

School Place Planning Strategy

London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

March 2023

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1. INTRODUCTION / BACKGROUND

Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the strategic framework for the provision and management of school places within the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames ('the council').
- 1.2 It does so to provide direction to the council in its fulfilment of its statutory school place planning duties as set out in the Education Act 1996, most notably section 14¹, which sets out the requirement to ensure enough state-funded mainstream and specialist school places for residents' children.
- 1.3 In practice, fulfilling this duty is, and always has been, difficult to define in simple terms, since all parents/carers also have the option for applying for state-funded schools outside the borough, and some have the additional option of applying for independent-sector schools both within and outside the borough, the extent of which is greater, but also more variable (per se and in discrete areas), in Richmond than in most LAs. The strategy therefore seeks to outline the impact of that and other factors which make local school place planning more challenging than might seem obvious.
- 1.4 Successful school place planning relies on a number of factors, including, but not limited to, the following:
- Accurate data relating to children for whom school admission applications are made and places are allocated, and who are admitted into schools in the autumn.
 - Excellent working relationships with:
 - state-funded schools within the council's area;
 - neighbouring local authorities, of which Richmond has five: Hammersmith and Fulham; Hounslow; Kingston; Surrey and Wandsworth;
 - the Department for Education; and
 - the diocesan boards of education, of which four cover Richmond's administrative area: the Anglican diocese of London and Southwark and the Catholic dioceses of Southwark and Westminster.
 - The provision of proposed large housing developments from which a significant 'pupil yield' – i.e. the forecast number of children who will need new state-funded school places within the vicinity – which might impact the supply of places.
 - Wider intelligence related to: parental perception of particular schools, which can sometimes be unjustly historic or can change very quickly due to circumstances such as the departure of a long-time headteacher; Ofsted judgements; how economic circumstances; housing and school developments in neighbouring and other nearby local authorities (LAs); and inward and outward migration.
 - Intuition, born of experience and historical knowledge, which is, of course, difficult to quantify, but is key to interpreting the results of all the factors cited above.
- 1.5 Apart from at the point of release of the once-a-decade general population census data, which quickly becomes outdated, there is no reliable, up-to-date data-set of how many children there are in the borough and their ages which could be used to provide

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/section/14>.

a basis for forecasting likely pupil numbers in coming years. Nonetheless, there are enough data sources to enable the council to plan for, and ensure the supply of, places in a more than reasonably strategic manner. There is always a risk that unforeseen circumstances, especially those relating to external factors, such as rapid economic change and migration patterns, will necessitate re-evaluation of the council's strategy.

- 1.6 There are 60 entirely state-funded schools within the borough: one stand-alone maintained nursery (Windham); 45 primary-phase, 11 secondary and three special. The different governance and phase type of the 51 schools is tabulated below:

Phase	Type	Academies/free schools	LA-Maintained	Voluntary-aided	Number	
EY	Nursery		Windham		1	
Primary	Infant		Carlisle Infant		5	
			Hampton Infant			
			Hampton Wick Infant			
			Heathfield Infant			
			Trafalgar Infant			
	Junior			Hampton Junior	St John the Baptist	5
				Hampton Hill Junior		
				Heathfield Junior		
				Trafalgar Junior		
	All-through primary		Deer Park	Barnes	Archdeacon Cambridge's	35
			Nelson	Buckingham	Bishop Perrin	
			St Mary's, Hampton	Chase Bridge	Holy Trinity	
			St Richard Reynolds Primary	Collis	Sacred Heart	
			Thomson House	Darell	St Edmund's	
			Twickenham Primary Academy	East Sheen	St Elizabeth's	
				Kew Riverside	St James's	
				Lowther	St Mary Magdalen's	
				Marshgate	St Mary's, Twickenham	
				Meadlands	St Mary's and St Peter's	
			Orleans	St Osmund's		
			Sheen Mount	St Richard's		
			Stanley	St Stephen's		
			The Russell	The Queen's		
		The Vineyard				
Secondary		Grey Court		Christ's	11	
		Hampton High				
		Orleans Park				
		Richmond Park Academy				
		St Richard Reynolds				
		Teddington				
		The Richmond upon Thames				
		Turing House				
		Twickenham School				
		Waldegrave				
Special		Capella House			3	
		Clarendon				
		Strathmore				
Number		19	25	16		

Although 35 (19 academies and 16 voluntary-aided schools) of the 60 are independent of the council, relationships with all schools are generally very good, so there have not been any major challenges regarding the provision of places within the borough. If

further academisation were to happen to the point where few, if any, schools stay council-maintained, then that might make it more difficult for the council to fulfil its statutory duty. Maintaining good relationships with every school, whatever their governance, within the local family of schools is a pre-requisite for effective school place planning and should not be under-estimated.

- 1.7 Insofar as reasonable arguments can be made to support them, this strategy makes recommendations for further actions or consideration, as appropriate. However, because any forward-looking document of this type quickly becomes out-of-date, it will need to be periodically refreshed in light of further changes in local circumstances, above all of school admission patterns.
- 1.8 Admissions patterns and other circumstances can occur contrary to expectations, and, as a result, school place planning is not, and never will be, an exact science.
- 1.9 Unless stated, all data given is Achieving for Children (AfC)'s, on behalf of the council.

Background

- 1.10 In January 2015, the Council adopted the School Place Planning Strategy 2015–2024, which has since been revised three times: in October 2015 (to take account of a new priority, for a secondary school to be established in the east of the borough); in February 2018; and in December 2019².
- 1.11 This revised version of the strategy:
 - provides an update on the provision of mainstream and specialist school places since December 2019;
 - analyses recent and short- to medium-term forecast demand for mainstream and specialist school places;
 - considers how that demand could be met;
 - considers whether, when and where further school places will be required, giving options, where appropriate, for securing *local* school provision, to ensure that children and young people can be educated within their home community, without being dependent on private car usage for home to school travel; and
 - considers whether temporary reductions in forms of entry in some schools will need to continue and in what circumstances those reductions might become permanent.
- 1.12 Assumptions regarding long-term demand are naturally more speculative than those used to inform the forecasting of short- to medium-term demand.
- 1.13 The Mayor's London Plan (March 2021)³ states that,

To ensure there is a sufficient supply of good quality education and childcare facilities to meet demand and offer educational choice, boroughs should:

² <https://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/documents/s82257/2a%20School%20Place%20Planning%20Strategy%20-%20December%202019%201.pdf>.

³ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf, pp.222–3

1) prepare Development Plans that are informed by a needs assessment of education and childcare facility needs. Needs should be assessed locally and sub-regionally, addressing cross-boundary issues. Needs assessments should include an audit of existing facilities.

2) identify sites for future provision through the Development Plan process, particularly in areas with significant planned growth or need for school places (including Special Educational Needs and Disability places).

3) ensure that development proposals for housing and commercial facilities incorporate suitable childcare provision and encourage nursery provision within primary schools, where there is a need.

1.14 The London Plan also states⁴ that there is:

There is a growing need for school places in London, with projected need for 705,000 mainstream state-funded primary school places required for the academic year 2018/19. This is an increase of 7,000 over the number of places required in 2016/17. The level of need is projected to fall to 686,000 places a year by 2027/28. In 2016/17, there was a need for 403,000 places in mainstream state-funded secondary schools. The number of places required is projected to increase by 65,000, over the period to 2027/28. This need, particularly for secondary school places, requires a strategic approach to delivery, making it harder to quantify within individual boroughs. Boroughs are encouraged to work together to meet the needs for secondary school places. [. . .]

There is a need for an increase in Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision in London and it is important that these places are planned for. Some of this provision will be within mainstream schools and some within specialist schools.

While those estimates of required school places already appear outdated, this strategy is focused on the growing need for additional school places where they are needed: in the mainstream secondary school sector, particularly in the eastern half of the borough; and in the specialist school places sector.

1.15 However, the strategy also provides an assessment of falling rolls at Reception which have had a significant impact on a number of primary-phase schools, mostly within the western half of the borough.

1.16 The work undertaken to provide additional school places in the last 20 years has given the borough a platform from which it can meet the challenges of the coming years. However, forecasting and meeting demand for places in a borough where educational standards and parental expectations are generally very high is not, and never has been, straightforward, not least because of geography: Richmond upon Thames is the only London borough which the River Thames bisects, and has a mixture of both densely-populated and parkland areas, with considerable planning constraints.

⁴ The London Plan, op. cit., pp.224–5

- 1.17 The significant progress made in recent times has involved the usage of much of the usable space on existing schools' sites. It is also the case that opportunities for the council or the Department for Education (DfE) and its agencies to acquire and use new sites for school provision have become much scarcer. The prevailing economic circumstances in the UK have further reduced the likelihood of the acquisition or re-purposing of sites within the borough for new schools or satellite centres.
- 1.18 Despite the Council's wish to see school places provided locally, where they are needed, its inability, by law, to establish state-funded schools and to decide the location of new schools are constraints which impede its efforts to meet its statutory.
- 1.19 The Department for Education (DfE) now have much more oversight of local authority mainstream (but not SEND) school place planning than they used to, as a result of: more regular meetings between their Pupil Place Planning team's advisers and LA place planning officers; more rigorous qualitative assessment and sign-off procedures for the annual School Capacity (SCAP) return; and the publication of 'Local Authority School Places Scorecards' to provide inter-authority performance comparisons.
- 1.20 The most recent School Places Scorecards, for 2021⁵, show that the accuracy rates of Richmond's pupil forecasts compared favourably with those of neighbouring LAs:

Primary phase:

Local authority	Accuracy in the previous year	Accuracy in the previous three years
Richmond	+0.7%	+3.4%
Hammersmith & Fulham	+2.0%	+8.7%
Hounslow	+0.4%	+4.5%
Kingston	-0.6%	+2.3%
Surrey	+3.2%	+6.9%
Wandsworth	+3.2%	+8.0%

Secondary phase:

Local authority	Accuracy in the previous year	Accuracy in the previous three years
Richmond	-0.2%	+1.5%
Hammersmith & Fulham	-1.1%	-0.2%
Hounslow	+0.4%	+4.3%
Kingston	+0.2%	-0.1%
Surrey	+3.2%	+7.0%
Wandsworth	+1.0%	+6.0%

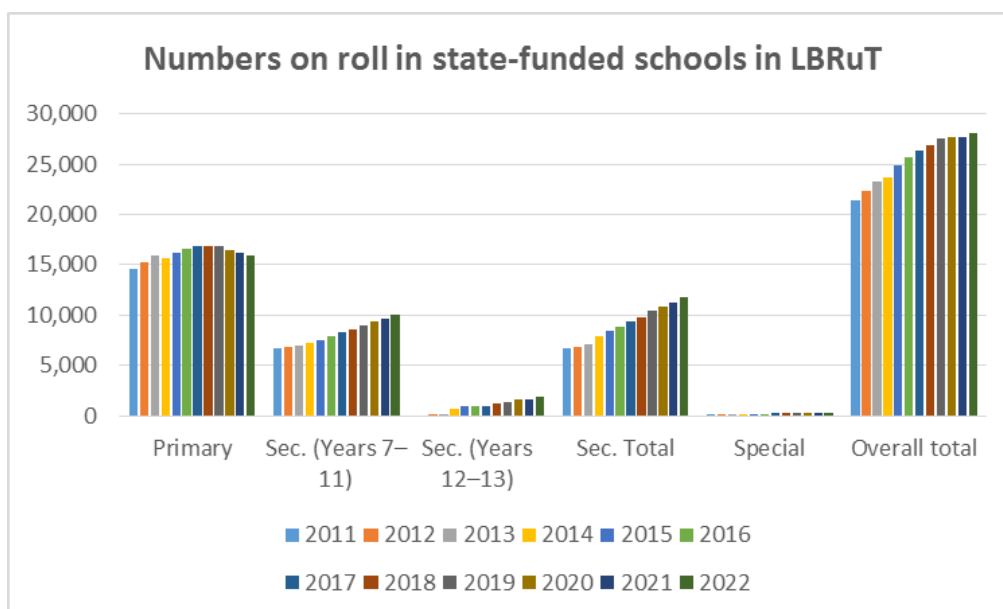
⁵ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/local-authority-school-places-scorecards-2021>

2. OVERALL PUPIL POPULATION

2.1 As the table and chart below show, the overall pupil population, from Reception to Year 13, of state-funded primary, secondary and special schools within the borough has increased in every year since 2011. In October 2022, there were 6,685 more children and young people (31.2%) in the schools than in October 2011.

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Primary	14,566	15,247	15,986	15,638	16,184	16,655	16,809	16,830	16,802	16,516	16,173	15,942
Sec. (Years 7–11)	6,713	6,832	7,019	7,243	7,538	7,889	8,338	8,589	9,024	9,321	9,597	9,979
Sec. (Years 12–13)	0	48	121	631	955	941	990	1,195	1,417	1,559	1,664	1,840
Sec. Total	6,713	6,880	7,140	7,874	8,493	8,830	9,328	9,784	10,441	10,880	11,261	11,819
Special	132	159	171	188	190	206	219	247	270	286	299	335
Overall total	21,411	22,286	23,297	23,700	24,867	25,691	26,356	26,861	27,513	27,682	27,733	28,096

Numbers on roll in state-funded schools in Richmond at autumn pupil census.



2.2 Within that overall roll-number increase, other changes are apparent:

- The total primary-phase pupil population increased by 2,264 (15.5%) from 2011 to 2018, since when it has decreased by 888 (5.3%).
- The total primary-phase pupil population in autumn 2021 was almost the same as it was in 2015.
- The total primary-phase pupil population in autumn 2022 was the smallest since 2014.
- The total secondary-phase pupil population has increased by 5,106 children and young people (76.1%): 3,266 (48.7%) in Years 7 to 11 and 1,840 in the sixth form years, with an increase of 1,390 students (16.2%) in the last four years, which includes an increase of 646 sixth form students (54.1%).
- The total special school pupil population has increased by 203 (153.8%).

2.3 Contextual background to these changes include the following:

- Between 2000 and 2016, the number of forms of entry in the state-funded primary sector increased from 55.5 to 89, a net increase of 6,949 new places. Of that total, the majority – 4,949 (72.4%) – were established from 2010 onwards, with the last two expansions, of East Sheen Primary and of Hampton Infant and Hampton Junior, both commencing in 2016. These expansions have now, in the 2022/2023 school year, worked their way through to include all year-groups.
- After the 2018 intake, the shared form of entry – which operated from 2009 between St Elizabeth’s, St Mary Magdalen’s and St Osmund’s, on the rotating basis of each year one of the three schools admitting an extra Reception class – permanently ceased. (None of the three had space for permanent expansion, so three extra classrooms had been accommodated at St Elizabeth’s and two each at the other two schools, so that a bulge class could be accommodated in one of them in every year in a seven-year period.)
- In response to reduced demand for Reception places mainly caused by a birth-rate decrease (from a high of 2,992 in 2010 to 2,544 in 2016), officers worked with schools to reduce capacity for Reception entry for the 2021/2022 school year by a total of nine forms – eight in the western half of the borough and one in the eastern half – across seven schools: Buckingham Primary, Darell Primary, Hampton Wick Infant, Heathfield Infant, Nelson Primary, Stanley Primary and Trafalgar Infant. Nelson and Stanley each temporarily reduced by two forms of entry from their substantive published admission numbers (PANs), though Nelson reverted to a two-form intake for 2022 entry due to increased demand; so for 2022/2023 entry, there were eight forms of entry fewer available than the permanent capacity of 88 (2,640 places). This issue is explored in more depth in Section 4 of this strategy.
- There has hitherto been no question about the continued viability of any of the 45 primary-phase schools in the borough, so none has been proposed for closure, unlike in some other LAs.
- The total for Years 7 to 11, includes the 150 places per year established at each of St Richard Reynolds, Turing House and The Richmond upon Thames School in 2013, 2015 and 2017 respectively, though Turing opened with a PAN of 100; plus permanent, unilateral increases of PAN at St Richard Reynolds and Turing House, and temporary, agreed ones in various years at Christ’s, Grey Court and Richmond Park Academy (RPA).
- As most of the sixth forms were only established in 2014, they remain relatively new additions to the south-west London post-16 education landscape and some are yet to reach full capacity; however, in each of the last six years, the numbers have significantly increased within the eight schools with sixth forms.
- The numbers of pupils in the special schools have increased due to the expansions of both Clarendon and Strathmore and the opening, in 2019, of Capella House.

The impact of Brexit

- 2.4 Attempting to gauge the impact of Brexit on local school admissions isn’t straightforward. In the pupil census, there are various categories, but not one for every different country within the EU, so it is not easy to assess how many children from EU nations there are in Richmond Borough schools now in comparison with the data from before the referendum and during the intervening years. The table below provides the data which can be extracted:

Year	BEUR	WCRO	WEEU	WEUR	WGRC	WGRE	WGRK	WIRI	WIRT	WITA	WPOR	WWEU	Total
2015	0	0	14	19	0	0	3	254	21	0	0	14	325
2016	0	0	10	43	0	0	3	274	28	0	0	10	368
2017	1	1	13	61	0	0	4	281	25	1	0	9	396
2018	1	2	21	88	0	0	3	273	27	0	1	9	425
2019	3	2	28	99	0	1	3	283	27	1	1	7	455
2020	2	2	30	112	0	1	8	284	28	12	3	11	493
2021	3	1	35	127	1	1	14	281	23	14	5	14	519

Numbers on roll recorded against all 'EU' classification codes in state-funded schools in Richmond at October pupil census: BEUR, Black European; WCRO, White Croatian; WEEU, White Eastern European; WEUR, White European; WGRC, Greek Cypriot; WGRE, Greek; WIRI, White Irish; WIRT, White Traveller of Irish Heritage; WITA, White Italian; WPOR, White Portuguese; WWEU, White Western European.

- 2.5 Some individual schools – Catholic primary schools in particular, and in neighbouring LAs also – have reported anecdotally that Brexit has adversely affected their recruitment and retention of pupils.

3. HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS AND PUPIL YIELD

- 3.1 The Mayor’s London Plan (March 2021)⁶ sets a target for an additional 6,350 net housing completions, including 2,340 through small-site developments, to be provided in Richmond Borough over the 10-year period between 2019/2020 and 2028/2029, equating to 635 per year.
- 3.2 Given local authorities’ limited financial resources, there is innate potential for conflicting priorities between ensuring sufficient local state-funded school capacity and increasing the supply of housing, specifically *affordable* housing.
- 3.3 There are more large major housing developments, i.e. with more than 100 units, planned or likely to come forward within the borough than appeared likely in 2019. The largest are mostly within the eastern half of the borough:

	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4-bed	Total units	Status
Barnes Hospital	42	49	18	0	109	Submitted
Ham Close	225	162	23	42	452*	Approved
Homebase, North Sheen	173	246	34	0	453	Approved
Stag Brewery	330	480	249	26	1,085	Submitted

Studios are included under 1-bed. * The net gain from regeneration of the existing housing estate is **260** units

In addition, a large housing development is expected to come forward for c.2,000 units on part of the Kew Retail Park site, which the Berkeley Group have bought.

- 3.4 There are also likely to be some (mostly smaller) major developments in the western half, including the following:

	1-bed	2-bed	3-bed	4-bed	Total units	Status
Gregg’s Bakery	33	33	44	4	116	Submitted
Kingston Bridge House	48	15	7	0	70	Submitted
RuT College site	76	85	43	8	212	Approved
St Clare Business Park	51	43	21	0	112	Submitted
Twickenham Riverside	16	18	11	0	45	Approved

- 3.5 In addition, there will be many much smaller developments which will have a cumulative impact on demand for state-funded school places, but which are much harder to track and therefore to quantify in terms of pupil yield.

Calculating child and pupil yield

- 3.6 There is no simple method of calculating the likely *child* yield from a proposed housing development, and then the *pupil* yield, i.e. the numbers of children who will need new state-funded school places within the borough, most likely near the development site.

⁶ https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2021.pdf, p.163 and 168.

3.7 At its most basic, an assessment can be made using the following model formula:

Number of primary / secondary age children by age and size of property (i.e. number of bedrooms) (child yield)	
X	Number of units of each particular size
X	Percentage of children likely to need a new state-funded school close to the development (pupil take-up)
=	Number of children generated for each school type (pupil yield)

3.8 Over the years, housing developers have commissioned research into both the first and third stages of this formula, which naturally sought to minimise the child and pupil yield amounts so that the amounts of s.106 contributions towards education would also be minimised; however, there has been an absence of *independent*, up-to-date research.

3.9 While s.106 contributions were still being requested, for many years Richmond Council used a formula derived from London Research Centre data, based on 1991 statistics, as set out below, which took no account of age.

No of bedrooms	1	2	3	4
Number of children	0.08	1.61	1.99	3.29

3.10 In 2006, a Planning Inquiry was held into the Sandy Lane housing development in Teddington, in which the developer (Linden Homes) argued that the education contribution which Richmond Council was seeking was too high because the yield numbers took no true account of the first and fourth stages of the model formula above, i.e. that account needed to be taken of age, and that a dampener should be applied for the number of children who would stay in their current school and therefore not need a new school place close to the development. Although the Planning Inspector did not sanction the usage of an alternative formula proposed by Linden Homes, he nonetheless agreed that the Richmond formula was generally over-forecasting the number of children who would need new places and therefore the amount of s.106 education contributions which the council was seeking.

3.11 As a result of the Inquiry findings, Richmond Council's Housing Department⁷ commissioned new research, based on occupation of a number of new dwellings within the borough, which was subsequently peer-reviewed by the GLA Demography Team and recognised as good practice.

3.12 That research led to the adoption of a formula incorporating the following average child-yield numbers per bedrooms:

⁷ The principal author of this strategy wishes to acknowledge the work undertaken by Colin Waters.

	Number of bedrooms			
Age years	1	2	3	4
0-4	0	0.74	0.66	0.77
5-10	0	0.30	1.00	1.23
11-16	0	0.08	0.72	1.23

3.13 As examples, if this formula were applied to the three developments in the north-east of the borough, they would produce the following forecast child yields:

Barnes Hospital

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	42		49		18		0		
0-4		0		36		12		0	48
5-10		0		18		18		0	36
11-16		0		2		13		0	15
Total		0		56		43		0	99

Homebase, North Sheen

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	173		246		34		0		
0-4		0		182		22		0	204
5-10		0		55		34		0	89
11-16		0		15		24		0	39
Total		0		252		80		0	332

Stag Brewery

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	330		480		249		26		
0-4		0		355		164		20	539
5-10		0		144		249		32	425
11-16		0		38		179		32	249
Total		0		537		592		84	1,213

3.14 If the following are taken into account, it might be reasonable to suggest that the yield figures above look somewhat conservative:

- It is possible, perhaps probable, that since 2006, the average numbers of children per bedroom have grown so the rates in the child yield formula at paragraph 3.12 may well be under-estimating yields, particularly for 11-15 year-olds as evidenced by recent in-year admission numbers (even though it is understandable that families are

less likely, on the whole, to move if their children are settled in KS3 and/or KS4). As yet unpublished DfE guidance on assessing pupil yield states that recent studies have concluded that housing developments take an average of eight years from initial occupation to reach peak child yield, not least because some initial occupants subsequently have more babies.

- The idea that one-bedroom units would have no children living within them needs to be revisited in the light of anecdotal information.

3.15 The work undertaken following the Sandy Lane inquiry also examined the need for a ‘dampener’ to be applied to estimated child yields in order to forecast *pupil* yields. Cross-checking with the pupil census led to a finding that around 67% of the children moving into the analysed developments were reckoned *not* to create additional net demand for state-funded school places; either because they had been attending the same school at least one year before their house-move as they did after, or because they were already being educated at a school within the borough before moving or because they are not attending an in-borough state-funded school.

3.16 If that dampener were applied to the three estimated child yields tabulated in paragraph 3.13, then the resulting pupil yields would be as follows. Please note that for children aged 0–4, it is assumed that the dampener should only be applied to a quarter of this age-group, i.e. the four-year-olds, because all the younger children would not have been attending a state-funded school prior to moving in and would not need a state-funded school place until they subsequently reached Reception age.

Age years	Barnes Hospital	Homebase	Stag Brewery
0–3	36	153	404
4	4	17	45
5–10	12	29	140
11–16	5	13	82
Total	89	306	671

3.17 These numbers of children would be the *initial* pupil yields from the first full occupation of each of the three developments. Clearly, the majority of the 0–3 children would, in due course, require a state-funded school place from Reception age onwards.

3.18 Since 2006, the take-up rates from birth into Reception and from Year 6 into Year 7 have both significantly increased in the borough, so the 67% dampener appears to be much too high now; therefore the pupil yield numbers in the table in paragraph 3.16 are likely to be under-estimates.

3.19 Such pupil yield data would need to be re-visited once the particular development(s) were fully occupied. Allowance would also need to be taken for the different types of tenure: affordable and shared-ownership units would be more likely to yield children and young people who require new *state-funded* – as opposed to independent sector – school places than those in market units. The average numbers of children which developments may yield are subject to variable skewing by tenure.

3.20 After the initial occupation of a development some occupants will later move out, for various reasons, e.g. some units will become short-term lets. In every instance, that movement has three potential consequences from a school place planning perspective: (a) any such leavers who already have or will have children in state-funded schools may need new places for those children in the areas to which they move, but those area may well be outside the borough; (b) any such leavers may well be replaced by families who will need new local state-funded school places for their children; and (c) if the home vacated by the replacing mover-in is also within the borough, then that property may also be filled by a family with children who need new local state-funded school places (and so on). It would be difficult track these impacts for any large housing development over the period of time required, perhaps up to 10 years after the initial occupation.

3.21 When the DfE publish their pupil yield guidance, any best practice will be factored into the council’s forecasts of pupil rolls. It is anticipated that this will include research undertaken into actual pupil yield in the years following initial occupation and into the average dampener to be applied to child yields in order to estimate pupil yields.

3.22 For now, though, pupil forecasts in the borough will include a forecast initial pupil yield for the North Sheen Homebase development which assumes a lower dampener than the 67% derived from the 2006 sample which was used in the SCAP 2022 forecasts; that is because of the increased take-up rates referred to in paragraph 3.18. For the purposes of forecasting demand for school places in primary area 6 (North Richmond and South Richmond) and secondary area 2 (the east of the borough), therefore, a dampener of only 23% will be applied in both cases, which reflects the take-up rates in both areas for 2022 entry. It will also be assumed that of the 39 11–16 year-olds, most of them – assumed at 80%, i.e. 31 – are likely to be of Year 7 age, as parents/carers are more likely to move just before or when their child starts secondary school than a year or two later. It will also be assumed that half these pupil yields will be factored into the forecasts for 2025 entry and half for 2026, due to the phasing of the construction.

3.23 As an example in the west of the borough, here are the forecast child and pupil yields for the Richmond upon Thames College site housing development:

	1-bed		2-bed		3-bed		4-bed		Total yield
	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	Units	Yield	
Age years	76		85		43		8		
0–4		0		63		28		6	97
5–10		0		26		43		10	79
11–16		0		7		31		10	48
Total		0		96		102		26	224

Age years	Pupil yield
0–3	73
4	8
5–10	26
11–16	16
Total	123

4. PRIMARY PHASE

4.1 Between 2000 and 2016 the Council ensured the provision of 33.5 forms of entry (FE) at Reception in addition to the original capacity of 55.5 FE, representing a 60% increase:

Expansions		Free schools		Other new schools		Totals	
FE	Places	FE	Places	FE	Places	FE	Places
22.5	4,739	7	1,414	4	840	33.5	6,993

4.2 These places were made up as follows:

- 2000: Permanent expansions: Barnes (1 to 2FE); St James's (2 to 3FE); St Mary's, Twickenham (1 to 2FE); St Mary's and St Peter's (1 to 2FE); Trafalgar (2 to 3FE)
- 2002: New schools: Kew Riverside (1FE); Marshgate (2FE)
- 2006: Permanent expansion: Collis (2 to 3FE)
- 2009: Shared form of entry between St Elizabeth's, St Mary Magdalen's and St Osmund's (1FE between them)
- 2010: Permanent expansions: Holy Trinity (to 2FE); Stanley (to 4FE)
- 2011: Permanent expansions: Buckingham (to 3FE); Chase Bridge (to 3FE); Lowther (to 2FE); St Mary's and St Peter's (to 3FE)
- 2012: Permanent expansions: Hampton Wick / St John the Baptist (2 to 3FE); Orleans / St Stephen's (conversion from 3FE infant and junior schools into 2FE primary schools, thereby adding 1FE); St Mary's, Twickenham (2 to 3FE)
- 2013: New schools: St Mary's Hampton (1FE); St Richard Reynolds (1FE); Thomson House (2FE). Permanent expansion: Heathfield (3 to 4FE)
- 2015: 7.5FE: New schools: Twickenham Primary Academy (2FE); Deer Park (2FE). Permanent expansions: Darell (1.5 to 2FE); Nelson (2 to 3FE); Sheen Mount (2 to 3FE) The Vineyard (2 to 3FE)
- 2016: 2FE: Permanent expansions: East Sheen (2 to 3FE); Hampton Infant (3 to 4FE).

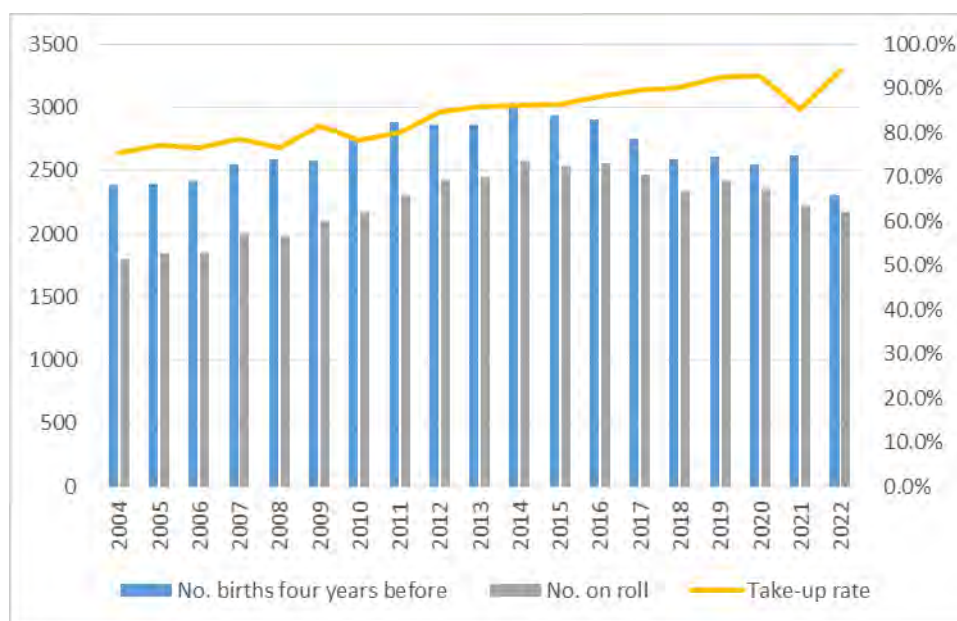
4.3 The table below shows that: the birth-rate grew by 25.5% from the start of this century to a peak in 2010, since when it has decreased by 29.1%; and that the number of children on roll grew by 43% to a peak in 2010, since when it has decreased by 15.7%:

Birth year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2005	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
No. births	2384	2394	2413	2548	2585	2580	2767	2884	2865	2859	2992	2935	2901	2748	2589	2609	2544	2623	2310
Reception year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No. on roll	1801	1846	1845	2004	1979	2105	2169	2309	2424	2452	2578	2535	2559	2466	2335	2414	2360	2225	2173
Take-up rate	75.5%	77.1%	76.5%	78.6%	76.6%	81.6%	78.4%	80.1%	84.6%	85.8%	86.2%	86.4%	88.2%	89.7%	90.2%	92.5%	92.7%	85.3%	94.1%

4.4 A key factor in the birth and roll number increases was the socioeconomic circumstances before and after the Crash of 2008. Richmond was an outlier in reporting very significantly increased demand for Reception places well before most LAs in London and nationally. The council made a bid to the DfE in 2006 for 'Basic Need' capital funding to support, but the response back was that there wasn't yet enough of a trend. In 2009, when the DfE next held a bidding round – at that time, the DfE did not allocate funding without a bidding process – Richmond was one of only two LAs in London which were successful.

4.5 A crucial fact to be gleaned from these data is that demand for places increased at a significantly higher rate than the birth-rate did; and, moreover, has since decreased significantly less than the birth-rate has.

4.6 Most importantly, despite the birth-rate decreasing in most years from 2011 to 2020 inclusive, the take-up rate from birth, i.e. the number of children in Reception in October expressed as a percentage of those born in the borough four years before has, with the exception of the Covid-impacted 2021 intake, continued to grow steadily, from 75.5% in 2004 to 94.1% in 2022. That is shown by this graph:



Reception intakes compared with births four years before

4.7 What is apparent, therefore, is that the take-up rate doesn't directly correlate to the birth-rate four years before but is also influenced by other factors, most obviously the inward and outward migration in the intervening four years. While that has always been anecdotally known, here is clear evidence.

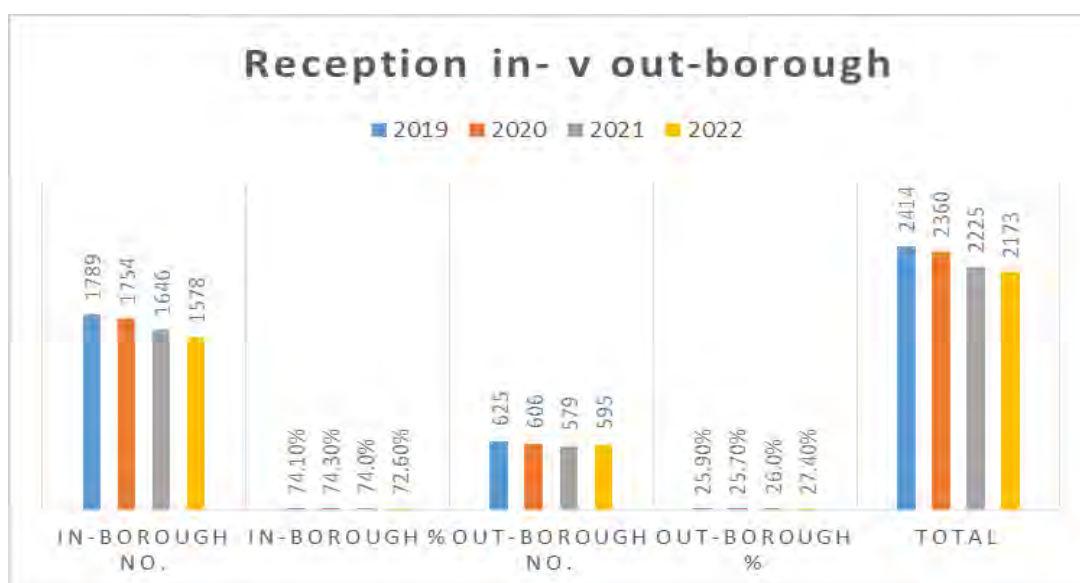
4.8 Six major reasons for the non-correlation are obvious:

- a) A proportion of Reception places is taken by children born and still living outside the borough at the time of application and admission, especially those in Hounslow. Several Richmond primary schools are situated close to the Hounslow boundary.
- b) A proportion of Reception places is taken by children born outside the borough who, since their birth, have (with their family) moved into the borough.
- c) Some children who were born in the borough move out of it prior to Reception admission and therefore do not take up a place in a Richmond primary school, but the rate of this appears to be less than the inward migration outlined at (b).
- d) Some children who were born in the borough, and are still living within it, take up places in out-borough state-funded primary schools. In practice, though, few Richmond parents/carers apply for, and are then admitted to, out-borough schools – for the September 2022 Reception intake, only 2.3% of in-borough applicants (46 out of 1,991) were offered a place in an out-borough school, whereas 296 out-borough children were offered a place in a Richmond Borough school.

- e) Economic factors affect the ability of parents/carers to choose independent-sector schools for their children.
- f) Richmond schools' educational standards are very high compared with elsewhere and therefore more able to withstand the challenge of an overall reduced number of children within the borough and south-west / west London.

4.9 Data from 2019 onwards show that more than a quarter of the total Reception cohort in Richmond schools consists of out-borough children, and that the proportion has increased in each of the last three years:

Year of entry	2019	2020	2021	2022
In-borough no.	1789	1754	1646	1578
In-borough %	74.1	74.3	74.0	72.6
Out-borough no.	625	606	579	595
Out-borough %	25.9	25.7	26.0	27.4
Total	2414	2360	2225	2173



However, the rate of applications made by parents/carers living outside the borough is, naturally, itself subject to all the factors listed above *within their home LA area*, so the rate is very difficult to predict except in discrete areas, e.g. in East Sheen, where the boundary with Wandsworth is short and for which East Sheen Primary is the closest primary school for families living on the Lennox estate within Wandsworth – for 2022 entry, 36 places at East Sheen Primary were offered for Wandsworth children.

- 4.10 Before examining what impact the take-up rate pattern and its underlying factors might have on short- to medium-term demand for Reception places in the borough, it is necessary to summarise what has changed in the last few years.
- 4.11 [Appendix 1](#) shows how individual schools' Reception capacities changed between 2011 and 2022. No new places have been added, either temporarily or permanently since 2016; but, unlike in some other LA areas, no schools have been closed and no schools have *permanently* reduced their intake by a form of entry or more, e.g. by withdrawal, or permanent repurposing, of classrooms.

- 4.12 As outlined in paragraph 2.3, though, *temporary* reductions of published admission numbers (PANs) for Reception entry have been implemented in the following seven schools (and for Year 3 entry to three linked junior schools) in areas where demand for places has reduced from the peaks of 2014–2016: Buckingham Primary, Darell Primary, Hampton Wick Infant, Heathfield Infant, Nelson Primary, Stanley Primary and Trafalgar Infant. One of those schools (Darell) is in the eastern half of the borough and six are in the western half.
- 4.13 There are no plans at present to make those reductions permanent. However, a School Support Group has been convened to further address the challenges for those schools, including financial support and to consider temporary (or permanent) repurposing of accommodation and/or school reorganisation, as appropriate. The borough’s Schools’ Forum considered a report⁸ on funding for schools with falling rolls at its meeting on 26 January 2023. In times, as at present, when revenue funding hasn’t kept pace with running costs, it is right that the council and schools within the borough should consider how they can make the best use of their resources, including spare accommodation.
- 4.14 Factors to be taken into account when considering permanent reductions of PANs and repurposing of classrooms include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:
- a) **Whether reducing capacity might ‘fetter’ parental preference.** While parental preference is not the be-all and end-all of school place planning, the system of allocating state-funded places in England is based on the right of parents/carers to be able to express at least three preferences (in ranked order) and to be able to make an appeal to an independent appeals panel for any school for which a place cannot be allocated for their child. The Pan-London coordinated admissions scheme for Reception entry in which Richmond participates – along with 37 other LAs, including five adjoining Greater London – enables parents/carers to make up to six preferences. This context means that reducing the permanent capacity for oversubscribed schools in order to produce a more level playing field with undersubscribed schools would not be an option where the reduced capacity would, based on recent admissions patterns, be insufficient to meet a reasonable proportion of demand. The Schools Adjudicator has ruled against this practice in a recent adjudication, and in her annual report for 2021⁹. It could also lead to complaints to the Local Government Ombudsman, which would probably be upheld on the grounds of unfairness. Parental preference therefore ties LAs’ and schools’ hands because it results in the ‘market’ dictating pupil numbers.
 - b) **The wider availability of places within the locality.** The LA and the school concerned would need to be satisfied that, on the balance of probability, recent and forecast admissions patterns indicate that there would still be a sufficiency of local state-funded places across the locality for children living within it whose parents want one for them. This assessment carries the innate risk that circumstances can

⁸ <https://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/documents/s500003689/Item%206%20Falling%20Rolls.pdf>

⁹ See paragraph 17 of the report:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1065162/OSA_annual_report_2021.pdf

change quickly, as happened in the borough between 2006 and 2007 when, as the table at paragraph 4.3 shows, there was a large (8.6%), mostly birth-increase-driven spike in demand. For schools which are situated close to the borough's boundary and/or traditionally admit a significant number of out-borough children, the assessment of future demand would also need to involve discussion with the LAs concerned so that the decisions to be taken are complementary and in the wider best interest of both LAs and schools in both LAs. For example, if an under-subscribed Richmond school were proposed for permanent reduction by a form of entry but its nearest primary was one just outside Richmond which the maintaining LA were proposing for closure, it is possible that the Richmond school might end up being filled with more out-borough children at the expense of in-borough children living further away and therefore lead to supply issues within the Richmond locality.

- c) **The longer-term likelihood of higher demand for places, both within the locality and for the school concerned.** Projecting forward much beyond four years (for which at least birth-rate data is available) is difficult to undertake with great precision at the most constant of times, but in periods of considerable demographic change and economic uncertainty it inevitably becomes harder. What needs to be weighed up is whether or not previous cyclical patterns of peaks and troughs of demand are likely to be repeated, in which case it might be prudent to retain permanent capacity for the peaks, because repurposing classrooms for other uses might not very easily be undone – as some LAs found during the immediate post-Crash years. The time and capital investment needed to re-purpose rooms for, say, a specialist resource provision (SRP) mean that, ideally, the new use would be for the long term. In deciding whether an undersubscribed school should use spare accommodation to open an SRP, the LA and the school would need to consider whether the SRP might also end up being undersubscribed, which would add to the council's High Needs overspend. However, there are some schools, such as Darell and Stanley which, though they are currently undersubscribed for mainstream admissions, have SRPs which are oversubscribed.
- d) **Some alternative uses of spare accommodation might not be helpful.** For example, across the borough there are already more than enough private, voluntary and Independent (PVI) nursery places to meet demand, so if a school were to lease some spare classrooms to a PVI nursery provider it would further saturate the market and add to the sustainability challenges of maintained nurseries run by state-funded primary schools. (Please see the [Early Years](#) section of this strategy for details.) However, a joint management arrangement between the school and the PVI might prove helpful in the short to medium term at least, subject to there being a break clause in the event of the classrooms again being required for primary places.
- e) **A permanent reduction means that there is no chance of recovery to the previous full (or near-full) subscription.** Repurposing for a long-term use, without a break clause, would be a final decision and very difficult to reverse. It might also be perceived by parents as a sign that the school has a lack of self-belief, which could lead to deeper undersubscription, in the short term at least, and lead to other schools filling to the point of oversubscription at the school's expense.

- f) **Other school re-organisations might be as, if not more, effective than permanently reducing capacity.** For example, federating with a more popular school or joining a multi-academy trust (MAT), in order to achieve (further) economies of scale and, possibly, rebrand under the umbrella of the other school or MAT. One school within the borough has introduced mixed-age teaching as a means to mitigate the financial impact of lower numbers, and has since attracted a significant number of in-year applicants and seen its number of in-borough resident first preferences double for 2023 entry.

- 4.15 Some schools which have temporarily reduced their forms of entry for Reception entry have already temporarily repurposed some spare accommodation:
- Darell Primary has leased a space to Strathmore for a temporary period – pending the opening of Strathmore’s proposed Hampton centre and the reorganisation which would follow – to provide a centre for KS1 children who have a mixed diagnosis of Moderate to Severe Learning Difficulties.
 - One school is considering the idea of leasing some rooms and outdoor space to an alternative provision provider.
 - A school with an oversubscribed SRP is considering whether it could accommodate more SRP places in repurposed mainstream teaching rooms. It is likely that further proposals of these sorts will be discussed at meetings of the School Support Group and in subsequent meetings with individual schools, depending on their circumstances.

- 4.16 Determining how soon a temporary reduction ought to become permanent is hard to judge and the decision for each school would need to be made in accordance with the particular circumstances and factors as set out above. It is also the case that the size of school can be crucial: larger schools can generally withstand the impact of falling rolls because they can achieve greater economies of scale. The breakdown by substantive forms of entry of the schools which have temporarily reduced their available forms of entry in the last few years is as follows:

4FE to 3FE: Heathfield Infant (and Junior)

4FE to 2FE: Stanley Primary

3FE to 2FE: Buckingham Primary; Hampton Wick Infant (and St John the Baptist CE Junior); Nelson Primary; Trafalgar Infant (and Junior)

2FE to 1FE: Darell Primary

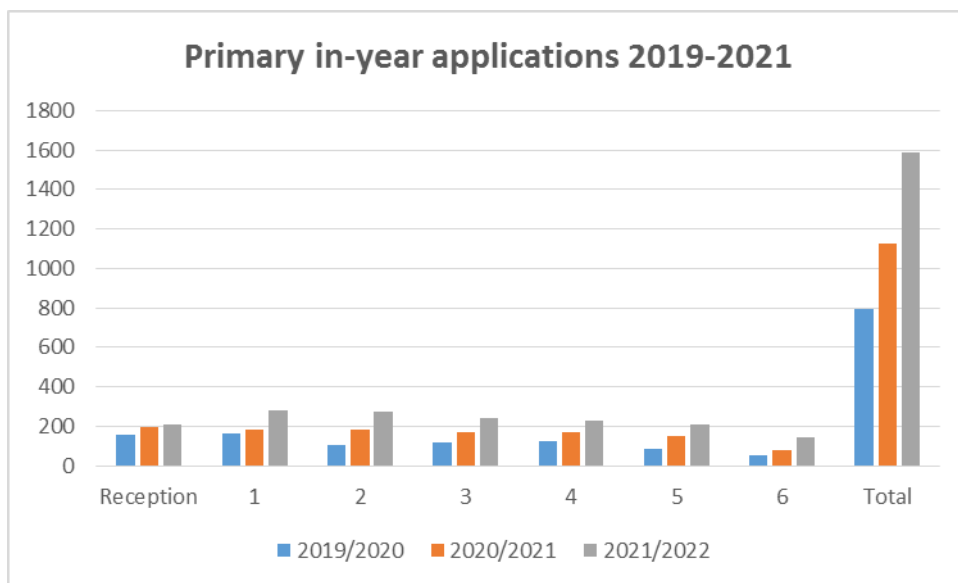
- 4.17 Conversations with schools will be ongoing, in light of changing admission patterns, so that action appropriate to each school’s circumstances can be taken in a timely manner.

In-year admissions and leavers

- 4.18 The next factors to be considered in for short- to medium-term decision-making are the numbers of movers-into the borough – for child(ren) concerned who are too old to be allocated a place through the coordinated Reception admissions process – and leavers.

- 4.19 Since 2019, there has been a large increase in in-year admissions – i.e. applications for any year-group other than in the coordinated entry process for Reception entry:

School year	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
Reception	157	198	208
1	162	181	283
2	105	182	275
3	115	169	239
4	121	170	227
5	86	147	209
6	50	81	144
Total	796	1,128	1,585



Although up to a third, on average, of these applications in each school year were made by families already living in the borough who wanted their children to change schools, two-thirds-plus were made by families who have moved here from within the UK (c.22%) or from other countries (c.44%) and are therefore seeking new school places. The total of 1,585 in 2021/2022 equates to applications for 132 children per month.

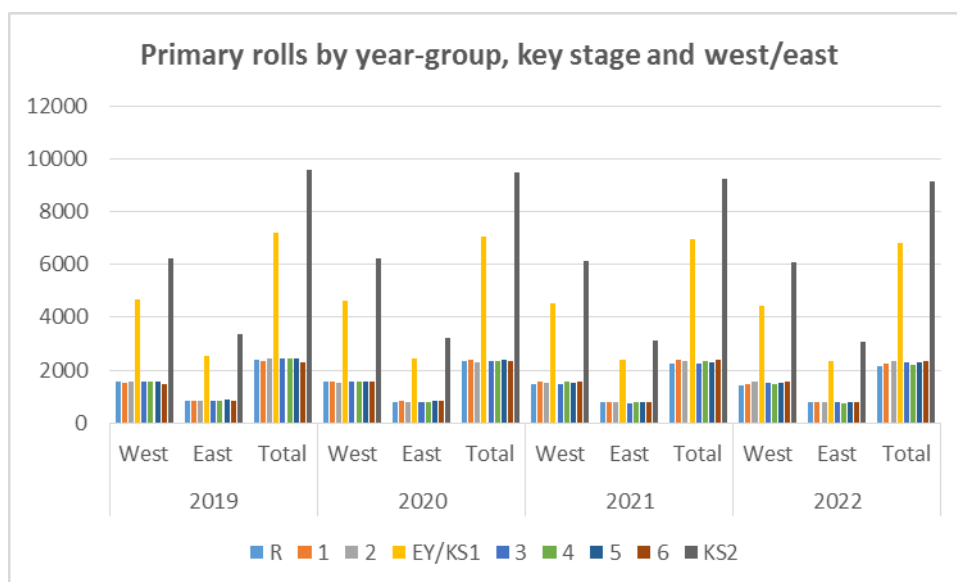
4.20 In the first five months of the current school year, there were 651 primary-phase applications for schools within the borough, equating to 130 per month. The numbers of in-year leavers are not recorded.

4.21 These increases have helped to mitigate the lower numbers of children admitted into Reception in the last few years. In part, they have been driven by applications made by families who have moved into the borough from Hong Kong; a total of 420 primary-aged children since September 2020, including 44 in the current school year to date. Richmond is one of four London boroughs which has experienced such large numbers – the others are Barnet, Kingston and Sutton. It is expected that arrivals from Hong Kong will continue as the situation there develops.

4.22 The on-roll data by year-group for the borough's primary schools, divided by the two halves of the borough, for the last four school years are as follows:

		R	1	2	EY/KS1	3	4	5	6	KS2	Total
2019	West	1569	1527	1578	4674	1573	1580	1567	1486	6206	10880
	East	845	835	856	2536	849	852	866	819	3386	5922
	Total	2414	2362	2434	7210	2422	2432	2433	2305	9592	16802
2020	West	1559	1556	1503	4618	1553	1567	1560	1544	6224	10842
	East	800	842	795	2437	811	788	817	821	3237	5674
	Total	2359	2398	2298	7055	2364	2355	2377	2365	9461	16516
2021	West	1454	1563	1532	4549	1487	1549	1513	1570	6119	10668
	East	771	808	810	2389	750	778	775	813	3116	5505
	Total	2225	2371	2342	6938	2237	2327	2288	2383	9235	16173
2022	West	1404	1481	1561	4446	1509	1483	1536	1551	6079	10525
	East	769	785	804	2358	804	717	766	772	3059	5417
	Total	2173	2266	2365	6804	2313	2200	2302	2323	9138	15942

(For the sake of consistency, Deer Park is included within the west for all years, as this was where it was always intended to be permanently situated)



4.23 These data show that during this four-year period:

- The overall number of children in the primary schools has decreased by 860 children from 16,802 in 2019 to 15,942 in 2022, a reduction of 5.1%.
- The number of children in EY/KS1 has decreased by 406, a reduction of 5.6%.
- The number of children in KS2 has decreased by 454, a reduction of 4.7%.
- The number of children in Year 6 has increased by 18, an increase of 0.8% - by seven in the west and 11 in the east.
- The number of children in schools in the west decreased by 355, a reduction of 3.3%.
- The number of children in schools in the east decreased by 505, a reduction of 8.5%.
- Between 2021 and 2022, the number of children on roll in schools in the west decreased by 143, a reduction of 1.3%.
- Between 2021 and 2022, the number of children on roll in schools in the east decreased by 88, a reduction of 1.6%.

4.24 The changes as individual cohorts have progressed through year-groups during those four years in the schools in two halves of the borough can be tabulated as follows:

West	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2019	1569	1527	1578	1573	1580	1567	1486	10880
2020	1559	1556	1503	1553	1567	1560	1544	10842
2021	1454	1563	1532	1487	1549	1513	1570	10668
2022	1404	1481	1561	1509	1483	1536	1551	10525

East	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2019	845	835	856	849	852	866	819	5922
2020	800	842	795	811	788	817	821	5674
2021	771	808	810	750	778	775	813	5505
2022	769	785	804	804	717	766	772	5417

4.25 From these data, the following changes can be discerned:

West

- The Reception cohort in 2019 decreased by 13 children by Year 1 in 2020, decreased by 24 by Year 2 in 2021, and then decreased by 23 in current Year 3 – a net reduction of 60 children (3.8%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 1 cohort in 2019 decreased by 24 children by Year 2 in 2020, decreased by 16 by Year 3 in 2021, and then decreased by four in current Year 4 – a net reduction of 44 children (2.9%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 2 cohort in 2019 decreased by 25 children by Year 3 in 2020, decreased by four by Year 4 in 2021, and then decreased by 13 in current Year 5 – a net reduction of 42 children (2.7%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 3 cohort in 2019 decreased by six children by Year 4 in 2020, decreased by 54 by Year 5 in 2021 and then increased by 38 in current Year 6 – a net reduction of 22 children (1.4%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 4 cohort in 2019 decreased by 20 children by Year 5 in 2020 and then increased by 10 by Year 6 in 2021 – a net reduction of 10 children (0.6%) across the three-year period.
- The Reception cohort in 2020 increased by four children by Year 1 in 2021, and then decreased by two in current Year 2 – a net increase of two children (0.1%) across the three-year period.
- The Reception cohort in 2021 increased by 27 children (1.9%) in current Year 1.
- The Reception cohort in 2022 is smaller than that of 2021 by 50 children.

East

- The Reception cohort in 2019 decreased by three children by Year 1 in 2020, decreased by 32 by Year 2 in 2021, and then decreased by six in Year 3 – a net reduction of 41 children (4.9%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 1 cohort in 2019 decreased by 40 children by Year 1 in 2020, decreased by 45 by Year 2 in 2021, and then decreased by 33 in current Year 3 a net reduction of 118 children (14.1%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 2 cohort in 2019 decreased by 45 children by Year 3 in 2020, decreased by 33 children by Year 4, and then decreased by 22 in current Year 5 – a net reduction of 90 children (10.5%) across the four-year period.

- The Year 3 cohort in 2019 increased by 61 children by Year 4 in 2020, decreased by 13 by Year 5 in 2021 and then decreased by three in current Year 6 – a net reduction of 77 children (9.1%) across the four-year period.
- The Year 4 cohort in 2019 decreased by 35 children by Year 5 in 2020 and then decreased by four by Year 6 in 2021 – a net reduction of 39 children (4.6%) across the three-year period.
- The Reception cohort in 2020 increased by eight children by Year 1 in 2021, and then decreased by four in current Year 2 – a net increase of four children (0.5%) across the three-year period.
- The Reception cohort in 2021 increased by 14 children (1.8%) in current Year 1.
- The Reception cohort in 2022 is smaller than that of 2021 by only two children.

4.26 More generally from these data, it is reasonable to conclude the following:

- There is significant drift to the independent sector and movers-out of the area in Year 3 (and in KS2 generally), but that is being offset to varying degrees by movers-in. However, we do not have a fully collated dataset for in-year leavers and starters, so discerning patterns which might provide granular trends to be factored into forecasts of Reception (and Year 7 pupil rolls) is very difficult.
- The most recent Year 5 cohort to progress into Year 6 shows, in the schools in the west, an increase, of 38 children following an increase of 10 in the preceding cohort; and in the schools in the east, a decrease of three, following a decrease of four in the preceding cohort.
- The percentage decrease in overall primary roll numbers in schools in the east (3.3%) has been more than twice that in those in the west (8.5%). It should be borne in mind, though, that in the west there are 18 all-through primary schools and five pairs of infant/junior schools, a total of 23 Reception–Year 6 datasets, whereas in the east there are 17 all-through primary schools, therefore reduced numbers of children in schools in the east have a disproportionately larger impact percentage-wise.

4.27 Other LAs in London and beyond have also experienced large increases in in-year admission applications. During 2021/2022, Hounslow received more than 2,000 applications from families who arrived from overseas; and, in the current year, report that they have several hundred children and young people (CYP) in contingency hotels within the borough. Kingston received 1,375 primary-phase applications (115 per month), up from 1,060 in 2020/2021, and received 591 applications (118 per month) in the first five months of the current school year.

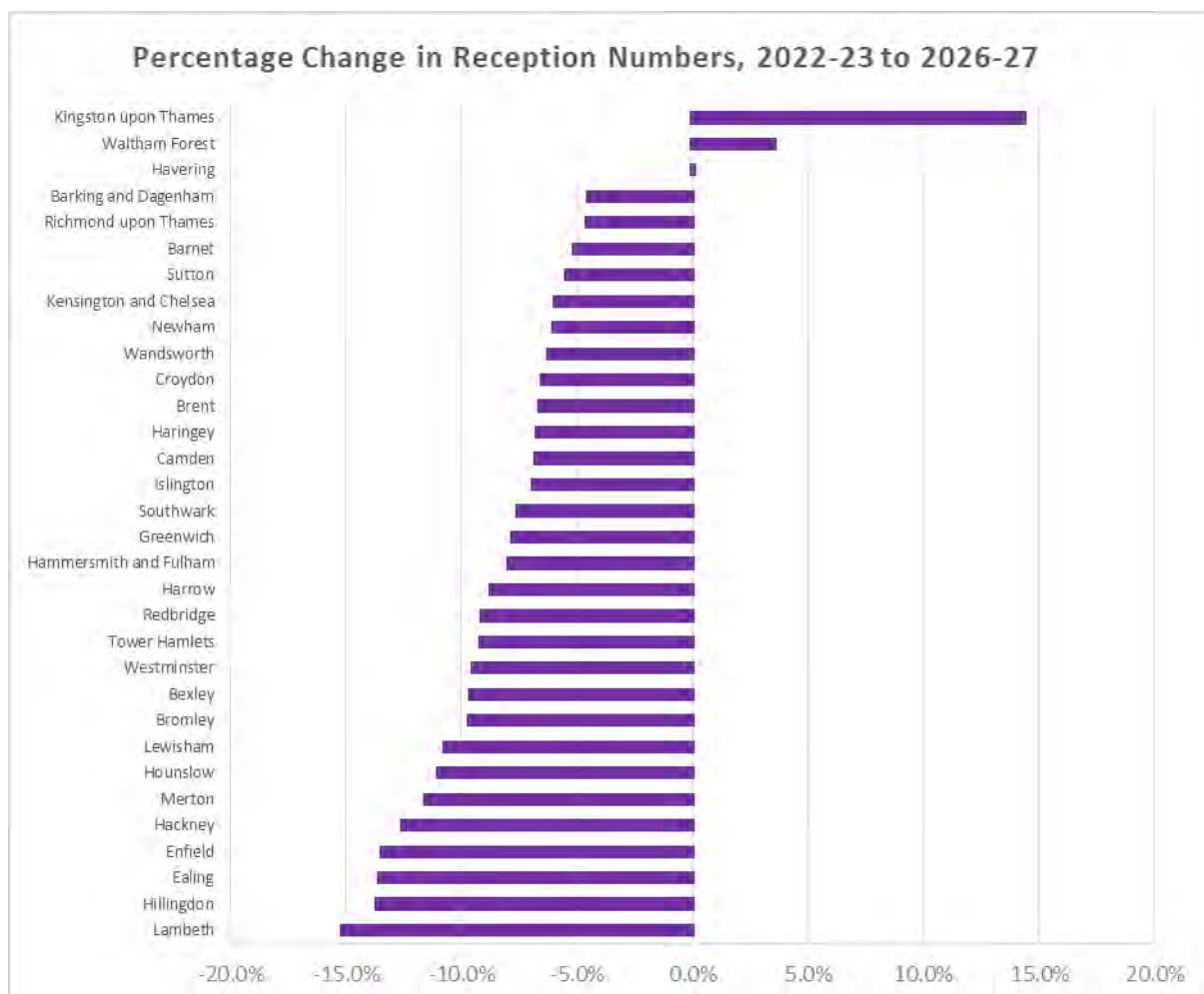
4.28 As well as inward migration, a cause of these increases in applications for state-funded school places has also been the national economic downturn, i.e. movement from the independent sector, but data on this is not collectable.

4.29 Anecdotal evidence suggests that the proportion of children with additional needs is higher for in-year admissions than for the Reception and Year 7 coordinated rounds, which can make ensuring appropriate provision for individual children challenging.

4.30 In 2021, the number of children born in the borough was higher than in the previous year for the first time since 2017, up from 2,021 children in 2020 to 2,120.

- 4.31 It is likely that the national and individual economic circumstances will lead to higher birth-rates, as happened before and after the 2008 Crash.
- 4.32 [Appendix 3](#) shows the numbers on roll as at the autumn pupil census, in October 2022, in all 56 of the borough's mainstream primary and secondary schools.
- 4.33 [Appendix 4](#) compares the Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll in October 2022 with initial and waiting-list offers made earlier in the year. Overall, the amount of waiting-list movement, i.e. offers which are refused and then re-offered to other children, is almost half of that for Year 7. The reasons for that are complex and include the following:
- Historically, Richmond parents/carers have generally been more content with the local state-funded primary-phase offer than the secondary-phase, though markedly less so now than 15–20 years ago.
 - Parents/carers generally prefer the primary school which their child attends to be much closer to home than the subsequent secondary, to which their children are far more likely to travel independently; which means that the amount of inter-authority 'traffic' for Reception entry is much less than for Year 7. For 2022 Reception entry, 50 Richmond children were initially offered a place at an out-borough school and 293 out-borough children were offered a place at a Richmond school; whereas the comparable figures for Year 7 entry were 338 and 454.
 - The number of places available at each primary-phase school is, of course, much lower than at each secondary-phase school. For 2022 entry, only one Richmond school – Hampton Infant – offered up to 120 places, whereas all the secondary schools offered a minimum of 165 places, up to a maximum of 256.
 - Overall demand for Reception places in the borough has fallen since 2010, despite an increased take-up rate from birth (which is an artificial percentage, since it masks four-year periods of inward and outward migration).
- 4.34 [Appendix 5](#) compares the October 2021 and October 2022 Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll. For Reception, the principal conclusions to be drawn are as follows:
- In the 23 schools in the western half of the borough, there was a 3.4% decrease (50 children); and in the 17 schools in the eastern half there was a 0.3% decrease (2).
 - Three – Carlisle; Holy Trinity; and Nelson – of the 40 schools experienced an increase of 10 or more children, with the largest increase (17) at Nelson.
 - Five – Buckingham; Kew Riverside; St Mary's, Twickenham; Stanley and Trafalgar – of the 40 had a decrease of 10 or more children, with the largest decreases (12) at Buckingham and Trafalgar.
 - Most (29) of the 40 experienced a change of five or fewer children, including seven with no change, six of which were full.
- 4.35 For 2023 entry, the initial application numbers show that there has been a decrease of 51 fewer first preferences expressed for Richmond schools, and before late applicants accepted as 'on time' are added, there are 88 fewer applicants than for 2022 entry. In six – 1, 3, 4, 6, 8 and 10 – of the 10 planning areas there has been a net decrease, and four – 2, 5, 7 and 9 – have experienced a net increase.

4.36 London Councils has recently published a document entitled *Managing the Drop in Demand for School Places in London*¹⁰ which indicates that, of the 32 LAs in London*, Richmond is forecast to experience the fifth lowest change in demand – a decrease of less than 5% - for Reception places in the period between 2022/2023 and 2026/2027 inclusive. Eight LAs expect to experience a decrease of more than 10% in that period. The graph below shows Richmond’s forecast decrease relative to the change expected in the other 31 LAs.



Source: London Councils; used with permission

Primary school place planning in Richmond

4.37 For the purposes of primary school place planning, the borough is divided into areas, which are coterminous with one or more electoral wards, as follows:

Area 1: Hampton / Hampton North

Area 2: Teddington / Hampton Wick

Area 3: South Twickenham / West Twickenham / Fulwell and Hampton Hill

Area 4: Heathfield / Whitton

Area 5: St Margarets and North Twickenham / Twickenham Riverside

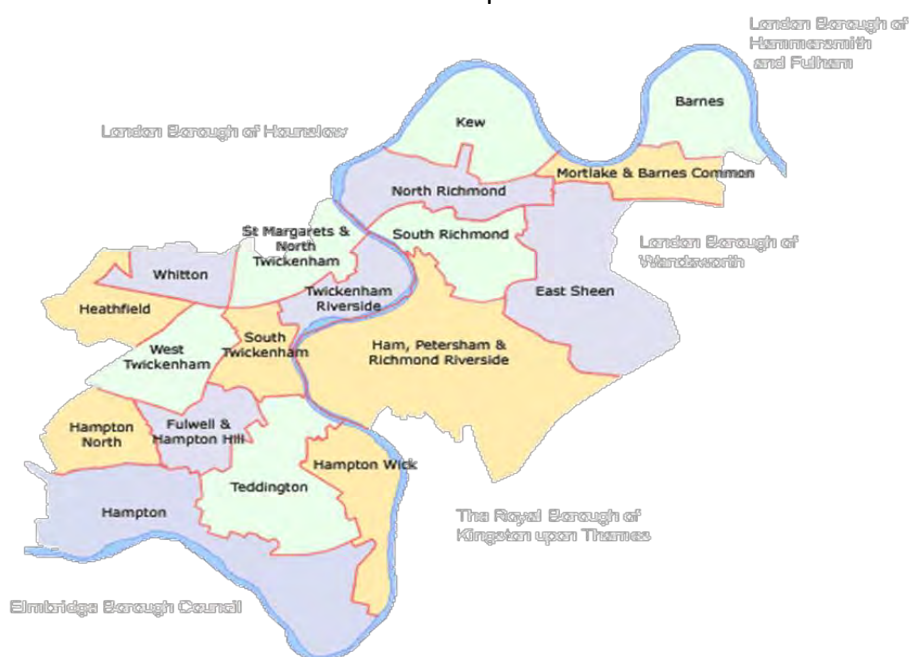
Area 6: North Richmond / South Richmond

¹⁰ <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/members-area/member-briefings/children-and-young-people/managing-drop-demand-school-places-london>

* The City of London is included within Tower Hamlets for the purposes of school admissions.

- Area 7: Kew
- Area 8: East Sheen
- Area 9: Barnes / Mortlake and Barnes Common
- Area 10: Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside

4.38 The ward boundaries are shown on this map:



4.39 The methodology for forecasting Reception places in the borough is as follows:

- In-borough pupil intakes are projected using a catchment method, deriving the potential demand for Reception places from births, with actual birth data provided by the Office for National Statistics and estimated births for the preceding, current and future years.
- For Reception roll forecasts, average area level take-up rates from births are applied after consideration of changes planned in the provision of school places. The forecasts are then modified to reflect the most recent data available on admissions for the coming year and for the likely pupil yield from any significantly large housing developments which have received planning permission.
- Take-up rates take account of out-borough demand for in-borough places and vice versa.
- Finally, rolls by area are calculated by rolling forward existing year-groups and applying average area-level retention rates for year-group cohorts.

4.40 The uncertain economic and political situation in the UK (and beyond) at the moment makes pupil forecasting more difficult than it might otherwise be, and the assumptions made and conclusions drawn will need to be under constant review, as ever, to ensure that a balance can be struck between having a sufficiency (though not a large surplus) of places to be able to manage a sudden increase in demand for state-funded places and ensuring that schools are as full as possible so as to maximise per-pupil income.

4.41 In their SCAP guidance to LAs, the DfE make it clear that they do not prescribe the methodology which each LA should use to create its pupil rolls forecast; they suggest some techniques which could be used, which include those used in Richmond.

- 4.42 Forecasts of any kind will never be 100% accurate, and for school place planning they need to be regularly updated in light of birth data, admission application patterns and actual pupil rolls. As best they can, based on the data which is available, pupil roll forecasts indicate patterns which enable LAs to plan the numbers of places that are likely to be needed. Despite the innate variability of Richmond's particular circumstances, the DfE's local authority scorecards show that Richmond does not over-estimate the number of places to the large degrees that some other LAs do.
- 4.43 Pages 30 to 39 analyse capacity, likely demand and possible options within each of the 10 areas. Where the long-term possibility of expanding individual schools is discussed, the detail relates to the capacity of each school's existing site(s) only. Permanent capacity per school, i.e. what it is built to accommodate, and within each planning area is given in multiples of forms of entry (FE); one FE equates to 30 places per year.
- 4.44 In each area, consideration will be given, in close liaison with the schools concerned, whether or not: the temporary reductions in forms of entry to be offered should be retained in the short to medium term; the local circumstances mean that any of those reductions might need to be made permanent; and, if so, with whom discussions should first need to be held, due, where applicable, to cross-boundary implications.
- 4.45 It is impossible to know whether the small increase – by 99 children; 4.9% – in the birth-rate between 2020 and 2021 has been replicated in 2022. However, times of financial downturn – e.g. the post-war baby boom and after the 2008 Crash – usually lead to a sustained higher level of births. Analysis of the years before and after the Crash show that the birth-rate in Richmond rose and stayed above 2,500 from 2003; then rose above 2,800 in 2007; and then grew to, and stayed at, its highest level, above 2,900, for the three years from 2010 to 2012 inclusive. That pattern of maximal birth-rate growth in the years immediately following the Crash was experienced in neighbouring LA areas, and across London and beyond.
- 4.46 Without the evidence to substantiate the assumption that the birth-rate did increase again in 2022, and that it will continue to do so for as long as the current recession continues, the assumption is of course speculative.
- 4.47 In each of the 10 planning areas, on the following pages, either one forecast is given for each of the 2023 to 2026 intakes or two are given. Where just one is given, the numbers derive from the forecasts submitted as part of the council's 2022 SCAP return and still look plausible based upon a consideration of the in-borough application numbers for the schools for 2023 entry. (Out-borough application numbers have, as at the time of writing, not been imported into the data system.) For areas 1 to 4 inclusive and 8 to 10 inclusive, though, a second number is also given based upon a significant variance indicated by the in-borough application numbers for 2023 entry. The numbers are not meant to represent extremes; however, the probability at this point in time is that the number admitted in September 2023 (and subsequent years) is likely to be slightly closer to the second number. It should be noted that the absence of out-borough application data for 2023, and of late in-borough applicant numbers who will be included as 'on time', means that the resulting numbers in September may still be outside the range given – in most, if not all, cases at the higher end than the lower.

- 4.48 Because the DfE say that only the pupil yields from *approved* housing developments can be factored into the SCAP forecast, only one of the area forecasts includes a forecast pupil yield: in Area 6, where the Homebase development was approved in 2020. Neither do the forecasts take account of external factors such as the possible impact of the recession on the take-up rate, possible place planning changes in neighbouring LAs, etc. Together with the absence of a single, regularly updated child-dataset giving an accurate picture of how many children are living in the borough at any one time, this means that pupil forecasting in Richmond (and elsewhere) cannot be perfect.
- 4.49 The combination of recent falling Reception rolls and the lingering impacts of Brexit, Covid, recession and a large increase in in-year admissions (mostly for higher year-groups) happening simultaneously has no precedent in the borough and makes forecasting at this time more difficult than it has been in the last 20 years.

Area 1: Hampton / Hampton North

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Buckingham Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011; no room for further expansion. Intake PAN was temporarily reduced to 2FE for 2022 entry.
Carlisle Infant and Hampton Hill Junior	3FE	Could be converted into all-through 2FE primary schools, in the same way that Orleans and St Stephen's were in 2012.
Hampton Infant and Hampton Junior	4FE	Respectively expanded from 3FE in 2016 and due to be expanded from 3FE in 2019; no room for further expansion. Could, perhaps, be converted into all-through 2FE and 3FE primary schools.
St Mary's Church of England Primary (Hampton)	1FE	Free school, opened in 2013; no room for expansion as site is Metropolitan Open Land / Green Belt.
Total capacity	11FE = 330	

Actual and likely demand

From 2016 onwards, the expansion of Hampton Infant and Junior met the previously forecast shortfall of a form of entry. In the last two years, the PAN of Buckingham has been reduced to 2FE, in order to enable the school to manage its budget more efficiently. If approved, some possible, albeit small housing developments – St Clare Business Park (56 units) in Windmill Road; Homebase on Twickenham Road; and Hampton telephone exchange on the High Street – may help to fill local schools back towards capacity. Across the boundary in Hounslow, a planning application for 300 residential units at Hanworth Park House has been approved.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
330	308	281	277	192/248	208/269	221/286	233/301

A proposal has been made for the possible re-location of both Carlisle Infant and Hampton Hill Junior onto the former Clarendon School site in Hanworth Road, which adjoins Carlisle's current site. The council submitted a bid for DfE School Rebuilding Programme funding to support this proposal, but it was unsuccessful, as the DfE assessed the condition issues as insufficiently exceptional to meet their threshold.

Recommendation

Consideration should be given to continuing Buckingham's temporary reduction of PAN, but longer-term decision-making is innately bound up with school place planning in the Hanworth and Feltham area of LB Hounslow and the Sunbury area of Surrey. For 2022 entry, 22 offers to Hounslow children were made for Buckingham, 20 for Hampton Infant, seven for Carlisle and one for St Mary's Hampton; and 12 offers to Surrey children were made for Hampton Infant. This means that discussions with Hounslow and Surrey are needed before decisions regarding permanent reduction of PANs and repurposing are taken.

Area 2: Teddington / Hampton Wick

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Collis Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2006; has room for expansion to 4FE. The nursery and KS1 block has been rebuilt under the Priority Schools Building Programme 2, and capacity for bulge classes has been retained.
Hampton Wick Infant and St John the Baptist Church of England Junior	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2012 and 2014 respectively; could be converted into all-through 2FE primary schools.
Sacred Heart Primary (Catholic)	1FE	Has room for expansion to 2FE, but the school gives priority admission to baptised Catholic children from practising families so expansion would draw children from a much wider area than Teddington / Hampton Wick and would therefore not meet the immediate localised need for additional places.
St Mary's and St Peter's Church of England Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011 and from 1FE in 2000; no room for further expansion.
Total capacity	10FE = 300	

Actual and likely demand

In the last few years, the PANs of Hampton Wick Infant and St John the Baptist Junior have been reduced to 2FE, in order to enable the schools to manage their budgets more efficiently. In keeping with a general downturn in demand for Catholic school places, Sacred Heart's intake has reduced. The conversion of Kingston Bridge House from student accommodation into 70 general residential units may help boost demand for Hampton Wick and St John the Baptist.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
300	267	254	242	201/244	222/270	233/283	244/296

Recommendation

Consideration should be given to continuing Hampton Wick's (and St John the Baptist's) temporary reduction of PAN, but longer-term decision-making is partially contingent on demand for places from families living in new housing developments in central Kingston, where there is no primary school except the 1FE Catholic school, St Joseph's.

Area 3: South Twickenham / West Twickenham / Fulwell and Hampton Hill

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Archdeacon Cambridge's Church of England Primary	2FE	No room for expansion.
St James's Catholic Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2000; PFI school, so would be difficult and costly to expand, if it were physically possible.
Stanley Primary	4FE	Expanded from 3FE in 2010; no room for further expansion.
Trafalgar Infant and Trafalgar Junior	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2000; PFI schools and no room for expansion.
Twickenham Primary Academy	2FE	Free school, opened in September 2015, in Heathgate House, Heath Road; no room for expansion.
Total capacity	14FE = 420	

Actual and likely demand

As can be seen below, demand for places in this area has continued to decrease very significantly: in 2016, there were 400 Reception children on roll in the autumn census.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
420	376	329	295	308/270	284/262	298/272	284/262

As a result, capacity has been temporarily reduced in recent years, at both Stanley (by 2FE) and Trafalgar (by 1FE), making an overall capacity of 330 places within the area.

Trafalgar Infant has the additional financial and operational challenges of being a two-site school, but finding and acquiring a site to enable unification, preferably with Trafalgar Junior, seems unlikely, not least because both schools are part of the council's PFI contract.

If approved, development of the Gregg's Bakery site in Gould Road, Twickenham to include up to 116 housing units would help to boost demand for local schools.

Recommendation

Consideration should be given to continuing Stanley's and Trafalgar's reductions in PANs. Making longer-term decisions would be complicated. Stanley has traditionally admitted children from a wider catchment than most schools, including from Hounslow and Surrey. A permanent reduction of PAN which involved repurposing of space at Trafalgar, e.g. leasing space to a third party, could require variation of the council's PFI contract.

Area 4: Heathfield / Whitton

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Bishop Perrin Church of England Primary	1FE	No room for expansion.
Chase Bridge Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2011; no room for further expansion.
Heathfield Infant and Heathfield Junior	4FE	Expanded from 3FE in 2013; no room for further expansion.
Nelson Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2014; no room for expansion.
St Edmund's Catholic Primary	2FE	No room for expansion.
Total capacity	13FE = 390	

Actual and likely demand

As can be seen below, demand for places in this area has continued to decrease very significantly: in 2014, there were 380 Reception children on roll in the autumn census.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
390	318	300	307	312/295	244/259	278/271	283/276

As a result, capacity has been temporarily reduced in recent years, at both Heathfield (by 1FE) and Nelson (by 2FE, then by 1FE in 2021), making an overall capacity of 300/330 places within the area.

As in Area 1, demand in this area is always impacted by demand from within Hounslow – for 2022 entry, 30 offers to Hounslow children were made for Chase Bridge, 19 apiece for Heathfield Infant and St Edmund's, 12 for Nelson and two for Bishop Perrin. Even if overall application numbers in Hounslow continued to reduce, the popularity of schools in this area with Hounslow families is such that the numbers of Hounslow children entering these schools is unlikely to reduce in the same proportions.

Recommendation

Consideration should be given to continuing Heathfield's and Nelson's reductions in PANs. As an academy, Nelson is able to consult upon its own admission arrangements. Given the level of cross-boundary 'traffic', discussions with Hounslow are needed before decisions regarding permanent reduction of PANs and repurposing are taken.

Area 5: St Margarets and North Twickenham / Twickenham Riverside

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Deer Park	2FE	Free school, opened in September 2015, on a temporary site at Richmond Adult Community College, Parkshot, Richmond (in Area 6); moved to its permanent site in East Twickenham in spring 2021.
Orleans Primary	2FE	Converted from 3FE infant school in 2012; no room for expansion.
St Mary's Church of England Primary (Twickenham)	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2012 and from 1FE in 2000; no room for further expansion.
St Richard Reynolds Catholic Primary	1FE	New VA school in 2013; might have room for expansion but would be difficult, expensive and wouldn't necessarily provide any non-faith places.
St Stephen's Church of England Primary	2FE	Expanded from 3FE junior school in 2013; no room for further expansion.
Total capacity	10FE = 300	

Actual and likely demand

Of the five place planning areas in the western half of the borough, demand for Reception places has held up the most within this area, and as recently as 2021's Reception intake all the schools were full bar one which had four vacancies. It is also the area in the western half where demand for state-funded school places is dampened the most by families' financial ability to opt for private schools if they wish, so prolonged recession may well cause demand for places in this area to exceed supply, in which case the excess would have to be accommodated by schools in adjacent place planning areas. Even before the recession, though, the take-up rate in the area had steadily increased, latterly due in part to Deer Park permanently relocating to this area into its permanent accommodation – above a new Lidl supermarket on the former Ryde House site in East Twickenham – in spring 2021

Housing developments, comprising 212 and 45 housing units respectively, have been approved for part of the Richmond upon Thames College site in Egerton Road/Langhorn Drive, Twickenham and for Twickenham Riverside.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
300	286	296	283	309	268	293	279

Recommendation

As demand for places in this area is forecast to remain high, it is unlikely that any action will need to be considered in the short to medium term.

Area 6: North Richmond / South Richmond

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Holy Trinity Church of England Primary	2FE	Expanded from 1FE in 2010; no room for further expansion.
Marshgate Primary	2FE	Opened in 2002; no room for full expansion, but has space for two 'bulge classes'.
St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary	1FE	Was part of a 'shared form of entry' with St Mary Magdalen's and St Osmund's from 2009/2010 to 2018/2019; no room for full expansion.
The Vineyard Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2014; no room for further expansion.
Total capacity	8FE = 240	

Actual and likely demand

After a large fall in numbers in 2021, they recovered for the 2022 intake. The redevelopment of the Homebase site in Manor Road, North Sheen, to provide 453 housing units, will add significantly to the demand for places, especially for Holy Trinity and Marshgate (and for Darell in Area 7). For these forecasts, an initial pupil yield of 20 children has been included within the 2025 forecast and 19 within in the 2026 forecast.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
240	236	205	220	233	196	242	239

Recommendation

Consideration may need to be given to reducing Holy Trinity's PAN temporarily, but in the medium to longer term it is expected that demand will fill available capacity.

Area 7: Kew

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Darell Primary	2FE	Expanded from an intake of 43 places per year to 60 in 2014; no room for further expansion.
Kew Riverside Primary	1FE	New school in 2002; may have room for expansion, but it is a PFI school so might be difficult and costly to achieve.
The Queen's Church of England Primary	2FE	Has recently been completely rebuilt under the Government's Priority Schools Building Programme.
Total capacity	5FE = 150	

Actual and likely demand

Of the place planning areas in the eastern half of the borough, this is the one which has caused most concern and is the only one in which capacity has been temporarily reduced, to 120, by removing a form of entry at Darell. Kew Riverside's numbers have picked up considerably, having looked as though they would be very low for 2022 entry.

In the medium to longer term, if the Stag Brewery housing development, to provide 1,085 units – including 480 2-bedroom units and 249 3-bedroom units – is approved and built, then the impact on demand for primary-phase places is expected to be felt within this place planning area as much as within Areas 8 and 9, because it contains a higher number of vacant school places: it is only half a mile in walking distance, mainly along the towpath, to Kew Riverside and three-quarters of a mile to Darell, though that journey would necessitate negotiating Chalker's Corner.

In the longer term, the possible redevelopment of part of the Kew Retail Park site, which has been bought by the Berkeley Group, would add very significantly to demand, particularly if the proposed number of housing units were, as expected, to be as high as 2,000+.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
150	111	108	107	107	110	112	114

Recommendation

Consideration should be given to continuing Darell's temporary PAN reduction, but in the longer term it is expected that demand will fill available capacity.

Area 8: East Sheen

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
East Sheen Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2016; no room for further expansion.
Sheen Mount Primary	3FE	Expanded from 2FE in 2014; no room for further expansion.
Total capacity	6FE = 180	

Actual and likely demand

Both schools in this area remain popular, with just eight vacancies between them in EY/KS1. The birth-rate decrease in the last few years means that there will be less demand for the two schools from within this place planning area from 2024, but that will be mitigated by demand from other areas, including Wandsworth, which will remain high and therefore more than likely fill any otherwise spare places.

As noted earlier, for Reception entry in 2022, 36 places at East Sheen Primary were offered for Wandsworth children, and the school's location so close to the borough boundary means that 30–40% of its intake is always likely to be Wandsworth-resident children.

In the medium to longer term, if the Stag Brewery housing development, to provide 1,085 units, is approved and built, then the impact on demand for primary-phase places is expected to be felt within this place planning area as much as within Areas 7 and 9.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
180	176	167	175	175/180	148/175	169/184	163/177

Recommendation

As demand for places in this area is forecast to remain high, it is unlikely that any action will need to be considered in the short to medium term.

Area 9: Barnes / Mortlake and Barnes Common

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Barnes Primary	2FE	Expanded from 1FE in 2000; has room for expansion.
Lowther Primary	2FE	Expanded from 1FE in 2011; no room for further expansion.
St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary	1FE	Was part of a 'shared form of entry' with St Elizabeth's and St Osmund's from 2009/2010 to 2018/2019; no room for full expansion.
St Osmund's Catholic Primary	1FE	Was part of a 'shared form of entry' with St Elizabeth's and St Mary Magdalen's from 2009/2010 to 2018/2019; no room for full expansion.
Thomson House	2FE	Free school, opened in 2013; has two sites but no room for expansion. Expanded its intake from 52 to 56 in 2019, and then to 60 in 2020.
Total capacity	8FE = 240	

Actual and likely demand

Lowther, being geographically discrete due to its position near the top of Barnes 'peninsula', and St Osmund's have both experienced a reduction in demand for Reception places, which has been exacerbated by the closure of Hammersmith Bridge to vehicular traffic. However, like Area 5, it is considered that demand in this area is likely to change considerably due to economic factors. The early indications for the 2023 intake are that the take-up rate in this area will rise considerably from the 65–67% of the last three intakes.

Thomson House has increased its PAN for Reception from 52 to 60 in the last four years, from 52 to 56 in 2019 and up to 60 in 2021.

In the medium to longer term, if the Stag Brewery housing development, to provide 1,085 units, is approved and built, then the impact on demand for primary-phase places is expected to add considerably to demand for state-funded school places within this area. The proposed 116-unit housing development on part of the Barnes Hospital site, which, if approved, would probably be built soon, would also add to that demand.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
240	203	221	206	185/228	200/216	213/231	226/245

Recommendation

Consideration may need to be given to reducing Lowther's PAN temporarily, but in the medium to longer term it is expected that demand will fill available capacity.

Area 10: Ham, Petersham and Richmond Riverside

School(s)	Permanent capacity	Comments and scope for longer-term expansion if needed
Meadlands Primary	1FE	Has room for expansion.
St Richard's Church of England Primary	1FE	Has room for expansion.
The Russell Primary	1FE	Has room for expansion. Already has four of the seven additional classrooms required for expansion to 2FE.
Total capacity	3FE = 90	

Actual and likely demand

This area is largely discrete, so its birth-rate usually drives demand for school places to a larger extent than in other areas. The number of births in 2020 – 83 – were substantially lower than the peaks of 150 in 2009 and 146 in 2011 – so it is likely that, until the Ham Close regeneration is built and occupied, there will continue to be spare capacity across the three schools. Demand for places in the adjoining North Kingston area of Kingston LA remains high, however, in part driven by the large number of families from Hong Kong who have settled there, so that demand may fill some of the spare capacity, at St Richard's in particular.

It is hard to know whether the recent changes of headteacher at all three schools have been a factor in the decrease in take-up between 2021 and 2022, but schools with settled leadership tend to be more attractive to parents/carers of prospective pupils than those without.

In the medium to longer term, the regeneration of Ham Close will include a net increase of 260 housing units, which would have a highly significant impact on demand for local school places and possibly lead to a long-term need for expansion of one or more of the three schools. The phasing of the regeneration is expected to be as follows:

Phase 1: 70 units, Sept 2023–April 2025

Phase 2: 160 units, August 2025–February 2028

Phase 3: 222 units, May 2028–April 2031

Maintaining all three schools until the increased pupil yield from Ham Close takes effect may not be straightforward, because none of the schools has scope to reduce its PAN; however, there is some good re-organisation practice in other one-form schools within the borough which might be learned from.

Capacity	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
90	75	76	68	73/60	56/51	68/62	63/57

Recommendation

As all three schools are 1FE, consideration may need to be given to introducing mixed-age teaching in one or more of them until such time as demand for places increases due to the Ham Close regeneration.

5. SECONDARY PHASE

5.1 On the face of it, secondary school place planning in any LA area ought to be easier than primary, because:

- Most of the children who enter Year 7 in state-funded secondary schools are already being educated in the local state-funded primary schools within the LA's area.
- Admissions patterns are generally more predictable and significant *sudden* changes to those patterns are rare.
- The schools have much larger PANs and are therefore better able than primary schools to adjust their staffing and other resources to manage their intakes.

5.2 However, each of those considerations has a flipside, particularly within Richmond:

- The intakes of the state-funded secondary schools also include children – resident both within and outside the LA's area – who attend independent-sector schools for their primary education, and out-borough children who attend state-funded primary schools in their own area (or a third LA's area). The pan-London coordinated admissions process for Year 7 places allows parents/carers the right to express up to six preferences for state-funded schools in Richmond and/or within any other LA area, and parents/carers are generally much happier to see their children travelling further for a preferred school than they are for primary education. In Richmond, for Year 7 places there has traditionally been a large drift to the independent sector (and to out-borough state-funded schools) – 20 years ago, c.40% of Year 6 children in Richmond state-funded primary schools didn't transfer to Richmond state-funded secondary schools, but that has since changed considerably (see paragraph 5.5).
- While sudden significant changes are indeed rare, they can and do happen: at the start of this century, pupil numbers at Christ's had reduced such that the school was proposed for closure, but a new headteacher turned its fortunes around very quickly and it went from being very under- to very over-subscribed within the space of two years; and a similar transformation was effected at Grey Court a few years later, following a period when there had been three headteachers within the space of two years and much decreased parental confidence and pupil numbers.
- While secondary schools can more easily reduce their PANs than primary schools can, increasing their PANs to meet forecast demand is generally more difficult. In Richmond, most of the 11 schools have very little undeveloped space which isn't already being used for outdoor play or isn't subject to insurmountable planning restrictions. In 2-014, sixth forms were introduced in the then five most popular schools – Christ's, Grey Court, Orleans Park, Teddington and Waldegrave – thereby using up all, or significantly, reducing available space for further development.

5.3 Of the 11 state-funded secondary schools within Richmond:

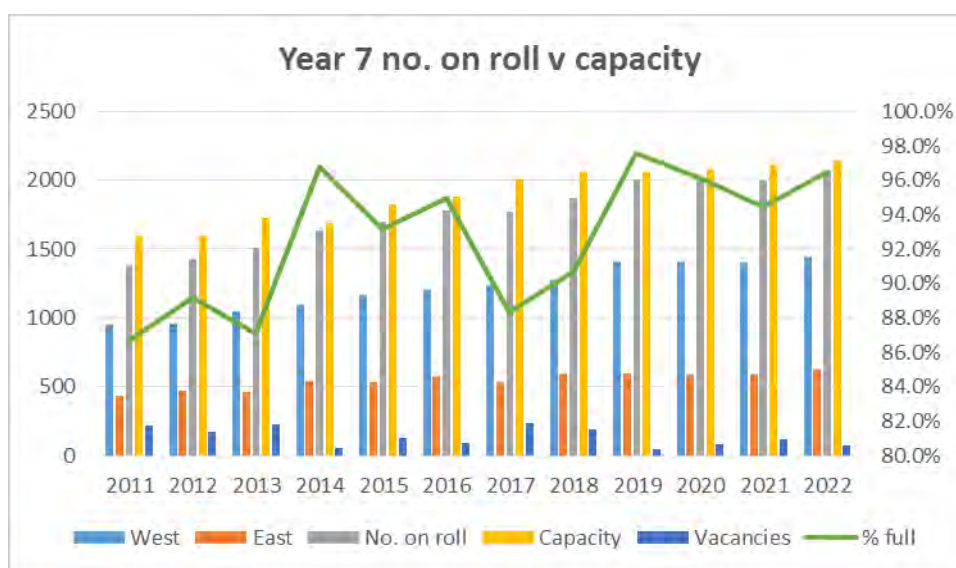
- Eight are in the western half and only three are in the eastern half.
- All are outside LA control: 10 are academies and one (Christ's) is voluntary-aided.
- All are rated by Ofsted as 'outstanding' or 'good'.

5.4 There is little admissions 'traffic' between the two halves of the borough, mainly due to the river acting as a 'psychological' barrier for parents as much as a physical one, therefore the two halves are discrete school place planning areas and are reported to the DfE as such. What traffic there is consists of some families in Richmond town centre

accessing places at Orleans Park, and the 15% of ‘distance’ places – usually around 25 places – at Waldegrave which are reserved for girls in the eastern half of the borough.

5.5 The numbers on roll (NoR) in Year 7 in the borough’s state-funded secondary schools have increased greatly since 2011, as the following table and graph show:

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
West NoR	952	960	1044	1094	1168	1201	1239	1272	1413	1412	1405	1448
East NoR	435	467	462	542	529	581	529	594	594	589	590	620
Total NoR	1387	1427	1506	1636	1697	1782	1768	1866	2007	2001	1995	2068
Capacity	1600	1600	1730	1690	1822	1877	2002	2057	2057	2082	2112	2143
Vacancies	213	173	224	54	125	95	234	191	50	81	117	75
% full	86.7%	89.2%	87.1%	96.8%	93.1%	94.9%	88.3%	90.7%	97.6%	96.1%	94.5%	96.5%



As can be seen, the Year 7 number on roll across the borough increased by 681 during that period, which equates to 49.1%; and the schools overall are much fuller now.

5.6 In the west of the borough, there are now 496 more children in Year 7 than there were in 2011, an increase of 52.1%, almost the same proportion as the increase in permanent capacity of 550 places (52.4%), from 1,050 in 2011 to 1,512 in 2022, including three new schools – St Richard Reynolds, The Richmond upon Thames School and Turing House.

5.7 In the east, there are 195 more children, an increase of 42.5%, compared with a net increase of permanent capacity of 20 places (3.6%) – from 550 in 2011 to 570 in 2022.

School sixth forms and other post-16 education

5.8 Section 15ZA of the Education Act 1996 states that each LA ‘must secure that enough suitable education and training is provided to meet the reasonable needs’ of residents up to 19, and up to 25 for those with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

5.9 However, there is no legal requirement for LAs to coordinate post-16 admissions, except for young people with an EHCP. Without that central coordination role,

Richmond Council fulfils its duty by the availability of school sixth forms, 16–19 and further education colleges and apprenticeships/training within the borough and within reasonable distance outside it. AfC has a 14-25 Team which provides advice and guidance to children and young people regarding their post-16 education options. Information is given on the Local Offer website¹¹. AfC’s SEN Team ensures that every young person in the borough who has an EHCP has a suitable educational placement.

- 5.10 It is not the local authority’s role to regulate the post-16 education ‘market’, either of school sixth forms or colleges. It is up to each individual school (and college) to decide whether or not running and maintaining a post-16 offer is viable, and which subjects it should offer. That is especially true in Richmond, where all the state-funded secondary and special schools which have sixth forms are outside local authority control.
- 5.11 In May 2012, the council’s then administration approved statutory proposals and the commitment of capital funding to open sixth forms in 2014 at five secondary schools within the borough – Christ’s, Grey Court, Orleans Park, Teddington and Waldegrave.
- 5.12 In 2013, sixth forms opened at Hampton Academy and Twickenham Academy, as they were then known, but were discontinued from 2020 and 2016 respectively. The sixth form space at Hampton has been repurposed for a specialist resource provision.
- 5.13 Following its rebuild, RPA also opened a sixth form in 2014.
- 5.14 St Richard Reynolds and Turing House both opened their sixth forms once their growth in year-groups reached Year 12, in 2018 and 2020 respectively.
- 5.15 Some schools run sixth forms as ‘loss leaders’ because they help with recruitment of children into Year 7 and of staff, who may be more attracted by working in an 11–18 school than they would be in an 11–16 one. They also provide opportunities for sixth form pupils to act as prefects, mentors and role models in general for younger pupils.
- 5.16 The growth of school sixth form numbers within the borough since September 2014 – a tripling from 613 in 2014 to 1,840 in 2022 – is tabulated below:

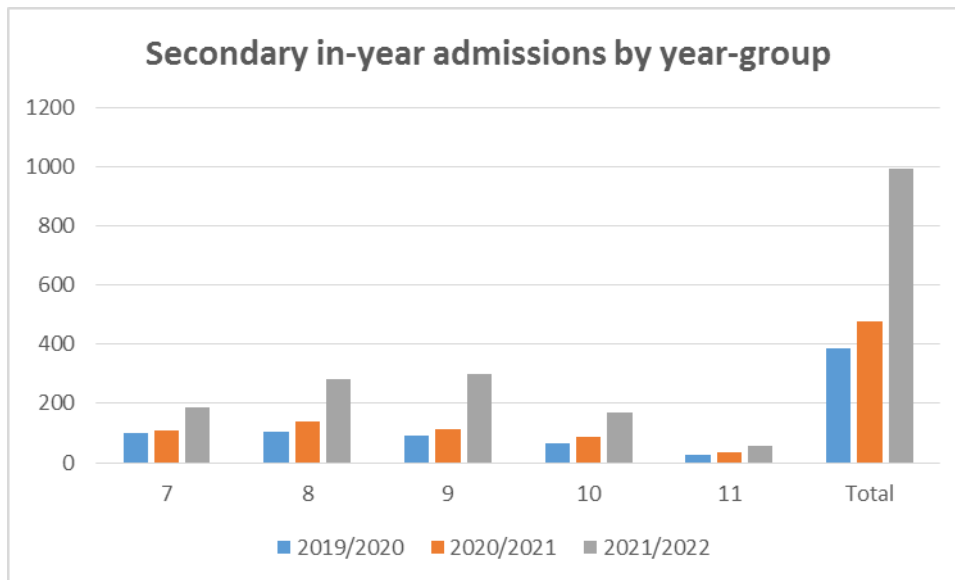
	2014			2015			2016			2017			2018			2019			2020			2021			2022			
	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	Y12	Y13	Total	
Christ’s	61		61	47	40	87	55	38	93	61	46	107	80	57	137	70	79	149	69	66	135	87	66	153	101	82	183	
Grey Court	73		73	92	52	144	97	74	171	152	84	236	134	133	267	132	124	256	166	129	295	159	153	312	173	151	324	
Hampton High	52	22	74	35	37	72	5	29	34	13	0	13		15	15	18	0	18										
Orleans Park	110		110	100	95	195	82	83	165	102	74	176	119	100	219	140	113	253	126	137	263	136	125	261	142	133	275	
Richmond Park Academy	31		31	50	17	67	48	25	73	26	31	57	40	23	63	43	38	81	65	45	110	59	57	116	71	55	126	
St. Richard Reynolds													47		47	106	40	146	98	98	196	117	97	214	136	113	249	
Teddington	93		93	75	66	141	52	67	119	62	41	103	69	49	118	61	60	121	78	55	133	64	75	139	126	56	182	
The RuTS																												
Turing House																			38	0	38	45	37	82	72	51	123	
Twickenham	26	30	56	4	20	24																						
Waldegrave	115		115	132	93	225	161	125	286	145	153	298	196	133	329	197	196	393	200	189	389	193	194	387	187	191	378	
Total	561	52	613	535	420	955	500	441	941	561	429	990	685	510	1195	767	650	1417	840	719	1559	860	804	1664	1008	832	1840	

¹¹ <https://kr.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/local-offer/information-and-advice/preparing-for-employment/information-advice-and-guidance>

Secondary school place planning developments since 2019

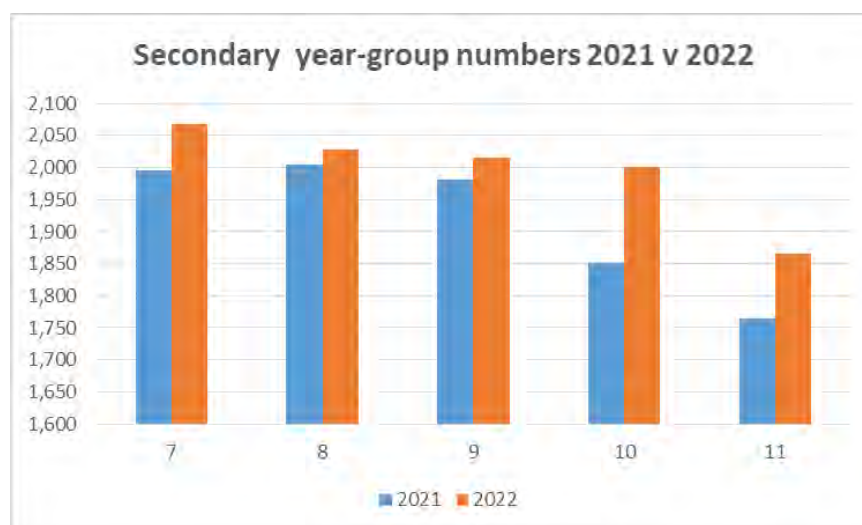
- 5.17 An extra 55 permanent places per year have been added by St Richard Reynolds expanding from 150 to 180 and Turing House increasing from 125 to its substantive PAN of 150. In April 2022, Turing moved from its temporary sites to its permanent site at Hospital Bridge Road, Whitton, and for September 2022, it increased its PAN to 165.
- 5.18 Teddington and Twickenham have recently attained Ofsted ‘good’ judgements, meaning that for the first time ever, all state-funded secondary schools in the borough are simultaneously rated as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’. Both schools’ total application numbers for Year 7 entry in 2023 have increased significantly compared with 2022.
- 5.19 Falling rolls in the state-funded primary schools are yet to have any impact on roll numbers in Year 7 in the 11 state-funded secondary schools. However, the variable changes in recent year-group numbers, as considered in paragraphs 4.22–4.26, mean that this needs to be carefully monitored, particularly in the western half of the borough where rolls have fallen by a higher proportion.
- 5.20 While there remains some, albeit limited, capacity in the western half of the borough, providing Year 7 places in the eastern half has remained a challenge due to the ongoing planning difficulties which have prevented the opening of Livingstone Academy (see below). Consequently, a bulge class has been provided at Christ’s in three of the last four school years, and places have been over-offered at RPA in the expectation that the number of children would, normally, reduce to PAN before admission in September. For 2022 entry, however, the number did not reduce; as a result, with the bulge at Christ’s and an additional 16 offers which were made at Grey Court, the three schools between them exceeded their collective substantive PANs by 50 children. The schools’ ability to continue to accommodate additional children is restricted by their limited space.
- 5.21 Previous versions of this strategy outlined the need for *permanent* additional places within the eastern half of the borough. In March 2018, the DfE contacted AfC and the Council with a proposal to re-locate to Mortlake the 11–19 element of Livingstone Academy, a 4–19 free school approved in 2016 to open in Tower Hamlets. As Tower Hamlets subsequently decided there was no longer a ‘basic need’ for more places there, the DfE decided to move the school, as 11–19 only, to Richmond, where they knew that a new school was needed in the east of the borough. A site, as part of the Stag Brewery redevelopment was potentially available, so they made their re-location proposal on that basis. Because of the need for the school, the Council agreed to the DfE’s proposal. The council’s Planning Committee approved the application for Livingstone’s building in early 2020, but the Mayor of London subsequently refused the application as a consequence of refusing the housing development. The site owner’s agents submitted revised planning applications for the school and the housing in January 2022 and Planning Committee is expected to consider them in 2023.
- 5.22 As at primary level, and as in many other London LAs (including Hammersmith and Fulham, Hounslow and Kingston), there has been a very large increase in the numbers of in-year admission applications for secondary-phase places, with an especially large, 107% increase between the last two full school-years:

School year	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
7	99	107	187
8	104	137	282
9	93	115	299
10	64	86	168
11	26	34	57
Total	386	479	993



5.23 These applications yielded a 4% increase across current Years 7 to 11 compared with autumn 2021: 9,979 children now, compared with 9,597 – 382 more children.

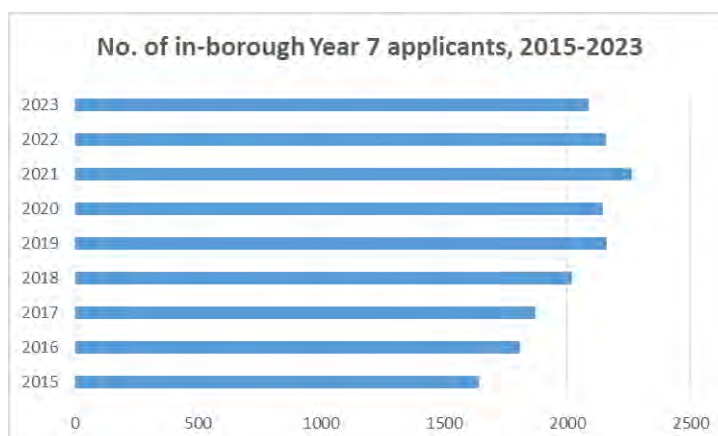
	7	8	9	10	11	Total
2021	1,995	2,005	1,982	1,851	1,764	9,597
2022	2,068	2,028	2,015	2,002	1,866	9,979
Change	73	23	33	151	102	382



5.24 For reasons specified in the primary-phase section, in-year applications are expected to continue to increase. Across the first five months of the current school year, there were 524 in-year secondary admission applications.

5.25 In-borough Year 7 application numbers have fluctuated as follows:

Year of entry	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Number	1642	1809	1870	2022	2163	2144	2264	2159	2088



The decrease of 71 for 2023 is contained within the western half and masks a net *increase* of 38 first-preferences for the three schools in the eastern half.

5.26 [Appendix 2](#) shows how individual schools' capacities changed between 2012 and 2022.

5.27 To an extent, the availability of Year 7 places for in-borough resident children is cushioned by higher in-borough demand displacing some out-borough children. Overall, 507 of the children on roll as at the October 2022 census in Year 7 in the 11 state-funded secondary schools in the borough were out-borough residents, but the percentages varied considerably from school to school, as this table shows:

	School	October census no.	October census %
West	Hampton High	78	42.6%
	Orleans Park	12	5.5%
	St Richard Reynolds Catholic High	21	11.8%
	Teddington	92	40.7%
	The Richmond upon Thames School	44	29.9%
	Turing House	18	11%
	Twickenham	51	43.2%
	Waldegrave	4	1.9%
	Total	320	22.1%
East	Christ's School	33	18.2
	Grey Court School	81	31.6
	Richmond Park Academy	73	40%
	Total	187	30.1%
Overall	Total	507	24.5%

- 5.28 These totals include children offered places under the ‘sibling’ criterion and those with EHCPs, but it is the case that the six schools with the highest percentages are all near the borough boundary; Hampton High, The Richmond upon Thames School and Twickenham are near Hounslow; Grey Court and Teddington are near Kingston; and RPA is very near Wandsworth. Hammersmith and Fulham, Hounslow, Kingston and Wandsworth all have more Year 7 applicants in 2023 than in 2022.
- 5.29 It is not suggested that those six schools should propose changes from the method of how their ‘distance’ places are allocated at present – the shortest route by road and/or maintained footpath from the property to the nearest pedestrian school gate – to something similar to Turing House’s policy, because the likely consequent impacts on longstanding admissions patterns would be too great and too sudden, and would almost certainly lead to justifiable objections being made to the Schools Adjudicator.
- 5.30 In order to understand the need for a fourth state-funded secondary school in the eastern half of Richmond Borough (Richmond), it is necessary first to understand the complexities of the allocation process for state-funded secondary schools per se.

The coordinated Year 7 admissions process

- 5.31 Each local authority (LA) has a duty to provide school places to resident parents/carers who want them, in accordance with section 14 of the Education Act 1996.
- 5.32 Places in Year 7 – the main entry-point- for state-funded secondary schools – are by law, subject to allocation processes coordinated across borough boundaries. Richmond is one of the 38 LAs which participates in the Pan-London admissions scheme – all 33 London LAs plus five bordering LAs: Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Surrey and Thurrock. The purpose of coordinated admissions is to ensure that, on National Offer Day (1 March or the first working day thereafter) no child receives more than one offer of a state-funded place and that as many children as possible receive an offer at that point, well in advance of their actual start in Year 7 in September.
- 5.33 Parents are allowed to express preferences, in ranked order, for up to six schools anywhere, i.e. not just in their home LA, by a closing date of 31 October in the year prior to that in which the child is due to start in Year 7. (Children whose parents apply after that date and by mid-December are considered within the initial allocations if the application was made late for a good reason.) The scheme is designed to enable parents, if they wish, to express first and other high preferences for schools at which they may, statistically, have less chance of obtaining places, e.g. academically selective schools or schools further away from their home, while stating lower preferences for schools much closer to their home as ‘bankers’.
- 5.34 For their own maintained schools, LAs then rank all applicants in priority order of the schools’ published oversubscription criteria; and academy, foundation school, free and voluntary-aided schools do likewise for their applicants. In Richmond, all 11 state-funded secondary schools are outside LA control, so they all rank their own applicants.

- 5.35 The automated Pan-London allocation algorithm then seeks to fill all available places for all schools in accordance with those ranked lists of applicants, and in so doing aims to allocate the highest preference for each child that it can.
- 5.36 Each LA – as the coordinating authority for the schools within its area – then fills any unfilled places with children who would otherwise not receive an offer – again in accordance with the relevant schools’ oversubscription criteria.
- 5.37 Once parents receive their application outcomes on National Offer Day, they are given two weeks either to accept or refuse the offer which they are allocated. In most LAs, almost all children receive an offer of a preferred school, but, in Richmond, that is not the case, because there are far more applicants than places available. For 2022 entry, 162 Richmond children (7% of Richmond applicants) did not receive a preference offer on National Offer Day. Of those 162, 72, all in the eastern half of the borough, could not be offered a place at any in-borough school or at a preferred school elsewhere.
- 5.38 The National Offer Day first-preference satisfaction rate in Richmond in 2022 was 64%, compared with the Pan-London average of 70%. Of neighbouring LAs, Hounslow’s rate was 71%, Kingston’s was 70% and Wandsworth’s was 65%.
- 5.39 All children who are not allocated a place at their parents’ first-preference school are automatically placed on the waiting-list for any higher-preference school(s) than the school at which they have been offered a place (if they have been offered one).
- 5.40 In the subsequent period up to the start of Year 7, places which are refused are re-offered to children on the waiting-lists. As for initial allocations, the lists must, by law, be ranked solely in accordance with the particular schools’ oversubscription criteria.
- 5.41 The main reason why places are refused is because some parents ‘hedge their bets’ between the state-funded and private school sectors, i.e. they pay deposits for private schools whilst also applying for their preferred state-funded schools. In some LAs, very few parents have the means to opt for private schools, but in Richmond there has traditionally been a high percentage. 20 years ago, before inter-authority coordinated admissions for state-funded schools was introduced, c.40% of children leaving state-funded primary schools in Richmond transferred to schools other than state-funded secondary schools in Richmond. That trend has always been much more prevalent in the eastern half of the borough than the western half. Although the rate is variable, that percentage has considerably reduced, to 17% for 2021 entry, for two main reasons: three new state-funded schools have opened since then – St Richard Reynolds in 2013, Turing House in 2015 and The Richmond upon Thames School in 2017, all in the western half of the borough; and overall standards in the borough’s state-funded secondary schools have increased, to the point when, now, all the schools are, for the first time ever rated by Ofsted as ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’. During that period, the overall child population has much increased, due to the baby boom which resulted from the Crash.
- 5.42 Managing the intrinsic variability of demand for places within Richmond is far from straightforward, because it requires the second-guessing of parental preferences on the basis of historical trends which can change very quickly and significantly. As all 11 schools in Richmond are outside LA control, determining in advance how many places

should be offered for each school is now effectively subject to annual negotiation given that the number of places in schools' PANs are insufficient to meet overall demand. Agreeing the offers of places to additional children in excess of schools' PANs – known as 'over-offering' – may well become more difficult, because schools may not have the space to safely admit children over their PANs. Over-offering also carries an innate risk that the numbers per school might not come back down to the substantive PANs.

Secondary school place planning in Richmond

- 5.43 As noted at paragraph 5.1, Year 7 place planning ought, in theory, to be easier than for Reception. However, in any year, predicting with any certainty the proportion of Year 6 children who will be admitted to schools other than the 11 schools in Richmond, and therefore how many children will need places in the 11 schools at the start of Year 7 is difficult, and becoming harder, due to the factors outlined in the primary section.
- 5.44 There are three groups of children who make up the Year 7 entry cohorts:
- a) Those, both in- and out-borough resident, in Year 6 in the state-funded schools within the borough.
 - b) Those, both in- and out-borough resident, in Year 6 in independent schools.
 - c) Out-borough children in Year 6 in out-borough state-funded schools.
- 5.45 No LA can ever know the numbers, or proportions, of children who will be within (b) and (c). For that reason, Year 7 pupil forecasting in Richmond uses the available data on children within (a) as a proxy for all three groups.
- 5.46 There is, of course, considerable fluctuation between year-groups within individual school cohorts as they progress through the primary year-groups, with both leavers and arrivals, as we have seen from the data within paragraphs 4.22 to 4.26. While the overall trend has been downwards in recent years, as birth-rate decreases have led to decreased birth-rates, the take-up rate from birth to Reception has continued to grow.
- 5.47 Given the highly variable cohort progression patterns within the borough's state-funded primary schools, it is therefore logical to use as the base data source the year-group numbers within the most recent October census, for each year that they will eventually transfer to Year 7; e.g. for Year 7 transfer in 2023, the current Year 6 numbers will be used; for 2024, the current Year 5 numbers; for 2025, the current Year 4; and so on. The DfE have never queried the validity of this approach, because for each set of forecasts it uses data which can be directly compared with that used for previous forecasts.
- 5.48 As for Reception forecasts, the DfE permit LAs to include the possible pupil yield from approved major housing developments in addition to the base numbers projected through the Year 6 to Year 7 conversion rate. However, because the yield from large developments which have yet to be approved can't be included, that means the Year 7 forecasts for Richmond are dampened – particularly in the eastern half of the borough.
- 5.49 Neither can the forecasts take account of 'soft' factors, such as schools' reputations based on Ofsted ratings. This is pertinent when estimating the number of out-borough

applicants who might prefer schools in Richmond rather than in their home borough.

5.50 The Year 7 forecasts below show actual numbers on roll (NoR) for the 2021 and 2022 intakes compared with the permanent, substantive combined PANs of the eight schools in the west and the three schools in the east.

5.51 For the Year 7 forecasts for the 2023 to 2027 intakes in the western half of the borough, the cohort numbers from the state-funded primary schools are multiplied by a take-up rate from the previous Year 6 – i.e. for 2022 entry there were 1,448 children on roll in Year 7 in the October 2022 census, which equates to 92.2% of the 1,570 children who were on roll in Year 6 in the October 2021 census. For 2023 entry, it looks (as at 23 February) that the number of spare places in the western half of the borough will be minimal. That means that the actual take-up rate for 2023, and hence the forecast take-up rate for 2024 and subsequent years, will be 5% higher than it was for 2022 entry. In reality, though, the eight schools’ popularity, including that of Twickenham, means that the schools will remain fuller than the forecasts for 2025 and 2026 might suggest.

5.52 For the Year 7 forecast for the 2023 intake in the eastern half of the borough, the cohorts from the state-funded primary schools are multiplied by a take-up rate from the previous Year 6 which will lead to the same take-up as for 2022 entry, i.e. 50 children above the substantive PANs. (As noted above, there are 38 more first preferences for the three schools this year than there were for 2022 entry, so the numbers of extra places which were provided at Christ’s, Grey Court and RPA in 2022 are likely to be replicated again.) As there is an upward trend in the numbers of places required in Year 7 in the east of the borough, the 2024–2026 forecasts assume a 1% increase each year in the take-up rate. For 2025 and 2026, the take-up number is augmented by the likely initial pupil yield from the Homebase development of 16 and 15 children respectively. For 2027, the rate is continued at the same rate for 2026, as it is probable that increased take-up due to economic factors will have plateaued. But the forecasts do not include the likely initial pupil yields from the Barnes Hospital, Stag Brewery and other developments without planning approval; neither do they include a net pupil yield from the Ham Close development, as a net increase will not start to be produced until the development enters its final phases nearer to the end of this decade.

5.53 For the sake of consistency Deer Park’s numbers have been included within the western half cohorts for all years for these forecasts. This is a change from previous practice.

Year of entry into Year 7	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		2027	
	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR
Western half of the borough	1512	1405	1512	1448	1512	1507	1512	1492	1512	1441	1512	1467	1512	1514
Eastern half of the borough	570	590	570	620	570	620	570	623	570	606	570	702	570	702
Total	2082	1995	2082	2068	2082	2127	2082	2115	2082	2047	2082	2169	2082	2216
Western half Year 6 cohort	1544		1570		1551		1536		1483		1509		1561	
Take-up rate from Year 6	91.0%		92.2%		97.2%		97.2%		97.2%		97.2%		97.2%	
Applying take-up rate Yr6 to Yr7	1405		1448		1507		1492		1441		1467		1514	
Surplus + / shortfall -	107		64		5		20		71		45		-2	
Eastern half Year 6 cohort	821		813		772		766		717		804		804	
Take-up rate from Year 6	71.9%		76.3%		80.3%		81.3%		84.5%		87.3%		87.3%	
Applying take-up rate Yr6 to Yr7	590		620		620		623		606		702		702	
Surplus + / shortfall -	-20		-50		-50		-53		-36		-132		-132	

5.54 Forecasts are not given for 2028 and 2029, as these are too far into the future. As can be seen, the forecast Year 7 numbers in the two halves of the borough are considerably different, with a surplus in the west until 2027 and a deficit in the east. These are considered in more depth in the next two sub-sections of this strategy.

Western half of the borough

5.55 As noted in paragraph 5.17, since December 2019, the PAN of St Richard Reynolds has increased from 150 to 180 and that of Turing House has grown from 125 to 150; these extra 70 places mean that the permanent capacity in the western half of the borough has grown by 4.8%, from 1,457 places to 1,512.

5.56 Now that Turing House is on its permanent site in Hospital Bridge Road, Whitton, it has submitted a variation to planning conditions which, if approved, would enable a permanent increase of their Year 7 PAN to 165 (and reduce their sixth form capacity. As the school’s oversubscription policy¹² allocates 80% of the ‘distance’ offers to a nodal point in north Teddington and 20% to the school’s site, that means that the additional 15 places would provide a maximum of three extra places to children living closer to the school’s site and would therefore have a minimal impact upon other local schools.

5.57 St Richard Reynolds Catholic High, together with St Richard Reynolds Catholic Primary, academised on 1 December 2022, but this in itself is not likely to affect the school’s Year 7 PAN, though a question mark remains as to whether the school has sufficient accommodation to continue admitting 180 children into Year 7 ad infinitum.

5.58 In certain areas of the borough, some families are becoming ‘disenfranchised’ from what were their local community secondary schools. As will be examined further on in this strategy, this includes areas of the eastern half of the borough – east and north Barnes; Kew; and north Richmond. But this effect is not confined solely to the eastern half of the borough, but also in south Hampton, in the borough’s south-west corner.

South Hampton

5.59 In south Hampton, not all families who want a place at Hampton High for their children have been able to secure one on National Offer Day in the last three years because, since the school’s ‘good’ Ofsted inspection outcome in March 2019, its Year 7 application numbers have significantly increased:

Pref.	1st			2nd			3rd			4th			5th			6th			Totals		
	IB	OB	Total	IB	OB	Total	IB	OB	Total	IB	OB	Total	IB	OB	Total	IB	OB	Total	IB	OB	IB & OB
2018	36	60	96	38	24	62	30	22	52	25	15	40	25	9	34	31	9	40	185	139	324
2019	89	74	163	48	23	71	30	36	66	42	25	67	28	13	41	33	14	47	270	185	455
2020	90	70	160	45	40	85	49	28	77	37	20	57	36	31	67	45	23	68	302	212	514
2021	115	65	180	54	31	85	40	28	68	39	22	61	42	23	65	33	22	55	323	191	514
2022	108	98	206	45	32	77	31	42	73	40	26	66	40	13	53	47	29	76	311	240	551

¹² <https://www.turinghouseschool.org.uk/admissions-policy>

5.60 The main impact of increased demand for the school is a reduction in the home-to-school distance, as measured in kilometres by roads and maintained footpaths, of the furthest child offered under the ‘distance’ criterion, both at the initial allocation stage of National Offer Day (1st March or the first working day after it), and by the end of August, i.e. just before the start of the Year 7 school year:

	National Offer Day	By end of August
2018	N/A	N/A
2019	1.857	1.900
2020	1.972	2.362
2021	1.793	1.884
2022	1.574	1.759

A mile equates to 1.609 kilometres. That means that the cut-off distance on National Offer Day this year was less than a mile from the school. For most children living in the school’s traditional catchment area of Hampton and Hampton Hill, and Hanworth in Hounslow Borough, that has made no difference to their chances of obtaining a place at the school. However, that is not the case for children living in south Hampton.

5.61 As at September 2022, there were 19 south Hampton-resident children still on the school’s waiting-list. The breakdown of the schools they had been offered is as follows:

School	No. of offers
Teddington	8
Twickenham	6
St Paul’s Catholic College, Sunbury (Surrey)	2
Sunbury Manor (Surrey)	1
Thamesmead, Shepperton (Surrey)	1
The Green School for Boys (Hounslow; C of E)	1

14 of those 19 offers were made in respect of preferences expressed in the applications and five were alternative offers of places at Twickenham for children for whom no preference offer could be made. (It should be remembered, though, that while the pan-London system offers parents/carers the right to state up to six preferences, many parents state fewer than six and some only state one or two.)

5.62 So while some children have individual circumstances – e.g. some are members of practising Anglican or Catholic families – which don't apply to others, it is clear that the range of schools which parents/carers in south Hampton both apply for and are offered is wider than might otherwise appear to be the case. It is also the case that Bishop Wand C of E secondary in Sunbury (Surrey) has increased its PAN from 186 to 210 and may also be an option for families in south Hampton, as it traditionally has been.

5.63 From 2023 entry, an extra form of entry in Hampton will be entering Year 7, due to the permanent expansion of Hampton Infant and Junior schools from 3FE to 4FE from 2016:

School	2022 entry	2023 entry
Buckingham Primary	80	82
Hampton Hill Junior	89	91
Hampton Junior	88	115
St Mary's, Hampton	29	27
Total	286	315

5.64 In response to these changed admissions patterns for Hampton High, the school and its academy trust (Bourne Education) have considered introducing a priority area for children in that area, but have ruled it out on the basis that it would disadvantage children elsewhere in the school's traditional catchment who live nearer to the school.

5.65 The school does not have space to accommodate additional classes, even temporarily. That means that parents/carers in south Hampton are advised to consider not just Hampton High but also schools which are further afield.

Year 7 applications for western half schools for 2023 entry

5.66 Year 7 applications by preference for 2023 entry to the eight state-funded secondary schools in the west of the borough, compared with 2022 are tabulated below:

Western half	PAN	Preference																				
		1st			2nd			3rd			4th			5th			6th			Totals		
School	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	
Hampton High	180	165	206	-41	80	77	3	83	73	10	61	66	-5	75	53	22	71	76	-5	535	551	-16
Orleans Park	216	373	396	-23	390	457	-67	371	342	29	277	237	40	148	132	16	80	86	-6	1639	1650	-11
St Richard Reynolds	180	207	233	-26	219	206	13	220	216	4	170	144	26	105	103	2	69	56	13	990	958	32
Teddington	240	153	119	34	213	137	76	234	209	25	166	149	17	136	93	43	90	102	-12	992	809	183
The Richmond upon Thames	150	94	111	-17	136	142	-6	145	184	-39	117	146	-29	108	120	-12	102	89	13	702	792	-90
Turing House	165	263	139	124	244	227	17	177	203	-26	139	149	-10	98	109	-11	81	69	12	1002	896	106
Twickenham School	180	76	52	24	79	61	18	80	52	28	69	71	-2	61	59	2	64	63	1	429	358	71
Waldegrave	216	295	366	-71	217	214	3	130	167	-37	109	96	13	65	56	9	40	42	-2	856	941	-85
Totals	1527	1626	1622	4	1578	1521	57	1440	1446	-6	1108	1058	50	796	725	71	597	583	14	7145	6955	190

5.67 Although the Year 6 cohort in the junior and primary schools in the western half of the borough is smaller by 19 children, the number of first and second-preferences for the eight schools have increased by four and 57 respectively and the totals are up by 190.

5.68 Notable are the increases in total preferences expressed for Teddington (+183 to 992), Turing House (+106 to 1,002) and Twickenham (+71 to 429 – as recently as 2018 it received a total of 236 applications). All three schools have increased numbers of first- and second-preference applications. With its levels of first- to third-preference applications, it is clear that Teddington will have a full intake for the first time since 2014. Turing will also be full, as it has been in Year 7 ever since it opened in 2015. The only question which remains is how Twickenham's application numbers will translate into Year 7 entrants in September: on 1 March 2023, 162 of the 236 offers due to be made for Twickenham are in respect of preferences made for the school, compared with 120 in 2022. Overall, 124 offers over PANs will be made in the western half.

5.69 The first- and total-preference reductions for the other schools will not lead to being less than full in Year 7 this September – three (Orleans Park, St Richard Reynolds and

Waldegrave) have more first-preference applications than places; and Hampton High’s and The Richmond upon Thames School’s first- to third-preference numbers are strong.

5.70 Factors in these overall increased applications are the higher resident application numbers in both Hounslow and Kingston. As paragraph 5.27 showed, four schools in the west admit a high proportion of out-borough children: Hampton High (42.6%), The Richmond upon Thames School (29.9%), Teddington (40.7%) and Twickenham (43.2%).

5.71 It is probable that the high levels of out-borough demand for those schools will offset the impacts of falling rolls in the state-funded primary-phase schools in the west of the borough, but there is no historical pattern which can be drawn. That is because the state-funded secondary schools in the west have never been so oversubscribed – as is also the case with the three schools in the eastern half. As at the end of the pan-London offer-swapping process, there were 142 unplaced children of whom 74 have been offered places at Twickenham on top of the 162 preference offers (and 68 children, in the east of the borough, for whom alternative offers cannot be made).

5.72 At present the places forecast for 2024 and subsequent years in the west of the borough in the table at paragraph 5.53 do not take account of out-borough demand increasing to fill any otherwise surplus places as a result of smaller cohorts progressing from the state-funded primary schools in the west of the borough.

Eastern half of the borough

5.73 All three schools in the eastern half – Christ’s, Grey Court and RPA – are oversubscribed. For 2023 entry, applications are as follows:

Eastern half	Preference																					
	1st			2nd			3rd			4th			5th			6th			Totals			
	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	2023	2022	+/-	
Christ's	150	190	172	18	150	157	-7	147	161	-14	127	148	-21	100	105	-5	71	73	-2	785	816	-31
Grey Court	240	330	312	18	453	488	-35	361	329	32	228	235	-7	147	167	-20	100	105	-5	1619	1636	-17
Richmond Park Academy	180	130	128	2	120	87	33	87	89	-2	79	95	-16	75	74	1	84	62	22	575	535	40
Totals	570	650	612	38	723	732	-9	595	579	16	434	478	-44	322	346	-24	255	240	15	2979	2987	-8

Therefore, there are five applicants for each substantive available place – 2,979 for 570. Even if Grey Court’s data are excluded because the school’s catchment doesn’t reach as far as the north-east of the borough, there are still four+ applications for every place:

	Normal published admission number	First preference applications	Total applications
Christ’s	150	190	785
RPA	180	130	575
Totals	330	320	1,360

5.74 Each of the three offers a significant number of places to out-borough children:
a. Christ’s allocates 50 of its places to children from Anglican/Christian families and is
b. fairly close to the Kingston boundary – in 2022, 33 (19%) of the 173 initial offers¹³

¹³ The offer data in this paragraph, and elsewhere in this document, excludes children admitted as a result of an EHCP, who are allocated places via a separate process.

- were to out-borough children and 10 of the subsequent 86 waiting-list offers were to children living in Hammersmith and Fulham, Hounslow, Kingston, and Wandsworth.
- c. Grey Court is close to the Kingston boundary – in 2022, (24%) of the 260 initial offers and 33 of the subsequent 69 waiting-list offers for Grey Court for the school were to Kingston children. Its catchment does not reach Barnes, East Sheen, Kew, Mortlake or north Richmond, and will reduce once the Ham Close regeneration happens.
 - d. RPA is very close to the Wandsworth boundary – in 2022, (28%) of the 249 initial offers and 21 of the subsequent 56 waiting-list offers were to out-borough children.
- 5.75 For 2022 entry, as paragraph 5.27 shows, on autumn census day, 187 – equating to 30.2% – of the 620 pupils in Year 7 across the three schools lived outside the borough.
- 5.76 By law, none of the three schools is able to grant priority to children on the basis of residence within Richmond; that is because of the 1989 High Court ruling against Greenwich Council ('the Greenwich Judgement')¹⁴.
- 5.77 It is reasonable to presume that these levels of out-borough applications for the schools will continue, which means that as in-borough demand for places at them continues to grow, the number of unplaced in-borough children will also grow unless the council takes high risks with over-offering places. One change in the three schools' numbers of out-borough applicants which might be positive for Richmond in the foreseeable future is a probable reduction in the numbers of Kingston applicants for Christ's from their current, fairly low levels – 42 in 2022 and 30 in 2023 – if a new Church of England secondary opens, subject to planning permission, in September 2025. But the attraction of Grey Court to Kingston families, of RPA to Wandsworth families and of Christ's 'Foundation' places for families in several LAs are unlikely to diminish.
- 5.78 Despite over-offering places at the three schools in recent years, there have been a high number of children unplaced in the north-east of Richmond: 2019 – 106; 2020 – 135; 2021 – 112; 2022 – 72. The number was lower in 2022 because the extent of the over-offering was higher than in previous years: by 30 extra at Christ's, 30 at Grey Court and 78 at RPA, a total of 138 children in excess of the schools' normal PANs.
- 5.79 The 30 extra offers in 2022 for Christ's were as a 'bulge class', i.e. waiting-lists offers were up to an admission number of 180, rather than the PAN of 150, in the expectation that temporary accommodation would be provided to enable the school to admit 30 extra children in September (and to do so for one further year within the next six years).
- 5.80 If the 30 extra children at Christ's were added to the 78 additional offers at RPA plus the 72 unplaced children, there were a total of 180 children living in the north-east of the borough for whom a local place within the substantive permanent capacity could not be offered on National Offer Day in 2022. The planned Year 7 capacity for Livingstone Academy is 180 places, so the school could clearly have been filled without impacting any of the other three schools – before any account is taken of the impacts of the national economic recession and the forecast pupil yields from housing developments which have been approved (e.g. Ham Close), proposed (e.g. Barnes Hospital and Stag

¹⁴ R v London Borough of Greenwich, ex parte John Ball Primary School (1989).

Brewery) or are likely to be proposed (e.g. Kew Retail Park).

- 5.81 The borough has always been reliant on a large percentage of parents opting for private-sector secondary schools or moving out, especially within the eastern half, i.e. there has always been a significant refusal rate for the offers of state-funded places. However, since the last major economic downturn – the Crash in 2008 – the reputation of, and thus the number of applicants for, RPA has significantly increased, which means that that if, as expected, the cost-of-living crisis leads to less waiting-list movement for 2023 entry and increased demand for state-funded places for 2024 and subsequent years, demand will exceed supply unmanageably unless a fourth school opens
- 5.82 By September each year, it has hitherto been broadly the case that the waiting-lists have moved far enough to offer a place to everyone who wants one, partly because some parents who don't get offered a state-funded place initially, on National Offer Day, decide that they will stick with the offer of a private school place which they have previously secured with a deposit, i.e. because the lack of places at the initial stage effectively drives a significant number of parents into the private sector who would otherwise prefer a place at a local state-funded school. When the national economy is in recession, as it is now, parents are less likely to opt for private-sector places. Already that has resulted in the current Year 7 ending up larger than was anticipated – and 50 children more than the total of the 570 substantive places across the three schools.
- 5.83 Moreover, the fact that the standards, and thus the reputations, of the borough's state-funded secondary schools have greatly improved over the last 20 years means that continuing to over-offer places will become very high-risk if the proportion of local parents who can afford to opt for private education decreases; and if, as expected, the overall number of children considerably increases due to housing developments. For example, if we over-offered places by 78 at RPA, i.e. offered places to 258 children, but all those offers – or substantially more than in the past – were accepted, the school would not have enough teaching space in which to educate that many children.
- 5.84 It has been suggested that there are out-borough secondary schools within easy reach of the north-east of Richmond which could meet Richmond's forecast excess demand. There are indeed some; but, even before parents consider the availability of places in those schools, the Thames and the vehicular closure of Hammersmith Bridge act as natural barriers. As in all LAs, Richmond parents understandably expect high-quality state-funded school places to be available within close reach, in their own community.
- 5.85 The closest out-borough secondary school to the north-east of Richmond, Chiswick, is full in all year-groups. In 2022, there were 55 Richmond children whose parents made a preference for it, but those applications resulted in only 11 offers. For 2023 entry, the number of applications is 44. Brentford School for Girls' is also fairly close, but, for 2022 entry, preferences for it were made for only seven Richmond girls and only two were offered places; and for 2023 entry the number of applications is eight.
- 5.86 The table below provides a summary of applications made by Richmond residents for Year 7 places for September 2022 entry at out-borough secondary schools within five miles of the Stag Brewery site:

School and LA	Year 7 capacity / admissions	Richmond resident apps. And offers		Distance by road	Other comments
Chiswick School / Hounslow	2021 – 615 applications for 240 places; last distance offered = 2.1m; full in all years	55	11	1 mile	Was graded by Ofsted as 'RI' until January 2020, when it was graded 'good', therefore still, presumably, consolidating as a 'good' school.
Brentford School for Girls / Hounslow	2021 – 426 apps for 155 places; some vacancies	7	2	2.9 miles	Single sex; not had a full Ofsted inspection since it academised in 2012
West London Free School / Hammersmith & Fulham	2022 – 1,034 apps for 130 places; no distance offers	51	5		All non-sibling places offered to children attending feeder primaries (both in Hammersmith & Fulham)
Green School for Boys (CE) / Hounslow	2021 – 451 apps for 150 places; no spare places	26	12	3.6 miles	Single sex; 75 places for Anglicans; opened in 2017.
Ark Putney / Wandsworth	2022 – All places offered; but full as recently as 2019	7	0	2.9 miles	Ofsted 'good'.
Green School for Girls (CE) / Hounslow	2021 – 627 apps for 155 places; last distance offered = 0.7 miles	33	6	3.7 miles	Single sex; 80 places for Anglicans, 35 for other faiths, only 40 'open', i.e. non-faith, places
Gunnersbury Catholic Boys / Hounslow	2021 – 695 apps for 184 places; only baptised Catholics offered	46	6	4.1 miles	Single sex; priority to Catholics
Gumley House Catholic Girls / Hounslow	2021 – 567 apps for 192 places; 34 places non-faith places	76	13	3.9 miles	Single sex; priority to Catholics
Ark Acton / Ealing	2022 – all applicants offered	0	0	3.3 miles	Opened in 2018; yet to have an Ofsted grade; predecessor judged 'inadequate'
Ark Soane / Ealing	2022 – all applicants offered	0	0	3.5 miles	Yet to have an Ofsted grade; only opened in 2021
Fulham Cross Academy / Hammersmith & Fulham	2022 – 381 apps for 120 places; all applicants offered	10	1	3.9 miles	Co-ed since 2020, boys-only before that; no full Ofsted inspection since 2015 and no visit since becoming co-ed
Ealing Fields High (CE) / Ealing	2022 – 350 apps for 92 distance places; cut-off = 0.4 mile	0	0	3.9 miles	Designated as a school of religious character
Fulham Cross Girls / Hammersmith & Fulham	2022 – 307 apps for 135 places; all applicants offered	3	1	5.0 miles	Single sex; downgraded by Ofsted from 'outstanding' to 'good' in May 2022
	Totals	314	57		

Of these 13 schools, few are realistic options for most Richmond parents in the north-east of the borough, e.g. Brentford is an option for girls only, and the two Green Schools and Gumley House are also single-sex and wouldn't be options for many non-faith families. Of the mixed-sex secular schools among the 13, only Ark Putney has vacancies, but it was full as recently as 2019 so it cannot be relied upon as a destination for Richmond children.

- 5.87 Even if places at some of those schools did become more readily available, Richmond residents would need to make preferences for them, i.e. AfC's School Admissions Team cannot otherwise allocate unfilled places at out-borough schools.
- 5.88 Ensuring that every in-borough child who is unplaced on National Offer Day subsequently receives an offer of a place before September is not simple. It involves much interaction by AfC's School Admissions team with the parents/carers of those children, to advise them, for example, to add schools – both in- and out-borough, as appropriate – as preferences which they might not have wished to consider, so as to maximise their chances of receiving an offer of a school relatively close to home. Some parents, though, may wish to hold out for a particular school. The speed at which waiting-lists move varies from school to school, and from year to year, depending on a large number of factors, including the level of over-offering and the admissions patterns for out-borough schools.
- 5.89 It has been suggested that, rather than supporting the need for Livingstone Academy, Richmond could instead fund the permanent expansion of one or more out-borough schools if a lawful way could be found to guarantee that the additional capacity could somehow be allocated to Richmond-resident children in perpetuity. However, by law, every school's admissions criteria are subject to annual review and could easily be subsequently changed by the school's governors, especially if demand for Year 7 places within the home LA area increased to the point where every place possible were needed for the home LA's resident children.
- 5.90 In October 2022, the numbers on roll, as recorded by AfC's Admissions Team, compared with the normal PANs of the three eastern-half schools were as follows:

	Year 7		Year 8		Year 9		Year 10		Year 11		Total	
	PAN	NOR	PAN	NOR	PAN	NOR	PAN	NOR	PAN	NOR	PAN	NOR
Christ's	150	180	150	180	150	155	150	186	150	155	750	856
Grey Court	240	256	240	242	240	242	240	243	240	246	1200	1229
RPA	180	188	180	175	180	180	180	175	180	174	900	892
Total	570	624	570	597	570	577	570	614	570	574	2850	2986
No. over PAN	54		27		7		44		4		136	

Between them then, the three schools had 136 children on roll in Years 7 to 11 above their combined PANs. (Four of the vacancies in Year 8 at RPA were subsequently offered.)

In-year admissions

- 5.91 As tabulated at paragraph 5.22, in-year admissions – those made outside the coordinated Year 7 application process – have significantly increased from the pre-pandemic rates.
- 5.92 For the first time ever, a secondary Fair Access Panel was convened, in September 2022, not to place children who have additional needs or challenges, but purely to ensure

placements for children for whom school places within a reasonable distance cannot ordinarily be offered via the normal admissions route. This is another indicator that the pressure on places is acute and becoming more so with every year which passes.

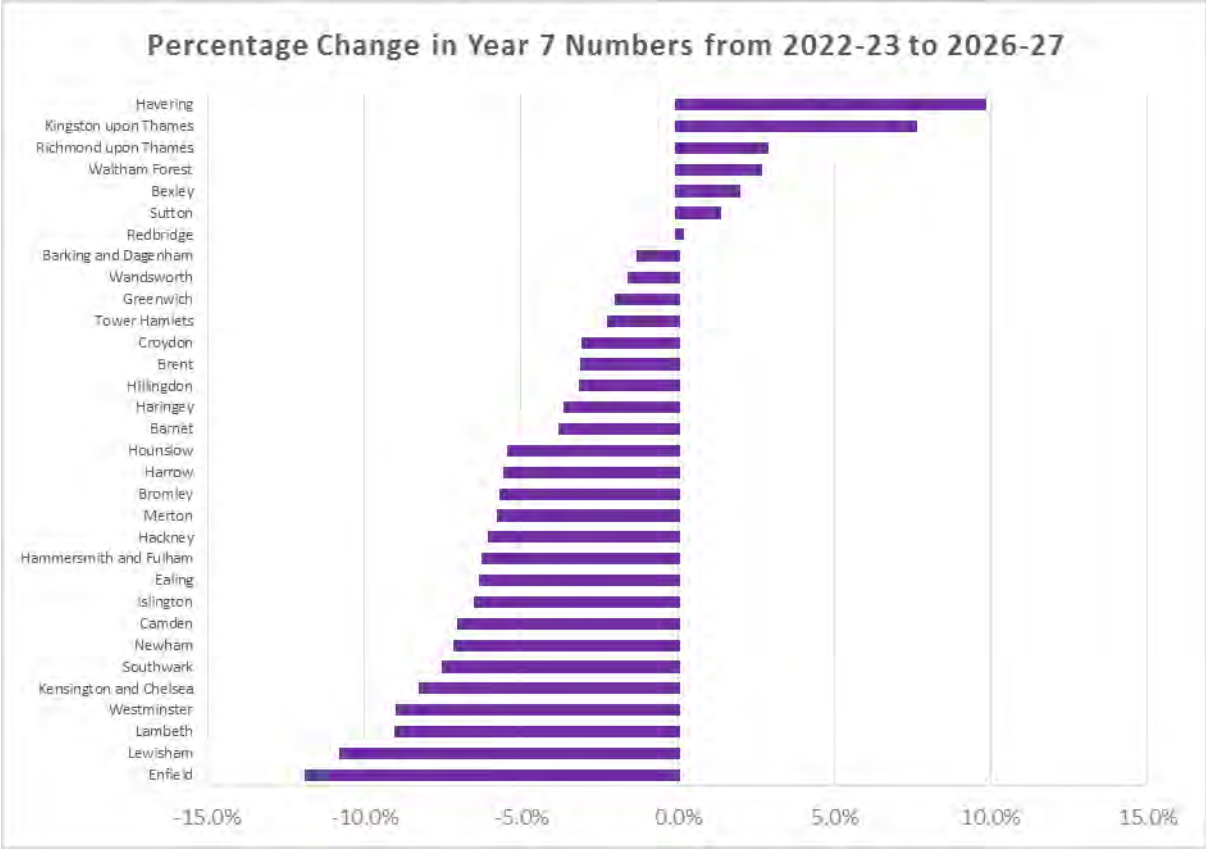
- 5.93 At present (February 2023), any families with secondary aged children who move into the east of the borough and want new state-funded school places can only be offered places at Twickenham School, in the far west of the borough. Although there is a train service from, Barnes, Mortlake, North Sheen and Richmond to Whitton station, the home-to-school distance involved is well in excess of what would normally be considered to be reasonable (three miles), and such offers are therefore often refused on that basis.
- 5.94 Many LAs in London have recently (autumn 2022) reported much higher numbers of in-year applications, particularly in the secondary phase. Ealing say that they have, “very high levels of in year demand for high school places particularly in years 8, 9 and 10 with unprecedented numbers of arrivals from overseas [and are] struggling to have sufficient places to make offers”. Hounslow report that Chiswick School is full in all year-groups; and that they have received 2,000+ applications from overseas since September 2021. Hammersmith and Fulham report a particular shortage of places in Years 9 to 11.

Future demand

- 5.95 Most of Richmond’s largest approved, proposed or likely to be proposed housing developments are in the east of the borough: Barnes Hospital (106 units); Ham Close (a net gain of 260); Homebase, East Sheen (453); Kew Retail Park (c.2, 000?); and Stag Brewery itself (1,085). Even with conservative estimates, the ‘pupil yield’ from these developments – the number of children who will need new local state-funded school places – will be very substantial and add hugely to an already difficult situation. If, as the DfE say, the peak pupil yield from new developments typically isn’t reached until eight years after initial occupation, demand from with these anticipated local housing developments will not just cause one-off challenges but will continue to cause additional demand for school places.
- 5.96 The large amount of housing development in Brentford and other areas of Hounslow will presumably have a similar effect on demand for the Hounslow schools in the table at paragraph 5.86, resulting in fewer places being realistic options for Richmond families.
- 5.97 The table below shows the latest Year 7 forecasts in the eastern half of the borough, based on take-up for 2022, application numbers for 2023 entry, likely increased take-up in the next few years and the forecast pupil yield from the North Sheen Homebase development (but no other developments like the Stag Brewery). It should be remembered that the forecast numbers on roll (NoR) do not include in-borough children whose parents give up, after the unsuccessful outcome on National Offer Day, on the chance of obtaining a preferred local state-funded secondary school place.

Year of entry into Year 7	2021		2022		2023		2024		2025		2026		2027	
	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR	PAN	NoR
Eastern half of the borough	570	590	570	620	570	620	570	623	570	606	570	702	570	702
Eastern half Year 6 cohort	821		813		772		766		717		804		804	
Take-up rate from Year 6	71.9%		76.3%		80.3%		81.3%		84.5%		87.3%		87.3%	
Applying take-up rate Yr6 to Yr7	590		620		620		623		606		702		702	
Surplus + / shortfall -	-20		-50		-50		-53		-36		-132		-132	

- 5.98 Longer-term it should be noted that the current Reception cohort (769) which will feed into Year 7 in 2029 is smaller than that of the 2021 Reception cohort (771) by only two children.
- 5.99 The London Councils report¹⁵ referred to earlier includes the following graph of forecast Year 7 numbers in London LAs, which shows that Richmond’s Year 7 numbers are expected to continue to grow in the next four years:



Meeting demand for Year 7 places

- 5.100 Christ’s and RPA cannot accommodate bulge classes indefinitely as neither has sufficient usable space – and between them they couldn’t be permanently expanded to provide enough places to meet forecast demand.
- 5.101 Christ’s has space and planning permission for two additional demountable classrooms, which were provided on a temporary basis on hard standing within the Metropolitan Open Land (MOL) from September 2022, but the borough’s planners have made it very clear that they would not consider recommending for approval any *permanent* building on the MOL unless it could be demonstrated that there were very exceptional circumstances – i.e. no reasonable alternative. But even then, it is highly unlikely that a new building or extension large enough to provide several three or four forms of entry permanently would be approved, or whether the governors of the school and Southwark Diocesan Board for Schools would want to see the school become so large, having traditionally been at the smaller end of the scale. Additionally using space occupied by a bulge class in current Year

¹⁵ <https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/members-area/member-briefings/children-and-young-people/managing-drop-demand-school-places-london>

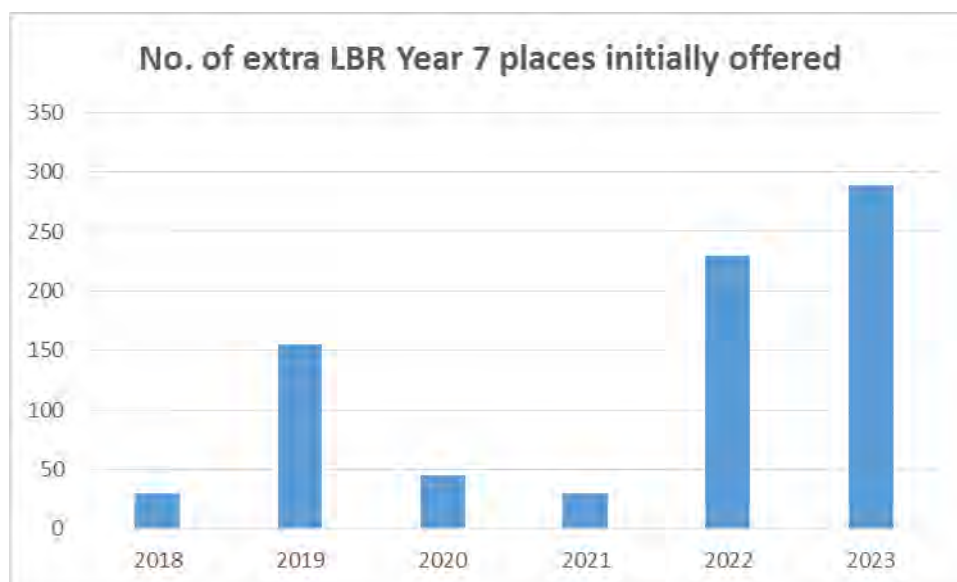
10, Christ's will have room for two more Year 7 bulge classes in the next five school years.

5.102 RPA could not accommodate more than one additional form of an entry on a permanent basis without relocation of the Richmond Shene Sports and Fitness Centre, for which neither a suitable site nor the requisite multi-million pounds of capital funding is available (or likely to be) and substantial new build on the sport centre's footprint. RPA has capacity to take two, possibly three, bulge classes during the next six school years, but that might be at the expense of enabling its sixth form to continue to grow.

5.103 As previously noted, Grey Court's catchment doesn't extend as far as the parts of the borough – Kew, North Richmond and north/east Barnes – from which it is currently very difficult for Richmond parents to access local secondary school places, and will reduce further once the Ham Close regeneration is implemented. The undeveloped part of the site is Metropolitan Open Land, which means it could not be built upon to provide additional forms of entry unless a more palatable and achievable alternative (in planning and practical terms) were not available elsewhere, but a new secondary school at the Stag Brewery site provides just such an alternative., Grey Court is already a large and crowded school, providing 240 places in each of Years 7 to 11, with a sixth form of more than 300 students.

5.104 For 2023 entry, the combined number of unplaced children (68) in the east of the borough on National Offer Day, plus the numbers of offers made over the substantive PANs for the three schools – Christ's, 50; Grey Court, 40; RPA, 75 – is 233, more than enough to fill a fourth state-funded secondary school providing 180 Year 7 places per year. That figure of 233 is up by 53 from the comparable position in 2022 (see paragraph 5.80).

5.105 The scale of over-offering for year 7 admissions has increased as follows in recent years:



Sixth form admissions

5.106 It has been suggested that Livingstone's sixth form would adversely impact the recruitment to the sixth forms at Christ's and RPA. Post-16 education options for young people in Richmond include not just sixth forms but also colleges such as Esher, Kingston, Richmond upon Thames and Strode's; parents/carers are happier for their young people to travel

further afield for their post-16 education than for pre-16. But despite much wider competition than for pre-16 admissions, the sixth forms at Christ's and RPA have both doubled in numbers of students since their introduction less than a decade ago.

	2015/2016 ¹⁶	2022/2023
Christ's	87	183
RPA	63	126

- 5.107 If planning permission were granted soon, it is probable that the earliest that Livingstone Academy could realistically open would be September 2026, and, because it would build up its year-groups one by one over a seven-year period, it would therefore not have cohorts of young people in both Years 12 and 13 until September 2032. So Christ's and RPA would have 10 years, at least, to continue to build up their sixth form numbers so that they can withstand the competition from another local school. It is likely, anyway, that Livingstone would, like all 11–18 schools, draw almost all its sixth form students from its own Year 11.

Thomson House School

- 5.108 It has also been suggested that part of the Stag Brewery site could instead be used for a relocation of Thomson House, the primary free school which operates across two, spatially-challenged sites either side of the level crossing at Mortlake station. But if, for argument's sake, the secondary school proposal were abandoned, then the DfE would not instead use the capital budget for Livingstone Academy to pay for a relocation of Thomson House from their existing two sites onto the Stag Brewery site. The DfE would not commit millions of pounds to buy land at the brewery site to relocate a primary school on which they have already expended many millions of pounds (for new build and refurbishment of the Old Courthouse and former United Reformed Church sites). The DfE also made it clear that they would not support a hybrid part-primary/part-secondary school on the site.
- 5.109 Thomson House has no outside space at the former URC and limited outdoor space at the Old Courthouse, but that situation has been exacerbated by the school unilaterally deciding, in 2021, to increase its intake from 52 to 56 in 2019 in each year-group in 2019, and then, in 2020, to 60, a total of 56 extra children on roll, an increase from 364 to 420.
- 5.110 It has been argued that the developer might fund a rebuild of Thomson House on the Stag Brewery site but that would surely make their scheme financially unviable unless they much increase the housing units and reduce the proportion which are affordable.
- 5.111 It has also been suggested that if Thomson House were to move to the Brewery site, its two current sites could be repurposed to enable more secondary places, e.g. that the Old Courthouse site could accommodate RPA's sixth form and thereby free up space on RPA's current site for additional Year 7 pupils, however that would mean that all the advantages of having a sixth form would be lost: sixth form students could no longer act as role models, prefects and 'buddies' for younger pupils, and teachers would not have time to travel the mile between the two sites between lessons. The Government owns the former URC site and, if weren't used by Thomson House, they would probably sell it for housing.

¹⁶ This was the first year that both schools had young people in both Years 12 and 13.

The Stag Brewery site

- 5.112 The borough's site allocation plan for the Stag Brewery site retains a requirement for a six-form entry secondary school, plus sixth form, and this is also reflected in the Local Plan Regulation 18 Version. Therefore, any fresh application for development of the site would be contrary to the borough's published policy if it did not include the secondary school.
- 5.113 If, for argument's sake, the site *were* to be developed without a secondary school, the opportunity would be gone for good, with nowhere else within the north-east – in fact, the whole eastern half – of the borough identified as a realistic alternative location for a secondary school. Local campaigners have repeatedly proposed part of Barn Elms as a possibility, but this has far more planning constraints on it than the Brewery site has.
- 5.114 Livingstone Academy would be a school for many generations to come, so disputes as to the extent of forecast short- to medium-term demand for it are academic; the balance of probability overwhelmingly suggests that – in addition to the already much-increased high demand for places – housing development, demographic change and the economy will require a fourth state-funded secondary school in the eastern half of the borough at some point, and most likely sooner rather than later, given that the places could, as noted at paragraph 5.80, have already have been filled on National Offer Day 2022.
- 5.115 For 2023 entry, the number of unplaced children (68) in the east of the borough, plus the numbers over-offered at each of the three schools – Christ's, 50; Grey Court, 40; and RPA, 75 – equals 233 children who could more than fill a Year 7 intake of a new school with 180 places per year.
- 5.116 It would therefore be very high risk for Richmond if Livingstone Academy did not materialise within a reasonably short period of time. As it is, Richmond will find it increasingly challenging to meet its statutory duty to provide secondary school places for children in the east of the borough in the years before Livingstone is able to open. No responsible LA would wait until there were 180 children unplaced in September before deciding that a new secondary school was needed, because any such school naturally has a long lead-in to allow for construction and recruitment of staff, governors and pupils.
- 5.117 Precisely aligning the timing of a new school with enough demand to fill it straightaway, or at least quickly, is not straightforward because new schools are free schools, i.e. established by the DfE; and because, although they tend to be popular with parents/carers who might otherwise opt for private schools, it is difficult to know how many parents/carers will take the 'leap of faith' to take up places at a school with no track record. Nonetheless, AfC and the council as a whole are working closely with the DfE to ensure that alignment would be the best that it can possibly be for Livingstone Academy.

6. SPECIALIST SCHOOL PLACES AND SEND FORECASTING

Introduction

- 6.1 If mainstream school place planning can be regarded as an art more than a science, then SEND place planning is even more so because it is subject to more variable factors.
- 6.2 The DfE currently have no oversight of SEND place planning. Before the forthcoming 2023 SCAP return, they have not requested any data from LAs regarding forecasts of the numbers of resident CYP with EHCPs and of demand for specialist school places. That can be taken as an indicator of the complexity of SEND place planning.
- 6.3 Except perhaps for large shire LAs, the majority of specialist places accessed by an LA's resident CYP will be outside its own administrative area. That is because the very specialist nature of the different needs means that some SEND schools are effectively sub-regional providers which draw pupils from a variety of LAs.
- 6.4 Moreover, though, a large proportion of school age CYP with EHCPs will be educated within state-funded mainstream primary and secondary schools, and most, if not all LAs, will be working with their local family of schools to empower them to educate an increasing number of CYP with SEND but without a need for an EHCP. Of the 1,697 Richmond-resident CYP with EHCPs as at 30 January 2023, 739 (43.5%) are being educated within state-funded mainstream primary or secondary schools (not including those in SRPs).
- 6.5 Within Richmond there are three state-funded special schools – Capella House, Clarendon and Strathmore – each of which is an academy run by the Richmond-based Auriga Academy Trust. All three are multi-centre schools. Capella and Strathmore both educate CYP aged 4–19, whereas Clarendon currently educates CYP aged 4–16.
- 6.6 In the borough's state-funded schools there are 13 specialist resource provisions (SRPs): one in the borough's only stand-alone maintained nursery school; seven in primary-phase schools; and five within secondary schools, each of which serves CYP aged 11–16.
- 6.7 Numbers of places in, and designations of, special schools and SRPs are in [Appendix 6](#).

Developments since 2019

- 6.8 Clarendon has been consolidating since its re-location in 2018 of most of its provision to two new sites – its primary phase at the former Newhouse Centre site in Buckingham Road, Hampton; and its secondary phase (except the Gateway) in new-build accommodation alongside The Richmond upon Thames School, in Egerton Road, Twickenham. The Gateway has remained adjacent to Twickenham School and is flourishing.
- 6.9 Likewise, Strathmore has also been consolidating its 2018 re-provision onto three sites – the campuses of The Russell Primary, Grey Court and St Richard Reynolds Catholic College. In September 2022, the school opened a temporary centre at Darell Primary School for up to six KS1 children with Moderate to Severe Learning Difficulties.

- 6.10 Capella House, a 72-place special free school proposed by Auriga for children and young people aged 4–19 with speech, language and communication needs, opened its secondary site, next to Clarendon’s secondary centre, in September 2019, and its primary site, on the Richmond Council–owned Amyand House site next to St Mary’s Church of England Primary, Twickenham, in September 2020. After some initial challenges, the school has made good progress and is now a popular and essential part of the local specialist educational offer.

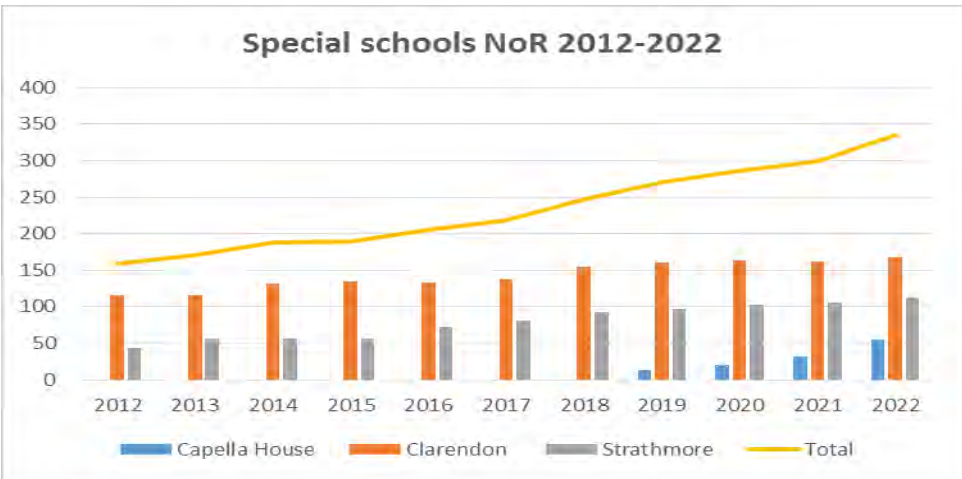
- 6.11 In October 2018, AfC submitted two special free school applications, one in Richmond for children and young people aged 7–19 with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs and one in Kingston for children and young people aged 4–19 with autism. In March 2019, the DfE approved both applications. Each school will have 90 places. In February 2020, the DfE and AfC jointly selected the providers for the two schools: the Beckmead Trust for the Richmond school, to be named London River Academy, to open, subject to planning permission, date not yet known, on part of the Barnes Hospital site; and Ambitious about Autism for the Kingston school, named Spring School, to open in September 2023 on part of the Moor Lane Centre site in Chessington.

- 6.12 It remains challenging to identify spare or under-utilised school or other spaces/sites which could be used to house specialist places except as a stop-gap. For the reasons noted at paragraphs 4.14 to 4.17, there are lots of variable factors which need to be considered in discussions with primary-phase schools with falling rolls which might seem to have space for re-purposing for specialist use – not least of which is that if a school is undersubscribed for its mainstream places, it might find, that if it opened an SRP, that too would be under-subscribed, unless its development were very effectively supported by all parties.

Special schools

- 6.13 The growth in numbers of pupils on roll in the last decade in the state-funded special schools in the borough is as follows:

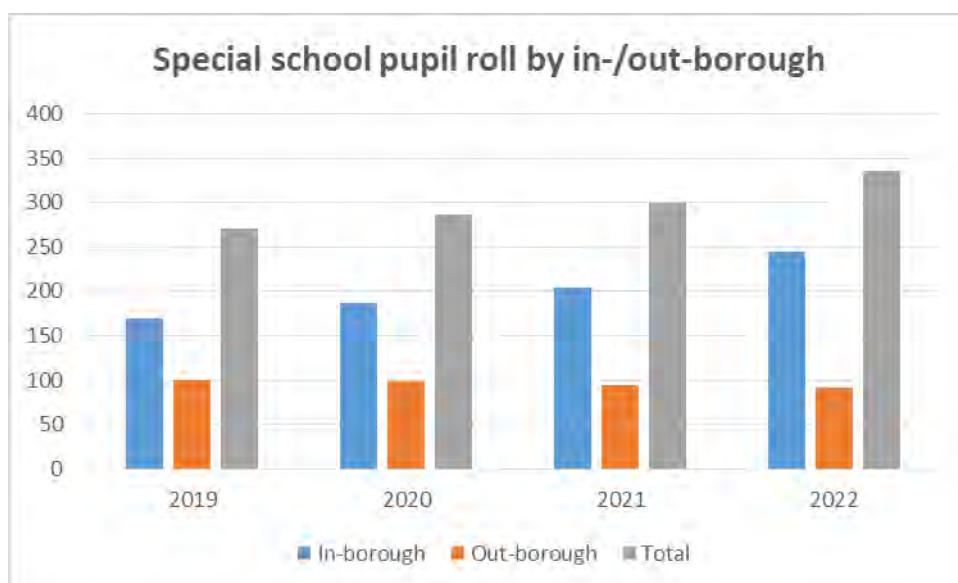
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Capella House								13	20	32	55
Clarendon	115	115	131	134	133	138	154	160	164	162	168
Strathmore	44	56	57	56	73	81	93	97	102	105	113
Total	159	171	188	190	206	219	247	270	286	299	336



As can be seen, the numbers of CYP on roll have: more than doubled overall; increased by 46.1% at Clarendon; and increased by 156.8% at Strathmore. The opening of Capella House in September 2019 has also made a substantial positive difference.

6.14 The proportions of in- and out-borough CYP on roll in the schools have changed as follows:

	2019		2020		2021		2022	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
In-borough	170	63.0%	187	65.4%	204	68.2%	245	72.9%
Out-borough	100	37.0%	99	34.6%	95	31.8%	91	27.1%
Total	270		286		299		336	



As can be seen, the proportion of in-borough CYP has grown in each of the last three years.

- 6.15 Demand for places at the three schools is high, especially for the two longer-established schools, Clarendon and Strathmore. The process of application for a special school place is wholly separate and different from that for mainstream schools, but a number of out-borough parents/carers and their LAs will always seek places in the three schools.
- 6.16 All three are multi-site schools with no room for expansion. Expansion could only happen by opening new centres.
- 6.17 Work is ongoing for the establishment of a 4–19 Clarendon centre on the former Strathmore site in Meadlands Drive, Petersham, to provide up to 80 places for CYP with moderate to severe learning difficulties. Subject to planning approval, the centre’s anticipated opening date is September 2025. The proposal would also free up space for an additional 18 places at Clarendon’s current secondary site in Twickenham.
- 6.18 A planning application will be submitted in early 2023 for the establishment of an 11–19 Strathmore centre on the former Aston Pierrepoint nursery and caretaker’s house site in Hanworth Road, Hampton. The site’s adjacency to Hampton High will enable mainstream inclusion opportunities for some of the 24 CYP who would be accommodated at the centre,

and some sharing of resources. Subject to planning approval, the centre's anticipated opening date is September 2024.

6.19 Operating multi-centre schools is challenging because:

- Each centre needs a senior leader to be 'Head of Centre', which means higher salary costs than for single-site special schools.
- Achieving economies of scale is much more difficult, e.g. it might not be practical to have just one or two facilities staff working across the whole school, and overall running costs are proportionally higher compared with numbers of pupils than they would be for single-site special schools.
- Recruiting teaching assistants is difficult, and has become more so since Brexit.
- Ensuring therapy for pupils can be more challenging.

6.20 For these reasons, it is likely that the proposed expansions of Clarendon and Strathmore outlined above would be the maximum which either school could realistically manage.

6.21 The opening, subject to planning permission and construction, of London River Academy, the SEMH special school to be run by the Beckmead Trust, may happen as soon as September 2025, but the already tight programme for achieving that date will get increasingly less achievable unless planning approval is granted in the next few months.

Specialist Resource Provisions (SRPs)

6.22 The following recent developments have taken place:

- Work to provide accommodation for a proposed 14-place SRP at Barnes Primary for children with autism and moderate learning difficulties was discontinued in autumn 2021 due to site and planning constraints proving to be impossible to overcome.
- The SRP at Darell Primary for children with moderate learning difficulties has expanded since September 2019 to provide 10 KS2 places as well as the eight KS1 places.
- The 'Pear Tree' SRP at Stanley Primary for children with autism was expanded from 18 to 21 places in spring 2021.
- A 20 place-place SRP for CYP with social communication needs including autism and moderate learning difficulties opened at Hampton High in September 2021.
- The six-place SRP at Christ's for YP with SpLD was closed at the end of the 2021/2022 because it did not have, nor would have, a bespoke physical resource space.
- The 10-place SRP at RPA for YP with SEMH with was closed at the school's request at the end of the 2021/2022 school year.
- A 10-place SRP for CYP with SEMH opened at Teddington in September 2022, effectively to replace the closed SRP at RPA.

6.23 Work is ongoing to provide additional SRP places in the borough. A new SRP at The Vineyard Primary, will open in September 2023, for up to 14 children with social communication needs including autism and mild to moderate learning difficulties, providing much-needed autism-specific places in the eastern half of the borough.

6.24 As a cross-borough comparison, Kingston Borough has 177 SRP places designated for CYP with autism, compared with Richmond's 93 – albeit that Kingston has more CYP (673) with autism who have EHCPs, and has a larger proportion (41.7%) of its CYP with EHCPs who have autism as their main presenting need. Historically, Kingston's local offer for CYP with

SEND was more extensive than in Richmond, and Kingston had less need for mainstream school expansions during the 2006–2016 period than Richmond did. Nonetheless, creative solutions will need to be found beyond the extra 14 places at The Vineyard.

- 6.25 [Appendix 7](#) shows the planned growth in SEND school places from 2017 to 2030: 27 net additional places have been created since 2019 and 14 places will be created by 2023, by when there will be 155 SRP places in the borough, a net increase of 63 places since 2017.
- 6.26 Hitherto, it has been considered that schools which are smaller than two forms of entry would find it very challenging to accommodate and manage an SRP. However, given the shortage of viable options within the borough, this bar may have to be revisited.
- 6.27 It is also the case that conversations are ongoing with some primary schools about expanding popular SRPs where they have some spare accommodation as a result of mainstream falling rolls – notwithstanding the considerations outlined in paragraph 4.14.
- 6.28 In the three years since the last iteration of this strategy, the number of CYP with an EHCP has continued to grow, as shown in the table below. The increase in girls has been almost twice that of boys, and there have been significantly large increases in the numbers with ASC and with SLCN. (Often those CYP classified as having SLCN have a mixed diagnosis which includes autism.) While the increase in the number with SEMH has been lower, its impact is considerable because SEMH needs are less likely to be met within mainstream schools and because of a shortage of suitable specialist settings – which the 90 places at London River Academy will help to mitigate.

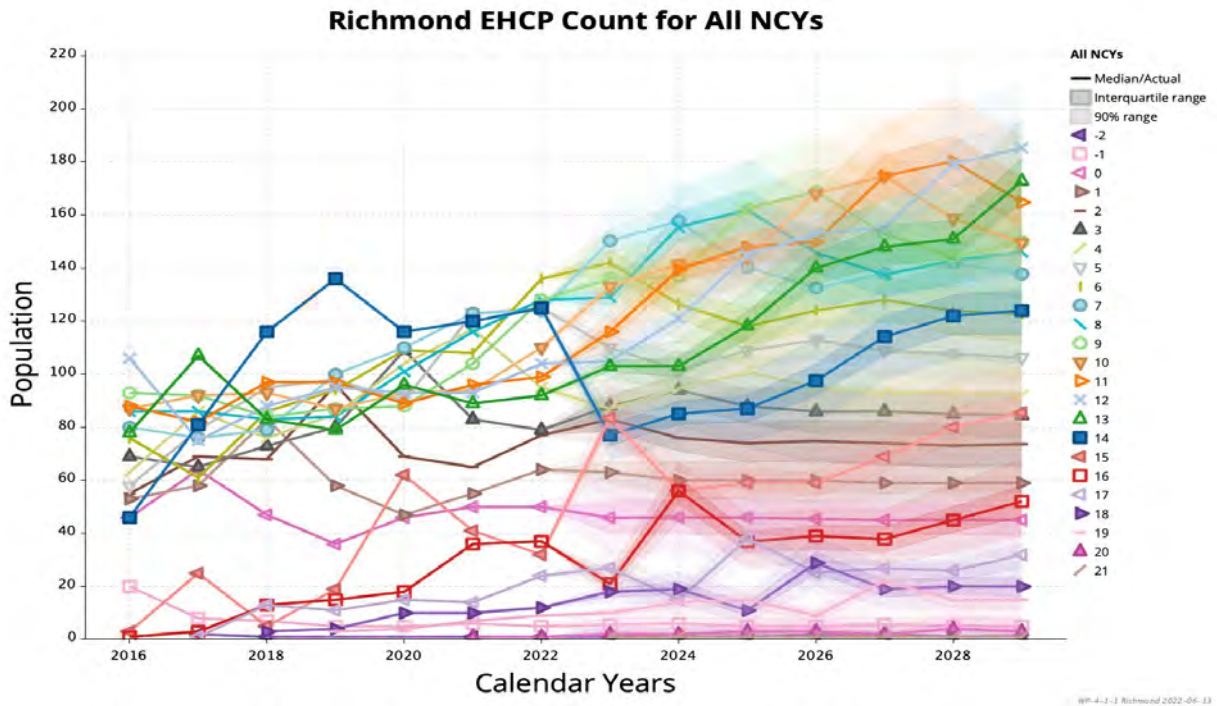
	16-Dec-19	30-Jan-23	No. change	% change
Female	423	517	94	22.2%
Male	1067	1180	113	10.6%
Autism (ASC)	451	632	181	40.1%
Hearing Impairment (HI)	9	11	2	22.2%
Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)	176	181	5	2.8%
Physical Difficulties	83	65	-18	-21.7%
Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD)	22	23	1	4.5%
Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)	37	29	-8	-21.6%
Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH)	188	208	20	10.6%
Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)	141	121	-20	-14.2%
Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN)	280	333	53	18.9%
Visual Impairment (VI)	25	27	2	8.0%
Other needs	78	67	-11	-14.1%
Total	1490	1697	207	13.9%

- 6.29 These data do not show the numbers of CYP with comorbidity, i.e. with a SEND diagnosis which contains two (or more) classifiable needs. DfE SEND classifications, which include those in the table above, do not include comorbidity, so these data are not fully reflective of actual need. It is also the case that CYP’s needs cannot always easily be ‘boxed’.

SEND forecasting

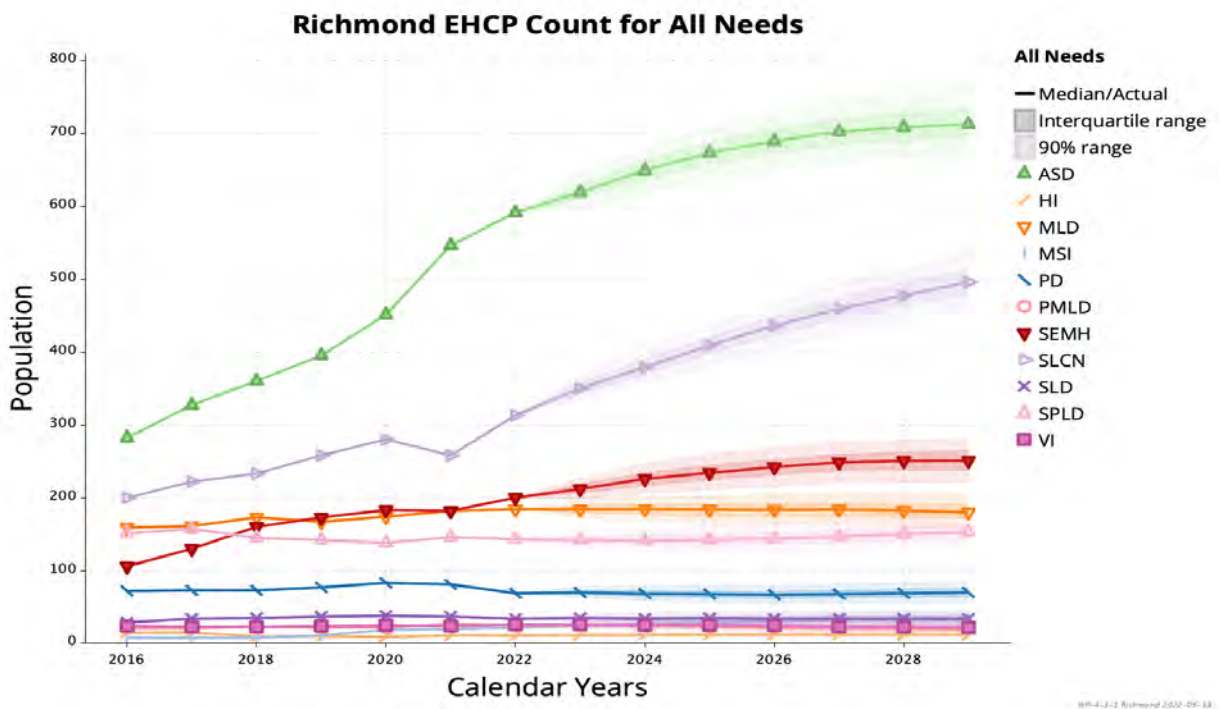
6.30 AfC and its data partner have analysed trends and created forecasts (using ONS population data) of the likely need for places in future years. The modelling includes how the new SEND places have filled, or will fill, gaps; and have impacted the costs of placements.

6.31 Recent and forecast EHCPs by National Curriculum years within the borough are as follows:

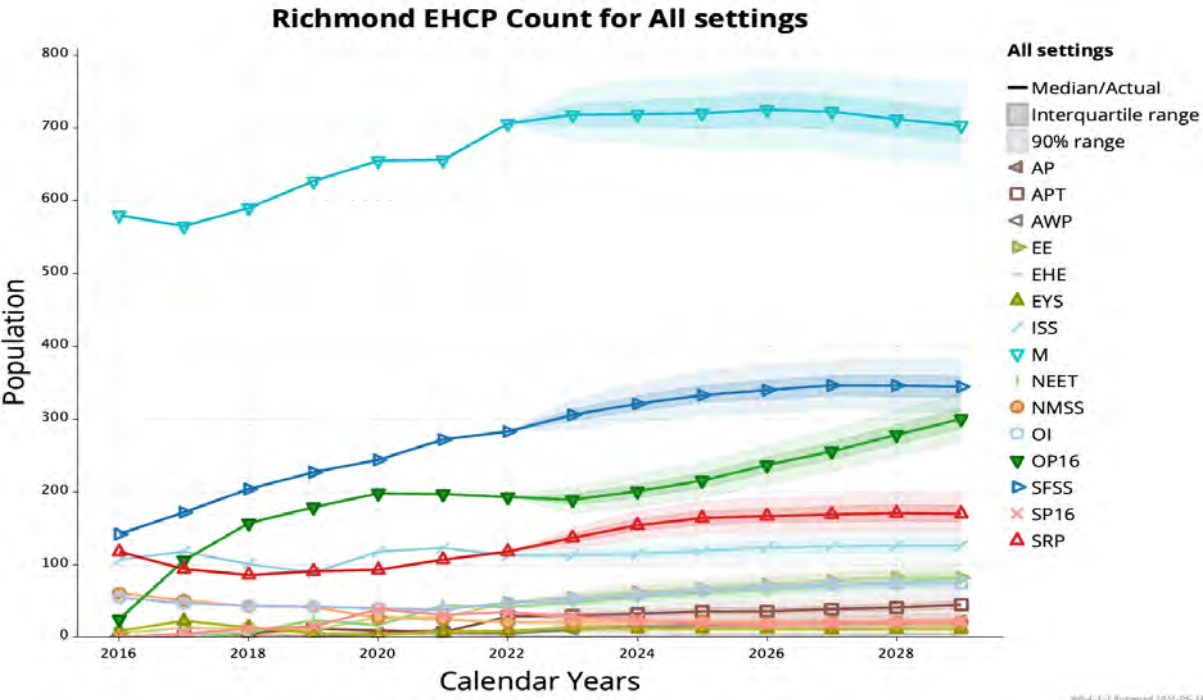


As can be seen, the steepest increases continue to be in the post-16 year-groups.

6.30 The chart below shows the forecast incidence of EHCPs by primary needs:



6.31 The chart below shows how the additional places recently, and set to be, provided, in state-funded special schools and specialist resource provisions have reduced / will reduce, the council’s dependence on the independent sector for SEND school places:



Mainstream schools (M) are forecast to continue to account for the largest proportion of EHCPs, with increased numbers of CYP in state-funded special schools (SFSS) and fewer, proportionally, in independent special schools (ISS) and non-maintained special schools (NMSS). The steepest increase is, as would be expected, in other post-16 settings (OP16), i.e. post-16 but not in mainstream or special school sixth forms, due, principally, to the extension, from 2014 onwards, of the upper age-limit for EHCPs from 21 to 25.

Other possible future project

6.32 A feasibility study has also been commissioned for an extension of Waldegrave School onto the adjacent Richmond-owned tennis courts site in Brunswick Close. This new build would, if feasible and approved, provide the following:

- A new space for the school’s existing SRP, with room to enable places for up to 10 girls.
- An additional space for the accommodation of a second SRP: to support 16 pupils who have Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs which are causing anxiety and entrenched Emotionally Related School Avoidance (ERSA), which potentially manifests itself in Autism/Social Communication needs. The 16 places would be divided between eight KS3 early intervention places and eight SRP EHCP KS4 places.
- Other resources including a new IT suite.
- The SRP spaces could be used, out of school hours, as a wellbeing centre for young adults with anxiety and more general mental health needs.

7. EARLY YEARS

- 7.1 19 of the 40 infant and primary schools in the borough have attached maintained nurseries, and there is one stand-alone nursery school, Windham. 12 of those 20 maintained nurseries are in the western half of the borough and eight are in the eastern half. Nelson Primary closed its maintained nursery at the end of the 2021/2022 school year. For the 2022/2023 school year, the 20 schools with attached maintained nurseries between them provide a total of 1,118 0.5FTE places, as detailed in the table below.

School	Places
Archdeacon Cambridge's C of E Primary	52
Barnes Primary	104
Buckingham Primary	52
Chase Bridge Primary	52
Collis Primary	100
Darell Primary	52
Hampton Infant	52
Hampton Wick Infant	52
Heathfield Infant	78
Holy Trinity C of E Primary	52
Lowther Primary	52
Meadlands Primary	52
Orleans Primary	52
Sacred Heart	26
St Edmund's Catholic Primary	52
St James's Catholic Primary	52
Stanley Primary	52
St Richard's C of E Primary	30
The Russell Primary	26
Windham Nursery	78
Total	1118

- 7.2 Except at Sacred Heart, St Richards's and The Russell, which have a morning session only, each school runs a morning and afternoon session, with half its total places in each session. The nurseries at Chase Bridge, St Edmund's and Sacred Heart are relatively recent additions to the maintained sector, having been private nurseries that were managed on the schools' sites. The council supports, and is working to fulfil, Carlisle Infant School's aspiration to establish a maintained nursery.
- 7.3 Each school allocates its own places in accordance with published oversubscription criteria. For the community schools, the nursery criteria are the same as for Reception class places, i.e. most places are allocated to siblings and on the basis of home-to-school distance. (However, it should be noted that attendance at the nursery or having a younger sibling at the nursery does not form part of the criteria for Reception entry.) Unlike for entry to Reception, the council does not coordinate applications for maintained nurseries.
- 7.4 Three quarters – 2,496 – of the 3,297 nursery places (Early Years Census, January 2022) taken up for three- and four-year-olds within the borough are within the PVI sector, i.e. the

majority are not free of charge. The council has a duty to secure the early education entitlement completely free of charge, and the very large majority of PVI providers charge additional fees due to the significant cost of running childcare business in the borough. Therefore, providing sufficient places that are entirely free is a significant challenge and they are mostly available in the state-funded schools which have maintained nursery classes. This places families with a low income at a further disadvantage.

- 7.5 St Richard's and Windham offer places to funded two-year-olds, equating to 10% of the 231 eligible children with places within the Borough (Early Years Census, January 2022). Some schools also offer places to funded two-year-olds within the nursery class who are 'rising three' where they have vacancies after the nursery admission process. Funded two-year-old places are usually targeted at those children who are siblings or who would be likely to obtain a Reception place through the school admission process in due course.
- 7.6 Some of the PVI nurseries also offer free places for eligible two-year-olds. Provision for two-year-olds to access early education places increased in 2014, when 40% of the population became eligible. The council has a duty to secure sufficient free places for two-year-olds, offering 570 hours a year, over no fewer than 38 weeks of the year for every child in their area who is either looked-after or who falls within the eligibility criteria for two-year-old funding and who should be able to move seamlessly into a nursery place which is entirely free.
- 7.7 All Early Years providers who offer the early education entitlement must adhere to the provisions of the DfE's Early Years Foundation Stage Framework.
- 7.8 From September 2017, for three- and four-year-olds, the council has had a statutory duty to secure early education places offering the extended 15 hours which will give 30 hours per week to children of working parents that meet the eligibility criteria. A number of schools offer some 'extended' six-hour day places to children eligible for the funding; the offer is normally where vacancies exist after the usual admission process. Some schools have a planned offer where they have identified ongoing vacancies or the offer meets the needs of the community. At the last census, in January 2022, 116 children out of 843 across the borough accessed extended funding at a school nursery. Most schools with an afternoon nursery now offer 30 hours. In addition a number of schools are now supporting their sustainability by offering different approaches to suit parental need, e.g. full-day care, or some extended day places with a fee-paying afternoon session to those families not eligible for 30-hours funding. Where schools offer fee-paying nursery places they are reminded of the expectation to apply admission criteria to prioritise funded place.
- 7.9 Many state-funded schools are reviewing their nursery class offer, as the number of children taking up places is decreasing. The introduction of the 30-hours offer along with an ongoing decrease in the number of providers offering a wrap-around child care provision appears to be resulting in a higher number of children remaining in PVI full day care until they join a Reception class.
- 7.10 Where sustainability of nurseries is a concern, AfC supports schools to review their offer, including: offering two-year-old or extended funding; introducing chargeable extended places for those children not eligible for funding; or offering chargeable offers such as lunch clubs, wrap-around or holiday care (either self-delivered or working in partnership

with a private provider). Schools are reminded to be aware of any review impacting on local PVI providers.

- 7.11 These offers support the schools' sustainability whilst meeting the wider needs of the local community, especially those of working families who otherwise have difficulty accessing a school nursery place.

8. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 The DfE has allocated a 'Basic Need' allocation of £2,192,886 to the Council for 2023/2024, and £1,554,422 for 2024/2025, taking the total Basic Need funding allocated to the Council since 2011 to £59,102,098¹⁷. Most of that money, supplemented by other funding (mostly preferential-rate borrowing and Section 106 receipts), has been spent on the primary school expansions outlined in paragraph 4.1.
- 8.2 An update to the Education Capital Programme¹⁸ was reported to the Council's Education and Children's Services Committee in September 2022.
- 8.3 The DfE have borne the capital costs of providing free school places. However, if the Council wishes to long-lease sites within its ownership for free school use, then it would need to balance the financial saving of school places being provided without it having to spend any capital against the loss of potential income from the rent or permanent disposal of such sites.
- 8.4 In addition to the capital costs, each expansion, whether permanent or temporary, would require revenue, to pay for seven-twelfths of the costs of a teacher, teaching assistant and other resources for the period from September to April, of c.£50,000. These costs are paid from the Dedicated Schools' Grant Schools' Block Growth Fund.
- 8.5 In March 2017, the DfE allocated £1,595,871 to the Council for SEND capital projects¹⁹, and later topped it up, with amounts of £371,133 and £742,266, making a total of £2,709,270, to be spent during the period from 2018 to 2021. This funding has been used to expand existing and establish new specialist resource provisions, as outlined in Sections 2 and 5.
- 8.6 Because Richmond has a 'Safety Valve' agreement with the DfE for the payment of £20m of additional revenue to the Council over five years, it was invited, in 2021, to bid for a share of £20m of additional High Needs Capital and was subsequently allocated £3,851,165.
- 8.7 It is probable that some Basic Need capital grant will have to be used to fill funding gaps for SEND capital projects, and then be back-filled by future High Needs Capital grant allocation funding.

9. CONTACTS

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¹⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/basic-need-allocations>.

¹⁸ <https://cabnet.richmond.gov.uk/documents/s99472/Education%20Capital%20Programme%202022-23.pdf>.

¹⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-provision-capital-funding-for-pupils-with-ehc-plans>.

Appendix 1: Reception class capacity, 2011–2022

Area	School	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Buckingham Primary	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	60**	60**
	Carlisle Infant	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Hampton Infant	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	90	120	120	120	120	120	120	120
	St Mary's CE, Hampton			30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
2	Collis Primary	90	90	90	<i>120</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>120</i>	<i>120</i>	90	90	90	90	90
	Hampton Wick Infant	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	60**	60**
	Sacred Heart Primary)	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	St Mary's & St Peter's P.	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
3	Archdeacon Cambridge's	60	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	St James's Catholic P	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Stanley Primary	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	90**	90**	90**	60**	60**
	Trafalgar Infant	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	60**	60**
	Twickenham Primary A.					60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
4	Bishop Perrin CE P.	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Chase Bridge Primary	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Heathfield Infant	<i>120</i>	90	120	120	120	120	120	120	90**	120	90**	90**
	Nelson Primary	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	60**	60**	60**	30**	60**
	St Edmund's Catholic P.	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
5	Deer Park					30	30	30	30	60	60	60	60
	Orleans Primary	<i>120</i>	60*	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	St Mary's CE Primary	60	90	90	<i>120</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	St Richard Reynolds P.			30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	St Stephen's CE Primary		60*	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
6	Holy Trinity CE Primary	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Marshgate Primary	60	60	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	St Elizabeth's Catholic P.	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30
	The Vineyard Primary	<i>90</i>	60	60	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
7	Darell Primary	43	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	60	60	60	60	30**	30**	30**	30**	30**
	Kew Riverside Primary	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	The Queen's CE Primary	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
8	East Sheen Primary	60	<i>90</i>	60	<i>90</i>	<i>90</i>	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
	Sheen Mount Primary	60	<i>90</i>	60	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
9	Barnes Primary	60	60	<i>90</i>	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	Lowther Primary	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	St Mary Magdalen's C. P.	<i>60</i>	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30
	St Osmund's Catholic P.	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30
	Thomson House			48	52	52	52	52	52	56	56	60	60
10	Meadlands Primary	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	The Russell Primary	30	30	30	<i>60</i>	<i>60</i>	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	St Richard's CE Primary	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
	Total	2,293	2,370	2,478	2,602	2,662	2,662	2,662	2,542	2,516	2,546	2,370	2,400

Figures in bold refer to permanent provision; those in italics are 'bulge' or 'shared form of entry' classes.

* Orleans and St Stephen's were converted from 3FE infant and junior schools in to 2FE all-though primaries in 2012.

** PAN temporarily reduced by 30 (or more).

Appendix 2: Secondary schools' capacity, 2012–2022

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Christ's	120	150	150	150	150	150	150	180*	150	180*	180*
Grey Court	210	210	210	210	240	240	240	240	240	240	256*
Hampton High	210	<i>180</i>	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Orleans Park	200	200	200	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216
Richmond Park Acad.	220	220	<i>180</i>	180	180	180	210*	180	180	180	180
The RuTS						150	150	150	150	150	150
St Richard Reynolds		150	150	150	150	150	150	150	180	180	180
Teddington	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	240
Turing House				100	125*	<i>100</i>	125	125	150	150	165*
Twickenham	200	<i>180</i>	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Waldegrave	200	200	200	216	216	216	216	216	216	216	216
Total	1600	1730	1690	1822	1877	2002	2057	2057	2082	2112	2143

Italics = decrease in PAN; bold = increase in PAN; * = temporary increase in PAN.

Appendix 3: Autumn 2022 primary and secondary numbers on roll

Half of boro.	Phase	Planning Area	School	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total			
West	Pri.	P1	Buckingham Primary	48	59	76	75	74	75	79									486		
			Carlisle Infant	84	77	90														251	
			Hampton Hill Junior				85	91	90	91										357	
			Hampton Infant	115	119	118														352	
			Hampton Junior				109	115	110	115										449	
			St Marys CE Primary (Hampton)	30	30	28	25	26	21	27											187
		P2	Collis Primary	86	90	90	89	90	117	90										652	
			Hampton Wick Infant	57	54	57														168	
			Sacred Heart Primary	15	23	24	26	32	23	28										171	
			St John the Baptist CE Junior				63	60	50	60										233	
			St Mary's and St Peter's CE Primary	84	89	90	90	87	88	86										614	
			Archdeacon Cambridge's CE Primary	57	60	60	59	57	57	60										410	
		P3	St James's Catholic Primary	88	93	89	92	92	83	90										627	
			Stanley Primary	52	65	80	63	83	71	84										498	
			Trafalgar Infant	46	62	78														186	
			Trafalgar Junior				73	55	76	75										279	
			Twickenham Primary Academy	52	60	57	60	45	59	60										393	
		P4	Bishop Perrin CE Primary	29	30	30	28	30	30	26										203	
			Chase Bridge Primary	86	90	88	87	82	88	86										607	
			Heathfield Infant	87	90	114														291	
			Heathfield Junior				79	110	118	117										424	
			Nelson Primary	47	29	32	46	35	51	46										286	
			St Edmund's Catholic Primary	58	60	60	60	57	59	59										413	
		P4	Deer Park	60	60	60	60	28	30	30										328	
			Orleans Primary	59	60	60	60	60	60	62										421	
			St Mary's CE Primary (Twickenham)	76	90	90	90	89	90	90										615	
			St. Richard Reynolds Catholic Primary	30	30	30	30	30	30	30										210	
			St Stephen's CE Primary	58	61	60	60	55	60	60										414	
			Total	1404	1481	1561	1509	1483	1536	1551											10525
			Sec.	S1	Hampton High									183	180	175	176	165			879
		Orleans Park											218	219	218	215	216	142	133	1361	
		St. Richard Reynolds Catholic High											178	180	180	150	147	136	113	1084	
		Teddington School											226	208	230	238	201	126	56	1285	
		The Richmond upon Thames School											147	151	149	148	150			745	
		Turing House School											163	151	150	123	125	72	51	835	
	Twickenham School											118	127	119	141	73			578		
	Waldegrave School											215	216	217	217	219	187	191	1462		
	Total												1448	1432	1438	1408	1296	663	544	8229	
	East	Pri.			P6	Holy Trinity CE Primary	45	44	60	59	43	57	59								367
			Marshgate Primary	60		60	59	60	58	60	58									415	
			St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary	30		30	29	32	30	31	49									231	
			The Vineyard Primary	85		90	90	90	86	89	89										619
			P7	Darell Primary	26	18	24	24	19	29	26										166
				Kew Riverside Primary	14	23	19	11	19	17	13										116
				The Queen's CE Primary	60	60	60	58	40	55	54										387
			P8	East Sheen Primary	85	83	91	81	78	68	88										574
				Sheen Mount Primary	90	90	88	85	75	72	73										573
P9			Barnes Primary	60	60	60	59	60	58	59										416	
			Lowther Primary	38	37	35	45	28	43	19										245	
			St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary	30	29	27	28	35	26	31										206	
			St Osmund's Catholic Primary	22	24	20	29	10	27	18										150	
			Thomson House	56	58	60	60	56	47	44										381	
P10		Meadlands Primary	27	29	30	30	30	30	31										207		
		St Richard's CE Primary	16	22	22	22	27	27	31										167		
		The Russell Primary	25	28	30	31	23	30	30										197		
		Total	769	785	804	804	717	766	772											5417	
Sec.		S2	Christ's School									180	180	154	184	155	101	82	1036		
			Grey Court School									256	248	247	245	244	173	151	1564		
			Richmond Park Academy									184	168	176	165	171	71	55	990		
			Total									620	596	577	594	570	345	288	3590		
Overall totals				2173	2266	2365	2313	2200	2302	2323	2068	2028	2015	2002	1866	1008	832	27761			

Appendix 4: Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll in autumn 2022 compared with initial and waiting-list offers

Half of boro.	Phase	Planning Area	School	Permanent PAN	2022 PAN	Reception			Year 7					
						Offers made	W/L offers	Numbers on roll	Offers made	W/L offers	Numbers on roll			
West	Pri.	P1	Buckingham Primary	90	60	46	13	48						
			Carlisle Infant	60	90	90	11	84						
			Hampton Infant	120	120	119	12	115						
			St Marys CE Primary (Hampton)	30	30	30	3	30						
		P2	Collis Primary	90	90	90	12	86						
			Hampton Wick Infant	90	60	60	13	57						
			Sacred Heart Primary	30	30	16	1	15						
			St Mary's and St Peter's CE Primary	90	90	90	6	84						
		P3	Archdeacon Cambridge' s CE Primary	60	60	55	8	57						
			St James's Catholic Primary	90	90	90	8	88						
			Stanley Primary	120	60	56	5	52						
			Trafalgar Infant	90	60	52	8	46						
		P4	Twickenham Primary Academy	60	60	60	4	52						
			Bishop Perrin CE Primary	30	30	30	6	29						
			Chase Bridge Primary	90	90	89	14	86						
			Heathfield Infant	120	90	77	19	87						
			Nelson Primary	90	60	44	6	47						
		P5	St Edmund's Catholic Primary	60	60	60	5	58						
			Deer Park	60	60	59	12	60						
			Orleans Primary	60	60	60	10	59						
	St Mary's CE Primary (Twickenham)		90	90	73	13	76							
	St. Richard Reynolds Catholic Primary		30	30	30	3	30							
			St Stephen's CE Primary	60	60	60	4	58						
			Total	1710	1530	1436	196	1404						
	Sec.	S1	Hampton High	180	180				181	41	183			
			Orleans Park	216	216				216	63	218			
			St. Richard Reynolds Catholic High	180	180				181	46	178			
Teddington School			240	240				270	94	226				
The Richmond upon Thames School			150	150				150	88	147				
Turing House School			150	165				165	100	163				
Twickenham School			180	180				210	46	118				
Waldegrave School			216	216				216	51	215				
		Total	1512	1527			1589	529	1448					
East	Pri.	P6	Holy Trinity CE Primary	60	60	55	15	45						
			Marshgate Primary	60	60	60	13	60						
			St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary	30	30	30	4	30						
			The Vineyard Primary	90	90	91	19	85						
		P7	Darell Primary	60	30	27	8	26						
			Kew Riverside Primary	30	30	16	7	14						
		P8	The Queen's CE Primary	60	60	59	14	60						
			East Sheen Primary	90	90	90	33	85						
		P9	Sheen Mount Primary	90	90	90	21	90						
			Barnes Primary	60	60	60	16	60						
	Lowther Primary		60	60	49	3	38							
	St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary		30	30	30	5	30							
	St Osmund's Catholic Primary		30	30	30	8	22							
	P10	Thomson House	60	60	60	16	56							
		Meadlands Primary	30	30	31	2	27							
		St Richard's CE Primary	30	30	19	0	16							
			The Russell Primary	30	30	26	4	25						
			Total	900	870	823	188	769						
	Sec.	S2	Christ's School	150	180							180	83	180
Grey Court School			240	256				270	66	256				
Richmond Park Academy			180	180				258	56	184				
Total			570	616				708	205	620				
		Reception - overall totals	2610	2400	2259	384	2173							
		Year 7 - overall totals	2082	2143			2297	734	2068					

Appendix 5: Autumn 2022 and 2021 Reception and Year 7 numbers on roll

Half of boro.	Phase	Planning Area	School	Reception 2022	Reception 2021	Change +/-	Year 7 2022	Year 7 2021	Change +/-
West	Pri.	P1	Buckingham Primary	48	60	-12			
			Carlisle Infant	84	68	16			
			Hampton Infant	115	119	-4			
			St Marys CE Primary (Hampton)	30	28	2			
		P2	Collis Primary	86	90	-4			
			Hampton Wick Infant	57	56	1			
			Sacred Heart Primary	15	20	-5			
			St Mary's and St Peter's CE Primary	84	88	-4			
		P3	Archdeacon Cambridge' s CE Primary	57	60	-3			
			St James's Catholic Primary	88	92	-4			
			Stanley Primary	52	62	-10			
			Trafalgar Infant	46	58	-12			
		P4	Twickenham Primary Academy	52	60	-8			
			Bishop Perrin CE Primary	29	29	0			
			Chase Bridge Primary	86	90	-4			
			Heathfield Infant	87	88	-1			
			Nelson Primary	47	30	17			
			St Edmund's Catholic Primary	58	60	-2			
			Deer Park	60	60	0			
	Orleans Primary		59	60	-1				
	St Mary's CE Primary (Twickenham)		76	86	-10				
	St. Richard Reynolds Catholic Primary		30	30	0				
		St Stephen's CE Primary	58	60	-2				
		Total	1404	1454	-50				
	Sec.	S1	Hampton High				183	184	-1
			Orleans Park				218	218	0
St. Richard Reynolds Catholic High						178	178	0	
Teddington School						226	196	30	
The Richmond upon Thames School						147	150	-3	
Turing House School						163	150	13	
Twickenham School						118	111	7	
Waldegrave School						215	218	-3	
	Total				1448	1405	43		
East	Pri.	P6	Holy Trinity CE Primary	45	33	12			
			Marshgate Primary	60	55	5			
			St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary	30	29	1			
			The Vineyard Primary	85	86	-1			
		P7	Darell Primary	26	22	4			
			Kew Riverside Primary	14	25	-11			
			The Queen's CE Primary	60	60	0			
		P8	East Sheen Primary	85	76	9			
			Sheen Mount Primary	90	90	0			
		P9	Barnes Primary	60	60	0			
			Lowther Primary	38	42	-4			
			St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Primary	30	30	0			
			St Osmund's Catholic Primary	22	29	-7			
	P10	Thomson House	56	60	-4				
		Meadlands Primary	27	30	-3				
		St Richard's CE Primary	16	20	-4				
		The Russell Primary	25	24	1				
		Total	769	771	-2				
	Sec.	S2	Christ's School				180	177	3
			Grey Court School				256	247	9
Richmond Park Academy						184	166	18	
Total						620	590	30	
	Overall totals		2173	2225	-52	2068	1995	73	

Appendix 6: Special school and specialist resource provision capacity

Special schools

School	Age-range	Designation	Date of opening (if applicable)	Number of places / centres
Capella House	Reception to Year 13	SLCN (but may also have social communication needs. Although the attainment profile of pupils may be a couple of years below age related expectations they may also be exemplified by an uneven attainment profile across all subjects.)	Already open	72, across two centres: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary: Amyand Park Road, Twickenham Secondary: Egerton Road, Twickenham
Clarendon	Reception to Year 11	MLD	Already open	160, across three centres: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary: Buckingham Road, Hampton Secondary: Egerton Road, Twickenham Gateway (secondary): Percy Road, Whitton
Clarendon Gateway	Year 7 to Year 11	ASC	Already open	
Strathmore	Reception to Year 14	Severe and complex learning difficulties including those with an additional diagnosis of autism and/or physical/sensory disabilities	Already open To open in Sept.	104, across four centres, on four mainstream schools' sites: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Russell Primary: EY/KS1/2; Grey Court: KS3, KS4 , KS5; St Richard Reynolds: EY/KS1, KS1/2, KS2/3, KS3, KS3/4, KS4/5 Darell Primary: EY/KS1, open; KS2, to open in September

			2024	2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hampton centre, next to Hampton High, KS3/4, to open in September 2024 																																				
London River Academy	Year 3 to Year 13	SEMH	September 2025	90. Numbers are expected to build up as follows: <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>2025</th> <th>2026</th> <th>2027</th> <th>2028</th> <th>2029</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Key stage 2 (Y3-6)</td> <td>6</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> <td>12</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Key stage 3 (Y7-9)</td> <td>24</td> <td>36</td> <td>36</td> <td>36</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Key stage 4 (Y10-11)</td> <td>0</td> <td>12</td> <td>24</td> <td>24</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16-19</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>9</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Totals</td> <td>30</td> <td>60</td> <td>72</td> <td>81</td> <td>90</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	Key stage 2 (Y3-6)	6	12	12	12	12	Key stage 3 (Y7-9)	24	36	36	36	36	Key stage 4 (Y10-11)	0	12	24	24	24	16-19	0	0	0	9	18	Totals	30	60	72	81	90
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029																																			
Key stage 2 (Y3-6)	6	12	12	12	12																																			
Key stage 3 (Y7-9)	24	36	36	36	36																																			
Key stage 4 (Y10-11)	0	12	24	24	24																																			
16-19	0	0	0	9	18																																			
Totals	30	60	72	81	90																																			

Specialist resource provisions

School	Age-range	Designation	Date of opening (if applicable)	Number of places
Windham Nursery	Nursery	ASC	Already open	15 (part-time places)
Darell Primary	Reception to Year 6	MLD	Already open; KS2 opened in 2019	18
East Sheen Primary	Reception to Year 6	SEMH	Already open	6: 3 in KS1 and 3 in KS2: no more than 2 pupils per year group

Hampton Hill Junior	Year 3 to Year 6	SEMH	Already open	6: no more than 2 pupils per year group
Heathfield Infant and Heathfield Junior	Reception to Year 6	ASC	Already open	No more than 18 across the two schools: 6–9 in Reception/KS1, 8–12 in KS2
Heathfield Junior	Year 3 to Year 6	SEMH	Already open	4
St James's Catholic Primary	Reception to Year 6	ASC	Already open	10: no more than 2 pupils per year group
Stanley Primary	Reception to Year 6	ASC	Already open	21: usually no more than 3 per year group (expanded from 18 in January 2022)
The Vineyard Primary	Reception to year 6	ASC	September 2023	2023: 4 2024: 6 2025: 10 2026:14
Grey Court	Year 7 to Year 11	SLCN	Already open	8
Hampton High	Year 7 to 11	ASC	Already open	20, building up as follows: 2021: 4 in KS3 2022: 8 in KS3 2023: 12 in KS3, 4 in KS4 2024: 12 in KS3, 8 in KS4
Orleans Park	Year 7 to	SpLD	Already open	10: usually no more than 3 per year group

	Year 11			
Teddington	Year 7 to Year 11	SEMH	Already open	10, building up as follows: 2022: 4 2023: 6 2024: 10
Waldegrave	Year 7 to Year 11	ASC	Already open	8: girls-only

Key:

ASC – Autistic Spectrum Condition

MLD – Moderate Learning Difficulties

SEMH – Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs

SLCN – Speech, Language and Communication Needs

SpLD – Specific Learning Difficulties

Appendix 7: Growth in SEND school places, 2017–2030

School	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Windham Nursery (ASC)	8	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
Darell Primary (MLD)	8	8	13	15	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
East Sheen Primary (SEMH)	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Hampton Hill Junior (SEMH)	3	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Heathfield Infant and Junior (ASC)	12	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
Heathfield Junior (SEMH)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
St James's Catholic Primary (ASC)	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Stanley Primary (ASC)	18	18	18	18	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
The Vineyard Primary (ASC)							4	10	14	14	14	14	14	14
Christ's (SpLD)	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Grey Court (SLCN)	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Hampton High (ASC)					4	8	16	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Orleans Park (SpLD)	6	10	10	10	10	10	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Richmond Park Academy (SEMH)			3	6	10									
Teddington (SEMH)						10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Waldegrave (ASC)	6	6	6	6	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Capella House (SLCN)			14	24	48	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
Clarendon (MLD/ASC)	130	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160
Strathmore (SCLD)	85	98	98	98	98	104	112	120*	128	134	134	128	128	128
London River Academy (SEMH)								20	40	48	54	60	60	60
Spring School (ASC)							12	18	24	26	28	30	30	30
Totals	307	374	396	411	450	485	511	555	593	611	625	633	633	633

* Subject to DfE approval of business case