

Report Title:	Demand for school places
Contains Confidential or Exempt Information?	Main report and appendices A, B, C, D, E, F, G and I - Part I Appendix H – Part II. Not for publication by virtue of paragraph 8 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.
Member reporting:	Councillor Stuart Carroll, Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health
Meeting and Date:	Cabinet, 17 December 2020
Responsible Officer(s):	Kevin McDaniel, Director of Children's Services
Wards affected:	All

REPORT SUMMARY

1. This report sets out the latest, 2020, projections of demand for school places in the Royal Borough.
2. These projections indicate that additional school places may be required over the next four years to meet rising demand in Maidenhead primary schools and in Windsor upper schools.
3. This report proposes public consultation on a range of options for meeting this demand, including bringing the school site formerly occupied by Oldfield Primary School (the 'Chiltern Road' site) back into use as a primary school. Consultation is also proposed on options including expansion at Riverside Primary School, Larchfield Primary School, Lowbrook Primary School, St Luke's CE Primary School and St Mary's Catholic Primary School.
4. In Windsor, it is proposed to consult on options to provide new upper school places for girls at Windsor Girls' School.

1. DETAILS OF RECOMMENDATION(S)

RECOMMENDATION: That Cabinet notes the report and:

- i) Approves public consultation on the options recommended in Appendix F to provide new primary school places in Maidenhead and new upper school places in Windsor.
- ii) Delegates authority to the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health, to add any further options that may come forward into the consultation.
- iii) Requests that a report on the outcome of the consultation be brought back to Cabinet in Spring 2021, together with final recommendations.

2. REASON(S) FOR RECOMMENDATION(S) AND OPTIONS CONSIDERED

Background

- 2.1 The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has a legal duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet demand¹. This report provides:
- The 2020 projections for future demand for school places in the borough.
 - An assessment of the options available to meet rising demand for school places.

The current school expansion programme

- 2.2 The Royal Borough is nearing completion of a secondary school expansion programme, providing 1,500 new secondary, middle and upper school places over the period 2017/18 to 2020/21, at a projected cost of £31m.
- 2.3 The final school in the agreed programme is St Peter's CE Middle School, Old Windsor. The new accommodation is expected to be completed early in 2021, with some additional works to the entrance and carpark to be completed in Summer 2021.
- 2.4 Appendix A summarises the progress on the projects in the secondary school expansion programme.

The medium-term need for places in 2019 to 2022

- 2.5 Projections of future demand are usually done annually and reported to the Department for Education (DfE) in the School Capacity (SCAP) survey in July. Due to the Covid-19 crisis, the DfE cancelled this year's return but officers have nevertheless carried out the projections work, in the knowledge that demand is rising in some parts of the borough.
- 2.6 The projections take into account the latest demographic data, changing parental preference and the latest available new housing information.
- 2.7 The projections and commentary are available on the borough's website at:
https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/info/200168/schools_and_schooling/1117/school_organisation_places_and_planning/5
- 2.8 The commentary is also provided as Appendix B to this report, available by electronic distribution only. The data is summarised in Table 1: 2020-based projections and commentary for primary schools and Table 2: 2020-based projections and commentary for secondary schools.

¹ Section 14, Education Act 1996.

Table 1: 2020-based projections and commentary for intakes to primary schools (including first schools).

- White cells indicate a surplus of 5% or more.
 - Grey cells indicate a surplus of between 0 and 4.9%.
 - Black cells indicate a deficit of places.

Table 1: continued...

Table 1: continued...

Table 2: 2020-based projections for intakes to secondary schools (including middle and upper schools).

- White cells indicate a surplus of 5% or more.
 - Grey cells indicate a surplus of between 0 and 4.9%.
 - Black cells indicate a deficit of places.

Table 2 continued...

Table 2 continued...

Table 2 continued...

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	Actuals				Projected				
												2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Windsor Middle																				
Number on roll in Year 5:		453	449	473	494	481	487	478	451	487	476									
Surplus/deficit	No.	-3	+1	+37	+46	+59	+53	+62	+89	+53	+64									
on published admissions numbers, including all temporary increases/decreases and agreed expansion schemes:	%											+0.2%	+7.3%	+8.5%	+10.9%	+9.8%	+11.5%	+16.5%	+9.8%	+11.9%
Commentary:	<p>No further action is proposed for Windsor middle schools, beyond the completion of the expansion at Peter's CE Middle School. The projections show that there will be sufficient places to meet demand during the period to 2025. The surplus of places will be above the 5% target, potentially rising to 16.5% in September 2023, before falling back. There has previously been some uncertainty in the projections due to the impact of the July 2019 army unit move (with the Household Cavalry replaced by the Welsh Guards). The indications are that the numbers of army children who have moved in are currently below the 100 that left, and are concentrated in the younger year groups. In time, these will feed through to the middle school intakes. The projections include 1.3 FE (40 children) of out-borough demand, most of whom are already on roll in the town's first schools. A further 0.7 FE (22 children) come from Datchet and Wraysbury). The middle school projections are slightly lower than those produced in 2019.</p> <p>There has, however, been movement out of Year 5 classes in the Autumn term, with 14 fewer pupils on roll at the October census than had places at the start of term. This is a greater fall than is usually experienced, and this will need to be examined further.</p>																			

Table 2 continued...

2.9 In summary:

- Ascot Primary – no new school places currently needed.
- Ascot Secondary – no new school places currently needed.
- Datchet/Wraysbury Primary – no new school places currently needed.
- Datchet/Wraysbury Secondary – no new school places currently needed.
- Maidenhead Primary – new places needed from Sept. 2022.
- Maidenhead Secondary – no new school places currently needed.
- Windsor First – no new school places currently needed.
- Windsor Middle – no new school places currently needed.
- Windsor Upper – new places for girls needed from Sept. 2021 or 2022.

2.10 A comparison of previous pupil projections with actual numbers on roll, to give an indication of the level of accuracy is provided at Appendix D to this report, available by electronic distribution only.

2.11 There is a significant level of uncertainty around the projections going forward. In particular, a comparison of the school numbers on roll as at the October 2020 School Census and the numbers allocated places on National Offer Day shows some significant changes. The biggest change is in Maidenhead, where there are currently 51 fewer children in Reception than allocated places in March, and 40 fewer than had places on the 1st September 2020. This is still being investigated, but there appear to be three main reasons why this may have happened:

- increased use of working at home, which currently looks like it may be a permanent shift. Some families may no longer need to be close to commuting routes into London, for instance, and so are taking the opportunity to move further out from London, and so leaving the Royal Borough. The evidence for this is largely anecdotal at present, however.
- increased home schooling. The number of children registered as home schooling has increased from 104 in Autumn 2019, to 159 in October 2020, and 181 at the start of December. The Inclusion and School Support Service have advised that some of these families are keeping children at home due to the risks around Covid-19. Others have enjoyed the home schooling imposed during the first national lockdown period, and so are continuing to do so.
- Increased delays and deferrals for entry into Reception. Families of summer-born children can defer their start in Reception until January, and so won't show up in the October census. Parents/carers can also, with the agreement of the admissions authority, delay entry to school and so start in either Reception or Year 1 a year later. Discussions with the School Admissions Team and headteachers show that the incidence of both delays and deferrals has also been increasing in recent years, and may have been accelerated by the Covid-19 crisis.

2.12 It is possible that, together, these explain the drop in Reception numbers in Maidenhead, but it is not clear yet why a drop has not been seen elsewhere in the borough. Slough Borough Council have, however, reported a similar drop. Due to this information only becoming available at the end of November, the projections given in this report have not been changed. In addition, it is not

clear whether these changes will be temporary or permanent. This will need to be kept under review.

Further analysis of primary school requirements in Maidenhead

- 2.13 Table 1 indicates that new primary school places will be required in Maidenhead from September 2022. More detailed work has been carried out to look at demand at a local level. For the purposes of school projections work, the town is split into seven subareas (themselves then split into a further 33 localities). This makes it easier to identify areas of growth and compare that to the capacity in the local schools.
- 2.14 This work takes into account new housing and local growth, and also assumes that patterns of movement across the town will remain the same. This means that if, in the past, X% of children from one subarea went to school in another subarea then that movement is projected to continue. Patterns of parental choice may, of course, change in the future, but projections are necessarily based on the available data at present.
- 2.15 Table 3 sets out the resulting difference between project demand and available Reception places, therefore indicating where additional demand is needed.

Table 3: Projected Year R surplus/deficits in Maidenhead, by subarea

Subarea	Actual				Projected				
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Bisham and Cookham	+6	+22	+21	+20	+7	+20	+8	+17	+5
Central Maidenhead	+1	0	+2	+3	-3	-5	-34	-7	-18
Maidenhead Villages	+21	0	+7	+6	4	5	-2	6	0
North East Maidenhead	+15	+14	+9	+5	-4	3	-19	-21	-23
North West Maidenhead	+5	+14	+17	+9	+7	-2	+1	-12	-10
South East Maidenhead	+13	+19	+34	+27	-9	-8	-25	-45	-50
South West Maidenhead	-10	1	7	-2	+20	+21	+11	+35	-15

- 2.16 Although patterns of parental preference will change over the period, it is clear that the largest projected, ongoing, deficits of places are in North East and South East Maidenhead. These areas are served by Riverside Primary, St Luke's Primary and St Mary's Primary (North East Maidenhead); and by Braywick Court Primary, Oldfield Primary and Holyport CE Primary (South East Maidenhead).
- 2.17 The projections also suggest need for a bulge class in Central Maidenhead (Boyne Hill Infants, Larchfield Primary and St Edmund Campion Catholic) for 2022, and potentially places in North West Maidenhead (Alwyn Infants and Furze Platt Primary Federation) from 2023.

- 2.18 Although the 2024 projections are not yet based on actual data (the cohort not being fully born at the time the base data for the projection was provided), a deficit of places is also expected in South West Maidenhead (Lowbrook Academy, Wessex Primary and Woodlands Park Primary) at that point.

Mothballed places in Maidenhead

- 2.19 Demand for primary school places in Maidenhead has dipped slightly in recent years, and two schools, Alwyn Infant and Holyport CE Primary School, temporarily reduced their Published Admission Numbers (PANs). Alwyn dropped from 101 to 90, and Holyport CE Primary from 60 to 30. In both cases the schools have continued to provide sufficient capacity for local demand.
- 2.20 One superficially attractive way to bring capacity back into the system would be to reverse these changes. When the changes were agreed to by the local authority, it was on the understanding that the temporary reductions would be reversed when required. The local authority is the admissions authority for Alwyn Infant School and so controls the admission number. Holyport Primary School is an academy, however, and its controlling academy trust, the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust, would need to agree.
- 2.21 Alwyn Infant School have indicated that they would oppose an increase back to 101, as the resulting revenue costs would no longer be sustainable. When the school previously had 101 pupils per year group, it ran four classes with around 25 pupils in each. Changes to school funding mean that such an arrangement would no longer be possible, and the expectation financially is that each class should have 30 pupils. The alternative would be to mix year groups (so that Year 1 and Year 2 children are taught in the same class together). Over the past decade, the local authority has expanded schools in such a way to reduce the need for mixed year group teaching. Whilst a number of schools (particularly smaller village schools) still successfully run this way, it tends to be unpopular with parents when imposed. This report does not, therefore, recommend an increase back to 101 for Alwyn Infant School. There is some potential for the school (and its linked junior, Courthouse) to be expanded to 120 per year group (see the Alwyn and Courthouse options in Appendix E to this report, available by electronic distribution only).
- 2.22 Holyport CE Primary School have also indicated that they would oppose a return to a PAN of 60 without a corresponding increase in the numbers of children living locally, or a significant increase in the number of 1st preference applications being made. At present, there is only limited evidence of either. The number of children resident in the Holyport designated area and taking up a school place in the borough has fallen from around 60 in 2016 to 45 this year. It is not expected to increase significantly at all over the projection period. There were 33, on-time, 1st preference applications received for the September 2020 Reception intake. If the school were to be expanded to 60 places then it is likely that most of the additional places would be offered to families who had not expressed any preference for their child to attend the school. The main areas of growth from within Maidenhead are more than two miles from Holyport Primary School, which means that these children would likely be eligible for free home to school transport. This would increase pressure on the home to school revenue budget – one minibus for 12-16

pupils would currently cost around £30k per annum. This report does not, therefore, recommend seeking an increase to 60 at present for Holyport Primary, although this should be kept under review as parental preference may change as the school was graded ‘Good’ by Ofsted in April 2019, following a ‘Requires Improvement’ judgement in 2014.

Identifying options for new primary school places in Maidenhead

- 2.23 In August 2020, the Royal Borough’s Cabinet received a report summarising the outcome of feasibility works on the potential for expansion at each state school site in the borough. 198 options were identified across the borough², and these were scored on deliverability, educational impact, disruption and planning/highways issues. A summary of the options was provided to Cabinet in August, and is reproduced here as Appendix E to this report, available by electronic distribution only.
- 2.24 These feasibility studies now underpin the development of specific options for future expansion, including for new primary school places in Maidenhead.
- 2.25 The borough wrote to all Maidenhead primary schools in early November with an update on the town’s pupil projections, inviting initial expressions of interest from schools that would be interested in expansion. Those schools in and around areas of growth were also contacted directly.
- 2.26 Finally, the Royal Borough has also previously used a prioritisation model to guide the secondary school expansions programme. This model has been updated so that it uses the scores from the feasibility studies together with points for:
- Ofsted inspection judgements.
 - School attainment.
 - Oversubscription on places.
 - Commitment to inclusion.
 - Cost/value for money.
 - Geographical need (so new places are provided where they are needed).
- 2.27 Appendix F [*attached to this report*] provides a summary of the prioritisation of the Maidenhead primary school options (limited to the areas with the most demand). More detailed prioritisation for these options is given in Appendix G to this report, available by electronic distribution only. The model will be reviewed and updated ahead of the final consideration of the options by Cabinet next Spring.
- Chiltern Road site
- 2.28 The Chiltern Road site is the former Oldfield Primary School site on Chiltern Road, Maidenhead. It is currently occupied by Forest Bridge School, who are due to move to their new site in Braywick Park in February 2021. The site is earmarked for continued primary school use in the draft Borough Local Plan, and any provision here would be well located to serve the significant number of new dwellings in the local area.

² This includes 47 options for changing the Windsor three-tier system (first, middle and upper schools) into a two-tier system (primary and secondary schools). This change is not currently being actively considered.

- 2.29 There are a number of potential options for the future use of the site. Both Braywick Court Primary School and Oldfield Primary School have expressed an interest in taking over the site and expanding. Other local primary schools may also be interested. The schools could choose to either:
- split vertically, so that the Chiltern Road site has one class for each primary year group, Reception to Year 6.
 - split horizontally, so the infant and junior children are taught on different sites.
- 2.30 It is not proposed that a brand-new school is opened on the site, given that both local schools are already very popular, and that small schools can have more challenges in achieving financial viability.
- 2.31 The various options have different implications for the accommodation to be provided on the Chiltern Road site. In addition, the school buildings were already in a relatively poor state of repair when Oldfield Primary School vacated the site in 2014. The buildings are leased to the DfE, who carried out some internal remodelling to make the accommodation suitable for a special school. A significant programme of internal repairs/remodelling/expansion or, alternatively, a complete rebuild will be necessary to bring the buildings back into use as a primary school.
- 2.32 This report recommends, therefore, that:

- the Chiltern Road site is brought back into use as a primary school to serve the increasing need in South East Maidenhead;
 - other Maidenhead primary schools in Maidenhead are given an opportunity to express an interest in expanding into the site;
 - public consultation on which school expands onto the site, and on options in terms of vertical or horizontal splits, is carried out early in 2021.
- 2.33 There may need to be some temporary accommodation, as the earliest completion date for a rebuild will be Summer 2023. A remodelling and refurbishment option could be completed more quickly.

Lowbrook Primary School

- 2.34 Lowbrook Primary School has previously been partially expanded, so that it has 11 classrooms. This allows the school to take 60 pupils in four year groups; and 30 pupils in three year groups. The school's PAN will fall to 30 for the September 2024 Reception intake (and the subsequent two years) unless further accommodation is provided.
- 2.35 This arrangement is not sustainable in the long term. This report recommends, therefore, that public consultation is carried out in early 2021 on the permanent expansion of Lowbrook Academy to 60 places per year group in time for September 2024, in line with the options outlined in the feasibility study. This will help ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in South West Maidenhead.

Other options for primary school places

- 2.36 There are a number of options for providing school places in North East Maidenhead, with St Mary's Catholic Primary School and St Luke's CE Primary School willing to go out to consultation. Riverside Primary School are

not currently in favour of expansion on their site, due to the potential disruption to the school whilst it seeks to improve following a ‘Requires Improvement’ Ofsted judgement. Consultation is not, therefore, recommended for this option.

- 2.37 Consultation is also not currently recommended on expansion plans for Boyne Hill CE Infant School and All Saints CE Junior School. For Larchfield Primary School, however, the proximity to the town centre, together with the poor current condition of its buildings, means that consultation is recommended on expansion there, through a complete rebuild on the existing site. At present, the immediate projected need is only for a bulge class in Central Maidenhead, but this would be a complicated project with a significant lead-in time. Public consultation now would allow plans to be further developed (if approved) whilst aiming for completion in 2024 or 2025 if high levels of demand are sustained. The school’s Governing Body have agreed to be included in the consultation.
- 2.38 No consultation is required in relation to opening temporary bulge classes, and discussions will continue with schools in the area, so that any required class can be added if high demand is confirmed for September 2022.
- 2.39 Further options may come forward between now and the start of consultation, and so this report recommends that a decision to include these in the consultation be delegated to the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children’s Services, Health and Mental Health.

Further analysis of upper school requirements in Windsor

- 2.40 Table 4 sets out the current gender split projection for upper school places in Windsor. There is some uncertainty around these, as the final balance will depend on the number of Windsor girls successfully applying for places in Holyport College’s last Year 9 intake in September 2021. There is also no way of knowing the balance of applications from other areas, including from outside the borough. Taking these limitations into account, the projections suggest sufficient places overall in September 2021, but a shortage of places for girls. From September 2022 the deficit for girls becomes more marked, continuing though-out the projection period.

Table 4: Projected Year 9 surplus/deficits in Windsor Uppers, by gender

Gender	Actual				Projected					
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Overall	+49	+42	+78	+49	+22	+6	+9	-12	-23	-27
Boys	+50	+29	+40	+41	+12	+18	+35	+14	+1	-2
Girls	-1	+13	+38	+8	+10	-12	-26	-26	-24	-25

- 2.41 Places should continue to be available for boys throughout most of the projection period. A small deficit is projected for 2025, which will have to be kept under review. From 2026 smaller cohorts should start to feed through from the middle schools. If any further expansion becomes necessary during the projection period, therefore, it is proposed that it is temporary.

Options for providing new upper school places in Windsor

- 2.42 With the closure of the Year 9 intake for day pupils at Holyport College in September 2022, Windsor Girls’ School will be the only school in Windsor able to offer places to girls (the same will apply with boys, for The Windsor Boys’

School). As the local authority has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient places to meet demand Windsor Girls' School will need to be expanded.

- 2.43 As with the Maidenhead primary schools, feasibility works were carried out on the potential for expansion at upper schools in Windsor, including Windsor Girls' School. Only one option was identified for a single form of entry expansion at Windsor Girls' School. More details about this option, and its prioritisation scoring, are given in Appendix G to this report, available by electronic distribution only, and summarised in Appendix F.
- 2.44 Temporary arrangements may be needed for September 2021 if demand is as high as projected. The school may be able to admit an extra form of entry without any immediate additional accommodation.

Next steps

- 2.45 If the recommendations in this report are approved, then consultation document will be drafted in consultation with the relevant schools. Further feasibility and investigation works will be carried out to support the final appraisal of options for this round of expansions and further develop them for implementation.
- 2.46 Public consultation will start in late January 2021, finishing in early March. The outcome will then be considered by Cabinet in late Spring.

Options

Table 5: Options arising from this report.

Option	Comments
Public consultation be carried out on the options recommended in Appendix F, to provide new primary school places in Maidenhead and new upper school places in Windsor. Authority is delegated to the Director of Children's Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health, to add any further options that may come forward into the consultation. Recommended	Public consultation is the first stage of a statutory process to create new school places. It will assist with narrowing down options. A decision not to carry out public consultation will mean a very high risk that the borough cannot meet its statutory duty to meet local demand for school places. Delegation of authority to add additional options into the consultation will allow the local authority to react to any new suggestions from schools (and others) without delaying the timetable.
Bring a report on the outcome of the consultation back to Cabinet in Spring 2021, together with final recommendations. Recommended	This will allow Cabinet to consider the outcome of the consultation and decide which, if any, options should proceed.
Do nothing. Not recommended	The local authority has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet local demand. Doing nothing will make it significantly more likely that some children and

Option	Comments
	young people are left without a school place.

3. KEY IMPLICATIONS

Table 6: Key Implications

Outcome	Unmet	Met	Exceeded	Significantly Exceeded	Date of delivery
Consultation is carried out, resulting in an appropriate response rate.	<3% response rate	3% response rate	4% response rate	5% response rate	31/03/2021

4. FINANCIAL DETAILS / VALUE FOR MONEY

- 4.1 There are no immediate financial implications arising directly from this report, as there are no specific school place decisions. The cost of carrying out public consultation will be carried out within existing budgets. Any further feasibility and investigation works required on the options ahead of a decision to proceed can also be met within existing budgets.
- 4.2 Appendix H includes estimated costs of the options discussed in this report, based on the school expansions feasibility work. This is a Part II appendix only.

Basic Need Grant

- 4.3 Basic need funding is the money given by the DfE to local authorities each year to help them fulfil their duty to make sure there are enough school places for children in their local area.
- 4.4 Basic Need can be spent at any state school (e.g. academy (including free schools), community, voluntary controlled and voluntary aided). Allocations are reduced proportionally, however, if projected need for new school places is partially or wholly met by a centrally funded free school.
- 4.5 The figures allocated are based on the pupil projections and school capacity information submitted by local authorities each July in the annual School Capacity (SCAP) survey. In the past, this survey also collected information about how the grant had been spent/how new school places had been funded. That element of the survey has now been separated out into the Capital Spend Survey.
- 4.6 Due to the Covid-19 crisis, the 2020 SCAP return has been cancelled, whilst the Capital Spend Survey has been delayed until 2021. In April, following cancellation of this year's SCAP, the DfE indicated that they intend to use the data from the 2019 SCAP to calculate 2022-23 grant allocations.
- 4.7 Recent Basic Need allocations for the Royal Borough are set out below:

- 2016-17: £2,763,424
- 2017-18: £2,435,239
- 2018-19: £1,164,054
- 2019-20: £1,226,537
- 2020-21: £0
- 2021-22: £790,954

4.8 The Basic Need grant from previous years has been spent, leaving only the £791k allocation for 2021/22. The DfE is not currently able to indicate when it will announce the 2022-23 Basic Need allocations. Based on the projections submitted in the 2019 SCAP (on which the grant calculation will be based), additional funding could be forthcoming for additional upper school places. Funding is less likely to be available for additional primary school places in Maidenhead, as, at that time, those projections were lower, having not yet picked up the increased demand resulting from high inward migration³.

Condition Improvement Fund

- 4.9 Academies and Voluntary Aided schools have access to the government's Condition Improvement Fund. This is primarily aimed at keeping school buildings safe and in good working order, but it does also support a small proportion of expansion projects where Ofsted has rated the school either good or outstanding, and which need to expand their existing facilities and floor space to increase the number of admissions or address overcrowding. The current round for funding in 2021/22 closes in early January, but this is an annual process and another round can be expected next Autumn.
- 4.10 It is proposed that any academy or voluntary aided school approved for expansion by the Royal Borough should also submit a Condition Improvement Fund bid, to get funding from the DfE for all or part of the expansion works.

Capital expenditure

- 4.11 The scale and timing of capital expenditure for any proposed school expansions is not currently clear. The recommended report to Cabinet in Spring 2021 will provide more information about this, taking into account any options for school expansion that are recommended for implementation.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Local authorities are under a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in their area. This is set out in the Education Act 1996, Section 14, subsections 1 and 2. The borough receives the 'Basic Need' grant from the government for this purpose, which can be spent on new school places at all types of school (Academy (including free schools), Community, Voluntary Aided and Voluntary Controlled).
- 5.2 There is no legal duty to provide any particular level of surplus places.

Expansion at community, voluntary controlled & voluntary aided schools

- 5.3 The options at Appendix F include expansion at Larchfield and Oldfield schools, which are both community schools. Any expansion of more than 30

³ The GP registrations data, upon which the projections are based, becomes available in the September after the academic year it refers to. At the time of producing the 2019 projections (in June), therefore, only the 2017/18 was available, so the increased inward migration into Maidenhead between 2017/18 and 2018/19 was, unfortunately, not yet apparent.

pupils and, 25% or 200 pupils (whichever is the lesser) requires the local authority to carry out the ‘statutory process’. This would apply for all options under consideration for the two schools (except for a temporary bulge class). The statutory process is also required for expansion onto a second site (e.g. Chiltern Road).

5.4 Under the statutory process informal consultation is strongly advised⁴. This is then followed by a four-stage process:

- Stage 1: Publication of statutory notice, setting out the details of the agreed proposal. This would happen after Cabinet has considered the outcome of the consultation and agreed to implement specific proposals.
- Stage 2: 4-week representation period, during which interested parties can respond to the proposals.
- Stage 3: Decision. Cabinet would usually delegate the power to ‘determine’ the proposals following the representation period to the Director of Children’s Services, in consultation with the Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children’s Services, Health and Mental Health. This would need to happen within 2 months of the end of the representation period, otherwise it is passed to the Office of the Schools’ Adjudicator for a decision.
- Stage 4: Implementation. The implementation of the proposal(s) would usually be on the date specified in the statutory notice published in Stage 1. In some circumstances, the decision-maker can vary the implementation date (e.g. if planning permission is delayed).

Expansion at academy and free schools

5.5 The options listed at Appendix F include expansion at Braywick Court, Lowbrook, St Luke’s, St Mary’s and Windsor Girls’ schools, all of which are academies/free schools. For these schools, a consultation is required if a significant expansion – defined by government guidance⁵ an increase by at least 30 pupils – is proposed. This excludes temporary bulge classes.

5.6 The government does not expect underperforming schools to be expanded unless there is a strong case that this would help raise standards and/or there are no other feasible ways to create new places in the area. Academies that are rated ‘good’ or ‘outstanding’ at their last inspection, have a most recent Progress 8 score of at least the national average, are in good financial health and are proposing a change that is not contentious can propose to be expanded using the fast track process. Proposals not meeting these criteria will require the submission of a full business case, as will any proposal to expand onto a second site (i.e. Chiltern Road).

5.7 In both cases, a “fair and open local consultation”⁶ is required (see section 8).

5.8 The Regional Schools Commissioners will then consider the proposals, taking into account whether:

- the necessary consultation has taken place.
- capital funding has been secured.
- the expansion is in line with local pupil place planning.

⁴ Page 26, [Making significant changes \(prescribed alterations\) to maintained schools](#), DfE, October 2018.

⁵ Page 13, [Making significant changes to an open academy](#), DfE, November 2019.

⁶ Page 27, [Making significant changes to an open academy](#), DfE, November 2019.

- planning permission has been obtained⁷.

5.1 Where a full business case is required, further information about the educational track record of the academy, local context, the financial health of the academy and potential issues/risks will also be considered by the RSC. Experience with previous fast track applications suggests that the RSC will often request this additional information anyway. The borough will need to approve the capital funding for the scheme in order for it to receive approval.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

Table 6: Impact of risk and mitigation

Risks	Uncontrolled risk	Controls	Controlled risk
Accuracy of pupil projections, with the risk that actual demand is significantly different to that expected. This appears to be a higher risk in 2020, due to uncertainty about the demographic impact of the Covid-19 crisis.	High	<p>Annual production of pupil projections to take account of the latest information, adjusting proposed actions as necessary.</p> <p>Inclusion of a surplus of places in planning, to provide capacity in the system in case projections are lower than actual demand.</p> <p>Monitoring of a wide range of sources of information to help make sense of emerging trends.</p>	Low
Low response rate to the consultation.	High	<p>The consultation will be available mainly electronically, but paper copies will be available for residents without access to electronic documents. The consultation will be publicised widely.</p>	Medium
Following consultation, not all schools may be willing to proceed with an expansion.	High	<p>Consulting on a number of options, and allowing new options to come forward for consideration, means that there is flexibility over which schemes are implemented.</p>	Medium

⁷ Page 17, [Making significant changes to an open academy](#), DfE, November 2019.

7. POTENTIAL IMPACTS

- 7.1 **Equalities:** An Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) is attached at Appendix I.
- 7.2 **Climate change/sustainability:** The government is placing increasing importance on the sustainability of school buildings. The borough already meets high carbon reduction targets in its new school buildings, and officers will be looking at how to minimise environmental impact with future building schemes.
- 7.3 **Data protection/GDPR:** Any personal data received by the council as part of the formal consultations will be processed in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018.

8. CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Headteachers of primary schools in Maidenhead and upper schools in Windsor have been provided with the projections given in this report and asked whether they want to be included in options for public consultation.
- 8.2 As set out in Section 5, all of the options under consideration, with the exception of any temporary bulge classes, require public consultation. It is proposed that one consultation is carried, regardless of the type of school, and that this is run by the local authority. This consultation will be largely online, with a small number of documents printed for residents without access to electronic documents.

9. TIMETABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Table 7: Timetable for implementation

Date	Details
17 December 2020	Approval to consult.
January 2021	Informal consultation starts.
March 2021	Informal consultation finishes.
Late Spring 2021	Cabinet consideration of outcome of consultation.
Summer 2021	Publication of proposals and start of four-week representation period
Summer 2021	End of representation period.
Summer 2021	Decision by the Royal Borough on whether to proceed.

- 9.1 Implementation date if not called in: 'Immediately';

10. APPENDICES

Contained in paper copies

- Appendix A - Approved school expansion programme.
- Appendix F - Summarised prioritisation of options for Maidenhead primary and Windsor upper.
- Appendix H - initial estimated costs of options (Part II)

Electronic only

- Appendix B - SCAP Commentary.
- Appendix C - summary of grammar school applications.
- Appendix D - summary of projections accuracy.
- Appendix E - summary of all feasibility options (previously reported in August 2020).
- Appendix G – More detailed prioritisation of options for Maidenhead primary and Windsor upper schools.
- Appendix I – Equalities Impact Assessment Form

11. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- [Outcome of work on potential school expansions](#), Report to Cabinet, August 2020.
- *Feasibility studies on school expansions in the Royal Borough*, RBWM & HLM, 2018 to 2020
- [Making significant changes \('prescribed alterations'\) to maintained schools](#), DfE, October 2018.
- [Making significant changes to an open academy and closure by mutual agreement](#), DfE, November 2019.
- [Condition Improvement Fund 2021-22](#), Information for applicants, DfE, November 2020.

12. CONSULTATION (MANDATORY)

Name of consultee	Post held	Date sent	Commented & returned
Cllr S Carroll	Lead Member for Adult Social Care, Children's Services, Health and Mental Health.	03/12/2020	04/12/2020
Duncan Sharkey	Managing Director	03/12/2020	08/12/2020
Russell O'Keefe	Director of Place	03/12/2020	
Adele Taylor	Director of Resources/S151 Officer	03/12/2020	
Kevin McDaniel	Director of Children's Services	02/12/2020	03/12/2020
Hilary Hall	Director Adults, Commissioning and Health	03/12/2020	03/12/2020
Andrew Vallance	Head of Finance	03/12/2020	
Elaine Browne	Head of Law	03/12/2020	
Mary Severin	Monitoring Officer	03/12/2020	
Nikki Craig	Head of HR, Corporate Projects and IT	03/12/2020	04/12/2020
Louisa Dean	Communications	03/12/2020	
Karen Shepherd	Head of Governance	03/12/2020	03/12/2020

REPORT HISTORY

Decision type: Key decision; entered into Forward Plan 29/07/2020	Urgency item? No	To Follow item? Not applicable.
Report Author: Ben Wright, Education Planning Officer, 01628 796572		

Appendix A: Approved school expansion programme

Table A1: Approved school expansion programme sets out the current approved expansion programme.

Table A1: Approved school expansion programme

a Area	b School	c Current PAN	d PAN post expansion	e Increase on original PAN		f First year of increase (Sept.)
				No.	FE*	
Secondary Phase 1						
Ascot	Charters School	240	270	+30	+1.0	2017
Maidenhead	Cox Green School	176	206	+30	+1.0	2017
	Furze Platt Senior School	193	223	+30	+1.0	2017
Windsor	Dedworth Middle School	120	150	+30	+1.0	2017
	The Windsor Boys' School	230	260	+30	+1.0	2017
	Windsor Girls' School	178	208	+30	+1.0	2017
Ascot Primary						
Ascot	Cheapside CE Primary	16	30	+14	+0.5	2017
Secondary Phase 2						
Maidenhead	Furze Platt Senior School	193	253	+60	+2.0	2018
Windsor	Dedworth Middle School	120	180	+60	+1.0	2018
Secondary Phase 3						
Windsor	St Peter's CE Middle	60	90	+30	+1.0	2019

*FE means Form of Entry. 1 FE = one class of 30 children per year group.

A further 6 places per year group were also been added at Newlands' Girls School. This scheme, funded largely by S106 contributions, was not part of the formal secondary expansion programme but nevertheless increased the number of places available. Cox Green School has also further increased its PAN to 210, adding a final six additional places per year group.

These schemes are proceeding as follows:

- Cheapside completed.
- The Windsor Boys' School completed.
- Windsor Girls School completed.
- Charters School completed.
- Cox Green School completed.
- Newlands Girls' School completed.
- Dedworth Middle School completed.
- Furze Platt Senior School completed.
- St Peter's CE Middle School under construction, completion due in 2021.

Appendix F: Summary of prioritised options for new primary school places in Maidenhead (page 1).

Rank	School Name	School option no.	Option description	Increase in FE	New land required?	Highways issues?	Deliverability	Overall prioritisation % score	School willing to consult	Comments
Options for new primary school places in South East Maidenhead										
1	Oldfield Primary School	2	Expansion to 3 FE primary school, with the infants on the Chiltern Road site, and Juniors on the current site.	1	Infant provision at Chiltern Road.	Minor	Highly Feasible	96.1%	Both scores together average 80.8%	Yes
	Chiltern Road Site	3	Remodelling/refurbishment of existing building, with a two-storey extension, to provide a 3 FE infant school, with juniors at Oldfield Primary School.	1	No	Major	Feasible	65.4%		
2	Oldfield Primary School	2	Expansion to 3 FE primary school, with the infants on the Chiltern Road site, and Juniors on the current site.	1	Infant provision at Chiltern Road.	Minor	Highly Feasible	96.1%	Both scores together average 78.9%	Yes.
	Chiltern Road Site	4	Demolition and rebuild of the whole school building as 3 FE infant school, with juniors at Oldfield Primary School.	1	No	Major	Feasible	61.7%		
3	Oldfield Primary School	1	Expansion to 3 FE primary school, on existing site only, by adding new wing.	1	No	Minor	Feasible	76.2%	No	Not recommended for public consultation. Although technically feasible, flood plain and green belt issues would make this a very difficult proposal to get planning permission for.
4	Braywick Court School	1	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, with the juniors on the Chiltern Road site, and infants on the existing site.	1	Junior provision at Chiltern Road.	Major	Highly Feasible	97.5%	Both scores together average 75.3%	Yes.
	Chiltern Road Site	5	Remodelling/refurbishment of existing building, with a two-storey extension, to provide a 2 FE junior school, with infants at Braywick Court Primary School.	1	No	Major	Less feasible	53.1%		
5	Braywick Court School	1	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, with the juniors on the Chiltern Road site, and infants on the existing site.	1	Junior provision at Chiltern Road.	Major	Highly Feasible	97.5%	Both scores together average 73.5% .	Yes.
	Chiltern Road Site	6	Demolition and rebuild of the whole school building as 2 FE junior school, with infants at Braywick Court Primary School.	1	No	Major	Less feasible	49.4%		

Appendix F: Summary of prioritised options for new primary school places in Maidenhead (page 2).

Rank	School Name	School option no.	Option description	Increase in FE	New land required?	Highways issues?	Deliverability	Overall prioritisation % score	School willing to consult	Comments
New primary school places in South East Maidenhead (continued).										
6	Chiltern Road Site	1	Remodelling/refurbishment of existing building, with a two-storey extension, to provide a 1 FE primary school.	1	No	Major	Less feasible	67.9%	N/A	Not recommended for consultation. There are already two successful schools in the area, and smaller schools can find it more challenging to achieve financial viability.
7	Chiltern Road Site	2	Demolition and rebuild of the whole school building as 1 FE primary school.	1	No	Major	Less feasible	53.1%	N/A	Not recommended for consultation. There are already two successful schools in the area, and smaller schools can find it more challenging to achieve financial viability.
8	Holyport C of E Primary School & Foundation Unit	1	Expansion to 3 FE primary school, demolishing existing accommodation and providing a new two storey building.	1	No	Major	Unfeasible	36.5%	No	Not recommended for consultation. Holyport Primary School is not currently in an area of growth. The site would be extremely cramped. This option, which requires the demolition of the existing 2FE building, would also be extremely expensive.
New primary school places in North East Maidenhead.										
1	Riverside Primary School and Nursery	1	Expansion to 3 FE primary school with new single storey teaching block.	1	No	Major	Highly Feasible	74.8%	No	Not recommended for consultation. The details of this option have been superseded slightly, as the classrooms formerly used by Braywick Court School are still on site. These provide most of the additional classroom space required for an expansion. This option would not address any of the longer-term issues with the existing accommodation and layout, nor easily allow for future expansion to 4 FE. The school is graded 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted, and any expansion could be disruptive to efforts to improve. Accordingly, the school oppose expansion at this point.
2	St Luke's Church of England Primary School	1	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing former St Edmund's House building and creating new two storey block. This option can no longer be delivered, as the St Edmund House site is no longer available.	0.5	No	Minor	Less feasible	68.8%	N/A	Not recommended for consultation. This option relied on the availability of St Edmund House, which is no longer owned by the local authority.
3	St Mary's Catholic Primary School	2	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, building a new two storey block where the swimming currently is. A variation of this scheme may be possible that locates the building elsewhere, however.	0.5	No	Major	Feasible	66.3%	Yes	The school and the diocese are keen to support Children's services and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead in the consultation process.

Appendix F: Summary of prioritised options for new primary school places in Maidenhead (page 3).

Rank	School Name	School option no.	Option description	Increase in FE	New land required?	Highways issues?	Deliverability	Overall prioritisation % score	School willing to consult	Comments
New primary school places in North East Maidenhead (continued).										
4	Riverside Primary School and Nursery	2	Expansion to 3 FE primary school, demolishing and relocating the Children's Centre elsewhere on site, and building a new 2 storey teaching block.	1	No	Major	Highly Feasible	66.3%	No	Not recommended for consultation. The details of this option have been superseded slightly, as the classrooms formerly used by Braywick Court School are still on site. These could provide accommodation for the relocated Children's Centre, allowing for the creation of the new 2 storey teaching block. This option would not address most of the longer-term issues with the existing accommodation and layout. The school is graded 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted, and any expansion could be disruptive to ongoing efforts to improve. Accordingly, the school oppose expansion at this point.
5	Riverside Primary School and Nursery	3	Expansion to 3 FE primary school, allowing for a further expansion to 4 FE, demolishing and relocating the Children's Centre elsewhere on site, and building a phased new 2 storey block.	2	No	Major	Feasible	59.2%	No	Not recommended for consultation. This is a variant of option 2 for the school, with the new buildings repositioned to allow for the phased creation of a further form of entry, taking the school to 4 FE.
6	St Luke's Church of England Primary School	2	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing existing modular block and replacing it with a two-storey teaching block.	0.5	No	Minor	Unfeasible	52.5%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. The main issue with this option is that the school would be significantly under provided for in terms of outdoor space (by as much as 32%). Arrangements would need to be made for the school to have convenient access to offsite playing field provision on a weekly basis. The school does, however, directly serve the main areas of growth in North East Maidenhead, and is close to major developments in the town centre.
7	Riverside Primary School and Nursery	4	Expansion to 4 FE primary school, demolishing most of the existing buildings and providing, in phases, two new two-storey blocks. The Children's Centre could be rebuilt on the southern portion of the site.	2	No	Major	Less feasible	50.0%	No	Not recommended for consultation. The details of this option have been superseded slightly, as the classrooms formerly used by Braywick Court School are still on site. These could provide accommodation for the relocated Children's Centre, allowing for the creation of the new 2 storey teaching blocks. Although more expensive, this option would provide the school with modern accommodation, and allow for future expansion to 4 FE. The school is, however, graded 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted, and any expansion could be disruptive to ongoing efforts to improve. Accordingly, the school oppose expansion at this point. This is probably the best long-term option for the school.

Appendix F: Summary of prioritised options for new primary school places in Maidenhead (page 4).

Rank	School Name	School option no.	Option description	Increase in FE	New land required?	Highways issues?	Deliverability	Overall prioritisation % score	School willing to consult	Comments
New primary school places in North East Maidenhead (continued).										
8	St Luke's Church of England Primary School	3	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing existing buildings and providing a new two-storey school.	0.5	No	Minor	Unfeasible	48.2%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. This seek to maximise the use of space on site by replacing the existing layout with a more compact two-storey building. The revised configuration would maximise the amount of outdoor space available, but at considerable expense.
9	St Mary's Catholic Primary School	1	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, adding an extra floor to an existing teaching block and additional teaching block.	0.5	No	Major	Unfeasible	45.0%	Yes.	The school and the diocese are keen to support Children's services and the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead in the consultation process.
New primary school places in Central Maidenhead										
1	Larchfield Primary and Nursery School	2	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing existing buildings and providing new two storey school. The Children's Centre would remain on site in their current location, but the private nursery would be removed.	1	No	Major	Feasible	56.7%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. This would be a complicated and costly scheme, but it does provide places close to the town centre. The condition of the existing building is quite poor, and a rebuild would provide modern facilities for the pupils. Removal of the private nursery would allow the school to take over the whole site, effectively removing any overall deficit of space. A home would, however, need to be found elsewhere for the nursery.
2	Larchfield Primary and Nursery School	3	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing existing buildings and providing new two storey school. The Children's Centre and private nursery would be relocated into a new, attached. Building onsite.	1	No	Major	Feasible	54.6%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. This would be a complicated and costly scheme, but it does provide places close to the town centre. The condition of the existing building is quite poor, and a rebuild would provide modern facilities for the pupils. The Children's Centre and private nursery would be retained, but relocated into new buildings to make the best use of space. There would only be a very small overall deficit of space.
3	Larchfield Primary and Nursery School	4	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing existing buildings and providing new two storey school. The Children's Centre would be relocated into a new attached building; the private nursery into a new separate building onsite.	1	No	Major	Feasible	54.6%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. This would be a complicated and costly scheme, but it does provide places close to the town centre. The condition of the existing building is quite poor, and a rebuild would provide modern facilities for the pupils. The Children's Centre and private nursery would be retained, but relocated into new buildings to make the best use of space. There would only be a very small overall deficit of space.

Appendix F: Summary of prioritised options for new primary school places in Maidenhead (page 5).

Rank	School Name	School option no.	Option description	Increase in FE	New land required?	Highways issues?	Deliverability	Overall prioritisation % score	School willing to consult	Comments
New primary school places in Central Maidenhead (continued).										
4	Boyne Hill C of E Infant and Nursery School	1	Expansion to 2.5 FE infant school, building a new Foundation stage building.	0.5	No	Minor	Less feasible	57.9%	Both scores together average 54.3%.	Not recommended for consultation. Expansion at Boyne Hill is achievable, but does leave the school short on space, even for an infant school. The age of the children means it is less feasible to take the pupils offsite to use playing elsewhere. Expansion into a new block at All Saints would also leave that school with insufficient onsite playing field space, although the older children could be taken offsite more easily. This option also provides a more efficient use of space to reduce, but not eliminate, the deficit in external space. This would be very costly.
	All Saints Church of England Junior School	2	Demolition and rebuild of the whole school as a 4 FE junior school in a new two storey building.	1	No	Minor	Feasible	50.7%		
5	Boyne Hill C of E Infant and Nursery School	1	Expansion to 2.5 FE infant school, building a new Foundation stage building.	0.5	No	Minor	Less feasible	57.9%	Both scores together average 51.8%	Not recommended for consultation. Expansion at Boyne Hill is achievable, but does leave the school short on space, even for an infant school. The age of the children means it is less feasible to take the pupils offsite to use playing elsewhere. Expansion at the All Saints would also leave the school with insufficient onsite playing field space, although the older children could be taken offsite more easily.
	All Saints Church of England Junior School	1	Expansion to a 4 FE junior school, with a new two-storey block.	1	No	Minor	Less feasible	45.7%		
6	Larchfield Primary and Nursery School	1	Expansion to 2 FE primary school, demolishing existing buildings and providing new two storey school. The Children's Centre and private nursery would remain in their currently locations onsite.	1	No	Major	Less feasible	49.6%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. This would be a complicated and costly scheme, but it does provide places close to the town centre. The condition of the existing building is quite poor, and a rebuild would provide modern facilities for the pupils. This option would leave the school with a deficit of space, by retaining the Children's Centre and private nursery in their current locations.
7	Boyne Hill C of E Infant and Nursery School	2	Expansion to 3 FE infant school, building a new Foundation stage block and replacing the dining room with a new hall.	1	No	Minor	Unfeasible	41.3%	Both scores together average 46.0%	Not recommended for consultation. Expansion at Boyne Hill is achievable, but does leave the school short on space, even for an infant school. The age of the children means it is less feasible to take the pupils offsite to use playing elsewhere. Expansion at All Saints would also leave the school with insufficient onsite playing field space, although the older children could be taken offsite more easily.
	All Saints Church of England Junior School	2	Demolition and rebuild of the whole school as a 4 FE junior school in a new two storey building.	1	No	Minor	Feasible	50.7%		
8	Boyne Hill C of E Infant and Nursery School	2	Expansion to 3 FE infant school, building a new Foundation stage block and replacing the dining room with a new hall.	1	No	Minor	Unfeasible	41.3%	Both scores together average 43.5%.	Not recommended for consultation. Expansion at Boyne Hill is achievable, but does leave the school short on space, even for an infant school. The age of the children means it is less feasible to take the pupils offsite to use playing elsewhere. Expansion into a new block at All Saints would also leave that school with insufficient onsite playing field space, although the older children could be taken offsite more easily.
	All Saints Church of England Junior School	1	Expansion to a 4 FE junior school, with a new two-storey block.	1	No	Minor	Less feasible	45.7%		

Appendix F: Summary of prioritised options for new primary school places in Maidenhead (page 6).

Rank	School Name	School option no.	Option description	Increase in FE	New land required?	Highways issues?	Deliverability	Overall prioritisation % score	School willing to consult	Comments
New primary school places in South West Maidenhead										
1	Lowbrook Academy	2	Expansion to 2 FE primary school in all year groups, providing a new two storey teaching block including a new hall.	0.4	No	Minor	Highly Feasible	76.2%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. Completion of the expansion at Lowbrook Academy would allow the school to offer 60 places per year group permanently. The school is very popular, and this would be relatively cost-effective. The inclusion of a new hall in the additional teaching block would be a better solution.
2	Lowbrook Academy	1	Expansion to 2 FE primary school in all year groups, providing a new two storey teaching block, and internal remodelling to enlarge the hall.	0.4	No	Minor	Feasible	69.1%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. Completion of the expansion at Lowbrook Academy would allow the school to offer 60 places per year group permanently. The school is very popular, and this would be relatively cost-effective. Internal remodelling to increase the size of the existing hall would be possible, but would be disruptive and result in a long, narrow hall.

New upper school places for girls in Windsor										
1	Windsor Girls' School	1	New Build 2 Storey Teaching Block on existing school site	1	No	Minor	Feasible	66.5%	Yes	Recommended for consultation. Expanding the school would ensure that there are sufficient places for girls in Windsor. The addition of a new teaching block is relatively straightforward, although the feasibility study also proposes extensive internal remodelling that will need to be reviewed in response to cost pressures.