



Forward Plan Select Committee
25 March 2010

**Report from the Director of
Children and Families**

For Information

Wards Affected: ALL

Primary Schools Expansion Update

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update on the matters relating to the sufficiency of primary school places and options available for addressing the shortfall both in the short term (for September 2010) and the medium to long term (September 2011 and the following two years).

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the schemes currently being developed and the resource implication for them.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Background

- 3.1.1 A detailed report on school places is enclosed elsewhere on the agenda titled School Status and Diversity in Brent. The key messages in respect of pressure on primary school places and the timelines to which the Council needs to respond to the pressure is as follows:

Primary Rolls R-Y6 Forecast by 2018-19:

| YEAR | INFANT | JUNIOR | TOTAL | Total FE |
|------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|
| 2008-09 | 9595 | 11911 | 21506 | 102 |
| 2009-10 * | 10044 | 12032 | 21844 | 104 |
| 2010-11 | 10220 | 12443 | 22663 | 108 |
| 2011-12 | 10533 | 12693 | 23226 | 111 |
| 2012-13 | 10908 | 13148 | 24056 | 115 |
| 2013-14 | 11049 | 13623 | 24672 | 117 |
| 2014-15 | 11117 | 13969 | 25086 | 119 |
| 2015-16 | 11144 | 14348 | 25492 | 121 |
| 2016-17 | 11248 | 14637 | 25885 | 123 |
| 2017-18 | 11327 | 14813 | 26139 | 124 |
| 2018-19 | 11358 | 14864 | 26222 | 125 |

Full Capacity: 23047 places September 2011. Pressure on Reception & individual year places may commence earlier.

**Pupil Census 2010 Provisional (data may have errors)*

- 3.1.2 The overall increase in pupils has reduced surplus capacity in the primary sector. The capacity and demand for the Reception class is forecast as follows:

Capacity R-Y6:

| YEAR | Capacity | Number on Roll | Surplus (+) / Shortage (-) | Forms of Entry (+) / (-) |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2008-09 | 3360 | 3285 | 75 | 3 |
| 2009-10 * | 3428 | 3399 | 29 | 1 |
| 2010-11 | 3428** | 3503 | -75 | -3 |
| 2011-12 | 3458*** | 3621 | -163 | -5 |
| 2012-13 | 3458 | 3702 | -244 | -8 |
| 2013-14 | 3458 | 3658 | -200 | -7 |
| 2014-15 | 3458 | 3699 | -241 | -8 |
| 2015-16 | 3458 | 3732 | -274 | -9 |
| 2016-17 | 3458 | 3760 | -302 | -10 |
| 2017-18 | 3458 | 3780 | -322 | -11 |
| 2018-19 | 3458 | 3786 | -328 | -11 |

**Pupil Census 2010 Provisional (data may have errors)*

** In 2009-10 Newfield Primary took a bulge class of 30 places in a temporary building. Braincroft Primary should provide 30 Reception places in September 2010 subject to funding for works.

***September 2011 onwards 3458 planned places include additional one FE provision being created at Islamia Primary School. Capacity is assumed to remain constant until decisions on expansion of schools are made.

3.2 Primary Places

3.2.1 The pressure on reception places continues with 60 Reception aged children without a place on 19th March 2010. The majority of applicants have been offered a place, but the offer has been declined as the school offered is not of the family's choice.

Primary pupils out of school

| | 20 th October 09 | 4 th December 09 | 10 th February 10 | 19 th March 10 |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Year 1 | 37 | 23 | 32 | 30 |
| Year 2 | 19 | 10 | 10 | 15 |
| Year 3 | 20 | 12 | 7 | 15 |
| Year 4 | 12 | 4 | 7 | 4 |
| Year 5 | 23 | 7 | 6 | 9 |
| Year 6 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| Total | 115 | 57 | 68 | 73 |

3.2.2 Of the 35 community schools only two, Kensal Rise and Mora have significant numbers of vacancies however; these are in the upper year groups only from year 3 onwards. A number of families newly arriving in Brent are seeking school places for several children across the primary age range – it is not always possible to offer all the children in a family a place in the same school due to a shortage of vacancies.

3.2.3 A series of option appraisals were commissioned by C&F to address the short term lack of school places and the long term strategy for meeting the short fall in required school places.

3.3 Increasing Primary Provision in the Short Term

3.3.1 **September 2010 additional classes**

3.3.2 Several schools had been identified for additional places for Sept 2010 (C&F require an additional four reception classes). There is an acute lack of school places most evident in parts of the Dollis Hill/Dudden Hill/Harlesden wards. Of the 8 schools identified 4 were judged as being feasible for taking an additional reception class with a mixture of internal modifications and temporary accommodation.

- Braincroft Primary School (30 places) involving a infill extension @ £166,000 Planning application submitted
- Brentfield Primary School (30 places) involving a temporary classroom @ £150,000 Planning application to be submitted
- Malorees Infants School (30 places) involving a temporary classroom @ £150,000 Planning application to be submitted.
- Wykeham Primary School (30 places) internal adaptation @ £15,000

- 3.3.3 There are risks with all these proposals apart from Braintcroft. We have yet to hear formally from Brentfield Primary School and Malorees Infant School following Governor's meetings. Wykeham have indicated that they do not want an additional class. There are the normal planning risks with all the buildings.
- 3.3.4 In 2009-10 Newfield Primary took a bulge class in a temporary building. The governors are interested in expansion to 2FE but it will be necessary to resolve issues concerning space for expansion.
- 3.3.5 Mitchell Brook Primary, Leopold Primary and Nothview Primary were all assessed but were rejected on site constraints.

3.4 Increasing Primary Provision in the Medium to Long Term

- 3.4.1 **Permanent expansion by 1FE:** The following schemes are under consideration for longer term permanent expansion. Building specialists are reviewing the technical feasibility and there are discussions with governing bodies.
- 3.4.2 Braintcroft Primary School – new phased 4FE primary school approx project value of £12m. Site area would accommodate new build on present site.
- 3.4.3 Wykeham Primary School - returning present 2FE school to 3FE through remodelling and extension into adjacent school playing fields. Use of spare site area for decant/temporary relocation strategy using temporary buildings. However it is worth noting that Wykeham Governors (whilst in continuing dialogue with the Council) have expressed lack of support for an expansion. Project value £3.6m.
- 3.4.4 Malorees infants and Junior Schools - possible demolition of entire site to create single primary school (3FE) where currently fragmented across separate infants and junior school sites. Project value £10.6m.
- 3.4.5 Brentfield Primary School – possible remodelling / extension project to create a 3FE (originally 2FE) school utilising car park land strip and front elevation green strip and ad hoc vertical and horizontal extensions. Approximate project value £3.6m.
- 3.4.6 Mitchell Brook Primary School – expansion from 2FE to 3FE School via possible roof conversion project. Approximate project value £3.6m.
- 3.4.7 Leopold Primary School – expansion from 2FE to 3FE School via possible flat to pitched roof project with new accommodation contained within roof void. Approximate project value £3.6m.
- 3.4.8 Northview Primary School – expansion from 1FE to 2FE. Very limited options other than demolition and rebuild. Very little space to accommodate any decant strategy and insufficient play space provision for new 2FE school. Option not costed.

- 3.4.9 Capital City Academy (2FE) - discussions are under way with the Academy Trust to add a 2FE primary school.
- 3.4.10 Alperton School – this school is part of the BSF programme Priority 1 to expand from 7FE to 8FE provision. A 2FE primary school is proposed to be built on the site. The Authority is considering bringing forward the introduction of a 2FE primary offer within BSF.
- 3.4.11 Queens Park Community School – this school is part of the BSF programme Priority 1 to expand from 7 FE to 9FE provision. The authority is discussing an option to build a 2FE primary school converting it to an all through school.
- 3.4.12 It is worth however noting that the expansion plans in the South of the Borough will continue to be carefully monitored to ensure a strategic spread of capacity across the South of the Borough, from the among the options being considered.

3.5 Member Level Strategy Board

- 3.5.1 Scrutiny was informed that a Member level strategy group (including HT representatives) had met to steer work on the development of additional school places for future years. This group has primary and secondary Headteacher representatives and is chaired by the Lead Member for Children and Families.
- 3.5.2 The Director of Children and Families will continue to submit detailed proposals to the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) pressing for additional capital resources to increase primary school capacity.

4 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The PCP allocation for 2009/10 and 2010/11 are £4,654,940 and £7,032,940 respectively (totalling £11,687,880) and allocated towards the following schemes:

| Scheme | PCP Allocation (£) |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Sudbury School | 6,500,000 |
| Islamia | 2,932,000 |
| Anson | 300,000 |
| Package of high priority AMPs schemes | 1,956,000 |
| Total | 11,686,000 |

- 4.2 In addition, Brent LA received an allocation of £14,766,000 to support the provision of additional permanent primary places by 2011. The schemes for this allocation are not yet finalised (Sections 3.3 & 3.4 above).

5 **Statutory Obligations**

- 5.1 Section 14 of the 1996 Act requires the authority to secure that sufficient schools for providing primary and secondary education are available for their area. The schools available for an area shall not be regarded as sufficient for the purposes of the Act unless they are sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education.

Background Papers

- i Extra Spaces Option Appraisal Report
- ii Scrutiny Paper School Status and Diversity in Brent 25 March 2010
- iii PCP Capital Expenditure

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