to be added/removed in each school and by what date. You should include funding, levels & sources, allocated to the creation of additional places in each area.

The expansion of Windsor Girls' School, by 22 places per year group, has been completed allowing the school to take up to 230 pupils per year group. No further actions are currently planned for the upper schools, though we will monitor the applications for 2025.

Due to the numbers of new dwellings planned for the Windsor area, feasibility works have been carried out on the possibility of expanding the upper schools. Any proposals for new school places will be brought forward for public consultation as and when demand rises.

## 5. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities – pupil projections for children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans.

**General overview indicating local authority wide trends in demand for specialist educational provision.**

### Recent trends

The number of children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans and resident in the borough (or for whom the local authority otherwise has responsibility) continues to grow. Across all age groups, demand has increased from 760 in 2014/15 to 1,205 in 2023/24. Although the number of pupils on roll in borough schools has been rising, the number of EHCPs as a proportion of the school population has risen faster, up from 3.6% in 2014/15 to 5.2% in 2023/24.

Total EHCP and school population numbers for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

Row	Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
a	Total EHCPs	760	770	811	814	890	938	981	1,048	1,188	1,205
b	School population	20,966	21,271	21,636	21,908	22,250	22,659	22,756	22,724	22,824	23,048
c	EHCPs as % of school population	3.6%	3.6%	3.7%	3.7%	4.0%	4.1%	4.3%	4.6%	5.2%	5.2%

A similar picture is given by analysis of EHCP numbers for pupils in year groups Reception to Year 13, excluding the impact of extending the age range for EHCP eligibility from 19 to 25. The number of school age (including sixth form) EHCPs as a proportion of the school age school population has increased from 3.6% to 4.9%. In recent years, the number of EHCPs has been increasing by around 70 per year across year groups Reception to Year 13 (+7.6%).

School age EHCP and school population numbers for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead

row	Year	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
a	Total EHCPs	732	728	756	734	808	828	871	937	1,015	1,085
b	School population	20,196	20,465	20,845	21,090	21,451	21,875	22,072	22,023	22,218	22,325
c	EHCPs as % of school population	3.6%	3.6%	3.6%	3.5%	3.8%	3.8%	3.9%	4.3%	4.6%	4.9%

The number of EHCPs for young people aged 19 to 25 has grown from 15 in 2014/15, to 109 in 2024/25.

## Total projected EHCPs

The number of EHCPs maintained by the Royal Borough is expected to continue rising. The link between overall school population and the number of EHCPs is weak. The projections are based, therefore, on rolling forward the existing rate of growth, averaged from recent years. If the rate of growth increases or decreases, the actual number of EHCPs could be significantly different to the number projected.

The projections suggest that the number of EHCPs could increase from the current 1,205 to 1,776 by 2030/31. Part of this growth will be due to additional post-18 demand, but the majority of the growth will be in the statutory school age year groups.

row	Year	Actual				Projected						
		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
a	Total number of EHCPs	981	1,048	1,188	1,205	1,286	1,327	1,408	1,492	1,579	1,673	1,776
b	Nursery age EHCPs	12	15	12	11	11	12	14	15	16	17	18
c	Primary age EHCPs	366	382	428	488	521	541	578	598	637	679	720
d	Secondary age ECHPs	390	409	421	453	479	498	506	556	575	582	605
e	16 to 18 EHCPs	115	146	166	144	161	166	177	174	173	206	212
f	19+ EHCPs	97	95	160	109	114	109	134	149	179	189	221

### Factors affecting overall numbers of pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans.

As noted above, the trends in the number of EHCPs maintained by the Royal Borough are largely divorced from changes in population and are instead a result of an increasing rate of demand for EHCPs.

### Details on any anticipated gaps in existing LA high needs provision offers.

Priority 5 of the Royal Borough's agreed SEND strategy<sup>1</sup> commits the borough to developing the right range of specialist provision so that as many children and young people as possible can be educated inclusively in a local educational setting. This includes a range of provision to support parental choice, particularly for more specialist social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) provision and a five-day week offer for post-16 young people.

### Details of any imminent and planned changes/commissioning priorities in the high needs estate, including pipeline free schools or planned presumption schools.

The Royal Borough is funding two further Resource Bases, each with 10 places, to open in September 2024 (Communication and Interaction) and September 2025 (Cognition and Learning).

Up to 20 further places are expected to be added to Manor Green School (special school) during the 2024/25 academic year. A sixth form block at Forest Bridge School (special school) is planned for September 2026.

The Royal Borough is also expecting to open a new free special school from September 2027, with 100 places for children and young people aged 7 to 16.

Further capital is, however, required to proceed with plans for a secondary Resourced Provision for ASC at Churchmead School in Datchet, and for additional post-16 SEND places at Berkshire College of Agriculture. Consultation has been carried out on both proposals, and in principle agreement approved by the borough.

<sup>1</sup> [Special Education Needs or Disability \(SEND\) Strategy \(2022-2027\)](#), RBWM, October 2023.



**Overview of independent placements and the key drivers behind placements (e.g. parental preference, provision gap, local capacity constraints, etc.).**

The number of EHCP placements in independent and independent special schools has been rising from 44 in 2014/15 to 101 in 2022/23. It has fallen back in 2023/24. The majority of placements are in secondary age groups and are due to a mix of parental preference, gaps in local provision and insufficient capacity.

These placements tend to be significantly more expensive than placements in state schools and may also come with considerable home to school transport costs.

Whilst there are always likely to be some needs that cannot reasonably be met in local provision, the Royal Borough's SEND strategy envisages the creation of more local provision to meet the needs of residents. This will, over time, reduce the proportion of EHCP placements in the independent sector.

**Is your LA part of the Safety Valve or Delivering Better Value for SEND programmes?**

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead is part of the DBV programme.

**For high needs provision**, which is reported at a local authority level only, you should complete this section to illustrate any sub-LA regional variations where these create specific pressures that require actions to address impacts, over and above the general LA level pressure on places.

No sub-LA analysis has been carried out for the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead.