

# Primary Surplus Places Schools Webinar 17<sup>th</sup> November 2022

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# Agenda

- Birmingham's Primary school estate
- Headlines
- Key actions taken
- Latest birth rates and other demographic changes & housing
- Current cohorts and forecast levels of surplus
- Areas of high surplus
- Reducing PAN and other considerations
- Working together
- Next Steps

# Birmingham's Primary School Estate (overview 1)

School Phase	Number	%
Infants	18	6%
Juniors	18	6%
Primary	259	86%
All Through	7	2%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100%</b>

School Type	Number	%
Academy	129	43%
Community	107	35%
Foundation	9	3%
Free Schools	4	1%
Voluntary Aided	49	16%
Voluntary Controlled	4	1%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100%</b>

Number of different primary admission authorities
63

## Birmingham's Primary School Estate (overview 2)

School Faith	Number	%
Catholic	54	18%
Christian	1	0%
CofE	23	8%
Jewish	1	0%
Methodist	2	1%
Muslim	3	1%
Seventh Day Adventist	1	0%
Sikh	1	0%
None	216	72%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100%</b>

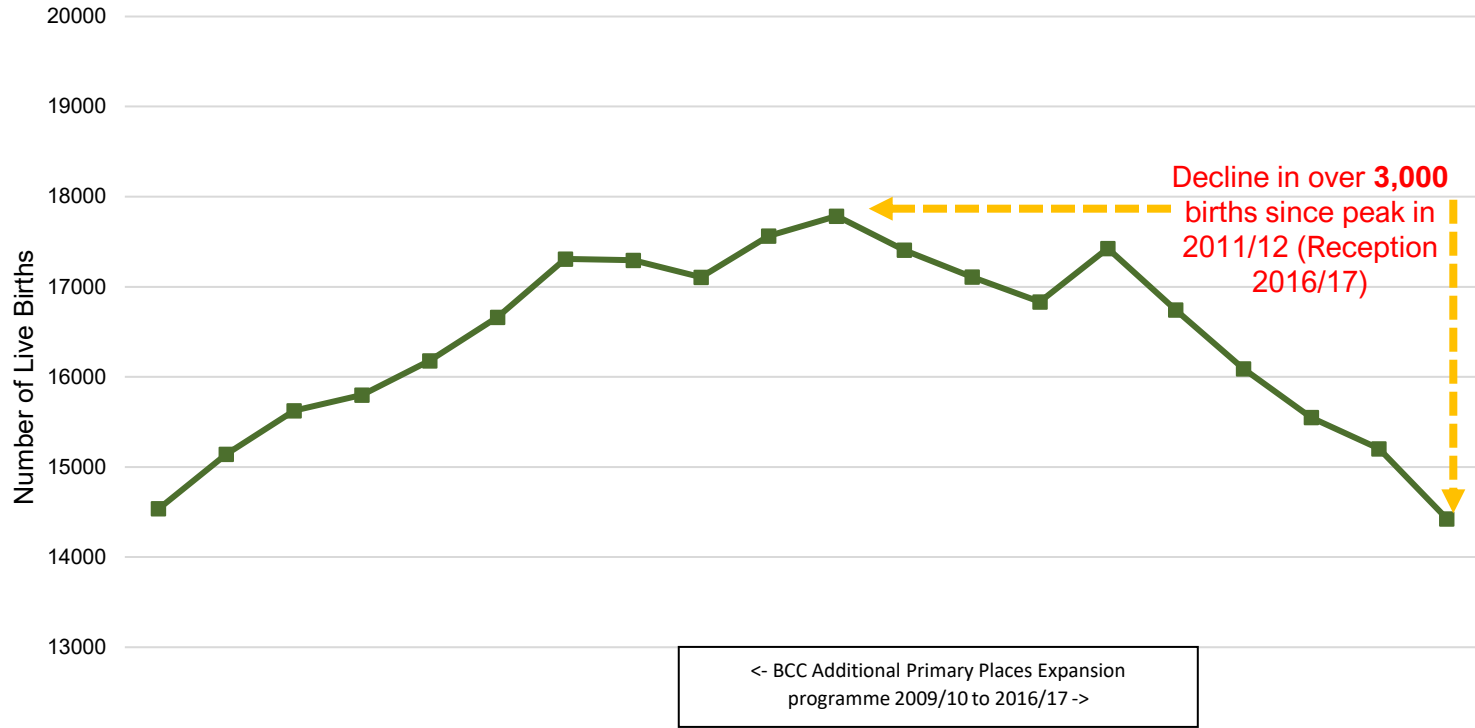
School Ofsted Ratings	Number	%
1	49	16%
2	204	68%
3	33	11%
4	15	5%
0 – not yet judged	1	0%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Headlines

- Birth rates continue to fall, leading to surplus places in primary schools.
- We are keen to work with groups of schools through consortia to discuss area-based solutions to manage surplus places in local areas.
- We believe this forward planning will help us to continue meeting our sufficiency duty and landlord obligations as well support schools to maintain/improve standards.
- Given recent levels of cohort growth, the uncertainty around resettlement schemes and the growing speed of substantial housing growth in the city, there is no intention to close any primary school at this stage.
- We are clear that given the levels of surplus places, we will not be supporting the expansion of any primary schools for the foreseeable future.
- We meet regularly with the DfE and potential free school sponsors to share our forecast demonstrating the over supply of places.

# Latest Birth rates in Birmingham

Source:  
ONS



	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004	2004/ 2005	2005/ 2006	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009	2009/ 2010	2010/ 2011	2011/ 2012	2012/ 2013	2013/ 2014	2014/ 2015	2015/ 2016	2016/ 2017	2017/ 2018	2018/ 2019	2019/ 2020	2020/ 2021
Grand Total	14536	15142	15626	15799	16179	16662	17309	17294	17107	17564	17784	17407	17108	16832	17425	16744	16090	15549	15202	14425

Birth Year and data table

Note:  
2020/21  
ONS birth  
data is  
over 200  
births less  
than DfE-  
provided  
NHS data  
(14,643)

# Key actions taken

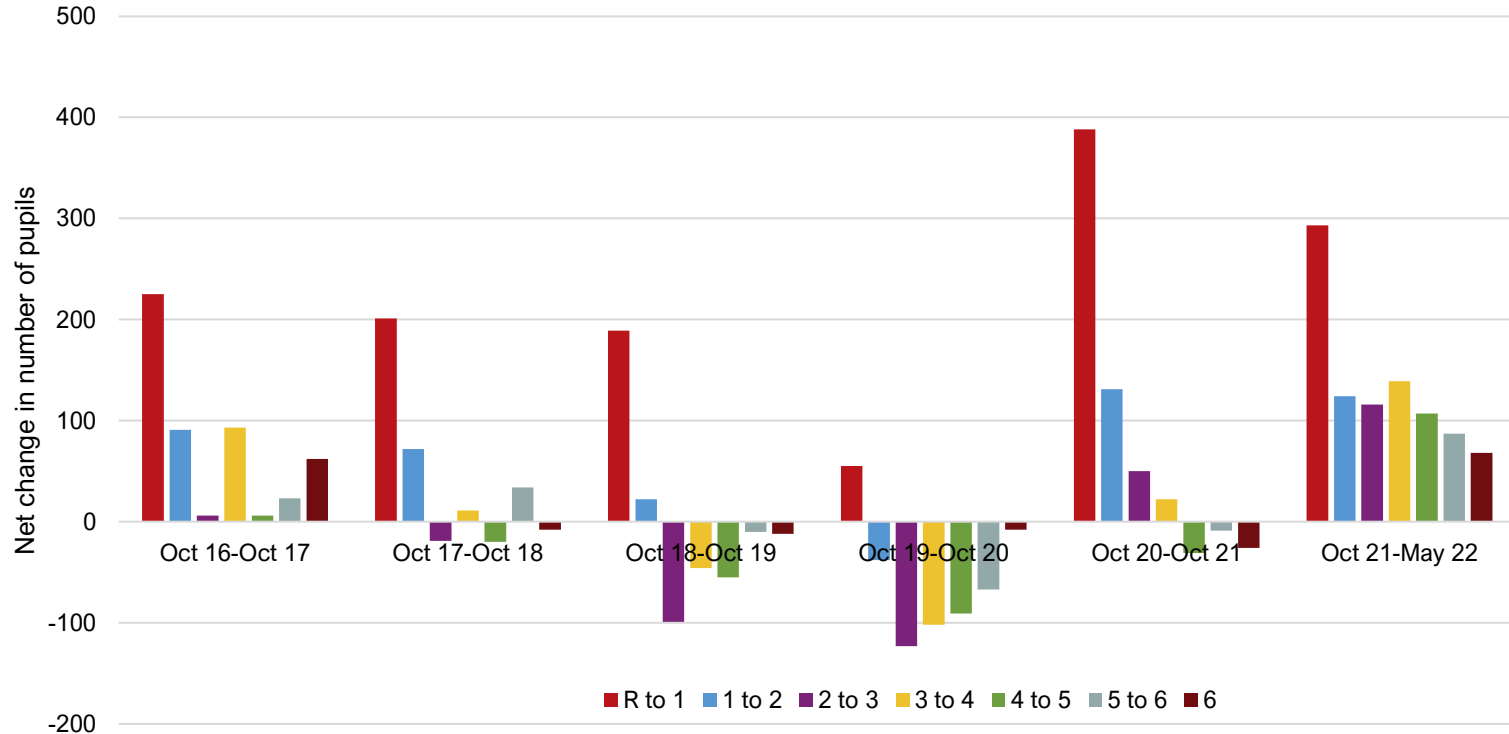
- A revision to planning areas to support improved place planning; DfE approval for implementation from spring 2022.
- Annual refresh of forecasts based on latest school census information (May 2022).
- Submission of forecasts and capacity information to DfE as part of SCAP collections in both July 2021 and July 2022. Impact of latest birth data.
- Regular meetings with SAFA to understand the impact of surplus places on admissions and parental preferences.
- Ongoing conversations with individual schools and responsible bodies regarding pupil numbers.
- Submission of variation requests to School Adjudicator (maintained) or RSC (academies).

# Other demographic changes

- Cohort growth is now occurring again; potentially as a result of the resettlement programmes and return to education post-pandemic.
- 'Cross-border' movement where pupils attend Birmingham schools from outside of the city, and vice versa.
- Cost of living crises and other financial pressures.
- Large scale housing developments.
- Impact of regeneration programmes which include housing clearance and rehoming.



# In-year growth



# Major Housing Development Sites

Name of Site	Site Address(es)	Number of Houses	Average Pupil Yield per year group	Occupation Start Date	Requirements
<u>Langley Sustainable Urban Extension</u>	Sutton Coldfield	6000 (3000 in next 15 years)	252	2023	3 primary and 1 secondary new school onsite
<b>North Worcestershire Golf Course</b>	Frankley	800	34	TBC	1 primary school onsite
<u>Perry Barr Masterplan (incl Regeneration)</u>	Perry Barr	5000	210	2022	1 secondary school onsite (opens Sept 2021)
<u>Greater Icknield Masterplan</u>	Icknield Port Loop, out to Smethwick	5000 (3500 in next 15 years)	210	2025	1 secondary school onsite + primary contribution
<u>Birmingham Smithfield Masterplan</u>	City centre	2000	84	TBC	TBC
<b>Frankley SUE</b>	Frankley	2500	105	TBC	TBC
<b>Ladywood Regeneration (through Big City Plan)</b>					
<b>Druids Heath Regeneration</b>					
<b>East Birmingham Regeneration</b>					

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PROUD  
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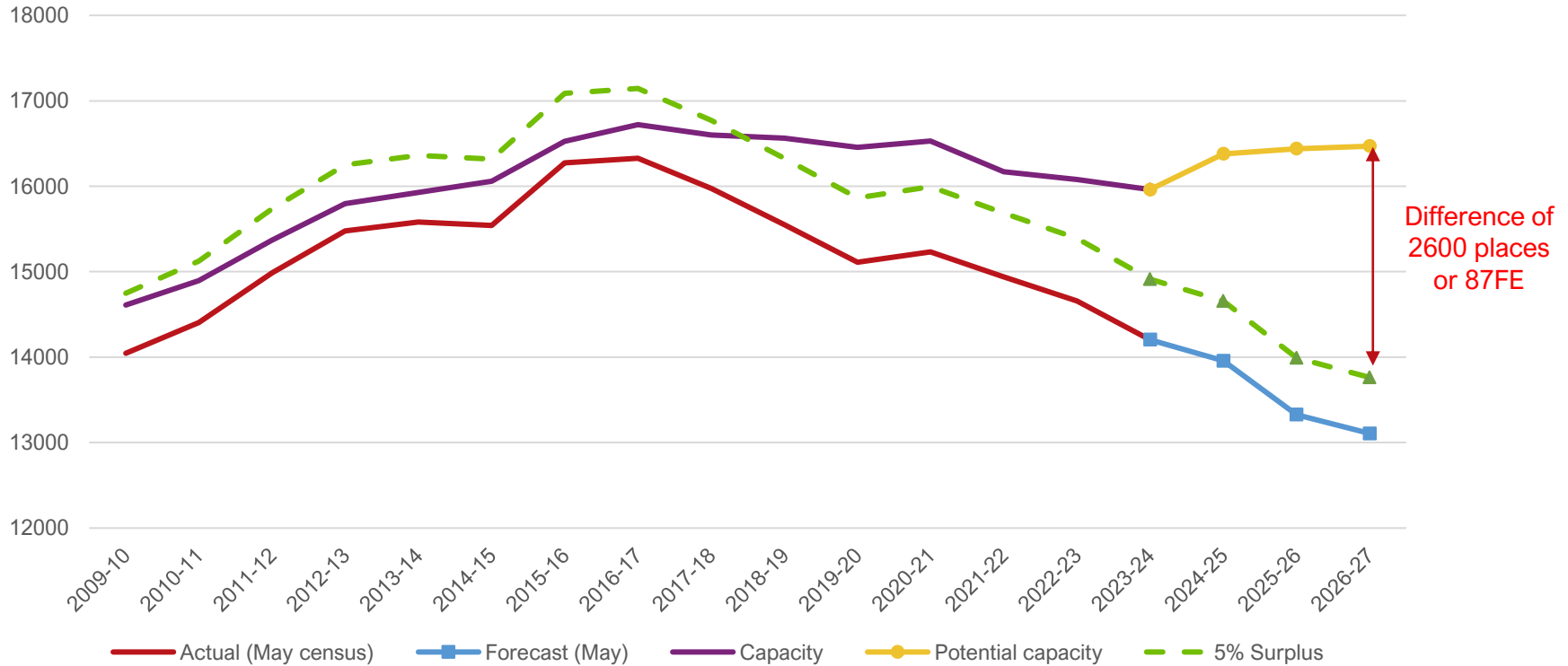
# Current and forecast levels of surplus

A level of surplus is need for in-year admissions.

Maximum recommended surplus is 10%, ideally we would want nearer 5% or 1,600 places per year group.

Reception intake	Estimate surplus	Forecast surplus			
		2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Entry Year	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27
No. of Vacancies	1884	1757	2423	2938	3364
Surplus %	12%	11%	15%	18%	20%

# Reception forecast compared to capacity



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# Surplus place challenges

- Excess staffing
- Increased mobility
- Implications on school finances
- Impact on standards
- Empty classrooms – impact on heating/lighting/maintenance costs
- School closure (worst case scenario)

*However, a greater quantity of surplus places means parents are more likely to secure a place of preference at Reception intake. For Reception 2021, 98.5% of applicants received an offer of a 1-3 preference, versus 98% nationally.*

# Areas of surplus

- Surplus is being seen across the city, but not by all schools.
- There are some areas of particular concern:

Planning Area Priority 1	Area
Expected Surplus	25% in R 2023
P33	Nechells
P41	Hodge Hill
P45	Tyburn

- Based on longer term forecasts, it is expected that places will need to be removed in 39 of the 46 planning areas between 2023/24 and 2026/27.*

Planning Area Priority 2	Area
Expected Surplus	10% in R 2023
P3	Kings Norton, Northfield
P11	Acocks Green, Sheldon, South Yardley
P16	Aston, Perry Barr
P18	Handsworth Wood, Lozells and East Handsworth
P20	Soho, Lozells and East Handsworth
P21	Weoley, Bartley Green
P22	Brandwood, Kings Norton
P23	Springfield, Sparkbrook
P25	Ladywood, Soho
P26	Hall Green, Acocks Green
P28	Handsworth Wood, Soho, Lozells and East Handsworth
P31	Bartley Green
P34	Sparkbrook, Nechells, Moseley and Kings Heath
P37	Bordesley Green, South Yardley, Nechells
P39	Weoley, Northfield, Longbridge
P40	Sparkbrook
P46	Quinton

# What is the process to reduce PAN?

- 1. Adopting a 'CPN' or 'capped pupil number'** following the closure of the admissions round. This is the route when offers have been made and the round becomes 'in-year'.
  - We will supply a form for any schools wishing to adopt changes for this academic year (2022/23).
- 2. Seeking a variation** to reduce PAN once a PAN has already been determined.
  - Maintained school proposals are submitted by LA to the Schools Adjudicator, and by academy trust to the RSC, for a decision.
  - A request needs to evidence that a 'major change in circumstances' has taken place since the PAN was originally determined.
  - We are currently collating paperwork to support schools for submissions to vary PANs for September 2023 entry.
- 3. Consulting on a reduced PAN** through the annual admissions consultation (18 months prior to the date of implementation) running from December until February.
  - Consultation commencing in December 2022 for 6 weeks will be for September 2024 admission arrangements/PANs. Changes to admission arrangements must be determined by the Admission Authority.

# Other considerations/options

- Assigning a classroom for alternative use if mainstream PAN is reduced.
  - We are particularly interested in growing SEND resource bases within excess building capacity, or exploring SEND satellite provision on mainstream sites.
  - Other suggestions may include the use of space for multi-agency, this could even include leasing of space to third parties to support income generation.
- Removal of portacabins or temporary spaces, or poorer building stock, particularly if this will reduce overall heating, lighting, and maintenance commitments.
- Work in collaboration with schools through federation to create efficiencies, including sharing resources and facilities, centralising administrative functions, greater buying power.
- Amalgamation of infant and junior schools, or schools with shared characteristics.
- Other school reorganisation opportunities, such as reducing primary capacity whilst expanding secondary capacity. This may be more straightforward for all-through schools but could otherwise lead to an age range change.



# We will continue to:

- carry out a regular forecasting review, including accuracy checks.
- work with schools and responsible bodies to find the most appropriate solutions to deal with surplus places within a school or an area.
- support applications for additional Falling Pupils Funding, if eligible and available.
- align with ongoing work to improve SEND sufficiency.
- liaise with planning and housing departments, as well as bordering Local Authorities, to assess implications of housing proposals or other changes.
- propose a school reorganisation such as amalgamation or change of age range if deemed appropriate.
- make representation to any proposal to increase primary places.

# We ask that you:

- work with us via consortia meetings to find the most appropriate solutions to deal with surplus places within an area.
- review your financial and staffing position based on pupil trends so far.
- apply for additional Falling Pupils Funding, if eligible.
- consider increasing SEND capacity, if appropriate and possible.
- make representation to any proposal to increase primary places.

# Next Steps

- Publish Surplus Places Paper update, presentation and CPN form.
- Seek final signoff by DfE / DCS of latest SCAP 2022 forecasts.
- Meet with local schools via consortia or other forums to share local forecast information, providing school preference information on request.
- Monitor Reception 2022 intakes and continue to support schools with any further changes to in-year 2022/23 pupil number (CPNs).
- Collate business information for proposed variations for Reception 2023. Refer any proposed changes in PANs for Reception 2023 to Schools Adjudicator or support trusts to submit to RSC, notifying local stakeholders.
- Assess applications made through Falling Pupil round for 2022/23 funding.
- Commence consultation on PANs for Reception 2024, via SAFA.

# Contact Details

- For PAN related queries:  
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- For asset related queries:  
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