

Mainstream school-age Education Sufficiency Report 2024

Sufficiency of Education Provision in Mainstream
schools in Worcestershire

Document Details

Status: Draft 0.10

Date: January 2025

Contact: Justin Kirby, Provision Planning Analyst jkirby1@worcestershire.gov.uk

Contents

Statutory Duties to mainstream pupils and schools	5
The scope of this report	5
The organisation of mainstream education provision in Worcestershire	6
Operational surplus of provision	7
Demand for provision of Mainstream education across Worcestershire	8
Migration	11
Cross-border Admissions	12
Housing	14
Overview of current assessment of sufficiency	15
Forecasting methodology	17
Forecasting accuracy	18
Bromsgrove District	21
Alvechurch Education Planning Area	21
Alvechurch – First	22
Alvechurch – Middle	22
Bromsgrove Education Planning Area	24
Bromsgrove – First	25
Bromsgrove – Middle	27
Bromsgrove – High	28
Hagley Education Planning Area	30
Hagley – Primary	30
Hagley – Secondary	31
Rubery Education Planning Area	32
Rubery - Primary	33
Rubery – Secondary	34
Wythall Education Planning Area	35
Wythall – Primary	36
Wythall – Secondary	36
Wyre Forest District	37
Bewdley Primary Education Planning Area	37
Kidderminster East Primary Education Planning Area	39
Kidderminster North Primary Education Planning Area	41
Kidderminster West Primary Education Planning Area	44
Stourport Education Planning Area – Primary	45
Wyre Forest Secondary Education Planning Area	47
Redditch District	48
Redditch Northwest (NW) First Education Planning Area	49

Redditch Southwest (SW) First & Primary Education Planning Area	50
Redditch East First Education Planning Area.....	52
Redditch Southwest (SW) Middle Education Planning Area.....	53
Redditch Northwest (NW) Middle Education Planning Area	54
Redditch East Middle Education Planning Area	55
Redditch High Education Planning Area	56
Malvern Hills District.....	57
Malvern North Primary Education Planning Area	57
Malvern South Primary Education Planning Area.....	60
Malvern Secondary Education Planning Area	61
Upton Education Planning Area	62
Upton - Primary.....	63
Upton - Secondary	65
Martley Education Planning Area	66
Martley – Primary.....	66
Martley – Secondary	68
Tenbury Education Planning Area.....	69
Tenbury - Primary	69
Tenbury – Secondary.....	71
Wychavon District	72
Droitwich Education Planning Area	72
Droitwich – First & Primary.....	73
Droitwich – Middle.....	75
Droitwich – High.....	76
Pershore Education Planning Area	77
Pershore – First & Primary.....	78
Pershore – Middle.....	80
Pershore – High.....	81
Evesham South First Education Planning Area.....	82
Evesham North First Education Planning Area	84
Evesham East First & Primary Education Planning Area.....	85
Evesham Middle Education Planning Area.....	86
Evesham High Education Planning Area.....	88
Worcester City District.....	89
Worcester West Primary Education Planning Area	89
Worcester South Primary Education Planning Area	92
Worcester North Primary Education Planning Area.....	94
Worcester Secondary Education Planning Area.....	95
Post-16 / Sixth Form provision in schools.....	97

Conclusions 105
Overview of Recommended Actions 106

Statutory Duties to mainstream pupils and schools

Under s13-14 Education Act 1996, Worcestershire County Council (WCC) has a duty to ensure there are sufficient school places to accommodate the children and young people who reside in the county and to ensure these places are of good quality, with sufficient capacity to promote parental preference and diversity. In addition, S315 of the Education Act 1996 requires that arrangements for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) be kept under review.

The 2011 Education Act requires that, where the need for a new school is identified, the Council should invite proposals to establish a free school, with the final approval given by the Secretary of State for Education.

Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 places a duty on Local Authorities to secure educational provision made for pupils aged 16 to 18 and over 19 years for those with special educational needs.

School place planning is crucial to ensuring the Council is able to meet its responsibility and support children within Worcestershire to access a good education. Forecasting is at the forefront of this process and ensures that we are able to work with key partners to build our education provision around the demands of a changing demographic landscape.

The Sufficiency & Place Planning (SPP) team carry out an annual forecast of pupil places based on information from the NHS known children data, school census information, Admissions and planned housing data, and this forms the basis for our School Capacity Survey return (SCAP).

The scope of this report

This report will assess the sufficiency of mainstream education provision in schools for children aged 5 – 18, or National Curriculum year groups Reception to Year 13, who reside in Worcestershire. (For information about the sufficiency of provision for children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, see the SEND Sufficiency Report 2024).

For the purpose of this report, sufficiency of provision for children aged 5-16 is deemed as the schools being able to provide places for the children living in the planning area. This may not include all parental preferences, as some schools are oversubscribed due to parents applying from outside a school's catchment. Where provision is forecast to be significantly below the forecast demand it will be shown as 'insufficient'. Where there are repeated years forecast with numbers on roll less than half of total places available (Published Admission Numbers, or PANs) it will be deemed an 'oversupply' of provision.

This report details by each phase of education in each Education Planning Area (EPA) where forecasts indicate sufficient, insufficient or an oversupply of school places to meet the forecast demand based on known children living in the areas, five-year trends including parental preferences, and the additional pupil yields expected from approved housing growth applications.

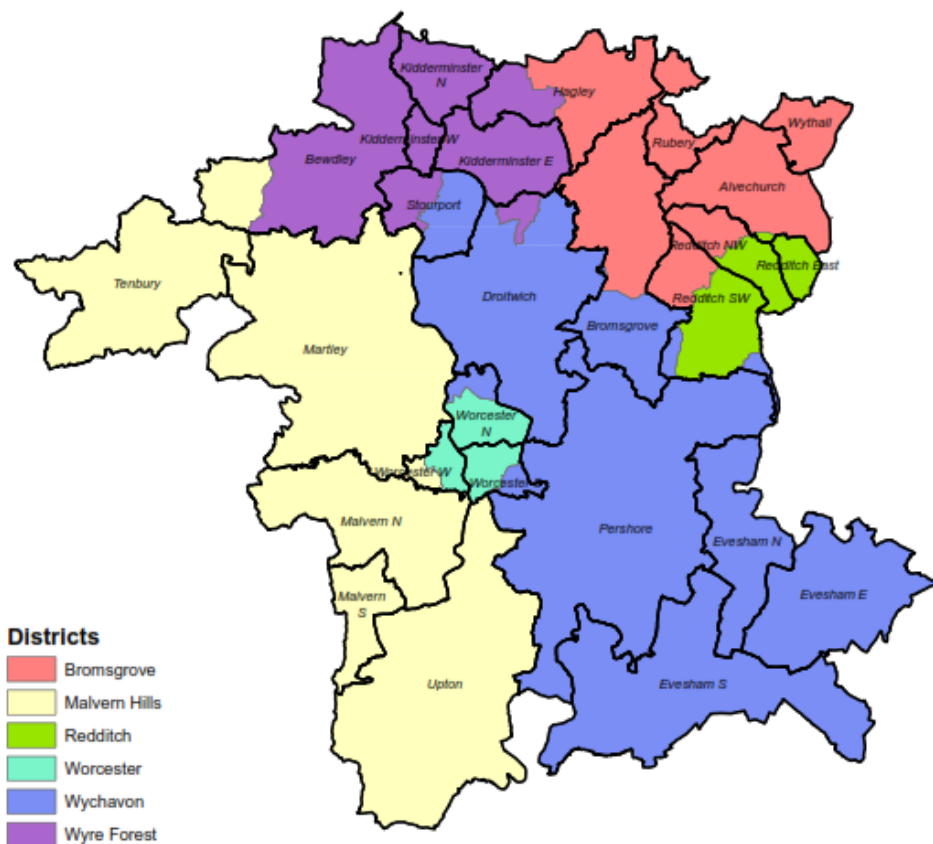
For First and Primary forecasts, we have 5 years' worth of pre-school aged 'known children' numbers – this known children data is based on registrations with GP surgeries in Worcestershire and supports the forecasting of numbers for the next 4 academic years. For Middle, High and Secondary we have many more years' worth of known children data and numbers on roll in the First, Primary and Middle Schools to understand trends and parental preference – this data supports the forecasting of pupil numbers further into the future.

For post-16 (students aged 16-18), this report sets out the response to WCC's duty to ensure a sufficiency of places in sixth form provision across the county. Provision in post-16 colleges and establishments and with training providers, and other duties such as tracking attainment and participation, training provision and careers advice are outside the scope of this report.

The organisation of mainstream education provision in Worcestershire

Worcestershire currently operates 26 Education Planning Areas (EPAs) that are made up of schools located in close proximity to each other, which pupils could reasonably attend. The use of EPAs allows WCC to assess more accurately the current and future pupil demand for school place provision. Map 1 below shows how these Education Planning Areas relate to District Council boundaries.

Map 1 - Education Planning Areas



Worcestershire is unique in the range of education tier structures available to families in the county. In areas which operate a two-tier model, children enter primary school at reception and transfer to a secondary school at the start of Year 7. Other areas operate a three-tier model, where children enter first school at reception, transfer to a middle school at the start of Year 5 or 6, depending on the age range of the middle school, and then transfer to high school at the start of Year 8 or 9, depending on the age range of the high school.

Some EPAs operate both two tier (primary and secondary) and three tier (first, middle and high) in the same area, providing families with a choice. This includes some catholic school provision and some other schools that have sought to change their age range. In addition to this, a number of secondary and high schools in the county also offer sixth form provision.

The table below summarises the predominant model in operation in each Education Planning Area:

Figure 1 Worcestershire Education Tiers by EPA

Two-tier model Primary Years R-6 Secondary Years 7-13	Three-tier model A First Years R-4 Middle Years 5-8 High Years 9-13	Three-tier model B First Years R-4 Middle Years 5-7 High Years 8-13	Three-tier model C First Years R-5 Middle Years 6-8 High Years 9-13
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bewdley • Hagley • Kidderminster • Malvern • Martley • Rubery • Stourport • Tenbury • Upton • Worcester • Wythall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alvechurch • Bromsgrove • Redditch*† 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Droitwich* • Pershore* € 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evesham*

*EPA also has primary school(s)

†EPA also has a secondary school

€ Pershore - see the EPA section below for details of the forthcoming move to a fully two-tier system

Operational surplus of provision

Worcestershire County Council aims to maintain a 5% surplus capacity in any Education Planning Area, in line with recommendations from the National Audit Office¹. A level of surplus places should be maintained to offer a degree of parental choice while still ensuring efficient but also flexible provision planning.

¹ [2013-nao-school-places.pdf \(education-uk.org\)](http://2013-nao-school-places.pdf(education-uk.org))

In addition, a surplus allows for in-year migration of pupils into and out of schools and reduces the number of school place appeals. In 2023-24, 3.1% of first/primary pupils enrolled at their school after the start of the Autumn term – this pupil mobility was less for middle schools (1.7%) and high/secondary schools (2.2%) but for all phases, mobility rates have increased over the last four years, underscoring the need for spare places in at least one of the schools in each phase in each EPA for such pupils.

Demand for provision of Mainstream education across Worcestershire

Based on data from the Office of National Statistics, birth rates in Worcestershire have been falling since a peak in 2011/12 of 6,305 live births. There was a dip in 2020 to 5,388, most likely related to COVID, but the pattern of gradual reduction has continued, with numbers of births in 2022 13% lower than 10 years previously (5,334 compared with 6,070). The alternative way of counting children is the number registered with GPs in the county. In 2020 there were 5,315 babies under 1 year old registered in Worcestershire, in September 2024 there were 5,200 babies under 1 year old in Worcestershire.

There were 86,158 children between 0-19 years of age in total in Worcestershire² in 2015-2016 rising to 90,043 in 2023-2024, a 4.5% increase. Of these, 76,828 were in state-funded mainstream primary and secondary schools in 2015-2016 rising to 80,476 in 2023-2024.

This is 89.4% of the total number of children living in Worcestershire compared with a national average over the same years of 91.1%. The difference is mainly a larger percentage of Worcestershire pupils in independent schools. In 2023 there were 7,456 pupils in mainstream independent schools, making up 8.4% of the total resident in the county. This proportion is stable. The national proportion is 6.6% of pupils in independent schools.

2.3% of all pupils (aged 5-16) on roll at maintained schools in Worcestershire attend special schools or alternative provision (both public-funded and independent) which is above the national average of 1.8%. Much more on this subject can be found in the SEND Sufficiency Report.

² explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk

Figure 2 Summary of pupil numbers in Worcestershire by type of establishment (gov.uk)

Type of education provision	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
State Funded Nursery*	69	80	118	113	107	112	98	87
State Funded Primary	41,916	42,450	42,660	42,783	42,541	42,354	42,496	42,153
State funded Secondary	35,512	35,436	35,946	36,510	37,212	37,810	38,164	38,323
Non-maintained Special	159	182	120	134	152	208	228	305
State-funded Special†	1,162	1,213	1,332	1,385	1,517	1,524	1,641	1,756
Alternative Provision	151	131	142	150	119	108	141	160
Independent	7,610	7,482	7,449	7,310	7,213	7,509	7,588	7,456
Total	86,579	86,974	87,767	88,385	88,861	89,625	90,356	90,240
Mainstream funded %	89.3%	89.4%	89.5%	89.6%	89.8%	89.4%	89.4%	89.4%
Special	1.5%	1.6%	1.7%	1.7%	1.9%	1.9%	2.1%	2.3%
Independent & Non-Maintained Independent Special Schools	8.9%	8.7%	8.6%	8.3%	8.2%	8.5%	8.5%	8.4%

*Maintained nursery classes and school only

†See SEND Sufficiency Report 2024

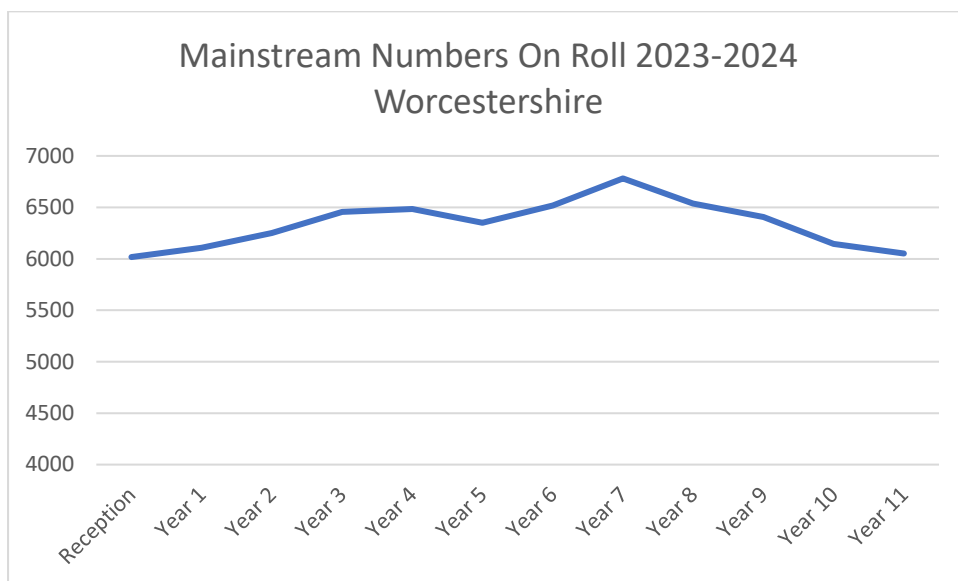
The steady rate of general population growth contributes to a steady rise in numbers at both primary and secondary mainstream schools. This is slightly offset by the numbers of pupils also attending independent, special and alternative provision schools.

The number of pupils entering year 7 in Worcestershire peaked in the academic year 2023-2024 with Year 7 – Year 11 pupil numbers on roll forecast to reach a high in 2027-28. The inclusion of post-16 pupils follows through to a peak in 2028-29. Pupil numbers in this report and current forecasts reflect the number of pupils on roll taken in October each year. As these higher pupil numbers feed into secondary schools and the demand for places start to increase, this report will monitor and advise schools to ensure there is a sufficiency in sixth form provision, as well as ensuring the delivery and timetabling of the national curriculum and a choice of post-16 subjects.

In January 2024³, there were a total of 990 children of compulsory education age (5-16) being Electively Home Educated, of which 46 had Education, Health & Care Plans. There were also 240 children of compulsory education age listed as missing education.

³ Date of special educational needs survey, commonly known as SEN2.

Figure 3 Numbers of pupils on roll at mainstream schools in Worcestershire October 2023



The pupil numbers on roll from October 2023 show a peak number of pupils in year 7, which is now in year 8 (academic year 2024/25). This peak, seen below in figure 4, will move through middle schools and secondary schools and in some planning areas this cohort will reach the high school intake year 9 (for Bromsgrove, Evesham and Redditch) in September 2025.

Figure 4 Number of pupils on roll in Worcestershire secondary age groups (Year 7 – 11) 2010 – 2023, with forecast numbers on roll 2024-2028

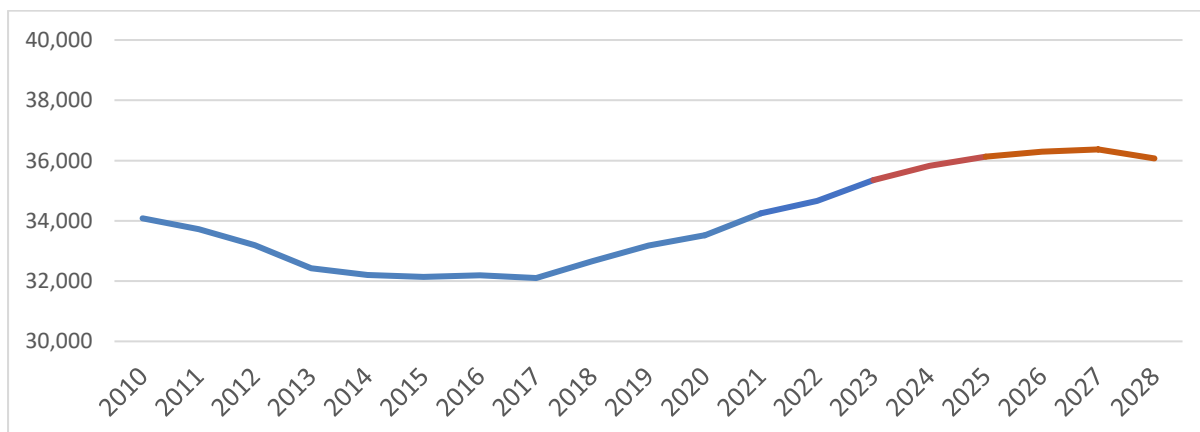
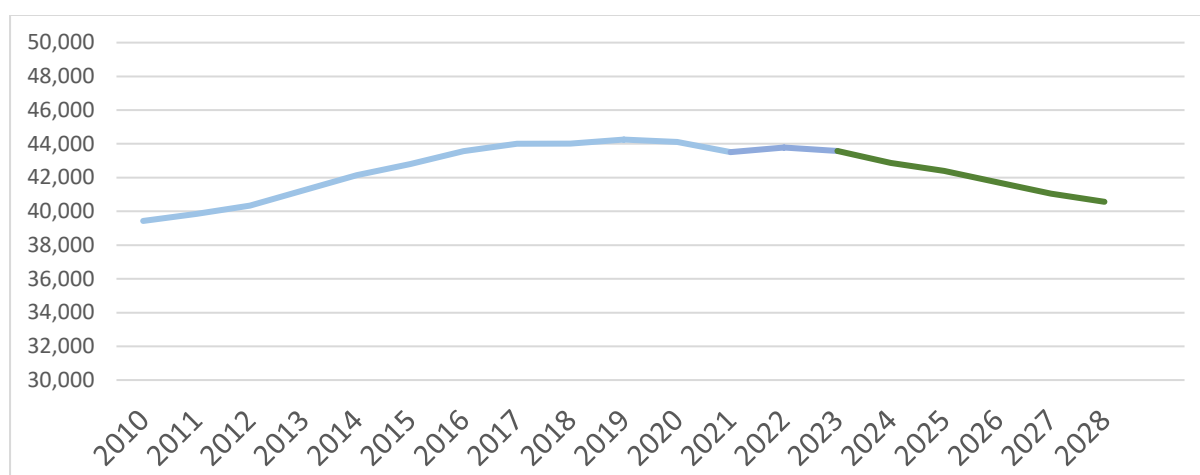


Figure 5 Number of pupils on roll in Worcestershire primary age groups (Reception to Year 6) 2010 – 2023, with forecast numbers on roll 2024-2028



Conversely, the numbers on roll in first and primary schools are falling, as shown in figure 5 above. This is a national demographic trend, though it is offset by large numbers of new housing developments in specific areas, which are discussed later in the report. Housing developments of a reasonably large scale, with 2 or more bedrooms per dwelling, tend to attract young families, where we can predict an additional 5 pupils per year group per year per 100 dwellings.

The county is mostly rural with thinly spread population and 82 primary or first schools classed as small⁴ or rural. Two (2) first or primary schools have fewer than 30 pupils on roll and a further four (4) have fewer than 50 pupils.⁵ Much of the mainstream school population is concentrated in the urban areas around Worcester (19%) and Redditch (15%) and to a lesser extent, Bromsgrove and Kidderminster (both 9% of the total county).

Post-16 numbers in schools have fluctuated over the past 7 years, peaking in Autumn 2021. However, since 2014, secondary school pupil numbers have been increasing.

Migration

During the 2023/2024 academic year, an additional 520 school-aged pupils arrived in Worcestershire and applied for a mainstream state funded school place where their originating country was known to be outside Europe.

Of these pupils, 24 came from Afghanistan. 13 pupils arrived from Ukraine, fewer than the previous year's 96. 123 pupils arrived from India, mostly admitted to schools in Worcester with 20 allocated places in Redditch. 110 pupils arrived from Zimbabwe,

⁴ Schools with 100 pupils or fewer – DfE March 2019 research brief and The National Association of Small Schools

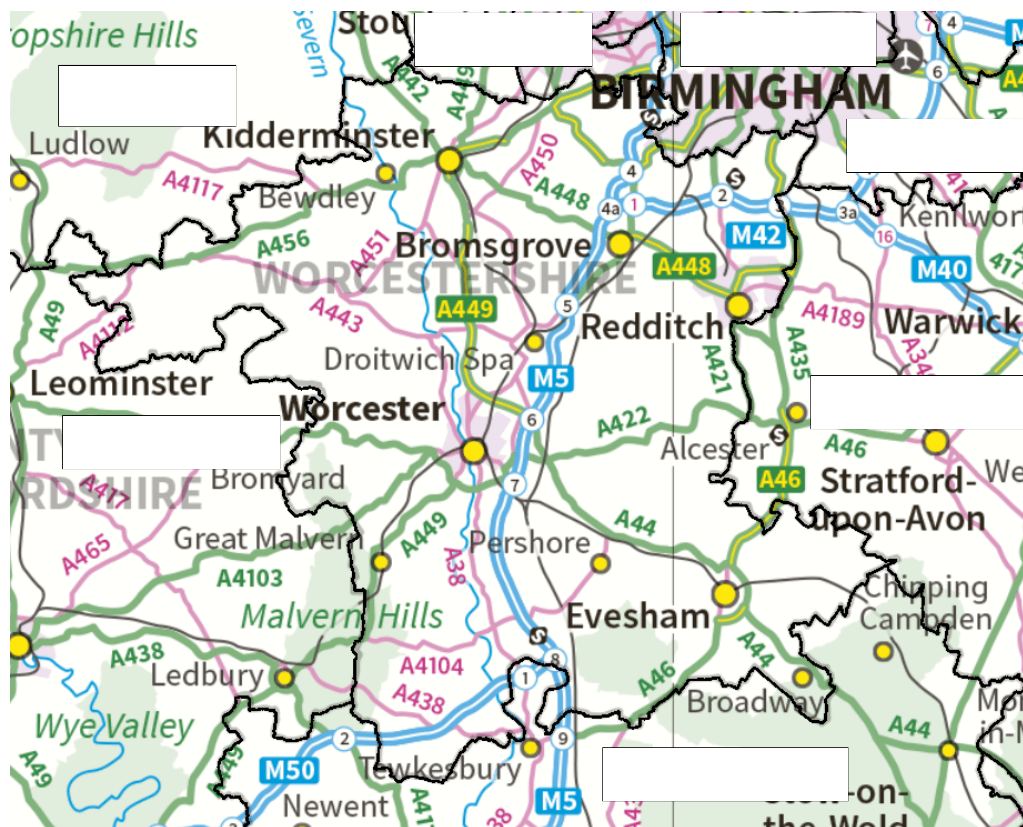
⁵ Total Number on Roll from October 2024 school census

spread throughout the county but with more than 10 in each of Worcester, Evesham and Bromsgrove. There were also 96 pupils from Nigeria of which 54 were allocated places in Worcester. 47 pupils from the Middle East (Syria to the Gulf States) similarly included 11 who were admitted to schools in Worcester North.

Cross-border Admissions

These tables show migration between local authorities. Worcestershire has several county neighbours including Warwickshire, Birmingham and Dudley which have the most pupils commuting to and from Worcestershire for their school provision. More details concerning the most significant cross-border pupil flows are provided by planning area later in this report.

Map 2 Worcestershire's neighbouring Local Authorities



Primary cross-border migration:

The net direction of travel for these authorities and age groups is into Worcestershire:

Table 6 Cross border home to primary school commuting – 2022 – Net importers

From LA	To LA	Pupils	Relevant EPA
Birmingham	Worcestershire	499	Rubery/Wythall
Worcestershire	Birmingham	318	Rubery/Wythall
Dudley	Worcestershire	159	Hagley
Worcestershire	Dudley	102	Hagley

The net direction of travel for these authorities and age groups is away from Worcestershire:

Table 7 Cross border home to primary school commuting – 2022 – Net exporters

From LA	To LA	Pupils	Relevant EPA
Solihull	Worcestershire	27	Wythall
Worcestershire	Solihull	230	Wythall
Warwickshire	Worcestershire	105	Redditch E
Worcestershire	Warwickshire	509	Redditch E/Evesham E
Gloucestershire	Worcestershire	157	Upton
Worcestershire	Gloucestershire	177	Evesham S
Herefordshire	Worcestershire	127	Malvern N
Worcestershire	Herefordshire	149	Malvern S

The cross-border travel for these authorities and age groups are evenly matched.

Table 8 Cross border home to primary school commuting – 2022 – Reciprocal exchange

From LA	To LA	Pupils	EPA attending
Gloucestershire	Worcestershire	157	Upton
Worcestershire	Gloucestershire	177	Evesham S
Herefordshire	Worcestershire	127	Malvern N
Worcestershire	Herefordshire	149	Malvern S
Shropshire	Worcestershire	82	Bewdley
Worcestershire	Shropshire	79	Tenbury
Staffordshire	Worcestershire	17	Kidderminster N
Worcestershire	Staffordshire	17	Kidderminster N

Secondary cross-border migration:

The net direction of travel for these authorities and age groups is into Worcestershire.

Table 9 Cross border home to secondary school migration – 2022 – Net importers

From LA	To LA	Pupils	EPA attending
Birmingham	Worcestershire	812	Rubery / Wythall
Worcestershire	Birmingham	307	Rubery / Wythall
Dudley	Worcestershire	456	Hagley
Worcestershire	Dudley	45	Hagley
Herefordshire	Worcestershire	273	Malvern S/Martley
Worcestershire	Herefordshire	48	Malvern S
Shropshire	Worcestershire	153	Tenbury
Worcestershire	Shropshire	117	Bewdley

The net direction of travel for these authorities and age groups is away from Worcestershire:

Table 10 Cross border home to secondary school migration – 2022 – Net exporters

From LA	To LA	Pupils	EPA attending
Warwickshire	Worcestershire	75	Redditch E/Evesham E
Worcestershire	Warwickshire	1055	Redditch E
Gloucestershire	Worcestershire	117	Upton
Worcestershire	Gloucestershire	358	Evesham S
Staffordshire	Worcestershire	21	Kidderminster N
Worcestershire	Staffordshire	42	Kidderminster N

The cross-border travel for these authorities and age group is evenly matched.

Table 11 Cross border home to secondary school migration – 2022 – Reciprocal exchange

From LA	To LA	Pupils	EPA attending
Solihull	Worcestershire	62	Wythall
Worcestershire	Solihull	66	Wythall

Housing

New housing developments will also have an impact on demand for provision, as evidence shows that new housing yields additional pre-school age and school age children. Worcestershire continues to see a significant level of new housing either being built or planned as the popularity of the county grows. The sufficiency assessments in this report take account of the 5-year land supplies of the six District Councils in Worcestershire (specific sites listed for housing development over a five-year period 2024-2028) but developers can bring forward other sites outside these plans and these can add extra pressure on places, particularly in villages with already popular small schools

The DfE provides guidance on the securing of contributions from housing developers to fund additional education infrastructure to mitigate the impact of housing developments⁶. Worcestershire County Council's [Education Planning Obligations Policy](#)⁷ ('section 106 policy'), which is approved by Cabinet, details how required contributions are calculated for early years, mainstream school, SEND and post-16 provision needs. Contributions can be spent on enhancing provision at existing settings, or where the impact of very large developments is of a scale to warrant it, the creation of new establishments.

⁶ [Securing developer contributions for education](#)

⁷ [Education Planning Obligations | Worcestershire County Council](#)

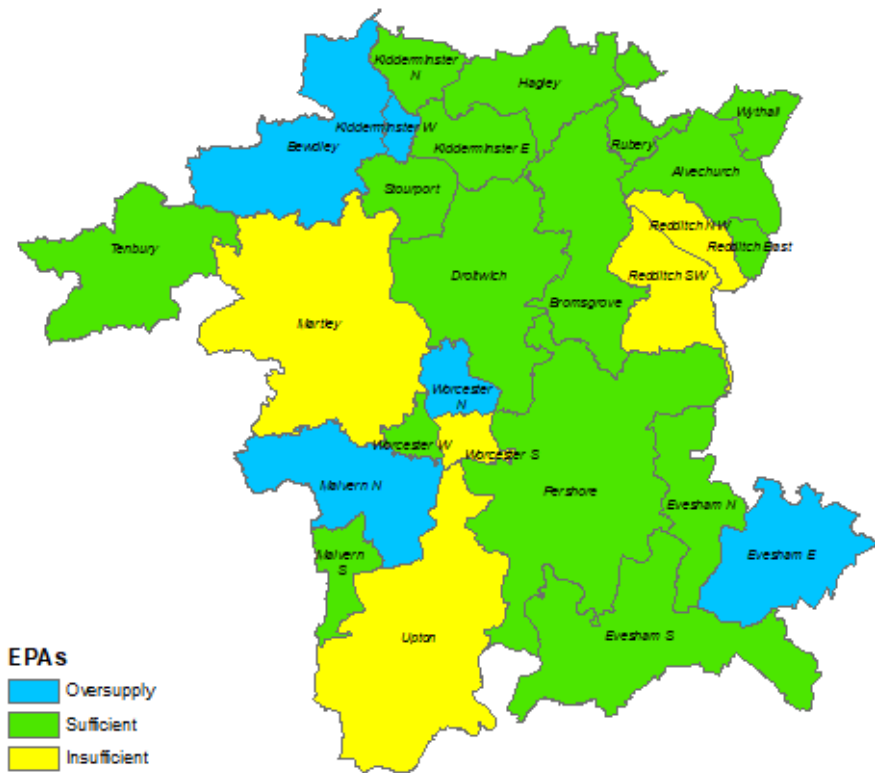
Overview of current assessment of sufficiency

Mainstream school provision across Worcestershire is currently sufficient overall for the period 2024 - 2027.

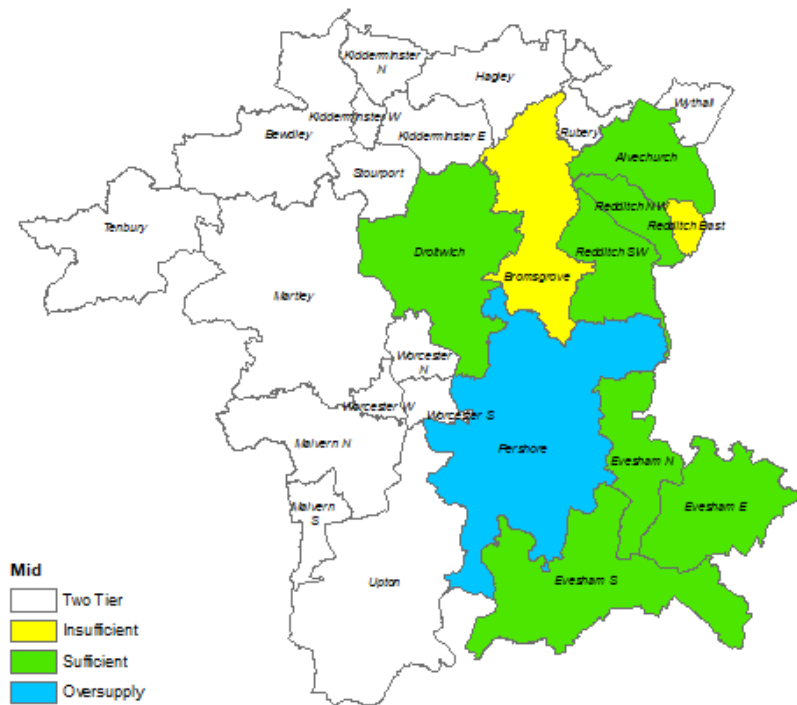
Figures 12 to 95 detail the sufficiency assessment of mainstream school provision (Reception to Year 11) for the periods 2024 to 2027.

- First and Primary phase provision is forecast to be sufficient in 16 of the 26 EPA sub-divisions across the county. There is forecast to be insufficient provision in 5 areas, and oversupply in 5 areas.
- Middle phase provision is forecast to be sufficient in 7 of 10 EPA sub-divisions across the county. There is forecast to be insufficient provision in 2 areas, and oversupply in 1 area.
- High & secondary phase provision is forecast to be sufficient in 12 of 14 EPA sub-divisions across the county. There is forecast to be insufficient provision in the remaining 2 areas
- 89% of schools are rated as 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, compared to 84% in 2023.
- 98.4% of Primary school children received an offer from one of their three preferences for September 2023 - this increased from September 2022 for Primary (97.9%), which was close to the 2023 England average of 98.6%.
- There was also a small increase in the percentage of children applying for a Secondary school place receiving an offer from one of their three preferences: 95.0% for September 2023 compared to 94.2% for September 2022. The national average for 2023 was 96.0%.

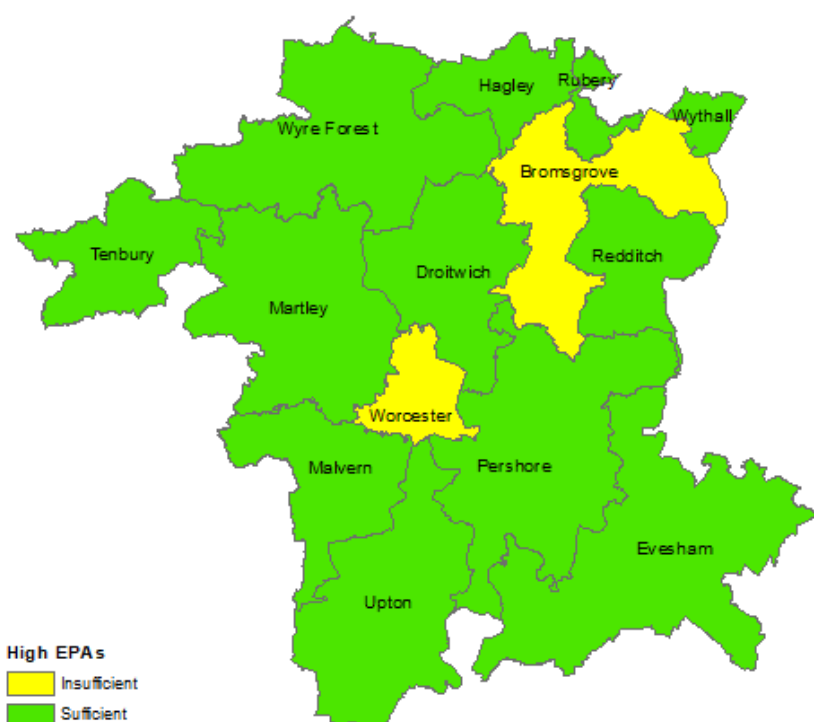
Map 3 Sufficiency of First & Primary EPAs



Map 4 Sufficiency of Middle EPAs



Map 5 Sufficiency of High & Secondary EPAs



Forecasting methodology

The forecast for each EPA takes into account demographic growth in each area, new housing developments, average pupil transfer rates and pupil migration patterns. The forecasting data used for the 2024 Mainstream school age sufficiency report includes GP registrations from September 2023, the October 2023 school census and the 2023 Five Year Land Supply Reports from each district council within Worcestershire. The forecast number of pupils generated from new housing is not as predictable as demographic growth and therefore greater care is taken when considering these forecasts. In a longitudinal study of several Worcestershire housing developments over 10 years, it was discovered that the pupil yield is higher for primary school aged pupils than for secondary school aged students, though the impact for secondary schools is much later. The yield calculations used by WCC are in line with the findings for Worcestershire from DfE's 2023 analysis of pupil yield factors for each local authority in England, using data from housing developments from 2008 to 2022⁸.

Pupil place forecasting and school capacity data is provided to the DfE via the national SCAP survey (<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/statistics-school-capacity>).

For further information on school place forecasting in Worcestershire please visit [School statistics and data collection | Worcestershire County Council](#), where there is a countywide forecast report which is refreshed in March each year – the current report is for 2024 and beyond using the 2023 data in this report.

⁸ [Pupil Yield Data Dashboard](#)

Forecasting accuracy

The DfE groups local authorities into statistical neighbours where scale, demographics and population density are similar and where we may therefore expect education statistics such as forecasting accuracy to be similar. Figure 11 compares forecasts of pupil numbers for 1 year ahead and 3 years ahead at primary and secondary school levels with the actual pupil numbers in these later years, including the statistical neighbours for Worcestershire.

Worcestershire ranks 4th place for 1 year ahead for Primary, first place for Secondary, then 10th for 3 years ahead for Primary and 8th places for Secondary which suggests that there is a pattern of some over-forecasting mainstream school place demand further than 1 year ahead, but that this can be improved upon. We will continue to refine the forecast methodology this year to reduce this trend.

Figure 12 Forecasting Accuracy by local authority – source DfE scorecards 2023

Local Authority	Primary				Secondary			
	1 year %	1 year Rank	3 year %	3 year Rank	1 year %	1 year Rank	3 year %	3 year Rank
East Sussex	0.1	1	-1.4	6	1.5	9	1.4	4
West Sussex	1.2	9	0	2	1.6	10	3.9	9
Leicestershire	0.3	6	3.4	9	0.8	4	5.6	10
Dorset	0.2	3	-0.6	4	0.6	3	-0.3	2
Gloucestershire	-1.5	10	-3.0	8	0.8	6	-0.5	3
Warwickshire	2.0	11	3.7	11	3.3	11	7.0	11
Essex	0.2	5	0.1	3	1.3	8	2.1	7
Hampshire	0.2	2	-0.4	2	-0.4	2	-1.9	6
Kent	-0.3	7	-2.0	7	0.8	5	0.1	1
Worcestershire	0.2	4	3.6	10	0.4	1	3.5	8
Staffordshire	-0.8	8	0	1	1.0	7	1.9	5

In general, the WCC forecasts have overestimated the pupil numbers for reception school places by 1% when forecasting for the following year and by 4% when forecasting 3 years ahead. The accuracy of the forecasts is greater when forecasting for middle and secondary school places; this can be expected as pupils are usually already in attendance at feeder first or primary schools.

It takes approximately two years to consult, design and build additional capacity into mainstream schools, therefore any decision made to change the size or structure of a school is based on an average 98% accuracy of actual requirements for places. When forecasting three years into the future, this accuracy is within 96% for each phase of primary, middle and secondary schools. This means we are able to plan to within a 95% confidence the place requirements of all our mainstream schools over the next four years.

However, several of Worcestershire's statistical neighbours have been more accurate than this. In 2022 we amended the forecast methodology to eliminate any double counting of additional pupils from housing growth, and we also increased the number of planning areas to help improve accuracy of forecasting at a planning area level. Next

year we are refining the forecasting of additional pupils from housing growth to reflect the yield rates used in our s106 policy and which are borne out by evidence from local housing developments.

For each EPA, WCC historically aimed to remain within 95% accuracy or 0.5 Forms of Entry (FE) (15 places) for each intake point, whichever is greater.

For reception intake, this was not achieved in every year over the last five years in 11 out of the previous total of 16 planning areas when forecasting two years ahead. As some larger housing developments completed, the method used at the time overestimated forecasts in Droitwich, Pershore, Evesham and Upton. In Martley, actual numbers of pupils have varied by up to 20% year on year, strongly influenced by applications from pupils from other planning areas. The county border planning areas, Hagley, Wythall and Rubery, saw numbers over those forecast based on significant demand for places from out of county pupils, but there are sufficient places for in-area pupils. In Bewdley, Bromsgrove and Stourport, reception growth rates from known 3-year-olds reduced more quickly than expected at different points over the last 5 years.

Forecasts for middle school intake for all three-tier planning areas were accurate within the 95% accuracy or 0.5 Forms of Entry (FE) (15 places) margin over the last five years.

For high schools, the expected accuracy was achieved in 5 of the previous 16 planning areas over the last five years. In Pershore in 2021 the intake was unusually low, contributing to an over-forecast in this planning area. Despite higher numbers in year 6 in the previous year, the 2021 intake in Stourport was also low. There was a drop in transfer rates to year 9 in Evesham from 2019, which was not long after Honeybourne Primary Academy changed its age range to add year 6. This resulted in over-forecasts which have since improved. There was a one-off drop in transfer rates to year 7 in Droitwich in 2022. There were under-forecasts in Bromsgrove and Malvern from 2018 which have since improved.

Tenbury High, a solo rural high school, was under-forecast but on two occasions admitted more out-of-county pupils than expected. Conversely Wythall, Hagley, Upton and Rubery, were over-forecast on the basis of out-of-county demand, which does not require extra capacity. When out-of-area demand is not likely to increase capacity, the methodology for forecasting is now to cap the forecast at the Published Admission Number (PAN)⁹.

The annual School Capacity Survey (SCAP) submits to the DfE information on;

- the numbers of primary and secondary state-funded school places in mainstream schools
- Unfilled school places and pupils in places that exceed their school's capacity
- Sixth form capacity
- Local authorities' forecast pupil numbers (for the next 5 academic years for primary and 7 years for secondary)
- Local authorities' planned changes to school places for the next three academic years
- specialist provision capacity.

⁹ Published Admission Number (PAN) is the number of pupils in each year group that the admission authority has agreed will be admitted without causing problems for the school

School capacity in this survey is a reasonable measure of the number of pupils a school could teach (calculated based on their buildings and how their accommodation is organised) rather than the PAN. It is used by the DfE to estimate the number of school places needed to meet predicted demand.

The number of primary pupils in Worcestershire LA has grown by 11.3% since 2010, the number of secondary pupils by 2.1%.

Across the county there are forecast to be 15% spare primary places and 12% spare secondary places in 2024/25. Since pupils can be expected to travel only so far to their school it is possible to have both a basic need for more places in one location and spare places in another nearby.

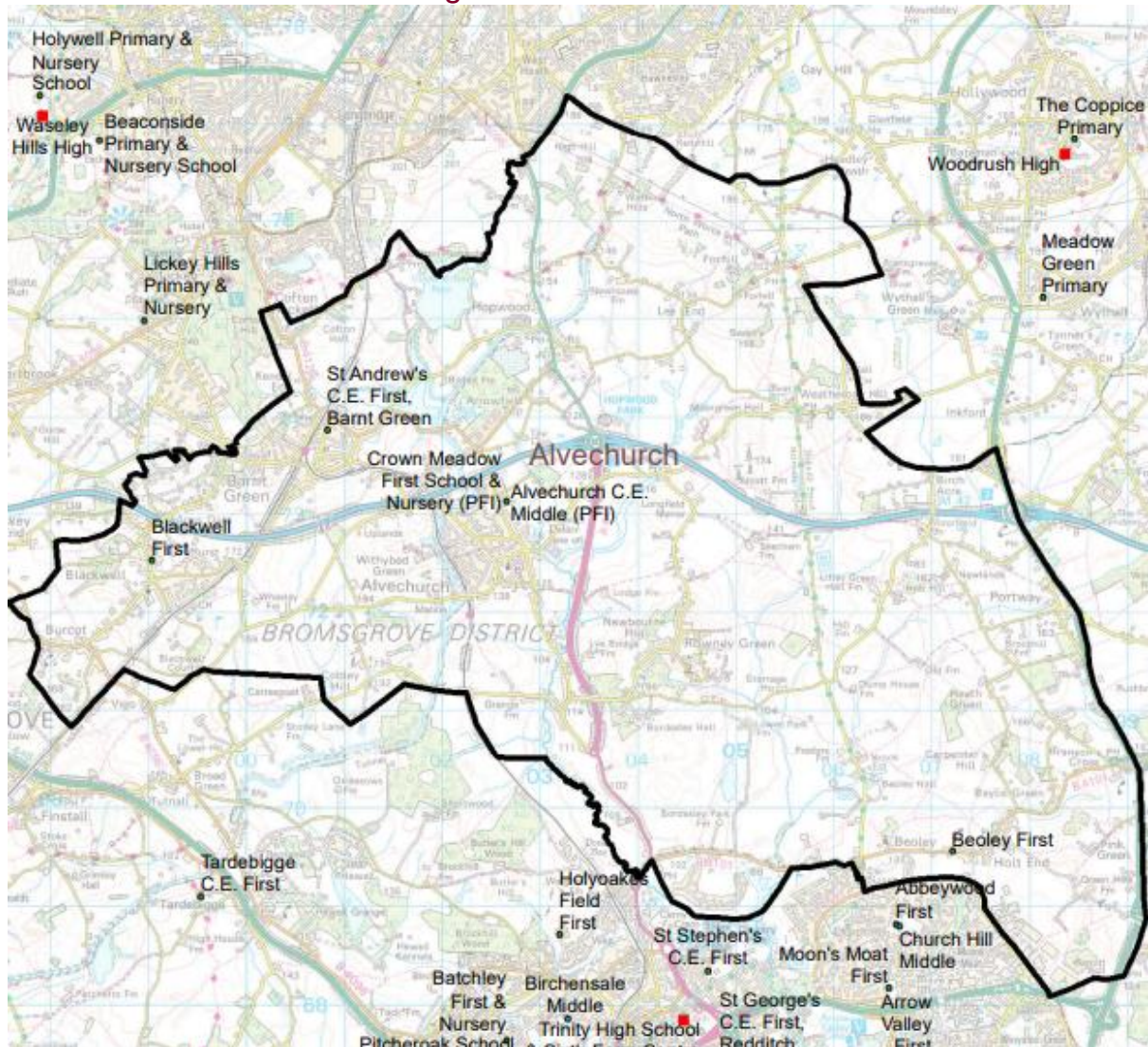
Basic Need relates to the Council's legal responsibility to provide sufficient school places for children and young people in their local areas – the DfE allocates funding annually to local authorities to create the new places they have demonstrated will be required to meet needs in their areas.

Worcestershire LA forecasts that an additional 645 primary places and 468 secondary places are required for the academic year 2025/26. After abatement from already allocated funds, this results in a basic need funding allocation of £4.1m for 2025/26.

Bromsgrove District

The district of Bromsgrove has 5 Education Planning Areas (EPAs), with Bromsgrove itself having the largest number of schools and pupils. Bromsgrove and Alvechurch are 3 tier, with Alvechurch middle feeding into one combined Bromsgrove High EPA. Hagley, Rubery and Wythall are all 2 tier EPAs.

Alvechurch Education Planning Area



2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Alvechurch EPA, with one school deemed as 'Outstanding' and the rest deemed as 'Good'.

This is a large area of mainly greenbelt between Birmingham, Bromsgrove and Redditch. Birth rates are falling. There are no large housing developments approved in this area.

Alvechurch – First

First school places are forecast to be sufficient in Alvechurch First EPA

There are few schools, but they are all popular and admit many pupils from outside the catchments. Over 5 years, there were on average 4 pupils per year attending Blackwell First School and 15 attending St Andrew's CofE First School, Barnt Green from the Lickey Hills Primary catchment.

Beoley First School is just outside Redditch and typically admits an average of 13 pupils from Redditch per year, two-thirds of its PAN. The Redditch pupils usually go on to attend Redditch middle and High schools.

Numbers on roll are high but are forecast to decrease over time. As many pupils on the roll of schools within the Alvechurch EPA continue to apply from outside of area there are no forecast sufficiency issues.

Figure 13 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Alvechurch First EPA

PAN 155	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	154	154	155	153	150
Oct-19	155	156	155	153	156
Oct-20	154	154	152	153	153
Oct-21	154	154	151	146	154
Oct-22	155	154	154	150	149
Oct-23	146	155	155	149	154
Oct-24	152	146	154	152	151
Oct-25	138	152	145	151	154
Oct-26	138	138	151	142	153
Oct-27	125	138	137	148	144

* Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Alvechurch – Middle

Middle school places are forecast to be sufficient in Alvechurch EPA

There is one middle school within the Alvechurch Education Planning Area, Alvechurch CE Middle School. The Middle School feeds into both North and South Bromsgrove High schools, which are in the Bromsgrove EPA.

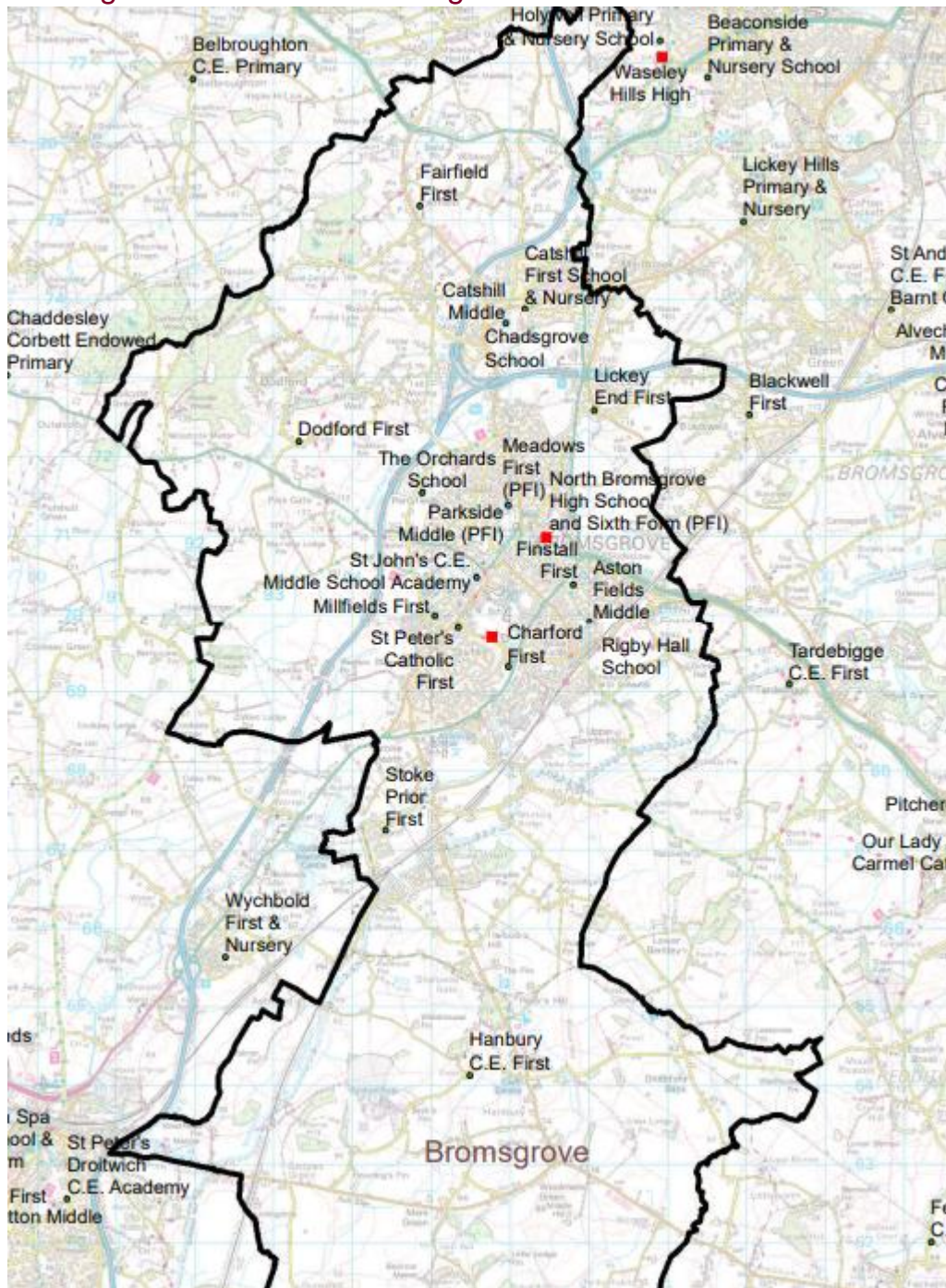
The middle school attracts pupils from its feeder schools which include some pupils from outside the area. The total numbers of known children are less than its PAN of 110, therefore the school has sufficient provision. Since few pupils currently travel from Bromsgrove to Alvechurch, the provision of additional places in Alvechurch is unlikely to mitigate demand pressure in Bromsgrove.

Figure 14 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Alvechurch Middle EPA

PAN 110	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
Oct-18	110	113	101	103
Oct-19	114	111	107	107
Oct-20	111	110	104	109
Oct-21	115	110	105	102
Oct-22	112	115	111	103
Oct-23	110	111	110	109
Oct-24	114	109	107	110
Oct-25	112	113	105	107
Oct-26	114	111	108	105
Oct-27	113	113	106	109
Oct-28	107	113	109	107
Oct-29	111	106	108	109
Oct-30	101	111	102	109
Oct-31	114	109	107	110

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Bromsgrove Education Planning Area



The Bromsgrove Education Planning Area is made up of the town of Bromsgrove and the surrounding rural areas. The majority of the area sits within Bromsgrove District Council but also covers a small area of Wychavon. The planning area is served by twelve (12) First Schools (Years R-4), four (4) Middle Schools (Years 5-8) and two (2) High Schools with Sixth Forms (Years 9-13).

9% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Bromsgrove EPA, with 26% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', with a further 61% deemed as 'Good'.

Bromsgrove – First

First school places are forecast to be sufficient in Bromsgrove First EPA up to 2027, however major new housing will require additional school places in the longer term.

There are high numbers of pupils living in the town of Bromsgrove and a strong parental preference for those living in the town to attend schools outside the town. Birth rates have started to decrease after having been stable over the last 5 years.

Figure 15 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Bromsgrove First EPA

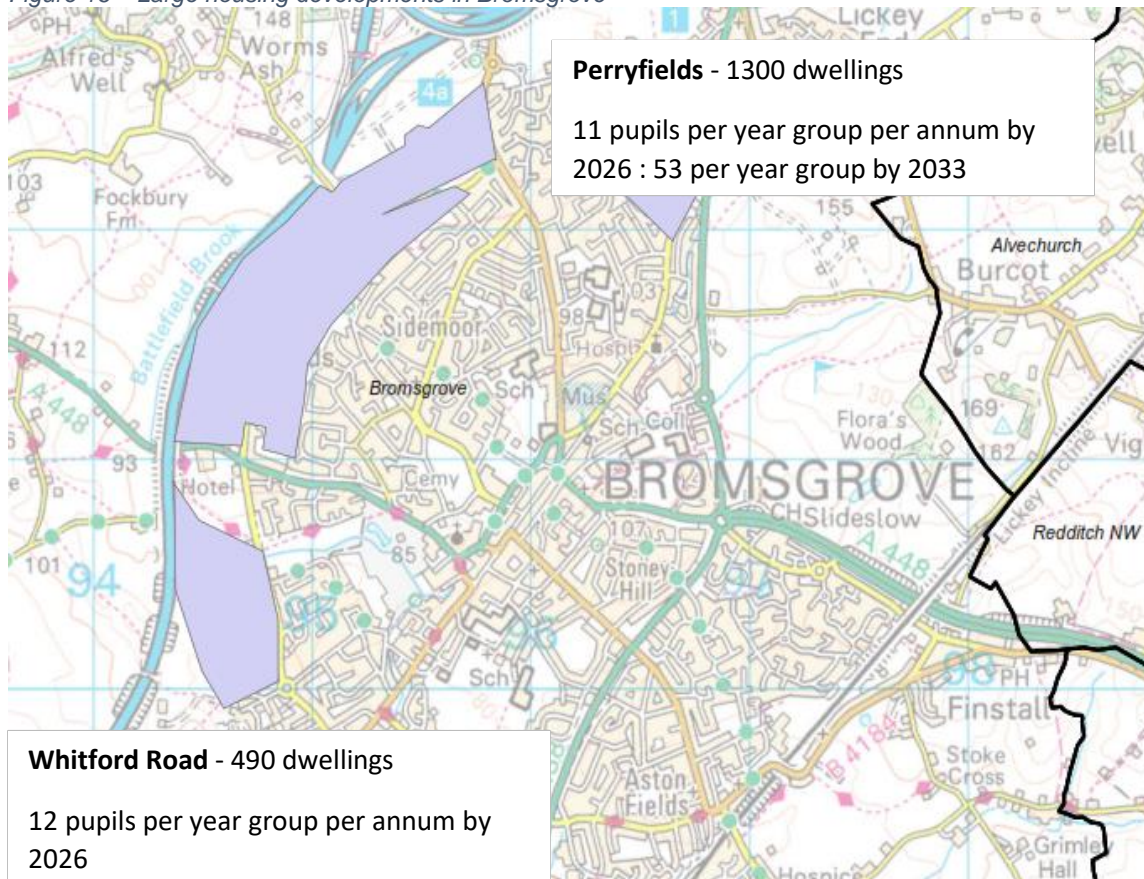
PAN 585	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	528	549	579	541	555
Oct-19	561	535	559	580	544
Oct-20	555	557	530	552	583
Oct-21	543	557	561	526	541
Oct-22	540	558	569	563	533
Oct-23	501	542	553	563	556
Oct-24	538	505	545	550	562
Oct-25	522	546	511	546	553
Oct-26	522	530	554	513	549
Oct-27	483	528	536	553	515

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

There are two major housing developments in Western Bromsgrove on Perryfields Road and Whitford Road, totalling circa 1790 new homes. The legal agreement detailing the contributions required from the developer ('Section 106 Agreement') was signed for Perryfields on 12th July 2021 to include a new 2 form entry First School with nursery. The building of houses has begun with the social housing being built out first. Completions of the first open market homes began in Autumn 2024.

Figure 16 – Large housing developments in Bromsgrove



Based on the latest construction timetable information supplied to WCC, 1,790 new dwellings are expected to yield an additional 87 pupils per First School year group in total, 23 (1 form of entry or FE) of these by 2026 and 55 (2FE) of these by 2029.

The existing schools within 2 miles of the housing developments can accommodate the additional forecast pupils per year group until 2029, when additional first school and nursery places will be required.

Figure 17 - Forecast demand for Reception places in Bromsgrove Town 2023 – 2033

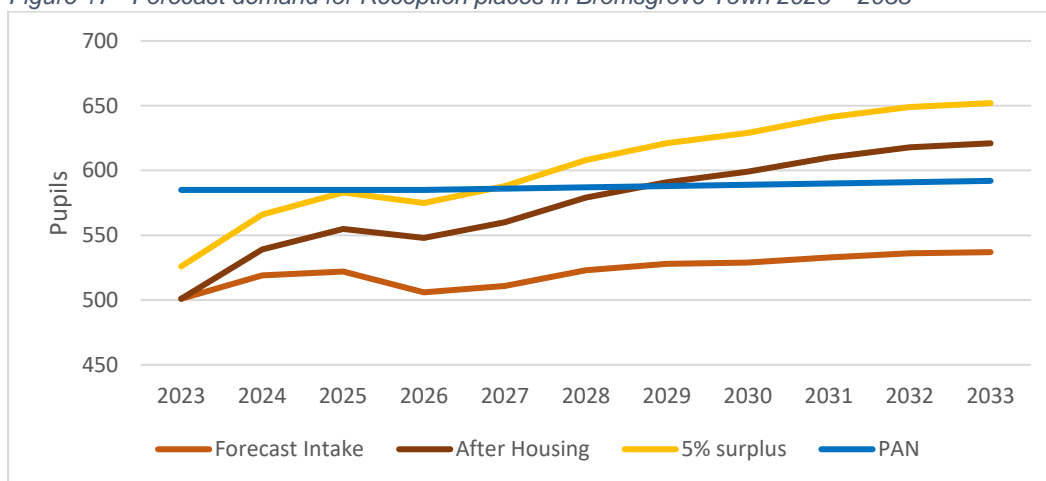


Figure 17 shows a forecast for the Bromsgrove EPA including expected impacts from housing up to 2033.

WCC aims to deliver additional first school provision alongside the build-out of the Perryfields and Whitford Road developments, to ensure the sufficiency of provision and to ensure other local schools are not adversely affected.

The PAN of the schools in figure 17 does not include the planned additional Perryfields first school places.

Bromsgrove – Middle

Middle school places are forecast to be insufficient in Bromsgrove Middle EPA

Figure 18 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Bromsgrove Middle EPA

PAN 570	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
Oct-18	533	543	528	486
Oct-19	566	542	551	522
Oct-20	543	568	539	550
Oct-21	606	545	559	533
Oct-22	564	610	544	554
Oct-23	530	572	603	538
Oct-24	566	535	570	598
Oct-25	576	575	536	568
Oct-26	567	586	577	535
Oct-27	562	575	586	574
Oct-28	529	572	578	585
Oct-29	569	535	570	573
Oct-30	549	575	534	566
Oct-31	545	555	573	530

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN. Total EPA PAN changes by year according to St John's CE Middle School operating PAN.

The middle schools in Bromsgrove were nearly full in October 2023. In addition, there are predicted to be more pupils arising from the new housing to the west of the town.

Figure 19– Current and forecast number on roll in year 5 at Bromsgrove Middle Schools 2023-2027

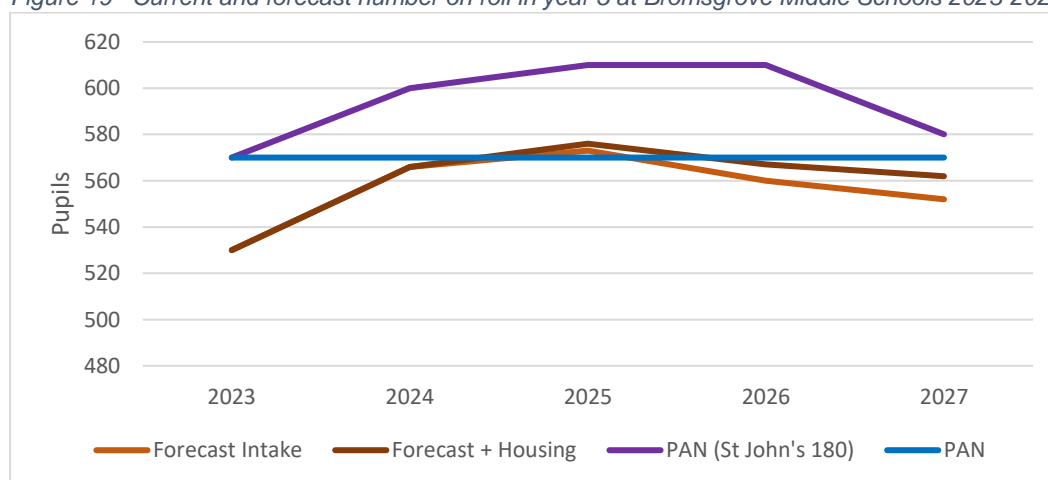


Figure 19 shows the forecast number of pupils requiring a Year 5 place in Bromsgrove Middle Schools. The total PAN for Year 5 in Bromsgrove is 570 and by 2025 the forecast number of pupils, including additional pupils expected from new housing who will require a Year 5 place is expected to exceed this. St John's Middle School has taken 1FE (30 pupils) over its PAN of 150 for 3 of the past 4 years but is unable to increase to 180 every year. If St John's Middle School can take up to 180 pupils in September 2025 and September 2026 then the demand will not exceed the operational capacity of the EPA of 600. If St John's Middle School takes 3 consecutive intakes of 180 it would be forced to return to its PAN of 150 in the following year. Therefore, considering the overall demand at year 5 in 2027 is below 570, a return to PAN in 2027 would allow freedom to extend to 180 in a high demand year later. Forecasts currently suggest 2029 and 2030 could be high demand years influenced by housing in Perryfields.

Bromsgrove – High

High school places are forecast to be insufficient in Bromsgrove High EPA

Figure 20 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Bromsgrove High EPA

PAN 635	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	587	608	558	190	213
Oct-19	586	569	597	243	180
Oct-20	602	577	565	259	230
Oct-21	611	597	576	266	246
Oct-22	615	598	589	305	253
Oct-23	655	600	594	272	284
Oct-24	627	642	594	277	257
Oct-25	689	618	639	279	265
Oct-26	658	680	616	300	268
Oct-27	623	647	676	288	286
Oct-28	667	616	647	318	278
Oct-29	671	655	611	302	301
Oct-30	662	658	649	285	286
Oct-31	655	650	653	303	271

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

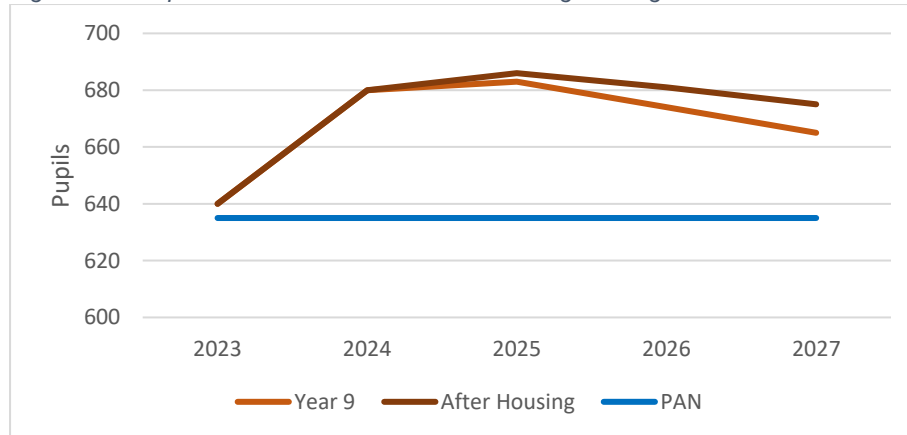
The high schools in Bromsgrove are likely to be full or nearly full for the next few years, the combined PAN of both Bromsgrove High schools had insufficient Year 9 places for September 2023 and September 2024 and based on current forecasts of pupils in middle schools, demand will continue to increase to a peak of 689 forecast Year 9 places for September 2025.

There are on average 52 pupils of middle school age per year living in catchments feeding into North and South Bromsgrove High schools but attending schools elsewhere, including alternative provision and special schools - few of these pupils are likely to attend Bromsgrove High Schools. Conversely there are on average 53 pupils per year living outside Bromsgrove catchments but attending Bromsgrove and Alvechurch middle schools. These are likely to apply to Bromsgrove high schools and some are likely to be offered places despite the high demand for Bromsgrove High School places due to many

parents across both catchment areas applying to South Bromsgrove High as a first preference. Any pupils from outside either catchment will therefore be allocated places at North Bromsgrove High should they apply here.

Figure 21 shows that forecast year 9 pupils in Bromsgrove are higher than the combined PAN of both high schools.

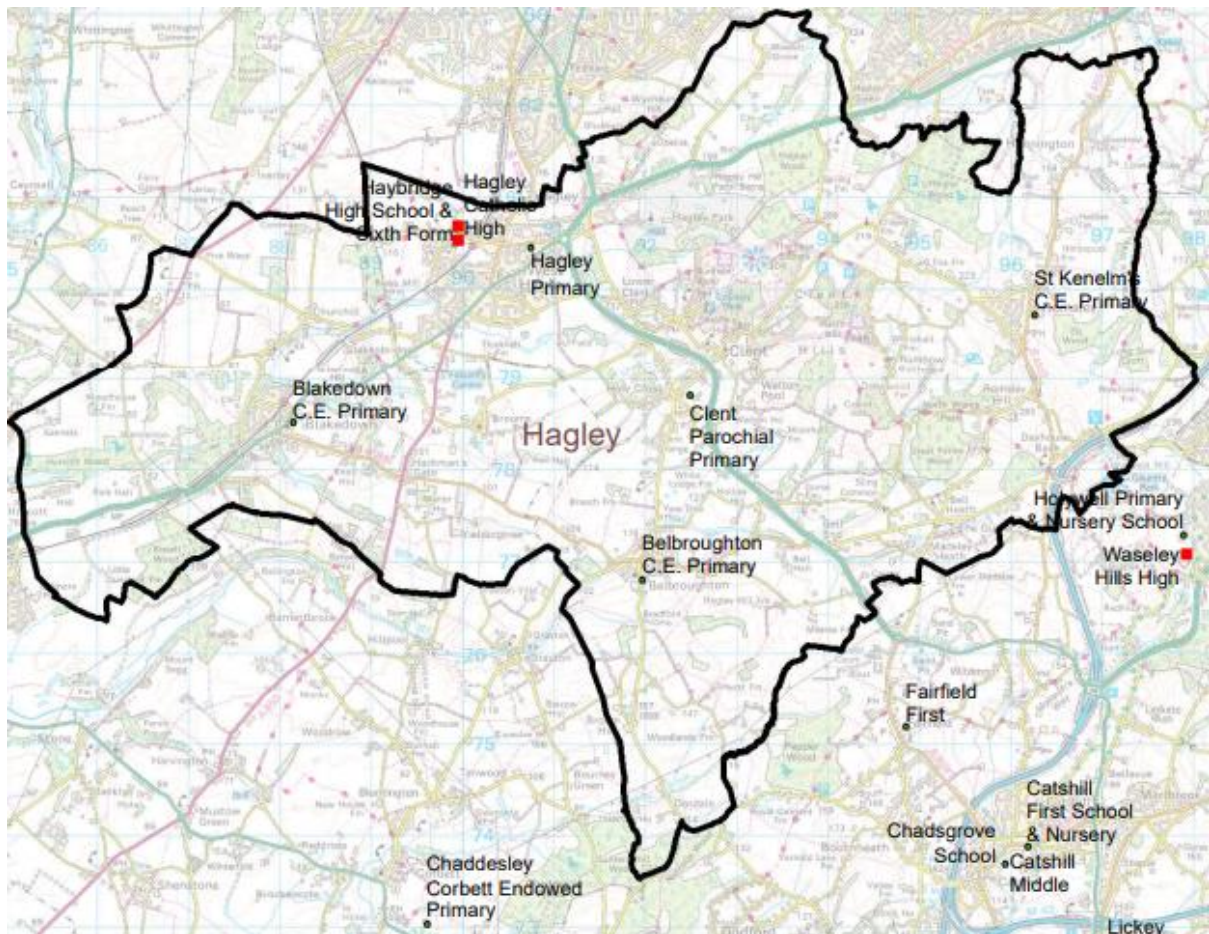
Figure 21 – Pupil Forecast for North & South Bromsgrove High 2023-2027



1. The LA is working with the high schools in Bromsgrove to identify options to create additional places for 2025 onwards. Feasibility studies for expansion of North Bromsgrove High and South Bromsgrove High have been completed by BAM as both schools are PFI schools. Further work is being undertaken to review options to increase places at North Bromsgrove High School.

2. Both High Schools have agreed to offer places over PAN for September 2025, however this is not likely to be sufficient to accommodate all the pupils who have requested a Year 9 place at either school for September 2025. The alternative will be to offer Year 9 places at the next nearest school(s) with available places and Home to School Transport where pupils qualify.

Hagley Education Planning Area



The Hagley Education Planning Area covers the area to the northeast of the county around the village of Hagley. The majority of the area sits within the Bromsgrove District Council but also covers a small area of the Wyre Forest. The planning area is served by five Primary Schools (Years R-6), and two Secondary Schools (Years 7-13).

Hagley – Primary

Primary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Hagley Primary EPA

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Hagley EPA, with all the schools deemed as 'Good'.

Birth rates were stable up to a drop in 2023, though there were additional children from housing in 2020-2021. There are 2 small developments of 160 dwellings in total leading to an expected additional 7 pupils per year group of primary school age by 2026.

On average, 22% of the pupils at Hagley Primary School come from outside Hagley Primary School's catchment, eleven (11) per year group come from Dudley LA and others from Kidderminster. Though frequently oversubscribed, Hagley Primary EPA is forecast to have sufficient places for known Worcestershire children in the planning area

over the next 4 years. Belbroughton Primary School takes in more than half of its intake from outside catchment including Kidderminster and Bromsgrove.

Figure 22 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Hagley Primary EPA – capped at PAN

PAN 188	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	170	179	190	189	182	172	178
Oct-19	168	175	182	195	195	185	177
Oct-20	185	176	177	183	191	192	187
Oct-21	184	186	179	177	186	191	191
Oct-22	187	186	189	180	181	188	187
Oct-23	176	188	191	191	180	187	187
Oct-24	170	179	188	188	188	182	187
Oct-25	177	174	183	188	188	188	182
Oct-26	186	180	177	184	188	188	188
Oct-27	146	188	184	178	186	188	188

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Hagley – Secondary

Secondary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Hagley Secondary EPA

Hagley Catholic High School provides secondary education for the catholic community for the whole of Wyre Forest and Hagley, though in practice it also admits pupils from Dudley, Sandwell and Birmingham, due to the school’s close proximity to Hagley Railway Station providing good transport links. 20% of pupils are from Wyre Forest District as opposed to Hagley and the majority, 73%, come from outside the county.

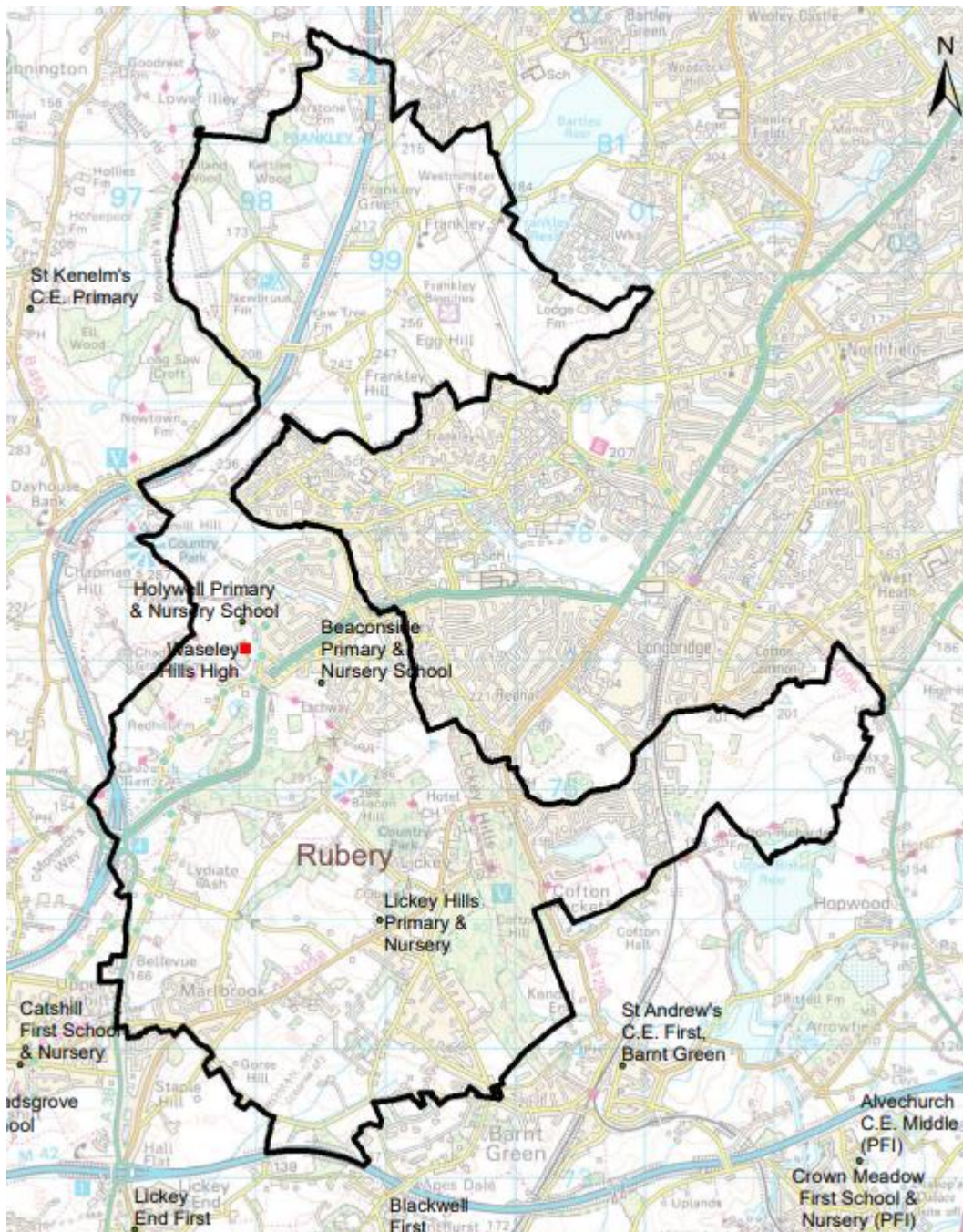
Haybridge High School is forecast to be close to full for the next 5 years, though as 34% of the intake on average comes from outside the county the school is sufficient for Hagley resident pupils. The school chose to increase its PAN from 190 to 210 in September 2023.

Figure 23 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Hagley Secondary EPA

PAN 400	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	380	383	376	329	333	380	383
Oct-19	380	379	378	372	328	380	379
Oct-20	377	379	374	375	370	377	379
Oct-21	359	379	378	365	372	359	379
Oct-22	392	361	373	372	360	392	361
Oct-23	403	399	371	373	372	403	399
Oct-24	389	400	398	367	371	238	213
Oct-25	389	390	400	393	364	237	213
Oct-26	378	391	389	399	391	233	212
Oct-27	400	380	390	385	396	250	209
Oct-28	400	400	379	385	382	254	224
Oct-29	400	400	400	374	383	245	227
Oct-30	391	400	400	400	372	245	219
Oct-31	378	393	400	400	399	238	219

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Rubery Education Planning Area



The Rubery Education Planning Area is made up of the area directly north of Bromsgrove and supports much of the rural areas and villages in the very northeast of Worcestershire. The entirety of the area sits within the Bromsgrove District Council. The planning area is served by three Primary Schools (Years R-6), and one Secondary School.

Rubery - Primary

Primary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Rubery Primary EPA

2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Rubery EPA, with two schools deemed as 'Good'.

On the border with Birmingham, all Rubery schools receive many applications from outside of the county. Many pupils residing in Rubery attend schools in Birmingham, Bromsgrove and Barnt Green.

Lickey Hills Primary School catchment area has numbers of known children greater than the school's PAN. However, on average 23 children per year group choose to attend First Schools in the Alvechurch and Bromsgrove planning areas. These pupils tend to remain in these 3-tier planning areas through to the middle and high phases. Also, on average, 20 children from the catchment area per year attend schools in Birmingham and around 8 Birmingham children per year attend Lickey Hills Primary School.

Figure 24 – Known Children in Rubery EPA Primary School Catchments

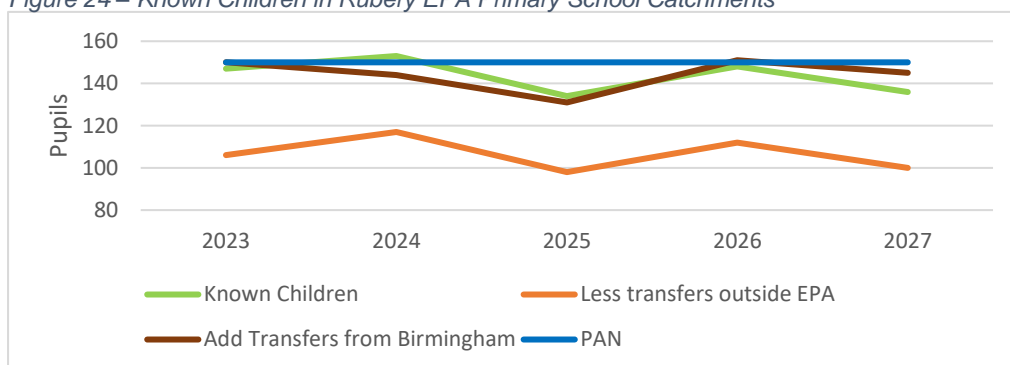


Figure 24 shows that known children numbers in the Rubery Planning Area are above the area's total PAN in 2024. A strong parental preference for Alvechurch and Bromsgrove schools (on average 23 pupils per year group) and Birmingham schools (20 pupils per year group) means that Rubery Primary EPA has sufficient places for the first preference applications from the catchment area. The light brown line on the chart shows the expected numbers of pupils from Rubery catchments. Currently, on average, there are 91 pupils per year group resident in the EPA and 38 resident in Birmingham attending Rubery schools.

Figure 25- Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Rubery Primary EPA

PAN 150	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	150	153	154	141	152	132	140
Oct-19	151	150	155	153	149	140	134
Oct-20	151	145	148	155	150	143	140
Oct-21	155	154	144	151	149	140	135
Oct-22	133	157	146	147	144	142	143
Oct-23	127	132	154	147	143	137	138
Oct-24	144	127	130	155	145	135	136
Oct-25	131	143	125	131	153	137	134
Oct-26	151	130	141	126	129	144	135
Oct-27	145	151	128	142	124	122	143

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

100 dwellings are being built in Cofton Hackett between 2023 and 2025, adjacent to Longbridge in Birmingham. This is expected to yield an additional 5 primary pupils per year group by 2025. However, since this area is urban and near to several Birmingham schools it is unlikely that the additional pupils will change pupil demand in the Rubery Primary EPA.

Rubery – Secondary

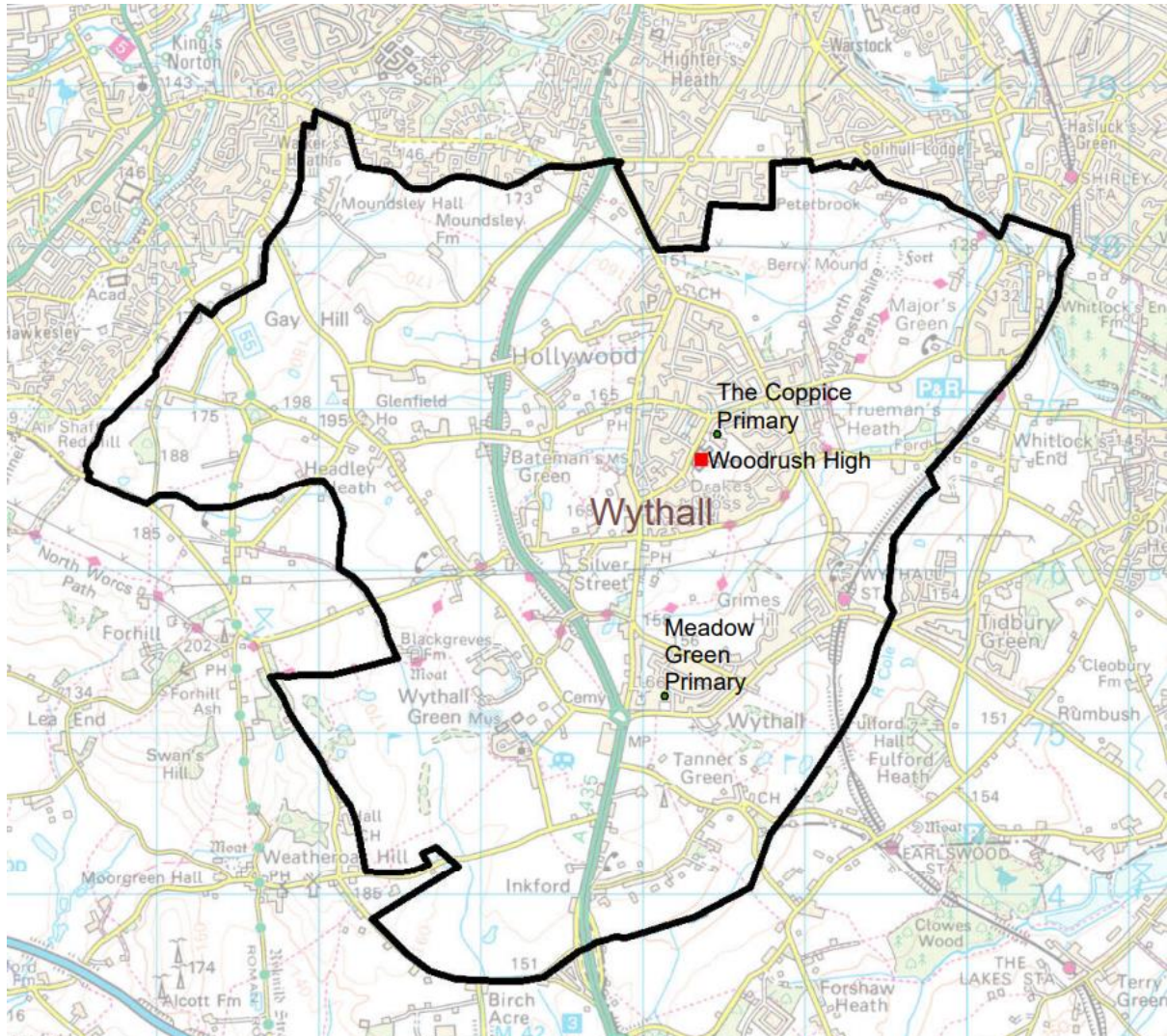
Secondary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Rubery Secondary EPA

The sole secondary school in the Rubery EPA is Waseley Hills High School with a PAN of 178. On average the school takes in all the pupils from feeder primary schools plus another 4%, with significant migration of pupils to and from Birmingham. There are sufficient places for all local pupils.

Figure 26 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Rubery Secondary EPA

PAN 178	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	154	125	126	128	122	154	125
Oct-19	128	151	124	120	126	128	151
Oct-20	148	132	152	117	116	148	132
Oct-21	162	142	129	146	114	162	142
Oct-22	166	157	132	134	142	166	157
Oct-23	134	159	154	116	123	134	159
Oct-24	147	131	155	147	112	33	14
Oct-25	145	144	128	148	142	30	29
Oct-26	143	142	141	122	143	38	26
Oct-27	145	140	139	135	118	38	34
Oct-28	153	142	137	133	130	32	34
Oct-29	129	150	138	131	128	35	28
Oct-30	124	126	146	132	126	34	31
Oct-31	140	121	123	140	127	34	30

Wythall Education Planning Area



The Wythall Education Planning Area is located in the north-east of Worcestershire and is made up of the towns of Hollywood and Wythall and their surrounding rural areas. The area sits entirely within the District Council of Bromsgrove.

The area is served by two Primary Schools (Years R-6), and one Secondary School. In total these schools offer 120 Reception places and 180 Year 7 places for 2024, as well as Sixth Form provision. The area borders urbanised Solihull to the east and Birmingham to the north, each with several primary and secondary schools within walking distance. Tidbury Green Primary and Dickens Heath Primary in Solihull each feed into Woodrush High School and both attract pupils from Wythall EPA. There is also a catholic primary school in Solihull LA, Our Lady of the Wayside, which attracts pupils from Wythall EPA.

Wythall – Primary

Primary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Wythall primary EPA

2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Wythall EPA, with all schools deemed 'Good'.

Known children and reception numbers rose steadily for some years peaking in 2023 but are since dropping. Meadow Green Primary School was permitted by the Official Schools Adjudicator (OSA) to reduce its PAN from 45 to 30 from September 2024.

Figure 27 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Wythall Primary EPA

PAN 120	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	128	127	133	128	136	134	106
Oct-19	120	128	130	134	127	138	139
Oct-20	128	114	126	129	136	127	137
Oct-21	123	131	113	129	127	139	128
Oct-22	118	122	131	116	131	131	137
Oct-23	128	118	125	129	121	133	129
Oct-24	104	127	119	126	130	123	133
Oct-25	100	103	128	119	127	132	123
Oct-26	112	99	104	129	121	129	133
Oct-27	113	112	100	105	130	123	130

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Wythall – Secondary

Secondary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Wythall Secondary EPA

Woodrush High School has 2 feeder schools in the county and 3 more outside. It does not have sufficient capacity for all current Year 6 pupils across all of its feeder schools but does have sufficient capacity for all of the Worcestershire pupils. Over a 5-year average, 40% of the pupils at Woodrush High School (Years 7-11) are resident outside the county and 22% of Wythall resident pupils attend schools outside the county.

Figure 28 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Wythall Secondary EPA – capped at PAN

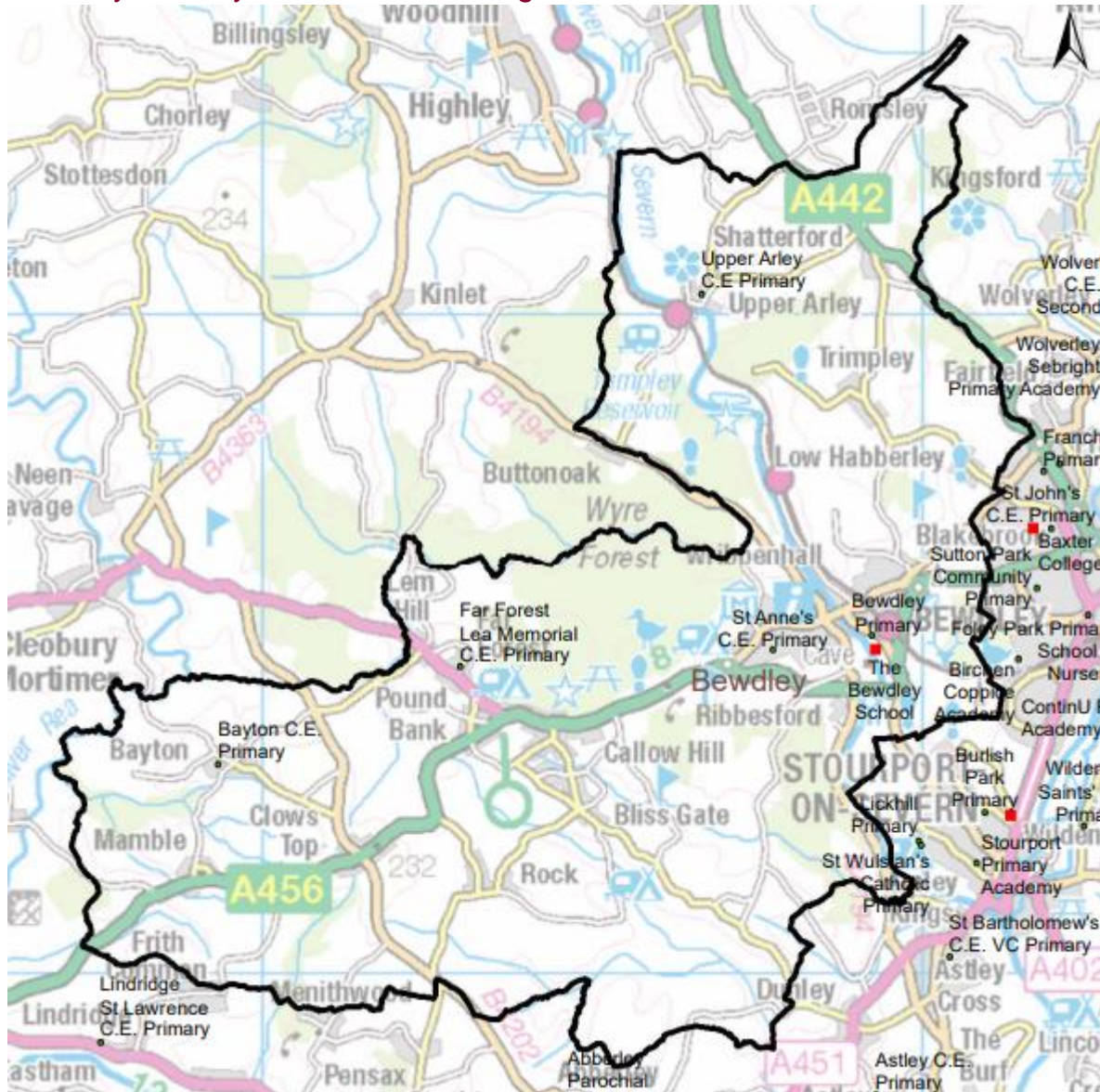
PAN 180	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	180	184	185	179	174	61	39
Oct-19	182	182	180	182	176	45	56
Oct-20	200	179	183	177	180	42	40
Oct-21	179	199	176	179	171	66	43
Oct-22	180	178	198	175	174	42	57
Oct-23	182	179	179	196	169	70	40
Oct-24	180	180	178	176	180	51	65
Oct-25	180	180	180	175	172	58	47
Oct-26	177	180	180	178	171	52	54
Oct-27	180	177	180	180	173	52	48
Oct-28	180	180	175	180	177	52	48
Oct-29	177	180	180	173	180	53	49
Oct-30	180	176	180	180	169	55	50
Oct-31	155	180	175	180	180	51	51

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Wyre Forest District

This district contains three Kidderminster Primary EPAs (East, West and North) and Bewdley and Stourport Primary EPAs. Together they form the Wyre District Secondary EPA as the secondary schools are close enough together to be reasonable alternatives to each other. All the EPAs are 2 -tier.

Bewdley Primary Education Planning Area



The Bewdley Education Planning Area covers the area to the north-west of the county, around the town of Bewdley. The majority of the area sits within the Wyre Forest District Council, but it also covers a small area of the Malvern Hills District Council. The planning area is served by five Primary Schools (Years R-6).

There is a forecast oversupply of primary school places in the Bewdley Primary EPA between 2023 and 2026.

2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Bewdley EPA, with one school deemed as ‘Outstanding’ and two deemed as ‘Good’.

Figure 29 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Bewdley Primary EPA

PAN 140	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	113	131	117	133	136	127	127
Oct-19	120	116	130	127	136	137	132
Oct-20	130	117	120	133	135	143	140
Oct-21	121	136	120	122	133	130	142
Oct-22	124	118	140	123	120	138	134
Oct-23	92	124	120	141	125	121	136
Oct-24	89	93	128	125	144	128	124
Oct-25	110	94	100	137	132	152	135
Oct-26	103	111	96	104	139	134	154
Oct-27	116	103	113	99	106	141	136

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Upper Arley CofE Primary School has low forecast numbers compared to its PAN but see the Housing section below. Blue cells below indicate forecast intakes below 50% of PAN.

Housing

225 dwellings are approved to be built in the Bewdley Primary catchment. These are forecast to yield an additional 11 pupils per year group by 2026.

120 dwellings are to be built in the Upper Arley catchment within the next 3 years, which are expected to yield a further 6 pupils per year group, although as the dwellings are close to Kidderminster, not all of the additional pupils may choose to attend Upper Arley CofE Primary School.

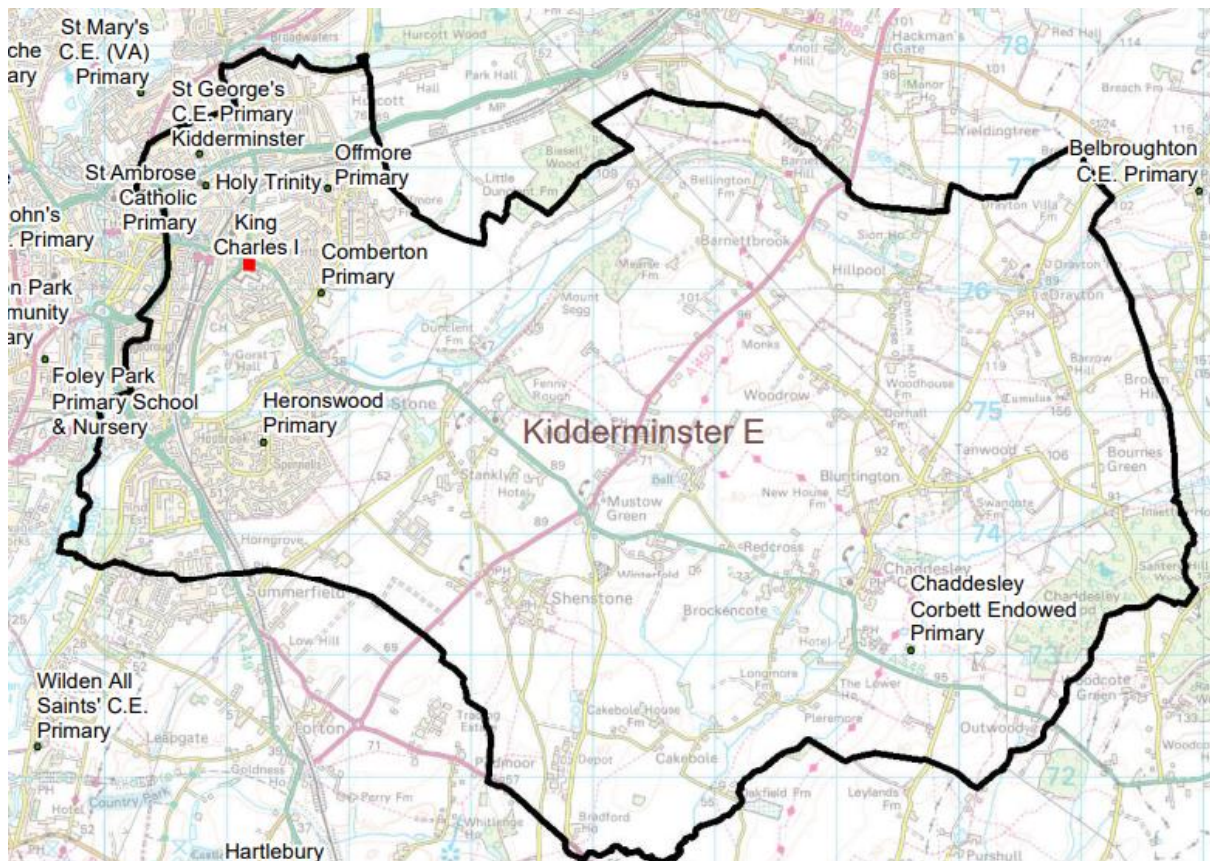
Figure 30 – Bewdley Primary School forecast

	PAN	2024*	2025	2026	2027
Bewdley Primary School	60	42	50	40	58
St Anne’s CE Primary	30	29	28	24	28
Upper Arley CE Primary	15	5	10	4	7
Far Forest Lea Memorial Primary	20	11	11	20	12
Bayton CE Primary	15	11	11	15	11
Total	140	98	110	103	116
Surplus		42	30	37	24

*September 2024 Numbers on Roll

Kidderminster East Primary Education Planning Area

The Kidderminster East Education Planning Area is the eastern side of the town of Kidderminster and the surrounding rural areas. The entirety of the area sits within the Wyre Forest District Council. The planning area is served by six Primary Schools (Years R-6) and one all-through Primary and Secondary School (Years R-13). The local catholic school is also in this area and while it admits pupils from the whole of Wyre Forest, the majority of pupils tend to live in this EPA.



Primary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Kidderminster East primary EPA, however major new housing will require additional school places in the longer term

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Kidderminster East EPA, with one school deemed as 'Outstanding' and 86% of schools deemed as 'Good'.

Figure 31 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Kidderminster East Primary EPA

PAN 305	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	279	308	280	261	289	259	271
Oct-19	298	278	304	281	263	291	261
Oct-20	288	288	270	304	283	259	292
Oct-21	265	288	289	278	301	285	258
Oct-22	274	277	289	289	290	296	290
Oct-23	263	276	279	302	289	293	300
Oct-24	226	264	274	283	305	289	295
Oct-25	277	227	262	279	286	304	291
Oct-26	241	278	226	266	281	286	307
Oct-27	224	241	276	229	269	281	288

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

Major housing totalling 1,340 dwellings is planned to be built east of Kidderminster, near Comberton Primary School. The development is expected to start in 2026 and be completed in 2039. The S106 Education Planning Obligations contribution includes a requirement for the developer to fund the building of a new 2FE Primary School with nursery to mitigate the impact of additional primary pupils from the new housing.

The new dwellings are expected to yield an additional 45 (1.5FE) pupils per year group by 2034, an additional 29 (1FE) by 2031 based on the latest construction timetable. Prior to this, there are sufficient places within the primary planning area. Ahead of the new school being delivered, the mitigation for the demand for additional places may include some pupils having to be offered school places further than 2 miles from home, therefore incurring transport costs for the LA.

Figure 32 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Kidderminster North Primary EPA

PAN 180	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	166	153	168	164	161	159	161
Oct-19	163	168	159	172	169	158	159
Oct-20	172	164	168	157	170	160	158
Oct-21	160	164	163	166	164	171	163
Oct-22	165	157	164	160	165	164	171
Oct-23	153	170	161	172	169	166	162
Oct-24	137	152	172	162	176	167	166
Oct-25	152	137	154	173	166	174	167
Oct-26	171	152	139	155	177	164	174
Oct-27	157	170	154	139	159	175	164

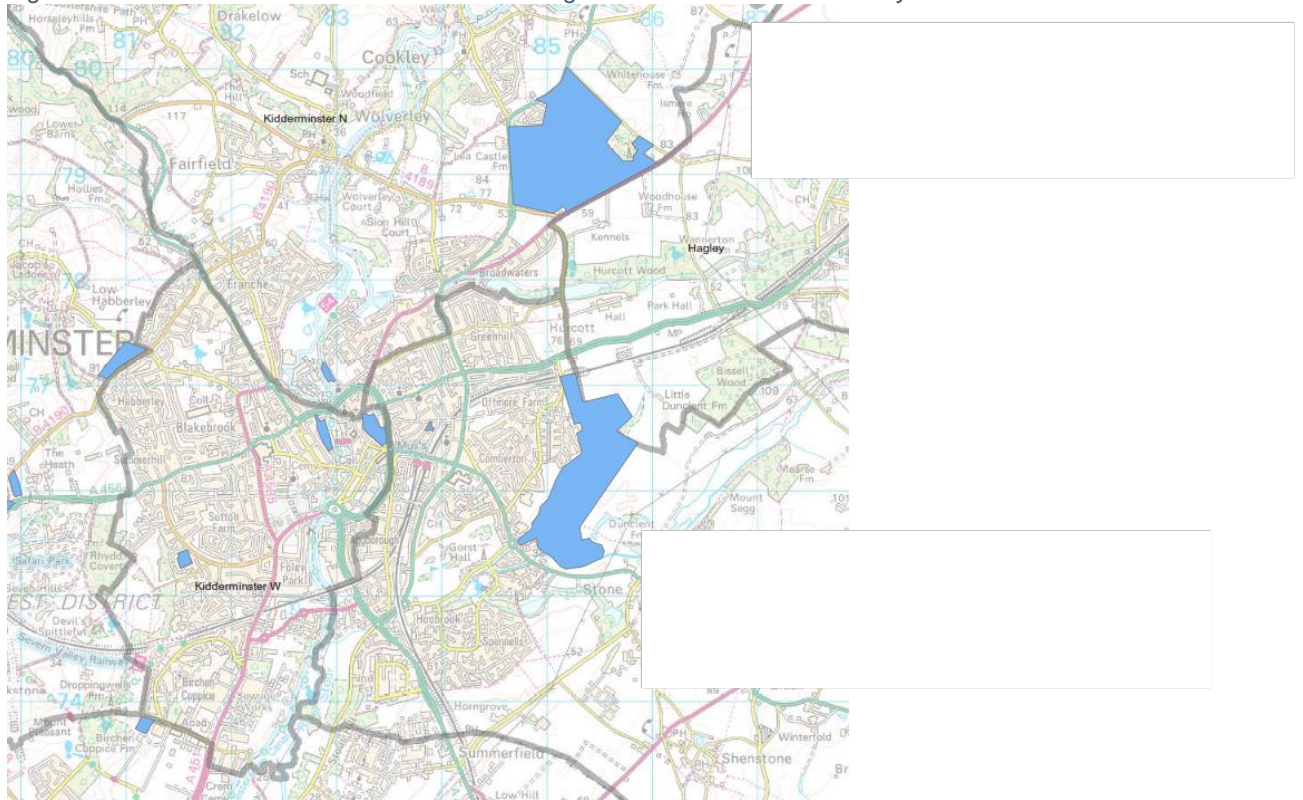
*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

Major housing at Lea Castle is being built in two phases. Phase 1 (600 homes) is almost complete, phase 2 (800 homes) is delayed pending signing of the S106 Agreement. The S106 Education Planning Obligations contribution includes a requirement for the developer to fund the building of a new 2FE Primary School with nursery to mitigate the impact of additional primary pupils from the new housing. The Wyre Forest District Plan includes a new 2FE Primary school with nursery.

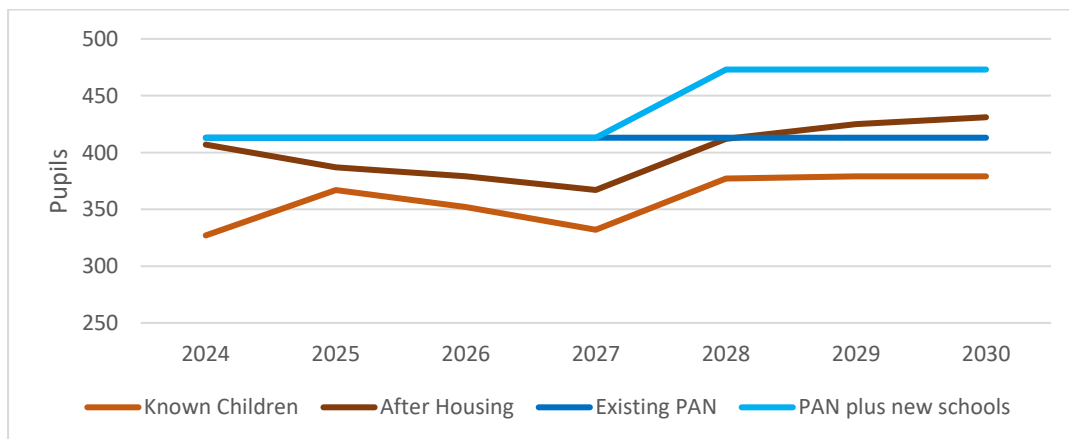
These new dwellings are expected to yield an additional 60 (2FE) primary age pupils per year group by 2033, an additional 41 (1FE) by 2029 (based on the latest construction timetable information available). Prior to this time, there are forecast to be sufficient places within the planning area.

Figure 33 Kidderminster East and Lea Castle housing on East Kidderminster Primary Schools



The additional pupils forecast from these new developments prior to new schools opening are expected to fill available places in neighbouring Kidderminster Primary Schools within 2 miles. The following chart includes the impact of 1400 dwellings to be built in the Lea Castle housing development including the new 2FE primary school, currently planned for 2028. It also includes the impact of the 1,340 Kidderminster East housing, though these timelines are dependent on the rate of completions on both developments. The graph uses forecasts and adjusted PANs of closest schools of Kidderminster North and the whole of East Kidderminster EPA. The graph shows that if new schools open as expected there will be sufficient places to meet demand (the dark brown line does not go above the light blue line).

Figure 34 – Impact of housing and new primary schools on selected North and East Kidderminster schools



Kidderminster West Primary Education Planning Area

The Kidderminster West Education Planning Area is the densely populated small area of the western side of Kidderminster town. The planning area is served by five Primary Schools (Years R-6).

3% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Kidderminster West EPA, with 60% of schools deemed as ‘Good’.

Primary school places are forecast to have an oversupply in Kidderminster West primary EPA

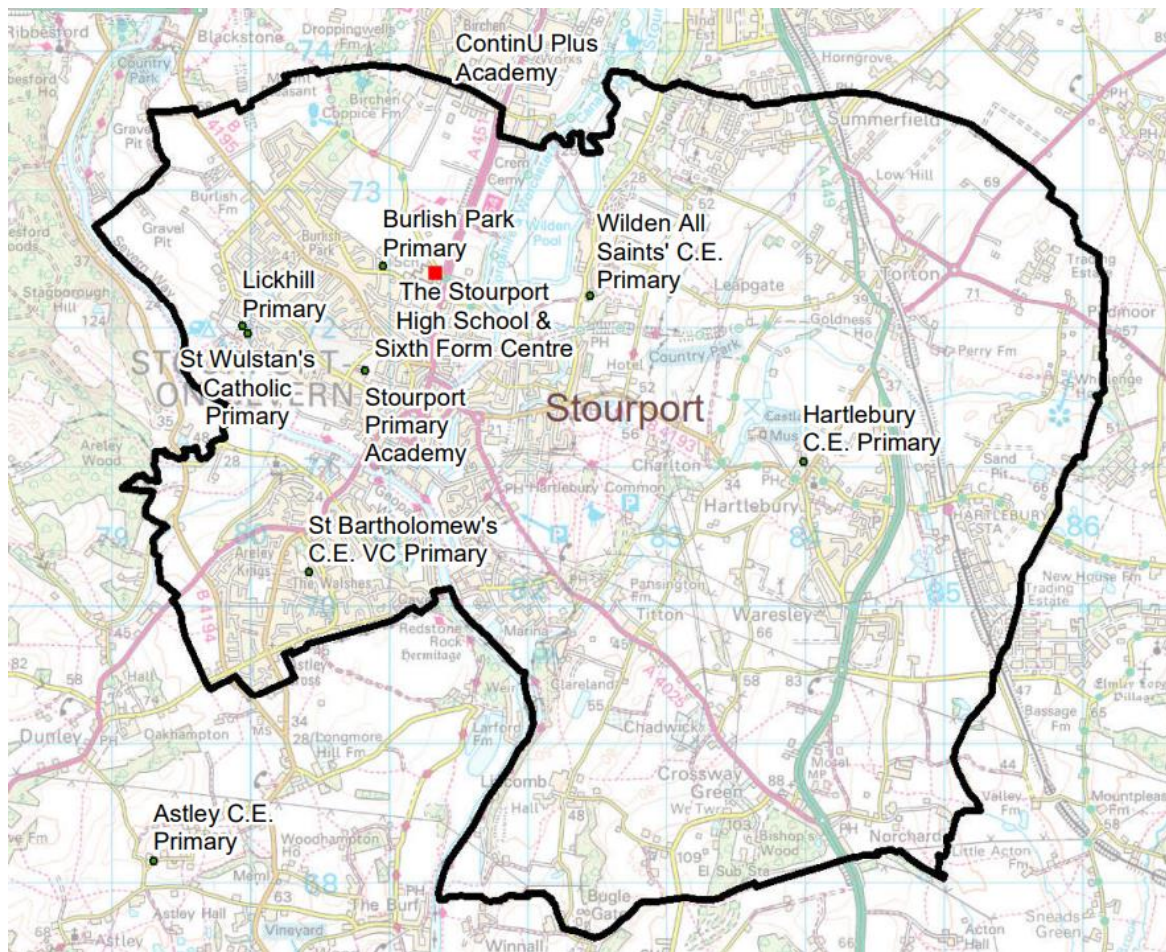
Figure 35 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Kidderminster West Primary EPA

PAN 270	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	264	267	271	268	262	234	258
Oct-19	246	266	264	256	272	250	229
Oct-20	217	245	263	263	262	274	252
Oct-21	220	227	244	259	269	262	274
Oct-22	224	218	216	247	257	263	259
Oct-23	206	223	214	212	247	249	257
Oct-24	190	207	219	211	214	242	247
Oct-25	187	192	204	215	213	210	240
Oct-26	178	189	188	200	218	209	208
Oct-27	173	180	185	185	202	214	207

*Blue cells are where numbers on roll are less than 75% of PAN

The primary schools in Kidderminster West have more places than the children who live in this EPA and number of pupils on roll are decreasing. On average there is a large transfer of pupils between areas in Kidderminster, however this tends to balance out movement across each area. There is also a net migration of on average of 17 pupils per year from Kidderminster to schools in Bewdley and Stourport. Franche Primary School has been discussing options for reducing PAN with the LA, St John’s CE Primary School has started a formal consultation to reduce PAN from 60 to 30. Birchen Coppice Academy reduced PAN from 60 to 30 in 2023.

Stourport Education Planning Area – Primary



The Stourport Education Planning Area is made up of the town of Stourport and the rural areas immediately surrounding it. The area is split between the district councils of Wychavon and Wyre Forest. The planning area is served by seven Primary Schools (Years R-6).

Primary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Stourport primary EPA

3% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Stourport, with 14% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', with a further 71% deemed as 'Good'.

Birth rates have dropped from a peak of 249 in 2019 to near 190 in each year since.

Figure 36 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Stourport Primary EPA

PAN 275	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	235	247	248	244	252	220	259
Oct-19	226	233	241	245	246	246	212
Oct-20	240	229	233	241	243	242	244
Oct-21	210	245	226	230	245	239	240
Oct-22	186	220	246	225	234	244	237
Oct-23	194	191	223	249	230	239	242
Oct-24	174	198	191	223	252	229	236
Oct-25	182	182	202	194	229	254	230
Oct-26	174	188	183	203	199	230	253
Oct-27	181	179	189	185	208	199	229

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

The surplus places are spread across all the schools in the EPA and are forecast to continue. No individual school has continued forecast numbers on roll less than 50% of PAN, but St Wulstan's Catholic Primary's NOR is just over 50% of PAN. One or more primary schools in Stourport could consider reducing their PAN temporarily.

Housing

There are new housing planning applications approved for c.600 dwellings over the next 3 years, which are forecast to generate additional primary pupils in the EPA. These additional pupils are included within figure 37. Although St Wulstan's Catholic Primary does not have a catchment, pupils have been allocated across the town in line with forecasts. The new dwellings are mainly in the catchment areas of St Bartholomew's CE VC Primary, Stourport Primary Academy and Burlish Park Primary.

Wyre Forest Secondary Education Planning Area

The Wyre Forest Secondary Education Planning Area is made up of the entirety of Wyre Forest District, apart from Blakedown, which is in the Hagley planning area. The planning area is served by five Secondary Schools (Years 7-13) and the Holy Trinity all-through school (Years R-13).

Secondary school places are forecast to be sufficient in Wyre Forest Secondary EPA but will become insufficient once local large housing developments are close to completion.

Figure 37 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Wyre Forest Secondary EPA

PAN 1093	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	990	888	889	857	857	262	204
Oct-19	1017	995	873	883	840	278	206
Oct-20	929	989	909	824	805	302	247
Oct-21	999	926	982	946	849	329	277
Oct-22	1029	988	921	981	931	278	263
Oct-23	1001	1006	975	893	948	302	256
Oct-24	1025	989	980	965	870	331	260
Oct-25	997	1013	964	970	940	304	285
Oct-26	983	985	987	953	945	328	262
Oct-27	1011	971	960	977	929	330	283
Oct-28	940	999	946	949	952	324	284
Oct-29	925	929	973	936	925	332	280
Oct-30	860	915	905	962	912	323	286
Oct-31	773	849	891	895	938	318	278

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

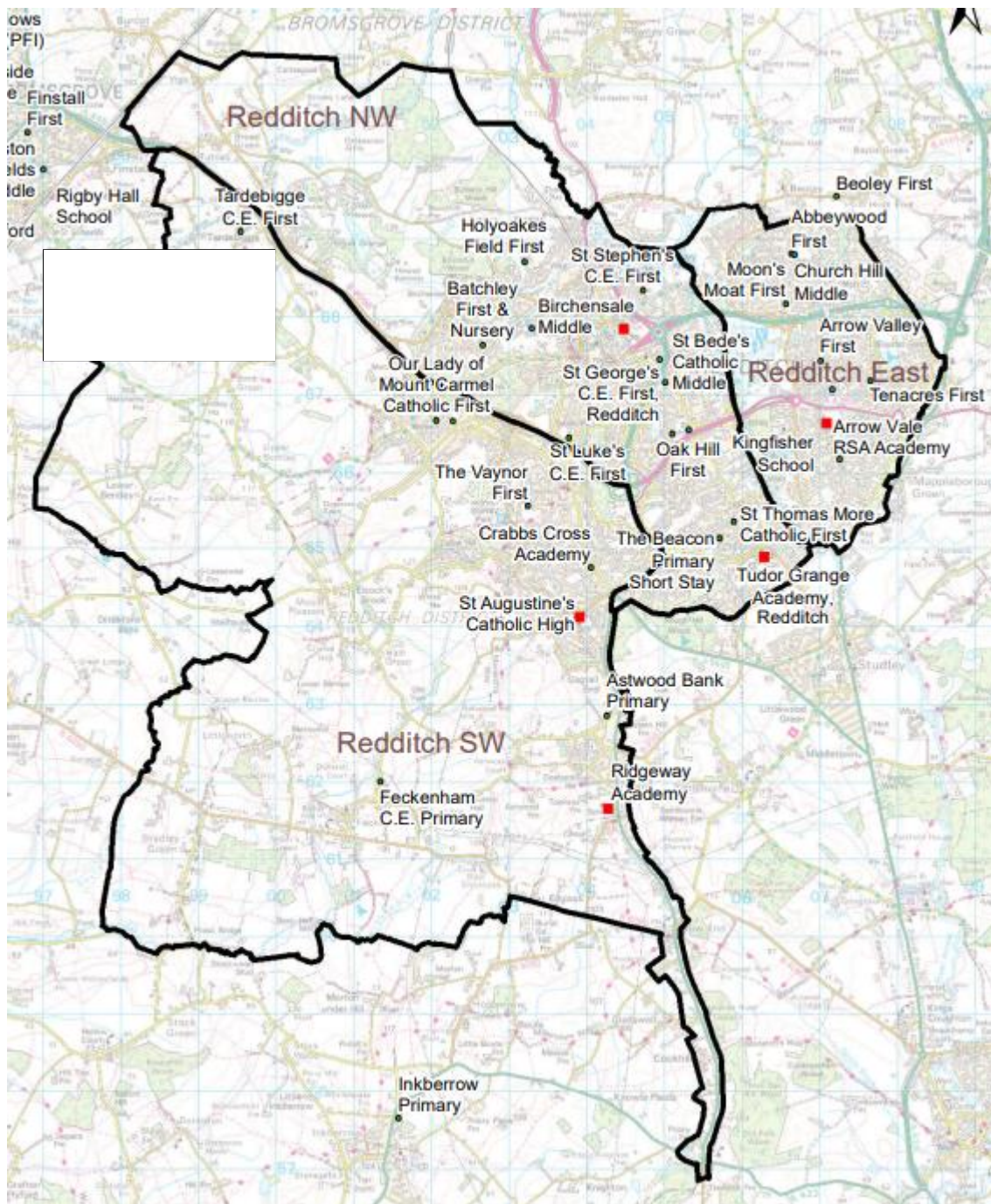
Lea Castle Phase 1 (600 dwellings) is almost complete. Phase 2 (800 dwellings) is delayed pending signing of the S106 Education Planning Obligations agreement for the developer's contributions. The new dwellings are expected to yield an additional 33 secondary age pupils per year group by 2029 and 48 by 2033 based on the latest construction timetable supplied to WCC.

Phase 1 of Lea Castle housing development necessitated a permanent increase of the PAN at Wolverley CE Secondary School from 150 to 180 from 2023. When Phase 2 is approved, we may need to consider a further increase of PAN to 210 to mitigate the need for additional secondary school places from the new housing.

The Kidderminster East development (1340 dwellings) is expected to start in 2026 and complete in 2039. Together with the Lea Castle housing, the dwellings are expected to yield additional secondary age pupils that will exceed available places in Wyre Forest by 2038.

Holy Trinity does not operate a catchment but frequently fills to PAN. Parental preferences have on average diverted pupils towards Wolverley CE Secondary and away from Baxter College. There are also strong preferences of Kidderminster parents for secondary schools in Stourport and Bewdley, though across the Wyre Forest District there are sufficient places for the next 4 years.

Redditch District

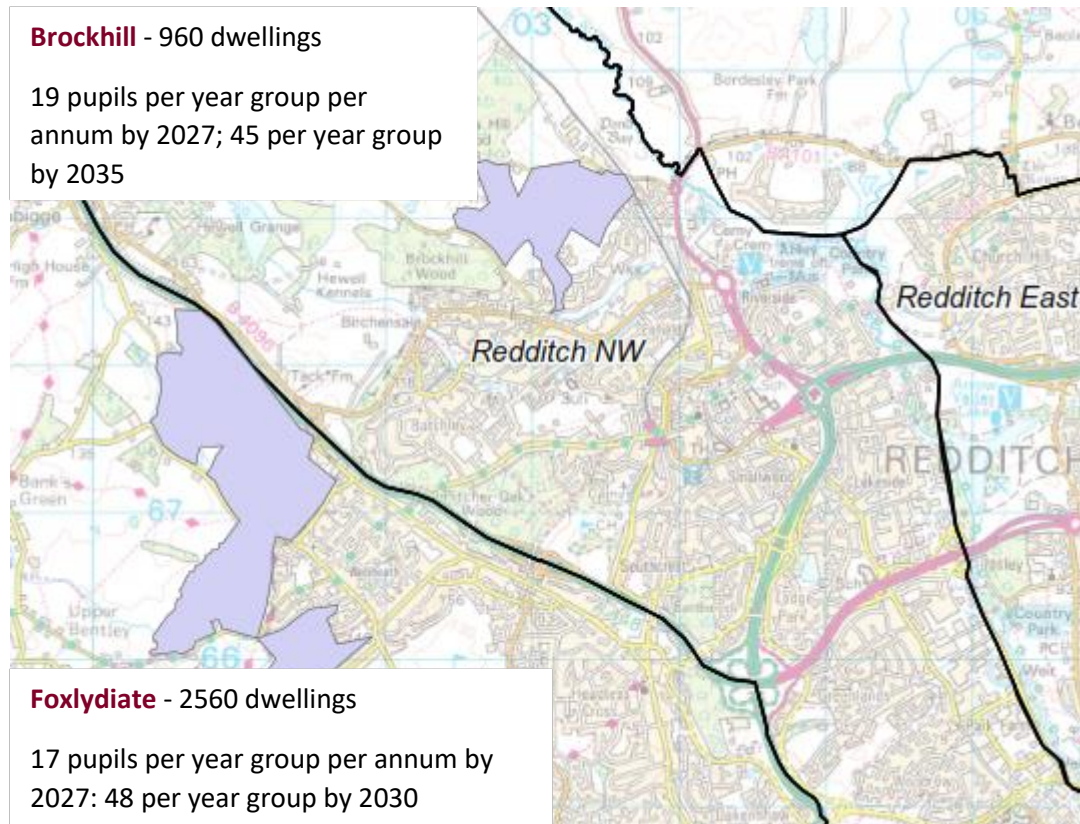


The Redditch Education Planning Area is made up of the town of Redditch and the immediate surrounding areas. The majority of the area encompasses the Redditch District Council, but also covers a small area of the Bromsgrove and Wychavon Districts.

The planning area is served by eighteen First Schools (Years R-4), two Primary Schools (Years R-6), six Middle schools (Years 5-8), three High Schools (Years 9-13) and one Secondary School (Years 7-13). These are broken down into 3 First EPAs, 3 Middle EPAs and 1 Secondary EPA.

Housing

Figure 38 – Large Housing Developments in Redditch



Redditch Northwest (NW) First Education Planning Area

8% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Redditch NW EPA, with 56% of schools deemed as 'Good'.

Note that Tardebigge CE First School site is south of the Bromsgrove Highway but its catchment area falls mostly across the northern side of the highway and the school is therefore treated as within the Northwest Redditch (NW) EPA.

First School places are forecast to be insufficient in Northwest (NW) Redditch EPA due to major housing development

Housing

The Brockhill housing development is to the north-west of Redditch. Brockhill is due to be built out to 960 dwellings by 2036, with 325 completed by 2026. This is expected to increase demand for places at first schools in NW Redditch by 19 places per year group in 2027. The forecast below includes this growth.

Figure 39 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch NW First EPA

PAN 435	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	417	401	428	417	418
Oct-19	432	413	387	420	420
Oct-20	373	433	402	387	410
Oct-21	373	390	433	405	382
Oct-22	363	388	389	435	407
Oct-23	398	367	386	400	429
Oct-24	393	405	362	388	397
Oct-25	447	401	400	364	386
Oct-26	436	455	395	402	362
Oct-27	448	444	449	397	399

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

In September 2024 Holyoakes Field First School (PAN 60) was oversubscribed but with only 44 of the first preference applications coming from in-catchment resident children. With high numbers of known children in the area, increasing due to the Brockhill development, this means many applications spread southwards through Redditch. For the previous 5 years on average 85 pupils from NW Redditch attended schools in SW Redditch.

The new site of Holyoakes Field First School has sufficient land to enable a 1FE expansion. We will monitor the numbers of additional first school aged pupils and plan when the additional places are required.

Redditch Southwest (SW) First & Primary Education Planning Area

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Redditch SW EPA, with 17% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', with a further 83% deemed as 'Good'.

First & Primary School places are forecast to be insufficient in Southwest (SW) Redditch EPA due to major housing growth

Housing

The Foxlydiate housing development is to the west of Redditch. Foxlydiate will be built out to 2,560 dwellings by 2037 (based on the latest construction timetable supplied to WCC). Combined with the Brockhill development, this equates to 27 more pupils per year group by 2027 and 65 more by 2030¹⁰

The Foxlydiate housing development sits within the Bromsgrove District Council boundary yet borders Redditch District Council. The new housing development sits within the catchment areas of Tardebigge First School, Birchensale Middle School and Trinity High School and Sixth Form. We would therefore expect the majority of pupils

¹⁰ This excludes pupils living in new houses already completed on these developments, as they will already be enrolled at a school.

from the new housing to choose to transition into those Middle and High schools with catchment areas including their home.

In October 2023, Cabinet approved a new 3FE (90 places per year group) First school with nursery to be delivered on the Foxlydiate site currently expected to be open in 2027 to accommodate the additional pupils from these housing developments. This addition is in line with the preferences of parents in Redditch.

Any additional places required can be supported by the other First and Primary Schools in the SW Redditch area.

Figure 40 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch SW First EPA

PAN 330	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	332	329	352	346	345
Oct-19	320	326	336	357	345
Oct-20	346	323	330	334	355
Oct-21	331	342	322	317	331
Oct-22	321	330	343	321	310
Oct-23	319	314	329	337	320
Oct-24	299	318	318	327	336
Oct-25	294	297	321	316	326
Oct-26	338	297	304	323	318
Oct-27	326	336	299	302	321

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

The known children per year group in southwest Redditch are currently 220-240 therefore this forecast includes numbers of pupils resident in the northwest Redditch EPA. At the same time, since only Batchley, Webheath and Our Lady of Mount Carmel are within a 2-mile safe walking route of the Foxlydiate development, the analysis below shows a more detailed look at reception provision. Despite the Foxlydiate housing being within the Tardebigge CE First School catchment, the previously mentioned first schools are closer. There are insufficient first school places by 2027 within walking distance of the new Foxlydiate housing development.

Figure 41 Forecasts for Schools within 2 miles of Foxlydiate 2024-2028

Schools	PAN	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
Tardebigge	30	29	30	30	30	30
Webheath	60	62	59	60	60	53
Batchley	60	38	54	52	50	57
Our Lady of Mt Carmel	60	52	51	57	55	55
Predicted pupils per year group from new housing		6	11	20	32	46
Surplus / Shortfall of places		23	5	-9	-17	-31

Redditch East First Education Planning Area

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Redditch East EPA, with all five first schools deemed as 'Good'.

First School places are forecast to be sufficient in Eastern Redditch

There are forecast sufficient places in the first schools in the eastern area of Redditch. If pupil numbers in the west of the town exceed places, places are available in the eastern First schools, though some of these are beyond the 2 miles statutory walking distance limit.

Figure 42 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch East First EPA

PAN 300	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	262	232	310	237	253
Oct-19	235	260	242	305	234
Oct-20	273	239	265	244	307
Oct-21	209	267	240	263	244
Oct-22	235	216	268	249	268
Oct-23	237	230	216	262	252
Oct-24	231	237	233	216	263
Oct-25	265	231	241	234	217
Oct-26	248	266	235	241	235
Oct-27	241	248	270	235	243

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Redditch Southwest (SW) Middle Education Planning Area

Middle School places are forecast to be sufficient in Southwest (SW) Redditch

Ridgeway Academy School changed its lower age range from Year 5 to Year 8, admitting its last Year 5 in 2021 to become a Secondary School. This change reduced the number of year 5 and 6 places available in Western Redditch for pupils choosing the 3-tier system. Some Year 7 pupils choose to attend Studley High, a secondary school just outside the county, in Warwickshire. These trends also involve a high transfer of pupils between southwest and northwest Redditch.

All three of Redditch's primary schools are in this EPA, with a combined capacity of 135 places in both year 5 and year 6.

Figure 43 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch SW Middle EPA

PAN 303	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
Oct-18	286	326	267	246
Oct-19	313	281	235	260
Oct-20	309	309	193	231
Oct-21	327	307	223	195
Oct-22	294	331	241	212
Oct-23	280	297	258	232
Oct-24	289	279	219	252
Oct-25	302	288	206	214
Oct-26	292	301	213	202
Oct-27	280	291	223	208
Oct-28	289	279	219	252
Oct-28	282	280	215	217
Oct-29	263	282	207	210
Oct-30	257	262	208	202

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Redditch Northwest (NW) Middle Education Planning Area

Middle School places are forecast to be sufficient in Northwest (NW) Redditch

Figure 44 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch NW Middle EPA

PAN 460	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
Oct-18	441	426	441	410
Oct-19	456	444	416	435
Oct-20	466	463	435	417
Oct-21	468	464	459	438
Oct-22	430	472	465	456
Oct-23	461	426	466	463
Oct-24	480	463	421	465
Oct-25	445	482	457	419
Oct-26	431	446	476	455
Oct-27	404	432	440	475
Oct-28	446	405	427	439
Oct-29	440	448	401	426
Oct-30	501	442	443	400
Oct-31	489	504	437	442

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Trends show that Walkwood Middle School (Redditch SW) and St Bede's Middle School attract many pupils whose catchments or feeder middle schools would be Woodfield Academy or Birchensale Middle School. There is an even bigger parental preference towards Church Hill and Ipsley RSA Academies in Redditch East on average 45 pupils per year group attended these schools from the rest of Redditch.

Housing

The Foxlydiate housing development is to the west of Redditch. Foxlydiate is planned to be built out to 2,560 dwellings by 2037, which is forecast to yield more middle school aged children by 2030. The new housing development sits within the catchment area of Birchensale Middle School and we would therefore expect the majority of pupils from the new housing to attend this Middle school, however as it is currently deemed "Inadequate" by Ofsted, families may apply to St Bede's, Walkwood or the Redditch East Middle schools, (or to transfer direct to secondary schools if they choose to attend adjacent primary schools.)

In 2023 in consultation with Birchensale Middle School and Bordesley MAT Trust, an agreement was made for Birchensale to expand by 1FE (30 places) and take an additional bulge year group into Year 5 in September 2024 in response to demand from housing growth expected at the time. Delays in housing construction have meant fewer pupils in total plus higher than average transfers to Redditch East Middle schools for September 2024 (see next section) have left surplus places at Birchensale Middle School.

Redditch East Middle Education Planning Area

Middle School places are forecast to be insufficient in Redditch East.

In Eastern Redditch, RSA Church Hill and Ipsley Middle Schools accommodated bulge year groups in September 2021 into Year 5. These are now in Year 8. There were high pupil numbers in the cohorts starting year 5 in 2023 and this is forecast again 2025. The additional accommodation provided for the current bulge year group at Church Hill Middle School will be used again in 2025 (after the 2021 bulge leaves) with the agreement of the school and Central Region Schools Trust. Church Hill Middle admitted over PAN in 2024, for a higher than usual number of applications from western Redditch, another factor causing a high number of surplus places in Birchensale Middle School in Redditch NW.

As mentioned in the Redditch SW Middle EPA above, on average 45 pupils per year group attending these middle schools reside in the western Redditch planning areas. The number of pupils currently on roll in Redditch East feeder schools may require a further bulge year in 2028.

Figure 45– Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch East Middle EPA

PAN 240	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
Oct-18	229	227	242	214
Oct-19	241	238	229	244
Oct-20	248	236	236	233
Oct-21	299	249	238	230
Oct-22	254	301	250	245
Oct-23	271	258	299	251
Oct-24	254	274	258	301
Oct-25	266	257	274	260
Oct-26	220	269	257	276
Oct-27	237	222	269	259
Oct-28	245	240	222	271
Oct-29	239	247	240	224
Oct-30	274	241	248	242
Oct-31	255	277	241	249

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN – adjusted for planned bulge year groups.

Redditch High Education Planning Area

There are 5 high schools in Redditch, of which 40% are deemed Outstanding and 40% are Good.

St Augustine's High School is an Outstanding high school and is frequently oversubscribed. Many pupils transfer from non-Catholic First Schools to St Bede's Middle School and then on to St Augustine's High School. Since 2018 on average 70 pupils transfer from Walkwood Middle School annually to St Augustine's High School.

High School places are forecast to be sufficient in Redditch EPA.

Figure 46 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Redditch High EPA

PAN 1027	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	824	837	703	325	281
Oct-19	864	824	818	342	259
Oct-20	933	864	811	374	307
Oct-21	892	925	853	328	348
Oct-22	861	886	901	370	289
Oct-23	906	856	880	361	320
Oct-24	944	902	842	384	316
Oct-25	1015	940	887	368	336
Oct-26	891	1012	926	388	322
Oct-27	928	894	1001	407	344
Oct-28	945	937	903	1010	414
Oct-29	943	942	922	394	884
Oct-30	954	939	926	403	345
Oct-31	851	950	923	404	352

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

The forecast for the Year 9 intake into 2025 is forecast at or above 98% of the total EPA PAN.

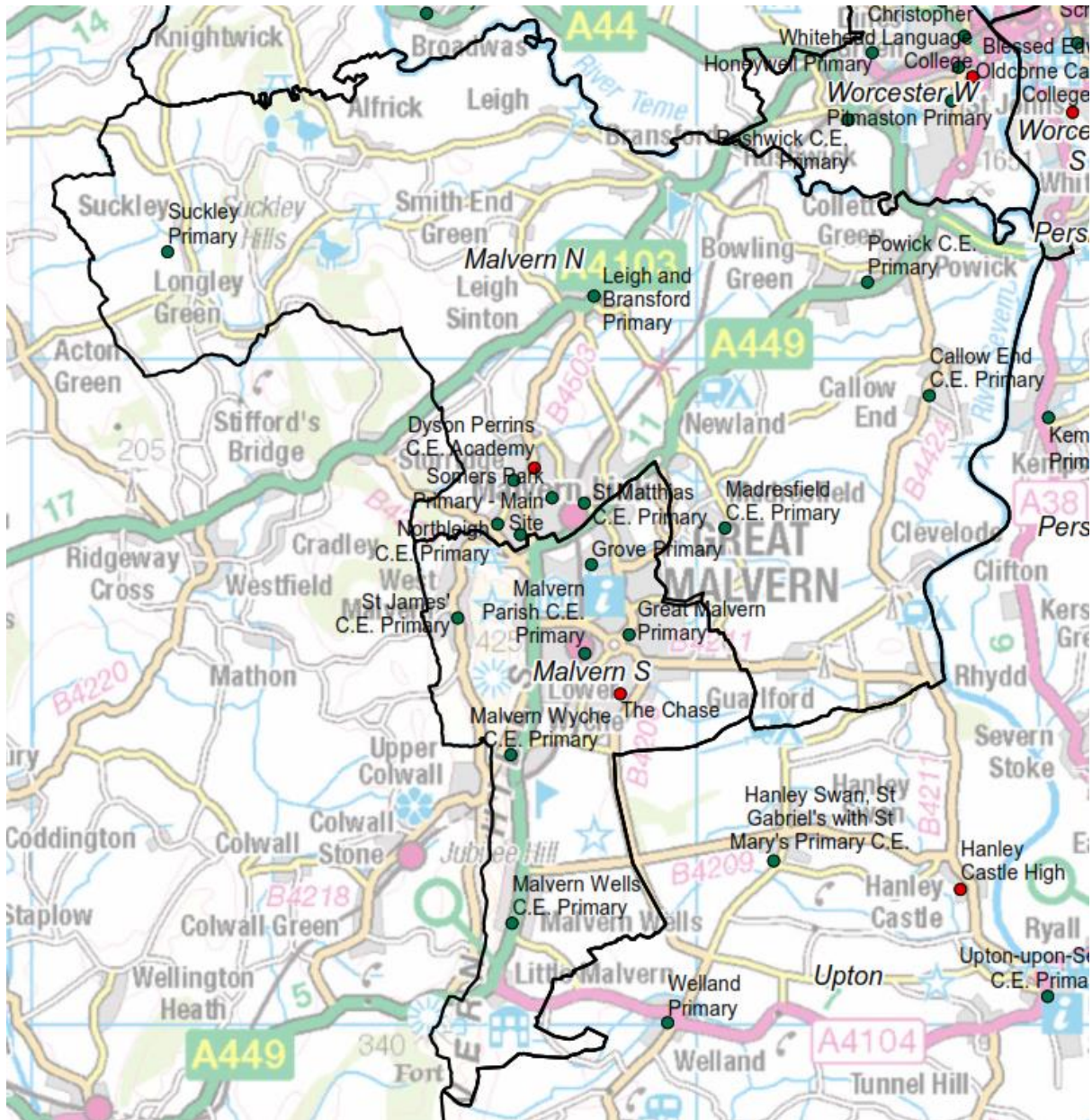
Figure 46 shows the expected numbers on roll in year 9 if pupils were to transfer following recent trends. This shows a strong parental preference for Trinity and St Augustine's High Schools, which are over-subscribed whilst Tudor Grange Academy and Ridgeway Academy have surplus places. Tudor Grange Academy and Trinity High have Net Capacity Assessments (calculations of the number of pupils they can accommodate in their current building accommodation) greater than their current numbers on roll, so there are potential options to increase intakes in 2025-2026 if necessary.

A secondary school rated 'Outstanding' just over the county border in Warwickshire, attracts pupils from the three Redditch primary schools (Astwood Bank, Webheath and Feckenham), which would otherwise feed into Ridgeway Academy.

Malvern Hills District

The Malvern Hills District consists of 5 EPAs: Upton, Malvern North, Malvern South, Martley and Tenbury. They are all 2 tier (primary / secondary).

Malvern North Primary Education Planning Area



The Malvern North Primary EPA is made up of the northern end of Malvern and the surrounding rural area. The entirety of the area sits within the District Council of Malvern Hills. The planning area is served by ten Primary Schools (Years R-6).

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Malvern North EPA, with 20% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding' and the rest deemed as 'Good'.

There is an oversupply of Primary School places in Malvern North Primary EPA.

Figure 47 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Malvern North Primary EPA

PAN 265	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	234	240	239	242	235	238	227
Oct-19	232	242	234	240	234	222	237
Oct-20	201	233	243	226	234	232	217
Oct-21	237	207	234	248	228	230	240
Oct-22	220	248	216	244	255	229	240
Oct-23	215	218	247	215	247	248	223
Oct-24	197	222	221	251	217	244	251
Oct-25	217	208	229	229	257	219	252
Oct-26	219	222	209	231	229	252	220
Oct-27	254	224	223	210	231	224	253

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

The rural schools to the north and east of Malvern North EPA are popular and attract some pupils from the town. There are also popular schools in Malvern South EPA and recent housing developments are attracting young families and therefore higher pupil numbers. In between, in the north end of Malvern town, are several primary schools competing for a small number of children.

Northleigh Primary School reduced the number of places on offer per year group since 2021 by 15 places. St Joseph's RC Primary School has had an average intake of 13 for a PAN of 30 for the last 5 years. These low numbers are expected to continue.

There is a local oversupply of c.70 places in the northern end of Malvern town, but this reduces to c.40 places per year group after the addition of an average of 30 pupils who over the previous 5 years reside in southern catchments but attend primary schools in Malvern North. The completion of houses on the Newlands site will increase demand for places and reduce the surplus.

Housing

The expansion of Somers Park Primary School on the satellite site of Malvern Vale was delivered in 2019 to prepare for new families moving into the Newlands housing development (800 dwellings), which has finally received planning permission this year.

Figure 48 – Comparison of Known Children to PAN of Malvern Town Primary Schools

School	EPA	PAN	NOR 2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
St Matthias CE	North	30	23	63	65	66	61
Somers Park**	North	88	70	-	-	-	-
St Joseph's RC**	North	30	15	-	-	-	-
Northleigh CE	North	30	24	8	5	6	5
Madresfield CE	North	15	12	6	2	3	4
St James CE	North	15	3	9	6	9	1
Shared North Catchments	North			45	42	44	49
Sub-total		208	147	131	120	128	120
Expected pupils from approved housing				6	10	14	18
Surplus places after housing			61	71	78	66	70
After South to North Preferences adjustment*				41	48	36	40
Grove	South	15	9	23	13	15	9
Great Malvern	South	48	46	1	0	0	2
Malvern Parish	South	30	30	12	11	16	18
Wyche CE	South	20	19	11	10	9	6
Malvern Wells CE	South	15	10	7	6	17	12
Shared South Catchments	South			101	93	91	79
Sub-total		128	114	155	133	148	126
Expected pupils from approved Housing				3	4	4	4
Surplus places after housing			14	-30	-9	-24	-2
After South to North Preferences adjustment*				0	21	6	28
Combined totals for town		336	261	286	253	276	246
Surplus places after housing			75	41	69	42	68

*An average 33 pupils per year group from the south of Great Malvern attended schools in the north

**Neither Somers Park nor St Joseph's RC Primary Schools have a catchment area

Although primary schools in Malvern Town have an oversupply of places, Suckley CE Primary School, in a rural village to the north of the town is frequently oversubscribed. Since the known children numbers for this school are less than PAN (apart from one peak year), the extra demand for places is not from the local catchment but from the town catchment areas and outside the county.

Figure 49 – Known children by year of arrival in reception in Malvern Rural Primary Schools 2023-2026

School	Ofsted	PAN	2025	2026	2027	2028
Suckley	Outstanding	12	13	5	11	11

Malvern South Primary Education Planning Area

The Malvern South Primary EPA is made up of the southern end of Malvern. The entirety of the area sits within the District Council of Malvern Hills. The planning area is served by six Primary Schools (Years R-6).

3% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Malvern South EPA, with 83% of schools deemed as 'Good'.

Primary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Malvern South Primary EPA.

The analysis in figure 51 includes recent trends of 30 pupils per year residing in Malvern South but attending schools in the northern end of Malvern town.

The Grove Primary school reduced the number of places on offer per year group from 45 to 30 from September 2021 and from 30 to 15 from September 2024.

Parental preference for schools in Malvern North EPA and outside Malvern leaves Malvern South with sufficient places.

Figure 50 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Malvern South Primary EPA

PAN 128	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	146	136	142	157	145	163	151
Oct-19	116	138	137	140	157	148	162
Oct-20	115	121	139	142	139	154	145
Oct-21	136	117	125	144	148	144	149
Oct-22	135	138	115	124	141	148	149
Oct-23	125	127	139	113	123	143	151
Oct-24	117	125	129	141	114	125	144
Oct-25	99	118	128	131	143	117	127
Oct-26	112	99	119	129	132	145	117
Oct-27	100	111	100	120	129	133	144

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

There are forecast additional pupils from housing expected; there are 80 dwellings remaining to be built near Malvern Parish CE Primary School, with another 260 proposed but not approved. In total these dwellings are likely to add 10 pupils per year group per year by 2026, based on the planned construction timetable.

Malvern Secondary Education Planning Area

The Malvern Secondary EPA is made up of the town of Malvern and the surrounding rural area to the north and east. The entirety of the area sits within the District Council of Malvern Hills. The planning area is served by seventeen Primary Schools (Years R-6) and two secondary schools (Years 7-11), of which one, The Chase, has a sixth form. The Chase school is in the south end of Malvern whilst Dyson Perrins College is in the north, though all the pupils within Malvern North and Malvern South Education Planning Areas feed into both schools.

Secondary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Malvern Secondary EPA.

The two Malvern secondary schools share the entire planning area and have forecast sufficient capacity for all secondary age children. There is a preference in applications for The Chase over Dyson Perrins CE Secondary. There is also a strong preference for pupils living in the south of Malvern to attend Hanley Castle in the Upton planning area.

Figure 51– Forecast for Year 7 Malvern Secondary Schools 2025-2028

School	Ofsted	PAN	2025	2026	2027	2028
Dyson Perrins CE	Good	168	138	121	103	144
The Chase	Good	240	240	234	210	240

Figure 52 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Malvern Secondary EPA

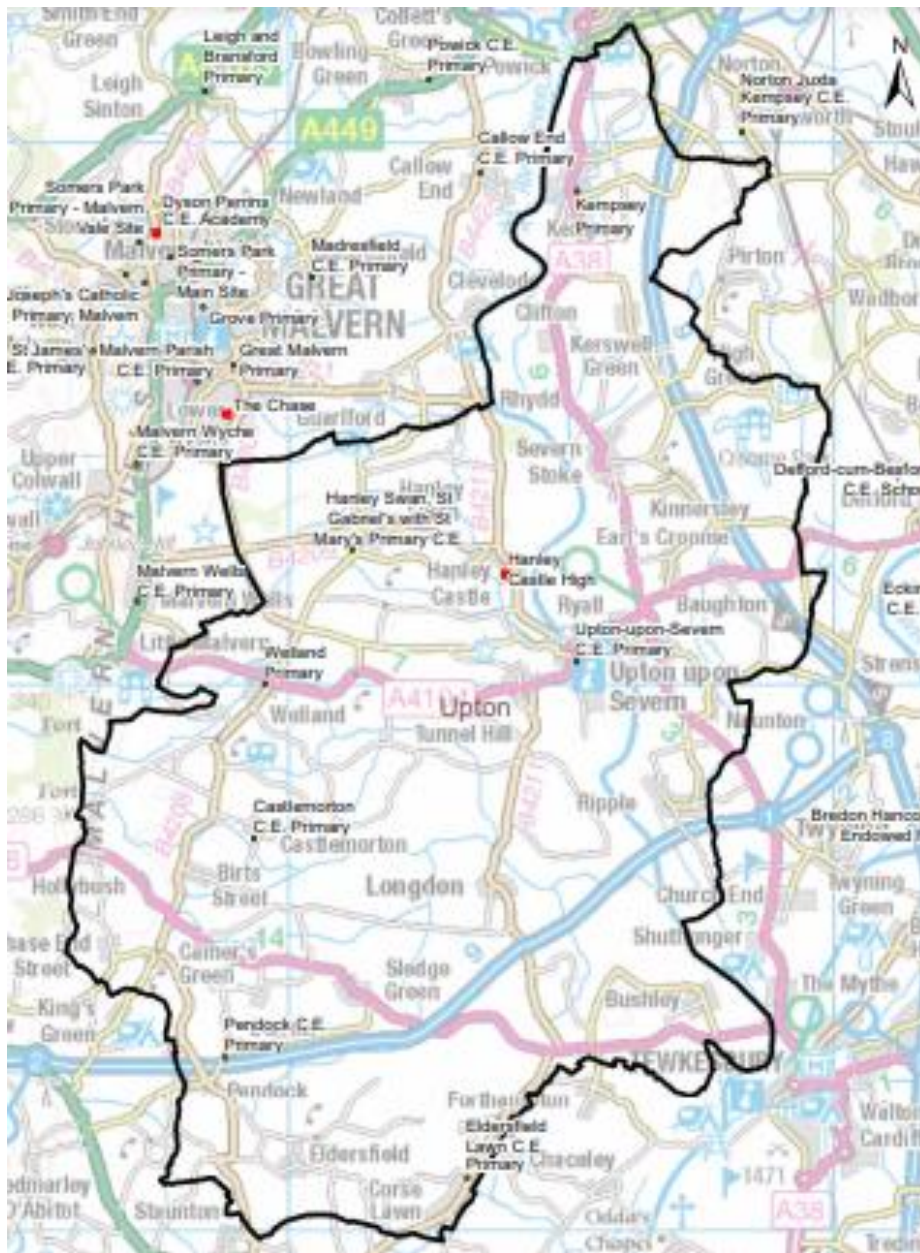
PAN 408	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	328	336	353	331	299	175	147
Oct-19	333	331	329	349	324	148	165
Oct-20	343	299	325	375	316	134	145
Oct-21	352	377	330	329	325	154	124
Oct-22	379	358	373	332	320	132	136
Oct-23	386	371	358	375	328	93	127
Oct-24	353	389	378	372	356	138	90
Oct-25	378	361	402	398	358	153	138
Oct-26	355	378	366	415	376	150	144
Oct-27	316	355	382	377	391	157	141
Oct-28	384	328	371	407	367	169	159
Oct-29	348	384	332	383	384	154	159
Oct-30	346	348	389	343	362	161	145
Oct-31	334	347	352	401	324	152	151

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

The Housing developments mentioned in north and south Malvern Primary EPAs generating additional pupils in primary schools will eventually attend the secondary schools in Malvern. We do not expect a significant impact for the first 5 years.

Upton Education Planning Area



The Upton Education Planning Area is located in the southwest of Worcestershire and is predominantly made up of the town of Upton-upon-Severn and Kempsey and the surrounding rural towns and villages. The area sits entirely within the District Council of Malvern Hills. The planning area is served by seven Primary Schools (Years R-6), and one Secondary School (Years 7-13).

Upton - Primary

Primary School places are forecast to be insufficient in Upton Primary EPA due to major housing growth

3% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Upton EPA, with 91% of schools deemed as 'Good'.

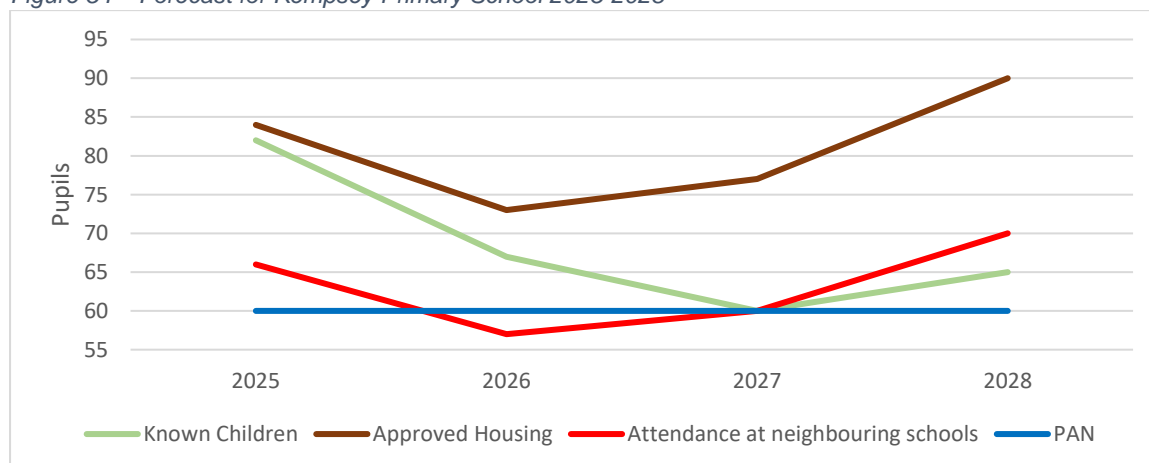
Figure 53- Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Upton Primary EPA

PAN 188	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	123	141	133	132	152	135	146
Oct-19	153	132	143	142	143	153	138
Oct-20	162	153	136	143	140	145	151
Oct-21	142	162	157	142	145	147	148
Oct-22	137	140	164	155	146	149	148
Oct-23	138	134	140	158	154	150	143
Oct-24	149	145	143	148	168	164	156
Oct-25	191	154	151	147	154	175	167
Oct-26	175	193	157	154	151	159	176
Oct-27	191	176	197	159	157	155	159

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

There are forecast to be insufficient Primary School places in Kempsey as a result of the proposed South Worcester Urban Expansion (SWUE) housing and developments around the village of Kempsey. There is a high known children year due to arrive in reception in 2025. On average 22% of children resident in the Kempsey catchment attend neighbouring primary schools. After factoring in additional pupils from new housing and travel to neighbouring schools there are more pupils than can be accommodated at Kempsey Primary School.

Figure 54 – Forecast for Kempsey Primary School 2025-2028



Due to the nature of this planning area with Kempsey Primary School being 6 miles away from its nearest neighbour school in the planning area, this insufficiency of places does not affect the rest of the EPA.

Housing

Major housing in South Worcester (Hopfields) totalling circa 2400 homes up to 2037 is planned. The SWUE housing lies in the Kempsey Primary school catchment area. The first phase of the development (238 dwellings) is complete. The Section 106 Education Planning Obligations agreement for the developer's contributions was signed for the South Worcester site on 17th October 2022 and includes the funding of a new 2FE Primary School with nursery.

1000+ new dwellings are expected to be delivered up to 2031 (based on latest information available), with an expected yield of additional 27 primary pupils by 2028.

The existing schools within 2 miles of the housing developments can mitigate some of the additional forecast pupils per year group until 2028, however after this some pupils would have to be offered school places further than 2 miles from home, therefore incurring transport costs for the LA.

Upton - Secondary

Secondary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Upton Secondary EPA.

Over the last 5 years, 32% of the intake for Hanley Castle High School (or 49 pupils per year) travel from either Malvern or from outside the county.

Housing

1000+ new dwellings in the South Worcestershire Urban Expansion are expected to be delivered up to 2030, with an expected yield of additional 17 secondary pupils by 2028. This is based on a secondary age pupil yield of 0.04 pupils per 100 dwellings, though evidence from other housing developments in Worcestershire (and nationally) has shown this yield is on average only reached 7 years after the dwellings are completed.

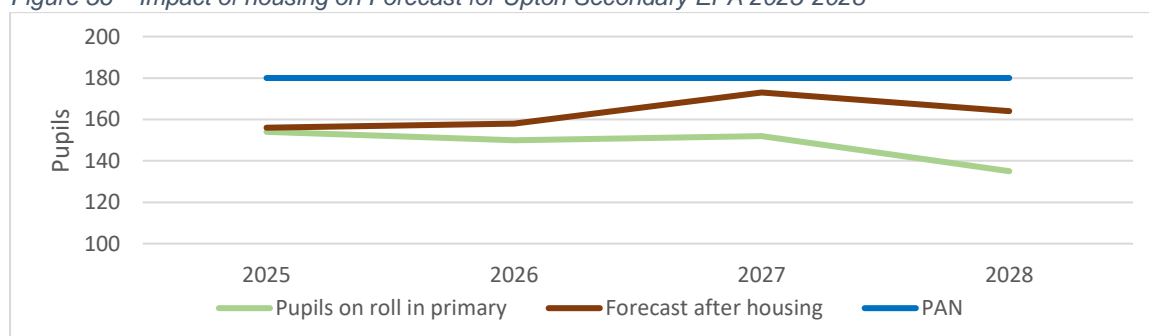
The largest cohort forecast to reach Year 7 at Hanley Castle High School including the impact of local housing is in 2027 with 173 pupils. Since on average there are also 29 pupils applying to Hanley Castle High from Malvern, the school is likely to be oversubscribed, but there will be sufficient capacity for pupils resident in Upton EPA. Any pupils applying from Malvern EPA will have sufficient places at one of the Malvern high schools. The numbers below are indicative of the number of applicants.

Figure 55– Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Upton Secondary EPA

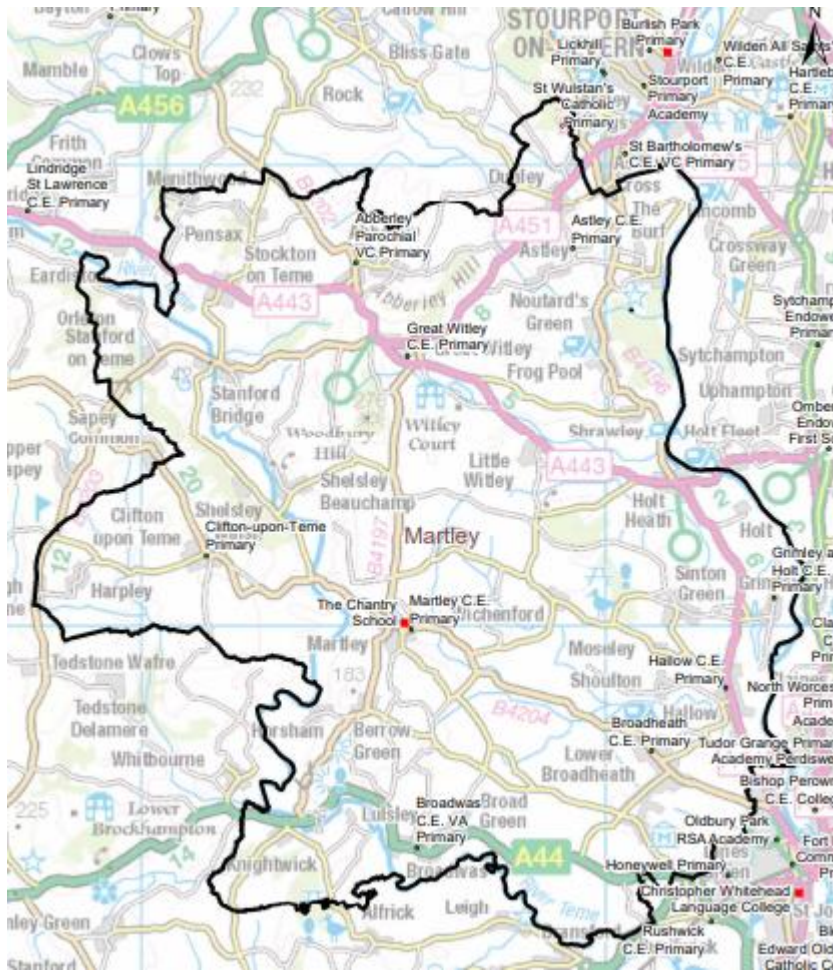
PAN 180	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	181	172	169	168	169	110	99
Oct-19	178	180	174	166	168	115	99
Oct-20	178	178	178	170	165	95	110
Oct-21	184	180	175	171	166	114	91
Oct-22	183	186	174	177	173	103	114
Oct-23	185	184	185	173	169	98	100
Oct-24	185	192	188	188	177	109	100
Oct-25	198	189	193	188	189	113	108
Oct-26	209	200	188	191	187	119	108
Oct-27	218	210	197	185	189	117	114
Oct-28	197	219	207	194	183	118	112
Oct-29	193	199	217	205	192	115	113
Oct-30	201	195	197	215	203	121	110
Oct-31	209	202	193	195	213	127	116

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Figure 56 – Impact of housing on Forecast for Upton Secondary EPA 2025-2028



Martley Education Planning Area



Martley Education Planning Area is made up of the area to the North of Malvern and supports much of the rural areas and villages around Martley. The entirety of the area sits within the Malvern Hills District. The planning area is served by nine Primary Schools (Years R-6), and one Secondary School (Years 7-11).

Martley – Primary

Primary School places are forecast to be insufficient in Martley Primary EPA due to major housing growth.

3% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Martley EPA, with 11% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding' and the remainder deemed as 'Good'.

Housing

There is a new housing development in Astley of 105 dwellings and two developments in Martley of 135 dwellings (construction already underway).

There is major housing in the West Worcester Urban Expansion (WWUE) site of a planned 2,365 new dwellings. The first phase of development (221 dwellings) is complete. Pupil projections indicate that the developments for the WWUE as submitted, will necessitate the provision of a new school within the area. A proposed site has been identified for a new two form entry (60 place per year group) primary and nursery school which is currently being planned to open in September 2030.

The new dwellings are expected to yield an additional 60 (2FE) primary age pupils per year group by 2030, rising to 90 (3FE) by 2033, based on latest construction timetable information. Ahead of the new primary school being delivered, the mitigation for places will include pupils attending schools within the West Worcester EPA, but some pupils may need to attend schools further than 2 miles from home, therefore incurring transport costs for the LA.

The West Worcester Urban Expansion (WWUE) runs along the city boundary within the Broadheath CE Primary catchment. Currently there are forecast to be places available in West Worcester primary schools until 2027, so Broadheath CE Primary is not expected to provide accommodation for pupils moving into WWUE during this period.

Figure 57- Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Martley Primary EPA

PAN 169	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	135	178	165	159	154	169	146
Oct-19	165	145	184	169	166	163	180
Oct-20	156	163	152	191	174	168	164
Oct-21	126	158	163	155	194	175	168
Oct-22	122	135	162	173	157	198	181
Oct-23	151	122	138	162	171	159	198
Oct-24	142	161	131	148	171	181	168
Oct-25	177	156	175	144	160	184	194
Oct-26	176	188	166	186	153	169	194
Oct-27	166	186	198	176	194	161	178

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Several Martley EPA primary schools have PANs below 30 and have mixed age classes. Higher pupil numbers are distributed around the primary schools in such a way that though over PAN in some years the schools are not over their capacities. Currently, 29% of pupils at Martley EPA primary schools are from outside the EPA, therefore even with additional pupils from local housing, there are currently sufficient places for resident pupils.

Martley – Secondary

Secondary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Martley Secondary EPA.

On average only 57% of The Chantry School's pupils reside within the EPA, with the remaining pupils living in Stourport and Worcester also choosing this school as shown in figure 56.

There is sufficient provision in Stourport Secondary EPA for pupils resident in Stourport to attend their local catchment secondary school. However, there is forecast to be insufficient secondary provision in Worcester Secondary EPA for Worcester resident Year 7 pupils to attend their catchment Worcester City Secondary School. Additional Worcester City Secondary places are required – see Worcester Secondary section below.

Figure 58 – Analysis of intake at The Chantry School 2024-2027

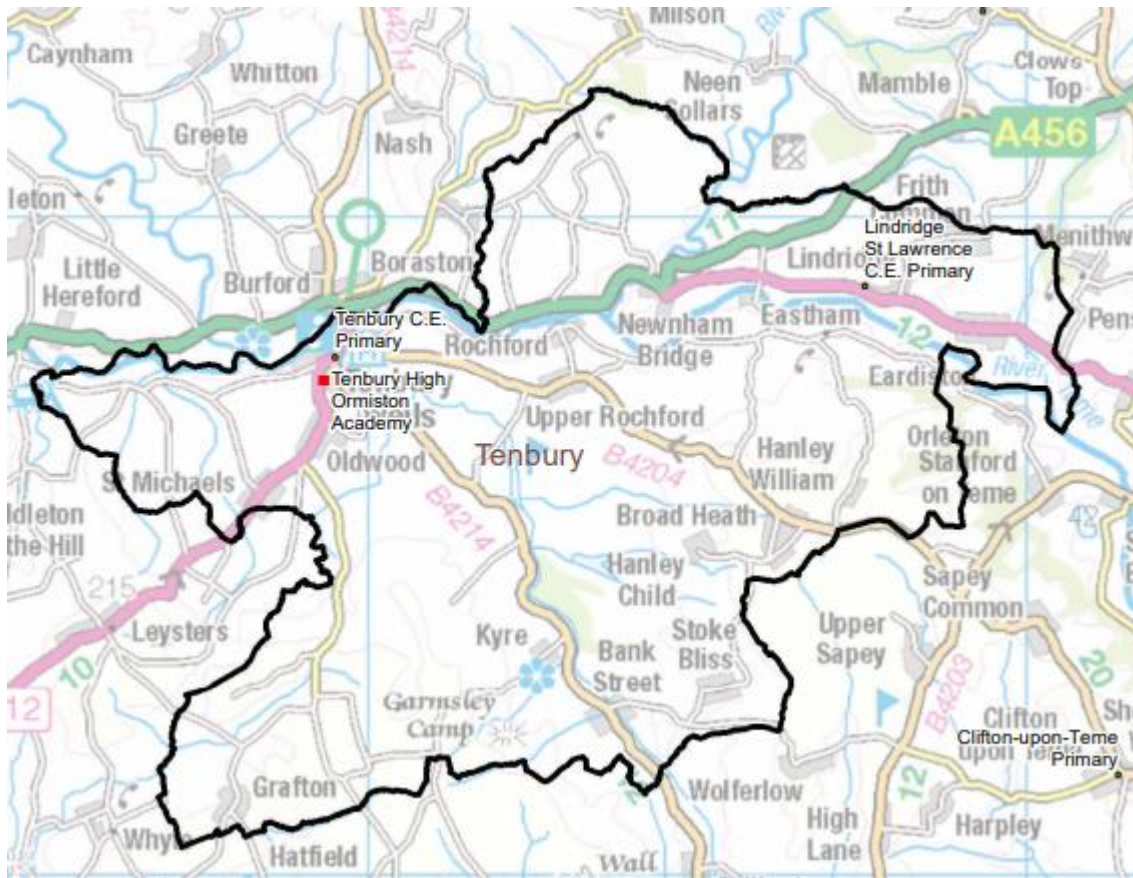
The Chantry School	2024	2025	2026	2027
Year 6 in feeder primary schools	198	157	173	162
Y6 resident in Stourport EPA	15	11	15	15
Y6 resident in Worcester EPAs	11	10	12	10
Y6 from out of county	4	10	5	11
Y6 resident in Martley EPA	149	117	107	103
The Chantry PAN	175	175	175	175

Figure 59 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Martley Secondary EPA

PAN 175	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	165	144	150	142	145	0	0
Oct-19	154	173	149	150	138	0	0
Oct-20	180	159	175	149	148	0	0
Oct-21	172	179	159	175	150	0	0
Oct-22	176	179	179	164	178	0	0
Oct-23	181	180	176	180	165	0	0
Oct-24	210	192	187	183	185	0	0
Oct-25	183	225	193	188	183	0	0
Oct-26	206	194	232	200	193	0	0
Oct-27	205	217	195	234	200	0	0
Oct-28	189	216	223	202	239	0	0
Oct-29	176	195	218	226	202	0	0
Oct-30	217	183	198	221	227	0	0
Oct-31	202	225	185	201	222	0	0

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Tenbury Education Planning Area



The Tenbury Education Planning Area covers the area in the very northwest of Worcestershire and is made up predominantly of the town of Tenbury Wells and the surrounding rural areas and villages. The area sits entirely within the District Council of Malvern Hills. The planning area is served by two Primary Schools (Years R-6), and one Secondary School (Years 7-11).

Tenbury - Primary

Primary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Tenbury Primary EPA.

1% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Tenbury EPA, with both schools deemed as 'Good'.

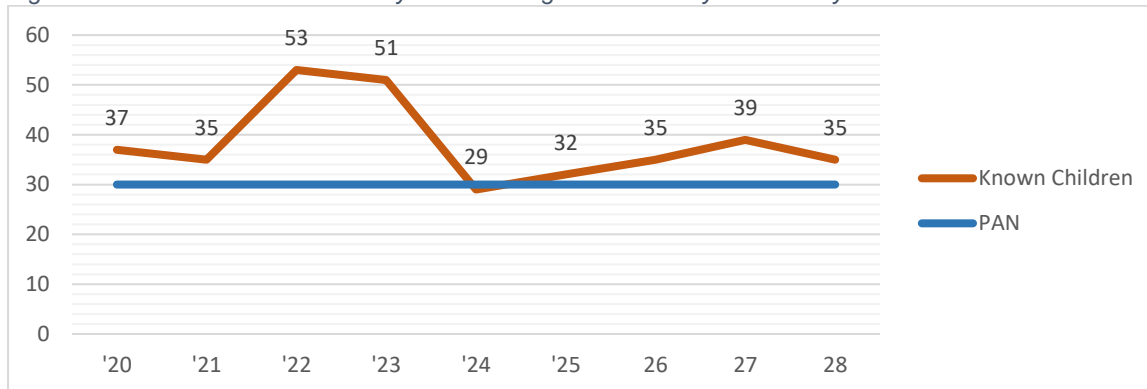
Figure 60 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Tenbury Primary EPA

PAN 45	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	34	47	39	45	32	44	37
Oct-19	40	34	45	41	38	34	41
Oct-20	29	39	36	45	37	40	32
Oct-21	36	31	39	38	42	40	40
Oct-22	43	38	32	41	38	45	40
Oct-23	37	47	39	33	43	38	46
Oct-24	26	38	48	40	31	45	37
Oct-25	28	27	39	50	38	33	44
Oct-26	32	29	28	40	47	40	32
Oct-27	40	33	29	29	38	49	39

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

There have been consistently high numbers of children compared with the school’s PAN living in the Tenbury catchment of Worcestershire for the past decade. The Shropshire primary school of Burford (PAN 20) is within walking distance of Tenbury Wells town. This school usually accepts 8 pupils a year from Worcestershire, so there are forecast to be sufficient primary places. At the same time there are very low numbers of known pre-school age children living in the Lindridge St Lawrence CE Primary catchment.

Figure 61 – Historic and forecast 3+ year olds living in the Tenbury CE Primary School Catchment 2018-2026



Tenbury – Secondary

Secondary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Tenbury Secondary EPA.

The secondary school serving the area, Tenbury Ormiston Academy, admits on average 22 pupils a year from Shropshire and 27 from Herefordshire. It is forecast to be full or almost full in most year groups over the next several years but there are sufficient secondary places to meet the demand from in-catchment Worcestershire children.

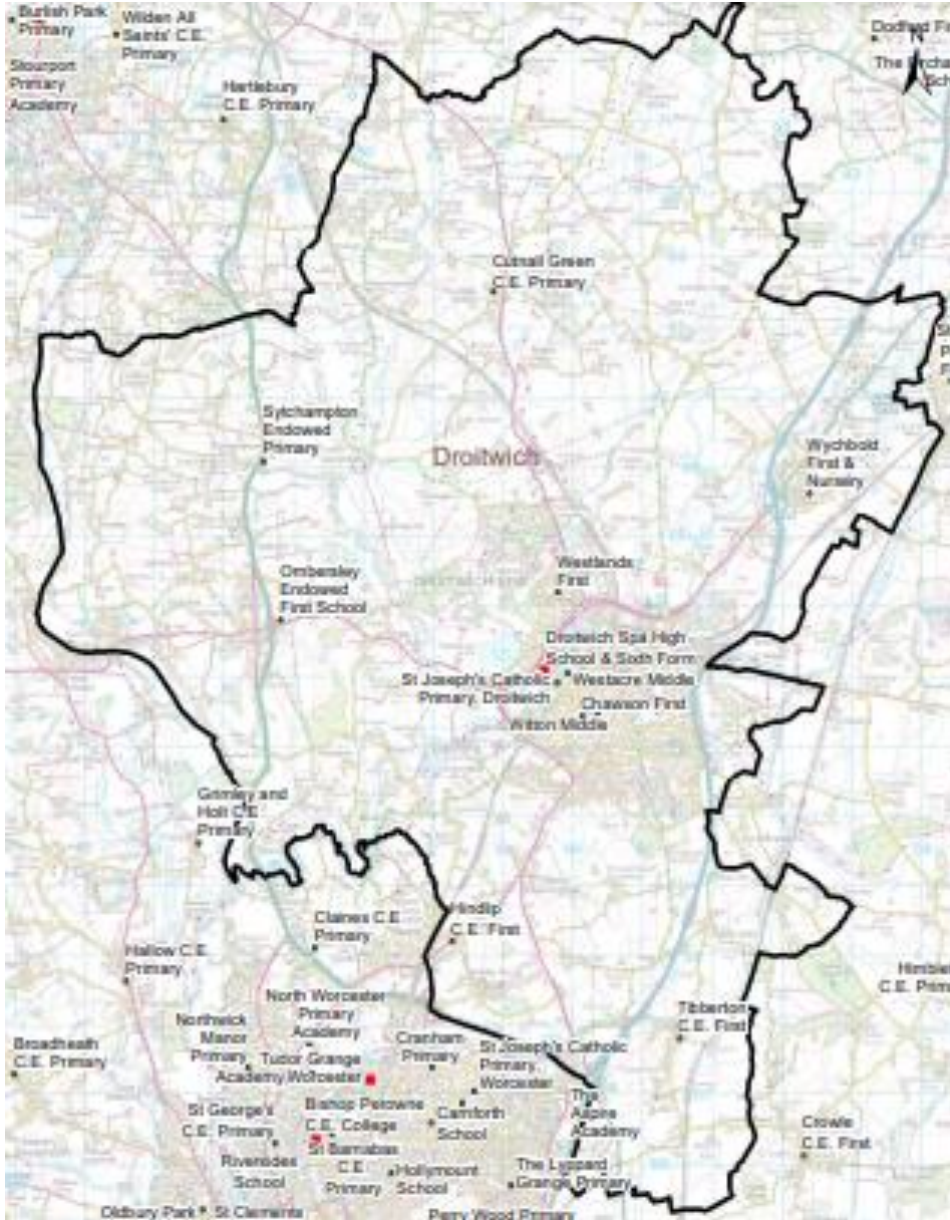
Figure 62 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Tenbury Secondary EPA

PAN 95	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	85	79	68	85	69		
Oct-19	93	84	81	72	83		
Oct-20	89	92	87	82	65		
Oct-21	111	93	87	84	79		
Oct-22	95	108	93	84	86		
Oct-23	99	85	108	89	83		
Oct-24	120	97	85	107	86		
Oct-25	97	117	97	84	104		
Oct-26	115	95	117	96	82		
Oct-27	84	113	95	116	93		
Oct-28	103	82	113	94	113		
Oct-29	126	100	82	112	91		
Oct-30	103	123	101	81	109		
Oct-31	73	101	123	100	79		

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Wychavon District

Droitwich Education Planning Area



The Droitwich Education Planning Area is made up of the town of Droitwich and the surrounding rural villages. The majority of the area sits within Wychavon District Council, but also covers a small area of Wyre Forest. The planning area is served by seven First Schools (Years R-4), three Primary Schools (Years R-6), two Middle Schools (Years 5-7), and one High School and Sixth Form.

Droitwich – First & Primary

First and Primary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Droitwich Primary EPA.

5% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Droitwich EPA, with 20% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', with a further 60% deemed as 'Good'.

Housing

There have recently been several major development sites in Droitwich, around Pulley Lane, Copcut Lane and Newland Lane (c.1200 dwellings in total), now almost completely built out. As a result, there has been a noticeable increase in the number of first school aged children living in the area, which has increased demand for school places, particularly in the catchment areas of Chawson and St Peter's First Schools.

Figure 63 – Comparison of Known Children to PAN in Droitwich EPA 2024-2028

School Catchment	PAN	2024 NOR	2025	2026	2027	2028
Chawson Community First	60	60	136	131	112	123
St Peter's CE First	90	90	98	89	93	85
Westlands First	60	38	51	48	70	50
Wychbold First	30	25	27	23	19	34
Hindlip CE First	20	19	13	12	14	10
Tibberton CE First	15	12	10	4	4	4
Cutnall Green CE Primary	30	26	15	9	9	7
Omersley Endowed	28	24	11	19	14	12
Sytchampton Endowed	15	10	4	7	8	4
Shared St Peter's / Chawson			9	5	6	11
St Joseph's Catholic	30	24				
<i>Additional pupils from housing - St Peter's</i>			2	3	3	3
<i>Additional pupils from housing - Hindlip</i>				2	2	2
Total	378	328	376	352	354	345
Pupils in Town Catchments	240	212	294	273	281	269
Surplus / Deficit		28	-54	-33	-41	-29
<i>Town after adjustment for rural preference trend</i>	240		247	229	236	226
Surplus / Deficit			-7	11	4	14
<i>Town places after adjustment for trend of preferences for other EPAs</i>			240	218	232	212
Surplus / Deficit			12	30	23	33

Though the numbers of known children within Droitwich are high, there is a strong trend across Droitwich EPA for applications from pupils resident in the town to choose schools outside the town (on average, 16%). There is also a trend towards primary schools in Worcester (11 pupils per year), Pershore (5) and Bromsgrove EPAs (3). Based on these trends continuing There are sufficient first and primary school places in Droitwich EPA up to 2028.

Figure 64 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Droitwich First EPA

PAN 435	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	301	365	379	362	325
Oct-19	351	308	372	373	364
Oct-20	359	359	300	378	359
Oct-21	349	365	360	295	375
Oct-22	367	344	362	355	297
Oct-23	329	363	345	359	358
Oct-24	353	333	363	343	358
Oct-25	367	357	333	361	343
Oct-26	333	372	358	332	362
Oct-27	345	337	372	356	331

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Droitwich – Middle

Droitwich Middle includes two middle schools (Yr 5 – Yr 7) and also the 3 primary schools which teach to year 6. Witton Middle School reduced its PAN for 2024 from 180 to 150, though it may be able to admit over its PAN of 150 in 2026 should application numbers exceed the forecast.

Trends show that few pupils from the primary schools tend to transfer to middle schools in year 7. The middle schools therefore mainly provide for the pupils attending the first schools. In some cases, they are applying to The Chantry School in Martley EPA but being unsuccessful as this school is popular with most pupils living closer than those of Droitwich. Catholic primary provision in Droitwich feeds into catholic high school provision located in Worcester City EPA. There are likely to continue to be a few admissions each year from primary schools into year 7 in the middle schools. These admissions could potentially take the middle schools over their PAN in 2029.

Middle School places are forecast to be sufficient in Droitwich EPA.

Figure 65 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Droitwich Middle schools

Whole EPA	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7	Middle School Only	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7
Oct-18	327	327	261	PAN 330	283	289	261
Oct-19	314	333	287	PAN 300 in 2024	272	288	287
Oct-20	352	311	288		291	264	288
Oct-21	340	360	271		302	298	271
Oct-22	357	353	289		298	306	289
Oct-23	282	352	311		244	299	311
Oct-24	343	286	303		278	249	303
Oct-25	343	348	247		277	284	250
Oct-26	329	349	301		270	284	285
Oct-27	347	334	301		292	276	285
Oct-28	318	351	288		255	297	277
Oct-29	340	322	302		276	260	299
Oct-30	352	344	277		282	281	261
Oct-31	319	357	296		253	288	282

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

In the forecast above, Year 7 uses the recent average transfer rate from the numbers on roll in the middle schools' year 6, rather than the whole of year 6.

The impact of new housing on the first school forecasts over the next several years will likely impact on the requirement for additional middle school provision in the longer term.

Droitwich – High

High School places are forecast to be sufficient in Droitwich High EPA.

The impact of new housing on the first school forecasts over the next several years will likely impact on the requirement for additional high school provision in the longer term. The numbers of pupils forecast to arrive in year 8 in 2024 do not exceed the PAN of Droitwich Spa High School but do not enable the LA to retain 5% of surplus places.

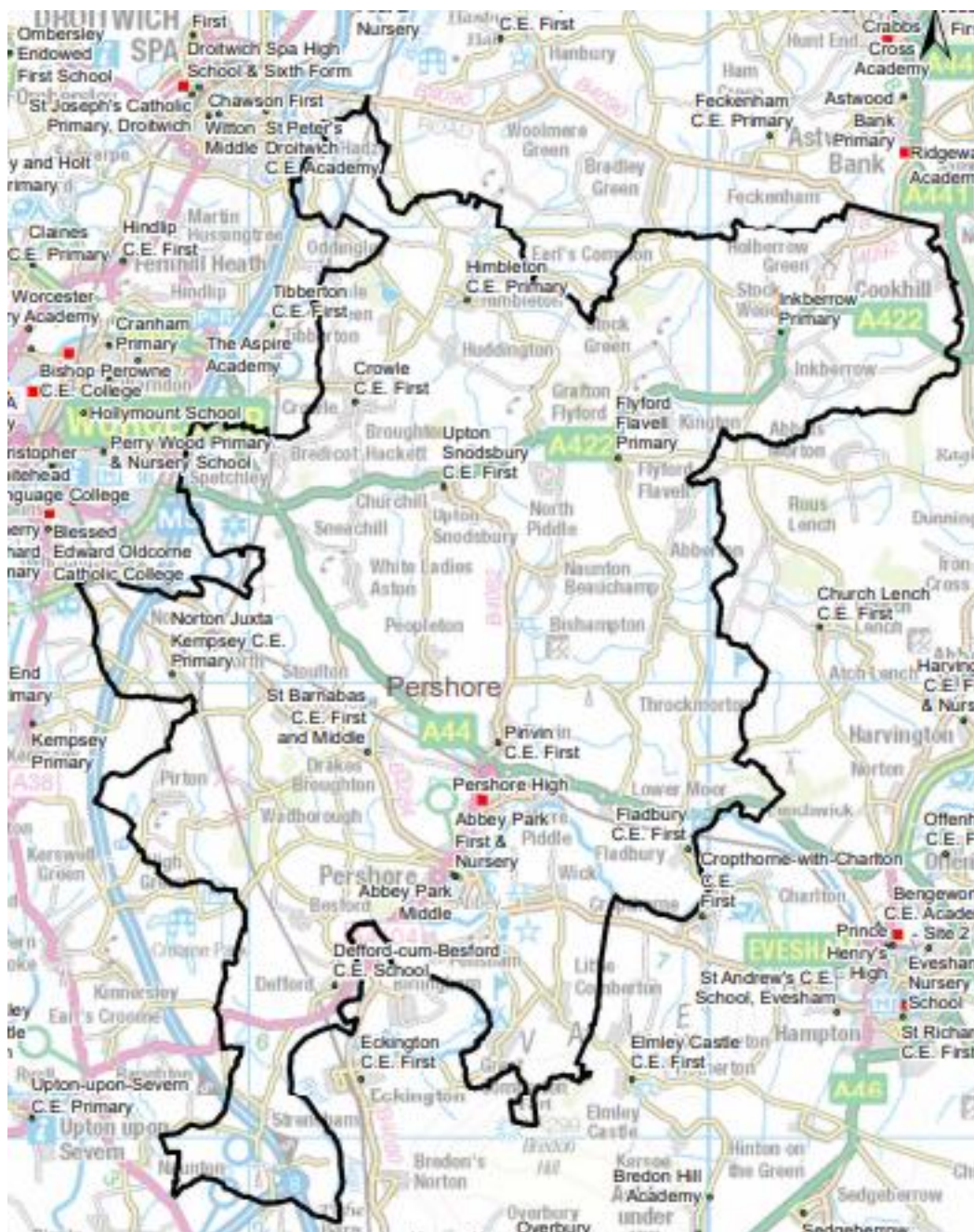
There are 303 pupils in Droitwich middle schools who will reach year 8 age in 2025. Any in-year intakes to this cohort before 2025 may take Droitwich High School over its PAN of 305. This will be monitored to consider if additional places are required.

Figure 66 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Droitwich High EPA

PAN 305	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	271	253	264	269	99	103
Oct-19	259	270	252	266	97	88
Oct-20	267	257	266	249	91	96
Oct-21	292	271	258	270	97	81
Oct-22	269	293	270	253	96	90
Oct-23	283	260	292	265	94	89
Oct-24	306	283	260	291	97	88
Oct-25	299	306	282	259	106	90
Oct-26	244	299	306	283	95	100
Oct-27	296	244	299	305	103	89
Oct-28	296	295	243	298	111	96
Oct-29	283	295	294	242	108	103
Oct-30	297	282	294	293	88	101
Oct-31	272	296	281	293	107	82

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Pershore Education Planning Area



The Pershore Education Planning Area is made up of the town of Pershore and surrounding rural villages. The entirety of the area sits within Wychavon District Council.

Pershore EPA currently has both two- and three-tier systems, with 6 primary schools, 5 first schools and 2 first and middle schools. Changes to schools in the Pershore Education Planning Area over several years have led to uncertainty and sustainability concerns across the Education Planning Area. At present, one school exists outside of the Pershore tier structure in the two-tier Catholic pyramid; six schools have changed or have approved changes to two-tier; and two further schools have already consulted on change of age range proposals.

Over the last few years, when a choice has been available, we have seen parents in the area choosing a Primary and Secondary (two-tier system) education in their school admissions applications, with an increasing percentage choosing to remain at already converted primary schools and a number choosing to transfer from first to primary schools during key stage 1 and 2.

A public consultation was held during September 2024 on proposals for the first schools and middle schools to convert to primary schools, and for Pershore High to expand its Year 7 intake to encompass all Pershore Year 7 pupils (and to remove its Year 8 intake). All of these proposals were agreed by December 2024, and Pershore EPA will become fully two-tier from September 2025 when the first schools will expand to retain Year 5 pupils, and the middle schools will no longer have a point of entry into Year 5. Pershore High School's intake will be expanded to accommodate all Year 7 pupils in the area from September 2027.

Figure 67– changes at Pershore Area Review schools

School	Age range in 2025	Age range in 2026	Age range from 2027
Abbey Park First & Middle	2-12	2-12	2-11 (Year 7 closed)
Crowle CE First	5-10 (Year 5 added)	5-11 (Year 6 added)	5-11
Defford-Cum-Besford CE First	5-10 (Year 5 added)	5-11 (Year 6 added)	5-11
Fladbury CE First	3-10 (Year 5 added)	3-11 (Year 6 added)	3-11
Pinvin CE Academy	2-12	2-12	2-11 (Year 7 closed)
St Barnabas CofE First and Middle	2-12	2-12	2-11 (Year 7 closed)
Upton Snodsbury CofE First	5-10 (Year 5 added)	5-11 (Year 6 added)	5-11
Pershore High	11-18	11-18	11-18 (all Year 7 places for area)

Pershore – First & Primary

First and Primary School places are forecast to be sufficient in Pershore First/Primary EPA.

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Pershore EPA, with 8% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', and the remainder deemed as 'Good'.

Housing

There are new housing developments in the town of Pershore within the catchments of Orchard Primary, Pinvin CE Academy and Abbey Park First Schools. There are 180 dwellings expected by 2027, with a forecast of an additional 9 primary aged pupils per year group by 2027.

Figure 68 – Pershore Town Schools showing Known 3+ Year Olds

School	PAN	2024 (NOR)	2025	2026	2027	2028
Orchard Primary	30	26	47	39	45	41
Abbey Park First	30	25	46	43	34	33
Pinvin CE Academy	25	15	10	15	16	15
Holy Redeemer Primary	Good	30				
Additional pupils from Pershore housing			5	7	9	9
Sub-total	115	96	108	104	104	98
Surplus / shortfall of places			7	11	11	17

The additional pupils can be accommodated by these local schools as well as Holy Redeemer Catholic Primary School.

Figure 69– Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Pershore First EPA

PAN 295	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	234	264	278	264	275
Oct-19	265	238	256	286	268
Oct-20	249	262	238	250	286
Oct-21	259	257	266	240	254
Oct-22	231	258	263	272	236
Oct-23	251	230	261	261	272
Oct-24	233	254	232	264	263
Oct-25	271	237	258	237	268
Oct-26	239	272	238	259	237
Oct-27	230	241	274	239	260

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Pershore – Middle

There is a forecast oversupply of middle school places in the Pershore EPA from 2023 onwards.

The creation of additional places in years 5, 6 and 7 because of the approved conversions from first schools to primaries (see First and Primary section above) has resulted in a forecast level of surplus in these year groups of 40% in September 2024, which is projected to rise. This creates significant difficulty to provide key stage 3 (Year 7, ages 11 to 12) curriculum.

Abbey Park Middle School, Pinvin CE Academy & St. Barnabas CE First & Middle School will all become primary schools from 2025 when the area becomes fully two tier. They will retain a Year 7 for their existing pupils in academic years 2025-26 and 2026-27.

Figure 70 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Pershore Middle EPA

PAN 443	Yr 5	Yr 6	Yr 7
Oct-18	248	244	227
Oct-19	284	256	220
Oct-20	278	300	222
Oct-21	291	273	239
Oct-22	255	290	227
Oct-23	235	252	226
Oct-24	278	239	212
Oct-25	271	284	202
Oct-26	272	274	237
Oct-27	242	276	229
Oct-28	266	246	231
Oct-29	246	270	206
Oct-30	284	250	226
Oct-31	252	287	209

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Pershore – High

High School places are forecast to be sufficient in Pershore High EPA.

Pershore High School has a PAN of 90 places for year 7 pupils predominantly from the Pershore Primary Schools, and the middle schools have a total PAN of 277, therefore there are sufficient places for year 7 pupils between 2023 and 2026.

Figure 71 is based on 5-year trends of pupils in year 7 moving up to year 8 in Pershore High School. Due to the 6 primary schools, on average 47 pupils per year left the EPA to transfer to secondary schools for year 7, rather than transfer to a middle school and then transfer again to Pershore High in year 8. The forecast below assumes that this trend will continue, but this is likely to increase from 2027, once the remaining first schools become primary schools and all pupils will be able to transfer directly from primary to year 7 in Pershore High.

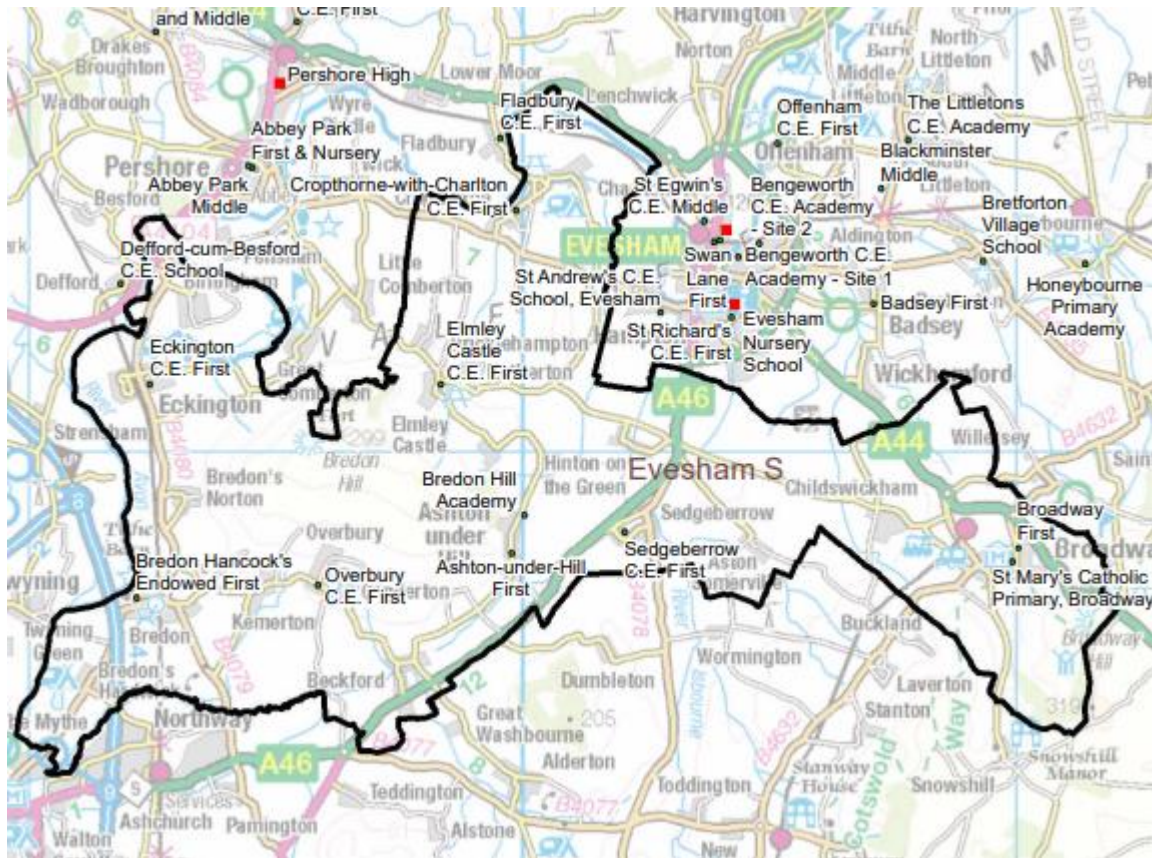
In practice, on average 28 pupils per year travel to secondary or high schools outside Pershore EPA. This is roughly equivalent to the form of entry attending the Holy Redeemer Catholic Primary School in Pershore, most of whom usually transfer to Blessed Edward Oldcorne Catholic College in Worcester.

Figure 71 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Pershore High EPA

PAN 282	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	232	249	240	224	83	61
Oct-19	236	230	246	234	101	74
Oct-20	220	230	228	241	107	100
Oct-21	219	228	239	221	106	101
Oct-22	239	224	228	234	79	103
Oct-23	229	237	211	227	80	73
Oct-24	229	231	237	208	93	76
Oct-25	216	230	229	232	85	88
Oct-26	204	217	228	225	97	86
Oct-27	239	204	215	223	92	92
Oct-28	232	242	204	212	92	88
Oct-29	234	233	240	200	87	88
Oct-30	208	235	232	236	82	83
Oct-31	228	209	234	228	97	78

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Evesham South First Education Planning Area



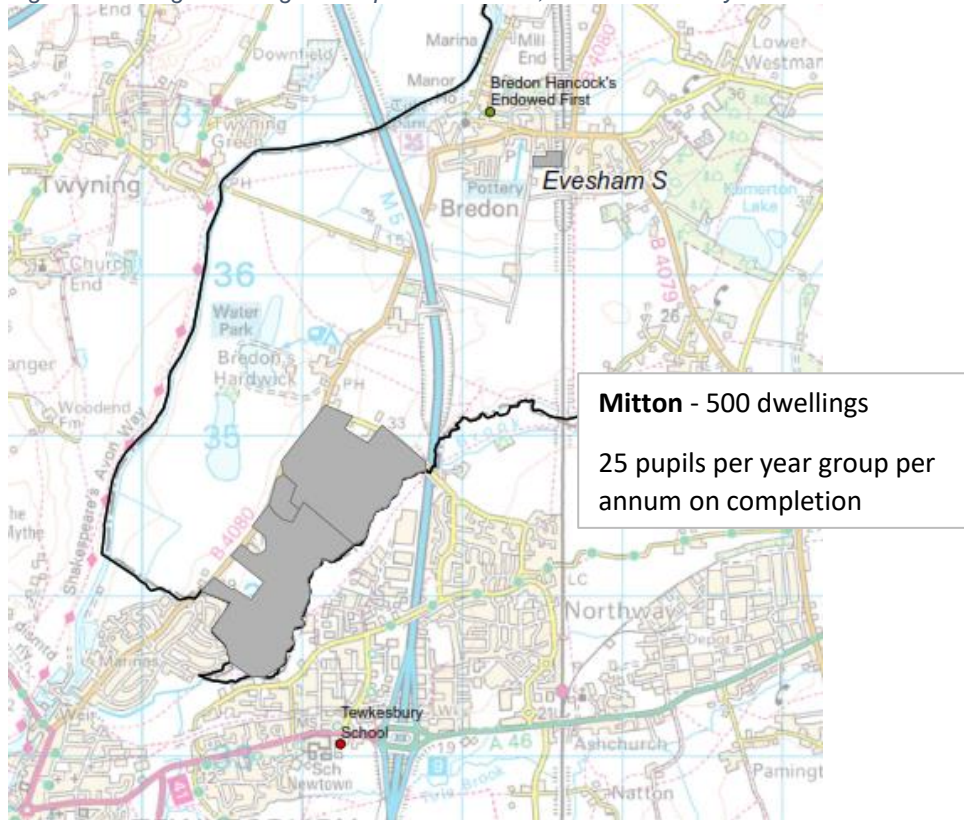
The Evesham South Education Planning Area is made up of the south of the Vale of Evesham just outside Evesham town. The entirety of the area sits within Wychavon District Council. The planning area is served by nine First Schools (Years R-5) and one Middle School (Years 6-8).

First school places are forecast to be sufficient in the Evesham South First EPA.

2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Evesham South EPA, with 22% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding' and 78% of schools deemed as 'Good'.

The previous year's forecasts showed some surplus places. Known children figures have increased since the previous year's forecast.

Figure 72 – Large Housing Development in Mitton, near Tewkesbury



Housing

A proposed housing development at Mitton, adjacent to Tewkesbury in Gloucestershire will if approved add 500 dwellings by 2034. A new primary school feeding into Tewkesbury secondary education is planned for this development. As such it will be independent of the Evesham South EPA.

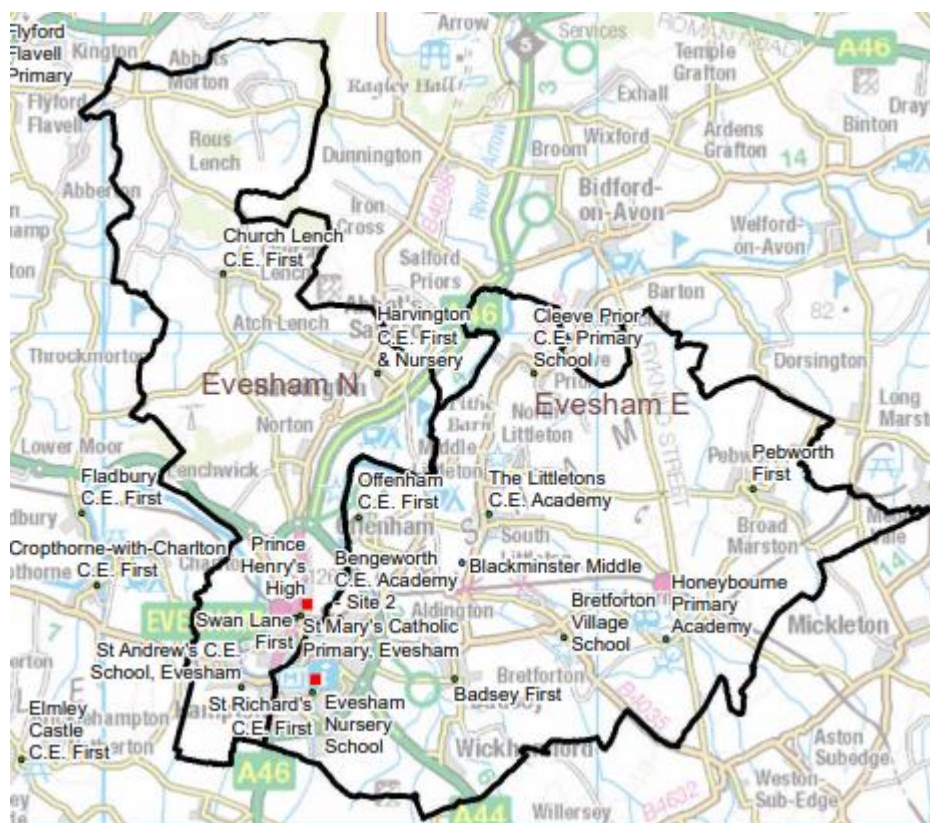
The forecast below includes a trend migration factor of 50% inbound pupils from Gloucestershire and Evesham.

Figure 73- Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Evesham South First EPA

PAN 178	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5
Oct-18	140	160	160	156	157	143
Oct-19	126	145	161	158	152	157
Oct-20	164	129	149	164	156	156
Oct-21	139	172	135	150	165	147
Oct-22	143	148	170	136	150	170
Oct-23	151	144	144	183	140	159
Oct-24	126	156	145	147	178	142
Oct-25	178	131	158	148	147	162
Oct-26	161	178	132	161	148	148
Oct-27	178	167	178	135	161	150

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Evesham North First Education Planning Area



The Evesham North Education Planning Area is made up of the western half of the town of Evesham plus rural villages to the north, coinciding with the catchment of Prince Henry's High School. The entirety of the area sits within Wychavon District Council. The planning area is served by four First Schools (Years R-5), one Primary school (Years R-6), one Middle School (Years 6-8) and one High School (Years 9-11) with a sixth form.

First School places are forecast to be sufficient in Evesham North Primary EPA.

2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Evesham North EPA, with 20% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', the rest deemed as 'Good'.

Figure 74 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Evesham North First EPA

PAN 195	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5
Oct-18	195	153	186	175	160	169
Oct-19	140	194	155	189	185	159
Oct-20	171	144	190	153	188	182
Oct-21	177	172	144	191	156	180
Oct-22	151	183	172	140	193	157
Oct-23	158	152	187	172	144	195
Oct-24	164	160	152	186	176	143
Oct-25	159	166	161	152	190	174
Oct-26	186	161	166	160	155	189
Oct-27	161	189	161	166	164	154

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

There have been some additional dwellings built in Hampton near St Andrew's CE First School with a further 80 dwellings being built between 2025-2026. These are forecast to yield an additional 4 pupils per year group per year by 2026.

Evesham East First & Primary Education Planning Area

The Evesham East Education Planning Area is made up of the eastern half of the town of Evesham plus rural villages towards the border with Warwickshire, coinciding with the catchment of The De Montfort School. The entirety of the area sits within Wychavon District Council. The planning area is served by seven First Schools (Years R-5), two Primary Schools (Years R-6), one Middle School (Years 6-8) and one Middle & High School with a sixth form (Years 6-13).

There is a forecast oversupply of first school places in the Evesham East First & Primary EPA

2% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in Evesham East EPA, with 78% of first and primary schools deemed as 'Good'.

Several First schools beyond 2 miles from Evesham Town have low known pre-school aged children and low forecast intakes. Some neighbouring first schools have higher numbers of known children and therefore balance out some of the demand and supply of places.

Some First schools including Bretforton, Cleeve Prior, and Pebworth are forecast to have over 50% surplus places in reception for the next three years.

Cleeve Prior First School has no schools within a 2-mile range with surplus known children that would be likely to increase its numbers on roll.

Housing

Although there are 200+ dwellings being built at Long Marston in the Pebworth catchment, this development is closer to Meon Vale Primary School in Warwickshire, so is unlikely to receive many additional pupils.

On average over a 6-year period, 18% of reception pupils (55 pupils) from Evesham urban catchments attended schools outside Evesham.

Figure 75 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Evesham East First EPA

PAN 300	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4
Oct-18	248	256	249	267	257
Oct-19	264	250	254	254	268
Oct-20	235	262	245	248	251
Oct-21	260	233	257	238	253
Oct-22	232	261	233	267	246
Oct-23	228	235	264	241	265
Oct-24	198	228	233	266	243
Oct-25	229	198	227	235	268
Oct-26	214	230	197	229	237
Oct-27	207	215	228	198	230

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

WCC are working with Cleeve Prior and Pebworth First Schools to support options to sustain these schools with such low numbers.

Evesham Middle Education Planning Area

There are sufficient middle school places in the Evesham Middle EPA.

There are 4 primary schools in the Evesham EPAs (Honeybourne, Cleeve Prior, St Mary's, Broadway and St Mary's, Evesham). The pupils from these primary schools frequently go to a Warwickshire or Gloucestershire secondary school. Chipping Camden Secondary School in Gloucestershire admitted 50 pupils per year from Worcestershire over the last 5 years.

Demand for middle school places within Evesham town continues to increase, however the two schools serving the town (De Montfort Middle School and St Egwin's CE Middle School) have sufficient places to meet the needs of pupils currently at their feeder schools in most year groups.

Bredon Hill Academy (rated 'Outstanding'), St Egwin's Middle School (rated 'Good') and The De Montfort Middle School (rated 'Good') have a high demand for places over the next 4 years. Many pupils applying for these places live in the catchment of Blackminster Middle School (rated 'Requires Improvement') so this does not represent a need for more middle school places in the town. In the event of oversubscription in the other middle schools, some pupils resident in Blackminster's catchment area are likely to be offered places at their catchment school.

Figure 76 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Evesham Middle EPA

Whole EPA	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8	Middle School Only	Yr 6	Yr 7	Yr 8
Oct-18	534	490	486	PAN 562	475	490	486
Oct-19	575	479	489		514	479	489
Oct-20	572	478	476	Year 6 Evesham EPA PAN 652	517	478	476
Oct-21	584	489	463		534	489	463
Oct-22	578	514	493		526	514	493
Oct-23	564	510	515		514	510	515
Oct-24	598	491	508		530	491	508
Oct-25	547	521	490		490	521	490
Oct-26	599	476	519		535	476	519
Oct-27	604	521	473		534	521	473
Oct-28	540	525	519		486	525	519
Oct-29	553	469	522		488	469	522
Oct-30	497	481	466		439	481	466
Oct-31	569	432	429		513	432	429

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

The combined PAN of the middle schools is in 2024 decreases to 562 but the 4 primary schools add a further 90 year 6 places, therefore total capacity of year 6 is 652 places. The right-hand half of figure 76 shows the forecast for combined middle schools only.

Evesham High Education Planning Area

High School places are forecast to be sufficient in Evesham High EPA.

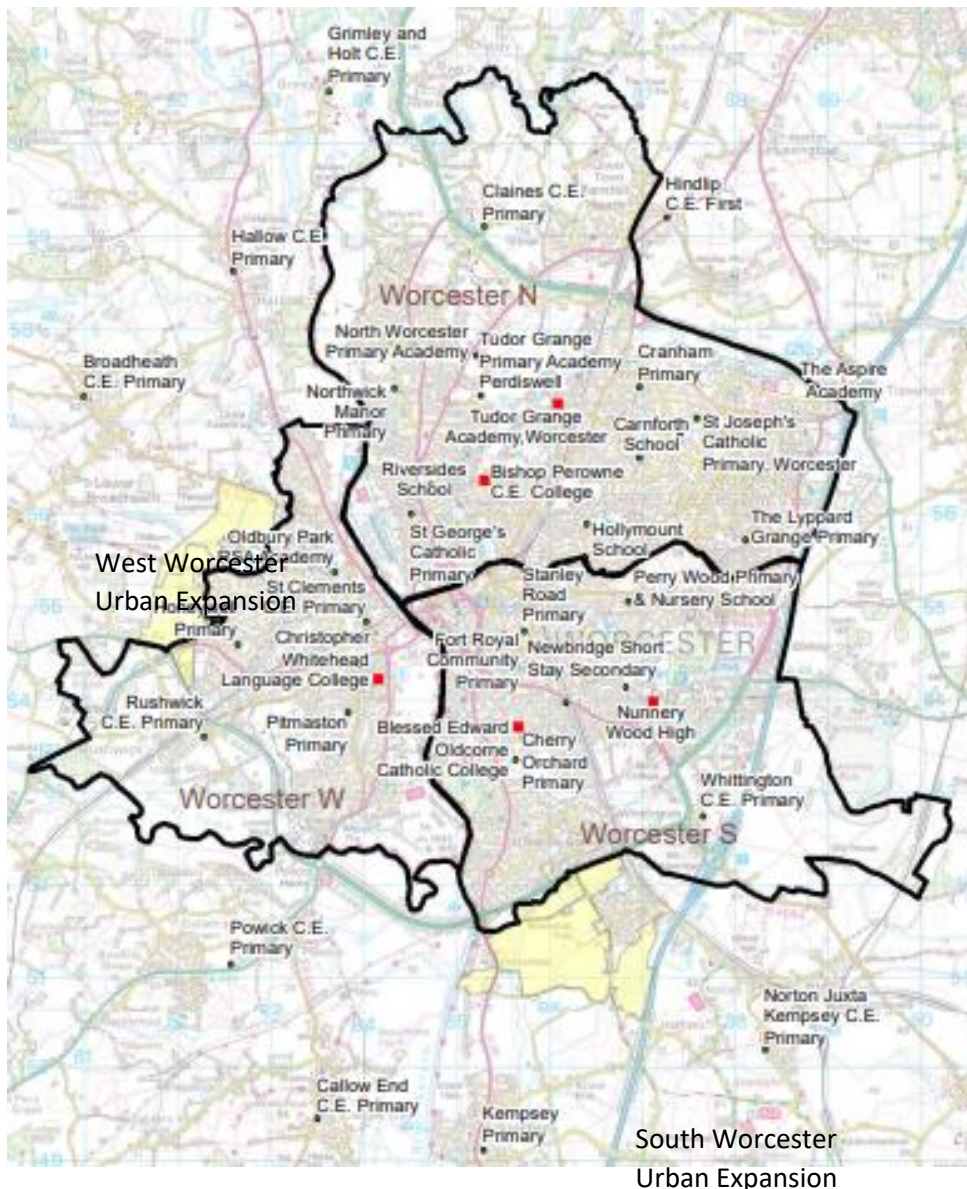
Prince Henry High School (rated 'Outstanding') continues to receive more applications than places available, including on average 30% from pupils living in The De Montfort High School's catchment. The De Montfort High School reduced its external PAN for year 9 from 100 to 90 in September 2024, making the combined PAN for year 9 a total of 555. Once the reduction in PAN for the 2024 year 6 cohort reaches year 9, this becomes a combined PAN of 525 in 2027. This is above the forecast numbers on roll in feeder schools in all years. In the event of there being higher numbers transferring than the current total PAN, The De Montfort High School has sufficient accommodation to admit the extra pupils.

Figure 77 – Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Evesham High EPA

PAN 565	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	478	463	461	211	205
Oct-19	483	473	455	228	190
Oct-20	481	487	468	242	219
Oct-21	459	472	469	221	225
Oct-22	466	465	464	222	211
Oct-23	500	460	447	239	201
Oct-24	512	498	449	223	223
Oct-25	505	511	488	224	209
Oct-26	486	504	500	243	209
Oct-27	515	485	492	249	227
Oct-28	470	514	474	245	232
Oct-29	515	468	501	236	228
Oct-30	518	513	457	249	219
Oct-31	463	516	500	227	232

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Worcester City District



Worcester West Primary Education Planning Area

This planning area is mostly within the city of Worcester and includes the area around Rushwick village. The planning area is served by six Primary Schools (Years R-6), and one Secondary School (Years 7-11) with a sixth form.

4% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in West Worcester EPA, with 33% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', with a further 50% deemed as 'Good'.

Primary School places are forecast to be sufficient in West Worcester Primary EPA until 2028. however major new housing will require additional school places in the longer term.

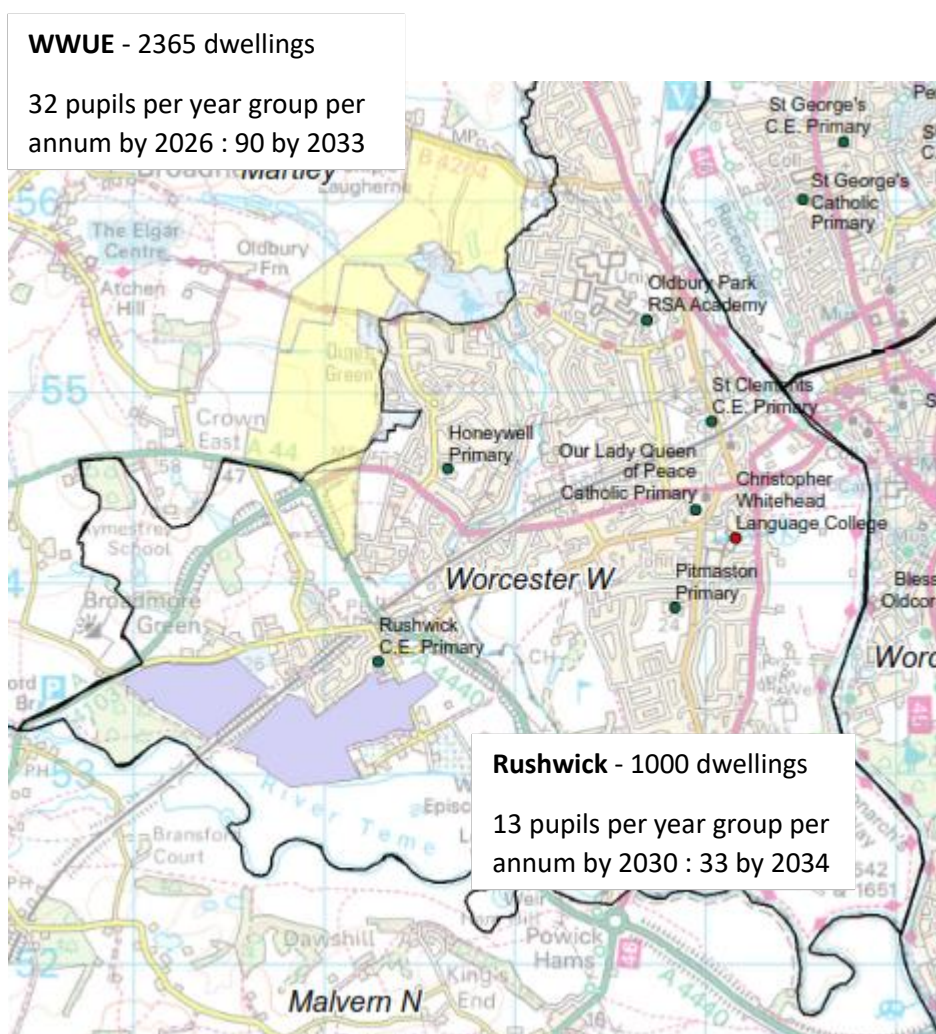
Figure 78 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Worcester West Primary EPA

PAN 270	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	225	232	248	268	263	263	257
Oct-19	229	234	234	255	263	263	262
Oct-20	217	229	224	234	247	264	256
Oct-21	219	223	236	226	239	246	265
Oct-22	216	222	233	240	233	240	247
Oct-23	223	229	232	238	251	243	247
Oct-24	232	234	238	240	245	258	248
Oct-25	236	243	243	246	248	252	263
Oct-26	238	246	251	251	252	253	256
Oct-27	253	248	253	258	256	257	257

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Housing

Figure 79 – Large Housing Developments in Worcester West and Rushwick



Major housing is underway in the West Worcester Urban Expansion (WWUE) site of 2,365 new dwellings in total. The site is within the Martley EPA boundary, though it is expected that much of the initial impact will be on schools in Worcester West EPA based on pupil projections. A proposed site within the development has been identified for a new two form entry (60 place per year group) primary and nursery school which is currently being planned to open in September 2028.

The new dwellings are expected to yield an additional 60+ (2FE) pupils per year group by 2029, rising to 90 (3FE) by 2033 and circa 120 when complete. Ahead of the new school being delivered, the mitigation for places will include pupils attending schools within the West Worcester EPA, but some pupils may need to attend schools further than 2 miles from home, therefore incurring transport costs for the LA.

The proposed housing development in Rushwick of 1000 dwellings will require a new 2FE primary school to be delivered on the site as the current school cannot be expanded further than its current 1FE. To date a planning pre-application has been submitted but no application yet.

Figure 80 – Forecast pupils living in the catchment areas adjacent to West Worcester Urban Expansion due to start school 2025-2028

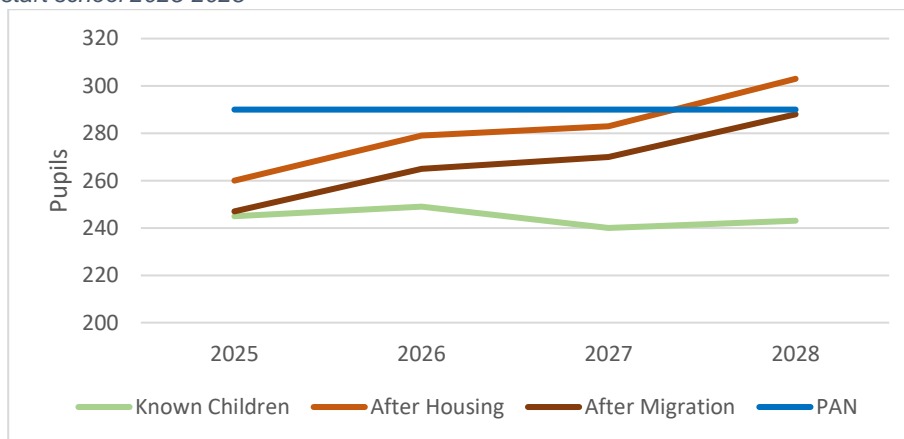


Figure 80 shows that totals of current known children per year are below PAN for the EPA and that many additional children are expected from both WWUE housing and population growth through migration. This graph includes Broadheath CE Primary School, showing that though the West Worcester EPA is sufficient for its own resident pupils, the impact of housing is likely to fill all available places by 2028. This includes a trend of 8% of resident pupils attending special schools, independent schools or schools outside the EPA.

Honeywell Primary school reduced its PAN from 45 to 30 in 2020, so may have sufficient accommodation to accept an increased intake if required.

Worcester South Primary Education Planning Area

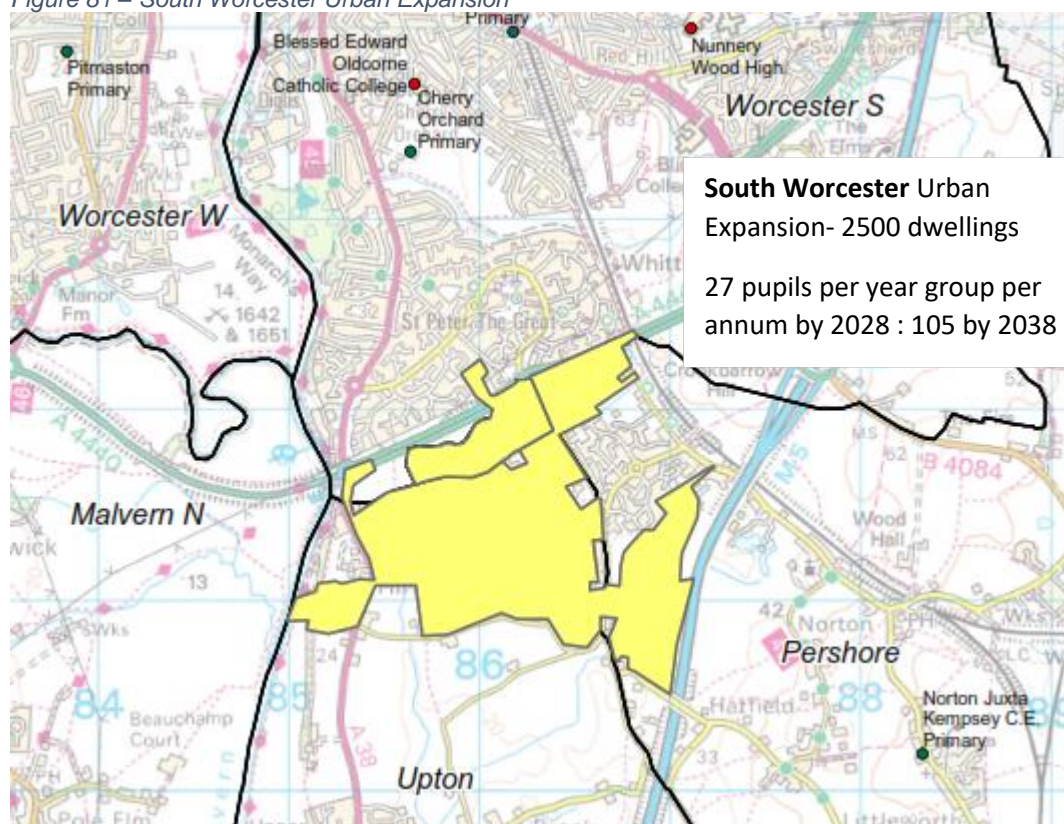
The area sits within the city of Worcester but includes a small area of Wychavon District around Whittington village. The planning area is served by six Primary Schools (Years R-6), and two Secondary Schools (Years 7-11).

6% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in South Worcester EPA, with 83% of schools deemed as 'Good'.

Primary School places are forecast to be insufficient in South Worcester Primary EPA due to major housing growth

Housing

Figure 81 – South Worcester Urban Expansion



Major housing growth is planned in the Hopfields area of South Worcester totalling circa 2400 homes up to 2037. The first phase of this scheme (238 dwellings) is complete. The site is entirely within the Upton EPA, but since there are safe walking routes to Worcester schools, but not to Kempsey Primary, the catchment school, much of the initial impact is likely to be in the Worcester South EPA. The Section 106 Education Planning Obligations agreement for the developer's contributions was signed for the development on 17th October 2022 and includes a new 2FE Primary School with nursery within the development.

1000+ new dwellings are expected to be delivered up to 2031, with an expected yield of additional 27 (1FE) pupils by 2028. Ahead of the new school being delivered, the mitigation for places may include some pupils having to be offered school places further than 2 miles from home, therefore incurring transport costs for the LA.

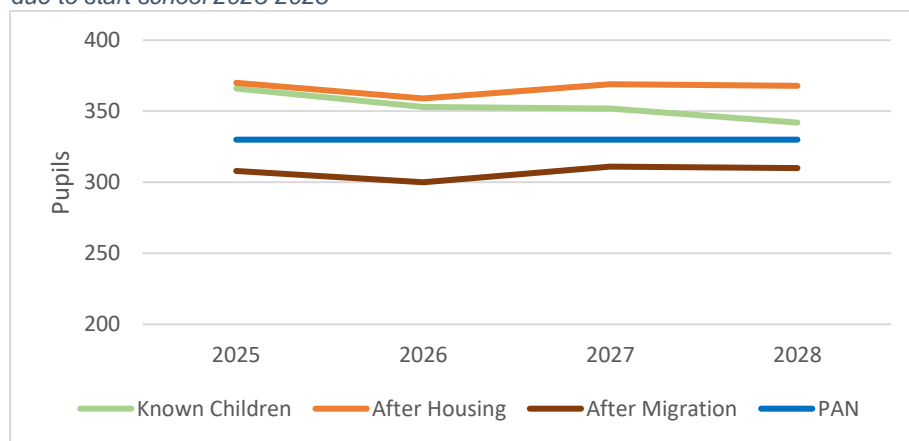
The pupil numbers on roll are offset by 17% leaving the Southeast area of the EPA to catholic schools, special schools and schools outside the city or other areas of the city.

Figure 82 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Worcester South Primary EPA

PAN 360	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	323	327	303	312	320	319	314
Oct-19	304	323	330	301	305	317	316
Oct-20	289	304	325	328	304	302	314
Oct-21	262	293	327	319	333	305	306
Oct-22	302	268	309	335	332	340	312
Oct-23	312	316	274	314	344	332	343
Oct-24	294	317	327	275	318	344	334
Oct-25	275	299	328	327	278	319	346
Oct-26	281	279	309	328	332	279	320
Oct-27	288	285	289	309	333	332	280
Oct-28	280	293	295	290	314	334	334

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Figure 83 – Current and forecast 3+ year olds living in the catchment areas of South Worcester primary schools due to start school 2023-2028



Allocations for September 2024 for these schools totalled 279 pupils, so the estimated transfers away from the area were conservative.

Worcester North Primary Education Planning Area

The entirety of the area sits within the city of Worcester. The planning area is served by twelve Primary Schools (Years R-6), and two Secondary Schools (Years 7-11), one with a sixth form.

8% of primary school aged pupils in the county are educated in the North Worcester EPA, with 17% of schools deemed as 'Outstanding', with the rest deemed as 'Good'.

There is a forecast oversupply of primary school places in the Worcester North Primary EPA from 2025.

Figure 84 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Worcester North Primary EPA

PAN 710	R	Yr 1	Yr 2	Yr 3	Yr 4	Yr 5	Yr 6
Oct-18	571	639	651	624	615	603	577
Oct-19	634	572	639	645	630	615	600
Oct-20	594	630	575	635	656	626	614
Oct-21	568	596	629	573	638	660	621
Oct-22	617	570	605	639	569	646	664
Oct-23	603	634	586	618	647	599	652
Oct-24	552	607	640	588	623	655	599
Oct-25	513	558	615	645	595	634	658
Oct-26	530	516	564	617	650	603	634
Oct-27	562	533	521	566	622	658	603

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

Figure 85 – Worcester North Primary Schools showing surplus places

School	Ofsted	PAN	NOR Sept 2024	Forecast 2025	Forecast 2026	Forecast 2027	Forecast 2028
Northwick Manor	Outstanding	90	70	69	72	81	70
Claines CE	Good	30	26	27	29	30	26
North Worcester Academy	Good	60	52	52	54	46	52
Hollymount	Good	50	40	41	49	43	40
St George's RC	Good	30	25	27	27	28	25
St George's CE	Good	30	24	25	26	26	24
St Joseph's RC	Good	60	39	40	43	43	39
TGPA Perdiswell	Good	60	33	40	57	58	33
St Barnabas CE	Good	60	44	44	44	48	44
Cranham	Good	60	47	47	42	42	47
Carnforth	Good	30	22	22	23	24	22
Oasis Academy	Outstanding	90	54	54	54	63	54
The Lyppard Grange	Good	60	54	54	55	54	54
Surplus places			180	168	135	124	180

*Primary Schools / Blue cells show surplus places over 50%.

Although there are significant surplus places, there are no schools with over 50% surplus places forecast in reception years.

Worcester Secondary Education Planning Area

Secondary School places are insufficient in Worcester Secondary EPA.

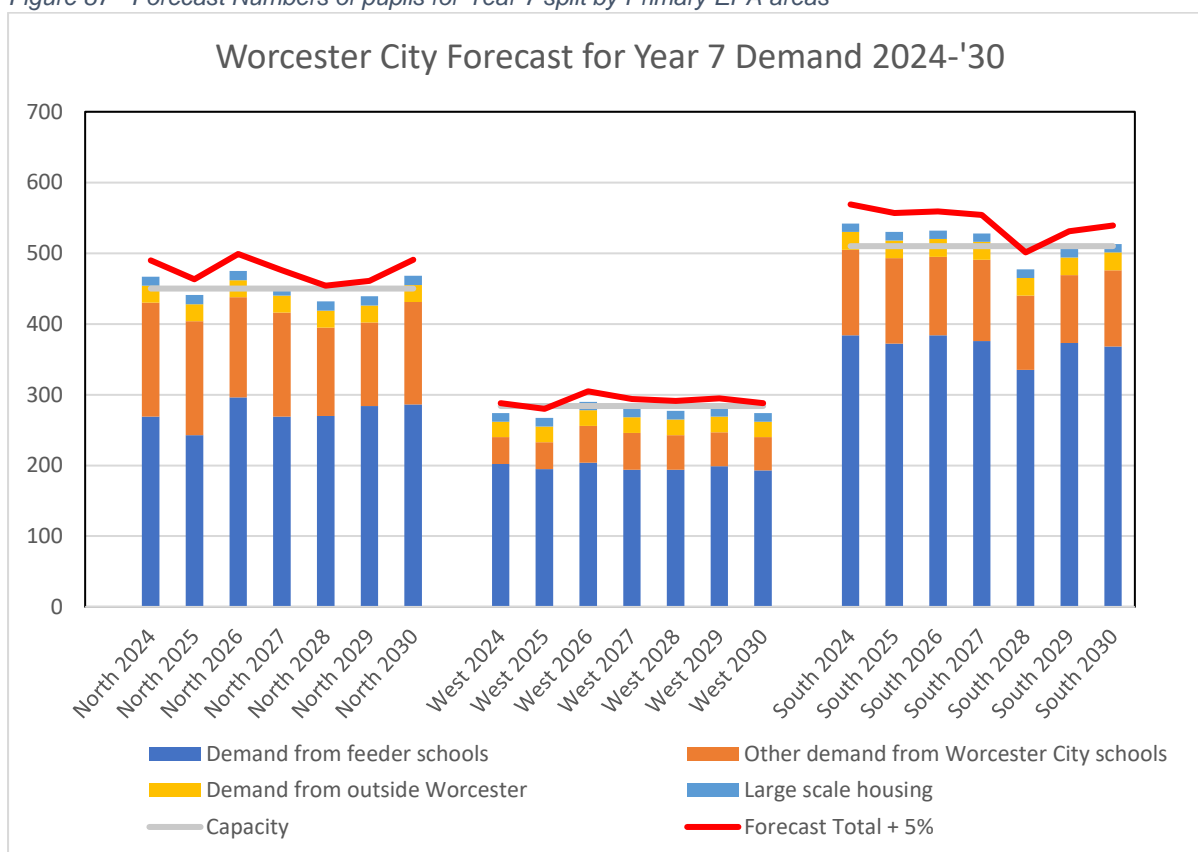
Figure 86 - Forecast and Historic Numbers on Roll for Worcester Secondary EPA

PAN 1244	Yr 7	Yr 8	Yr 9	Yr 10	Yr 11	Yr 12	Yr 13
Oct-18	1158	1114	1093	1013	999	165	146
Oct-19	1150	1148	1089	1076	1003	118	158
Oct-20	1189	1135	1145	1088	1056	167	110
Oct-21	1203	1188	1146	1139	1073	177	157
Oct-22	1227	1207	1186	1136	1126	142	167
Oct-23	1251	1233	1189	1169	1131	157	129
Oct-24	1267	1252	1230	1183	1160	164	152
Oct-25	1207	1271	1252	1227	1177	169	161
Oct-26	1291	1207	1266	1244	1216	171	162
Oct-27	1232	1290	1202	1257	1232	176	163
Oct-28	1160	1231	1285	1194	1246	179	168
Oct-29	1280	1164	1231	1281	1188	181	174
Oct-30	1254	1278	1158	1221	1267	172	171
Oct-31	1178	1252	1271	1149	1208	184	163

*Yellow cells have numbers on roll at or above 95% of PAN, orange cells have numbers on roll at or above 98% of PAN and blue cells less than 75% of PAN

The majority of the pressure for secondary school places exists within the southeast of the city, within the catchment area of Nunnery Wood High School. Since Spring 2022, the LA has worked with existing Worcester City Secondary schools' leaders to identify options to mitigate the demand for Year 7 intake places and in-year admissions for other year groups. In the Septembers of both 2023 and 2024, various secondary schools offered to take pupils over their PAN to accommodate the additional demand.

Figure 87 - Forecast Numbers of pupils for Year 7 split by Primary EPA areas



Housing

Worcester City is experiencing, and is expected to continue to experience, a large volume of housing growth. The south area is where the largest demand for places exists, and demand is expected to continue to rise. The South Worcestershire Councils are currently consulting on the requirement for an additional 20,400 dwellings across South Worcestershire up to 2041 some phases of which are already under construction. Of these, some 12,800 are within 5 miles of the city of Worcester. Nunnery Wood and Blessed Edward Oldcorne cover the catchment area for the south of Worcester City. Forecasts are predicting a need for an additional 2FE (53 places) for September 2026.

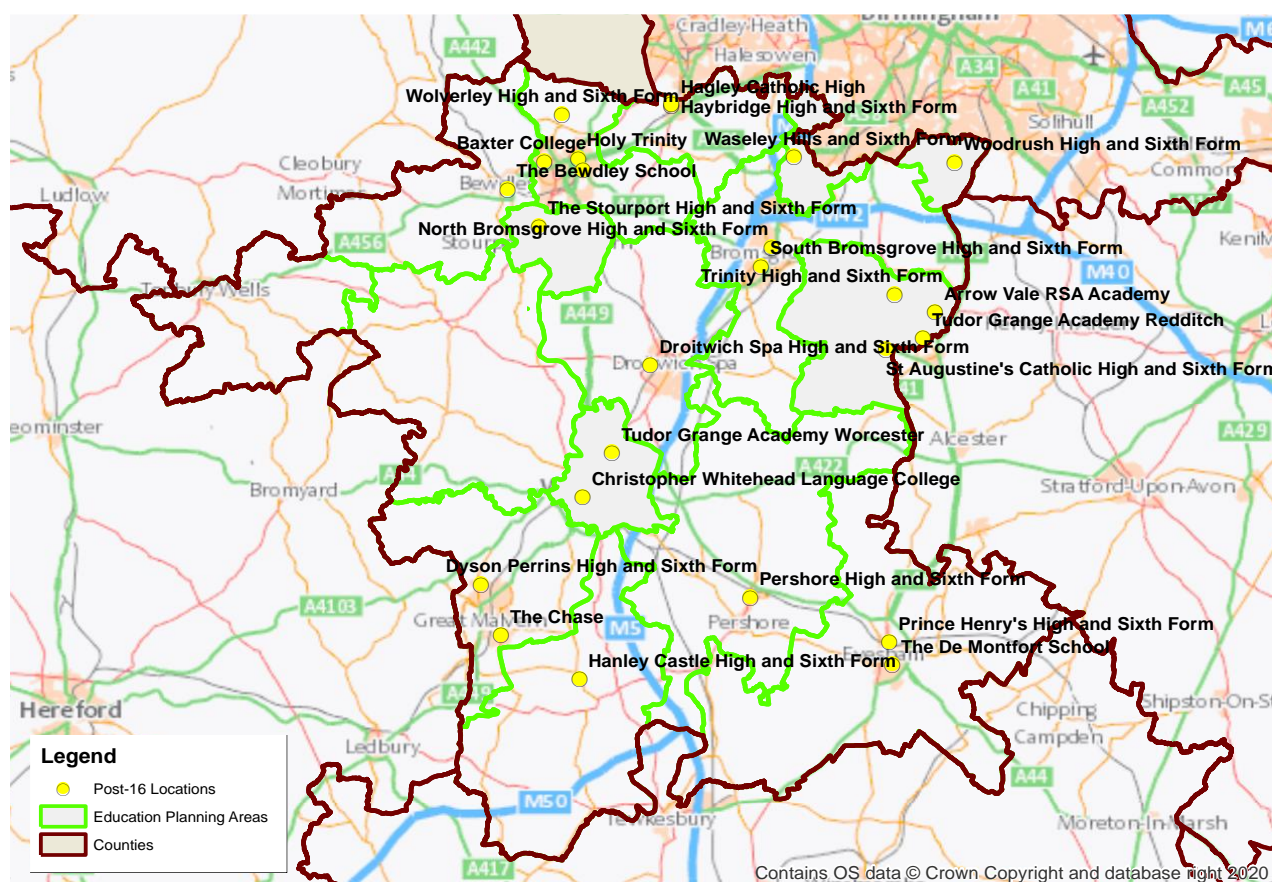
In February 2021 Cabinet approved a new 4FE (120 place) secondary school to be delivered to meet the existing and ongoing demand, to open in September 2026. In March 2023 Cabinet approved a revised timeline and increased funding to deliver the new school for September 2028. WCC have been working with all existing Worcester City Secondary Schools, Malvern Secondary Schools and the secondary school in Martley to assess what options are potential to mitigate Year 7 places for 2026 and 2027 ahead of the new school being delivered. The February 2025 Education Sufficiency Cabinet report provides the latest update and options for Cabinet to consider for the mitigation of the impact of the demand for Worcester City Secondary school places over the next 6 years.

Post-16 / Sixth Form provision in schools

In recent years the location and supply of school sixth form provision in Worcestershire has remained largely unchanged. Schools set their own sixth form admissions criteria, manage their own sixth form admissions, the number and level of courses on offer.

Sixth Form provision is provided in all six District Council areas across Worcestershire. These six districts are split into fourteen Secondary Education Planning Areas (EPAs). Of these, only two EPAs: Martley and Tenbury, do not offer sixth form provision within a school setting.

Figure 88: - A map showing school based post-16 locations within Worcestershire Education Planning Areas



For September 2023, both Haybridge Secondary and Wolverley CE Secondary increased Published Admission Number (PAN) by 30 for admittance into the first year of entry. The impact on sixth form provision at these settings is unlikely to feel the impact of local demographics until 2025. This is close to the point at which high/secondary school pupil numbers, as set out in national predictions, are anticipated to be at their peak. However, this does not preclude any increase or decrease in pupil numbers as a result of new housing growth and parental preference.

Assessment and Performance of School Sixth Forms

In Worcestershire, there are 31 mainstream publicly funded schools offering secondary education provision of which 24 also deliver post-16 sixth form provision. 23(96%) of these schools are rated as 'Good' (79%) or 'Outstanding' (8%) by Ofsted.

Where sixth form provision is offered, schools have a sixth form PAN for admission of external pupils who did not attend the school in year 11. All but two secondary/high schools with sixth form provision have academy status.

Figure 89: - Ofsted Ratings for Secondary/High Schools with Post-16 Provision in Worcestershire

Name	PAN 2023 /24	Sixth Form PAN 2023/24	OFSTED Rating	Inspection Date	Education Planning Area	Maintained or Academy	Conversion Date
Arrow Vale RSA Academy	224	15	Outstanding	05/12/18	Redditch	Academy	01/09/12
Baxter College	180	10	Good	15/01/20	Wyre Forest	Academy	01/09/12
Christopher Whitehead Language College	284	12	Good	24/05/23	Worcester	Academy	01/07/11
Droitwich Spa High and Sixth Form	305	15	Good	20/02/24	Droitwich	Academy	01/07/11
Hagley Catholic High	190	30	Good	16/10/19	Hagley	Academy	01/10/14
Hanley Castle High and Sixth Form	180	20	Good	14/06/17	Upton	Academy	01/08/11
Haybridge High and Sixth Form	210	52	Good	28/09/22	Hagley	Academy	01/07/11
Holy Trinity	25	30	Good	21/09/22	Wyre Forest	Academy	01/09/14
King Charles 1 High and Sixth Form	224	10	Good	02/03/23	Wyre Forest	Academy	01/04/12
North Bromsgrove High and Sixth Form	300	10	Good	25/01/23	Bromsgrove	Academy	01/12/23
Pershore High and Sixth Form	282	8	Requires Improvement	12/03/24	Pershore	Academy	01/07/11
Prince Henry's High and Sixth Form	315	30	Outstanding	05/03/24	Evesham	Academy	01/03/13
South Bromsgrove High and Sixth Form	335	20	Good	18/04/23	Bromsgrove	Academy	01/11/13
St Augustine's Catholic High and Sixth Form	235	50	Outstanding	16/04/24	Redditch	Academy	01/07/14
The Bewdley School	180	8	Good	12/09/19	Wyre Forest	Maintained	N/A
The Chase	240	40	Good	19/10/21	Malvern	Academy	01/11/11
The De Montfort School	210	10	Good	10/10/23	Evesham	Academy	01/01/21
The Stourport High and Sixth Form	254	15	Good	12/07/22	Stourport	Academy	01/08/11
Trinity High and Sixth Form	252	20	Good	05/03/24	Redditch	Academy	01/08/11
Tudor Grange Academy Redditch	180	20	Good	18/01/22	Redditch	Academy	01/04/14
Tudor Grange Academy Worcester	210	3	Good	22/05/19	Worcester	Academy	01/09/09
Waseley Hills and Sixth Form	178	50	Requires Improvement	08/06/22	Rubery	Academy	01/09/12
Wolverley High and Sixth Form	180	8	Good	09/11/21	Wyre Forest	Maintained	N/A
Woodrush High and Sixth Form	180	10	Good	23/04/24	Wythall	Academy	01/07/11

Recent Demand for Post-16 Provision in schools

Stay on Rates

Figure 90: - Number of Pupils on Roll in Years 12 and 13 in state-funded mainstream schools – data each October

School Name	Year 12 2017	Year 13 2017	Year 12 2018	Year 13 2018	Year 12 2019	Year 13 2019	Year 12 2020	Year 13 2020	Year 12 2021	Year 13 2021	Year 12 2022	Year 13 2022
Arrow Vale RSA Academy	59	43	79	48	80	62	80	69	67	76	93	59
Baxter College	47	56	55	38	52	51	50	50	55	44	34	47
Christopher Whitehead Language College	118	75	100	104	90	98	116	83	113	107	90	111
Droitwich Spa High and Sixth Form	119	97	99	103	97	88	91	96	97	81	96	90
Hagley Catholic High	106	96	113	99	112	100	89	110	101	78	86	83
Hanley Castle High and Sixth Form	115	90	110	99	115	99	95	110	114	91	103	114
Haybridge High and Sixth Form	172	131	174	151	130	158	168	119	122	153	98	105
Holy Trinity	19	13	20	12	31	16	30	25	20	29	24	20
King Charles 1 High and Sixth Form	46	51	58	42	57	44	65	49	62	50	59	47
North Bromsgrove High and Sixth Form	59	65	17	47	65	16	77	57	98	71	117	87
Pershore High and Sixth Form	63	93	83	61	101	74	107	100	106	101	79	103
Prince Henry's High and Sixth Form	179	161	165	171	170	156	169	166	174	163	150	168
South Bromsgrove High and Sixth Form	177	174	173	166	178	164	182	173	168	175	188	166
St Augustine's Catholic High and Sixth Form	125	108	125	105	150	96	146	136	149	138	142	137
The Bewdley School	60	62	46	47	47	32	71	47	69	64	50	55
The Chase	123	99	139	124	134	132	130	124	154	124	132	136
The De Montfort School	40	58	46	34	58	34	73	53	47	62	72	43
The Stourport High and Sixth Form	55	59	57	48	79	44	57	67	82	66	72	70
Trinity High and Sixth Form	95	72	104	74	95	87	116	88	88	102	97	76
Tudor Grange Academy Redditch	74	45	17	54	17	14	32	14	24	32	38	17
Tudor Grange Academy Worcester	55	60	65	42	28	60	51	27	64	50	52	56
Waseley Hills and Sixth Form	39	30	33	30	48	30	34	43	40	30	25	31
Wolverley High and Sixth Form	22	20	26	17	12	19	29	9	41	24	39	24
Woodrush High and Sixth Form	45	57	61	39	45	56	42	40	66	43	42	57
Total	2491	1982	2318	1988	2037	1855	2001	1778	2005	1763	2100	1868

The number of pupils in a sixth form varies between schools. This is shown in Figure 90. Waseley High and Holy Trinity have the smallest number of pupils on roll in year 12 with 25 and 24 pupils respectively, whereas the largest school sixth forms, Prince Henry's

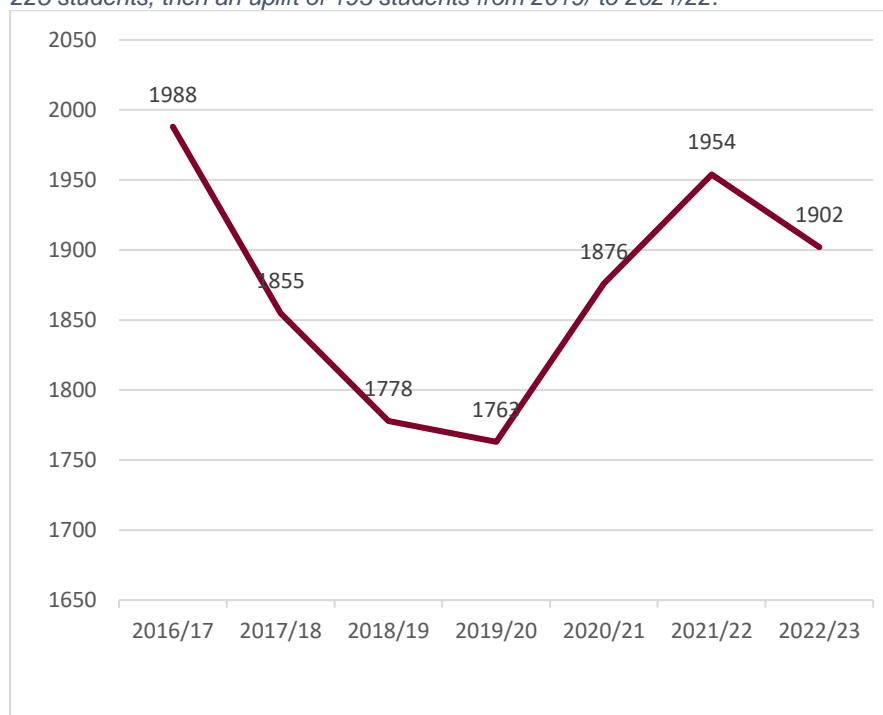
High and Sixth Form and South Bromsgrove High School, have the greatest number on roll in year 12 of 150 and 188 pupils respectively. For all schools, where there are a greater number of pupils in attendance in a sixth form, there is an increased likelihood of the school delivering a greater number of subjects as scale supports the viability of subject delivery.

Over the past 7 years the average stay on rate in year 12 has ranged from 39.41% in the 2023/24 academic year to 46.19% in the 2021/22 academic year, although across individual sixth forms, the rates vary significantly. The stay on rate in outstanding schools was higher, between 51%-54%.

In October 2023, analysis of the number of pupils in year 12 in a school sixth form in comparison with the number of pupils in year 11 of the previous corresponding year and attending the same schools, varied from 9% to 78%, though it decreased on average from 47% in 2021/22 to 41% in 2023/24. This mirrors an increase in NEET¹¹ rates (not in education, employment or training) from 4.9% in 2018 to 6.5% in 2022/23.

In academic year 2023/24, 5 out of 24 (21%) school sixth forms in Worcestershire have retained over 50% of year 11 pupils in year 12, compared to the previous academic year, 2021/22, where 2022/23, 6 out of 24 (25%) school sixth forms maintained over 50% of their corresponding year 11 cohort.

Figure 91: - A graph to show the average number of students staying in further education at school sixth forms, transitioning from year 12 to year 13 per academic year. From 2016/17 to 2019/ there is a decline in numbers by 225 students, then an uplift of 193 students from 2019/ to 2021/22.



¹¹ [JSNA Annual Summary 2024](#)

Comparatively, when looking at the stay-on rates for students transitioning from year 12 to year 13 across the county, the general correlation was an upward trend until 2021/22 as seen in *figure 92* below.

Figure 92: - A line graph showing the combined county average stay-on percentage of students progressing from year 12 to year13 in school sixth forms.

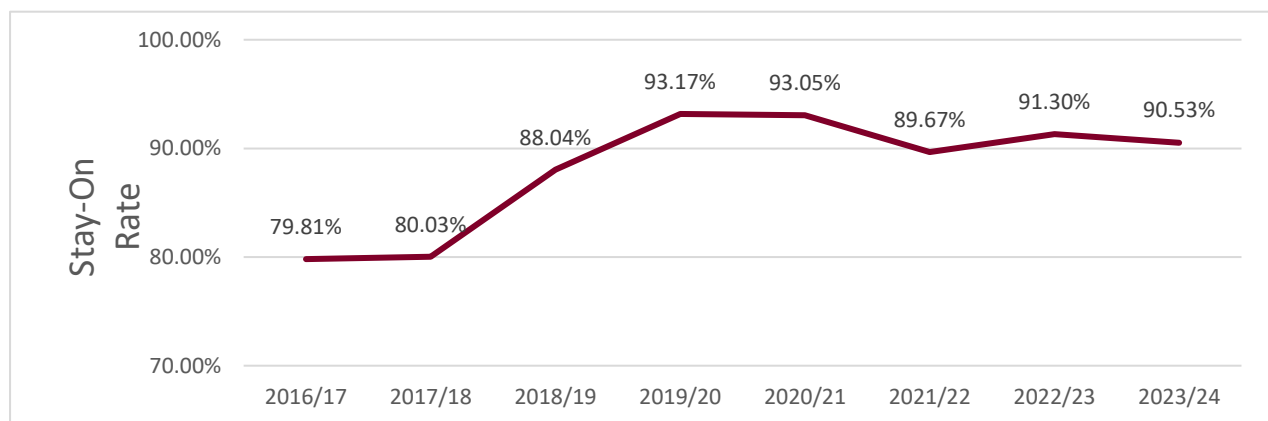


Figure 93 shows the number of year 13 pupils on roll as a percentage of the corresponding year 11 cohort that left KS4 two years prior. These percentages indicate the retention rate for each school sixth form. However, these figures do not show the number of students that completed the course they enrolled in. Stay-on rate only maps progression until two terms after a pupil enters the corresponding year, i.e. a student that enters year 13 and drops out after the beginning of the summer term would still show as part of the stay-on rate for that year.

Figure 93: - Year 13 Pupils as a Percentage of the corresponding Year 11 Cohort from Two Years Prior

School Name	2018/19	2019	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Arrow Vale RSA Academy	28.40%	32.63%	37.91%	37.07%	27.06%	36.89%
Baxter College	24.68%	31.48%	30.67%	27.16%	30.52%	24.60%
Christopher Whitehead Language College	45.61%	46.89%	37.73%	47.35%	49.12%	35.32%
Droitwich Spa High and Sixth Form	39.92%	39.64%	35.69%	30.45%	36.14%	32.96%
Hagley Catholic High	58.93%	59.52%	64.71%	47.56%	44.39%	43.32%
Hanley Castle High and Sixth Form	61.88%	64.71%	65.09%	54.17%	69.09%	60.24%
Haybridge High and Sixth Form	90.42%	98.14%	73.01%	93.29%	57.38%	44.32%
Holy Trinity	60.00%	57.14%	50.00%	61.70%	44.44%	46.81%
King Charles 1 High and Sixth Form	23.46%	23.91%	25.79%	29.24%	35.07%	30.53%
North Bromsgrove High and Sixth Form	22.93%	8.29%	24.57%	26.30%	37.66%	44.03%
Pershore High and Sixth Form	27.48%	38.54%	44.64%	43.16%	42.74%	33.03%
Prince Henry's High and Sixth Form	55.34%	50.49%	51.71%	53.44%	54.55%	46.77%
South Bromsgrove High and Sixth Form	50.46%	51.41%	53.07%	53.52%	49.70%	53.15%

St Augustine's Catholic High and Sixth Form	51.47%	43.05%	59.39%	60.53%	58.30%	52.36%
The Bewdley School	28.66%	21.19%	26.40%	38.55%	33.95%	27.88%
The Chase	58.22%	58.15%	57.94%	62.63%	68.69%	69.78%
The De Montfort School	25.00%	21.94%	37.86%	41.33%	26.88%	35.22%
The Stourport High and Sixth Form	24.49%	22.11%	34.36%	37.08%	39.77%	34.81%
Trinity High and Sixth Form	29.60%	39.19%	38.26%	42.15%	31.15%	36.40%
Tudor Grange Academy Redditch	33.96%	18.67%	22.58%	54.24%	31.48%	32.94%
Tudor Grange Academy Worcester	24.56%	34.68%	14.52%	29.41%	32.75%	23.23%
Waseley Hills and Sixth Form	23.08%	23.26%	35.25%	23.81%	26.72%	21.05%
Wolverley High and Sixth Form	18.09%	21.11%	11.11%	20.69%	17.91%	25.71%
Woodrush High and Sixth Form	22.54%	33.14%	23.67%	24.43%	31.67%	23.39%

Future demands for Post-16 provision in Worcestershire

Demographic changes

From a base of total numbers on roll of 27,532 in 2014/15, numbers have risen yearly to a peak of 30,782 in 2022/23, as seen below in *figure 92*. The decline in secondary school pupils impacted upon school sixth form numbers which fell by 16% from 4,491 in October 2014 to 3,768 in October 2019, which subsequently, is the same amount of time for the decrease to travel from year 7 to year 13 (sixth form year 2 (SFY2)). This is evidenced in *figure 94* below.

However, since October 2015 growth in secondary school pupil numbers continues to gather momentum, this increase is likely to impact school sixth form pupil numbers and post 16 provision across the County. This growth is set to continue until September 2026, where pupil numbers in secondary schools across Worcestershire are predicted to be at their highest. Pupil numbers are set to continue to rise until 2028 but with less impact in line with the current sixth form transfer rate of 42.95%; from 2028 pupil numbers are predicted to remain stable for the next three years. As seen in *figure 91*, secondary pupil numbers begin to fall in 2027/28, therefore it is expected that this decline will be seen by sixth forms in 2029 admittance numbers.

Figure 94: - Graph to show the NOR of pupils attending Worcestershire secondary schools from 2008/09 until 2023/24. Figures for NOR are forecasted from 2024/25 until 2033/34 to show expected trend. The blue line represents the current academic year. Increasing trend is in line with the expected housing increase.

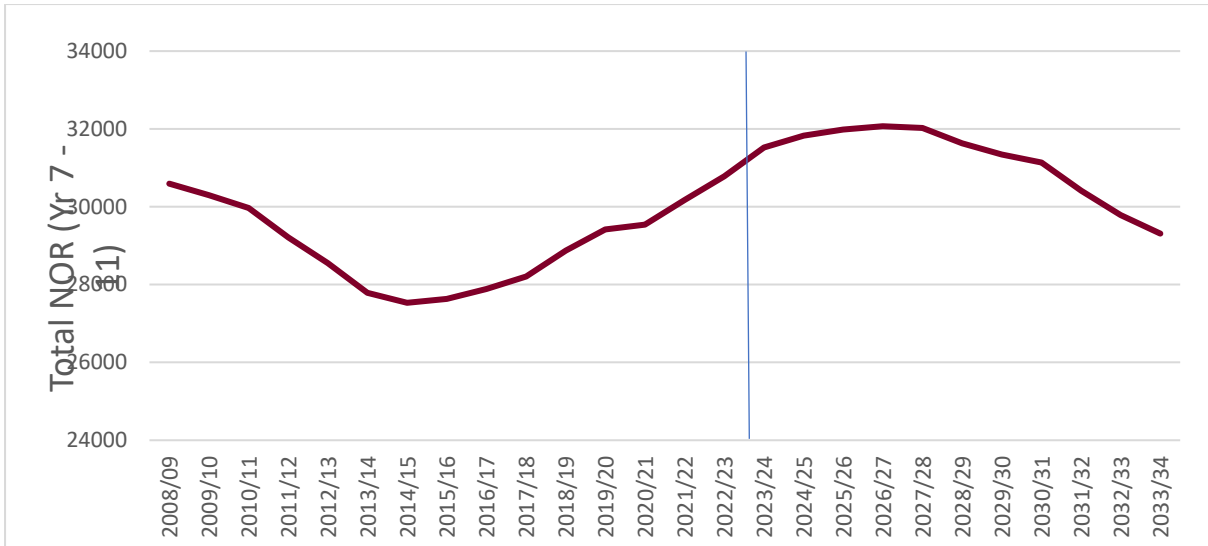
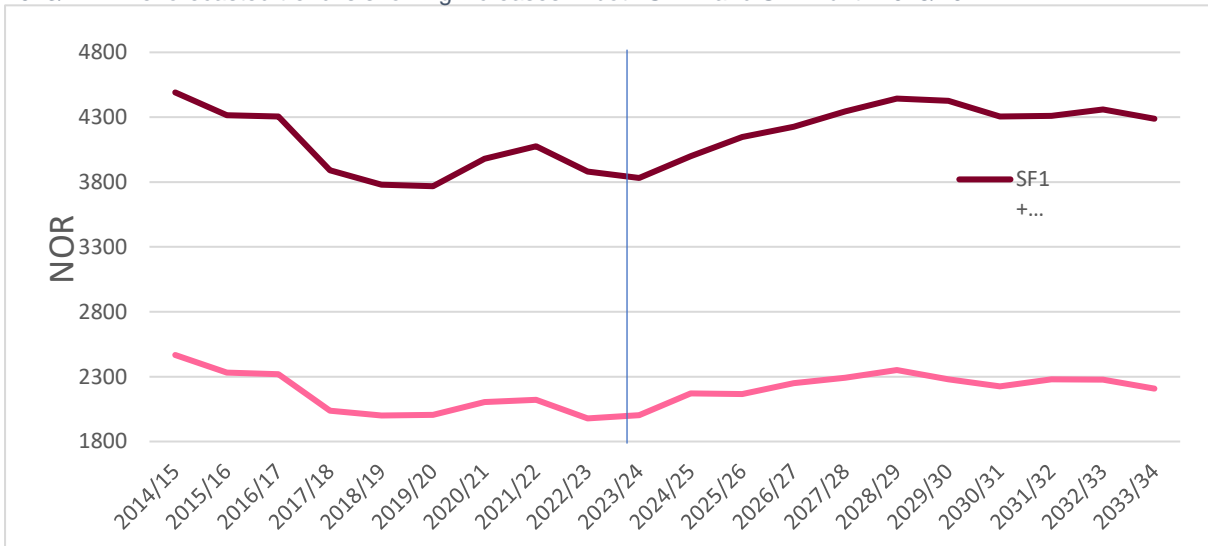


Figure 95: - A graph showing Secondary School Sixth Form NOR by Academic Year from October 2014 to October 2023, with Forecasted NOR from 2024/25 to 2033/34. The blue line indicates the current academic year, 2023/24. The forecasted trend is showing increases in both SFY1 and SFY2 until 2028/29.



Housing

Figure 96 sets out the number of dwellings identified as being required to be delivered per year by each district council between 2024 and 2030 to meet local housing need, and the estimated impact on school sixth form provision assuming an average stay on rate of 50% of year 11, is estimated to yield an additional 104 sixth form pupils on average per year that may choose school sixth form provision across Worcestershire, with further impact on other education, employment, and training provision.

Table 96: - Projected sixth form pupil yield from new housing until 2030

District Council	Housing Target per year until 2030	Estimated Sixth Form Pupil yield per year ¹²	Estimated Sixth Form Pupil Yield Over 7 Years
Bromsgrove	539	22	151

¹² Number of dwellings x pupil yield (0.04) to derive total estimated year 12 and 13 pupils per year during the plan period 2020-2030

Malvern Hills	407	17	114
Redditch	460	19	129
Worcester	407	17	114
Wychavon	407	17	114
Wyre Forest	276	12	77
Total	2496	104	699

Sixth form pupil numbers reached their lowest in October 2019 at 3,768 and are now predicted to rise until the academic year 2032/33.

It is anticipated that there will be a 15% increase in post-16 provision with pupil numbers in year 12 rising from 2,003 in October 2023 to 2,352 in October 2028. This is indicative of higher pupil numbers in the high school system with a retention rate equating to 36.4% on average.

There is currently some capacity within the system to accommodate the predicted increase in sixth form pupil numbers from demographic growth. However, as higher pupil numbers come through the system, it is anticipated that any surplus capacity will be utilised to support provision across years 7-11 or 9-11 depending on two tier or three tier provision.

Most secondary and high schools have a net capacity or funding agreement that allows flexibility for a full year group in both year 12 and year 13 to assist with curriculum and timetabling. However, as a result of the forecast increase in secondary pupil numbers, there is unlikely to be a sufficiency of places in the more popular secondary schools particularly where there is anticipated large scale housing growth and ultimately, there may be displacement to other settings particularly when entry requirements are not met, or alternative curriculum options are sought.

Conclusions

Although birth rates are falling and some areas in Worcestershire have falling reception numbers, some areas have fluctuating numbers, and some areas have significant additional housing being built or planned which is forecast to attract families and yield additional children who will require education provision and places.

Mainstream school provision across Worcestershire is currently forecast to be sufficient overall during the period covered by this report, but we have identified a number of areas where the numbers of school places are forecast to be insufficient for the expected number of pupils in those EPAs and phases or where there will be an oversupply. We have used these forecasts to plan a number of actions in these areas and phases which are summarised below.

There will always be factors outside control measures which will impact on the actual demand for places in future years – economic changes which affect the building industry and either speed up or slow down the delivery of expected new housing, changes in patterns of migration which can mean unexpected new arrivals needing school places at short notice, and changes in parental preferences which can mean that a previously less popular school is suddenly in great demand. While it is accordingly very difficult to forecast pupil numbers totally accurately, improvements in our forecasting methodology are helping us to improve the accuracy of our forecasts for 2025 and beyond. We undertake an annual review to compare forecast pupil numbers with data collated by the Admissions team on the numbers of first preferences (parents' nominations of their preferred school for their child entering first/primary, middle or high/secondary school) and allocations of places to highlight where forecasts were less accurate and to identify the reasons why – this exercise is valuable in informing the adjustments to forecasts at an individual EPA level.

Post-16 provision across Worcestershire is varied and schools that provide post-16 options through sixth form provision offer an important part to play across the school landscape. This report has explored current post-16 provision and shown that at present, schools are able to meet the demand for places in school sixth forms; however, for schools with small sixth forms, there have been challenges in maintaining a viable breadth of curriculum as numbers are low, with the closure of one school sixth form, Dyson Perrins in Malvern. WCC will continue to work closely with schools that currently have low numbers on roll in their sixth forms to ensure sustainability and retention of those settings to provide young people with the choice of attending local sixth form provision.

Overview of Recommended Actions

Taking the information and analysis in this report, the following tables detail the actions being taken or explored to meet the sufficiency needs for mainstream school age school places in Worcestershire over an eight-year period.

The following schemes have been approved by Worcestershire County Council's Cabinet to respond to increased demand for school places (basic need) as outlined above and agreed with schools and Academy Trusts to be delivered.

Approved schemes	Issue	School & scheme	Delivery Year
Redditch Middle East	Insufficiency	1FE (30 place) bulge Church Hill Middle	2025
Redditch First - SW	Insufficiency	New 3 FE (90 place) First School & nursery Foxlydiate	2027
Worcester Secondary	Insufficiency	New 4FE (120 place) Secondary School	2028

Capital funding has been approved by Cabinet to address the need for additional school places (basic need) as outlined in this report above, but the specific schools to be expanded are yet to be confirmed.

Approved schemes	Issue	Scheme	Year
Bromsgrove High	Insufficiency	2FE (60 place) expansion	2025

The following new schools are named within District Council plans and / or Section 106 Education Planning Obligation Agreements to mitigate the impact of new housing demand for school places. Developer contributions towards the cost of the new schools have been agreed, however, the shortfall and forward-funding will be required from existing Council capital to deliver these new schools.

Location	No. of dwellings	Provision	Indicative date required
Kidderminster – Lea Castle	1,360	2 FE Primary with nursery	2028
Bromsgrove – Perryfields	1,300	2 FE First with nursery	2029
South Worcester - Hopfields	2,500	2 FE Primary with nursery	2030
West Worcester	2,365	2 FE Primary with nursery	2030

Kidderminster East	1,340	2 FE Primary with nursery	2030
Wychavon – Mitton	500	1 FE Primary with nursery	2030
Worcester West – Rushwick	1,000	2 FE Primary with nursery	2030

In addition to the above new schools, additional education provision will be required for the new Parkway settlement.

The following areas are being monitored and may require additional provision:

EPA	Catchment School	Issue	Forecast demand	Year
Upton Primary	Kempsey Primary	Demand	Bulge	2025
Northwest Redditch First	Holyoakes Field First	Housing	1 FE expansion	2030

The following EPAs have surplus places that are forecast not to reduce over the next 3 years. Discussions are taking place with certain schools over strategies for reductions or alternative uses for accommodation.

EPA
Bewdley Primary
Evesham East First
Kidderminster West Primary
Pershore Middle
Stourport Primary
Worcester North Primary