

# School Organisation Stakeholder Group Meeting

**Tuesday 26 June 2018**

**Ground Floor Meeting Room 3, County Hall, Oxford**

**10.00 am - 12.00**

## Agenda

1. Election of Chair
2. Apologies
3. Notes of the last meeting
4. Matters Arising, including:
  - Boarding places at Burford School
  - Pupil census data for the studio schools and UTC
  - The impact of the national funding formula on smaller schools
  - CoE report [Embracing Change: Rural and Small Schools](#)
5. Update on OCC staffing and responsibilities (AM)
6. Report 1 (KG): School capital funding update:
  - Basic Need funding 2020/21
  - SEN provision funding
  - Healthy Pupils Capital Fund
7. Report 2 (ND): School Admissions update:
  - Primary allocations after 2<sup>nd</sup> round
  - Secondary allocations after 2<sup>nd</sup> round
8. Report 3 (BC): Mainstream school capacity planning
  - Update on secondary capacity sufficiency
  - Forward planning of new schools
9. Report 4 (AM): Academies update
10. Report 5 (BC): SEND provision
  - Capacity sufficiency planning
  - Consultation on the future of Northfield School
11. Schools Forum questions /discussion points – could members please send issues in advance to Cllr Waine
12. Report 6 (LM): Member for Public Health & Education items / decisions
13. Date of next meeting

## **School Organisation Stakeholder Group Meeting**

**Monday 26 February 2017**

**Ground Floor Meeting Room 3, County Hall, Oxford**

**1.00 pm – 3.00 pm**

### **Notes**

#### **Attendees:**

Barbara Chillman, OCC School Organisation and Planning (BC)  
Neil Darlington, OCC School Organisation and Planning (ND)  
Roy Leach, OCC School Organisation and Planning (RL)  
Allyson Milward, OCC School Organisation and Planning (AM)  
Justine Miniken, OCC School Organisation and Planning (JM)  
Lucy Mills, OCC School Organisation and Planning (LM)  
Janet Johnson, OCC, Children with SEN (JJ)  
Cllr Hilary Hibbert -Biles, Cabinet Member for Education & Public Health  
Cllr Michael Waine, (Chair) OCC (Conservative, Bicester Town)  
Cllr Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor, OCC (Conservative, Kingston and Cumnor)  
Cllr Jeanette Matelot, OCC (Conservative, Thame and Chinnor) & South Oxfordshire District Council  
Cllr John Howson, OCC (Liberal Democrat, St Margaret's)  
Cllr Jenny Hannaby, OCC, Liberal Democrat, Grove and Wantage  
Cllr Liz Brighthouse, OCC (Labour, Churchill & Lye Valley)  
Cllr Neil Owen, WODC (Conservative, Burford & Carterton North)  
Cllr Elizabeth Gillespie, SODC, (Conservative, Garsington)  
Christine Jones, Diocese of Oxford  
Jonathan Hopkins, Oxfordshire Governors Association  
Brenda Williams, Oxfordshire Governors Association  
Carole Thomson, Oxfordshire Governors Association  
Peter Cansell, Oxfordshire Primary Head Teacher Association  
Stephen Passey, Oxfordshire Association of Special School Head Teachers

#### **Apologies:**

Malcolm Wright, Oxfordshire Governors Association  
Marie Tidball, Oxford City Council, Labour, Hinksey Park  
Toni Guest, Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham  
Sarah Brinkley, Oxfordshire Secondary School Head Teachers Association  
Pat Kennedy, Oxford City Council,  
Kevin Griffin, OCC School Organisation and Planning (KG)

#### **1. Notes of the last meeting**

#### **Action**

The notes of the last meeting were agreed to be an accurate record.

Introductions were given around the table for the benefit of those who had not attended the meeting previously.

#### **2. Matters Arising, including:**

- **Boarding places at Burford School. Barbara Chillman(BC)**

BC responded to the question raised at the last meeting which was to look

at the possibility of making use of the boarding places at Burford School for Looked After Children (LAC). Having spoken to the Virtual school, they don't feel there is currently any need. This has however highlighted a further issue, that currently Burford School's admission criteria for the boarding school is not compliant with regulations which states that they must give priority to LAC first followed by forces children. Cllr Waine suggested that a letter should be sent to the school outlining that they are not currently compliant. Christine Jones questioned whether a letter was sufficient in this case as it's not lawful. BC confirmed that ND will be addressing this with the school. It was suggested that it could be an oversight and that a letter asking that the school correct this oversight would be the preferred initial course of action. It was also suggested that the Virtual School may not be aware that these places are available. Janet Johnson confirmed she would email the Virtual School to highlight this.

ND

JJ

- **In year admissions and departures for the studio schools and UTC. Neil Darlington (ND)**

In response to the issue raised on in year admissions and departures for the Studio School and UTC, ND responded that firstly the aim is to ensure that the process is fair for all. The in-year admissions for the Studio School and UTC are quite small. UTC has several difficult students who will be joining the school. The Space Studio is most at risk as they have very few in year admissions which only come from Banbury Academy. The question of sustainability was raised in light of this. Cllr Howson commented on the recently published figures from the DfE which looked at retention rates of schools from year 11 to year 12. UTC has a good retention rate, in comparison to the Studio School which loses over 70% of their pupils post 16. Is this the same for the Space Studio? In reply, Roy Leach suggested that census data could be shared with the group to show comparisons.

BC

- **Letters re St Gregory the Great and Banbury Academy, and response to Schools Forum**

Concerns regarding St Gregory the Great were raised with the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) at a meeting on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017 which superseded the need to send a letter. There is a team around the school in place which involves a range of agencies to provide support to the school. Brenda Williams noted that the larger issue is The Dominic Barberi Trust, as there are primary schools in the trust who are also struggling. It was noted that this issue is to be looked at by the Education Scrutiny Committee.

ND has raised the issue of Banbury Academy's application form being in breach of the admission policy with the school and so would expect to see this changed for next year's intake. A note will be made for this to be looked at next year to ensure they have complied.

ND

- **The impact of the national funding formula on smaller schools**

It was agreed that the impact of the national funding formula on smaller schools would be looked at in greater detail at the next meeting, as it's still

too early to discuss fully now. Christine Jones commented that the figures currently show a substantial number of smaller schools that are undersubscribed. Cllr Howson also raised the issue that these schools have low reserves. Cllr Hibbert-Biles commented that she is meeting with the DfE next week regarding funding.

### **3. Report 1 (ND): School Admissions update:**

- **Secondary allocations for 2018 (tabled)**

The allocation data for secondary schools was circulated to the group. In essence it's good news as all applications have a place and the vast majority have their first preference. The absolute number who have received their first preference is higher than last year. The letters are ready to go so that parents are notified on 1<sup>st</sup> March. It was noted that there are variables from area to area. The rise in birth rate is having an impact as large cohorts move from primary to secondary school.

Christine Jones raised the issue of numbers for some of the schools. It was clarified that the "total preferences included second and third preferences; "first preferences" gives a more accurate indication of demand. There are spare places in some areas but not all, for example in Bicester there aren't any spare places. However, in general higher numbers are coming through from the primary sector. Cllr Hannaby commented that Faringdon is full and asked what happens to those children? Travel is an issue in that area. It was confirmed that Faringdon are expanding, so the admission number is expected to go up next year. Cllr Howson commented that King Alfred and Aureus have some surplus places. King Alfred's had agreed to increase their admission number to help with places before the new school at Grove is ready to open, but it was noted that their number has been impacted by Aureus School opening. Cllr Matelot commented on the large numbers that had been refused places at Lord Williams and asked if these were out of county? ND responded that yes, all those in catchment got a place.

Cllr Howson asked what is the position of the proposed Swan School? RL responded that the LA is still very hopeful that it will open, and that planning permission will be granted in September. There are three possible ideas for temporary accommodation for the school until the building opens. Parents will need to apply through the normal route for other schools in case the Swan does not open, but will need to apply to the Swan School direct once it is confirmed. It was noted that there are implications for other schools, in particular St Gregory the Great who currently have spare capacity in year but who are generally unpopular with parents. There is also some concern about opening the Swan school in temporary accommodation as this tends to be a less popular option. The PAN is planned to be 120 for 2019 – 2020, raising to 180 in 2021.

Cllr Waine summarised that there are places this year and asked what is forecast for next year – will expansion and new school plans keep up with demand? BC to provide an update at the next meeting.

**BC**

- **Primary applications for 2018 – initial data**

The primary allocations process is not as far ahead as secondary. Applications have been received and allocations will be in March.

Cllr Waine noted some worrying figures for very small schools. Cllr Howson suggested that it's not just small schools, for example Rosehill School, notwithstanding the complicated circumstances. It was noted that there are some schools that are unpopular and some will be struggling to be viable if the local pupil population is in decline. This Issue will be raised with Heads and Chairs of Governors meetings in terms of using some available space for SEND. Carol Thompson suggested the need for strategic work on small schools by area, as the viability of small schools is a concern even with the sparsity allocation. It was agreed that there would be future discussion on the funding formula impact to consider this issue once more information is available. Cllr Hannaby commented that small children travelling on buses to schools is still a concern.

#### **4. Report 2 (BC): Forward planning of new schools**

This report looks at proposed new schools. The schools that have sponsors identified are covered in report 3 which follows. The next proposed schools requiring sponsors are all primary and are located in Bicester, Witney and Wantage. In Bicester there are two potential primary schools which could open at the same time so a decision needs to be reached as to which school is needed first. South west Bicester is already served by St Edburghs, whereas Graven Hill is in a more isolated position. All three locations are direct delivery by developers which will be the first time this has happened, although it has been an option before. The West Witney development has commenced, and the new school is currently due to be ready ahead of a 2020 opening. S106 triggers would be in line with a 2020 opening in Wantage.

Cllr Hannaby noted that there are no sponsors yet. BC confirmed that this sponsor process will be a competitive process and will start next month. However, there is still a possibility that if the free school process is restarted by the DfE, that bids through that could pre-empt this presumption. Cllr Howson asked what happens to land when the project is developer lead, does the developer get the freehold? BC responded, no the LA gets the freehold and issues a lease.

#### **5. Report 3: Academies update. Allyson Milward (AM)**

- **Appendix 1: 2017 Annual report of academies activity in Oxfordshire**

There has only been one school converting to an academy since the last meeting. This was Northbourne CE Primary School who joined ODST in November. The conversion date for Rosehill has changed since the report was circulated prior to the meeting and the school will now convert on 1<sup>st</sup> September not 1<sup>st</sup> August and are joining River Learning Trust. We have now received formal confirmation that Maiden Erlegh will be the trust to sponsor Chiltern Edge School and their conversion date is 1<sup>st</sup> August. St John's Catholic Primary School conversion is now deferred until 1<sup>st</sup> May. This delay is due to changes to the Catholic articles of association and not to do with any part that the council is involved in. Middle Barton have been granted an academy order and will join RLT on 1<sup>st</sup> September. Gagle Brook School is due to open in September. Faringdon Academy of Schools and Eynsham Partnership Academy Trust which were considering

options to merge have been unable to reach an agreement on a leadership structure and governance, so will no longer be merging, but will continue to work together. The Marlborough Church of England School a single academy trust, will join River Learning Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The Academies Programme Annual Report 2017 was circulated with the meeting papers and the group are asked for any comments before it goes to Education Scrutiny Committee in March. AM highlighted some general points. MAT's are merging to form larger entities. There is some concern about the amount of time taken for sponsors to be found for schools with a Directive Academy Order (dAO) and the ability of the DfE to rescind such orders if there are any slight improvements.

Cllr Hannaby suggested that talks with maintained schools should be expanded. It would be helpful to identify services that maintained schools currently receive from the LA and the cost, so that schools can make a comparison with what a MAT is offering. It was agreed that clarification of what it means to be a maintained school is needed and the point at which it becomes no longer viable for the LA should be considered, as the current 'pick and mix' approach to services is not sustainable. Work is underway on creating a new offer with the view to be implemented in 2019. Discussions are taking place with schools at various meetings scheduled starting with the Heads and Chairs of Governors meeting.

It was agreed that it's important for schools that have not sought to convert that they have the security of services and contracts and that the LA also needs that security.

Cllr Howson raised the concern that some MATs with headquarters outside of Oxfordshire offer less value for money than those with headquarters in Oxfordshire.

Cllr Fitzgerald-O'Connor commented as a governor at Watchfield Primary School that the proposed merger of Faringdon and Eynsham academy trusts was a very time-consuming process.

## **6. Report 4: Special Provision Fund. Barbara Chillman(BC)**

The special provision fund grant is additional funding to the usual capital funding received from the Government. There has been a rise of SEND pupils due to population growth, and the type of provision that children are placed in has changed. There has also been a rise in independent and non-maintained special school placements, which has an impact on the spend of the high needs block. This is a key issue to look at in terms of provision, meeting the needs of SEND pupils and keeping within budget.

The LA will receive just under £2.5m of the £215 million of capital funding the Government has committed to help local authorities improve existing facilities and create new places for SEND. The allocation is based on population growth and the LA were required to complete several steps to qualify. A consultation was held with parents and carers of children and young people with SEND. The report and subsequent plan of how the funding will be invested is to be published by 14<sup>th</sup> March once it has been approved for publication by Cllr Hibbert-Biles.

There are two projects proposed for this funding; Bardwell School, Bicester and John Watson School, Wheatley and the points of the consultation are outlined in report 4. Both projects were largely agreed by those who

responded to the consultation.

There has not been the capacity in our local schools so we have been using the independent sector. The Capital investment to improve schools comes from the LA budget. There are not always the resources in mainstream primary schools, and parents are now choosing to send their children to a specialist provision school rather than keeping them in a maintained school. Janet Johnson clarified that the number of children in primary schools that are supported has increased and although there are more children, there has not been an increase in resources. Cllr Waive suggested that the amount of money that goes into the high needs block can be challenged. Cllr Hannaby speaking as governor of a school said that schools try to keep children with a disability in school but the issue is often that this comes at some considerable cost to the school.

Stephen Passey commented that some children require complexity of need that cannot be provided by maintained provision. Many schools do not have the necessary infrastructure in place for children who require a wheelchair for example. Brenda Williams commented that integration should continue where possible. Janet Johnson commented that the Gallery Trust, the approved sponsors for the planned new Bloxham Grove free school, are doing lots of work with Banbury schools in the area to clarify local needs. In addition, a new school is planned in Didcot, for which we would hope to get free school funding once the free school waves reopen. Cllr Waive commented that he is pleased that the work is taking place on those two schools.

**7. Schools Forum questions /discussion points – could members please send issues in advance to Cllr Waive**

No questions

**8. Report 5 (BC): Forward Plan**

As detailed in report.

**9. Report 6 (BC): Future SOSG meeting schedule**

It was suggested that the meetings move from being held four times per year, to termly which would be three per year. They would be held to coincide with the times in each term when most information is available to report. It was agreed that an additional date could be added if it was considered necessary. There was some concern among attendees that it can be disruptive when dates are moved, however it was noted that there are occasions when this is unavoidable. It was agreed that the next meeting would be held during the week beginning the 25<sup>th</sup> June. JM will look at room availability in that week and circulate a meeting request. Further meeting dates will also be fixed.

**JM**

**10. Date of next meeting**

During week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> June – To be confirmed.

## CEF Capital Programme Update on Capital Funding Announcements

### Purpose / Recommendation

1. The purpose of this report is to inform the School Organisation Stakeholder Group of recent capital funding announcements.

### Background

2. There have been three recent capital funding announcements for Oxfordshire schools;

	£
a. Healthy Pupil Capital Fund 2018/19 (C and VC Schools)	304,157
b. Additional Special Provision Fund 2018/19-2020/21	571,000
c. Basic Need 2020/21	27,180,572

3. Further details about each of the allocations is provided below.

### Healthy Pupil Capital Fund (HPCF)

4. Oxfordshire has been allocated £304,157 HPCF grant in the 2018/19 financial year to assist community and Voluntary Controlled (VC) schools in supporting children's and young people's physical and mental health by improving and increasing availability to facilities for physical activity, healthy eating, mental health and wellbeing and medical conditions.
5. Separate funding arrangements exist for Voluntary Aided schools and academies. The HPCF is provided from the Soft Drinks Industry Levy for 2018-19 only.
6. The DfE have utilised the allocations methodology for the school condition allocation (SCA), i.e. pupil numbers based on the spring census, to determine individual local authority allocations. The HPCF can only be used for capital expenditure.
7. To achieve the maximum benefit HPCF will be allocated direct to schools based on spring census numbers. All Oxfordshire schools will receive a minimum grant of £2,000 (the de-minimis level for school capital expenditure), with larger schools receiving an allocation proportionate to school size.

8. Details of the funding arrangements were submitted to Schools Forum in June. Schools will receive details of their grant allocation and examples of eligible expenditure via School news in June, the grant allocation will be credited to schools by the end of the academic year. Schools are required to provide detail about the utilisation of the HPCF grant, this will be used to complete any monitoring returns required by the DfE.
9. A detailed breakdown of the HPCF grant allocation by individual school is included in Appendix A

### **Additional Special Provision Fund allocation 2018/19 – 2020/21**

10. In February 2018 the School Organisation Stakeholder Group received a report about newly created 'Special Provision Fund' (SPF) to help local authorities create new school places and improve existing facilities for children and young people with SEND.
11. The formula for the allocations to local authorities was based principally on projected population growth for children and young people age 2-18 between the years 2018/19 and 2020/21. Oxfordshire's share of the Special Provision Fund was £2,454,466, which will be paid to the council in three equal payments, between 2018 and 2020.
12. The original SPF grant funding is being combined with Section 106 (S106) 'developer contributions' which have been secured from housing developments to increase special school capacity, as well as with funding already identified in the county council's Capital Programme. This will be used to support the provision of additional SEND places at 2 schools previously been identified by the council as a priority for investment to create additional SEND capacity.
  - Bardwell School, Bicester
  - John Watson School, Wheatley (Secondary site)
13. In May 2018 the DfE announced £50m of additional Special Provision Fund grant to be distributed nationally. In addition to the previously announced £2.454m Oxfordshire will receive an additional £571k of additional SPF grant, the revised total SPF allocation being £3.025m.
14. This funding will be used to support the delivery of additional SEND capacity. CEF officers are currently evaluating the latest estimated costs and funding sources for previously agreed SEND capital investment priorities including those currently supported by 'corporate resources' to ensure all grant funding is fully utilised.

## Basic Need Allocation 2020/21

15. In May 2018 the DfE announced local authority 'Basic Need' capital allocations for the 2020/21 financial year. The allocation for Oxfordshire is £27.181m. A comparison with previous Basic Need allocations is detailed below;

Programme	2010/11 £	2011/12 £	2012/13 £	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	2019/2020 £	2020/21 £
Basic Need	5,638,236	10,653,007	8,874,857	8,458,077	8,458,077	1,520,390	1,596,409	19,151,879	0	0	27,180,572
Additional Allocation	-	4,435,000	5,520,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

16. Basic Need allocations are calculated annually by the DfE using information provided by local authorities in the annual School Capacity Survey (SCAP). In summary the process for calculating allocations involves;

- Establish the total number of pupil places needed based on local authority pupil forecasts
- Establish the total pupil place capacity for each planning area (including new places the LA is committed to providing)
- Calculate the number of additional places needed (including a 2% operating margin).
- Adjust for new school places previously funded
- Calculate final allocation to create new places

17. For Oxfordshire the DfE have identified a need to fund 1,375 new secondary school places; the DfE fund these at £19,761 per place (compared to £15,201 per primary school place).

18. It is important to note that, in line with DfE guidance, the data submitted by the LA in the most recent SCAP return did not include any new places being provided directly by the DfE (e.g. Free Schools); similarly places being provided by the LA were only included if they were a firm commitment (e.g. final approval to go ahead by Cabinet/tenders let etc.). These places will be reported in future SCAP returns and the DfE will adjust future years' basic need allocations accordingly. The basic need allocation therefore needs to be considered alongside the council's strategy for the provision of new pupil places and capital funding arrangements across multiple years.

19. Officers are still evaluating the impact of the 2020/21 basic need allocation though initial indications are that the additional secondary places identified are mostly already accounted for in planned future projects (e.g. new schools on strategic housing sites).

## Conclusion

The report is provided for information. Further reports will be submitted to School Organisation Stakeholder Group to update on these and any further capital funding streams in due course.

Detailed arrangements for the utilisation of the capital funding outlined in this report will be subject to the council's capital governance process and appropriate approvals.

## Appendix A Healthy Pupil Capital Fund 2018/19 – Individual School Allocations



HPCF Grants  
Community and Cor

Kevin Griffin  
Service Manager  
School Organisation & Planning  
CEF

June 2018

School	Published (or agreed) Admission Number	All Applications (including LA offers treated as applications)	Total of all offers	Total refusals	Places available	First Preference applications	First Preference offers	First Preference refusals	Second Preference not required (withdrawn after application)	Second Preference applications	Second Preference offers	Second Preference refusals	Third Preference applications	Third Preference offers	Third Preference refusals	Fourth Preference not required	Fourth Preference applications (children from outside Oxon)	Fourth Preference offers (children from outside Oxon)	Fourth Preference refusals (children from outside Oxon)	Fifth Preference applications (children from outside Oxon)	Fifth Preference offers (children from outside Oxon)	Fifth Preference refusals (children from outside Oxon)	Sixth Preference applications (children from outside Oxon)	Sixth Preference offers (children from outside Oxon)	Sixth Preference refusals (children from outside Oxon)	LA offers (treated as applications)	District	Parliamentary Constituency		
Aureus Secondary School (931/4004)	240	360	199	41	194	194			129	5	124	37		37													Vale of the White Horse	Wantage		
Bartholomew School (931/4054)	210	562	210	76	258	208	50		198	2	19	177	97	5	92	8	2	6					1		1		West Oxfordshire	Witney		
Blessed George Napier Catholic School (931/4600)	142	333	141	51	160	134	24	2	115	7	23	85	53	3	50	5	1	4									Cherwell	Banbury		
Burford School (931/4040)	240	452	240	101	317	235	79	3	107	5	19	83	26	3	23	2		2									West Oxfordshire	Witney		
Carterton Community College (931/4041)	140	142	120	20	94	94			24	8	16	6	6	6											18	West Oxfordshire	Witney			
Cheney School (931/4120)	270	686	270	68	265	232	33		285	29	27	229	125	9	6	9	1	8		2		1	1				Oxford City	Oxford East		
Chiltern Edge School (931/4092)	120	239	81	39	38	38			101	32	69	54	3	51	36		36		2			2			8	South Oxfordshire	Henley			
Chipping Norton School (931/4010)	240	211	179	61	134	134			31	15	16	26	12	14	1		1							1	18	West Oxfordshire	Witney			
Didcot Girls' School (931/4139)	300	485	300	20	308	296	9	3	131	3	9	119	44	1	2	2		2									South Oxfordshire	Wantage		
Faringdon Community College (931/4141)	230	292	230	4	233	226	4	3	41	3	38	12	1	11	5		5					1		1			Vale of the White Horse	Wantage		
Fitzharrys School (931/4127)	180	294	125	55	125	123	2		96	2	94	69		69	4		4										Vale of the White Horse	Oxford West & Abingdon		
Gillotts School (931/4055)	180	487	180	31	182	163	19		179	13	9	157	100	4	1	95	22	2	20	4		4					South Oxfordshire	Henley		
Gosford Hill School (931/4060)	180	222	155	25	132	131	1		41	8	33	38	7	31	2		2								9	Cherwell	Oxford West & Abingdon			
Heyford Park Free School (931/4003)	60	124	60	3	53	50	3		35	8	27	34	2	32	2		2										Cherwell	Banbury		
Icknield Community College (931/4082)	140	238	145	8	109	105	2	2	80	29	5	46	30	5	1	24	6	3	3	10	2	8	3	1	2		South Oxfordshire	Henley		
John Mason School (931/4126)	180	408	172	8	166	166			170	2	168	66		66	2		2								4		Vale of the White Horse	Oxford West & Abingdon		
King Alfred's (931/4142)	390	400	262	128	263	261	2		90	1	89	46		46	1		1										Vale of the White Horse	Wantage		
Langtree School (931/4094)	120	407	120	48	139	111	28		138	9	17	112	94	1	93	34		1	33	2		1	1				South Oxfordshire	Henley		
Larkmead School (931/4125)	180	333	151	29	145	144	1		104	4	100	79	1	78	3		3								2		Vale of the White Horse	Oxford West & Abingdon		
Lord Williams's School (931/4580)	320	648	320	118	391	313	76	2	112	7	19	86	95	10	85	30		8	22	15		4	11	5	1	4	South Oxfordshire	Henley		
Matthew Arnold School (931/4128)	210	383	210	11	181	173	3	5	125	31	7	87	72	5	1	66	4	1	3	1		1					Vale of the White Horse	Oxford West & Abingdon		
North Oxfordshire Academy (931/6905)	180	315	180	45	207	170	36	1	62	9	7	46	44	1	2	41	2		2								Cherwell	Banbury		
Oxford Spire Academy (931/6907)	220	493	220	32	213	193	18	2	155	19	7	129	120	8	6	106	3		3	1		1		1			Oxford City	Oxford East		
St Birinus School (931/4129)	180	236	134	46	125	125			70	5	65	39	2	37											2		South Oxfordshire	Wantage		
St Gregory The Great Catholic School (931/4145)	210	197	100	110	54	54			52	10	42	52	2	50	4		4								34		Oxford City	Oxford East		
The Bicester School (931/4011)	240	348	240	9	204	197	7		109	33	2	74	25	2	23					1		1			8		Cherwell	Banbury		
The Cherwell School (931/4116)	285	757	285	120	366	281	79	6	192	4	34	154	185	6	179	13		13		1		1					Oxford City	Oxford West & Abingdon		
The Cooper School (931/4032)	220	392	220	47	252	210	41	1	103	7	4	92	30	3	1	26	4		1	3	2			1			Cherwell	Banbury		
The Henry Box School (931/4050)	240	332	203	37	186	185	1		101	9	92	34	2	32	4		4								7		West Oxfordshire	Witney		
The Marlborough Church of England School (931/4560)	180	381	179	35	195	171	23	1	131	6	9	116	52	2	3	47	3		3								West Oxfordshire	Witney		
The Oxford Academy (931/6906)	210	321	209	2	186	185	1		72	15	1	56	54	4	1	49	4		4						5		Oxford City	Oxford East		
The Warriner School (931/4007)	256	525	256	65	294	246	45	3	158	8	16	134	69	1	4	64	4		1	3							Cherwell	Banbury		
Wallingford School (931/4140)	190	379	193	28	213	192	19	2	112	1	8	103	44		1	43	8		8	2		2					South Oxfordshire	Wantage		
Wheatley Park School (931/4077)	180	375	180	57	202	157	43	2	92	16	5	71	68	7	7	54	12		2	10			1				South Oxfordshire	Henley		
Wood Green School (931/4052)	210	300	206	4	187	187			77	11	66	33	5	28											3		West Oxfordshire	Witney		
Wykham Park Academy Banbury (931/4000)	210	316	193	17	112	112			92	26	66	69	13	56	1		1								42		Cherwell	Banbury		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7,483</b>	<b>13,373</b>	<b>6,868</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>6,23</b>	<b>6,883</b>	<b>6,196</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>3,910</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>3,261</b>	<b>2,121</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>1,955</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>160</b>

Data compiled: 8 May 2018  
 Publish Date: 8 May 2018

6,744 Children living in Oxfordshire transferring to secondary school

6,131	90.91 %	Children living in Oxfordshire who were offered First Preference school
361	5.35 %	Children living in Oxfordshire who were offered Second Preference school
98	1.46 %	Children living in Oxfordshire who were offered Third Preference school
3	0.04 %	Children living in Oxfordshire who were offered Fourth Preference school
6,593	97.76 %	Children living in Oxfordshire who were offered a preferred school
151	2.24 %	Children living in Oxfordshire who were offered a nearest available school

25 June 2018

## Mainstream school capacity planning

### 1. Current sponsor selection processes

- **A new primary school, 1.5 form entry with potential to grow to 2 form entry, at the development west of Witney, opening 2020.**

Four expressions of interest have been received, and shortlisted to three Multi Academy Trusts already operating within Oxfordshire. Detailed bids have now been invited, and bidders will be interviewed in the autumn, with a target date for the final RSC decision of January 2019

- **A new primary school, 2 form entry, at Crab Hill, Wantage, opening 2020.**

The education specification for this new school was approved on 13 June by Cllr Lindsay-Gale acting on behalf of Cllr Hibbert-Biles. Expressions of Interest are now invited from interested Academy Trusts, to be followed by detailed bids in the autumn, with a target date for the final RSC decision of February/March 2019.

- **A new primary school, up to 3 form entry, at Graven Hill, Bicester, opening 2020.**

Consultation has opened on the proposed education specification for this school, which has been revised based on early engagement with parents moving into the Graven Hill development. We expect to seek Expressions of Interest in the autumn, with a target date for the final RSC decision of April/May 2019.

### 2. Current central (“Wave”) free school processes

- Negotiations are progressing well between the ESFA and the developers of Grove Airfield to agree the necessary variations to the Section 106 agreement to enable an all-through school to be built. The developer is still hopeful that the school could open in 2021, although there is no room for delay in that timescale.
- The planning application for the Swan School in Oxford was submitted in May, with a target planning committee date of September 2019. The application includes a rebuild of Meadowbrook College and enhancements to the site of St Nicolas Primary School as part of a land-swap agreement. An approval in

September would enable the school to open in September 2019, in temporary accommodation. If this date is missed, four additional forms of entry will need to be negotiated as bulge classes for 2019, and it may be necessary to transport children to schools outside the city.

### **3. Planning for secondary school capacity.**

Updated pupil forecasts are in preparation for submission to the DfE this summer, and these will be the basis of the new Pupil Place Plan which will be brought to this group in November. The assessment in the Annex is therefore based on the forecasts calculated last summer.

Barbara Chillman, Pupil Place Planning Manager, June 2018

## Secondary school capacity planning

Area	Available places per year	Forecast demand for Y7 places						Planned action	Other comment
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		
Abingdon	596 rising to 624 in 2022.	511	536	502	525	569	564	+28 places at Europa as larger year groups move through.	Forecasts do not include large scale growth proposed in latest VOWH and SODC Local Plans. New school(s) would become necessary in longer term.
Banbury & Bloxham	788 rising to 816 in 2019, and to 872 if/when BGN expands	773	824	803	846	898	872	+28 more places as Warriner's expansion is completed; + 56 places proposed at BGN dependent on land from Salt Way development. Site for new school identified in Local Plan but not yet funded.	Need for new school beyond this time period to be kept under review.
Bicester	520 rising to 640 when SW Bicester school opens	524	549	525	554	598	545	New SW Bicester school adds 120 places, taking total to 640.	Further new school in NW Bicester will be beyond this time period. Could grow significantly faster if preference patterns change.
Burford & Carterton	380	391	367	403	390	403	423	Expansion of Carterton Community College will become necessary as population grows. Currently PAN 140 - was previously 180.	Apparent current shortage is due to Burford attracting from outside catchment.
Chipping Norton	240	150	147	161	169	191	166		Forecasts do not include large scale growth proposed in WODC Local Plan, equivalent to approx 3 forms of entry.
Cumnor	210	219	222	207	209	229	228	Matthew Arnold has expanded by 1 form of entry; another form of entry may become necessary.	Review after impact of Swan becomes apparent.
Didcot	720*	545	582	530	547	648	729	New Aureus School will grow to 240 places.	*Assumes both Didcot Girls and St Birinus return to 240, and Aureus at full capacity of 240 places. Further new school at NE Didcot may fall beyond this time period.
Eynsham	210	244	241	260	258	287	265	Bartholomew School has expanded by one form of entry. Considering expanding by another form of entry, tied to acquiring additional site on Garden Village.	Apparent current shortage is due to attracting from outside catchment. Review after impact of Swan becomes apparent.
Faringdon	220	245	273	280	304	299	299	School will expand to admission number 270. Further growth not considered possible - effective catchment may need to reduce.	Part of apparent current shortage is due to attracting from outside catchment.
Henley	180	164	206	179	218	203	206		Apparent shortage is due to attracting from outside catchment. Sufficient places for catchment.
Kidlington	180	146	151	140	176	181	160		Forecasts exclude the large scale growth proposed in the Cherwell Local Plan Partial Review, which may require a new school.

Area	Available places per year	Forecast demand for Y7 places						Planned action	Other comment
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24		
Oxford	1180 rising to 1300 when Swan opens in temporary accommodation and 1360 when it moves to permanent accommodation	1095	1262	1257	1324	1408	1321	Swan School will add 120 places in 2019 and 2020, with another 60 places after it moves to its permanent home, subject to approval.	Bulge classes may be needed in 2022 to accommodate spike in population.
Sonning Common	180	129	139	122	144	149	137		Currently published at 120 to manage numbers. Very unpredictable due to Reading flows.
Thame	320	357	343	351	386	418	353	Expects to expand to 350.	Apparent shortage is due to attracting from outside catchment. Sufficient places for catchment in general.
Wallingford	190 rising to 244	205	237	229	233	237	246	Expansion underway to add 54 places per year, has been delayed.	
Wantage & Grove	390 rising to 490 or more	314	360	321	358	428	357	New Grove Airfield School currently planned to add 180 places, balanced by a fall at King Alfred's as it returns to its pre-bulge level (310). In total 490 places would be available, with scope for further growth.	
Watlington	140	131	152	143	161	156	154	Potential for small-scale expansion on site.	Apparent shortage is due to attracting from outside catchment. Forecasts do not include Chalgrove Airfield.
Wheatley	180	201	197	182	179	215	191		Academy reduced PAN from 210 - assumed to have scope to increase it again.
Witney	450	414	403	447	418	406	458	Growth plan to be reviewed following adoption of WODC Local Plan. A site has been secured for a new secondary school if needed.	Options to be explored for how best to expand capacity.
Woodcote	120	118	159	134	141	139	141	Possibly scope to expand by 1 form of entry, at least as bulges.	Part of apparent shortage is due to history of attracting from outside catchment. Review after Chiltern Edge situation settles down.
Woodstock	180	173	195	190	185	216	184	Possibly scope to expand by 1 form of entry.	Part of apparent shortage is due to history of attracting from outside catchment. Review after impact of new Bicester school apparent.

## Academies Update Academies Programme

### Completed academy conversions and changes since previous meeting

Four schools have converted to academy status since the previous meeting.

- Madley Brook Community Primary School
- Witney Community Primary School
- Fir Tree Junior School
- St Nicholas CofE Infants' School and Foundation Stage Unit

### Overview of Current Activity

The current programme of academy conversions and other provision is set out below.

Schools for which RSC has issued academy orders to convert with a sponsor in place	Programmed conversion date	Academy Trust
1. Chiltern Edge School	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2018	Maiden Erlegh Trust, Reading
2. Rose Hill Primary School	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2018	River Learning Trust (RLT)
3. Sandhills Primary School	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2018	River Learning Trust (RLT)

### Notes

1. Sponsor formally approved January 2018.
2. Sponsor formally approved February 2018.
3. Sponsor formally approved March 2018

Schools with Academy order for Voluntary Conversion	Proposed conversion date	Academy Trust
Middle Barton Primary School	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2018	River Learning Trust (RLT)
Fitzharrys School	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2018	Abingdon Learning Trust
Wootton by Woodstock CE (A) Primary School	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2018	Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST)
Oxfordshire Hospital School	Delayed indefinitely until The Swan School is approved to open by ESFA.	The Skylark Partnership
St John's Catholic Primary School	Delayed due to ongoing legal matter at school	Pope Francis MAC

<b>Schools consulting on conversion to academy status</b>	<b>Proposed conversion date</b>	<b>Academy Trust</b>
St Michaels CE Primary School, Steventon	Unknown	ODST
Long Wittenham CE Primary School	Unknown	ODST
St Ebbe's C of E(Aided) Primary School	Unknown	ODST
Springfield School	Unknown	The Gallery Trust
Bardwell School	Unknown	The Gallery Trust
Beckley CE	Unknown	River Learning Trust
Sutton Courtenay CE	Unknown	Ridgeway Academy Trust
Stadhampton	Unknown	Acer Trust

<b>New Academies</b>	<b>Date of opening</b>	<b>Academy Trust</b>
Gagle Brook, NW Bicester Primary School	September 2018	The White Horse Federation (TWHF)
Aureus Primary School, Didcot	September 2018	GLF
The Swan School	September 2019	RLT
SW Bicester Secondary School	September 2019	TWHF
Barton West Primary School	September 2020	Cheney Academy Trust
Southam Road, Banbury (Primary)	September 2020	GLF
West Witney (Primary)	September 2021	tbc – Currently seeking sponsor
Crab Hill, Wantage (Primary)	September 2021	tbc
Graven Hill, Bicester (Primary)	September 2021	tbc

**Notes:**

1. Applications for places in schools due to open in September 2018 were received in the main admissions 'window' for primary schools. There were seventeen first preference applications for Gagle Brook Primary School and twenty three for Aureus Primary School.
2. There are delays to The Swan School project associated with additional costs and in applying for planning consent to build.

## Free School Bids

Oxfordshire is not in the area where it has been announced funding will be available for Free Schools. The funding is targeted at Authorities that are in the bottom 3<sup>rd</sup> for attainment.

## Changes in Multi Academy Trusts

John Mason Academy Trust joined Abingdon Learning Trust on 1<sup>st</sup> April. The Blackbird Academy Trust is planning to join United Learning Trust (ULT). Cheney Schools Academy Trust is now Community Schools Alliance Trust and Didcot Academy of Schools is now called Ridgeway Academy Trust.

## *Oxfordshire statistics*

At 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018

Phase of education	No. of maintained schools converted to academies	% of phase
Secondary	31	91%
Primary	90	38%
Special	5	38%

Additional academies: 3 Free schools (one 4-18, two 4-11), 2 Studio Schools (14-19), 1 University Technical College (14-19), 2 new primary academies (3-11, LA presumption academy), 1 special academy, 1 new secondary academy (11-16 LA presumption academy).

## LA Partnerships with maintained schools and academies consultation outcomes

Following consideration of outcomes from the above consultation two sessions were added to a dedicated part of the meetings between DCS and Heads and Chairs of Governors for maintained schools only. Sessions considered the following questions. What does it mean to be a maintained school? What do you value about staying maintained? As a result of these sessions work is now underway on a package of services and what it would cost to deliver. The findings will be discussed with David Clarke, the New Deputy Director for Education. Options will be taken back to Chairs of Governors and Headteachers in the autumn.

## **'Schools that work for everyone' - Government consultation response, May 2018**

In May 2018 the Government published the outcomes of the above consultation. The full document can be accessed at

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/706243/Schools\\_that\\_work\\_for\\_everyone-Government\\_consultation\\_response.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/706243/Schools_that_work_for_everyone-Government_consultation_response.pdf)

The main outcomes are set out below.

### **1. Independent Schools and Universities**

Universities and independent schools with the capacity and capability to sponsor an academy or establish a free school are strongly being encouraged to do so. Those that do not have the capacity and capability to sponsor an academy or free school are expected to support state schools through sustainable and reciprocal partnerships, in at least one of the following areas:

- a) Teaching: Participating in initiatives with national impact, such as training science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) or modern foreign language teachers, and providing Continuing Professional Development; seconding teachers in shortage subjects; assessment, moderation and pedagogical support in specific subjects; proposals that can help reduce teacher workload, such as sharing lesson plans and resources.
- b) Curriculum: Providing coherent support on curriculum design and delivery, including lesson planning, sharing resources, and teaching; particularly interventions which broaden curriculum opportunities, for example by forming mixed independent/state school classes in specific subjects such as languages and classics, and widening the curriculum offer in areas such as science and sport by using university-level resources or facilities, along with coaching or support staff, to support attainment-raising activity, including in holiday periods.
- c) Leadership: Taking a leading role on the governing body of a school or Multi Academy Trust (MAT); providing senior and strategic leadership support.
- d) Other targeted partnership activity: Direct engagement tailored to the recipient school's specific, and whole-school, needs: for example, providing academic mentoring and support with application to, and preparation for, university; and collaborating across the system through Teaching School Alliances.

### **2. Independent Schools**

The independent schools sector is taking steps to increase the scope and ambition of its work with the state sector, as well as to increase access for disadvantaged pupils, including looked-after children, such as through targeting of bursaries. The Government and the Independent Schools Council (ISC) have agreed a joint understanding, setting out the activities we collectively expect to see these schools participate in to help support state schools. Through the joint understanding, the ISC will require independent schools that are members of its associations to submit information on partnership activities in their annual census return. This will set out how they have worked with state schools and pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds in that year; with reference to the impact this has had, such as attainment levels in the subjects supported or progression to higher education, or other appropriate measures. In addition, the ISC now publishes periodic reports setting out details of particular partnership activities by individual schools, to illustrate the kind of activity that can be delivered and share best practice.

### **3. Selective Schools**

There will be no legislation in this parliament to allow the creation of new selective schools. The Government expects to see further steps by selective schools to prioritise pupils eligible for pupil premium funding in their oversubscription criteria, in addition to their requirements under the School

Admissions Code to prioritise looked-after children and previously looked-after children.

To support the delivery of these objectives, the Government and the Grammar Schools Heads Association (GSHA) have agreed a formal Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which details the expected action that will be taken to widen access to selective schools and to provide support to non-selective schools. The MoU sets out the Government's and the GSHA's ambition to increase access of disadvantaged pupils to selective schools and to work in partnership with non-selective secondary schools and primary schools to improve outcomes for children within their local areas. Through the MoU, the Government and the GSHA commit to:

- a) support GSHA member schools to prioritise pupils eligible for pupil premium funding in their admissions oversubscription criteria and design admission arrangements which increase access to their schools for disadvantaged pupils;
- b) undertake outreach with primary schools to increase the number of applications and admissions of disadvantaged pupils to selective schools;
- c) increase and strengthen selective schools' activity on fair access and partnership, including, for example, facilitating and developing links with local partners, non-selective secondary schools and primary schools to support school improvement;
- d) further develop the evidence base of what works, based on local intelligence; and
- e) share best practice on fair access and partnership.

The Government will continue to support the expansion of existing good or outstanding selective schools through the new Selective School Expansion Fund (SSEF). Selective schools wishing to expand must demonstrate they are working with non-selective schools in their local area to have a positive impact beyond the school gates, that there is a need for additional places, and that they are committed to increasing access for disadvantaged pupils. £50 million will be made available in 2018-19 through the SSEF, and the 2018 application round has been launched alongside this response. Local authorities can continue to provide additional places at existing selective schools through their basic need allocation should they choose to do so.

#### **4. Faith Schools**

The Government asserts that Church and faith schools have a strong track record in delivering excellent education and achieving high standards and, on average, perform better than non-faith schools. These schools, as do all schools, play a vital role in promoting integration and supporting pupils to understand different faiths and communities. For new academies and faith schools that have been opened under the free schools programme, there remains a 'cap' on faith-based admissions. This means that when the free school is over-subscribed it can only apply faith-based oversubscription criteria to the first 50% of places available. As a result of this faith schools will not be required to adopt the additional inclusivity safeguards originally proposed to replace the cap.

Proposers of faith free schools will be required to promote integration and inclusivity, including by demonstrating that the school is likely to attract

applications from pupils from different backgrounds and different communities and how they will ensure that all feel welcome and able to play a full and active role in the school.

In order to support new free schools who wish to undertake twinning with other schools, as a way to support integration appropriate to their local context, the government is investing over £500,000 to enable the Schools Linking Network to develop programmes which will help develop strong and positive links between schools and communities with different religious and cultural backgrounds. These steps build on the positive work being undertaken by many faith schools to support integration and community cohesion.

The Government wishes to support faith school providers with a good track record to establish new schools to meet parental demand and need where they feel they cannot do so through the free schools route. In recent years, the central free schools programme has increasingly been used by Local Authorities to help meet their duty to secure sufficient school places in their area. The free schools programme is now expected to focus on areas where standards are low so local authorities will need to address shortfalls for places elsewhere through their basic need funding and by working with their partners, including the providers of Church and faith schools.

To enable the creation of these places, a capital scheme to support the creation of new voluntary aided schools for faith and other providers is to be set up. Schools created through this scheme will have the same freedoms as existing voluntary aided schools, including over their admissions which will enable them to select up to 100% of pupils on the basis of faith. There has never been a general route for any faith group to receive 100% state funding for a school with 100% faith-based admissions. In line with this, and the longstanding approach to funding of voluntary aided schools, the Department for Education expects those groups establishing voluntary aided schools to contribute 10% of the capital costs relating to their schools. Local authorities will play a key role in supporting and approving any new voluntary aided school, to ensure it fits well with DfE integration and community cohesion objectives. Announcements on arrangements by which proposer groups can apply for capital funding are expected later this year.

### **Interim National Schools Commissioner**

The Department for Education has confirmed that Regional Schools Commissioner Dominic Herrington is to be appointed as the interim National Schools Commissioner from September.

The temporary appointment aims to provide continuity for academies across the country when Sir David Carter retires from the civil service after four years at the department.

Dominic Herrington has been Regional Schools Commissioner for the South-East of England and South London since being promoted from his role as Director of the Academies Group at the department in 2014 and will continue to oversee this area of work.

He will lead the team of Regional Schools Commissioners and oversee their collaboration with the academy sector to nurture innovation and help improve education for every child.

Allyson Milward  
Academies Manager  
June 2018

25 June 2018

## SEND capacity planning

### 1. Sufficiency of SEND places

- Based on forecast population growth, between 2017/18 and 2022/23 there will be an estimated increase in primary pupils with Education Health & Care Plans (EHCPs) from 1022 to 1052 (an increase of 3%) and from 1063 to 1243 for secondary (Year 7-11) pupils (an increase of 17%), i.e. 210 additional EHCPs in total (an overall increase of 10%).
- There have been significant changes in where pupils with EHCPs attend since 2015: for primary pupils, this shift has been from mainstream to LA special schools; for secondary pupils, the shift has been from mainstream to higher cost Independent and Non-Maintained Special Schools (INMSS). This has significantly increased the average cost per pupil.
- There is currently a particular scarcity of available places for pupils with a diagnosis of Autism (ASD), or Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. This is a major reason for our reliance on the INMSS sector.
- There is, therefore, an identified need to:
  - Increase LA special school capacity to meet population growth.
  - Further increase LA special school capacity, particularly for SEMH and ASD, to reduce the reliance on high cost INMSS places.
  - Increase Resource Base places to provide more support to children with SEND within mainstream schools, aiming to reverse recent trends away from mainstream inclusion.
- Current plans provide for 87 additional resource base places between 2017 and 2022, providing additional support for children and young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs and Communication & Interaction needs. This is a 63% increase in the number of places, significantly faster than the projected increase in population. Further opportunities for creating resource bases will be explored.
- Confirmed and planned expansions of LA special schools over the 2017-2022 period total 112 additional places. This is an 11% increase in the number of places, broadly in line with the projected increase in population.
- Two new special schools are planned, one approved for funding from the Free School programme and one for which such funding will be sought through the next appropriate bidding round. These will provide 100 additional SEMH places in Bloxham, and 100 additional places (specific need not yet confirmed) in Didcot. These new schools should significantly reduce the need to use INMSS provision.
- Current plan of additional capacity is shown below:

Expected opening date	Resource bases	Special schools
2017/18	Didcot primary + 9 SEMH	Oxford +8 SLD/PMLD County +16 SEMH Abingdon +8 SLD/PMLD
2018/19	Didcot primary +8 SEMH Didcot secondary +20 SEMH Bicester primary +6 C&I	County secondary +20 SEMH Bicester +16 SLD/PMLD
2019/20	Bicester secondary +8 SEMH	Wantage +16 SLD/PMLD Wheatley +16 SLD/PMLD
2020/21	Banbury primary +6 C&I Oxford primary +8 SEMH Witney primary +6 C&I	NEW Bloxham +100 SEMH
2021/22	Opportunities for bases within new schools in Wantage/Grove and Abingdon	*Bicester +16 SLD/PMLD *Wheatley +16 SLD/PMLD **NEW Didcot +100 ASD?

\*Special Provision Fund proposals

\*\* Subject to free school bid (or other funding becoming available) and housing development (to provide the site)

- Further work is underway to confirm whether the currently planned programme is sufficient, and extending the strategy to a 5-10 year timeframe.
- In addition, further work is underway to identify how mainstream schools can be challenged and supported to provide inclusive education for SEND. As part of the High Needs Block Review and Learner Engagement Review.

## 2. Northfield School

- Oxfordshire County Council's Cabinet decided at its meeting of 4 June 2018 to launch a consultation into the future of Northfield School in Oxford.
- Northfield School is located in Blackbird Leys, to the south-east of Oxford. It is a local authority maintained special school which provides places for up to 76 pupils across Years 6-11 with social, emotional and mental health difficulties (SEMH), including autistic spectrum disorders (ASD). There are currently 71 pupils on roll. Northfield School serves the whole county: only about a third of pupils live within Oxford, and many need to travel considerable distances to attend.

- The consultation was prompted by a range of recent concerns and issues involving the school. In particular, the school was recently partially closed due to the condition of the main school buildings, including mounting repair and maintenance problems, including asbestos, and also concerns that the layout, size and shape of classrooms may no longer be suitable for the current curriculum and the needs of pupils. The school is currently operating out of temporary accommodation split over two sites (years 10 and 11 are currently using several portacabins on site and years 6 to 9 have been temporarily relocated to Hill End Centre in Farmoor (to the west of Oxford).
- Concerns have also been raised about the quality of education and safeguarding that was being provided by the school, and about low levels of pupil attendance. There has been significant turnover of staff. Following the resignation of the governing body, an Interim Executive Board has been appointed.
- If the school is to remain open in its current buildings, significant investment will be required to ensure they are fit for purpose. To ensure council resources are used effectively, it is necessary to examine whether this is the best way to ensure high quality education for children with SEMH needs, or whether better solutions exist. Options could include closing, relocating or rebuilding the school.
- If all or part of the school's capacity is lost, whether temporarily while repairs are undertaken or permanently, other provision will need to be commissioned, and options are currently being explored.

Barbara Chillman, Pupil Place Planning Manager, June 2018

26 June 2018

**Cabinet / Member for Public Health & Education Decisions & Forward Plan**

**ITEMS IN FORWARD PLAN FOR INFORMATION / DECISION**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DATE OF DECISION</b>	<b>DECISION-MAKER</b>
Consideration of the outcomes of a consultation into the future of Northfield School	TBC	Cabinet
Proposed education specification for a new primary school at Graven Hill, Bicester	19 September 2018	Cabinet Member for Public Health & Education

**ITEMS DECIDED SINCE LAST MEETING**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>DECISION</b>
Kingham Primary School, Chipping Norton: Proposal to extend the age range from 4-11 to 2-11.	13 June 2018	Cabinet Member for Public Health & Education - Approved
Proposed education specification for a new primary school in NE Wantage.	13 June 2018	Cabinet Member for Public Health & Education - Approved
Expansion of St Andrew's CE Primary School, Chinnor	25 April 2018	Cabinet: Proposed expansion of the school from 1.5fe to 2fe was approved.
Special Provision Capital Fund - Oxfordshire's Proposal	7 March 2018	Cabinet: Recommendations agreed with the addition of Bishopswood Special School to the list of proposed projects in the Special Provision Fund Capital Plan.

Lucy Mills, School Organisation Officer

June 2018