

School Place Planning Needs Assessment Swindon School Places 2024-2028

1 Contents

2	Introduction and the purpose of this plan.....	6
3	Government Regulations, Guidance and Policies.....	7
3.1	Duties to provide for students aged 5-16.....	7
3.2	Duties to provide for students aged 14-19.....	7
3.3	Legislation.....	7
3.4	The Process of School Commissioning	9
3.5	Primary Planning	9
	Provision for children aged 4 – 11 at primary, infant and junior schools.....	9
3.6	Secondary Planning	9
	Provision for children aged 11 – 16 at secondary schools.....	9
3.7	Working with schools and other local authorities	11
3.8	How do we forecast the demand for school places?.....	11
3.9	Surplus places.....	12
3.10	Methodology.....	12
3.11	Secondary Needs FE.....	13
4	Vision for Swindon	14
5	The Current Position in Swindon.....	14
5.1	Swindon's population	14
6	Swindon Births.....	17
6.1	Primary Care Trust data (PCT)	17
6.2	Pupil Forecasts	17
6.3	The population in Swindon	18
6.4	Overall School Place Needs	19
6.5	Existing Pressure.....	20
6.5.1	Bar graph of overall cohort size by year group.....	20
7	NEV New Eastern Villages.....	22
7.1	Borough-wide Secondary School Pressures.....	23
7.2	Transport of pupils	23
8	Re-organisation of schools.....	24
8.1	Primary schools	24
8.2	Secondary schools	24
8.3	Academy Free Schools	24
9	Capital investment	25
9.1	High Needs Provision Capital Allocations – 2022/2024.....	25
9.2	Accessibility of school buildings - Inclusivity	25
9.3	Admissions Code	25
10	School Planning Areas.....	27
10.1	Primary Schools within Planning Areas.....	29

10.2	Secondary Schools within Planning Areas	29
11	North Swindon	31
11.1	Schools in North Swindon	31
11.2	North Swindon Primary Schools	31
11.3	North Central Primary Schools	32
11.4	North and North Central Secondary Schools	32
11.5	Primary (Split by North and North Central Planning areas).....	32
11.6	Births in North Swindon.....	32
11.7	Existing North Area Primary School Pressure	33
11.8	What have we done previously?	34
11.9	Growth from housing development	34
11.10	Total Demand.....	34
11.11	What are we doing?.....	35
11.12	Primary North Central Planning Area.....	35
11.13	Births in North Central Swindon	35
11.14	Existing North Central Area Primary School Pressure	35
11.15	What have we done previously?	36
11.16	Growth from housing development	36
11.17	Total Demand.....	36
11.18	What are we doing?.....	36
11.19	Secondary in North Swindon	36
11.20	Existing Secondary North Swindon School Pressure	36
11.21	What have we done previously?	37
11.22	Growth from housing development	37
11.23	Total Demand.....	37
11.24	What are we doing?.....	38
11.25	Schools in Central Swindon	38
11.26	Central Primary Schools	38
11.27	Central Secondary Schools	39
11.28	Births in Central Swindon.....	39
11.29	Existing Central Area Primary School Pressure	40
11.30	What have we done previously?	40
11.31	Growth from housing development	41
11.32	Total Demand.....	41
11.33	What are we doing?.....	41
11.34	Secondary in Central Swindon.....	42
11.35	Existing Central Area Secondary School Pressure	42
11.36	Growth from housing development	42
11.37	Total Demand.....	43
11.38	What are we doing?.....	43

11.39	Schools in East Swindon.....	43
11.40	East Secondary Schools.....	44
11.41	Births in East Swindon	44
11.42	Existing East Primary Place Pressure.....	45
11.43	What have we done previously?	45
11.44	Growth from housing development	46
11.45	Total Demand.....	46
11.46	What are we doing?.....	46
11.47	Secondary in East Swindon	47
11.48	Growth from housing development	48
11.49	Total Demand.....	48
11.50	What are we doing?.....	48
12	West Swindon	49
12.1	Schools in West Swindon	49
12.2	West Primary Schools	49
12.3	West Secondary Schools	49
12.4	Births in West Swindon.....	49
12.5	Existing West Primary Pressure	50
12.6	Growth from housing development	51
12.7	Total Demand.....	51
12.8	What are we doing?.....	51
12.9	Secondary in West Swindon.....	51
12.10	Growth from housing development	52
12.11	Total Demand.....	52
12.12	What are we doing?.....	53
13	Rural Swindon	54
13.1	Rural North	54
13.2	Schools in Rural North	54
13.3	Rural North Primary Schools	54
13.4	Rural North Secondary Schools	54
13.5	Births in Rural North	54
13.6	Existing Rural North Primary Place Pressure	55
13.7	Growth from housing development	56
13.8	Total Demand.....	56
13.9	What are we doing?.....	56
13.10	Secondary in Rural North Swindon	56
13.11	What have we done previously?	57
13.12	Growth from housing development	57
13.13	Total Demand.....	57
13.14	What are we doing?.....	57

13.15	Rural South	57
13.16	Schools in the Rural South	57
13.17	Secondary Schools in the Ridgeway.....	58
13.18	Births in Rural South	58
13.19	Existing Rural South Primary Place Pressure	58
13.20	Growth from housing development	59
13.21	Total Demand.....	59
13.22	What are we doing?.....	59
13.23	Secondary in Rural South Swindon	59
13.24	What have we done previously?	60
13.25	Growth from housing development	60
13.26	Total Demand.....	60
13.27	What are we doing?.....	60
School Places Strategy 2023 – 2032: Implementation Plan.....		62
14	Primary Planning Areas – Pressure Table.....	63
15	Secondary Planning Areas – Pressure Table.....	65
	65

2 Introduction and the purpose of this plan

Swindon Borough Council has a statutory duty to ensure that there are enough school places in the Town to meet demand. The Council must therefore plan, organise and commission places for all state-funded schools in Swindon so that high standards are maintained, diverse school communities created and fluctuating pupil numbers are managed efficiently.

The demand for school places changes over time - this document is considered to be 'live' and, as such, will require regular updates. It sets out where the council currently thinks there will be a need to provide more school places and if there may be a need to provide fewer places over the next ten years. Increases in demand can lead to the creation of a new school or the expansion of schools, whereas decreases in demand can lead to a reduction in school provision; which needs to be managed very carefully.

Predicting school demand is a complex task because where children go to school involves a range of different and often conflicting factors and, as a result, planning for school places is based on probabilities, not certainties. This means that while projections may be made from robust calculations, they do not offer any guarantees.

It is important for us to be as open and transparent as possible when considering school organisation decisions. We strive to communicate effectively with schools and school communities about the school place pressures in their area. However, the council must also endeavour to manage expectations regarding school organisation proposals that are less certain. This document does not seek to definitively set out all the actions the council intends to take in the future, but rather is intended to provide an overview of issues that may arise in Swindon. Generally speaking, the council will only name particular schools in this document when there is sufficient assurance that a proposal will be implemented or where this has already taken place.

3 Government Regulations, Guidance and Policies

3.1 Duties to provide for students aged 5-16

The law requires that a child is in receipt of an education and that provision is made for that education from the first term they begin as a five year old to the end of the academic year in which their sixteenth birthday falls, either at a school or otherwise. Some parents will choose to educate their children independently, either at independent schools, via parental provision or otherwise, whereas others will send their children to maintained schools inside or outside of the Borough of Swindon. Some children are educated in special schools or in a setting other than a school because of their special educational needs. Swindon Borough Council offers a school place to any resident applicant between 5 and 16 years old, whether they end up accepting the school place or not.

3.2 Duties to provide for students aged 14-19

The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 places Local Authorities as the lead strategic commissioners of 14-19 education and training. Swindon Borough Council therefore has a duty to ensure that sufficient and appropriate education and training opportunities are accessible to this age group.

3.3 Legislation

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (legislation.co.uk) sets out how LA's should exercise their statutory duties to secure primary and secondary education to meet the needs of the population in their area. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 enhanced the role of LA's making them strategic commissioners of services with a mandate to promote high standards for all and greater choice and diversity. The Education and Inspections Act 1996 Section 14A added by section 3 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires LA's to consider and respond appropriately to parental representations about school provision in relation to LA's functions under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996. LA's must reasonably consider parental representations regarding provision of schools and respond accordingly, including outlining any proposed action or where it considers, action is not needed, to explain the reasons for this.

The Education Act 2011 maintains the role of the LA as the strategic commissioner of services but provides greater autonomy of education provision through the encouragement of the establishment of academies, free schools, studio schools and Enterprise Colleges that are independent of the LA. The Act gave the LA a critical new role as strengthened champions of choice, securing a wide range of education options for parents and families, ensuring there are sufficient high quality school places, co-ordinating fair admissions, promoting social justice by supporting vulnerable children, and challenging schools which fail to improve. Updated guidance issued by the Department of Education (DFE) in 2018 reaffirmed the role of LA's. Alongside Academies, LA's play a key role in ensuring there is a coordinated approach to place management and meeting the strategic needs of their areas.

The Education Act 1996 Section 14 provides that in respect of provision in primary and secondary school, in carrying out their duty to provide sufficient school places for the area,

LA's must have particular regard to the need to secure Special Educational Needs provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

. All LA's and LA Maintained schools must follow the statutory guidance when making any changes, including school closures. Guidance for Opening, Closing and making changes to schools was last updated in August 2022. In addition LA's have to follow the Making a Significant Changes (prescribed alterations) to maintained schools that were last changed in January 2023. These apply to governing bodies, LAs and decision makers.

There is different guidance for academy trusts planning to make organisational changes or close an academy by mutual agreement with the Secretary of Stat. The latest update on the 30th January 2023 at Academies: making significant changes or closure by agreement'.

When the LA determines that there is a need for a new school it must follow the 'Establishing a new academy: free school presumption' process. This was last updated on the 30th January 2023.

In changing or increasing provision, the council is required in certain circumstances to seek and consider bids from external providers including trusts and other educational organisations. Government legislation dictates that any new schools must be either an Academy or a Free School, so the borough council welcomes approaches from appropriate bodies proposing sponsorship arrangements for new or reorganised schools or academies. The council values diversity in its school provision and, within our guidelines, individual cases will always be judged on their merits.

Under Swindon Borough Council's scheme of delegation, decisions relating to school organisation within the remit of the council are delegated to the lead member for Education, , except in the case of opening or closing schools, where the Cabinet will make the final decision.

3.4 The Process of School Commissioning

3.5 Primary Planning

Provision for children aged 4 – 11 at primary, infant and junior schools

In considering changes to provision or the creation of new provision in the primary sector, the council will plan on the following principles:

- Published Admissions Numbers (PANs) for primary schools will not normally be less than 30 or greater than 120, and will normally be multiples of 30.
- The council will avoid arrangements that involve large admission intakes outside the common admission points at Reception and Year 3.
- The council prefers to provide all through primary schools, rather than separate infant and junior schools, to provide continuity between Key Stages 1 and 2.
- However, the council will have to regard existing local arrangements where these are clearly beneficial to education, such as to maintain a feeder link between an infant and a junior school, or reducing transport needs in rural areas.
- The council will seek to strengthen existing links between feeder schools if the opportunity arises.
- At present, all primary school provision is co-educational, and the council anticipates that future arrangements will conform to this pattern.
- The council will seek to maintain smaller schools where the quality of provision is high and where the school offers value for money.

3.6 Secondary Planning

Provision for children aged 11 – 16 at secondary schools

In considering changes to provision or the creation of new provision in the secondary phase, the council will plan on the following principles:

- PANs for secondary schools will not normally be less than 150 or greater than 310, and will normally be multiples of 30.
- All Swindon secondary provision is co-educational and the council expects any new provision to conform to this pattern. This is because the creation of a single sex school in isolation gives rise to gender inequalities in the provision of school places.
- Before commissioning additional provision, it will be considered whether demand could be met through use of latent and vacant capacity in neighbouring planning areas, where these are within a reasonable distance. What factors do we consider in making school organisational changes?

A variety of factors may lead to the council making proposals for changes in school provision (these would apply to nursery and college provision too). As the list below indicates, the

supply and demand of school places is only one of the factors that the council will consider, other factors include:

- Changes in the population and/or the continuing demand for places in an area
- Opportunities to make positive educational developments
- Opportunities to regularise local arrangements to accord with general Swindon arrangements
- The quality of education provided by the school according to recent performance data and Ofsted inspections
- The objective results and data for the institution in question in relation to public examinations or national tests
- The comparison of these results to those of other local and/or other similar schools
- The value that the school can be shown to be adding to the educational achievement of pupils
- The popularity of the school with local residents and wider user groups
- Parental preference for the school
- The prospects for the school of remaining or becoming viable in terms of admission numbers
- Indicators that the institution has a good understanding of the challenges it faces and the ability and determination to tackle these challenges
- Indicators as to whether the institution is able to make a sound educational offer within its allocated budget
- The feasibility of physical capacity of the school site
- Compliance with planning regulations
- Financial feasibility
- Maintaining or enhancing the diversity of provision.

Proposals to change nursery, school or college organisation will be designed to ensure that the interests of existing pupils, students and service-users are protected and advanced. The council will not, however, refuse to take action necessary to the long-term interests of Swindon residents because this causes short-term difficulties or disruption.

Schools operate most efficiently and effectively when full or nearly full. To this end, the council seeks to keep the number of vacant places (those that are surplus to requirements) to a minimum. The National Audit Commission recommends that there should be approximately a 5% surplus of places in an area to allow flexibility in responding to parental preference and to account for unexpected changes in pupil numbers (such as pupils moving into the area). There is and will be pockets of high surplus places within the town following the national trend. Where schools are impacted significantly, the LA will work with Head Teachers and Governors to reduce surplus where necessary. In the East area, a higher level of surplus will be deemed necessary in order to accommodate early residents in the New Eastern Village (NEV) in lieu of the new schools planned.

3.7 Working with schools and other local authorities

The council wishes to work closely with all schools in Swindon, irrespective of their school status. This includes maintained, voluntary aided/controlled, foundation, free schools and academies. The council has built and maintains a strong professional relationship with all current Swindon free schools and academies, and places at these schools are taken into account within strategic planning to ensure a sufficiency of school places.

In planning the provision of school places, the council will take account of demands from residents of other local authority areas and vice versa. This information is shared with other local authorities and will increase or decrease the estimates of demand within the borough according to where these pressures occur geographically.

3.8 How do we forecast the demand for school places?

The council works with schools and governing bodies to address supply and demand issues in the shorter and longer term.

In order to carry out pupil forecasts effectively, the borough must be split up into different 'planning areas'. Any decisions on changes to school provision (such as the expansion or contraction of schools) are taken within the context of these planning areas. In Swindon, there are both primary and secondary planning areas.

We forecast our demand for school places based on planning areas. Please see Page 30 for [School Planning Areas](#).

Birth data underpins all forecasts. Birth data is collected by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) by electoral ward. Alongside birth data, the council also collects data on pupil movement trends from the School Census and examines pupil movement between schools; in and out of the borough, and between educational stages i.e. transferring from primary to secondary school. These trends are combined with birth and housing data in specialist demographic forecasting in-house, which creates pupil projections or forecasts. These pupil projections allow the council to commission adequate educational provision to ensure that every Swindon child who requires a school place is offered one.

School place demand is based on planning areas. These are based on where children choose to go to school more so than where they live. This is because, when it comes to applying for a school place, parents/carers are under no obligation to apply for their nearest maintained school, and could instead express a preference for a school outside of their town, borough/district or county, or choose independent schooling for their child. The council strives to meet parental preference where possible, and analysing historic pupil movement trends enables the planning of school places to take preference patterns in an area into consideration. Swindon Borough Council's planning is effective in this regard and for September 2024, the council was able to offer a place at the 1st preference primary school to 98.6% and 99.8% to 1-3 preferences allocated of reception applicants. For secondary applicants, 91% were allocated their 1st preference and 98% to 1-3 preferences.

This document largely focuses on the main 'intake' years – Reception year for infant and primary schools; Year 3 for junior schools and Year 7 for secondary schools. These are the most recently admitted year groups, and so the first that will show the effects of a change in birth rate and the best reflection of current parental attitudes to schools. Therefore, pupil

projections or forecasts are based on how many children are predicted to require a school place in these 'intake' year groups in a given area. This number is then evaluated against the number of school places in the relevant year group in that planning area and action is then required if the demand significantly outstrips the supply (or vice versa).

3.9 Surplus places

This report recommends that, despite the financial challenges associated with accommodating growth, around 5% surplus places be maintained at secondary school level and 5% at primary school level. The LA will work with schools in order to reduce significant surplus where possible. The key reasons are as follows:

- Scale of growth – Flexibility is needed within the school infrastructure as the large scale of the housing growth creates a high degree of uncertainty in predicting long-term pupil place need. This, in particular, is necessary in terms of predicting the peak number of pupils at any point. The numbers and ages of the pupils from a housing development will depend on the building rate and the 'type' of housing being built. The latter is tied to the general economic climate with developers choosing not to build if the houses will not be occupied.
- The Swindon Peak – Surplus places will be extremely important in managing any possible temporary peak in school place demand associated with growth in the town. If any peak in demand is not managed the Borough may have to provide even more school places that could then become surplus in the future.

3.10 Methodology

The current pupil forecasting method used by Children's Services at Swindon Borough Council is the cohort survival method. To predict the number of school places that will be needed the cohort survival method incorporates and assesses the following information for each primary school based area:

- The number of children born based on post code related statistics provided by the Primary Health Care Trust.
- The proportion expected to enter school based on past experience.
- The "survival" of that cohort as it moves through school taking account of net migration which occurs in relation to schools' popularity.
- The effects of housing development in their area.
- Those who may need education in other establishments such as special schools.
- The likely transfer to each secondary school.
- And, for each secondary school, a similar "survival" method, particularly taking account of transfer rates to the sixth form if there is one.

Using this method, forecasts are produced for:

- Primary pupil numbers available by school, by area and year group up to 2028.

- Secondary pupil numbers available by school (total number on roll - NOR) to 2030.
- Area level projections including new housing. These are assessed using simple multipliers of 0.32 for primary and 0.17 for secondary aged children per new dwelling. Figures are in accordance with the most up to date DfE Pupil Yield Dashboard figures.
- Housing and demographic growth areas up to 2036.

A robust calculation methodology with a high degree of accuracy is critical to successful pupil place planning. The DfE produce LA scorecards for school place planning forecasting, the latest accuracy scores for Swindon primary phase over one year is 98.5% accurate and over three years 98.7%. This compares to a national average of 99.9% over one year and 100% over three years, some authorities have overestimated up to 9.3%.

Secondary phase forecasting over one year is 99.9% accurate and over three years is 97.6% accurate. This compares with a national average of 98.6% over one year and 97.4% over three years. Swindon's accuracy percentage compares very favourably with the national average, with some authorities overestimating up to 7.6%. Primary Needs FE

No. of houses	X	Primary pupil yield (0.32)	/	No. of primary year groups (7)	=	No. of primary pupils	/ 30	=	No of Forms of Entry (FE)

3.11 Secondary Needs FE

No. of houses	X	Secondary pupil yield (0.17)	/	No. of secondary year groups (5)	=	No. of secondary pupils	/ 30	=	No of Forms of Entry (FE)

Potential primary school and secondary school sites have been provisionally assessed within an Education Land Availability Assessment (ELAA) using the following headings:

- Accessibility e.g. Potential routes to school, access to public transport and impact on the existing transport network.
- Site Conditions e.g. Flood risk, availability.
- School Place Demand.
- Links to other strategies e.g. One Swindon, Leisure strategy.

This report identifies possible site changes and options for change i.e. a new build or expansion. Any proposals remain subject to a detailed options appraisal, feasibility studies, funding and building planning permission. As part of the community, consultation over further developments detailed discussions will be held with Head teachers and Governing Bodies.

4 Vision for Swindon

A good education is fundamental to supporting Swindon's children and young people to reach their potential. We will support and challenge our schools so that every pupil is given the opportunity to learn and achieve. We are striving to be one of the highest performing areas in England. Skills are both the means to, and the end product, of a highly productive economy. We will work to improve access to higher education in Swindon as part of a wider focus on skills development.

In July 2024, the Council's Cabinet agreed to prioritise three 10-year missions to help ensure Swindon and everyone on the community can flourish and thrive in the future:

- **Build a Fairer Swindon** – make Swindon a fairer place, reduce disadvantage and reduce big disparities in life expectancy, education levels and social justice
- **Build a Better Swindon** – create a town ready for the challenges of the coming decades. Where possible, lead town centre improvement and create more affordable housing in partnership with the private sector.
- **Build a Greener Swindon** – fully play our part as a Council and a town in combatting climate change. Work with communities to find new ways of doing things that help, not hinder, the natural environment.

This success for School Place Planning will be measured by:

- Ensuring sufficient school places in Swindon for Swindon residents
- Measuring levels of attainment in Swindon schools.
- Reporting monthly on the delivery of our projects.
- Making new schools the heart of the community.
- Committing to achieving Net Zero in operation for any new schools where viable.

5 The Current Position in Swindon

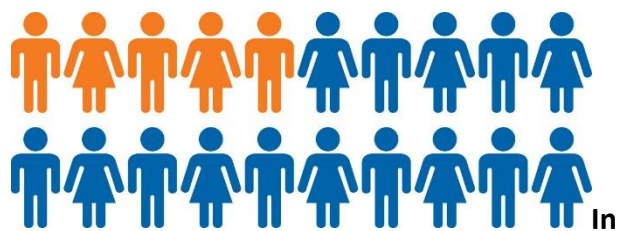
5.1 Swindon's population

Swindon is a densely populated town in England. The population density is 966 per km², compared with a South West average of 236 per km² and a UK average of 275 per km².

Swindon's population has increased every year since 1987. Based on the most recent mid-year population estimates, in 2021 there were 233,407 people living in Swindon borough, an increase of 11.6% over the last 10 years.

This upward trend can largely be explained by net inward migration, as Swindon is a net importer of people.

Swindon is made up of diverse rural and urban communities, including minority ethnic communities. Data from the 2021 census indicates that 81.5% of Swindon's population identify themselves as being White. The remaining 18.5% are made up of people from minority ethnic communities.



In January 2023, 5 out of 20 pupils in Swindon's Schools identified themselves as being from a non-white ethnic group.

In total, 148 languages other than English are spoken by children and young people in the borough's schools as per the school census from May 2023. Approximately 22% of Swindon's school population speak a language other/in addition to English

The majority of pupils in Swindon attend a school that has no religious character. However, there are 16 schools in Swindon which profess to have a religious character, either Church of England or Roman Catholic. These schools with a religious character are made up of Voluntary Aided Schools or Academy Trusts.

Swindon School Types In May 2023, the Swindon schools included the following school types:

School Type	Infant	Primary	Junior	Secondary	All Through	PRU	Special Schools	Total
Community	1	9	1			1	1	13
Academy	-	10	-	3				13
Voluntary Controlled		1						1
Trust	4	29	4	7	1		5	50
Free	-	4	-	3			1	8
Voluntary Aided	1	1	1					3
Total	6	54	6	13	1	1	7	88

Swindon schools are broadly grouped into phases, usually by the age range of children that they teach, or the type of education that they provide e.g. those providing a specialist education for pupils with special educational needs or alternative learning requirements.

Swindon Schools as at May 2023:

<i>Infant schools</i>	6
<i>Junior Schools</i>	6
<i>Primary Schools</i>	54
<i>Secondary Schools</i>	13
<i>Special Schools</i>	7
<i>Specially Resources Provisions</i>	14
<i>All Through Schools</i>	1
<i>Pupil Referral Units</i>	1
<i>UTC</i>	1

There are also 7 sixth forms in schools and 1 further education college, 3 Special post 16 institute and 1 independent school.

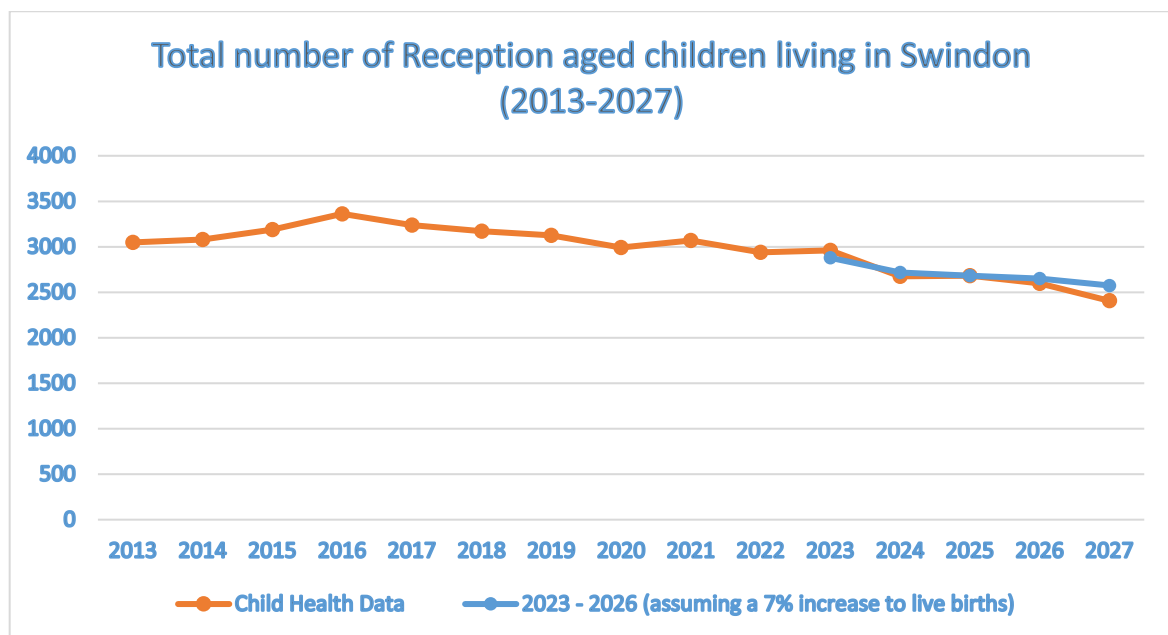
6 Swindon Births

The key factors likely to have the greatest influence on managing school places across Swindon over the next 5 years include the birth rate, housing developments and migration.

The following data include birth data in Swindon up to 2023.

6.1 Primary Care Trust data (PCT)

The demographic trend in the primary school age population is largely driven by the birth rate and subsequently influenced by housing developments and migration bringing in additional children to the area. The number of children for a given year of birth is captured through the data sent by the Primary Care Trust (PCT). The PCT data takes into account the number of births, as well as those who have subsequently moved into the Borough. As a consequence, the number of children recorded in the area has a tendency to increase from the year of birth to the year the Children enter Reception. Analysis of recent datasets suggests that over 5 years' worth of PCT data the number of children increases by ~7.0%.



The number of children reaching Reception age in Swindon increased between 2013 and 2016 from 3048 to 3362. After 2016, the numbers have declined steadily to 2878 in 2023. The PCT data indicates this trend will continue, with ~2406 Reception age children expected in Swindon in 2027 (assuming the numbers increase in line with expectations).

6.2 Pupil Forecasts

It is recommended that the best guide for the potential number of Reception age children is to use the PCT data that has been modified to account for the increase in the years leading up to Reception and the discrepancy between the number of children and Reception admissions. These modifiers will need to be reviewed annually when the new PCT data file is received.

In the short term in Swindon, the birth rate will mean the number of children requiring school places is likely to have peaked in 2016/17, mirroring the peak in birth rate. After that time, any increases in demand will largely be as a result of inward migration and housing, although there still could be some localised demand pressures alongside pockets of surplus places.

6.3 The population in Swindon

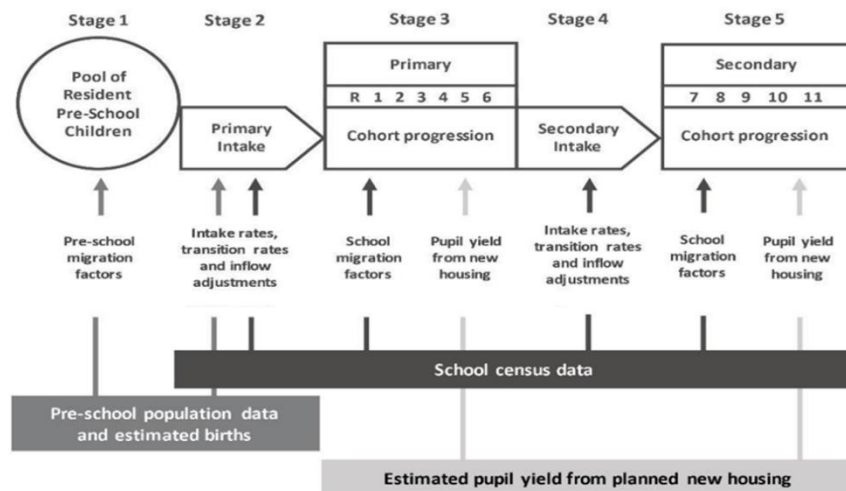
The resident population in Swindon is estimated to have increased by 11.6% between the 2011 Census and 2021, to 233,407.

There are ambitious new housing developments planned across the borough in existing communities (Swindon's Central area), in new communities (Wichelstowe) and New Eastern Villages including: Rowborough and South Marston Village expansion and in rural settlements (Highworth, Wroughton and South Marston). The Local plan

The Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 is the main planning policy document for Swindon Borough, alongside adopted neighbourhood plans in providing the planning policy framework to deliver sustainable housing and economic growth in the medium to long term. It sets out how much development the Borough needs and identifies where, when, and how development will take place in Swindon Borough.

The Swindon Borough Local Plan was adopted in March 2015, and set a target of 22,000 additional homes between 2011 and 2026. The Local Plan identifies through Policy CM1: Education that to meet the long-term primary and secondary school place needs there should be 11 new primary schools (24 new forms of entry in total), 3 new secondary schools, expansion of existing schools and the use of projected surplus places (35 forms of entry in total) and additional temporary primary and secondary school accommodation to manage the temporary demographic peak in pupils. The Plan also acknowledges the need to meet the long-term early years needs by enabling the provision of nursery facilities at all new primary schools and the provision of facilities by the private and voluntary sector.

Swindon Borough Council is in the process of preparing a new integrated Local Plan and is referred to as the 'emerging plan' which takes account the existing pipeline of current plan allocations, planning permissions, revised housing needs and requirements and expected site yields and delivery rates over a new and extended plan period. The emerging plan will be seeking to deliver a balanced portfolio of housing sites across the Borough as a whole to meet housing needs in the short, medium and long term. Understanding the forecasts for school places in your area



By using information on births, pupil movement trends, housing and local knowledge it is possible to forecast the need for school places in Swindon in the future. However, forecasts are not certainties - they are estimates, and the information in this plan is subject to change and update. As a result, we cannot offer any guarantees.

Demand patterns are not uniform, and overall numbers sometimes mask the school place needs of individual areas. Projected spare capacity in an area does not mean that all the schools will be able to meet demand in the area – there may be a surplus of places at Year 4 for example, but there may be a deficit of places in the Reception year. In this case, additional provision will still be needed to ensure that there are enough places for children starting school. Furthermore, if there is an oversupply in one area but an under supply in another (the north vs. the south, for example) additional provision may still be required in one area even though numbers for the borough as a whole indicate that there is adequate capacity.

The following sections of this document describe the current pupil numbers and school place numbers in each of the five planning areas in Swindon. They also set out forecasts for how it is thought pupil numbers will change alongside the general changes in school organisation and the PANs that will be needed to meet the changing pupil population. Further information about schools in Swindon, parental preferences and the allocation of school places for the last four years can be found on the Swindon website at www.swindon.gov.uk/admissions.

When looking at the projections in each of the subsequent chapters it is important to understand that these forecasts are not statements of fact. It is also important to note that whilst the council will seek to meet parental preferences, projections are primarily concerned with the number of available school places in a given area. It may be the case that there are some schools in an area that are consistently oversubscribed against parental preferences, giving the impression that there is a shortage of school places in this area when this is not the case overall as other schools have capacity. The principal factor is the number of school places in an area compared to the number of children that are seeking to start school and it is this which the council seeks to predict and to respond.

6.4 Overall School Place Needs

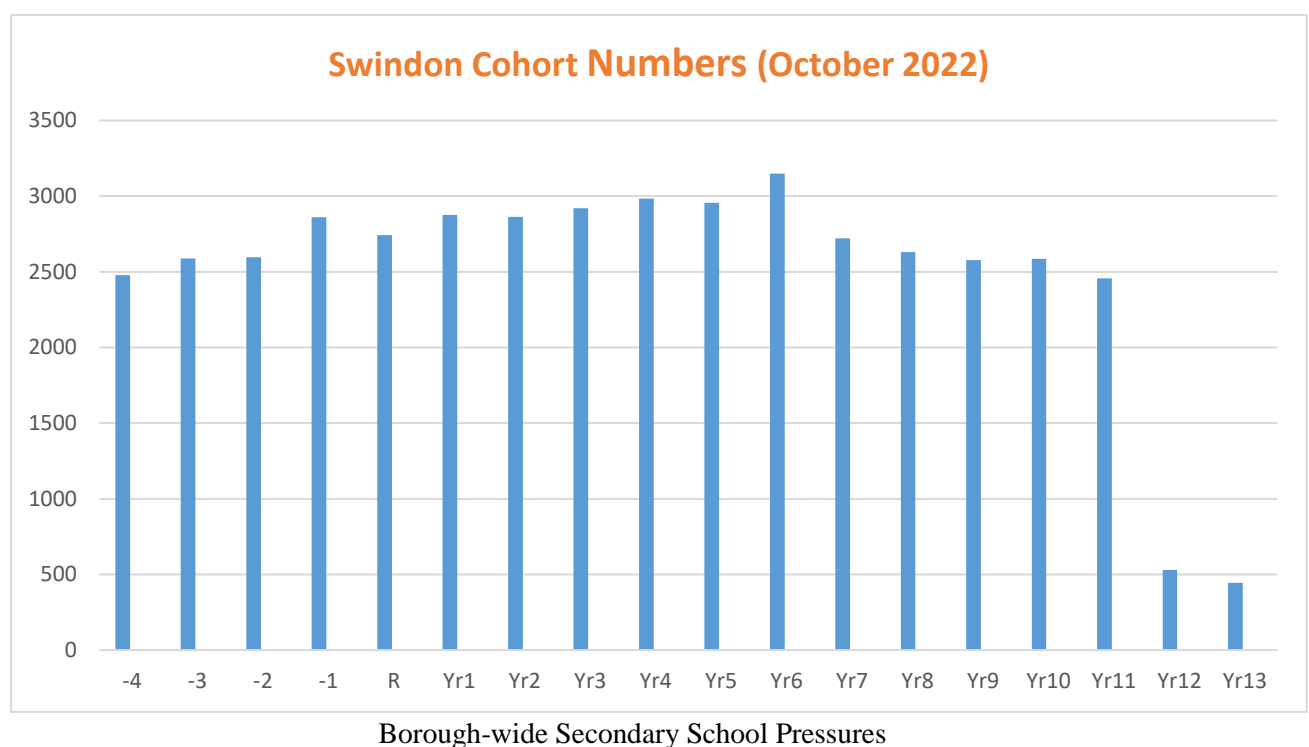
The purpose of this section is to update the School Place Planning Study to identify the overall number of school places needed to accommodate Swindon's growth. It will also identify,

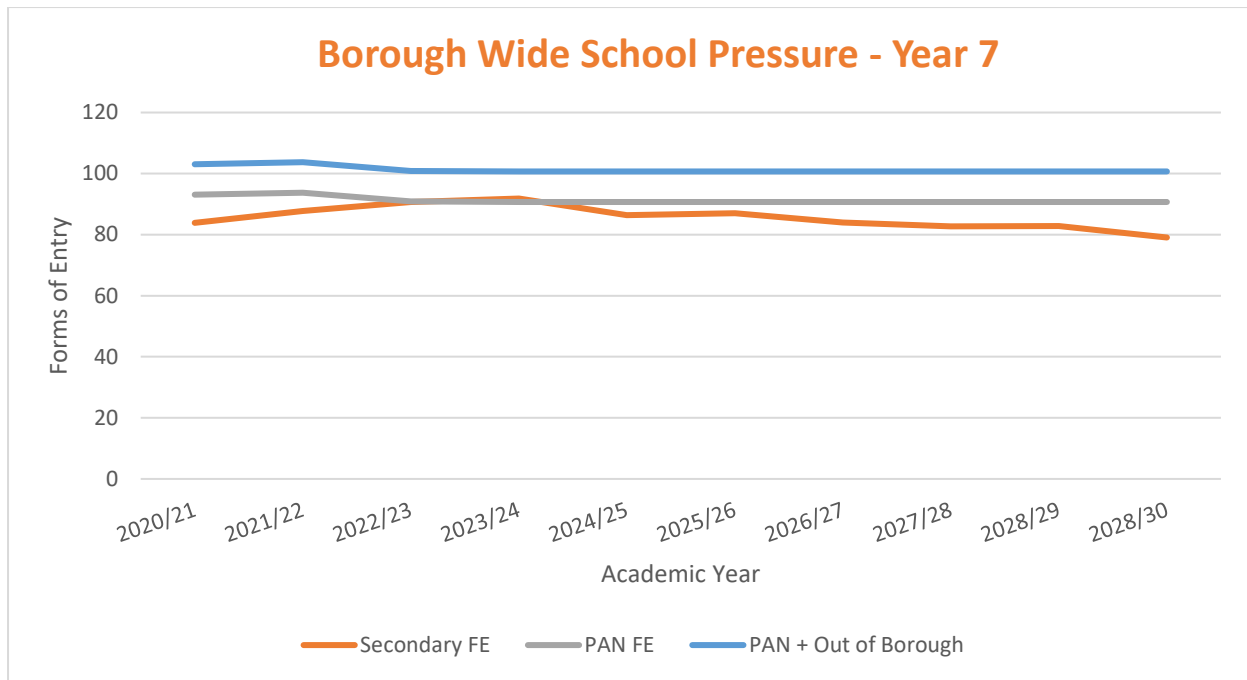
broadly, how the places will be distributed. The update also aims to calculate and incorporate the existing pressures into the overall need and distribution of school places.

6.5 Existing Pressure

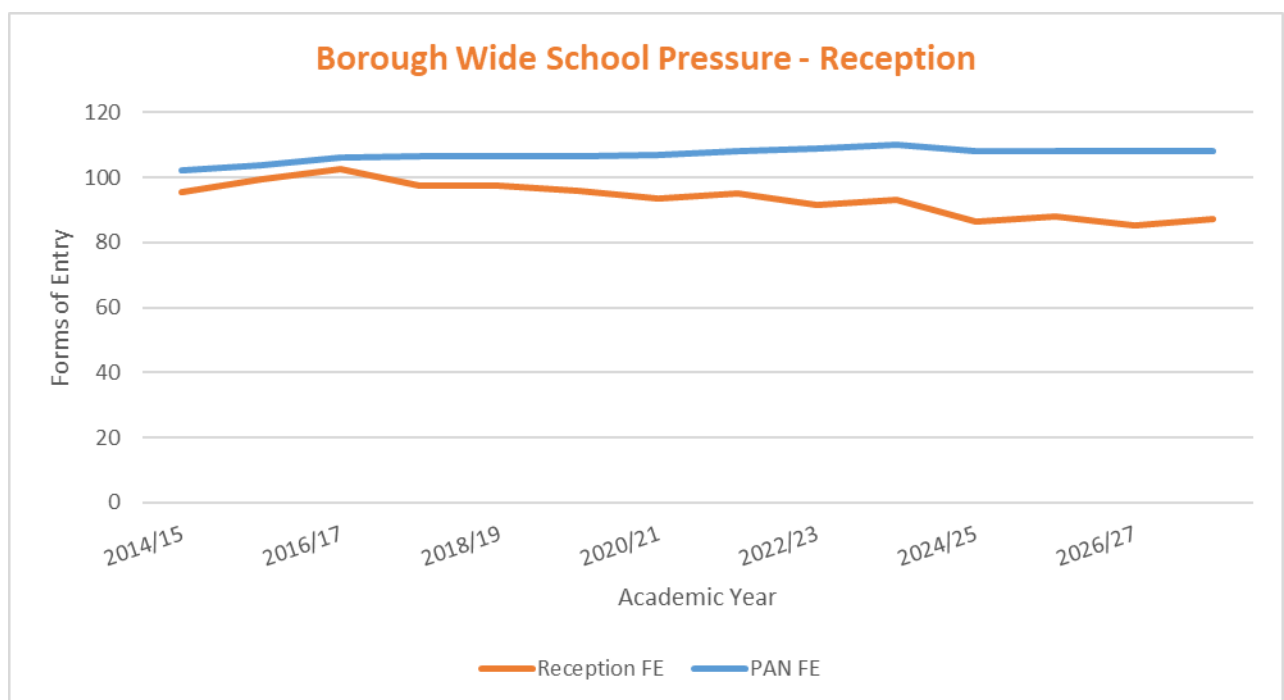
The existing pressure is derived from two sets of data. The first is the known numbers of pupils present in the schools as of October 2021 and the second is the known births that have been recorded in the Borough and supplied by the Child Health Team. The number of under 5's is reviewed each year and this gives an overall increase from the number recorded at birth. It seems likely that this increase is due to the migration of young families into the Borough.

6.5.1 Bar graph of overall cohort size by year group





Borough-wide Primary School Pressures



Growth due to housing proposals

There will be an increase to the present numbers of young people in the Town due to the proposed building programme as outlined in The Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026. The primary and secondary school places requirement from the proposed development strategy below are based on 0.32 primary and 0.17 secondary aged children per dwelling. FE is a form of entry and generally means a class of 30 pupils.

Primary and Secondary School Needs from new development table based on the Housing Trajectory (2023):

Row Labels	Sum of Totals	Primary FTE Required	Secondary FTE Required
Central	4475	6.8	5.1
Central North	47	0.1	0.1
East	2814	4.3	3.2
NEV	8555	13.0	9.7
North	240	0.4	0.3
Rural North	413	0.6	0.5
Rural South	272	0.4	0.3
West	30	0.0	0.0
Grand Total	16846	25.7	19.1

7 NEV New Eastern Villages

The total forms-of-entry (FE) requirement from new housing developments is 25.7 FE for Primary and 19.1 FE for Secondary based on the most recent housing data in 2023.

Past experience has furnished us with the knowledge that school place planning in new developments is essential to shape the upcoming communities. Swindon therefore engages early with major developers and internal stakeholders to ensure education is planned at the very earliest opportunity.

A school development in the early phases has significant advantages such as:

- Meeting the aims of the Education Place Planning Study.
- Placing schools at the heart of the community.
- Reducing the fluctuation in pupil numbers at surrounding schools.
- Enable the new school to grow on a phased basis, linked to the occupation of new housing.
- Act as a catalyst for house sales.

Therefore, the Council, in negotiation with housing developers, will be requesting early access of school sites to provide the potential for early occupation.

7.1 Borough-wide Secondary School Pressures

As new development areas have been built out at Swindon, the relatively lower cost of new homes has been attractive to young families. As a result, a higher than average proportion of young children start school together. Often a family will stay in the house that they have occupied and so these children will age together putting school place pressure on, firstly, primary schools and then on secondary schools.

Secondary school places are more difficult to predict and manage. The uncertainty associated with secondary school place pressures is exacerbated by parental preference and the fact that older pupils of secondary age are prepared to travel further to their school of their preference. Whereas with the larger housing developments over a certain size, a new secondary school is feasible, expansion of 'nearby' schools and the retention of surplus places will be essential in managing the temporary pressure.

Looking at forecast figures for secondary in Swindon there is estimated to be a decrease in numbers in the longer term. In 2016, there was a peak in Reception numbers where the Council implemented a number of bulge classes across the Borough.

Swindon has historically exported a number of children to out of Borough schools at transition. Up to 13% in the past has transferred to year 7 to out of Borough schools but this seems to be stabilising to around 10%, approximately 300 children.

7.2 Transport of pupils

To manage some of the pressure identified within an education planning area it may be necessary for the Local Authority to provide transport. Transport to school is a statutory requirement based on the overall distance a pupil travels to school. Transport is traditionally applicable to rural areas. Within the urban area of Swindon most schools are within the statutory limit, therefore transport is unlikely to be required.

The impact of legislation relating to Academies and Free Schools could result in an increased level of transport provided by individual schools rather than the Local Authority. As education providers become more independent this could lead to increased competition for pupils across the Borough.

8 Re-organisation of schools

8.1 Primary schools

The preferred size for new primary schools is within the range of 420 places to 630 places (2FE to 3FE) and Swindon Borough Council will only seek to open new primary schools of at least 2FE to enable a viable educational offer. All new schools will be expected to include nursery provision for 2, 3 and 4 year olds, and flexible provision for SEND.

The LA has preferred site sizes for Primary Secondary schools, depending on the number of FE that is required. These are:

- **2 FE Primary school – 2.2 Ha**
- **3 FE Primary School – 3.3 Ha**

Where a new primary phase school is required this will be built as an all through primary school, rather than separate infant or junior schools. Swindon Borough Council will continue to seek opportunities to amalgamate separate infant and junior schools where the combined numbers are less than 420 and the sites lend themselves to a single institution.

8.2 Secondary schools

The optimum size for an 11 to 16 secondary school is 750 (5FE) to 1,500 (10FE) pupils. Swindon Borough Council however recognises that provision in some communities may fall outside the ideal size of secondary school and demand for additional places could be met either by expanding existing schools, if there is sufficient capacity on the site, or by new provision located within a new housing community.

The LA has preferred site sizes for Primary Secondary schools, depending on the number of FE that is required. This is:

- **10 FE – 10.2 Ha**

8.3 Academy Free Schools

An academy is a public funded independent school; (not maintained by a LA) accountable to the Department for Education (DfE) and funded directly by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). Academies directly employ staff and have freedoms to set their own pay and conditions of service, are free to deliver the curriculum as they see fit and can vary the length of school terms and the length of the school day. Academies must follow the same admissions guidance, exclusion processes and meet the statutory processes for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) however; they may set their own admissions criteria. Academies are inspected by OFSTED using the same framework as other state funded schools.

The council works closely with the Regional Department for Education Directors (RDDs) to ensure all new school proposals including bids for new Free Schools are supported by approved academy trusts that understand the needs and aspirations of the community.

9 Capital investment

It is recognised that pupils benefit from high quality learning environments and equipment. Capital investment priorities are based on requirements to:

- Provide sufficient places to meet the needs of local communities.
- Provide healthy and safe environments.
- Meet curricular and organisational needs.
- Enhance physical access to buildings.
- Replace temporary accommodation with permanent where possible.
- Implement key strategic initiatives.

Swindon Borough Council uses condition surveys and local knowledge to inform investment priorities. Government grant, council resources and developer contributions are used to fund the necessary capital investment alongside any centrally acquired monies through a national bidding process. Capital resources are however becoming increasingly stretched.

At present, there are two main funding streams allocated by DfE for school building projects:

- one which is solely for maintenance (Condition funding) of the Council Maintained Schools Estate
- and the other is for the provision of additional pupil places (Basic Need).

9.1 High Needs Provision Capital Allocations – 2022/2024

In March 2022, the Department for Education announced High Needs Provision Capital Allocations (HNPCA) for financial years (FYs) 2022-23 and 2023-24. HNPCA is paid to local authorities (LAs) to support the provision of places for children and young people (CYP) with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and those pupils requiring alternative provision (AP).

The Local Authority have carried out a consultation and finalised those projects that meet the criteria of the agreed priorities.

9.2 Accessibility of school buildings - Inclusivity

Improving access to education and securing educational achievement for pupils with a disability is essential to ensure equality of opportunity, full participation in society, access to employment opportunities and inclusion within mainstream schools. Swindon's inclusion vision is that every disabled child and young person in the borough should achieve their potential educationally, socially and in their personal life. The Accessibility Strategy is a core component in realising this vision. Swindon Borough Council is committed to increasing the accessibility of schools, wherever possible and where reasonable adaptations can be made.

9.3 Admissions Code

The Admissions Team administers Swindon Borough Council's co-ordinated admissions scheme. This includes admissions to all schools including academies as well as 'In Year' admissions.

There is a wide range of admissions authorities as each academy or voluntary aided school has its own Admission Policy. The in year coordinated scheme is in place for all schools in Swindon and is ran under the 'equal preference scheme'. The knowledge, understanding and data that the team holds contributes to successful school organisation and place planning. Admissions statistics, which are produced annually, are used to support the school place planning process, ensuring that sufficient places are provided to meet parental preference where possible.

Admissions authorities, including the LA, must have regard to the School Admissions Code in determining their admission arrangements, which includes expansions and contractions of school capacities. Up to date details of the Swindon schools' admissions processes can be found on the Swindon Borough Council website via the following link:

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20071/school_places_and_admissions

10 School Planning Areas

The planning of school places in Swindon is based on the geographical areas defined by the secondary school catchments and feeder school aligned to them. These are the same demographic planning areas that the council is required to report on annually to the Department for Education (DfE) to inform future capital basic need allocations.

Place planning can be influenced by parental preference in terms of selecting a school. Applications for school places are considered in line with the relevant Admission Authority Admission Policy and over-subscription criteria.

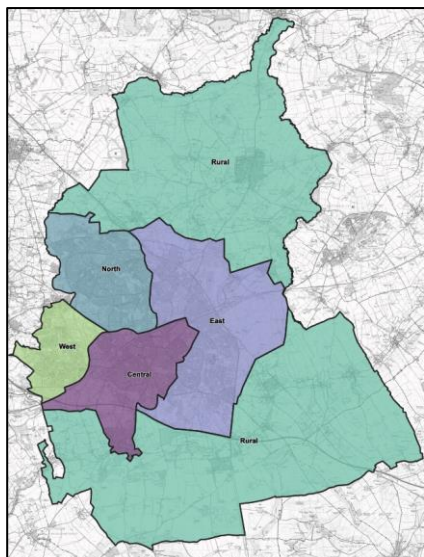
These School Planning Areas are not catchment areas. They are a helpful way of assessing the broad distribution of need in a more flexible and integrated way. They relate to anticipated areas of pressure rather than existing distribution of schools. The areas have been assessed based on:

- Existing school capacity and number on roll.
- Existing pressure on school places.
- Forecast short-term pressure based on registered births.
- Long-term pressures associated with identified areas of housing development.

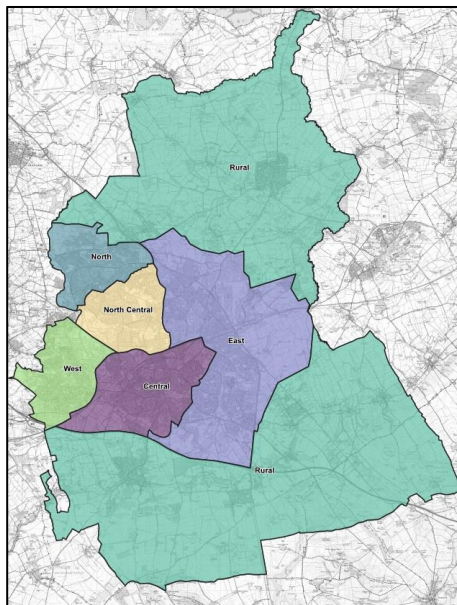
Within each School Planning Area, demand for primary and secondary school places has been forecast. Where there is a shortfall in school places recommendations have been set out to meet the demand. It is particularly important that primary school places be provided to meet demand where they are needed to avoid transporting young children.

Secondary schools should also be positioned in close proximity to demand. However, there is traditionally a higher degree of flexibility often due to parental choice. The options for secondary school place provision seek to balance local demand against the number of secondary school places available across Swindon.

Our secondary planning areas differ slightly to our Primary. The School Planning Areas for **secondary** are:

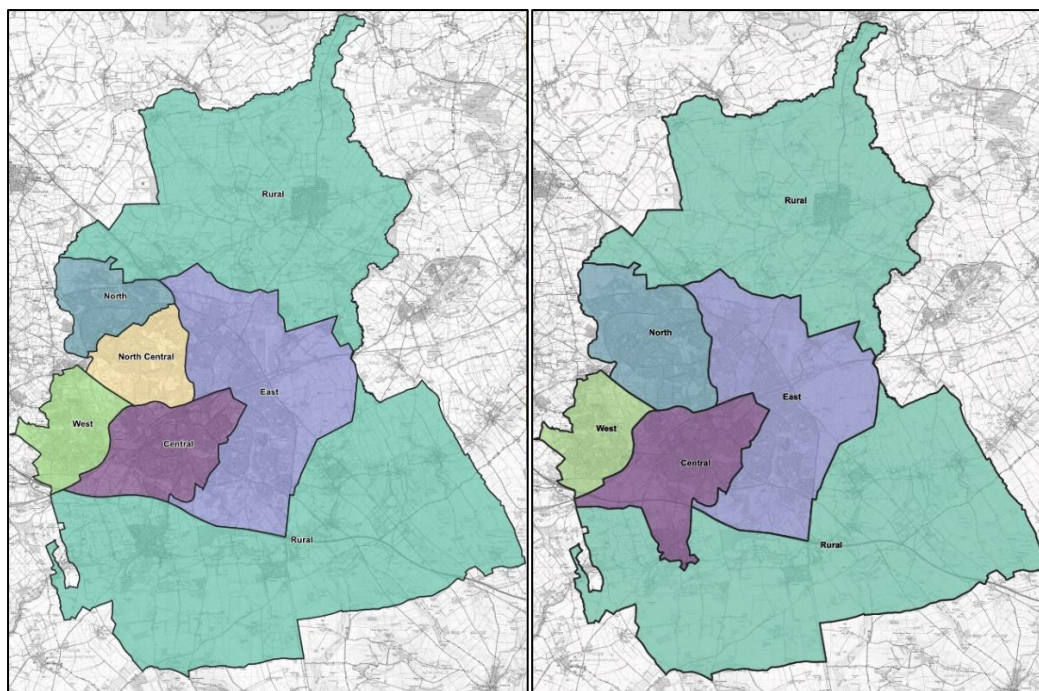


- North Swindon (N)
 - Central
 - East Swindon (E)
 - West Swindon and Wiltshire (W)
 - Rural: Rural North and Rural South
- The School Planning Areas for *primary* are:



- North Swindon (N)
- North Central Swindon (NC)
- Central
- East Swindon (E)
- West Swindon and Wiltshire (W)
- Rural: Rural North and Rural South

Legislation in the form of the Academies Act (2010), popularity of schools and patterns of parental preference all have a bearing on the level of surplus places and the extent to which the Borough can manage school place pressures. Therefore, the recommendations set out in this document will need to be kept under review in the coming years to take account of the various trends in school provision and places. This will allow the Borough to update the Capital Programme for new builds and consider any revenue implications arising from increased transportation costs. It is important to note that any decision has not been made regarding the strategy or site options outlined in this report. Where this report identifies site options they remain subject to detailed options appraisal, feasibility studies including discussions with Head teachers and Governors, funding and planning.



10.1 Primary Schools within Planning Areas

Primary Planning Area	Schools
North	Abbey Meads, Bridlewood, Catherine Wayte, Haydonleigh, Oakhurst, Orchid Vale, Red Oaks, St. Francis, Tadpole Farm, William Morris, Abbey Farm
North Central	Ferndale, Greenmeadow, Gorse Hill, Haydon Wick, Moredon, Rodbourne Cheney, Sevenfields, St. Mary's, Swindon Academy (Penhill & Pinehurst)
Central	Commonweal Secondary Catchment: Croft, East Wichel, Kingfisher, Even Swindon, King William Street, Lethbridge, Robert Le Kyng, Lawn, Oaktree Lawn Manor Secondary Catchment: Drove, Holy Cross, Holy Rood, Lainesmead, Mountford Manor
East	Dorcan Secondary Catchment: Covingham Park, Eldene, Goddard Park, Holy Family, Liden, Nythe Kingsdown Secondary Catchment: Beechcroft Infants, Colebrook Infants, Colebrook Junior, Grange Infants, Grange Junior, Ruskin Junior, South Marston, St. Catherine's Ridgeway Secondary Catchment: Badbury Park
West	Brook Field, Hazelwood, Millbrook, Oliver Tomkins Infants, Oliver Tomkins Junior, Peatmoor, Shaw Ridge, Tregoze, Westlea
Rural (Rural North and Rural South)	Rural North / Warneford Secondary Catchment: Eastrop Infants, Southfield Junior, St. Leonard's, Westrop Rural South / The Ridgeway Secondary Catchment: Bishopstone, Chiseldon, Wanborough, Wroughton Infants, Wroughton Juniors

10.2 Secondary Schools within Planning Areas

Secondary Planning Area	Schools
North	Abbey Park, GWA, Nova Hreod & Swindon Academy
Central	Commonweal, The Deanery, Lawn Manor, St. Joseph's Catholic College and UTC
East	The Dorcan Academy & Kingsdown
West	Lydiard Park
Rural	Rural North: Warneford (Highworth) Rural South: The Ridgeway Academy (Wroughton)

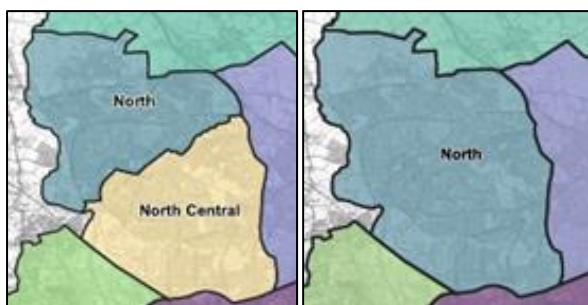
11 North Swindon

11.1 Schools in North Swindon

North Swindon encompasses a single secondary planning area, but has been split into two primary planning areas – North and North Central (see maps below). There are 11 primary phase schools in North Swindon (Abbey Meads, Abbey Farm, Bridlewood, Catherine Wayte, Haydonleigh, Oakhurst, Orchid Vale, Red Oaks, St. Francis, Tadpole Farm and William Morris).

In the North Central Area there are 9 Primary School (1 of which is an all through school). These are: Ferndale, Greenmeadow, Gorse Hill, Haydon Wick, Moredon, Rodbourne Cheney, Sevenfields, St. Mary's, Swindon Academy (Beech Avenue & Alton Close sites) schools.

There are four secondary academies (Abbey Park, GWA, Nova Hreod & Swindon Academy). Swindon Academy is an all-through school offering both primary and secondary places, eventually up to sixth form.



The principle issues for the North area concern the existing pressures within the Northern Development Area (NDA) that will arise from the remaining homes to be completed at Tadpole Farm. Tadpole Farm is currently in the Highworth Warneford catchment area, however it is directly adjacent to Abbey Park School and Great Western Academy and therefore is considered alongside the existing area of North.

11.2 North Swindon Primary Schools

Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Abbey Meads Primary School	2
Abbey Farm	2
Bridlewood Primary School	1
Catherine Wayte Primary School	2
Haydonleigh Primary School	3
Oakhurst Primary School	2
Orchid Vale Primary School	2
Red Oaks Primary School	2
St Francis CE Primary School	2
Tadpole Farm CE Primary School	2
William Morris Primary School	2
Total Existing Capacity	22 FE

11.3 North Central Primary Schools

Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Ferndale Primary School	2
Greenmeadow Primary School	1
Gorsehill Primary School	2
Haydon Wick Primary School	1.3
Moredon Primary School	2
Rodbourne Cheney Primary School	1
Sevenfields Primary School	1.5
St Mary's Catholic Primary School	1.7
Swindon Academy	4
Total Existing Capacity	16.5 FE

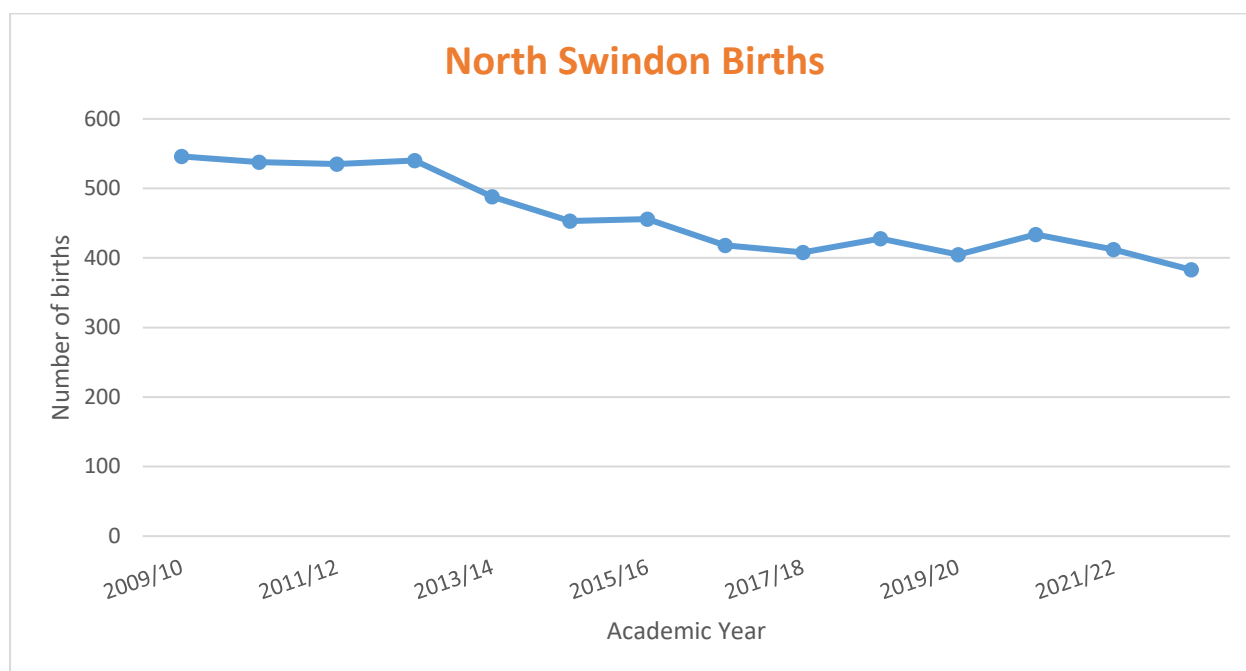
11.4 North and North Central Secondary Schools

Secondary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Abbey Park	8
Great Western Academy	5
Nova Hreod	7.7
Swindon Academy	6
Total Existing Capacity	26.7 FE

11.5 Primary (Split by North and North Central Planning areas)

11.6 Births in North Swindon

The graph below shows the number of births in North Swindon primary planning area each year.



Data provided by the Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that the number of births in the North Swindon planning area was stable between 2009/10 and 2012/13 (~540 births per year), but has steadily decreased since to a low of 408 in 2017/18. In 2020/21 the number of births increased slightly to 434. Although the births in North Swindon began to decrease again to 383 in 2022/23.

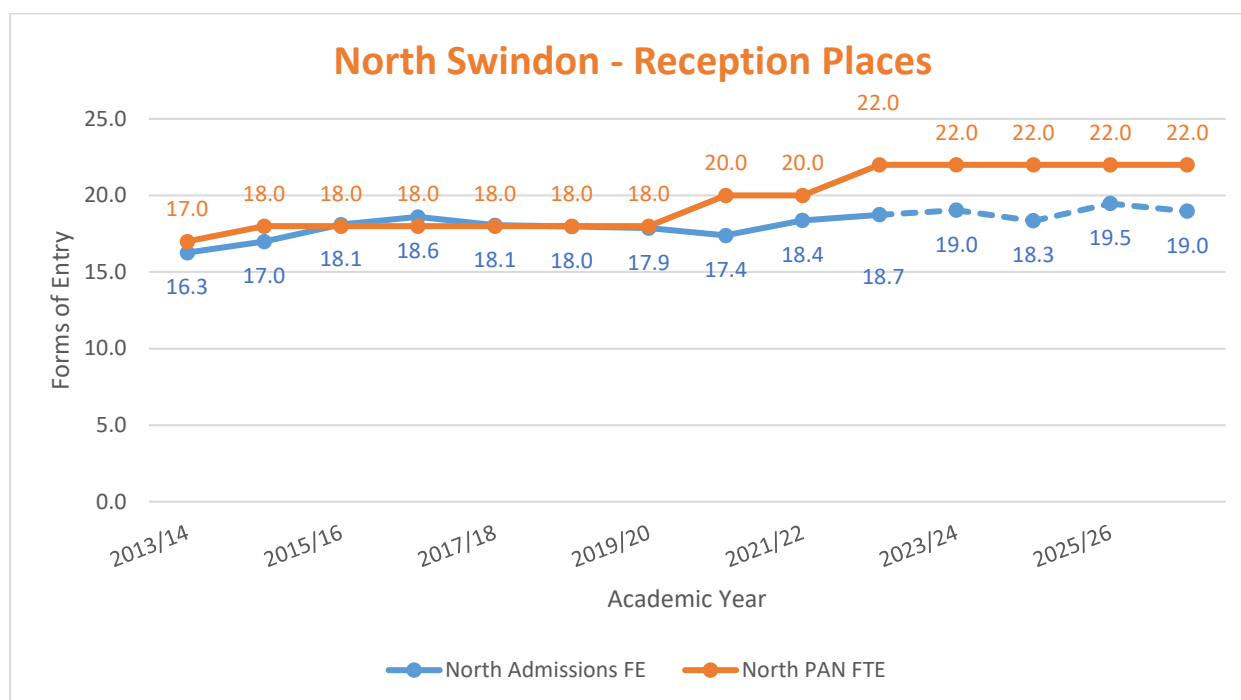
11.7 Existing North Area Primary School Pressure

The need for primary school places largely depends on the local child population and, to a less extent, on pupils coming into the borough from adjacent areas. Extensive housing developments in North Swindon (e.g. Tadpole Garden Village) led to rising demand for school places between 2013/14 and 2016/17. However, the demand for Reception places has now plateaued and this situation is forecast to continue until 2025/26, when there is forecast to be a rise in demand. This is due to a combination of a rise in the birth rate and continued housing developments attracting children of Reception age to the North Swindon area. North Swindon area is a net importer of children from local surrounding areas.

The present net capacity of the North Swindon Primary Schools is 22FE (as at September 2023).

Overall, the number of pupils requiring a Reception place is forecast to remain below the overall PAN for the planning area, but as demand is not uniform there are still some schools in North Swindon that are likely to experience more pressure for places than others.

The graph shows the number of pupils that started school in North Swindon in the academic years 2013/14 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a Reception place in a primary school in North Swindon between 2023/24 and 2026/27.



11.8 What have we done previously?

The Borough permanently expanded Orchid Vale Primary School from a 1FE school to 2FE in September 2012, and Haydonleigh Primary School from a 2FE school to 3FE in September 2012. Furthermore, Tadpole Farm CE Primary School opened as a 2FE school in September 2014. An additional 2FE Primary School, William Morris, also opened in September 2019. Moreover, Abbey Farm Primary School which is a 2FE, opened in September 2022. This has provided the North Swindon area with a total of 22FE for Primary School space.

11.9 Growth from housing development

Using the most up to date housing data, we expect 240 homes to be built out in the North Swindon area, this equates to 0.4 FE Primary.

11.10 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the North Swindon area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

North Swindon	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	22 FE	-3 FE	0.4 FE	-2.6 FE	19.4 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

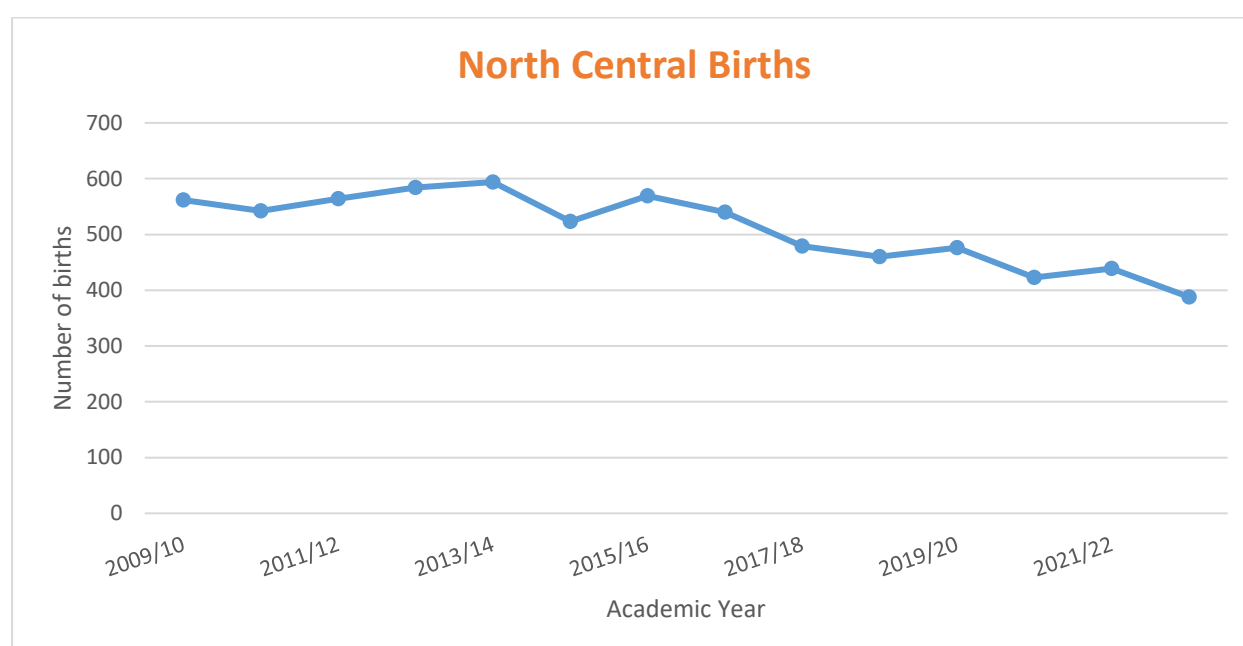
11.11 What are we doing?

A further small risk to be identified is that the strategy for the provision of school places does not accommodate any change in provision in Wiltshire. Increased pressure on Swindon primary school places may result from additional housing in Wiltshire and has the potential to add to pressures in the North Swindon planning area.

11.12 Primary North Central Planning Area

11.13 Births in North Central Swindon

The graph below shows the number of births in North Central Swindon primary planning area each year.



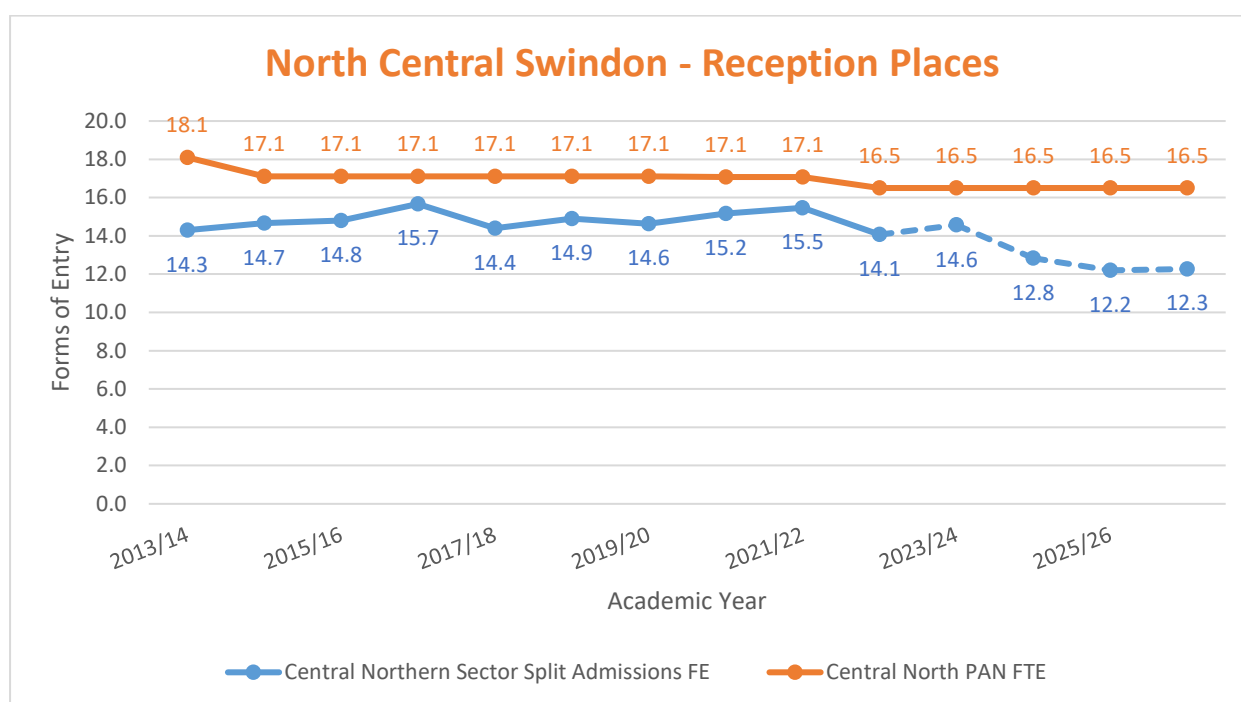
Data provided by the Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that the number of births in the Central North Swindon planning area steadily increased from 542 births in 2010/11 to a peak of 594 in 2013/14. There was a sharp drop in the number of births in 2014/15, but since 2015/16 the number of births have declined from 569 to 460 births in 2018/19. In 2022/23 the births have continued to decrease to 388.

11.14 Existing North Central Area Primary School Pressure

The need for primary school places largely depends on the local child population. As North Central Swindon is an established urban area, with limited housing developments, the number of children requiring primary school places does not fluctuate excessively. Therefore, as the number of births has remained at similar levels, the demand for Reception places has been static. This state of affairs is forecast to more-or-less continue for as far as we forecast demand for Reception places for (2025/26), although there is expected to be a very slight decline in demand that reflects a slight decrease in the number of births. The demand for Reception places in Central North Swindon is expected to remain below overall PAN in the planning area.

The present net capacity of the North Central Swindon Primary Schools is 16.5 FE (from September 2023 onwards).

The graph shows the number of pupils that started school in North Central Swindon in the academic years 2013/14 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a Reception place in a primary school in North Central Swindon between 2023/24 and 2026/27.



11.15 What have we done previously?

In order to meet a bulge in the birth rate previously, there were extra classes in some year groups at Bridlewood, Red Oaks, Greenmeadow and Rodbourne Cheney schools that have, in time, worked their way through the schools to Year 6.

11.16 Growth from housing development

Using the most up to date housing data, we expect 47 homes to be built out in the North Central area, this equates to 0.1 FE Primary.

11.17 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the North Central area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

North Central	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	16.5 FE	-4.2 FE	0.1 FE	-4.1 FE	12.4 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

11.18 What are we doing?

As there is forecast to be surplus places in the area, the LA is working with schools to identify alternative uses of provision. Furthermore, Sevenfields have reduced their PAN to 45 and Greenmeadow to 30.

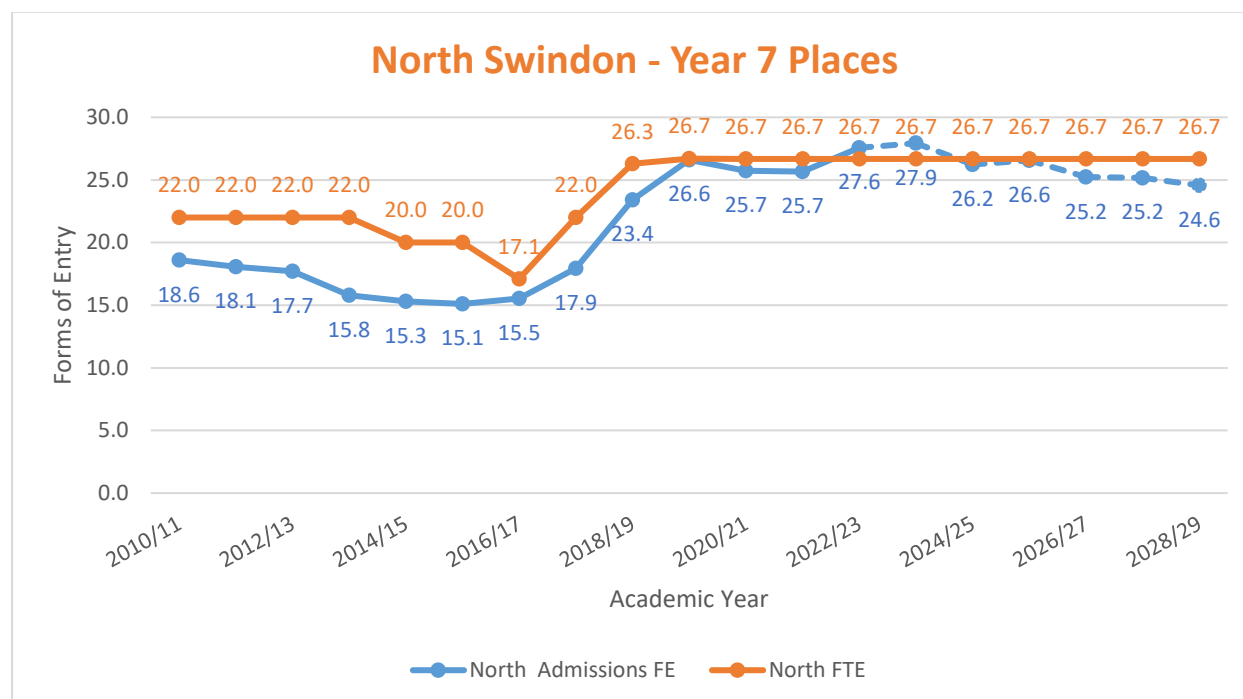
11.19 Secondary in North Swindon

11.20 Existing Secondary North Swindon School Pressure

The need for secondary school places is based on the number of pupils coming up to year 7 and estimated shares from feeder primary schools (based on historical data). In addition, a

modifier accounting for new pupils to the areas (i.e. moved into new houses) is taken into account.

The present net capacity of the North Swindon Secondary Schools is 26.7 FE (as at September 2023).



The graph shows the number of year 7 pupils that started school in North Swindon in the academic years 2010/11 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a year 7 place in a secondary school in North Swindon between 2023/24 and 2028/29.

The number of children requiring Year 7 places in North Swindon has been significantly increasing since 2015/16 to reach a peak in 2023/24. This increase is due to the completion of extensive North Swindon development area which created a surge in demand and from surrounding areas.

This is expected to decrease over the next few years, with demand predicted to be stable for the foreseeable future. This is because of continued development in North Swindon such as Tadpole Garden Village and the recently completed development, Abbey Farm.

11.21 What have we done previously?

The Great Western Academy, a 5 FE (150 places per year group) Free School, opened in September 2018. Bulge classes have been created to reach peak demand.

11.22 Growth from housing development

Using the most up to date housing data, we expect 287 homes to be built out in the North Swindon Secondary area, this equates 0.3 FE Secondary.

11.23 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the North area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, growth and then peak.

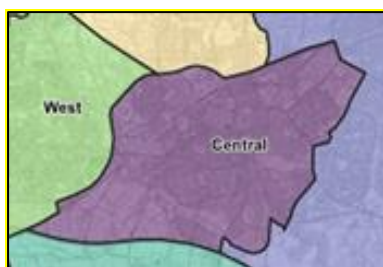
North Swindon	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	26.7 FE	-2.1 FE	0.3 FE	-1.8 FE	24.9 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

11.24 What are we doing?

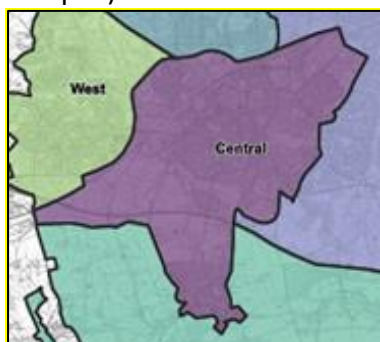
By the end of the current planning window (2028/29), supply will satisfy demand. A close eye will be kept on the North Swindon Secondary area on the amount of pupils choosing out of Borough schools. Traditionally, a significant number of pupils from North Swindon opt for out of Borough secondary places. Whilst there continues to be places available in out of Borough schools, the pressure on North Swindon should meet demand. It should be noted that North Secondary Schools attract pupils from surrounding Swindon areas. Central Swindon

11.25 Schools in Central Swindon



Central Swindon encompasses a single secondary planning area (see maps). There are 14 primary phase schools in Central Swindon (Croft, East Wichel, Even Swindon, King William Street, Lethbridge, Robert Le Kyng, Lawn, Oaktree, Drove, Holy Cross, Holy Rood, Lainesmead, Mountford Manor, Kingfisher).

There are four secondary academies (Commonweal, The Deanery, Lawn Manor & St. Josephs).



The Swindon UTC is sited in this area but the students attending the school come from a much larger Swindon and North Wiltshire catchment area. The numbers of students attending Years 10 and 11 from are not used in the assessment of places for this study.

11.26 Central Primary Schools

Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Croft Primary School	2

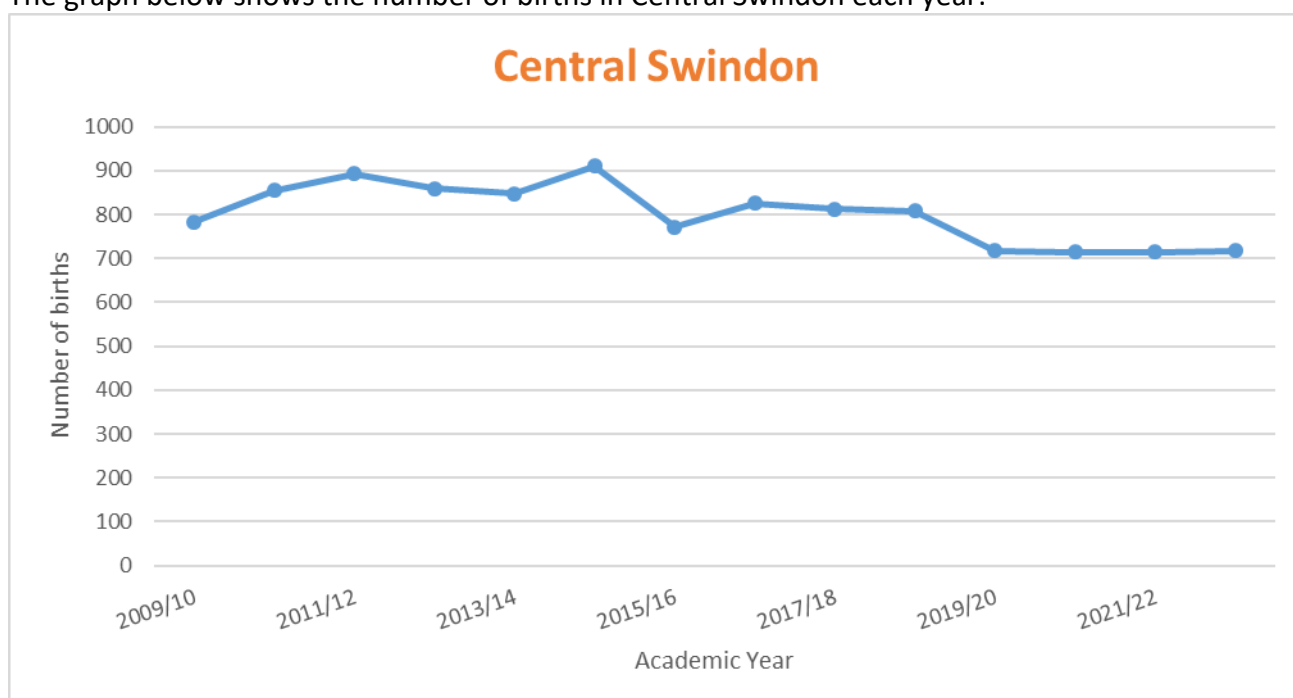
Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
East Wichel Primary School	2
Even Swindon Primary School	3
King William Street Primary School	1
Lethbridge Primary School	2.33
Robert Le Kyng Primary School	2
Lawn Primary School	2
Oaktree Primary School	1.83
Drove Primary School	3
Holy Cross Catholic Primary School	2
Holy Rood Catholic Primary School	2
Lainesmead Primary School (reducing to 1FE in 2024)	2
Mountford Manor Primary School	1
Kingfisher (increased to 1FE in 2022, and 2FE in 2023)	2
Total Existing Capacity	28.2

11.27 Central Secondary Schools

Secondary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Commonweal	6.5
The Deanery	7
Lawn Manor	6.7
St Joseph's Catholic College	9
UTC	
Total Existing Capacity	29.2

11.28 Births in Central Swindon

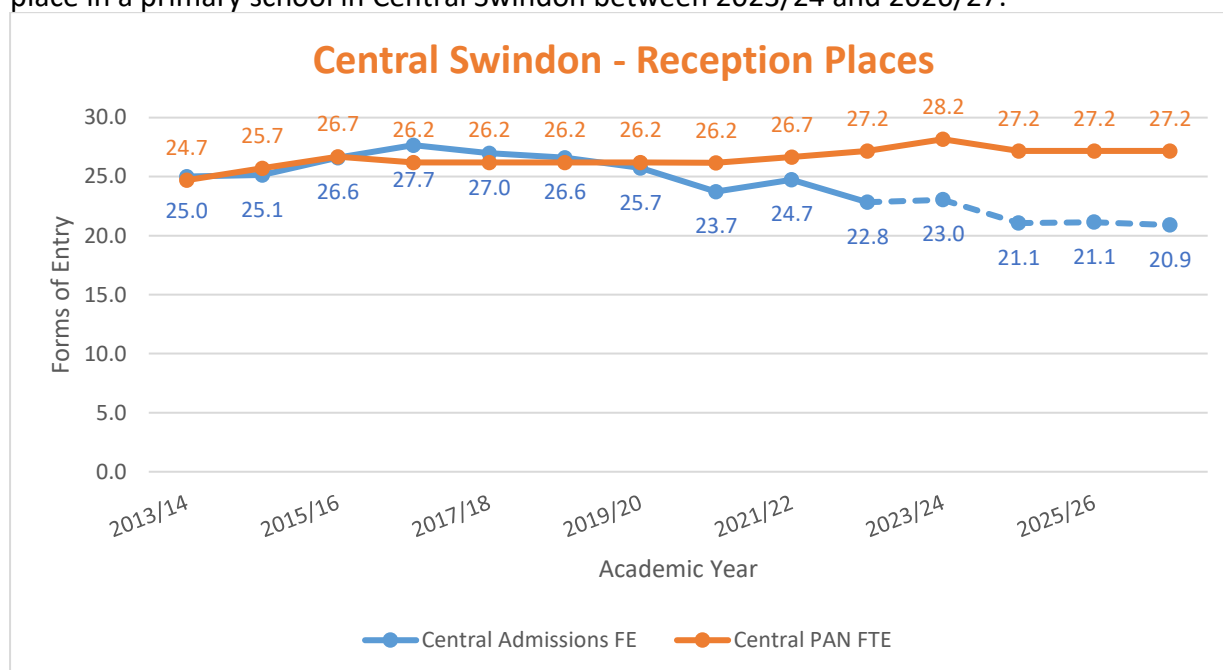
The graph below shows the number of births in Central Swindon each year:



Data provided by Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that births in Central Swindon reached a peak in 2014/15 before a sharp reduction the following year. An increase of 54 births followed in 2016/17, since this Central Swindon has seen a steady decline, now plateauing.

11.29 Existing Central Area Primary School Pressure

The graph shows the number of pupils that started school in Central Swindon in the academic years 2013/14 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a Reception place in a primary school in Central Swindon between 2023/24 and 2026/27.



The demand for reception places in Central Swindon steadily declined gradually between 2016/17 and 2019/20, a result of a falling rate of births. This decrease is predicted to accelerate to reach a low point in 2020/21.

Following the low point in 2021/2022, demand steadily declines.

The graph shows that numbers are forecast to be 23.0 FE in 2023/24, decreasing to 20.9 FE in 2026/27 in terms of demand against a capacity of 27.2 FE, therefore it is predicted that there will be surplus capacity in this area. Those schools that are forecast to have large amounts of surplus places have been contacted and are looking at available options to reduce their published admissions number (PAN). Any reductions in PAN will be carefully monitored and reviewed.

11.30 What have we done previously?

The Central area has seen extensive expansion in terms of schools in the past, including:

- 2FE primary school at Croft in Old Town in 2012.
- Even Primary school was expanded from 2FE to 3FE in 2012.
- The Holy Cross and Holy Rood Catholic Infant and Junior schools were re-designated as Primary schools and expanded, adding a total of an additional 2FE for Catholic provision.

- In September 2021, Kingfisher Primary School opened which adds 2FE to the area by 2023 as it phases its opening (0.5 FE in 2021, 1 FE in 2022 and 2 FE in 2023).

11.31 Growth from housing development

In terms of planned housing growth (large and small sites with planning permission) in the central area, there are 4,475 dwellings planned, including West Wichel circa 1,500 additional homes. This would yield 7.8 FE requirements for Primary places at reception in the current planning window.

It must be noted that there are housing developments with planning permission (large and small sites with pp) within the East planning area. However, as this is close to the border of the Central planning area, this could have an impact of the number of children applying for the Central primary schools.

It should also be noted, that a number of these developments are small in nature and have been in the pipeline for some time and have not yet reached fruition. This makes planning for reception places in Central area more complex than most. This reflects the fact that immigration into the town usually uses the Central area as a first point of residence.

11.32 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the Central area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, growth and then peak.

Central	Current Capacity for September 2022	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	27.2 FE	- 6.3 FE	6.8 FE	0.5 FE	28.3 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

11.33 What are we doing?

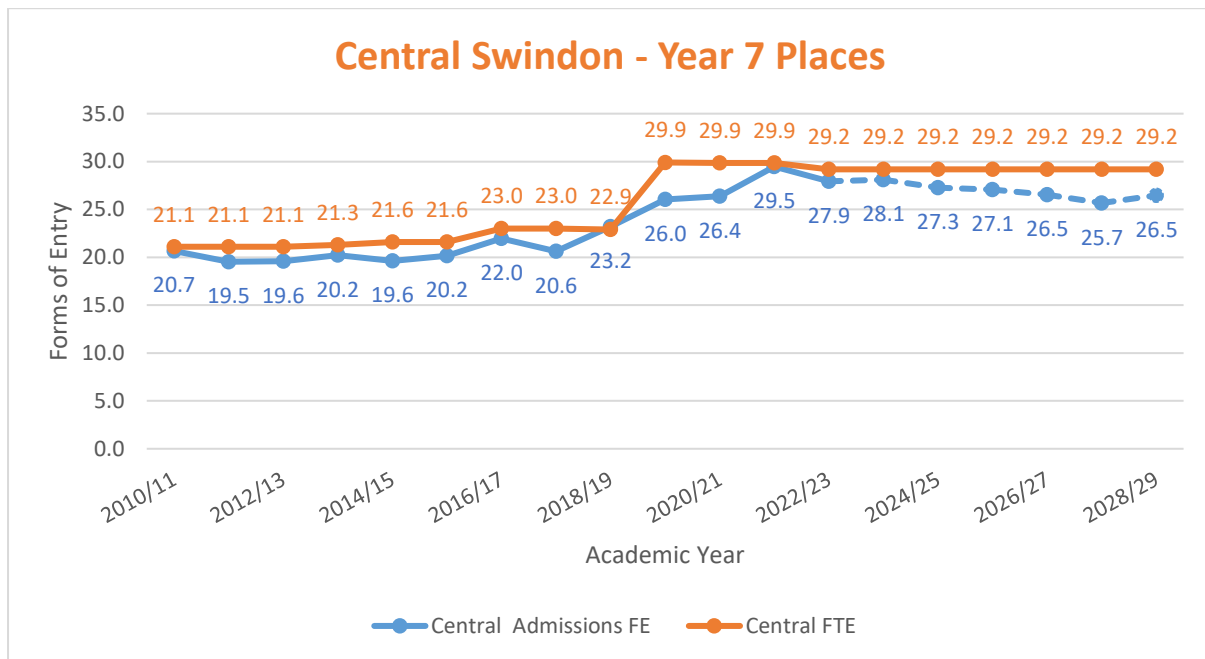
There will be a need for additional places in the Central area, if all of the housing growth comes to fruition within the current planning window. It is highly unlikely that the full complement will develop in the next five years. Wichelstowe is not likely to hit the trigger of providing a new school before 2029, though it has been included within the 28.3 FE future demand to ensure consistency. Therefore, we expect supply to outstrip demand in the short/medium term future.

11.34 Secondary in Central Swindon

11.35 Existing Central Area Secondary School Pressure

The need for secondary school places is based on the number of pupils into year 7 and estimated shares from feeder primary schools (based on historical data). In addition, a modifier accounting for new pupils to the areas (i.e. moved into new houses) is taken into account.

The graph below estimates the number of pupils who will require a secondary school place in Central Swindon from 2023/24 to 2028/29.



Initial demand for year 7 places in central Swindon was fairly consistent up to 2017/18. Since 2017/18 demand for year 7 places has been sharply increasing, reaching its highest level in 2021/22.

Demand is predicted to stay fairly consistent from 2023/24 onwards circa 26.5FE, against a capacity of 29.2 FE in the area.

It must also be noted that there is trend in the Central area for children to attend The Ridgeway School, which is in the Rural South planning area. What have we done previously?

The Deanery opened in 2019 and this added an additional 7 FE to the area. The School is opening on a phased basis.

11.36 Growth from housing development

In terms of planned housing growth in the central area, 4,475 houses are planned for the Central area which equates to 5.1 FE secondary places.

It must be noted that there are housing developments with planning permission (large and small sites with pp) within the East planning area. However, as this is close to the border of the Central planning area, this could have an impact of the number of children applying for the Central secondary schools.

It should also be noted, that a number of these developments are small in nature and have been in the pipeline for some time and have not yet reached fruition. This makes planning for secondary places in Central area more complex than most. This reflects the fact that immigration into the town usually uses the Central area as a first point of residence.

11.37 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the Central area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

Central	Current Capacity	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	29.2 FE	-2.7 FE	5.1 FE	2.4 FE	31.6 FE

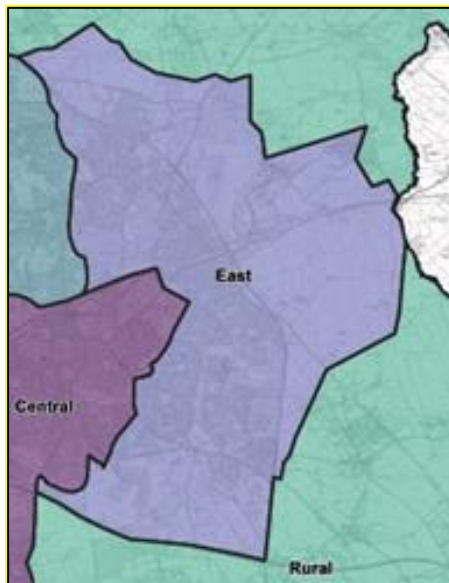
*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

11.38 What are we doing?

There will be a need for additional places in the Central area, if all of the housing growth comes to fruition within the current planning window. It is highly unlikely that the full complement will develop in the next five years. Therefore, it is likely that demand will not outstrip supply within the current planning window on 2027 though growth numbers have been included in their entirety for consistency.

If additional capacity was needed within the secondary schools in the Central Area, the existing schools could increase their PAN within their existing building. East Swindon

11.39 Schools in East Swindon



East Swindon encompasses a single secondary planning area (see maps). There are 9 Primary Schools (Badbury Park, Covingham Park, Goddard Park, Eldene Primary, Holy Family, Liden, Nythe, South Marston and St Catherine's), 3 Infants and Juniors Schools (Colebrook, Grange and Beechcroft and Ruskin).

There are two secondary academies in the East (Dorcan Academy and Kingsdown School).
East Primary Schools

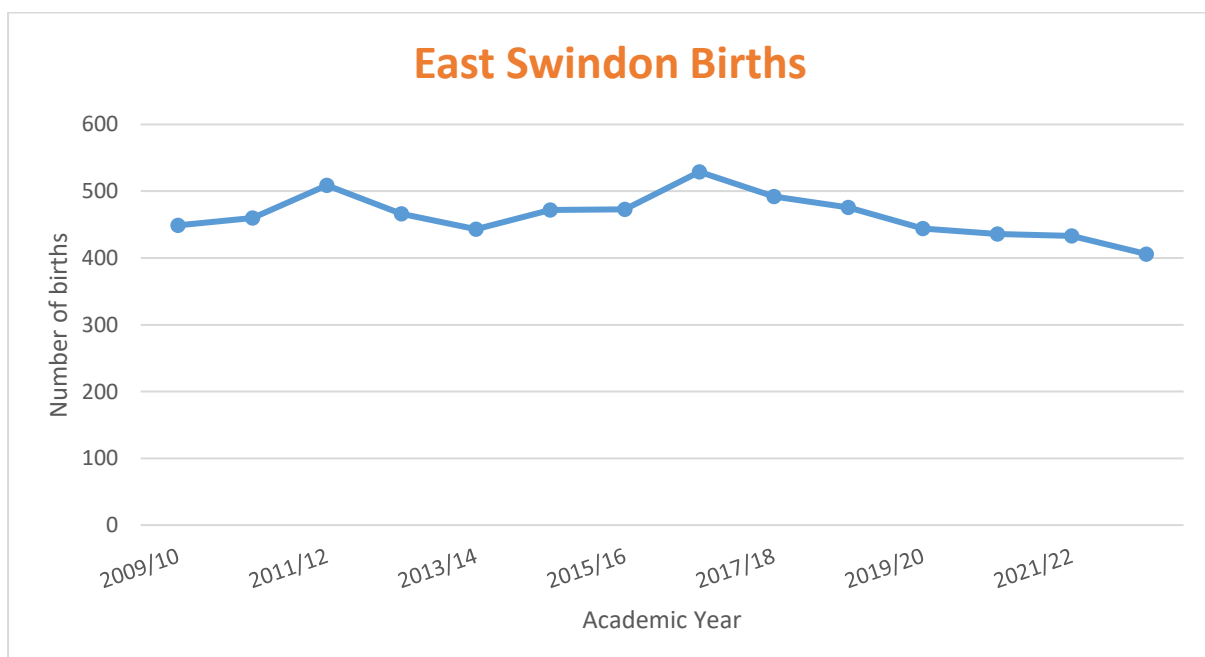
Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Badbury Park Primary School	2
Covingham Park Primary School	2
Eldene Primary School (reducing to 1.5 FE in 2024)	2
Goddard Park Primary School	3
Holy Family Catholic Primary School	1.5
Liden Primary School	2
Nythe Primary School	1
Beechcroft Infants School / Ruskin Junior School	3
Colebrook Infants School / Colebrook Junior School	1.66
Grange Infants / Grange Juniors	3
South Marston CE Primary School (increasing to 1FE in 2024)	0.7
St Catherine's Catholic Primary School	1
Total Existing Capacity	22.8

11.40 East Secondary Schools

Secondary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Dorcan Academy	5.7
Kingsdown School	7.7
Total Existing Capacity	13.4

11.41 Births in East Swindon

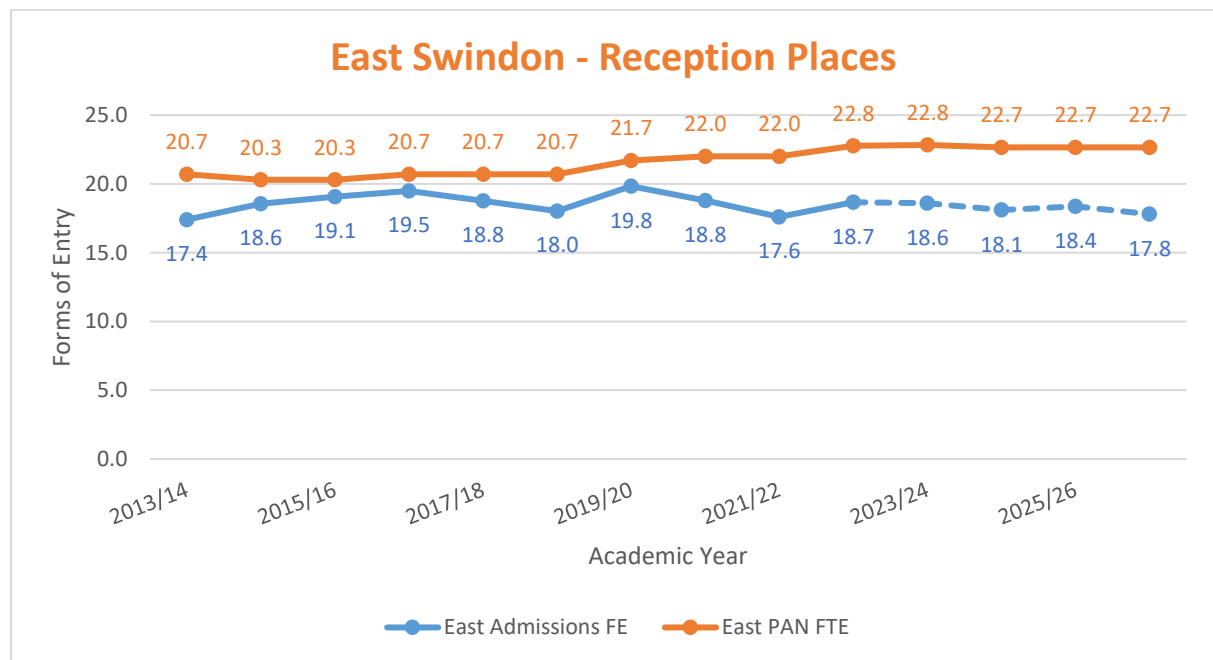
The graph below shows the number of births in East Swindon each academic year:



Data provided by Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that births in East Swindon have fluctuated for some years. Births in East Swindon reached a low point in 2013/14, steadily rising to a peak in 2016/17 and continued to decline since.

11.42 Existing East Primary Place Pressure

The graph below shows the number of pupils starting school in East Swindon in each of the academic years 2013/14 to 2022/23, and then estimates the number of pupils that will require a reception place in a primary school in East Swindon between 2023/2024 and 2026/27:



Demand for reception places in East Swindon steadily increased between 2013/14 and 2016/17 before reducing slightly over the next 2 years. Demand then increased again to 2019/20 with a slight decrease in 2020/21. It is predicted to fluctuate between 2023/24 to 2026/27. As plans for the New Eastern Villages are delivered, an increase in demand for reception places will be expected.

The principal issues for the East Area concern the proposed housing developments to the New Eastern Villages, at Commonhead, at Kingsdown and the South Marston brownfield sites.

11.43 What have we done previously?

Badbury Park Primary School opened in September 2019 in the East area.

A primary school will be delivered by the DfE at the Redlands development under the Free School Programme. This development is part of the NEV.

Swindon Borough Council has secured funding and delivery of a new 2FE primary school at Lotmead and an all-through school at Great Stall East (3FE primary and 10FE secondary) for the NEV development under the DfE Wave 15 funding stream.

11.44 Growth from housing development

In terms of planned housing growth in the East area, 2,814 houses are planned for the East area which equates to 4.3 FE primary places. This includes a large development at Kingsdown circa 1,600 dwellings and the rest made up from smaller developments.

The East area does not currently include the NEV housing development which is set to deliver 8,555 houses, which results in 15 FE for primary places. It should be noted that South Marston is included in the current East area provision as it is an expansion of current provision.

11.45 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the East area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

East	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	22.8 FE	-4.9 FE	4.3 FE	-0.6 FE	22.2 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

East including NEV	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	22.8 FE	-4.9 FE	17.3 FE	12.4 FE	35.2 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

11.46 What are we doing?

In order to meet the additional capacity that is required for the East area, the following are planned for the New Eastern Villages area and Kingsdown:

- 6 new primary schools will be provided in the New Eastern Villages, 4 x 2FE and 2 x 3FE.
- South Marston primary school will be expanded by 1FE.
- A new 3FE primary school will be provided at the Kingsdown housing development.

There will be a need for additional places in the East area, if all of the housing growth comes to fruition within the current planning window. It is highly unlikely that the full complement will develop in the next five years. Some of the NEV developments are not likely to hit the trigger of providing new schools before 2027, though it has been included within the 38 FE future demand to ensure consistency. Therefore, we expect supply to outstrip demand in the short/medium term future.

A primary school will be delivered by the DfE at the Redlands development under the Free School Programme. This development is part of the NEV.

Swindon Borough Council has secured funding and delivery of a new 2FE primary school at Lotmead and an all-through school at Great Stall East (3FE primary and 10FE secondary) for the NEV development under the DfE Wave 15 funding stream.

The proposed primary school building programme is needed and justified as the housing developments are geographically dispersed with major road infrastructure dividing communities. The major roads form natural barriers to the movement of children. The Borough has a 'local children to local schools' policy and will therefore build primary schools at the centre of the new communities.

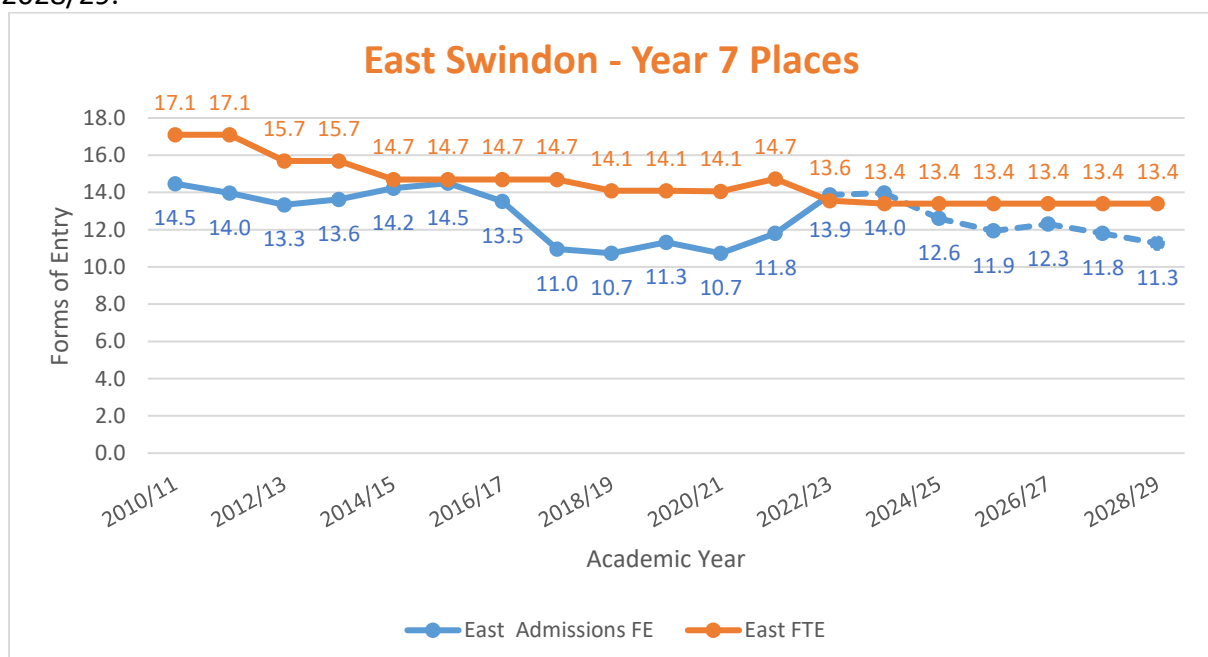
There are some surplus places to the west of the A419 road. It would be difficult to use the existing surplus places in the East to meet some of the need for new places generated by the new developments at the New Eastern Villages, the Commonhead and Kingsdown developments as they are the other side of the A419 and Marlborough Road.

The dates for building the additional schools need to be carefully managed and planned to be in alignment with the house building programme in each of the major housing developments. There are no easily accessed primary schools to temporarily expand whilst the houses are built. Both Commonhead and East of Swindon developments are geographically separate from the rest of the urban area.

11.47 Secondary in East Swindon

The need for secondary school places is based on the number of pupils coming up to year 7 and estimated shares from feeder primary schools (based on historical data).

The graph below shows the number of pupils starting secondary school in East Swindon in each of the academic years 2010/11 to 2022/23, and then estimates the number of pupils that will require a Year 7 place in a secondary school in East Swindon between 2023/24 and 2028/29.



The number of students requiring a year 7 place in East Swindon has declined overall since 2010/11.

The demand has fluctuated frequently over the past 10 years with a short term peak in 2023 expected. A decrease in demand after this time is expected following a national pattern.

11.48 Growth from housing development

In terms of planned housing growth in the East area, 2,814 houses are planned for the East area which equates to 3.2 FE secondary places. This includes a large development at Kingsdown circa 1,600 dwellings and the rest made up from smaller developments.

The East area does not currently include the NEV housing development which is set to deliver 8,555 houses, which results in 9.7 FE for secondary places. It should be noted that South Marston is included in the current East area provision.

11.49 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the East area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

East	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	13.4 FE	-2.1 FE	3.2 FE	1.1 FE	14.5 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

East including NEV	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	13.4 FE	-2.1 FE	12.9 FE	10 FE	23.4 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

11.50 What are we doing?

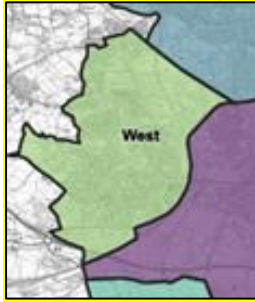
In order to meet the demand in the New Eastern Villages a 10 FE Secondary School is required.

A new school in the east of Swindon associated with development would deliver a learning campus in the heart of the community, with all the advantages that brings. The school would, with planning, be capable of managing the area school place pressures as well as temporary expansion as a result of the peak onsite

Both Dorcan and Kingsdown has some surplus capacity at present and an element of the strategy for managing pressure in the east in the short term could involve transportation of pupils to Dorcan or Kingsdown to taking up that surplus.

12 West Swindon

12.1 Schools in West Swindon



West Swindon encompasses a single secondary planning area (see maps). There are 8 primary phase schools in West Swindon (Brookfield, Oliver Tomkins Infants and Junior School, Westlea, Shaw, Hazelwood, Peatmoor Tregoze and Millbrook).

There is one secondary academy in West Swindon, Lydiard Park Academy.

12.2 West Primary Schools

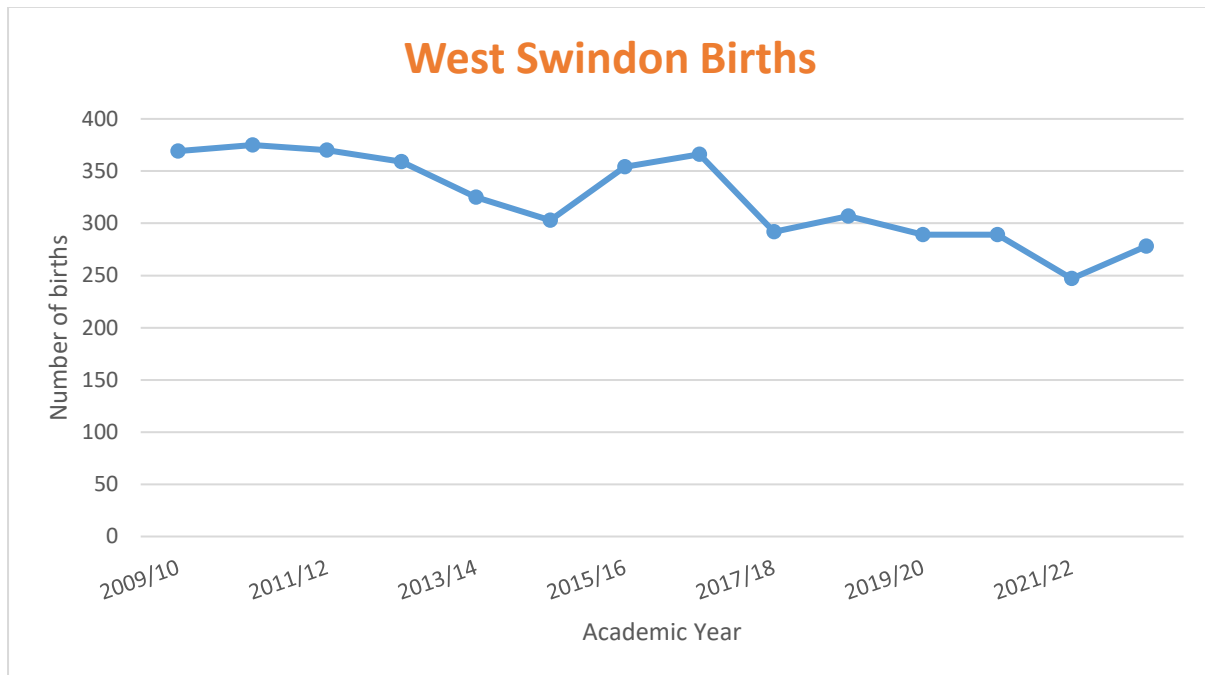
Primary School	Forms of Entry
Brookfield Primary School	2
Millbrook Primary School	1.5
Oliver Tomkins	2
Peatmoor Primary School	1
Shaw Ridge Primary School	2
Hazelwood Primary School	1
Tregoze Primary School	1
Westlea Primary School	1
Total Existing Capacity	11.5 FE

12.3 West Secondary Schools

Secondary School	Forms of Entry
Lydiard Park Academy	7.5
Total Existing Capacity	7.5 FE

12.4 Births in West Swindon

The graph below shows the number of births in West Swindon each academic year:

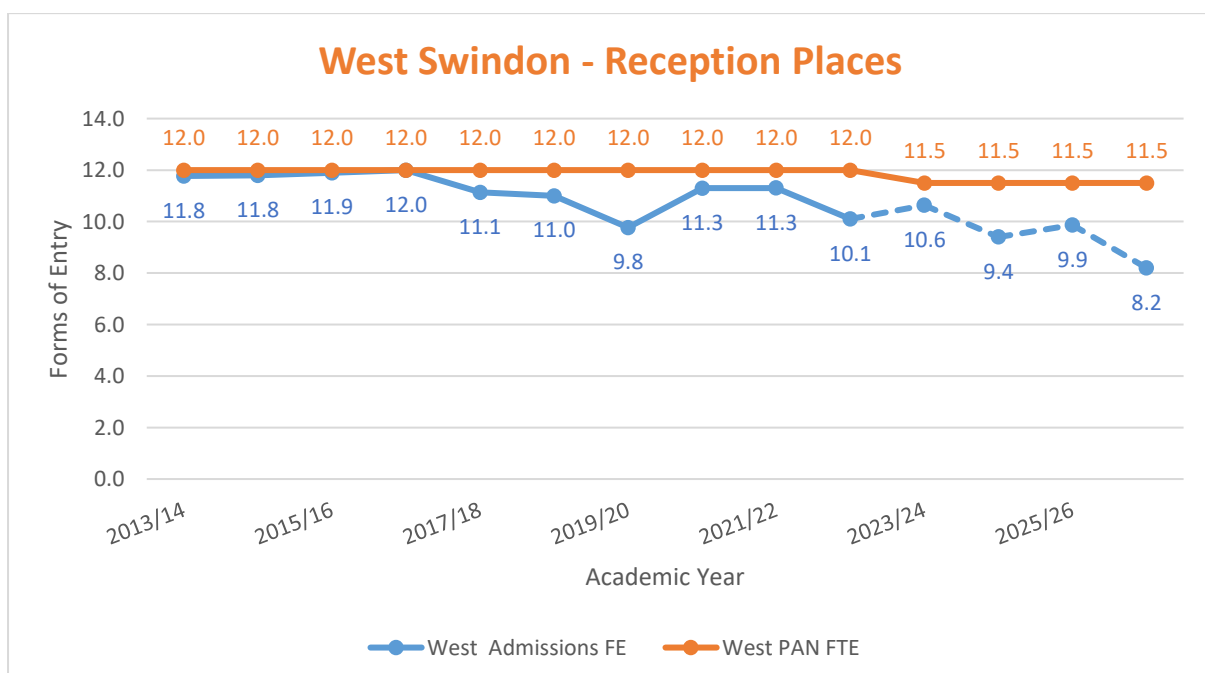


Data provided by Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that births in West Swindon has steadily declined since 2010/11.

12.5 Existing West Primary Pressure

The need for primary school places largely depends on the local child population and, to a much less extent, on pupils coming into the borough from adjacent areas.

The graph shows the number of pupils that started school in West Swindon in the academic years 2013/14 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a Reception place in a primary school in West Swindon between 2023/24 and 2026/27.



In recent years, demand has met supply largely consistently. A watchful eye will need to be kept on the West area as numbers are forecast to fall in line with national trend. Surplus

places will be monitored and negotiations will take place with schools that carry any significant surplus.

12.6 Growth from housing development

There is little housing to be built in West Swindon. However, there is some small infill with 30 dwellings planned to be built out. Current supply will satisfy demand.

12.7 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the West area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

West	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	11.5 FE	-3.3 FE	0.1 FE	-3.2 FE	8.3 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

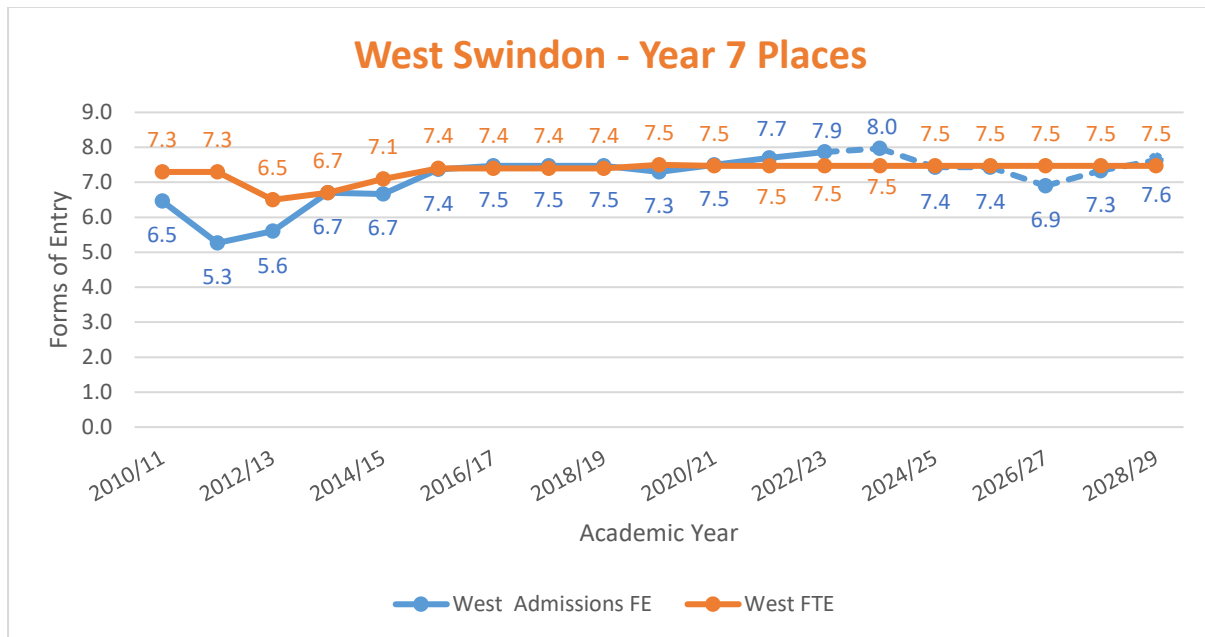
12.8 What are we doing?

There is enough capacity in West Swindon for children living in the area and there is little impact from any planned housing growth. From 2022 there is predicted to be a decline in the birth rate in the area, and as such the LA has engaged in discussions with those schools affected in the area to discuss their PAN to manage the forecast decline.

12.9 Secondary in West Swindon

The need for secondary school places is based on the number of pupils coming up to year 7 and estimated shares from feeder primary schools (based on historical data). In addition, a modifier accounting for new pupils to the areas (i.e. moved into new houses) is taken into account.

The graph shows the number of year 7 pupils that started school in West Swindon in the academic years 2010/11 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a year 7 place in a secondary school in West Swindon between 2023/24 and 2028/29.



In West Swindon, the number of students requiring a year 7 place has seen a large increase between the academic years 2011/12 and 2015/16 as West Swindon was built out through new development.

The demand has been consistent since 2015/16 and is predicted to remain so.

Historically, West Swindon has had connections with Wiltshire secondary schools due to parental and pupil preference for alternative schools. The pupils have traditionally chosen Bradon Forest in Purton and The Royal Wootton Bassett Academy and continue to do so.

12.10 Growth from housing development

There is little housing to be built in West Swindon. However, there is some small infill with 30 dwellings to be built which can be met by supply.

12.11 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the West area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

West	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	7.5 FE	0.1 FE	0 FE	0.1 FE	7.6 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

12.12 What are we doing?

A significant proportion of Swindon parents (upwards of 2FE), choose out of borough secondary places for their children. A watchful eye is kept on the West to ensure the Swindon supply satisfy demand.

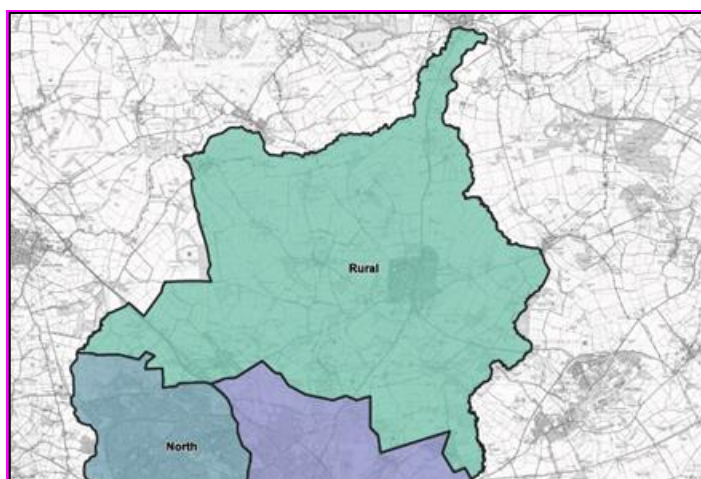
Although there is forecast a need for an additional 0.1 FE by 2028/29 it is envisaged that the current school estate in the West can accommodate this without alteration.

13 Rural Swindon

The Rural area consists of the two distinct areas: Rural North (Highworth) and Rural South (Ridgeway Cluster). For the purpose of this study, we have split the Rural planning areas so we have a more accurate view on the capacity and demand on school places.

13.1 Rural North

13.2 Schools in Rural North



In the Rural North / Highworth cluster there are four Primary / Infant / Junior schools; Eastrop Infants, Southfield Junior, St. Leonard's, and Westrop.

There is one secondary academy in Highworth (Highworth Warneford Academy).

13.3 Rural North Primary Schools

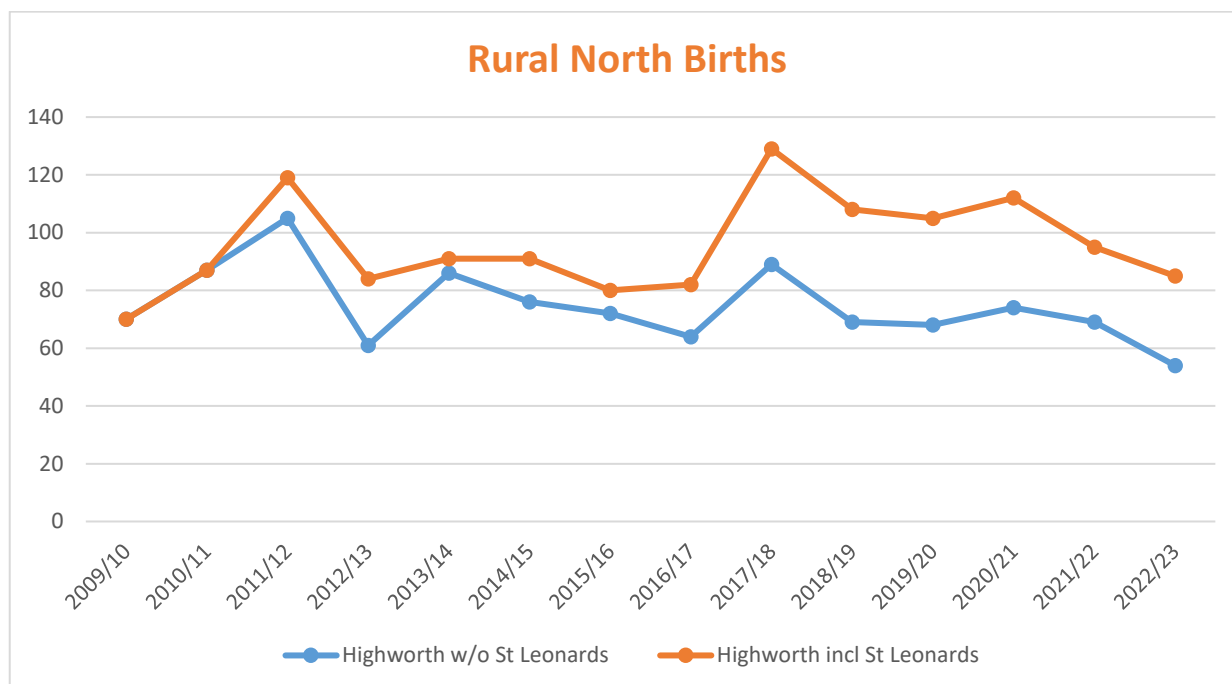
Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Highworth Cluster	
Eastrop Infants / Southfield Junior School (Eastrop reducing to 1.5FE in 2024)	2
Westrop Primary School	1.5
St Leonard CE Primary School	1
Total Existing Capacity	4.5

13.4 Rural North Secondary Schools

Secondary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Highworth Warneford School	5
Total Existing Capacity	5 FE

13.5 Births in Rural North

The graph below shows the number of births in Rural North / Highworth primary planning area each academic year.

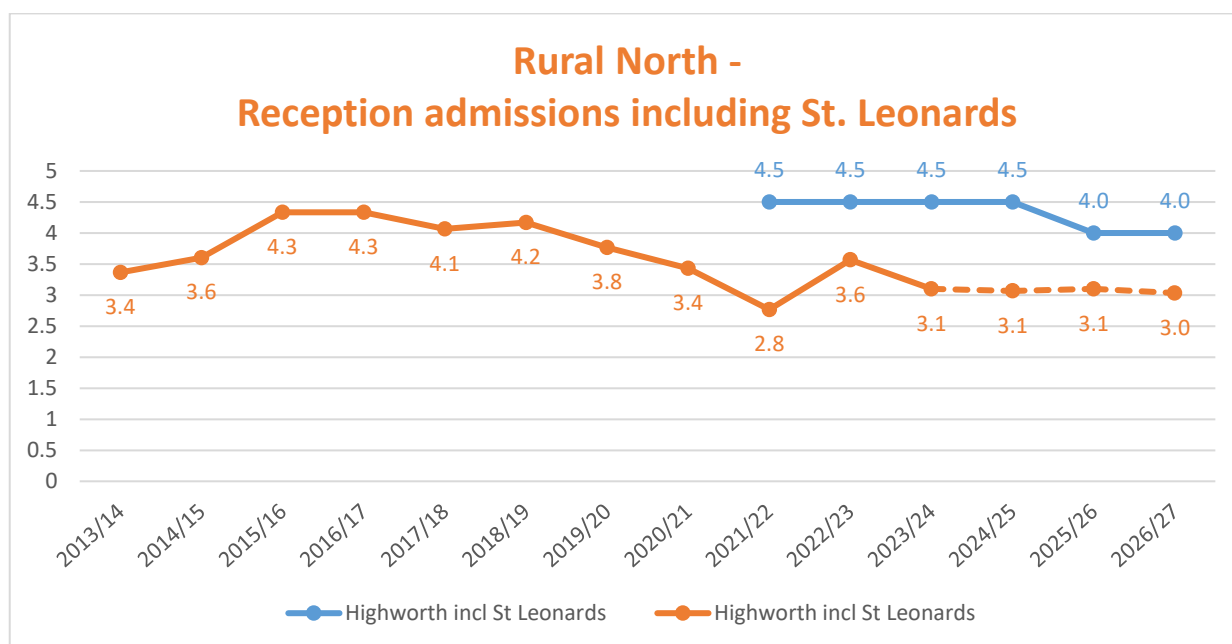


Data provided by the Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that the number of births in the Rural North Swindon planning fluctuated previously with reaching the lowest number of births in 2022/23 with 54 births. It is fairly normal in a rural area for births to fluctuate.

13.6 Existing Rural North Primary Place Pressure

The need for primary school places largely depends on the local child population.

The graph shows the number of pupils that started school in Rural North Swindon in the academic years 2013/14 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a Reception place in a primary school in Rural Swindon between 2023/24 and 2026/27.



Demand for reception places in Rural North Swindon consistently rose between the academic years 2013/14 and 2016/17 due to an increase in the number of births. Since then it has largely declined.

13.7 Growth from housing development

There are 413 houses to be built in Rural North, across the north villages including: Highworth, Inglesham and Hannington. These equate to 0.6 FE for primary places.

13.8 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the Rural North area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

Rural North	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary including St. Leonards	4.5 FE	-1 FE	0.6 FE	-0.4 FE	4.1 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

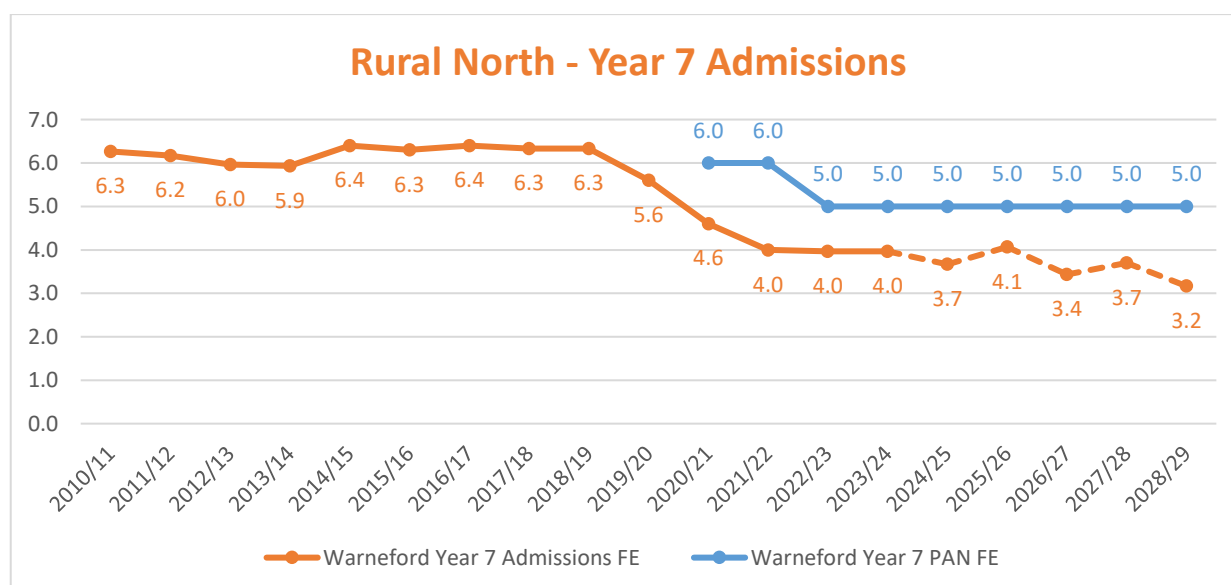
13.9 What are we doing?

The supply in North Rural area for primary school places will satisfy demand within the current school estate.

13.10 Secondary in Rural North Swindon

The need for secondary school places is based on the number of pupils coming up to year 7 and estimated shares from feeder primary schools (based on historical data). In addition, a modifier accounting for new pupils to the areas (i.e. moved into new houses) is taken into account.

The graph shows the number of year 7 pupils that started school in Rural Swindon in the academic years 2010/11 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a year 7 place in a secondary school in Rural North between 2023/24 and 2028/29.



Demand at Highworth Warneford Academy has been steadily declining since in 2018/19, with further decline on roll forecast.

13.11 What have we done previously?

Highworth Warneford School is an Academy and as such, has varied their PAN over the previous years based on the available capacity in the school and parental choice at the time. The school has recently switched to a new Multi Academy Trust (MAT).

13.12 Growth from housing development

There are 413 houses to be built in Rural North, across the north villages including: Highworth, Inglesham and Hannington. These equate to 0.5 FE for secondary places.

13.13 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the Rural North area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

Rural North	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	5 FE	-1.8 FE	0.5 FE	-1.3 FE	3.7 FE

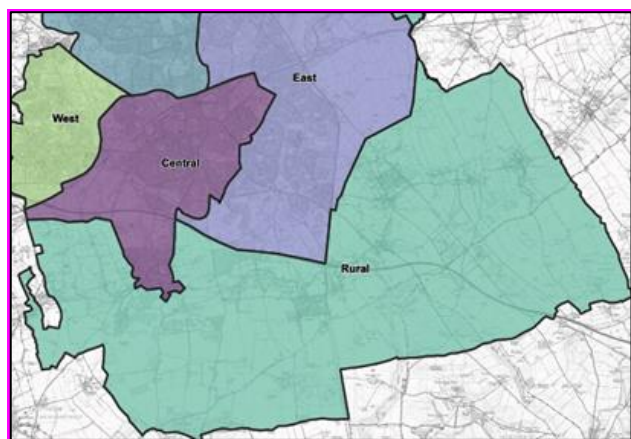
*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

13.14 What are we doing?

The supply in North Rural area for primary school places will satisfy demand within the current school estate.

13.15 Rural South

13.16 Schools in the Rural South



In the Rural South / Ridgeway cluster there are 5 Primary / Infant / Junior schools: Bishopstone, Chiseldon, Wanborough, Wroughton Infants, and Wroughton Juniors.

There is one secondary academy in Wroughton (The Ridgeway Academy).

Please note that although Badbury Park sits in the Ridgeway catchment area, it is not included in the Ridgeway cluster as its closest proximity is to the East of Swindon.

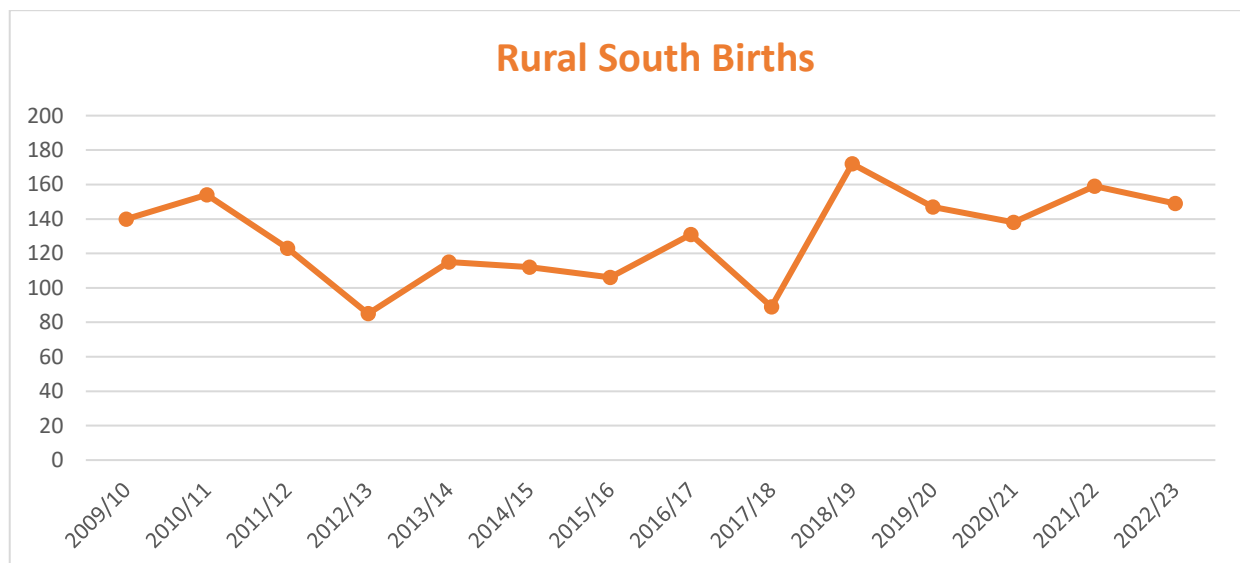
Primary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Ridgeway Cluster	
Bishopstone Primary School	0.3
Chiseldon Primary School	1
Wanborough Primary School	1
Wroughton Infants / Wroughton Juniors	2
Total Existing Capacity	4.3 FE

13.17 Secondary Schools in the Ridgeway

Secondary School	Forms of Entry for September 2023
Ridgeway School	9
Total Existing Capacity	9 FE

13.18 Births in Rural South

The graph below shows the number of births in Rural South / Wroughton primary planning area each academic year.

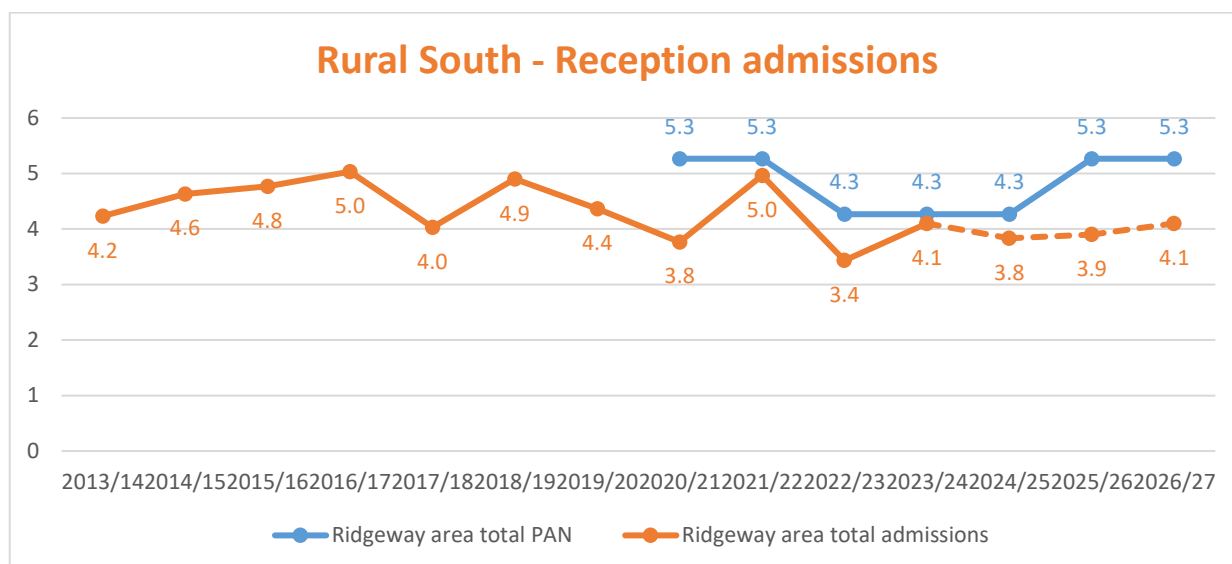


Data provided by the Primary Care Trust (PCT) shows that the number of births in the Rural South planning area fluctuated, reaching the lowest number of births in 2017/18 with 89 births. It is fairly normal in a rural area for births to fluctuate.

13.19 Existing Rural South Primary Place Pressure

The need for primary school places largely depends on the local child population.

The graph shows the number of pupils that started school in Rural South Swindon in the academic years 2013/14 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a Reception place in a primary school in Rural Swindon between 2023/24 and 2026/27.



Supply in Rural South has met demand locally and is forecast to satisfy demand in the short term.

13.20 Growth from housing development

There are 272 houses planned to be built in Rural South, predominately in Wroughton. These equate to 0.4 FE for primary places.

13.21 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the Rural South area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

Rural South	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Primary	4.5 FE	-0.2 FE	0.4 FE	0.2 FE	4.7 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

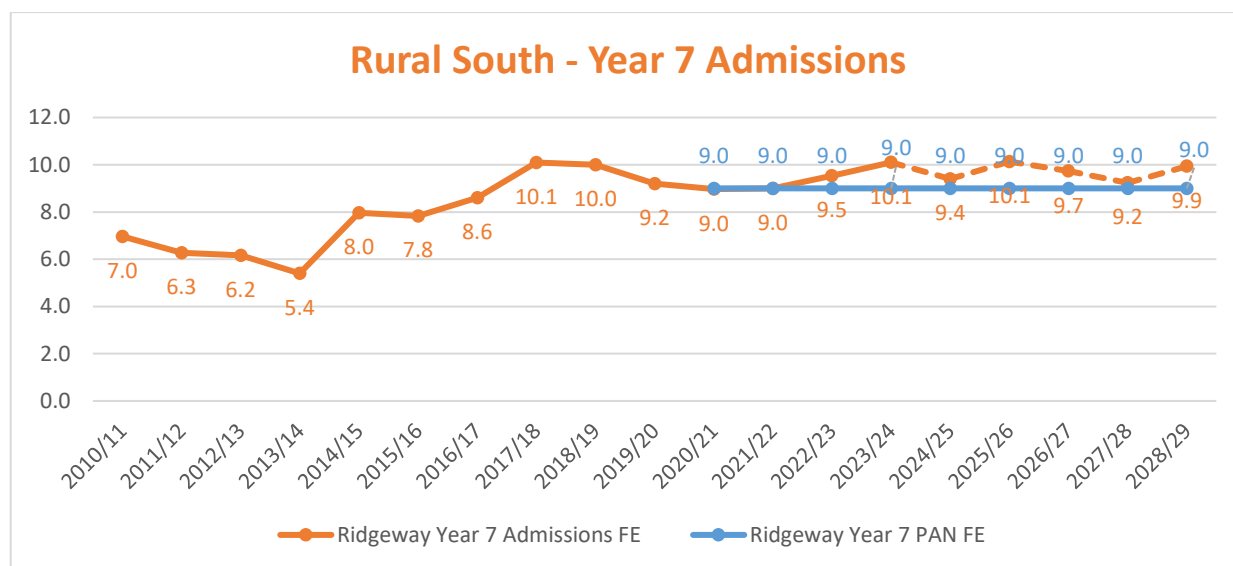
13.22 What are we doing?

The predicted housing in Rural South brings the required FE to over the capacity in the area, and due to this the LA will investigate schools in the area with regards to increasing their PAN, or to put in place bulge classes when they are necessary.

13.23 Secondary in Rural South Swindon

The need for secondary school places is based on the number of pupils coming up to year 7 and estimated shares from feeder primary schools (based on historical data). In addition, a modifier accounting for new pupils to the areas (i.e. moved into new houses) is taken into account.

The graph shows the number of year 7 pupils that started school in Rural South in the academic years 2010/11 – 2022/23. It then forecasts the number of pupils that will require a year 7 place in a secondary school in Rural North between 2023/24 and 2028/29.



Currently The Ridgeway Academy is a popular school and regularly is oversubscribed within its own planning area.

13.24 What have we done previously?

The Ridgeway is an Academy and as such, has varied their PAN over the previous years based on the available capacity in the school and parental preference at the time.

13.25 Growth from housing development

There are 272 houses planned to be built in Rural South, predominately in Wroughton. These equate to 0.3 FE for secondary places.

13.26 Total Demand

The table below calculates the total demand for additional school places in the Rural North area as a result of the current school capacity, existing pressure on places, and growth.

Rural South	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
Secondary	9 FE	0.9 FE	0.3 FE	1.2 FE	10.2 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.

13.27 What are we doing?

The current demand along with the growth from new housing in the Rural South area means that there will be a pressure for secondary school places. The planning area is a complex and spans a wide geographical area, more so than any other planning area in the town. This means that children within the planning area do not live within walking distance to the school nor is The Ridgeway their closest school.

There are plans to redraw school place planning areas to accommodate the NEV and this opportunity will be taken to address any residual anomalies going forward.

School Places Strategy 2023 – 2032: Implementation Plan

Area	Short Term – 1 to 2 years Academic Years 2023/24 – 2024/25	Medium Term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2025/26 – 2027/28	Long Term – 3 to 5 years Academic Years 2028/29 – 2032/33
East Swindon.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new 3FE Primary School at Rowborough in the New Eastern Villages. • 1FE expansion at South Marston school (currently 0.5FE) to serve development in South Marston and early stages of the new eastern village expansion. • A new 2FE Primary school at Redlands in the New Eastern Villages 	<p>New Eastern Villages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new 2FE Primary school at Lotmead. • A new 2FE Primary School at Great stall West. • A new all through with a 3FE primary and 10FE secondary school at Great Stall East. • A new 2FE Primary school at Lower Lotmead.
North Swindon			New 3FE primary school in Kingsdown. Exact timing of opening yet to be confirmed.
Central South			New 2FE primary school in West Wichel. Exact timing of opening yet to be confirmed.

14 Primary Planning Areas – Pressure Table

Planning Area	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
North Swindon Primary	22 FE	-3 FE	0.4 FE	-2.6 FE	19.4 FE
North Central Primary	16.5 FE	-4.2 FE	0.1 FE	-4.1 FE	12.4 FE
Central Primary	27.2 FE	- 6.3 FE	6.8 FE	0.5 FE	28.3 FE
East Primary	22.8 FE	-4.9 FE	4.3 FE	-0.6 FE	22.2 FE
East Including NEV Primary	22.8 FE	-4.9 FE	17.3 FE	12.4 FE	35.2 FE
West Primary	11.5 FE	-3.3 FE	0.1 FE	-3.2 FE	8.3 FE
Rural North Primary including St. Leonards	4.5 FE	-1 FE	0.6 FE	-0.4 FE	4.1 FE
Rural South Primary	4.5 FE	-0.2 FE	0.4 FE	0.2 FE	4.7 FE

*A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2026.

15 Secondary Planning Areas – Pressure Table

Planning Area	Current Capacity for September 2023	Forecast Capacity Pressure*	Demand from new housing growth	Demand for places (pressure + new housing)	Total Future Demand for places
North Secondary	26.7 FE	-2.1 FE	0.2 FE	-1.8 FE	24.9 FE
Central Secondary	29.2 FE	-2.7 FE	5.1 FE	2.4 FE	31.6 FE
East Secondary	13.4 FE	-2.1 FE	3.2 FE	1.1 FE	14.5 FE
East including NEV Secondary	13.4 FE	-2.1 FE	12.9 FE	10 FE	23.4 FE
West Secondary	7.5 FE	0.1 FE	0 FE	0.1 FE	7.6 FE
Rural North Secondary	5 FE	-1.8 FE	0.5 FE	-1.3 FE	3.7 FE
Rural South Secondary	9 FE	0.9 FE	0.3 FE	1.2 FE	10.2 FE

*

A positive number means that demand outstrips supply, whereas, a negative number means that supply meets demand in 2028.