

# School Places Strategy

Executive Summary  
2017 - 2022

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## School Places Strategy 2017 – 2022 (Statutory School Age Only)

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## **Context**

### **A1 Statutory duties**

Wiltshire Council has a statutory duty to plan the provision of school places and to ensure there are sufficient appropriately located places for all 4 to 16-year-old young people in the county. This includes the provision of suitable accommodation to support the promotion of high educational standards, ensuring an admissions process to allocate school places and ensure vulnerable learners get fair access to educational opportunities. The council manages the impact of rising and declining pupil numbers and helps to create a diverse community of schools. This document has been prepared as a planning tool to respond to the continuing need to review the number and nature of school places alongside any new housing developments, any changes in the birth rate and in line with any government policy change. It supplements the Wiltshire Children and Young People's Plan and supports the implementation of its principles.

A core ambition of Wiltshire Council is that all children and young people living in Wiltshire are entitled to the highest quality education so that they are able to fulfil their potential. Through the commissioning of school places, as outlined in the School Places Strategy, the aim is to produce an effective match between pupils and places by providing an infrastructure of high quality school buildings and facilities, where all schools, regardless of status, are of an appropriate size and standard to deliver the curriculum effectively.

It should be noted that use of the term 'school' throughout this document refers to schools of all status including Academies, UTC's, Free Schools etc.

### **A2 What is the School Places Strategy?**

Commissioning is the overall process by which services are planned and delivered. The Strategy pulls together the information required to form a strategic view of the need for school places across Wiltshire and provides a revised and updated policy framework for considering statutory proposals (opening, closing and defining the size of schools); implementing new school competition arrangements and encouraging free school proposals where needed; facilitating the development of collaborative and federated arrangements and where appropriate encouraging all through school models.

To be effective, the commissioning process requires the strategic planning of services based on an analysis of need, a set of policies and principles by which decisions will be made and well defined processes for the implementation of proposals. The full Strategy therefore sets out demographic trends in Wiltshire, including a summary of major new house building, details of current school and post-16 provision, an analysis of the latest pupil projections, emerging proposals and guiding policies and principles upon which decisions will be informed.

### **A3 Who is the Strategy for?**

The Strategy is intended to help key stakeholders and partners in Children's Services, including the Local Authority, schools, governors, trustees, parents, the churches, local communities, business, and other providers of education, to understand what school places are needed in Wiltshire, both now and in the future, and how they might be provided.

### **A4 Geographical and population context**

The planning and organisation of school places in the Local Authority is a complex task, not least because of the size and diversity of the county.

Wiltshire is a predominately rural county. It has a population of approximately 488,400, nearly half of whom live in towns or villages of fewer than 5,000 people. A quarter of the county's inhabitants live in settlements of fewer than 1,000 people. The areas of greatest deprivation in Wiltshire, as determined by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, are parts of Trowbridge, Salisbury, Westbury, Melksham and Calne. Whilst the greatest concentrations of poverty are in neighbourhoods in towns, there is a more dispersed, often hidden, incidence in the rural parts of the county.

As at the 2011 census, 74% of Wiltshire's working age population were in employment. This is higher than the employment rate for both the South West (70.3%) and England (73.3%). The armed forces have a significant presence, particularly in the south of the county, currently there are around 34,000 military personnel and dependants in Wiltshire. The development of the Salisbury Plain Super Garrison involving the relocation of a significant number of military personnel to Wiltshire from 2018 and the change of use of RAF Lyneham will have significant socio-economic implications and impact on local communities across the county.

Wiltshire Council is one of the largest unitary authorities in England, covering an area of approximately 3,255 kilometres. Wiltshire adjoins the local authorities of Dorset, Somerset, South Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, West Berkshire, Hampshire, Swindon and Bath & North East Somerset. Wiltshire is a largely rural area encompassing many natural and historic features which make it distinctive, including parts of three Areas of Outstanding Natural beauty, part of the New Forest National Park, over 16,000 listed buildings, over 240 conservation areas and a World Heritage Site. Wiltshire also includes an element of the Western Wiltshire Green Belt, which protects the openness of the countryside between Bath, Bradford-on-Avon and Trowbridge. The urban area of Swindon, while predominately within Borough, has expanded into Wiltshire. Deprivation is generally low and communities benefit from safe environments. Wiltshire enjoys strong sub-regional links and is within commutable distance of London, Bristol, Swindon, South Wales and the south coast. Wiltshire is made up of three larger settlements, several market towns and numerous villages and small settlements reflecting the rural nature of the county. The largest settlements are the historic cathedral city of Salisbury in the south, the county town of Trowbridge in the west, and the market town of Chippenham in the north. The city of Salisbury also serves a large surrounding rural area.

Wiltshire has a considerable variety of school buildings in terms of age and type. The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) 2014 Order came into force on 1 October 2014 which determines that 114 (68%) of Wiltshire's primary schools are 'rural' with a presumption against their closure.

## **A5 Major contextual issues**

Wiltshire Council faces three specific issues in managing school places:

- The demographic trend in the school population age range is largely driven by the birth rate – births in Wiltshire averaged approximately 5,400 births per year between 2007 and 2016. The pressure on primary school places since 2009 has been significant and will continue to be so as the peak 2005 to 2011 birth years feed through primary and secondary education. These figures do not account for the high number of children moving into the county due to migration, house moves, army relocations etc. All these issues are covered in more detail under the School organisation and planning issues section of the document.
- Significant housing development across the county – 42,000 over a 21 year period from 2006 to 2026. These developments are predominately concentrated in urban areas however increasingly there are pockets of new development being approved in

more rural towns and villages, resulting in the need for additional school places or the take up of remaining surplus places. The timing of some of these developments is uncertain but the extent of housing is detailed in the Wiltshire Core Strategy which can be found via the following link:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/wiltshirecorestrategy/wiltshirecorestrategyexamination.htm>

- The Army Basing Review announced by the Secretary of State for Defence on 5 March 2013 taking its lead from the new Army 2020 Plan, was further updated in 2015. An additional 4,200 military personnel and their dependants will be relocated into Tidworth, Ludgershall, Bulford and Larkhill. There is also expected to be movement of troops into MOD Lyneham. They will relocate between 2017 and 2019, the bulk of which will enable the withdrawal of units from Germany. Additionally, a significant number of military families are expected to buy houses in the surrounding towns and villages therefore the influx of military families with their children will have an impact on a range of schools and areas.

Wiltshire Council, the Diocese of Salisbury, Bristol and Clifton, the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the governing bodies/trusts of schools and academies are all key partners and have important roles in school place planning. With 239 schools and over 67,000 pupils to consider, finding workable strategies for planning sufficient school places is demanding and challenging for all concerned.

Planning for school places is based on probabilities and while pupil projections are derived from sound data and methodology they are often influenced by external factors such as sociological and economic changes, parental preference for certain schools, new Government policy and the need to raise standards. Planning must also respond to internal and external findings on the quality of schools as well as the need to ensure that limited resources are used efficiently.

Wiltshire Council will need to respond to changes in demand over time by:

- Negotiating the expansion of (or increasing the PAN of) existing schools and academies (where sites allow)
- Commissioning new schools as academies/free schools
- Improving facilities at existing schools (when resources are available)
- Reducing places at existing schools to ensure that provision matches demand
- Closing and amalgamating schools as well as facilitating federation when numbers fall.

The School Places Strategy provides comprehensive information on school place planning in the county and outlines how the local authority, in securing the provision of primary, secondary and special education, will support the promotion of:

- Raising standards
- Improved outcomes for all pupils
- Diversity of provision
- Increased collaboration between schools
- Greater community cohesion.

The strategy provides the context for the future organisation and commissioning of school places in each secondary school pyramid - defined as the primary schools which feed into a specific secondary school or town - or Multi Academy Trust in Wiltshire and sets out the

principles needed when planning school places. It will help Wiltshire Council schools, academy trusts, promoters, parents and local communities to understand the rationale behind the provision of school places and establish future demands. The Strategy will be reviewed and updated biennially to ensure provision continues to be matched with demand.

The anticipated scale of expansion of population in Wiltshire will require the review of school provision in some areas. The timescale and order of priority for such reviews is significantly influenced by the Core Strategy, military rebasing, changes in the birth rate and migration etc.

Reviews in rural areas will focus on establishing an organisational structure that promotes the continuity of village schools. Federations, amalgamations and Multi Academy Trust provision and Free Schools will be promoted as appropriate. The re-designation of space for other services in rural schools, to reduce surplus places, will also be considered in all such reviews.

## **B Policies and principles relevant to the provision of school places**

### **B1 Corporate aims**

Wiltshire Council's vision, identified in the Children's Trust Plan is to improve outcomes for children and young people in Wiltshire, promote safeguarding, reduce the effects of child poverty and enable resilient individuals, families and communities.

The Children's Trust Plan states that more children and young people will be educated in high quality buildings as a result of the implementation of the vision. This can only be achieved by careful management of the estate, of school place supply and of funding streams such as:

- Maintenance and Basic Need capital allocations
- Targeted Capital e.g. Priority School Building Programme (PSBP)
- School contributions and Devolved Formula Capital funding
- Developer contributions – Section 106, CIL and other capital receipts.

### **B2 Principles of school place planning**

In areas where pupil numbers are increasing the LA will identify where additional places may be required, either by expanding existing schools or by commissioning new schools on new sites within the community.

As a local authority (LA) Wiltshire Council is responsible for planning and providing sufficient school places in appropriate locations. To do so the LA must monitor the supply of school places against forecasts of future demand. The size of the revenue budget for distribution to all schools is determined by pupil numbers. This means that where pupil numbers reduce schools may have insufficient budget to maintain standards and retain and recruit teachers, particularly head teachers. By taking out surplus places and facilitating the closure or amalgamation of schools that are unviable, the LA can ensure effective overall provision within an area and within the school system.

School place planning and ensuring schools are of the right size for the future enables (where appropriate) surplus space to be considered for alternative uses, including community purposes, although the level of surplus in more urban areas is low. Promoting the 'extended schools' concept remains a national and local priority. Accommodation released can be re-allocated to a wide variety of purposes including additional early years and

childcare places, health care, libraries, adult and children's services bases and youth facilities.

Falling rolls in rural areas have already necessitated the closure or amalgamation of some village primary schools. The LA would consider the concept of 4 to 19 all through schools to serve some rural areas, particularly where numbers of secondary pupils are low and a local school could serve the whole community. Where possible the use of extensive transport to alternative schools will be avoided so that funds can be devoted to educational purposes.

The LA will, in all cases, consult with the head teacher, staff, governors, Academy trustees, the relevant Diocesan Authority (where appropriate) and the local community where any major re-organisation of provision is proposed. Such factors as the number of available and required places, school performance, the condition and suitability of the school buildings as well as parental choice, community issues and resources available will be considered in respect of both general and specific places planning.

### **B3 School performance**

Raising achievement for all learners is one of the key priorities for the LA and all school planning decisions should support and promote the improvement of educational standards. This means that the performance of an existing school, or group of schools, is an important factor to be taken into consideration when proposals to add or remove capacity or make other structural changes are being formulated. Any proposals for reviewing school organisation will take account of OFSTED inspection reports and other relevant performance data on the school(s) involved.

The LA works with head teachers and governors to ensure that schools and settings are supported in the development and planning of facilities in the form of information, advice and guidance to improve outcomes for young people and support high quality learning.

### **B4 Place Planning**

#### **School Planning Areas**

The planning of school places in Wiltshire 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. Whilst all schools are included in the Strategy, they may not be aligned to Area Board areas.

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.

### **B5 Access and diversity**

#### **Categories of schools**

Wiltshire has a wide diversity of mainstream school provision with:

- Community schools (infant, junior, primary, secondary and special)
- Voluntary Aided schools (primary and secondary)
- Voluntary Controlled schools (infant, junior and primary)
- Foundation schools (infant, junior, primary and secondary)

- Academies/Free Schools (primary, secondary, special, UTC and Post 16).

As at May 2017 there are 153 maintained schools and 86 academies in Wiltshire giving a total of 239 schools overall. There are currently no Free Schools in Wiltshire at present. The table below gives a breakdown of schools in Wiltshire by category.

Category	Primary	Secondary	Special	Total
Community	39	2	4	45
Foundation	10	1	0	11
Academy	56	27	2	85
Voluntary Aided	42	1	0	43
Voluntary Controlled	55	0	0	55
Free School	0	0	0	0
Total	202	31	6	239

### Encouraging diversity

Wiltshire Council is committed to providing children and young people with equal access to high quality education provision. It recognises that local communities are diverse and supports the local management of schools to help reflect this diversity. Schools need to serve their local community so if the needs of the community are best served by some specialisation or federated/trust type governance then Wiltshire Council will support it. Wiltshire Council is committed to maintaining the current diversity of provision and extending it where possible.

The development of new schools, including the academy conversion programme, is co-ordinated by members of the School Place Commissioning Team. Wiltshire Council is supportive of schools as self-governing institutions and is committed to raising standards. The LA believes if schools can work collaboratively with other schools to improve the life chances of all children and young people within the local area then this will support the raising of standards.

The current pattern of school provision includes several schools with a religious foundation and/or background. The Diocesan authorities work closely with Wiltshire Council in the planning of school places to provide opportunities for parents to express a preference for denominational education.

When establishing new schools Wiltshire Council acts as a commissioner of high quality school provision through the promotion of Free Schools or by holding a competition to determine the most appropriate sponsor/provider in line with current DfE policy and in consultation with the Regional Schools Commissioner. The final decision on provider rests with the Secretary of State.

There are two selective single sex grammar schools in Salisbury. As secondary numbers in the City increase over time, there will be a need to consider the expansion of grammar school places in line with the overall growth in the population. At the current time, there are no plans to alter the organisation of selective schools.

## **B6 Re-organisation of schools**

### **Primary schools**

The preferred size for new primary schools is within the range of 210 places to 630 places (1FE to 3FE) and Wiltshire Council will only seek to open new primary schools of full or half forms of entry.

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. Wiltshire 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.

Wiltshire Council recognises the government's presumption against the closure of village schools and will only bring forward proposals to close a village school where it can be demonstrated that one or more of the following criteria can be met:

- There is only very limited demand for places at the school from children living within the designated area.
- Surplus places at the school exceed 25%.
- Standards are low and there is little confidence in the likelihood of improvement.
- Recruitment of a head teacher has not proved possible.
- The necessary improvements to the school accommodation are either not possible or not cost effective.
- The school has a deficit budget without realistic prospects of recovery.

For all schools with fewer than 90 pupils on roll Wiltshire Council will actively encourage the governors of the school to consider further collaboration and ultimately federation or amalgamation with one or more neighbouring schools or by joining a Multi Academy Trust.

### **Secondary schools**

The optimum size for an 11 to 16 secondary school is 900 (6FE) to 1,200 (9FE) pupils. Wiltshire 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.

### **Special schools**

Special schools need to be of sufficient size to provide appropriate facilities and opportunities to meet the needs of the range of pupils they admit and to act as resource and outreach centres for other schools and pupils. Their size will depend on the age range of pupils and the type/nature of special educational needs that they cater for. Work is currently ongoing to review special needs provision across the county to ensure future demand can be met moving forward. It is anticipated that there will be a need to provide additional places at special schools that provide support for children with complex needs and increase the level of resource base provision in key areas as the population grows.

### **School size**

Whilst Wiltshire Council does define optimum sizes for schools it recognises that there will be many schools falling outside this range which provide excellent education. Factors that

can affect the size of a school include local population, site constraints, availability of funding and deployment of revenue resources.

Wiltshire Council will plan to provide school places in schools of sizes which promote:

- Sufficient curriculum coverage and, where appropriate, adequate curriculum choice
- Viable and sustainable schools which do not require disproportionate financial support
- Viable class organisation structures
- Adequate non-contact time for staff.

## **B7 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 (SEN) 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 Schools Commissioner 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.

## **B8 Location of new schools**

The fundamental aim in planning school places is to provide places near to where children live, to meet parental preferences as far as possible; to locate schools at the heart of their communities and to minimise travel to school distances. Wiltshire Council believes that where additional school places are needed because of new housing development, as far as possible the costs should fall on the landowners and/or developers, by way of contributions falling within the concept of planning obligations. Wiltshire has an agreed methodology for calculating the infrastructure needs arising from new development. A policy for requesting contributions from developers and for the use of such funding is in place.

It is Wiltshire Council policy that new primary schools should be provided, wherever possible, within major new housing developments. The site should ideally be within walking distance of most the development and Wiltshire Council will seek, through the planning processes, to provide for safe routes to school for pedestrians and cyclists. Sites of a suitable size for future expansion if required, will be sought where the school can provide a natural focus for the local community, possibly in association with other local facilities such as shops or other community buildings.

Where a new secondary school is planned, a site will be sought that provides safe pedestrian and cycling routes and, because of the longer distances travelled, good safe access for those pupils arriving by public and school transport. To discourage the use of private cars, schools are expected to prepare and maintain a Travel Plan. The council has a Schools Travel Plan officer to support schools with implementing their plans.

Wiltshire Council recognises the importance of considering distance of travel from home to school when planning new developments to reduce dependence on subsidised bus travel and encourage safe walking and cycling to school. The Wiltshire Local Transport Plan (LTP Strategy 2011–2026) lists several strategic objectives which are adhered to when planning school places:

- A reduction in air pollution
- A reduction in commuting
- The means of regular exercise for pupils
- A reduction in travel costs for parents and Wiltshire Council
- A reduction in congestion on Wiltshire's roads.

## **B9 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.

Wiltshire Council uses condition surveys alongside net capacity assessments to determine 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) and the other is for the provision of additional pupil places (Basic Need). The Priority School Building Programme (PSBP) is a separate Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) funding stream which invited bids for the replacement or substantial refurbishment of schools in the worst condition. Wiltshire currently has a small number of projects funded by the PSBP Phases I and II. It is not known whether there will be any further rounds of PSBP.

## **B10 Accessibility of school buildings**

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. Wiltshire's inclusion vision is that every disabled child and young person in the county should achieve their potential educationally, socially and in their personal life. The Accessibility Strategy is a core component in realising this vision. Wiltshire Council is committed to increasing the accessibility of schools, wherever possible and where reasonable adaptations can be made, to wheelchair users and pupils with sensory impairment.

An audit of all schools established a baseline from which progress can be measured. The audit concentrates on the physical access to communal facilities and teaching accommodation as well as the provision of any specialist facilities such as toilets, changing tables etc. The Accessibility Strategy for Educational Settings in Wiltshire 2016-2019 provides further details and is available upon request.

## **B11 Special schools**

Special schools need to be of sufficient size to provide appropriate facilities and opportunities to meet the needs of the range of pupils they admit and to act as resource and outreach centres for other schools and pupils. Their size will depend on the age range of pupils and the type/nature of special educational needs that they cater for. Work is currently ongoing to review special needs provision across the county to ensure future demand can be met moving forward. It is acknowledged that an increasing number of children in Wiltshire who have higher level SEN who will have an Education Health Plan (EHCP<sup>[1]</sup>) who will also need specialist educational settings due to:

- Housing growth
- The arrival of new military families and
- The impact of the Children and Families Act 2014.

The most recent projections<sup>[2]</sup> suggest that there will be 661 additional children and young people with an EHCP by 2026. Of these children and young people, it is projected that 221 will need special school places, and 156 would benefit from specialist places in primary and secondary mainstream schools in Resource Bases and Enhanced Learning Provision (ELP).

For mainstream schools this may require additional or expanded classrooms, while for special schools this may be new classrooms or whole new schools, as currently Wiltshire's special schools are at capacity and in some cases, have no physical space on which to create further growth.

## **B12 Provision for permanently excluded students**

In its White Paper 'The Importance of Teaching' the Government raised concerns about the educational outcomes of pupils who have been permanently excluded. It expressed the view that this would be best addressed by making schools more responsible for pupils they permanently exclude. This would ensure schools become more responsible for providing education for pupils they have permanently excluded and that such pupils should remain on the school's roll. Wiltshire Council and six other local authorities took part in a trial to test out strategies that would support the principle that secondary schools should retain responsibility for students who would previously have been permanently excluded 'The Power to Innovate' (PTI). The trial ended in August 2014 and it was agreed by head teachers and LA officers that the arrangements would continue based on a 3 year Service Level Agreement. The SLA expires in September 2017 so further discussion about future planning is ongoing.

This does not remove the governors' right to permanently exclude a pupil or parental rights to appeal against any exclusion. It does mean, however, any pupil permanently excluded will remain the responsibility of the school until a new roll is identified and alternative arrangements have been agreed. There are many secondary schools in Wiltshire who already choose not to use permanent exclusion. If a pupil acts in a way that means they can no longer be educated on the school site, then the school will arrange and fund appropriate off-site provision.

Primary behaviour support is largely carried out in schools and takes the form of preventative work and support for pupils as they move schools, there is a small team of staff who support Primary pupils who are permanently excluded, providing up to full time

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<sup>[1]</sup> Formerly called a Statement of SEN

<sup>[2]</sup> July 2017

education and enabling them to reintegrate back into a school. A copy of the Fair Access Protocol can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-forms-guides-policies>

### **B13 Expansion of schools**

DfE guidance gives a strong emphasis towards the expansion of successful and popular schools where possible. Wiltshire Council is committed to examining ways of increasing parental choice in school admissions and ensuring places are located where parents want them, ideally serving the local community. However, as populations continue to grow, the council will meet the increasing demand wherever school places can be expanded in local communities.

### **B14 Schools in the wider community**

Wiltshire Council recognises that schools should act as a focus for the local community in a way that extends beyond the education of children who attend the school. The council recognises the importance of schools engaging with their local communities to promote social inclusion and community cohesion as an integral part of ensuring success for all children. This is particularly important for communities with a high proportion of vulnerable families.

In co-operation with agencies and other organisations, many schools have facilities which are made available to the wider community including sports and leisure complexes, ICT facilities, playgroups, childcare facilities, adult education and youth provision. School facilities are increasingly being made available for evening, weekend and holiday use making more effective use of the resources available.

### **B15 Admissions policy**

The Admissions Team administers Wiltshire's co-ordinated admissions scheme. This includes admissions to all schools including academies as well as 'In Year' admissions. The team also deals with the admission of hard to place pupils under the Fair Access Protocol, which is used to ensure these pupils are placed in a school quickly and with the appropriate support. The protocol also ensures that no school receives more than their fair share of difficult or challenging pupils by working with head teachers to ensure the equitable distribution between schools.

There is a wide range of admissions authorities as each academy, foundation or voluntary aided school has its own Admission Policy. The admissions team co-ordinates all applications to place more than 19,000 children in schools each year, including those of returning service personnel. 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 Admissions Code in determining their admission arrangements, which includes expansions and contractions of school capacities. Up to date details of the Wiltshire schools' admissions processes can be found on the Wiltshire Council website via the following link:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schoolseducationandlearning/schoolsandcolleges/schooladmissions.htm>

## **B16 Early years and childcare**

In Wiltshire, all three and four-year-old children are currently entitled to 15 hours funded part-time nursery education. From September 2017, this has increased to 30 hours for working parents with children aged three and four.

These places are available in pre-schools, full day-care nurseries, independent schools, nursery classes in schools and with childminders. Access to Free Entitlement funding by providers is dependent on the setting's OFSTED judgment. Settings can be school located or privately run and many in Wiltshire are run by the voluntary sector. They are often situated on school sites and use is also made of local facilities such as community & church halls and through private accommodation. The government also provides part-time education for the most disadvantaged two year olds in the county and, since 2014, 40% of these children have been entitled to 15 hours' early education per week. In Wiltshire, this funding is known as 'Better 2gether Funding'.

Wiltshire has 17 Children's Centre buildings located across the county. Children's centre services are also provided in a range of venues in local communities so that families can access support close to where they live. Children's centre services in Wiltshire are run on behalf of Wiltshire Council by two voluntary organisations - Spurgeons and The RISE Trust. These two charities receive funding from Wiltshire Council to help all children get the best start in life.

## **B17 Education and Skills (to 25 years for learners with learning difficulties and disabilities)**

Wiltshire Council remains committed to working in partnership with all providers – schools, free schools, academies, colleges and training providers – to review and develop education provision in the county. Providers continue to work collaboratively within three partnership areas (The North Federation, The West Wilts Alliance and The Wessex Partnership) on joint strategies for developing 14 to 19 education and training opportunities. Collaborative approaches between schools, academies, college and work-based learning providers will continue to underpin this approach in Wiltshire.

Wiltshire currently has two further education providers, Wiltshire College and the UTC. The college has four delivery hubs providing education for learners aged 14+ including specialist provision for students with learning difficulties or disabilities. The UTC, based in Salisbury provides a more specialist curriculum for the 14-19 age range. There are 21 secondary schools that provide post 16 education where most students follow Level 3 qualifications. In addition, Salisbury Sixth Form Centre, a post 16 free school based in Salisbury, offers level 3 qualifications the majority of which are A levels.

The raising of the participation age (RPA) to 18 is factored in to school place planning. Although some 5000 students aged 16 to 18 attend a school or academy-based post 16 provision, many learners choose to attend Wiltshire College, other work-based learning providers or access provision beyond the county boundaries. The current government agenda is focusing on increasing apprenticeship provision and the recent introduction of the Apprenticeship Levy is impacting in a positive way, on the range of opportunities available within Wiltshire and will require continued close working with employers to create opportunities and places.

The introduction of the RPA has led to a growth in learners staying on at school or seeking full-time educational placements. The Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) is responsible for allocating and funding post 16 places including capital developments. Wiltshire Council will work with schools to support the establishment of new post 16 places

based on the individual school circumstances of each proposal but is not responsible for approving or funding developments. In line with changes to recent government recording requirements, Wiltshire Council is responsible for tracking young people up to and including age 17. Latest data shows that 2.8% of 16 and 17 year olds were NEET.

In all cases the aim of the council will be to develop plans which ensure adequate, high quality facilities are available to support learners aged 14 to 19 (25).

### **B18 Post 16**

The Local Authority has a statutory responsibility for ensuring sufficient school places of statutory school age which covers children between the ages of 4 and 16, responsibility for the planning and funding of post 16 places rests with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

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## C School Organisation and Planning Issues

### C1 Influencing factors

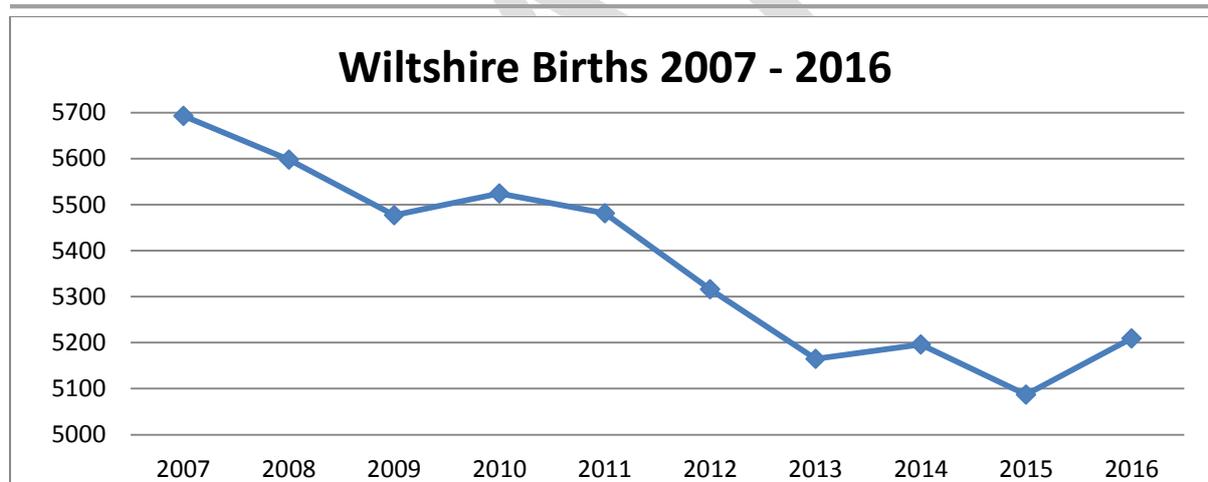
The key factors likely to have the greatest influence on managing school places across the county over the next 5 years include the birth rate, housing development, migration and the presence of the Armed Services in Wiltshire.

#### Birth rate

The demographic trend in the school population age range is largely driven by the birth rate. Interestingly and in contrast to national trends there has been an overall drop in the birth rate in the last few years (across Wiltshire) from around 5,500 births a year to 5,200.

Births in Wiltshire averaged 5,375 births per year between 2007 and 2016, with peaks in 2008 and 2010 and a decline in 2015. The pressure on primary school places since 2009 has been significant and will continue to be so for the next 7 years as the peak 2005 to 2011 birth years feed through. In addition, the oldest children from these peak years began to feed into secondary education from September 2016.

Year of birth	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number	5693	5598	5477	5524	5481	5316	5165	5196	5087	5209



#### Comparison - births to NOR

Year of birth	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number	5693	5598	5477	5524	5481	5316	5165	5196	5087	5209
Reception Entry	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
(F) = Forecast	5113	5274	5158	5452	5680	5556	5493	5419	5205	5173

## Housing development

The Wiltshire Core Strategy sets out the housing totals and phasing for each community area – it should be noted that some of these areas differ from the secondary planning areas detailed in this School Places Strategy (SPS). The density of housing development varies considerably across the county as detailed in the table below:

<b>Community Partnership Area</b>	<b>Number of Houses Allocated in Core Strategy</b>
Amesbury, Bulford & Durrington	2785
Bradford on Avon	780
Calne	1605
Chippenham	5090
Corsham	1395
Devizes	2500
Malmesbury	1395
Marlborough	920
Melksham	2370
Mere	285
Pewsey	600
Royal Wootton Bassett and Cricklade	1455
Salisbury	6060
Wilton	255
Southern Wiltshire	615
Tidworth	1920
Tisbury	420
Trowbridge	6975
Warminster	2060
Westbury	1615
<b>Total number of houses</b>	<b>41,100</b>

The scale of the programme of work required to provide additional school places for the houses identified in the Core Strategy should not be underestimated – 41,100 houses roughly equates to 12,500 primary and 8,400 secondary places across Wiltshire in the period from 2006 to 2026.

The full Wiltshire Core Strategy document can be accessed here:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/core-strategy-adoption.pdf>

In addition, the council is currently consulting on the latest draft Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan published in June 2017. The purpose of the plan is to help ensure a sufficient choice and supply of suitable housing development sites throughout the plan period in accordance with national policy and to compliment neighbourhood planning. It also provides an update on the current position of the housing detailed in the Core Strategy. Further information on the consultation and a link to the document can be found here:

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/planninganddevelopment/planningpolicy/wiltshgsiteallocationsplan.htm>

It is important that we work with secondary school planning areas as this is required for national statistical returns on school places and basic need requirements. In producing the pupil forecasts for each secondary school area, account is taken of known housing allocations and planning permissions. It must be recognised, however, that the actual rate at

which new housing is built depends on a mixture of economic and social factors. In forecasting the likely additional pupil product from such new housing, account will therefore need to be taken of changes in the age and household composition of the population and varying build out rates. Furthermore, a proportion of these new housing units may be taken up by families moving from elsewhere within the county and migration within the county will move the demand for places rather than simply increase the number of children.

## Armed Services

The military presence in Wiltshire is an important factor in the planning of school places in certain areas of the county. A significant increase in Armed Forces personnel is expected in 2019 as part of Army rebasing and the development of a Super Garrison on Salisbury Plain. This will see more than 4,200 additional military personnel and their families housed on a more permanent basis in Wiltshire. We have been working closely with the Army and Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) to determine the numbers, locations and timing of the troops and their families moving back to the Salisbury Plain area. The additional school places including early years, primary, secondary and some specialist provision to support the returning military families has been finalised and work is well underway to deliver the additional school places required. Some expansion work has already been undertaken and projects to expand secondary schools and the provision of two new primary schools in the Salisbury Plain area are included in the latest SPS Implementation Plan. All the new school places are planned to be delivered by September 2019.

## C2 Population overview

The birth rate and numbers of children arising from military families is substantially higher than in the rest of the population. Account is taken of this when planning school places in relevant areas. Wiltshire is predominantly a rural county. The approach of the local authority to school place planning must therefore be designed to support dispersed populations in rural areas, those resident in small towns and the larger populations concentrated in the urban areas. The tables below show there has been a significant increase in both Wiltshire's overall demographic population and that of school populations since 2011 with further increases projected. The effect of the upturn in the economy following the most recent recession and its impact on the housing market, and thus population mobility, will continue to be monitored throughout the period of this plan. The growth has been more significant in the primary phase for the past few years however that growth is now moving into the secondary phase and we will need to expand secondary school places.

### Wiltshire total population overview

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Difference 2011-2016	% Difference 2011-2016
Totals	474,319	476,816	479,634	482,410	486,093	488,409	14,090	+3%

N.B. 2011 and 2012 differ to those published in the previous School Places Strategy as the ONS retrospectively corrected 2011 and 2012 to the figures given above.

## Wiltshire school population data 2011 to 2016

School Type	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	Difference 2011-2016	% Difference
Primary	34,209	34,213	35,453	35,525	37,353	37,939	+3,730	+11%
Secondary	29,787	29,788	29,424	29,325	28,738	28,882	-905	-3%
Special	510	504	526	535	578	594	+84	+16%
<b>Total School</b>	<b>64,506</b>	<b>64,505</b>	<b>65,403</b>	<b>65,385</b>	<b>66,669</b>	<b>67,415</b>	<b>2,909</b>	<b>+4.5%</b>

## School population comparison to PAN

School type	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Average overall surplus places
Primary NOR	34,209	34,213	35,453	35,525	37,353	37,939	
<b>Total Primary Net Capacity</b>	<b>40,586</b>	<b>40,613</b>	<b>41,485</b>	<b>41,902</b>	<b>43,775</b>	<b>44,659</b>	<b>15%</b>
Secondary NOR	29,787	29,788	29,424	29,325	28,738	28,882	
<b>Total Secondary Net Capacity</b>	<b>33,568</b>	<b>33,420</b>	<b>33,684</b>	<b>33,684</b>	<b>34,150</b>	<b>34,526</b>	<b>13.5%</b>

## Primary school numbers by year group as at October 2016

Year	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Totals	5,556	5,753	5,636	5,361	5,448	5,197	4,988	37,939

This table shows the larger cohorts currently in the younger age ranges in primary schools and the lower numbers currently feeding into the secondary schools. From 2017/2018 the situation will begin to reverse as the larger cohorts of pupils feed into secondary schools. Wiltshire Council recognises the changes in birth rate and the need to plan for the extra places where there is no capacity, but will keep places under constant review as the impact of a changing birth rate, migration and more housing becomes clearer.

## Secondary school numbers by year group as at October 2016

Year	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
Totals	5,036	4,975	4,809	4,658	4,702	2,489	2,213	28,882

There was a decline in secondary school numbers in recent years as the small cohorts moved up from primary school. However, numbers have steadily begun to increase and will reach another peak when the present KS1 children reach secondary age – in approximately 4 to 5 years' time (2021/2022). These calculations and predictions do not take account of housing developments and local factors such as Armed Forces movements.

Although these tables give the overall picture in the county there will be significant variations between areas of the local authority with, for instance, a greater decline in primary numbers in the rural areas. Factors such as armed forces movement and the rate at which housing developments are built out are continually monitored. The individual secondary area data gives greater analysis of the trends for that area.

Recent government figures reveal that, nationally, the primary school population has been rising since 2009 and reached around 4.4m in 2015. However, the rate of increase is slowing down with a recent reduction in births and with the population projected to be broadly stable by 2024. In contrast, the secondary school population is projected to continue rising, reaching approximately 3.3m by 2024, an increase of 20% on the 2015 population.

A summary analysis of the projections and issues in key areas is provided at section C3. Please refer to each of the individual areas appended to this document for more detailed information.

### **C3 Summary by school planning area**

The planning of school places in Wiltshire is based on the geographical areas defined by the secondary school catchments and feeder schools aligned to them. Whilst all schools are included in the Strategy, they may not be aligned to area board areas.

#### **Amesbury**

- The latest data shows an increase in births this year following a stable birth rate in recent years. The impact of future troop movements and significant local housing development will also increase demand for primary school places. Additional accommodation will be provided through the expansion of existing primary provision and the construction of a new school in the coming years.
- The remaining housing is predicted to generate 237 additional secondary aged pupils who, due to the legacy of surplus places, can be contained within existing provision in the short term. However, work is currently underway to expand The Stonehenge School and provide an additional 300 places. This work is scheduled to complete for September 2018 and the PAN will increase accordingly to 224 (subject to planning approval).

#### **Bradford-on-Avon**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Bradford on Avon area shows the birth rate has declined by approximately 7% in recent years. This pattern coupled with the impact of modest housing development is unlikely to significantly increase demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years.
- The current increase in primary numbers is already impacting upon secondary school provision in this area. A small expansion of 60 places is planned at St. Laurence school and is scheduled to open for September 2018. The published PAN has already been updated by the school in anticipation of completion of these works. Currently, the school has a high proportion of pupils from outside its designated area securing places at the school and therefore as in-area numbers increase, students living outside the schools designated area will need to consider places at their local schools.

## **Calne**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Calne area shows the birth rate has declined slightly in recent years despite a spike in 2014. However, the impact of housing development will increase demand for primary school places in Calne over the coming years. Due to the legacy of surplus places it is expected this increase in demand can be contained within the existing schools in the short term. A project is planned to provide 105 places (0.5FE) at Priestley Primary School from September 2019 which will address the anticipated long-term deficit. There is currently no anticipated impact on secondary provision as increased numbers can be accommodated within the existing provision.

## **Chippenham**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Chippenham area shows the birth rate has, on average, remained the same but the area does experience peaks and troughs. However, there are 5,090 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Chippenham community area. The significant level of planned housing will increase pressure on both primary and secondary school places by 2026. Due to the legacy of surplus places in Chippenham town it is expected this increase in demand can be contained within the existing schools in the short term, with additional accommodation provided where necessary. However, there will be a need to provide a number of new primary schools to serve the new community housing areas expected to be established in the medium to longer term.
- Due to the legacy of surplus places in Chippenham town it is expected the increase in demand for secondary places can be contained within the existing schools in the short term. As numbers increase there will be a need to expand provision of the existing secondary school provision in the medium term.

## **Corsham**

- The birth rate has, on average, declined in recent years however, the impact of housing development will put existing primary provision under pressure therefore additional accommodation will be required within the period covered by this plan.
- The new housing is predicted to generate a further 178 secondary aged pupils and taking this into consideration with housing proposals in neighbouring areas there will be a shortfall of secondary places. A proposed 90 place expansion to The Corsham School is currently at the planning stage and should be available from September 2019.

## **Devizes**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Devizes area shows the birth rate has declined in recent years. This pattern coupled with the impact of modest housing development is unlikely to significantly increase demand for primary school places over the coming years.
- The remaining housing is predicted to generate a further 198 secondary aged pupils. Due to a legacy of surplus places across the Devizes area there is unlikely to be significant impact on the school immediately. Demand for school places at Devizes School needs to be planned in the context of the capacity available at the nearby Lavington School.

## **Downton**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Downton area shows the birth rate has declined slightly in recent years. Housing proposals identified in the Core Strategy for Downton itself indicate a shortfall of primary places in the next few years. A small extension to Downton Primary School is scheduled to open for the academic year beginning September 2018.
- There are 190 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Downton community area which is expected to generate 45 secondary aged pupils by 2026. The current increase in primary numbers is already impacting upon secondary school provision, however The Trafalgar School has a high proportion of pupils from outside its designated area securing places at the school. Therefore, as in-area numbers increase, students living outside the school's designated area will need to consider places at their local schools. Demand for school places at The Trafalgar School needs to be planned in the context of the capacity available at the nearby secondary schools in Salisbury.

## **Durrington**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Durrington area shows the birth rate has, on average, remained the same. However, this area is subject to significant peaks and troughs due to the high population of military families. This increase coupled with the impact of future troop movements and some housing development will lead to a significant increase in demand for primary school places over the coming 5 years. Planning consent for a new 2FE primary school on a site in the Larkhill area has been agreed in order that the Figheldean CE Primary School can relocate and expand by 300 places to accommodate the increasing numbers of military children expected. Work has started on site and numbers will be kept under review beyond 2019 to ensure there are sufficient places in the right locations moving forward.
- There are 2,785 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Amesbury, Bulford and Durrington community areas. The 707 SFA houses due to be constructed for the Army rebasing are not included in the Core Strategy. The combination of Core Strategy and SFA housing is predicted to generate 211 additional secondary aged pupils. Durrington Avon Valley College will be expanded by 270 places to meet the additional demand from military families relocating to the area in 2018 & 2019 and the school will increase its PAN to 225 with effect from September 2019.

## **Lavington**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Lavington area has remained stable in recent years. This pattern coupled with the impact of modest housing development is unlikely to significantly increase overall demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years.
- There are approximately 490 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Devizes community area (excluding Devizes town), which includes the villages in the Lavington secondary school cluster area. Currently, as Lavington School has a high proportion of pupils from outside its designated area and historically takes above PAN it is expected that any increase in demand can be contained within the school. The demand for school places at Lavington School needs to be planned in the context of the capacity available at secondary schools in Devizes and Westbury.

Lavington School is currently consulting on a proposal to provide post 16 provision on site.

### **Malmesbury**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Malmesbury area shows the birth rate has declined significantly in recent years. Despite a drop in the birth rate, additional housing development in the area means that demand for primary school places is still increasing albeit at a slower rate. All three primary schools that serve the town are expected to be at or near capacity and there is a need to provide a further 0.5FE for September 2019.
- There are 1,395 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Malmesbury community area. The remaining housing is predicted to generate a further 133 secondary aged pupils. The current increase in primary numbers is already impacting upon secondary school provision and Malmesbury School are planning a 120-place expansion which is proposed to complete for September 2018.

### **Marlborough**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Marlborough area shows the birth rate has declined by approximately 5% in recent years. There are 920 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Marlborough community area which is predicted to generate approximately 83 primary aged pupils. Assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing is delivered as planned there will be a shortfall of places across the town by 2026. Due to the legacy of surplus places this increase in demand can be contained within existing schools in the short to medium term, with the likelihood that additional accommodation will be required in the longer term. In addition, the LA was successful under the current government's recent Priority Schools Building Programme to replace St. Mary's Infant and St. Peter's Junior Schools with a new building. This will provide a 2FE primary school on a single site which is due to open from September 2017.
- The remaining housing is predicted to generate approximately 93 secondary aged pupils. Increasing numbers are already impacting on secondary provision, however, as St. John's Marlborough historically takes above PAN there is unlikely to be significant impact on the school initially. Numbers will be kept under review although there are places in neighbouring secondary schools which can absorb some of the growth.

### **Melksham**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Melksham area shows the birth rate has declined in recent years. However, the impact of housing development is likely to increase demand for primary school places in Melksham town over the coming years. The existing schools in Melksham are unable to be expanded due to site constraints and therefore any new housing will require a new primary school/site to be identified.
- There are 2,370 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Melksham community area. The remaining housing is predicted to generate a further 314 secondary aged pupils. The increase in pupil numbers will begin impacting upon secondary school provision from 2019/2020. The local authority intends to expand Melksham Oak secondary school by 300 11 to 15 places to meet the demand from additional housing. We are currently in discussion with the

school as they wish to combine these works with an expansion of post 16 places and intend to seek ESFA funding for this element.

### **Mere**

- The birth rate in Mere has, on average, remained the same however some fluctuation has been seen over the last few years. This pattern coupled with the impact of modest housing development is unlikely to significantly increase demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years.
- There is no secondary or sixth form provision in the Mere area, young people travel mostly to Gillingham School in Dorset or to other Wiltshire secondary schools within adjacent areas.

### **Pewsey**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Pewsey area has declined in recent years. This pattern coupled with the impact of modest housing development is unlikely to significantly increase overall demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years.
- Due to a legacy of surplus places, the current increase in primary numbers has little impact on secondary school provision at Pewsey Vale School over the next few years. Assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing in the town is delivered as planned there is unlikely to be significant impact on the school until beyond the term covered by this document.

### **Purton**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Purton area has declined in recent years. This pattern coupled with the impact of modest housing development is unlikely to significantly increase demand for primary school places in the town over the coming 10 years. Given the distance of the two new major housing developments at Ridgeway Farm and Moreton Bridge from Purton itself, a new primary school to serve the new community developments - Ridgeway Farm Primary School - opened in September 2016. This was in line with Wiltshire Council policy to provide local schools for local children and limits the impact of excessive road use by travel to school.
- Due to a legacy of surplus places, the current increase in primary numbers has little impact on secondary school provision at Bradon Forest School over the next few years. Assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing in the town is delivered as planned there is unlikely to be significant impact on the school until 2020/21. Bradon Forest Secondary School has a significant proportion of its pupil intake from Swindon. As the impact of any changes in policy affecting secondary school provision in Swindon may have an impact on numbers at this school, Wiltshire Council will continue to work in consultation with Swindon BC to ensure that the school can respond to any changing demand for places in the future. Currently, it is difficult to predict the impact of the continuing expansion of housing in the Swindon locality and new secondary provision in Swindon. This will be kept under review.

### **Royal Wootton Bassett**

- The birth rate has, on average, remained the same, with occasional peaks and troughs which can be seen in the appendix. There are 1,455 houses

identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Royal Wootton Bassett community area. This housing is predicted to generate a further 73 primary aged pupils. Assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing is delivered as planned there will be a shortfall of places in the town schools from the forthcoming academic year. Work is currently underway to determine the most appropriate way for providing additional places in the town following announcement that the recent Free School bid was unsuccessful. A phased 1FE expansion of Lyneham Primary School is planned to meet additional military numbers locating to Lyneham in 2019 and additional civilian population. Phase 1 is due to complete April 2019.

- The current increase in primary numbers has already begun to impact on secondary school provision in Royal Wootton Bassett. Royal Wootton Bassett Academy historically takes above PAN and therefore has been able to accommodate the additional demand to date. Latest projections indicate that there will be a significant shortfall of places by 2026. The precise shortfall will depend on the impact from further housing and the opening of a new secondary Free School in South Swindon in the next few years, however further expansion of the school is expected in the medium term.

## Salisbury

- The birth rate has remained fairly high and stable in Salisbury over the last few years despite peaks and troughs. This pattern coupled with the impact of significant housing development will increase the demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years with a significant shortfall expected by 2026. Additional places have recently been provided at Pembroke Park and Greentrees Primary schools. There will also be a need to further expand existing primary schools along with the expected delivery of two new primary schools in new housing areas in the short and medium term.
- Overall, there are 6,930 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Southern Wiltshire, Salisbury and Wilton community areas. The remaining housing is predicted to generate 826 secondary aged pupils. Assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing is delivered as planned there will be a significant shortfall of secondary places by 2026. A strategic review of secondary places in Salisbury is underway to establish the most effective solution that can be delivered to meet the demand for additional places in the medium and longer term. In addition, 120 additional secondary places are being provided at St. Joseph's Catholic School for September 2018.

## Tidworth

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Tidworth area shows the birth rate has, on average, remained the same as shown in the table and graph below. The data includes births up to 31 August 2016. However, the impact of future troop movements and significant housing development is expected to increase demand for primary school places over the coming years. Expansion of existing primary provision along with a new primary school in Ludgershall to support army rebasing is proposed.
- There are 1,920 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Tidworth community area. The 570 SFA houses due to be constructed for the Army rebasing are not included in the Core Strategy and are predicted to generate 195 secondary aged pupils. The current increase in numbers from housing will begin to impact on The Wellington Academy in 2020/21. Assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing is delivered

as planned there will be a significant shortfall of places by 2026. Expansion of Wellington Academy is underway to provide additional places to meet the demand from both army rebasing and the new housing.

### **Tisbury**

- The birth rate has, on average, remained the same apart from a significant peak in births in 2011/2012. This pattern coupled with the impact of only modest housing development is likely to decrease demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years.
- There is no secondary or sixth form provision in the Tisbury area, young people travel mostly to Shaftesbury School in Dorset or other Wiltshire secondary schools within adjacent areas.

### **Trowbridge**

- The birth rate has, on average, remained the same, apart from a significant drop in births last year as shown in the table and graph below. This drop is masking the effect of considerable development in this community area. However, assuming the birth rate continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing is delivered as planned there will be a significant shortfall of places by 2026. In addition, there are many further sites in Trowbridge which are under consideration but not yet approved – as a guide, there are over 2,000 houses yet to be identified against the total 6,975 in the Core Strategy. The recent expansion and PAN increase at Castlemead Primary School will cover the initial deficit in places as it fills up. The later stages of housing development in Trowbridge will require up to four new primary schools which will be provided through Section 106 agreements with the developer(s).
- The strategic housing or housing which already has planning permission (due to be built by 2026) is predicted to generate a further 812 secondary aged pupils within the period covered by this plan. In addition, there are many further sites in Trowbridge which are under consideration which are not yet approved and therefore not included – as a guide, there are over 2,000 houses yet to be identified against the total 6,975 in the Core Strategy. Due to the legacy of surplus places this increase in demand can be contained within existing accommodation until 2022. The forecast for each of the Trowbridge secondary schools indicates that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate children from their catchment area until 2020. Approximately 150 pupils will progressively require places in Trowbridge secondary schools as St. Laurence School experiences an increase in catchment demand pupils from the Trowbridge area who have historically got places at Bradford on Avon/St Laurence will no longer be able to and will require places in Trowbridge. It is anticipated that a new secondary school located on the proposed Ashton Park development will be required in the longer term.

### **Warminster**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Warminster area shows the birth rate has remained the same despite occasional peaks and troughs. There are 2,060 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Warminster community area. The housing built before 2026 is predicted to generate a further 399 primary aged pupils. However not all the housing for the West Warminster Urban Expansion (WWUE) will be built by 2026, therefore the number of places required will increase further. There are currently 475 houses scheduled to be built after this time. In addition, there are further housing sites in Warminster currently under consideration which, if approved, will increase the deficit of places reported above. Due to the legacy

of surplus places it is expected that the increase in demand can be contained within existing schools in the short term. The WWUE area is located to the far west of the town and only one existing primary school is located within a reasonable walking distance of the development area. Princecroft Primary School will therefore shortly be expanded by 60 places to serve pupils arising from the first phase of the WWUE development. However, in due course, the WWUE will require a new primary school on a site suitably located to serve the new community. This will need to be provided through a Section 106 agreement with the developer(s).

- There are 2,060 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Warminster community area. The remaining housing is predicted to generate a further 332 secondary aged pupils. The current increase in primary numbers will impact on secondary school provision from 2019/20 and cause a significant shortfall by 2026. Kingdown School is the only secondary school in Warminster and is currently at capacity although historically the school has taken a proportion of pupils from outside the designated area. There is limited scope to expand Kingdown on its existing site. Therefore, the significant amount of additional housing proposed in the Core Strategy, and the subsequent pupil numbers generated, will necessitate the provision of secondary places co-located on a site with the new WWUE primary school.

### **Westbury**

- The number of births reported by the Health Authority in the Westbury area shows the birth rate has declined in recent years. However, the impact of proposed housing development is likely to increase demand for primary school places over the coming 10 years. There are 1,615 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Westbury community area. The remaining housing is predicted to generate a further 315 primary aged pupils. Due to the legacy of surplus places it is expected that this increase in demand can be contained within existing schools in the short term. A small expansion of primary places is underway at both Westbury Infant and Junior schools. In addition, Bitham Brook Primary School is being expanded to 2FE to meet demand from new housing in its area.
- The remaining housing is predicted to generate a further 242 secondary aged pupils. The increase in primary numbers will begin to impact on future secondary school provision in Westbury from 2020. Currently, a significant proportion of pupils from the Westbury area secure places at the Warminster Kingdown School. However, this proportion of pupils will progressively require places in Matravers School as Warminster Kingdown continues to experience an increase in catchment demand in the coming years. Matravers School will imminently undergo a PSBP2 Project, delivered by the ESFA, which will result in a new teaching block and increase the school's PAN to 221 from September 2019.

### **Wroughton**

- The birth rate has remained static in recent years with occasional peaks and troughs. There is 1 primary age school in the area and, currently, a high proportion of pupils from outside the school's designated area secure places at the school. There are 920 houses identified in the Wiltshire Core Strategy to be built in the Marlborough community area (of which Wroughton school cluster area forms part). The remaining housing is predicted to generate up to 143 primary aged pupils across the Marlborough area therefore we may see some increase in pupils wishing to attend Broad Hinton CE Primary School. Assuming the birth rate

continues at the average rate for the past four years and the housing is delivered as planned there may be small shortfall of places across the area by 2026. Due to the legacy of surplus places this increase in demand can currently be contained within the school, with additional accommodation provided where necessary should numbers increase significantly in the future.

- There is no secondary or sixth form provision in Wroughton so young people travel to Swindon or to other Wiltshire secondary schools within adjacent areas.

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## E School Places Strategy 2017 – 2022: Implementation Plan

<b>Area</b>	<b>Short term – 1 to 2 years</b>  <b>Academic Years</b> <b>2017/18 – 2019/20</b>	<b>Medium term – 3 to 5 years</b>  <b>Academic Years</b> <b>2020/21 – 2022/23</b>	<b>Long term – 5 to 10 years</b>  <b>Academic Years</b> <b>2023/24 – 2027/28</b>
<b>Amesbury</b>	<i>New 1.5 FE (315 places) primary school at King's Gate in Amesbury scheduled to open September 2019.</i>		
	<i>Expansion to provide 300 additional secondary places at The Stonehenge School in Amesbury for September 2018.</i>		
<b>Bradford-on-Avon</b>	<i>Expansion to provide 60 secondary places at St. Laurence School for 2018 (school managed).</i>		
<b>Calne</b>	<i>Expansion to provide 105 additional places (0.5FE) at Priestley Primary school for September 2019.</i>	<i>Possible expansion of a further 105 places (0.5FE) at Priestley Primary School subject to housing development.</i>	
<b>Chippenham</b>	<i>1-2 class expansion of Redlands Primary to open in 2018/19.</i>	<i>New 1.5FE - 2FE (up to 420 places) primary school at Rowden Park – exact timing of opening yet to be confirmed.</i>	<i>New primary school and nursery at Rawlings Farm – timing yet to be confirmed.</i>
		<i>New 1FE (210 places) primary school to serve development at North Chippenham currently scheduled to open Sept 2022.</i>	

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<b>Chippenham – cont.</b>	<i>Feasibility work to expand Abbeyfield School.</i>	<i>Significant expansion of Abbeyfield School to meet demand arising from developments. Exact timing of opening yet to be confirmed.</i>	
<b>Corsham</b>	<i>Expansion to provide an additional 105 places (0.5FE) at Corsham Primary School for September 2019.</i>		
	<i>Expansion to provide 90 secondary places at The Corsham School for September 2019 (school managed).</i>		
<b>Devizes</b>			
<b>Downton</b>	<i>Expansion to provide an additional 60 places at Downton Primary School for September 2017.</i>		
<b>Durrington</b>	<i>New 2 FE (420 place) primary school to accommodate the relocation and expansion of Figheldean St. Michael's School scheduled to open September 2018 in support of Army basing.</i>		
	<i>Expansion to provide 270 additional secondary places at Avon Valley College in response</i>		

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	<i>to Army basing for September 2019.</i>		
<b>Lavington</b>			
<b>Malmesbury</b>	<i>Expansion of 0.5FE (120) Primary places to serve Malmesbury area.</i>		
	<i>Expansion to provide 120 secondary places at Malmesbury School for September 2018 (school managed).</i>		
<b>Marlborough</b>			
<b>Melksham</b>		<i>New 1- 2FE (up to 420 places) primary school in Melksham in line with housing build out.</i>	
		<i>Expansion to provide 300 secondary places at Melksham Oak School for 2020.</i>	
<b>Mere</b>			
<b>Pewsey</b>			
<b>Purton</b>			
<b>Royal Wootton Bassett</b>	<i>Phased expansion of Lyneham Primary School to provide an additional 1FE (210 places).</i>	<i>Possible expansion of Royal Wootton Bassett Academy –</i>	

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	<i>Phase 1 due to complete April 2019.</i>	<i>exact size of provision to be confirmed.</i>	
	<i>Expansion of existing primary school(s) to provide an additional 1FE (210 places) with temporary places to be provided in September 2018.</i>		
<b>Salisbury</b>	<i>New 1.5 FE (315 places) Primary school at St Peters Place development to open September 2018.</i>	<i>New 1 to 1.5FE Primary school at Longhedge development (210-315 places – size &amp; opening date to be determined).</i>	<i>Further expansion of Secondary provision.</i>
	<i>Expansion to provide 120 places at St. Joseph’s Catholic School, Laverstock for September 2018.</i>		
<b>Tidworth</b>	<i>New 2FE (420 places) primary school at Ludgershall in support of Army basing.</i>		
	<i>Expansion to provide additional secondary places at The Wellington Academy (Secondary) in support of Army basing and civilian housing.</i>		

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<b>Tisbury</b>			
<b>Trowbridge</b>	<i>Need to provide a new 2FE (420 places) Primary school to meet rising demand – site yet to be secured.</i>	<i>New 2FE (420 places) Primary School in East Trowbridge area to meet rising demand (Ashton Park development).</i>	<i>New 2FE (420 places) Primary School in East Trowbridge area to meet rising demand (Ashton Park development).</i>
<b>Trowbridge – cont.</b>		<i>Expansion of Secondary provision in Trowbridge – numbers yet to be confirmed</i>	<i>New 5-6FE Secondary school located on the new Ashton Park development.</i>
<b>Warminster</b>	<i>Expansion to provide 60 places at Princecroft Primary School in Warminster for September 2018.</i>		<i>New 1.5 FE (315 places) Primary school and co-located Secondary satellite facility on WWUE development.</i>
<b>Westbury</b>	<i>EFA PSBP2 project to replace accommodation at Matravers school which will increase the PAN to 221 from September 2019.</i>		
<b>Wroughton</b>			