

# **Strategic Review of Primary Education Planning Areas to the Central, South & West of Cheltenham**

**November 2017**

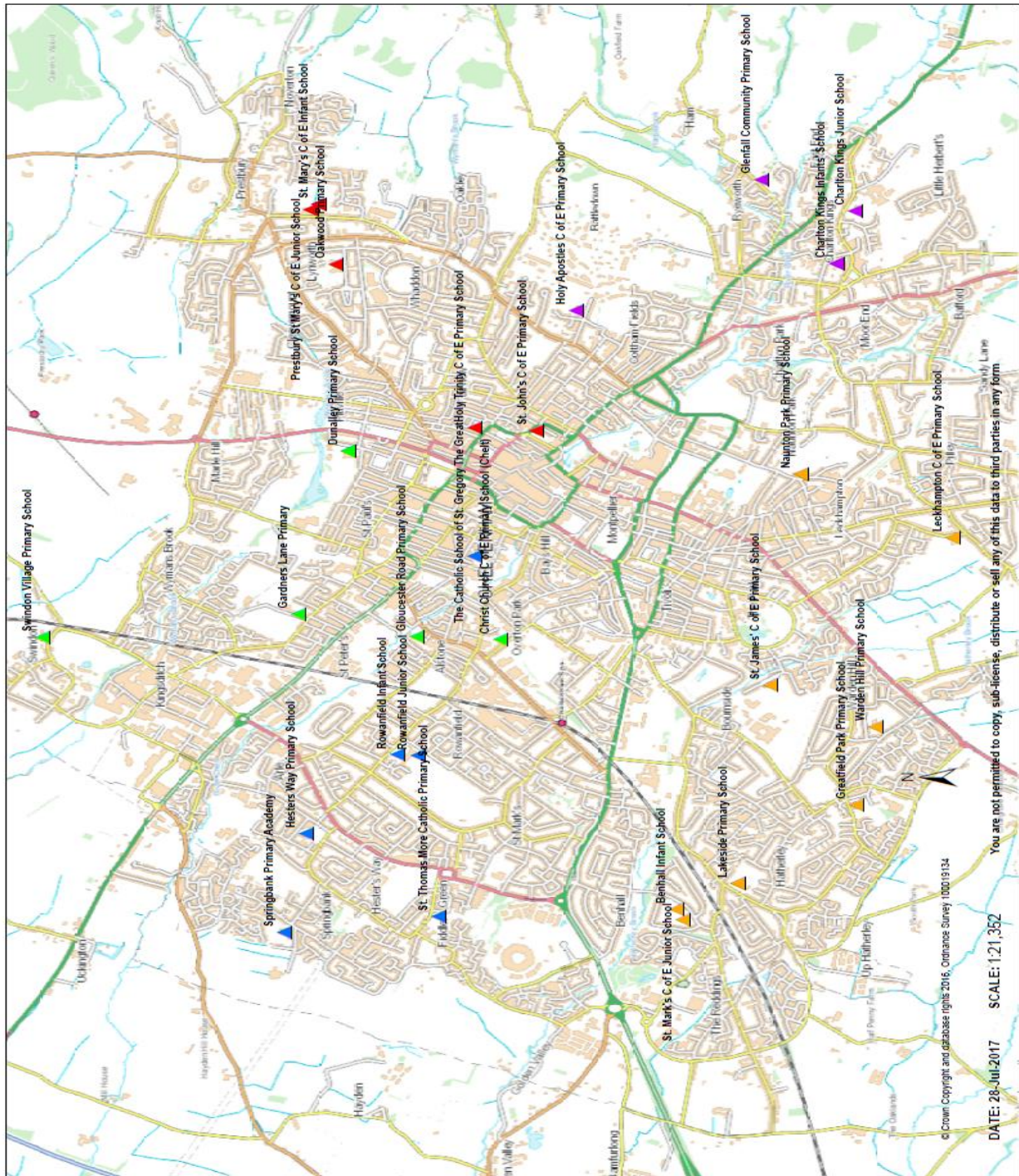
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## 1. Background

- 1.1. In the autumn of 2016 a strategic review of school planning in Cheltenham was undertaken to update the pupil forecasts in the light of changing demand and to identify future patterns of need for school places across the town. This report details the finding of that review and provides an update based on the latest available data.
- 1.2. There has been pressure on local primary school places in Cheltenham since 2011. This is the result of an increase in the birth rate locally and naturally changing demographics, coupled with additional pupil yield from new housing. This growth has been significant and resulted in the need to provide substantial additional temporary and permanent school places at existing primary schools.
- 1.3. This pressure has been focused upon the central, west and southern areas of Cheltenham over a number of years. Particular pressure has been evident in the Christchurch area, Benhall and Hatherley/Leckhampton corridor to the south.
- 1.4. A number of both temporary and permanent expansions have helped to address this increased demand since 2011. However, the latest pupil projections show demand will be sustained well into the future, with new families continuing to experience difficulties in securing places at their local school – particularly outside of the usual primary transfer window.
- 1.5. Windfall housing sites in and around the centre of Cheltenham have quickly filled places creating a need for school expansions. Basic need growth to the south of the town has further increased pressure on all schools in the Hatherley/Leckhampton planning area.
- 1.6. Despite the programme of significant primary expansion which was initiated in 2011, without additional provision there will still be a shortfall of reception places in Cheltenham town during the forecast period ending September 2020. This shortfall is particularly acute in the Hatherley/Leckhampton planning area where there will be a forecast shortfall of 45 reception places, equivalent to 1.5 forms of entry (FE) by September 2018, levelling at 1 form entry for September 2020.

## 2. Map of Education Planning Areas (Primary)



### 3. Introduction

- 3.1. There are 28 schools in Cheltenham across 5 Planning Areas within the town.
- 3.2. In 2007 the birth rate in Cheltenham Borough began an upward trend – with data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) suggesting these trends will be sustained well into the future.
- 3.3. ONS data shows a continual increase of live births between 2006 and 2011, with a slight fall in 2012 and 2013, but remaining well above the levels seen in 2006. The increase continued in 2014, reaching a peak level. Although births fell back slightly in 2015, they were still above the 2006 baseline. By 2016 it had again risen to a higher level and well above that seen previously ([see appendix 1](#)).
- 3.4. In addition, changes in the housing market locally resulted in an increase in the number of pupils emerging from new housing.
- 3.5. These factors have contributed to create a sustained increased in demand for primary school places, with the council initiating a significant primary expansion programme in 2011 – resulting in 945 permanent additional places being created since this time ([see appendix 2](#)). Discussions have also been taking place in parallel with Cheltenham secondary schools, to determine the most appropriate way to increase secondary capacity across the town as and when these children reach secondary transfer age.

### 4. Supporting Information – Planning Areas

- 4.1. Planning area, 9161800 (Swindon Road) towards the centre of Cheltenham is complex. Two schools, Dunalley and Gloucester Road have both increased their Published Admission Number (PAN) permanently creating 315 additional places from 2014 and 2016 respectively. Gardners Lane has provided a “buffer” and has in many years exceeded its PAN for local pupils. It will expand by 0.5 FE permanently with effect from September 2018, after which none of the schools in this planning area will be able to expand further.
- 4.2. Planning area, 9161810 (Whaddon) is experiencing pressure at some schools in the planning area with the majority of school year groups being full or near capacity.
- 4.3. Planning area, 9161820 (Hesters Way) is experiencing pressure at most schools, with lower year groups being particularly under pressure. Rowanfield Infant and Junior schools permanently increased their PANs by 0.5 FE from September 2015.
- 4.4. Planning area 9161830 (Charlton Kings) is considered to be full, with spare places in single figures and most year groups oversubscribed. This area is unable to offer any solution to the place pressures in the adjacent planning area.
- 4.5. Planning area 9161840 (Hatherley/Leckhampton) is full. Lakeside School had a permanent 1 FE expansion creating 210 additional primary places from September 2015. St James Primary increased permanently by 0.5FE creating 105 additional primary places from September 2012. All other schools have taken temporary expansions, with existing schools in this planning area now at capacity and unable to expand further.





## 6. Strategic Housing

6.1. There are three strategic developments identified in the Joint Core Strategy:

- **A5 - North West Cheltenham**

This strategic allocation is located adjacent to the north-western edge of Cheltenham, north of the A4019 Tewkesbury Road and west of the Gallagher Retail Park, Kingsditch industrial Estate and Swindon Village.

An infrastructure planning application was submitted in October 2016. The plan supports approximately 4,115 dwellings. This revised figure excludes the potential development identified around Swindon Village which could result in a further 500 dwellings at a later date.

The timescale for the delivery of this development is unclear; however it will have little impact on pupil numbers elsewhere given that the development will include sufficient provision for both primary and secondary places. It is currently envisaged this will be provided as an all through school and a further primary school.

- **A6 – South Cheltenham Leckhampton (Farm Lane element)**

This site is west of Farm Lane and is within Tewkesbury Borough.

This site now has consent for 377 dwellings (Redrow Homes) and construction has begun on site.

- **Safeguarded Land at West Cheltenham – Hesters Way/Springbank**

This area has been deemed suitable for removal from its Green Belt designation and has been identified as a site suitable for the development of 1,200 dwellings. There is no new school proposed for this development

6.2. The strategic development in north-west Cheltenham will be self-sufficient; it will provide adequate primary and secondary school capacity for children from the development, which will be phased appropriately to ensure it does not destabilise the local school system. Consequently, pupil yields from this development have been excluded from the overall pupil forecast calculation.

## 7. Conclusions

7.1. The Cheltenham Primary Planning Area Pupil forecast table ([appendix 3](#)) brings together the latest information regarding numbers on roll, with current forecast data (including basic need, strategic and non-strategic housing) and the planned expansions at existing primary schools.

7.2. In summary, pupil forecasts show that by September 2020 there will be shortfall of places in the Whaddon and Hatherley/Leckhampton planning areas of approximately 136 places, equivalent of more than 0.5 FE across all year groups arising from basic need and planned housing. In the Hatherley/Leckhampton planning area the shortfall is more acute and equates to a shortfall of 1 FE at intake from September 2020.

7.3. This need is in addition to the places that will be required for pupils arising from the north-west Cheltenham Development, which will be supported with its own primary provision for pupils emerging from the new housing.

- 7.4. Consideration will need to be given to the long term needs across the Cheltenham Planning area outlined to ensure there will be sufficient capacity to support both reception and in year places.

## 8. Follow Up

- 8.1. This document will be reviewed and updated following the publication of the January 2018 school census data, together with any emerging information regarding new housing currently unidentified. Further information and frequently asked questions regarding additional school places in Cheltenham can be found at <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/cheltenham-school-planning>.
- 8.2. Information and analysis of population trends in Gloucestershire can be found at <https://inform.gloucestershire.gov.uk/viewpage.aspx?c=page&page=Population-PopulationChange>



## 9. Appendix 1 – Live Births 2006 - 2016

### Live Births 2006 - 2019

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Cheltenham</b>	1,232	1,360	1,361	1,372	1,385	1,413	1,365	1,351	1,435	1,247	1,328
<b>Cotswold</b>	719	761	760	725	727	697	725	712	681	732	730
<b>Forest of Dean</b>	793	805	817	782	843	783	803	734	779	786	844
<b>Gloucester</b>	1,476	1,700	1,746	1,669	1,789	1,810	1,903	1,760	1,730	1,796	1,768
<b>Stroud</b>	1,150	1,098	1,137	1,135	1,202	1,101	1,138	1,080	1,014	1,166	1,094
<b>Tewkesbury</b>	840	838	909	846	929	916	946	917	992	970	975
<b>Total</b>	<b>6,210</b>	<b>6,562</b>	<b>6,730</b>	<b>6,529</b>	<b>6,875</b>	<b>6,720</b>	<b>6,880</b>	<b>6,554</b>	<b>6,631</b>	<b>6,697</b>	<b>6,739</b>

Source: ONS Dataset 2006 - 2016

## 10. Appendix 2 – Additional places provided

Year	School	Number of places at intake
2011	Naunton Park Primary	30
2012	Benhall Infant	20
	St James Primary	15
	Dunalley Primary	30
	Rowanfield Infants	15
2013	Shurdington Primary	15
	Rowanfield Infants	15
	Dunalley Primary	30
2014	Warden Hill Primary	30
	Lakeside Primary	30
	Gloucester Road Primary	10
	Rowanfield Infants	15
	Dunalley Primary	30
2015	St Marks Junior*	20
	Lakeside Primary	30
	Leckhampton Primary	15
	Shurdington Primary	15
	Rowanfield Infant	15
	Gloucester Road Primary	10
2016	St Thomas More Primary	30
	Springbank Primary	15
	Shurdington Primary*	15
	Gloucester Road Primary	5
2017	Greatfield Park Primary	30
	Gardner's Lane	15
	Shurdington Primary*	15

St Marks Junior\* this is the transfer from Benhall Infant. Shurdington Primary\* will become a 1 FE permanently in 2018

# 11. Appendix 3 – Cheltenham Education Planning Area Pupil Forecasts

Cheltenham Primary School Data Table.

School Name	Pupil forecast											
	PANS				2017/18		2018/19		2019/20		2020/21	
	Capacity Sept 2017	Capacity Sept (planned/ committed)	PAN Intake as at Sept 2017	PAN Intake as at Sept 2018	Reception	Total	Reception	Total	Reception	Total	Reception	Total
<b>9161800 (Swindon Road)</b>												
Christ Church C of E Primary School	210	210	30	30	30	215	30	212	30	210	30	209
Dunalley Primary School	420	420	60	60	60	377	60	403	60	406	60	411
Gardners Lane Primary School	330	420	60	60	51	320	45	325	42	332	45	337
Gloucester Road Primary School	210	210	30	30	30	185	30	197	30	197	30	206
Swindon Village Primary School	420	420	60	60	60	417	60	416	60	415	60	417
<b>Planning area sub total</b>	1590	1680	240	240			225	1553	222	1560	225	1580
Available places							15	127	18	120	15	100
Pupils from Housing							5	29	8	55	9	60
<b>Planning area sub total (incl Housing)</b>	1590	1680	240	240	231	1514	230	1582	230	1615	234	1640
Available places					9	76	10	98	10	65	6	40
Places required to create in-year capacity					6	38	6	40	6	41	6	41
<b>Planning area sub total + in year capacity</b>					237	1552	236	1622	236	1656	240	1681
Available places					3	128	4	58	4	24	0	-1
<b>9161810 (Whaddon)</b>												
Holy Trinity C of E Primary School	210	210	30	30	30	207	30	208	29	206	30	204
Oakwood Primary School	420	420	60	60	46	354	54	349	30	337	30	311
Prestbury St Mary's C of E Junior School	240	240	[60]	[60]	0	238	0	236	0	237	0	237
St John's C of E Primary School	203	203	29	29	29	203	29	202	29	201	29	202
St Mary's C of E Infant School	180	180	60	60	59	177	60	179	53	173	60	173
<b>Planning area sub total</b>	1253	1253	179	179			173	1174	141	1154	149	1127
Available places							6	79	38	99	30	126
Pupils from housing							7	43	15	105	24	164
<b>Planning area sub total (incl Housing)</b>	1253	1253	179	179	164	1179	180	1217	156	1259	173	1291
Available places					21	-1000	-1	36	23	-6	6	-38
Places required to create in-year capacity					5	30	5	31	4	32	5	33
<b>Planning area sub total + in year capacity</b>					169	1209	185	1248	160	1291	178	1324
Available places					16	-1030	-6	5	19	-38	1	-71
<b>9161820 (Hesters Way)</b>												
Hester's Way Primary School	240	240	30	30	27	194	26	195	27	190	27	185
Rowanfield Infant School	270	270	90	90	87	264	74	249	80	241	81	235
Rowanfield Junior School	360	360	[90]	[90]	0	319	0	326	0	325	0	331
Springbank Primary Academy	435	435	60	60	57	388	57	409	55	410	51	411
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School	240	240	30	30	29	194	27	199	28	196	27	202
The Catholic School of Saint Gregory The Great	420	420	60	60	58	414	54	408	56	406	54	401
<b>Planning area sub total</b>	1965	1965	270	270			238	1786	246	1768	240	1765
Available Places							32	179	24	197	30	200
Pupils from housing							4	23	8	52	9	63
<b>Planning area sub total (incl Housing)</b>	1965	1965	270	270	258	1773	242	1809	254	1820	249	1828
Available places					12	192	28	156	16	145	21	137
Places required to create in-year capacity					7	45	7	46	7	46	7	46
<b>Planning area sub total + in year capacity</b>					265	1818	249	1855	261	1866	256	1874
Available places					5	147	21	110	9	99	14	91
<b>9161830 (Charlton Kings)</b>												
Charlton Kings Infant Academy	270	270	90	90	90	269	90	268	90	270	81	261
Charlton Kings Junior School	372	372	[93]	[93]	0	371	0	369	0	364	0	364
Glenfall Community Primary School	210	210	30	30	27	198	27	196	30	198	26	195
Holy Apostles C of E Primary School	210	210	30	30	30	212	30	210	30	210	30	209
<b>Planning area sub total</b>	1062	1062	150	150			147	1043	150	1042	137	1029
Available places							3	19	0	20	13	33
Pupils from Housing							1	5	2	9	2	11
<b>Planning area sub total (incl Housing)</b>	1062	1062	150	150	147	1050	148	1048	152	1051	139	1040
Available places					3	12	2	14	-2	11	11	22
Places required to create in-year capacity					4	27	4	27	4	27	4	26
<b>Planning area sub total + in year capacity</b>					151	1077	152	1075	156	1078	143	1066
Available places					-1	-15	-2	-13	-6	-16	7	-4
<b>9161840 (Hatherley/ Leckampton)</b>												
Benhall Infant School	180	180	60	60	60	179	60	180	60	180	60	180
Greatfield Park Primary School	240	240	60	30	30	210	30	210	30	210	30	210
Lakeside Primary School	630	630	90	90	90	513	90	546	90	572	90	599
Leckhampton C of E Primary School	435	435	60	60	60	437	60	436	60	435	60	436
Naunton Park Primary School	429	429	57	57	57	426	57	396	57	392	57	392
St James' C of E Primary School	420	420	60	60	60	400	60	414	60	413	60	413
St Mark's C of E Junior School	260	260	[60]	[60]	0	256	0	255	0	239	0	239
Warden Hill Primary School	450	450	60	60	60	452	60	452	60	452	60	450
Unplaced Pupils					0	0	29	29	0	29	7	36
<b>Planning area sub total</b>	3044	3044	447	417	417	2873	446	2918	417	2922	424	2955
Available places					0	171	-29	126	0	122	-7	89
Pupils from Housing							4	20	8	47	12	78
<b>Planning area sub total</b>	3044	3044	447	417	417	2873	450	2938	425	2969	436	3033
Available places					30	171	-33	106	-8	75	-19	11
Places required to create in-year capacity					11	72	12	74	11	75	11	76
<b>Planning area sub total + in year capacity</b>					428	2945	462	3012	436	3044	447	3109
Available places					-11	99	-45	32	-19	0	-30	-65

Temporary PAN increase  
 Permanent PAN increase