



**LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT
PLACE PLANNING STRATEGY - 2014-18**

Update

June 2017

BRENT PUPIL PLACE PLANNING STRATEGY 2014-18

Refresh – June 2017

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1. Introduction

In October 2014 Brent Council's Cabinet approved the School Place Planning Strategy 2014-18. The strategy outlined the projected need for school places in Brent together with the objectives and operating principles which would underpin the Council's approach to school organisation.

The strategy drew upon existing Council plans, together with the recommendations of the Brent Education Commission 2014, to situate the development of school places within a set of wider aspirations for the Borough.

Our Aspirations

- All Brent schools should be good or outstanding
- All Brent schools should be part of a 'family of schools' which promotes resilience, mutual support and improvement
- The Council and schools should work together to meet the challenge of providing sufficient school places
- Schools should operate in good quality, safe premises
- Children should be educated close to home
- Schools should work with their local communities
- Meeting the needs of children with special educational needs and disabilities should be central to our vision for education in Brent
- We should make efficient use of resources

The strategy was refreshed in November 2015 with some amendments to our operating principles and an update on agreed actions. This update refreshes our assessment of the need for places across the Borough and progress on the delivery of planned expansions.

2. Executive Summary

In June 2017, 97.5% of primary and secondary schools in Brent have been graded as Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. Only 2 schools are judged as Requires Improvement – Newfield Primary School and Sudbury Primary School, an academy that from September 2017 will form the Chrysalis Multi-Academy Trust with Claremont High School.

Mainstream places

In recent years there has been an unprecedented growth in demand for primary school places across London and in Brent and in response over 8000 additional primary places have been provided since 2008. The latest GLA projections (based on the schools census of January 2017) indicate that demand for Reception places will reduce from 2017 onwards underpinned by a decrease in birth rates, before recovering to near 2017 levels. Brent has in the past experienced considerable volatility in the primary-aged population and, while overall projections indicate a downward trend, it is likely that there will be growth and continued pressures in some areas of the Borough or in specific year groups.

While primary forecasts are reducing, there are a number of new housing developments across Brent, which are likely to impact on local demographics and could change school place demand patterns. These are being kept under close review.

The significant growth in pupil numbers that has been seen in the Primary phase, both in Brent and across London, is now beginning to progress into the secondary phase. The latest GLA projections indicate a need for an additional 12 secondary forms of entry in Brent by 2023/24, which could be provided through a combination of new schools and expanding existing provision.

The pattern of additional provision across London in recent years has been supplied by permanent school expansions, temporary bulge classes and new free schools. Currently Brent has one secondary free school and one primary free school. A further primary free school, Floreat Colindale, was due to open in September 2017 but has been postponed until September 2019 by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to allow the school to open on its permanent site. Ark Somerville Free School is expected to also open in 2019 on the Wembley Quintain development site.

Two new free schools were approved by DfE in November 2016 – the North Brent Free School expected to provide 900 secondary places and the Avanti Free School, an all-through school, with a combined capacity of 1320 places (60 per primary year group and 180 per secondary year group). These schools will be unable to open until permanent sites are identified and the Council is working with the Education and Skills Funding Agency to identify sites. The ESFA will purchase or lease any suitable commercial site and fund any building works. The Avanti Free School will have a Hindu ethos and is expected to attract students from a wide geographic area. As it is difficult to find sites, the Avanti Free School may not be located in Brent.

Specialist Provision

The demand for specialist SEN places is increasing in part in proportion to the overall rise in pupil numbers, but also due to increased diagnosis. The prevalence of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) continues to rise and, as more children survive premature birth or severe disabilities, the number of children of school age presenting with significant additional needs is also increasing.

To reduce its dependence on out-of-borough independent special schools, which are expensive and can mean stressful journeys for vulnerable children and limit the access of children and their families to support networks, Brent is planning to provide additional specialist places in Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) in mainstream schools and a new special free school. The Avenue Free School, which is sponsored by the Brent Special School Academy Trust (BSSAT), will provide additional needed capacity (100 places).

Exclusion figures remain on a steady upward trajectory and there is an increasing number of primary aged children who are permanently excluded. Currently these students are placed in out-of-borough schools, with the majority placed at the Family School in Islington. Although, this is an excellent provision, the Family School has limited capacity and its distance from Brent can make re-integration back into mainstream school in Brent challenging. Brent is planning to expand the age range of Brent River College to provide capacity for primary-aged children.

Childcare and Early Education

Alongside the statutory duty to provide school places the Council has an allied duty to secure sufficient childcare and early education. In addition to the existing entitlements of 15 hours of free early education for some two year olds and all 3 and 4 year olds, from September 2017, all 3 and 4 year olds from working families will have a statutory entitlement to 30 hours of free childcare and early education. Implementation and subsequent administration of this entitlement will sit with the local authority. In terms of sufficiency of places, providers of early education across the private and maintained sectors are currently reviewing existing delivery models to prepare for what is likely to be high demand from parents. In this first year of roll out of the 30 hour entitlement, the numbers of places being offered will have to be monitored closely to ensure that sufficient 30 hour places are available to meet demand from families and to monitor the effect of this on existing 2 year and 15 hour 3 and 4 year places, as a reduction in these could impact some of the most disadvantaged families in the Borough.

In common with most areas in the country there is little building capacity to develop childcare provision in schools. In Brent the priority to date has been to address the acute shortages for school age places. This will remain the priority, but we will develop nursery provision in schools where it is practical to do so.

3. School Place Planning - Frequently Asked Questions

THE COUNCIL ROLE IN SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING

1. What is the Council's role in providing school places?

The Council retains the statutory responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient school places available for all Brent children and young people who need one. It retains too the duties set out in the Education Act 1996 to promote high standards and ensure equal access. The Council has overarching responsibilities for school admissions, co-ordinating admissions at reception, Year 3 (for infant to junior school transition) and at secondary transfer, aiming to meet parental preference.

In addition to securing school places for pupils aged five to 16, the local authority has related statutory responsibilities in relation to:

- **Children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND)** where the Council has to make suitable provision to meet their needs
- **Early years provision**, where responsibility for childcare sufficiency and for provision for disadvantaged two year olds and all three and four year olds, as well as children's centres, overlaps with school provision
- **Post 16 education and training** where the Council leads the local 16 to 19 partnership and takes overall responsibility for the sufficiency and suitability of provision.

2. Can the Council open new schools?

It is not possible for the Council to build new community schools. Once the Council identifies a need for a new school it may use one of the following two routes to establish it:

- The **academy presumption** route whereby the Council would put forward a school proposal which it would advertise and promote to potential academy sponsors. Under this route, the Council would supply the site and use its own capital to build the school;
- The Council could 'support' a **free school** promoter to apply to the Department for Education (DfE) to build a school, which could be on a Council owned site. The decision would be entirely at the discretion of the DfE, but experience elsewhere indicates that schemes that address school place pressures are more likely to succeed.

3. Who decides if a school will close, expand or amalgamate?

- The local authority has the power to instruct community schools to expand, but not academies, foundation or voluntary aided schools. The local authority also has the power to close community schools or to require them to amalgamate. This is not a power that this local authority has exercised hitherto as we aim, wherever possible, to work collaboratively with schools. In the case of Academies any expansion must be approved by the Regional Schools Commissioner.

PUPIL PROJECTIONS

4. Where do the projections come from?

- The projections that Brent and most other London authorities use to inform place planning are provided by the Greater London Authority (GLA).
- The GLA projections are informed both by centrally held demographic data, such as the Office of National Statistics (ONS) census data and fertility rates and birth rates, together with locally held information such as migration patterns and planned housing growth.
- The methodology also takes account of the percentage of children who historically move into the following academic year in an area. This is particularly important in Brent where there is a high level of pupil mobility and migration to schools in other boroughs.

5. Are the projections accurate?

- The GLA projections are a good indicator of place need, but they remain a statistical model which should be seen as a valuable tool rather than a definitive position. There are a number of factors which can lead to the projections being revised up or down.
- Birth rates, migration patterns and the impact of local regeneration projects can change significantly in a short period of time. The GLA projections for Reception numbers in Brent have been revised downwards. It is anticipated that demand for Reception places will continue to reduce based on the latest birth rate trends. The latest number of births in Brent is lower than recent years – 4877 in August 2016, compared to 5106 in August 2014 and 5139 in August 2015.
- Secondary projections are more secure as they largely take account of children already in the system. However, the percentage of children who historically move into

the following academic year is a particularly important factor in Brent which is currently a net exporter of secondary pupils. This may change if pressures on secondary places in neighbouring boroughs leads to an increase in demand beyond that in the current projections.

6. What do the projections tell us about demand for primary places?

- The January 2017 projections indicate that the demand for Reception will reduce from 2017 to 2021. They also show that there will continue to be pressures in some parts of the Borough, such as Planning Area 1 (north) and Planning Area 3 (west), as well as some primary year groups.

7. What are Primary planning areas and why do we have them?

- The Council has a duty to provide a “reasonable offer” of a school place to all children. In the primary phase a “reasonable offer” is one that is within 2 miles of home. By dividing the borough into planning areas officers can more easily ensure that places are provided near to where children live. However, they are only a guide to help officers. In reality children can travel across planning areas to attend school, particularly when they live close to the borders.

8. So why don't we have secondary planning areas?

- Secondary children are expected to travel longer distances to school and are more likely to travel on their own. A reasonable offer for a secondary place is one that is within 3 miles of home. The size of Brent and the good transport links mean that children can travel to any school.

9. What do the projections indicate in the secondary phase?

- There is currently a surplus of places in the secondary phase, but this will begin to change from 2018 as larger primary cohorts move through the system. Projections indicate growth in Year 7 of 22% between 2016 and 2023.

PROVIDING ADDITIONAL PLACES

10. Is it better to provide temporary or permanent classes?

- Generally it is more cost effective to provide permanent places in the primary phase. There are times, however, where site and time constraints mean that this is not possible. There are also occasions where the bulge in numbers only applies to one cohort of students. In these circumstances, it is better to provide a temporary bulge class.
- Expansion in the secondary phase is more complex than primary, partly because specialist facilities (e.g. sport, science, technology) may need to be provided alongside standard classrooms. Students also need to access these facilities during the building process which makes decant more challenging and can impact on cost.

11. Is it better to expand existing schools or provide new schools?

- Expanding existing schools gives the Council greater confidence that provision will be good and that it will be popular. However, it is important that the challenges of expansion are well managed to avoid impacting on standards in good schools.
- New schools offer a chance to provide new learning environments and attract high quality providers. However, the Council does not control the provision of free schools. In a borough such as Brent there are also considerable challenges in finding sites for new schools.
- Expansion is funded by the Council from Basic Need. New schools are largely funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.
- We believe that new schools are a cost effective way to provide the additional places that will be needed in the secondary phase.

4. Our Operating Principles for School Organisation

1. Sixteen agreed operating principles underpin Brent's approach to school place planning.

Principle 1: We will only undertake expansions at high quality or improving schools where leadership is secure.

Principle 2: We will promote federations between primary schools, both to address quality issues and to address the future viability of one form of entry schools.

Principle 3: We will actively consider two-site schools and 5FE schools where there is leadership and management capacity and where this is a genuine expansion and not a new school.

Principle 4: We will develop local capacity to sponsor or promote new schools, working with academies in all phases.

Principle 5: We will work towards the amalgamation of separate infants and junior schools.

Principle 6: We will not currently seek to develop more all-through schools.

Principle 7: We will expect expanded and re-structured schools generally to meet government guidance on space standards but be prepared to consider innovative design solutions to achieve this.

Principle 8: We will seek to minimise disruption to schools during expansion and support school leaders to manage the challenges.

Principle 9: We will continue planning primary places using planning areas.

Principle 10: We will as far as possible incorporate proposals for additional school places into new regeneration schemes.

Principle 11: We will consider expanding voluntary aided schools only where there is local Brent demand, working with the relevant partners.

Principle 12: We will continue planning secondary school places on a borough wide basis with the ambition to make Brent's secondary offer attractive to all parents.

Principle 13: We will consider how community benefits from school facilities can be maximised when we expand or build new schools.

Principle 14: We will consult with local communities as part of the planning process to minimise/mitigate the impact of new school developments.

Principle 15: We will build inclusive provision into expansion and new school proposals and work with neighbouring authorities on the planning of special school places.

Principle 16: After assessing educational suitability, schemes for expansion or new schools will be judged in terms of value for money, deliverability and strategic fit with wider investment programmes

5. The Need for Secondary Places

- The significant growth that has been seen in the Primary phase since 2010, has begun to move through to the secondary phase in 2016, with demand expected to outstrip supply by 2020/21 (January 2017 GLA projections). The projected secondary capacity and place need is outlined in Table 1. By 2023/24, an additional 12 secondary forms of entry will be required in Brent. This is equivalent to two new secondary schools.

Table 1: Secondary Places and Projections

Year	Year 7 Projected intake	Year 7 places available	Surplus/ Deficit of places	Surplus/ Deficit as FE
2017/18	3250	3412	162	5.4
2018/19	3310	3412	102	3.4
2019/20	3397	3412	15	0.5
2020/21	3462	3412	-50	-1.7
2021/22	3570	3412	-158	-5.3
2022/23	3684	3412	-272	-9.1
2023/24	3763	3412	-351	-11.7
2024/25	3625	3412	-213	-7.1
2025/26	3579	3412	-167	-5.6
2026/27	3576	3412	-164	-5.5

- Alperton is planning to expand by a further 2FE in 2018 using the school's Stanley Avenue site, subject to the Regional Schools Commissioner's approval.
- Brent has traditionally been a net exporter of pupils. In part this is due to our proximity to other boroughs and in part to the fact that 3 of our secondary schools have not been popular with parents, who chose to preference schools outside of Brent. However, all 3 schools are now judged Good by Ofsted. In the south of the Borough - Primary Planning Area 5 – over 55% of Brent parents chose out-of-borough secondary schools for their children (Table 2). The GLA projections reflect the percentage of children who historically move from Year 6 to Year 7 in the following academic year. If parental preference patterns change, this could impact on future forecasts and demand for individual schools.
- Neighbouring boroughs are facing similar school place challenges and we anticipate that Brent parents may find it increasingly difficult to access places in out-of-borough secondary schools. Additionally, parental perception of Brent secondary schools that are currently under-subscribed should change as Ofsted judgements and standards have improved. The combination of these factors could mean that the demand for places in Brent secondary schools may increase beyond that currently shown in Table 1.
- The Council will be exploring options for expanding existing schools, but it is unlikely that the Council will be able to meet the projected level of need outlined only through

expansion. At least one new free school will be needed for the Council to meet secondary need efficiently.

7. Two new free schools intended for Brent were approved by DfE in November 2016 – the North Brent Free School, a secondary school offering 180 places in each year group, and the Avanti Free School, an all-through school offering 60 primary places per year group and 180 secondary places per year group. These schools will be unable to open until permanent sites are secured and the Council is working with the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) to identify sites. The ESFA will purchase or lease any suitable commercial site and fund any building works. The Avanti Free School will have a Hindu ethos and is expected to attract students from a wide geographic area. As it is difficult to find sites, the Avanti Free School may not be located in Brent.

Table 2: Secondary Transfer by Primary Planning Area

LA of Offered School 2016	Brent Resident School Planning Area					
	PA 1	PA 2	PA 3	PA 4	PA 5	Total
Brent Total	314	337	853	398	588	2490
Brent %	72.0%	82.8%	84.1%	75.8%	55.7%	72.4%
Barnet	63	11	27	21	74	196
Bexley			1			1
Bournemouth					1	1
Buckinghamshire	1	3				4
Camden	2			2	103	107
Ealing	2	7	44	14	19	86
Enfield				2		2
Essex					1	1
Hackney	1					1
Hammersmith and Fulham		1	2	9	27	39
Haringey			1		1	2
Harrow	43	34	59	19	20	175
Hertfordshire	5	6	3		2	16
Hillingdon		4	2		1	7
Hounslow			8	1	2	11
Islington					1	1
Kensington and Chelsea		1	1	10	23	35
Slough	2	2	6		1	11
Sutton	1	1	2			4
Wandsworth				1		1
Westminster	2		5	48	192	247
Non-Brent Total	122	70	161	127	468	948
Non-Brent %	28.0%	17.2%	15.9%	24.2%	44.3%	27.6%
Grand Total	436	407	1014	525	1056	3438

6. The Need for Primary Places

8. In recent years Brent has seen an unprecedented increase in the demand for primary school places. The primary pupil population (Reception to Year 6) increased from 21,427 in May 2008 to 26,502 in May 2016, an increase of 23.7%.
9. In October 2014 officers informed Cabinet that the most recent predictions provided to the authority by the GLA had indicated a substantial reduction in births across London. Table 3 shows the actual births for the three years ending August 2016. The 2015-16 births are 262 lower than the previous year. The drop in the births is reflected in the latest GLA projections and indicate lower demand for Reception places over the next few years.

Table 3: Births in Brent

Year	Sept 2013 – Aug 2014	Sept 2014 – Aug 2015	Sept 2015 – Aug 2016
Births in Brent	5106	5139	4877

10. In the recent past Brent has been forced, at very short notice, to open temporary annexe provision and bulge classes to meet a sudden sharp increase in demand for primary places. Such temporary provision is neither educationally desirable nor cost effective. We have reduced our reliance on this provision by providing sufficient flexibility in permanent and temporary provision on school sites. In recognition of this and the projected growth in primary cohort size from Reception to Year 6, Cabinet recommended, in October 2014, that Brent should aim to maintain a 5% surplus in Reception places. We are currently operating with a surplus of 4% in Reception and a surplus across primary provision of 3%. We expect this to increase based on the most recent GLA forecasts that show demand falling over the next few years (Tables 4 and 5).
11. Table 4 shows the latest GLA forecasts and available primary places and Table 5 shows forecast demand for Reception places from 2017. The places available includes expanded provision at Byron Court, Elsley, Leopold and Uxendon Manor schools, which became permanent during the 2015/16 or 2016/17 academic years.
12. The ESFA proposes to open 2 new primary free schools in Brent. The ESFA is reluctant to open new free schools on temporary sites until a permanent site has been identified. Floreat Colindale Primary, which will provide 420 places (2FE), was due to open in temporary accommodation in 2016 and move to a permanent site from 2018. However, latest plans are for the school to open in 2019 on the school's permanent site at Oriental City. Ark Somerville Primary School (3FE) was originally approved to open in 2017 in the Alperton region of Planning Area 3. It is now earmarked for the York House site, Wembley Central which is adjacent to the other growth area in Planning Area 3. The final column of Table 5 indicates the impact these schools would have on Reception capacity if both opened in 2019.
13. We are forecasting a reduction in demand for Reception places for September 2017, evidenced by fewer on time applications than at the same point in time in previous years.

The latest pupil forecasts suggest that Reception cohorts will continue to fall for a further three years before beginning to increase again (in 2020/21). As a result there will be a temporary increase in spare capacity across the borough. Neighbouring authorities are reporting similar patterns. We are currently working with schools to manage any changes in demand.

14. Brent schools experience a high degree of pupil mobility due to families moving in and out of the Borough and families moving within the Borough. Overall forecasts indicate that year groups are expected fluctuate in size as they move through the system. There is a forecast deficit of primary places in Year 3 in Planning Area 1 and Planning Area 3 for September 2017. We anticipate that spare capacity in other planning areas will be sufficient to meet this need.

Table 4: Primary projections and places

		Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2017/2018	Capacity	4,217	4,187	4,214	4,062	3,887	3,977	3,897
	Projections	3,855	3,881	3,961	3,909	3,770	3,775	3,715
	surplus/deficit	362	306	253	153	117	202	182
2018/2019	Capacity	4,277	4,277	4,217	4,214	4,062	3,887	4,007
	Projections	3,798	3,858	3,870	3,946	3,902	3,729	3,739
	surplus/deficit	479	419	347	268	160	158	268
2019/2020	Capacity	4,427	4,277	4,277	4,217	4,214	4,062	3,887
	Projections	3,782	3,804	3,853	3,900	3,937	3,857	3,691
	surplus/deficit	645	473	424	317	277	205	196
2020/2021	Capacity	4,427	4,427	4,277	4,277	4,217	4,214	4,062
	Projections	3,788	3,796	3,805	3,866	3,893	3,901	3,822
	surplus/deficit	639	631	472	411	324	313	240
2021/2022	Capacity	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,277	4,277	4,217	4,214
	Projections	3,812	3,801	3,797	3,818	3,864	3,850	3,862
	surplus/deficit	615	626	630	459	413	367	352
2022/2023	Capacity	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,277	4,277	4,217
	Projections	3,836	3,824	3,801	3,808	3,814	3,824	3,809
	surplus/deficit	591	603	626	619	463	453	408

Note: Including Floreat Colindale and Ark Somerville free schools from 2019

Table 5: Primary Reception projections and places

Year	Projected Reception intake (GLA January 2017)	Reception places available (excluding 2 planned free schools)	Surplus places	Surplus places as FE	Surplus places with Floreat Free School (2FE) and Ark Somerville (3FE)
2017/18	3855	4217	362	12.1	12.1
2018/19	3797	4277	480	16	16
2019/20	3781	4277	496	16.5	21.5
2020/21	3787	4277	490	16.3	21.3
2021/22	3812	4277	465	15.5	20.5
2022/23	3836	4277	441	14.7	19.7
2023/24	3853	4277	424	14.1	19.1
2024/25	3871	4277	406	13.5	18.5
2025/26	3889	4277	388	12.9	17.9

7. The Need for Places by Primary Planning Areas

15. The Borough is divided into 5 Primary Planning Areas (see Figure i). This supports the Council in providing a school place within a reasonable travelling distance for primary children. The match of demand to the supply of places varies across planning areas and year groups.

16. Planning Area 1: 7 primary schools

- **Demand:** The January 2017 GLA projections indicate a surplus of Reception places over the next 6 academic years. Some year groups are forecast to increase as they move through the school system resulting in a deficit of places. This will be alleviated by places at Byron Court, in neighbouring planning area (PA2) as it expands in these year groups (from 3FE to 5FE).
- **Planned Changes to Capacity:** Floreat Colindale Free School is planned to open in September 2019 and will provide 2FE (420 places).
- **Recommendations:** Based on the forecast level of demand and available capacity, developing an Additionally Resourced Provision for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Fryent would be an efficient use of the estate and should be explored.

Table 6: Planning Area 1 January 2017 GLA projections and capacity

Planning Area 1		Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2017/2018	Capacity	480	480	510	540	510	510	480
	Projections	493	475	509	547	507	500	480
	surplus/deficit	17	35	1	-7	3	10	0
2018/2019	Capacity	510	510	510	510	540	510	510
	Projections	498	504	479	534	550	509	504
	surplus/deficit	12	6	31	-24	-10	1	6
2019/2020	Capacity	570	510	510	510	510	540	510
	Projections	502	508	508	514	537	553	513
	surplus/deficit	68	2	2	-4	-27	-13	-3
2020/2021	Capacity	570	570	510	510	510	510	540
	Projections	493	505	505	535	511	534	551
	surplus/deficit	77	65	5	-25	-1	-24	-11
2021/2022	Capacity	570	570	570	510	510	510	510
	Projections	488	496	502	533	532	507	530
	surplus/deficit	82	74	68	-23	-22	3	-20
2022/2023	Capacity	570	570	570	570	510	510	510
	Projections	486	492	493	529	529	529	505
	surplus/deficit	84	78	77	41	-19	-19	5

17. Planning Area 2: 9 primary schools

- **Demand:** The January 2017 GLA projections indicate spare places in all year groups over the next 6 academic years. After several years of place pressures in the area, parents will have increased choice of provision. Spare places in PA2 will also be accessible to parents living in other planning areas and will provide a buffer, to meet any unanticipated demand or pressures in neighbouring areas.
- **Planned changes to capacity:** There are no current planned changes to capacity. Byron Court's expansion from 2FE expansion in January 2016 to a maximum of 5FE will see the school increasing its intake year on year in line with demand.
- **Recommendations:** No further action is required. This planning area is adjacent to PA1 and PA3 and it is expected that demand from these areas will absorb surplus capacity.

Table 7: Planning Area 2 January 2017 GLA projections and capacity

Planning Area 2		Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2017/2018	Capacity	780	780	720	750	660	750	630
	Projections	677	691	677	740	634	691	616
	surplus/deficit	103	89	43	10	26	59	14
2018/2019	Capacity	780	780	780	720	750	660	750
	Projections	671	669	688	687	728	624	686
	surplus/deficit	109	111	92	33	22	36	64
2019/2020	Capacity	780	780	780	780	720	750	660
	Projections	661	663	666	699	676	713	620
	surplus/deficit	119	117	114	81	44	37	40
2020/2021	Capacity	780	780	780	780	780	720	750
	Projections	665	657	662	675	688	665	708
	surplus/deficit	115	123	118	105	92	55	42
2021/2022	Capacity	780	780	780	780	780	780	720
	Projections	667	660	655	669	664	673	660
	surplus/deficit	113	120	125	111	116	107	60
2022/2023	Capacity	780	780	780	780	780	780	780
	Projections	670	660	656	661	657	649	665
	surplus/deficit	110	120	124	119	123	131	115

18. Planning Area 3: 12 primary schools

- **Demand:** The January 2017 GLA projections indicate increasing demand for Reception places over the next 6 academic years after an initial reduction. This PA has two areas of growth – Alperton and Wembley – and longer term demand for Reception places is expected to continue to grow.

The year group that will be in Year 1 in 2017 is expected to grow, resulting in a small deficit of places. This will be relieved by available places in PA2 and PA4, where there is a projected surplus across all year groups for the next 6 academic years.

- **Planned Changes to Capacity:** No further changes to capacity are planned. Elsley Primary School and East Lane Primary School (formerly part of Wembley High Technology College) will continue to grow year on year in response to demand for their expanded capacity (both are 4FE schools). A new 3FE Free School (Ark Somerville) is earmarked to be situated in this planning area, opening in 2019.
- **Recommendations:** To review whether to increase pupil numbers in the upper year groups at the East Lane Primary School at a faster pace than planned to meet any additional need for places. Similarly Elsley Primary School could grow faster than planned once the expansion works are completed in 2018.

Table 8: Planning Area 3 January 2017 GLA projections and capacity

Planning Area 3		Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2017/2018	Capacity	970	940	940	820	790	850	820
	Projections	932	944	897	819	793	833	812
	surplus/deficit	38	-4	43	1	-3	17	8
2018/2019	Capacity	970	970	940	940	820	790	850
	Projections	911	942	941	901	810	782	821
	surplus/deficit	59	28	-1	39	10	8	29
2019/2020	Capacity	1,060	970	970	940	940	820	790
	Projections	910	928	946	951	895	802	774
	surplus/deficit	150	42	24	-11	45	18	16
2020/2021	Capacity	1,060	1,060	970	970	940	940	820
	Projections	943	944	946	961	951	899	800
	surplus/deficit	117	116	24	9	-11	41	20
2021/2022	Capacity	1,060	1,060	1,060	970	970	940	940
	Projections	968	973	960	959	960	948	893
	surplus/deficit	92	87	100	11	10	-8	47
2022/2023	Capacity	1,060	1,060	1,060	1,060	970	970	940
	Projections	991	992	983	968	953	953	935
	surplus/deficit	69	68	77	92	17	17	5

Note: Includes Ark Somerville and East Lane at 4FE

19. Planning Area 4: 10 primary schools

- **Demand:** The January 2017 GLA projections indicate a surplus of Reception places over the next 6 academic years and all other year groups.

The Old Oak Common redevelopment scheme will affect this area. Initial plans state 866 additional units by 2026. However, the Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) have indicated that all numbers and timescales are to be revised as new sites have since been added to the masterplan. Further discussions are required with the OPDC to understand the likely impact on provision in Brent.

- **Planned change to capacity:** Two schools in this area have been expanded. Stonebridge Primary School officially expanded from 2FE to 3FE in September 2015, having had 6 bulge classes in a separate annexe since 2012. A capital investment project to provide permanent accommodation is planned. Harlesden Primary School expanded from 1FE to 3FE in September 2014 and opened two Y2 classes in September 2015 such was the demand. Both schools are now seeing reduced demand.

Due to a fire in 2015, St Joseph's RC Primary reduced its Reception intake in September 2016 from 90 to 60. For 2017 those pupils will move to Year 1. The school has confirmed that it is still using temporary accommodation and that Reception and Year 1 will remain at 60 places for September 2017.

- **Recommendations:** A review of places against demand is required to ensure that schools are sustainable and that we make the best use of capital investment.

Table 9: Planning Area 4 January 2017 GLA projections and capacity

Planning Area 4		Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2017/2018	Capacity	735	735	762	730	735	675	725
	Projections	618	628	687	635	692	621	660
	surplus/deficit	117	107	75	95	43	54	65
2018/2019	Capacity	765	765	735	762	730	735	705
	Projections	599	618	625	655	641	683	613
	surplus/deficit	166	147	110	107	89	52	92
2019/2020	Capacity	765	765	765	735	762	730	735
	Projections	611	599	615	594	657	633	671
	surplus/deficit	154	166	150	141	105	97	64
2020/2021	Capacity	765	765	765	765	735	762	730
	Projections	595	608	596	585	598	648	626
	surplus/deficit	170	157	169	180	137	114	104
2021/2022	Capacity	765	765	765	765	765	735	762
	Projections	595	594	604	568	592	591	639
	surplus/deficit	170	171	161	197	173	144	123
2022/2023	Capacity	765	765	765	765	765	765	735
	Projections	598	599	597	579	580	589	588
	surplus/deficit	167	166	168	186	185	176	147

20. Planning Area 5: 25 primary schools

- **Demand:** The January 2017 GLA projections show a surplus of Reception places over the next 6 academic years. Other year groups also show spare capacity that is expected to increase. This is mainly due to the rising rolls at Kilburn Grange Free School which opened in 2015/16.

Many children living in this planning area attend schools in neighbouring authorities – Camden and Westminster. This planning area covers the South Kilburn regeneration region. It is anticipated that the South Kilburn master plan will maximise housing developments, which could lead to an increase in current pupil projections.

- **Planned changes to capacity:** Kilburn Grange Free School opened in September 2015 with an intake of 2FE in Reception. The school will not reach its full capacity of pupils until 2022/23.
- **Recommendations:** As part of the South Kilburn regeneration programme, keep under review school place demand.

Table 10: Planning Area 5 January 2017 GLA projections and capacity

Planning Area 5		Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2017/2018	Capacity	1,252	1,252	1,282	1,222	1,192	1,192	1,242
	Projections	1,135	1,143	1,191	1,168	1,144	1,130	1,147
	surplus/deficit	117	109	91	54	48	62	95
2018/2019	Capacity	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,282	1,222	1,192	1,192
	Projections	1,119	1,125	1,137	1,169	1,173	1,131	1,115
	surplus/deficit	133	127	115	113	49	61	77
2019/2020	Capacity	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,282	1,222	1,192
	Projections	1,098	1,106	1,118	1,142	1,172	1,156	1,113
	surplus/deficit	154	146	134	110	110	66	79
2020/2021	Capacity	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,282	1,222
	Projections	1,092	1,082	1,096	1,110	1,145	1,155	1,137
	surplus/deficit	160	170	156	142	107	127	85
2021/2022	Capacity	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,282
	Projections	1,094	1,078	1,076	1,089	1,116	1,131	1,140
	surplus/deficit	158	174	176	163	136	121	142
2022/2023	Capacity	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252	1,252
	Projections	1,091	1,081	1,072	1,071	1,095	1,104	1,116
	surplus/deficit	161	171	180	181	157	148	136

8. The Need for SEND and Alternative Provision Places

21. The Borough's SEND Strategy is to enable each young person to realise their potential in an appropriate, inclusive setting whether in a mainstream, Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) or a special school. By giving the right support at the right time, young people will be encouraged to become independent, autonomous learners, fully involved with their parents and carers in decisions about their future.
22. In 2014 the Government introduced wide ranging reforms in the way that special educational needs are to be met. Statements of SEN were replaced with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). The age range for EHCPs was also extended from 2 to 19 to 0 to 25.
23. The new system applies to all providers of education including state funded provision in both maintained and academy schools (including free schools). In mainstream schools, SEN support replaced the previous categories of School Action and School Action Plus.
24. As of January 2016 (SFR release 2016 DfE - school age pupils who attend school in Brent) there were 4923 children and young people assessed as requiring SEN Support. The number of children and young people with an EHC Plan who attend a Brent School was 1470 which is 3% of the school student population of 48,417. The table below shows the breakdown of children and young people in all school settings.

Table 11: January 2016 SEN PROVISION

Jan 2016 - SEN Provision of LB Brent school census - Reception to Yr 11						
School type	Secondary	Primary	Special	PRU (as per census Jan 16)	Children's Centres (as per census Jan 16)	All pupils (inclu PRU and Nurseries)
SEN Support	1,286	3,567	0	17	53	4,923
EHC plan / statement	377	454	638	1	0	1470
All pupils	19,414	27,876	638	53	436	48,417

25. As of January 2017 there were 1960 (SEN 2 Return) Brent resident children and young people with an EHCP or statement. Of these 1824 Brent resident children and young people with an EHCP (Reception to year 14) were attending a school and 136 young people were attending a further education provision (age 16 -25). This includes 413 children and young people with an EHCP Plan or statement in out of Borough mainstream, specialist or independent provision.

Table 12: EHCP/Statement Numbers

Brent Resident EHCP		In Borough		Out Borough		Further Education Age 16-25	Total
1824		1384		440		136	1960
Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Further Education	Total
953	871	807	577	146	294	136	1960

26. Most children and young people with SEND can have their needs met in a mainstream setting but the demand for specialist places is increasing. In 2017 (Jan SEN2 return) 48% of children and young people with EHC plans attended a mainstream provision and 52% of children and young people with EHC plans attended a specialist provision. Table 13 shows the increase in children and young people with Statements of SEN/EHC Plans and whether they attend a mainstream or specialist school over the last 3 years from 2015-17. The data excludes the number of young people attending further education.

Table 13: Brent resident children and young people with an EHCP (Reception to year 14) –SEN2 Return

2015			2016			2017		
Total No CYP with Statements /EHC Plan	Main stream	Special	Total No CYP with Statements /EHC Plan	Main stream	Special	Total No CYP with Statements /EHC Plan	Main stream	Special
1653	819	834	1772	871	901	1824	873	951
	50%	50%		49%	51%		48%	52%

27. There are four special schools and five mainstream schools with Additionally Resourced Provision. The Special Schools in the Borough now cater for a wide range of complex SEND (see Table 14). Despite an increase of 104 places since 2012, there is still a demand for specialist provision and Brent is reliant on sourcing places in out-of-borough maintained Special Schools or Independent schools. Table 14 lists the provision available in the Borough. The total capacity is currently 751 places broadly split between primary and secondary.

Table 14: SEND provision by type

School	Type of School	Special Need	Actual number of pupils in Brent Special and ARPs January 2017	Number of Planned Places
Manor School	Special	MLD/ASD	172	170
Phoenix Arch School		ASD/SEMH	47	48
The Village School	Special	PMLD/SLD/ASD	277	270
Woodfield School	Special	MLD/ASD	156	165
Alperton Community School	ARP	MLD	13	16
Kingsbury Green Primary	ARP	HI	17	16
Kingsbury High School	ARP	HI	6	7
Oakington Manor Primary School	ARP	ASD	15	15
Oakington Manor Primary School	ARP	SLCN	18	20
Preston Manor School	ARP	ASD	12	12
Preston Manor School	ARP	SLCN	12	12
Grand Total			745	751

Note:

ARP - Additionally Resourced Provision,
MLD – Moderate learning difficulties,
SEMH – Social, Emotional Mental Health,
PMLD - Profound and Multiple learning difficulties,
SLCN – Speech and Language Communication Needs

SLD – Severe learning difficulties
HI – Hearing Impairment,
ASD – Autistic Spectrum Disorder,

28. Despite the expansion of Brent special schools, there are currently 114 pupils attending out-of-borough maintained special and academy special schools and 131 pupils attending independent provision also outside of the Borough. Children are often placed in these provisions because there is no appropriate place for them in Brent.
29. Of the 131 pupils currently placed in independent Special provision 68 have a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), 23 pupils have SEMH (Social Emotional Mental Health), 10 pupils have MLD (Moderate Learning Difficulty) and 10 pupils have SLCN (Speech, Language And Communication Needs). Table 15 shows the numbers of children and young people by type of special educational need placed in independent provision.

Table 15: Number Pupils attending independent provision out of Brent by SEN type

SEND Need	Numbers in Independent provision
A S D - Autistic Spectrum Disorder	68
S E M H - Social, Emotional And Mental Health	23
M L D - Moderate Learning Difficulties	10
S L C N - Speech, Language And Communication Needs	10
P M L D - Profound & Multiple Learning Difficult	7
S L D - Severe Learning Difficulties	5
S P L D - Specific Learning Difficulty	4
V I - Visual Impairment	2
P D - Physical Disability	2
Grand Total	131

30. Table 16 below shows the numbers of children and young people by the top four type of special educational need placed in independent primary and secondary provision.

Table 16: Independent Specialist Provision Placements

ASD		SEMH		SCLN		MLD	
Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary	Primary	Secondary
16	52	3	20	2	8	3	7

31. Placement costs in independent schools ranged from £25,692 to £104,000 in 2016/17, with an average cost of £48,000. Providing transport to independent provision is currently costing the council in excess of £1.4 million. Notwithstanding the financial case, there is a strong educational and social rationale for the Council to place students within its own boundaries. The time taken to travel to more distant schools can be stressful for children and young people, especially those with physical needs, with more risk of traffic delays leading to loss of education. They are also less likely to develop friendship groups in their own communities, and the parents less able to take part in their support networks.

32. Once children are placed out-of-borough it is very difficult to bring them back to Borough provision. This has meant long term reliance on out-of-borough and independent placements often until children and young people are 19 or older. Some children have such specific needs that cannot be met other than in very specialist provision, but there is considerable scope to reduce these placements.
33. In May this year a review of the number of SEND specialist places was undertaken that examined patterns of placement in existing provision and forecasts of future need. The numbers of children with SEND will increase as overall pupil numbers rise and given increasing diagnosis. Forecasts were showing an expected increase in the numbers of Children and Young People with Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan to 1,975 by 2020 and 2,420 by 2025. However, in January 2017 there were already 1960 EHC Plans and the forecasts are being revised.
34. Whilst this increase has largely been seen in the primary phase to date, it is now beginning to move into the secondary phase. There is increasing demand for places for children and young people with ASD, social emotional and behavioural difficulties and speech and language needs. Any new specialist provision will need to focus on providing for these cohorts of pupils.
35. Nationally the proportion of children with EHC Plans in specialist provision has increased by 4% since 2010. In Brent if the current 52% (2017 SEN 2 return) placed in specialist provision is maintained, it is estimated there will be demand for 1027 specialist places by 2020, creating a gap of 276 places between current supply and future demand. To meet SEND demand to 2020 and reduce reliance on out-of-Borough special and independent schools, additional local SEN specialist places would need to be provided.
36. The Council is continuing to implement its updated School Place Planning Strategy approved in November 2015 to meet the demand for additional SEND places. There are plans to develop provision locally within the Borough and a new Special Free School is planned for 2018 to alleviate some of the need to place pupils with severe learning difficulties and ASD out of the Borough. Officers are also exploring whether more provision can be provided through Additionally Resourced Provision (ARP) in mainstream schools to meet the particular needs of pupils with ASD and Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD). This would go some way to relieving pressure on places in special schools. It will help meet the demand but there is still pressure to meet the ongoing demand for special school places in Brent for those with Autism and Social Emotional and Mental Health needs. Brent does not have specialist provision for those with Social Emotional and Mental Health needs and some of these children are placed in independent or out of Borough maintained school placements.
37. Planned changes to provision: Brent Special School heads through the Brent Special School Academy Trust (BSSAT) have collectively sponsored a new Special Free School for 100 places. The site that the Council hopes will become the permanent site of the school, the former Avenue School in NW6, is currently being used by the ESFA as a temporary site for Marylebone Boys, a free school that will be permanently located in Westminster. In the interim, plans are being finalised to expand Manor School by 18

places at Queens Park Community school for September 2017 for primary ASD/MLD children across three classes - Early years (age 4-6), KS 2 (lower end) and KS2 (upper).

38. The number of places in the current arrangement between Alperton/Woodfield has reduced due to the new build at Alperton School and the fact that more complex children at Woodfield cannot be transferred.
39. In relation to primary provision, there will be additionally resourced provision for Children with ASD at Fryent Primary School from September 2017 providing 14 places and a further 14 places by 2018. There is an acute need for additional provision for ASD (see Section 8). Depending on the size of the ARP, in the longer term Fryent's intake could reduce from 120 to 90. This would only require minor moderations to the existing accommodation.
40. Table 17 shows the planned expansion of primary additionally resourced provision and special schools up to September 2018.

Table 17: Planned additional special educational needs provision

School	Type of School	Special	2017/18	2018/19
Fryent Primary	ARP	ASD	14	28
Manor Primary (QPCS)	Special	ASD/MLD	18	18
The Avenue (5-18) Primary and Secondary	Special	ASD/Complex	TBC	Up to 100 places 2018 onwards
Total			32	146

41. The Council has a statutory duty to provide an appropriate full-time education for pupils who have been permanently excluded from school or who are otherwise without a mainstream school place.
42. Exclusion figures remain on a steady upward trajectory. Of particular concern is the increase in Fixed Term Exclusions from primary schools. This increase reflects the national picture. Recently there has also been an increase the number of very young pupils who are permanently excluded. Currently these students are placed in out-of-borough schools, with the majority placed at the Family School in Islington. Although, this is an excellent provision with a focus on both academic and therapeutic progress, the Family School takes pupils from other Boroughs and has limited capacity. Its geography also means a long daily journey for young pupils and presents challenges in terms of successful implementation of re-integration programmes for the pupils back into mainstream school in Brent. There is, therefore, a clear need to develop similar Primary PRU provision in Brent. The Local Authority will create 6 additional places for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils at Brent Pupil Referral Unit (Brent River College) from September 2017. Brent River College has submitted an application to the DfE to expand the age range to make provision for primary age pupils (pending approval). BRC is also

planning to create 6 additional preventative places for children at risk of permanent exclusion (commissioned directly by schools).

43. In order to meet the needs of Children with SEMH, planning is underway to make provision for primary age pupils who either have been excluded and have long term complex needs or are at risk of being excluded. Brent is also working with Roe Green Junior to deliver preventative programmes commissioned by schools for KS1 and KS2 children at risk of exclusion. The funding enhances the current educational offer of PETS 1 and PETS 2 – provisions in place at Roe Green Junior School.

9. Childcare and Early Years Education

44. Under the Childcare Act 2006 local authorities have a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare for the needs of most working parents/carers in their area. In Brent, childcare for 0 – 4 year olds is delivered through a strong PVI sector as well as through schools in the borough, with an almost 50/50 split between the two sectors for delivery of the free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds. An increasing number of childminders too are offering the free entitlement for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.
45. Much work has been done to stimulate growth of childcare places through capital and new place funding, most recently for implementation of the free entitlement for eligible two year olds. The local authority's Early Years quality improvement team have also worked very closely with the PVI sector in particular to raise the quality of provision and this has resulted in the highest number of Good or Outstanding Ofsted gradings the sector has had to date. Our current percentage of Good and Outstanding for providers is 91% for PVI providers and 96% for childminders.
46. The quality of childcare provision has been evidenced to be key in ensuring that children thrive and develop at or exceed age related expectations.
47. In practice, developing places for two year olds in schools has proved challenging. Few schools in the country are currently offering provision for two year olds and issues have included capacity and space for expansion. Brent is no exception, as the main focus over the last few years has been to address the acute shortage of school age places rather than use existing space to develop more childcare provision in schools.
48. From September 2017, the government proposes to extend the free entitlement for 3 and 4 year olds to 30 hours per week for working parents. This will have some impact on sufficiency, however the DfE document, 'Childcare Bill: Policy Statement' published in October 2015, rationalises that many children will already be in full time places if their parents are working and, the new extended entitlement will pay for the additional hours parents are already purchasing from an early years setting, helping working families with the cost of childcare.
49. The Local Authority took part in the Early Years Capital Funding bidding rounds launched by the Department for Education in the summer of 2016 and in 2017, it was confirmed that 3 childcare providers in Brent had been successful. These were Roe Green Infant School, Our Lady of Grace Infant School and Wembley Park Montessori. Total capital funding of £1,596,722 was approved and the three providers are committed to creating 195 30 hour places by January 2018.

10. Planned Expansion Programmes

Several projects to expand schools have now been completed.

Table 18: Planned permanent new places for September 2015

School	No. of places	FE Expansion	Final size of school	Update – May 2017
Wembley High Technology College	840	4	4	Completed- 3FE from September 2015 and 4FE from September 2017
Uxendon Manor Primary	420	2	4	Approved, 4FE from 2015. Permanent accommodation in delivery.
Elsley Primary	420	2	4	Approved, 4FE from 2016. Permanent accommodation in delivery.
Stonebridge Primary	210	1	3	Approved, 3FE from 2015. Permanent accommodation in delivery.
Islamia Primary	210	1	2	Project in consultation phase.
Malorees Infants and Juniors	210	1	3	Not proceeding. Removed from schools capital programme.
Byron Court Primary	420	2	5	Approved, 5FE from 2016. Permanent accommodation in delivery.
Leopold (Gwenneth Rickus)	420	2	4	Project completed. 4FE from 2016.
Kilburn Grange (Free School)	420	2	2	Completed
Total number of places	3,570	17		

Table 19: Planned permanent new places for September 2019

Site	No. of Places	No. of FE	Update – May 17
Oriental City site (Floreat Colindale)	420	2	2FE in permanent accommodation from Sept 2019.
Quintain site (Ark Somerville)	630	3	Expected to open in Sept 2019 subject to planning approval and EFA delivery plans.
South Kilburn regeneration (Carlton Vale and Kilburn Park)	210	1	To be reviewed in the context of pupil forecasts and planned housing
Total number of places	1260	4	

11. School Amalgamations

50. The October 2014 report secured the in-principle support of Cabinet (subject to statutory consultation and later decision-making) to the amalgamation of the three pairs of infant and juniors schools:

Table 20: Remaining Brent maintained infant and junior schools

Schools	Progress April 2017
Lyon Park Infants and Juniors	These schools now comprise Lyon Park Primary School.
Carlton Vale Infants and Kilburn Park Juniors	To date governors have not agreed to amalgamate
Malorees Infants and Junior Schools	Governors have agreed to federate the two schools from April 2017.

51. It is one of the operating principles of the strategy that separate infants and junior schools should be amalgamated. Ideally this will be done in partnership with the governing boards and either when the opportunity presents itself, for example a headship vacancy or when there is an expansion or rebuilding scheme. However, the Council does have the right to propose and move forward amalgamations without the support of the Governing Board.

Figure i

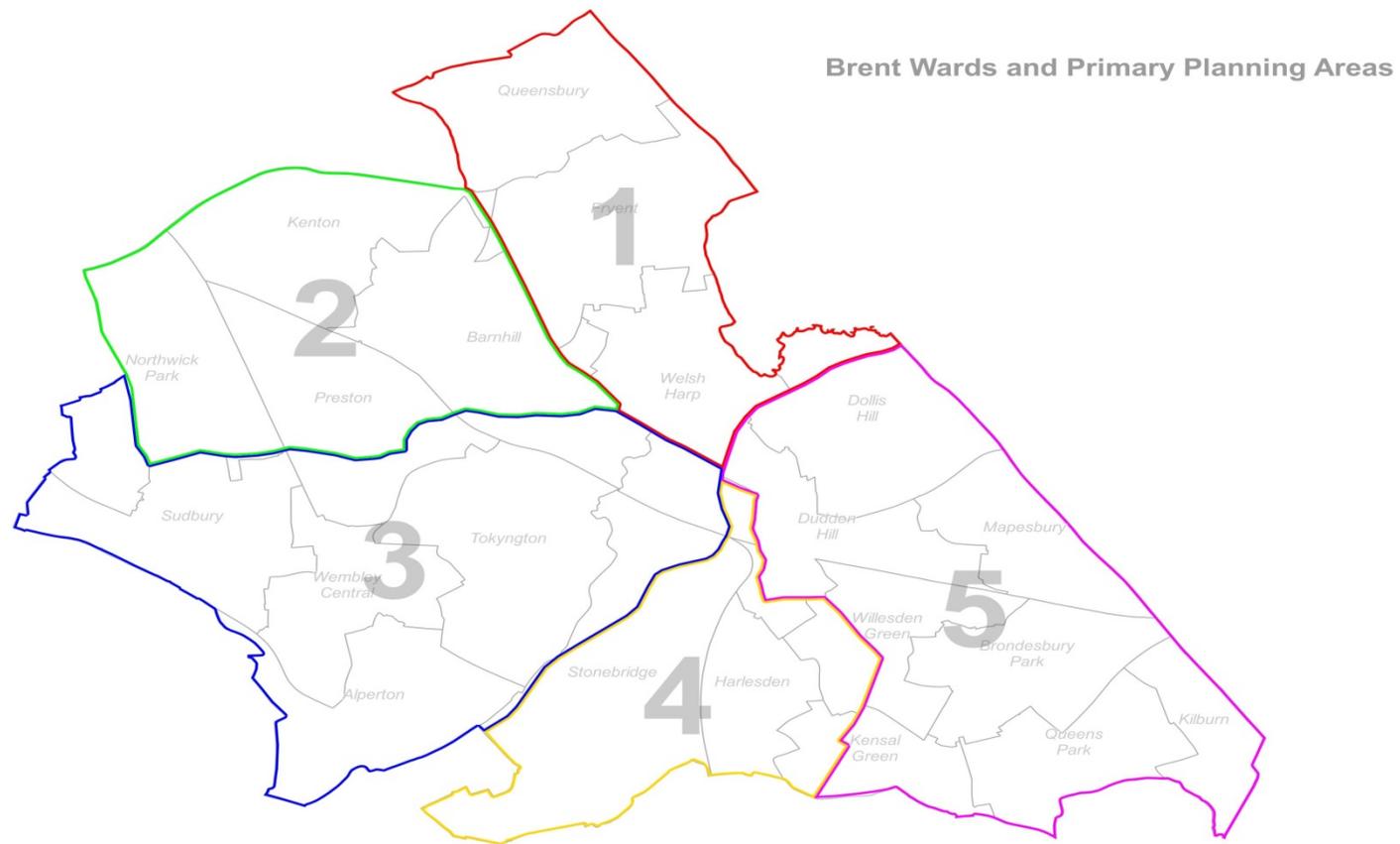
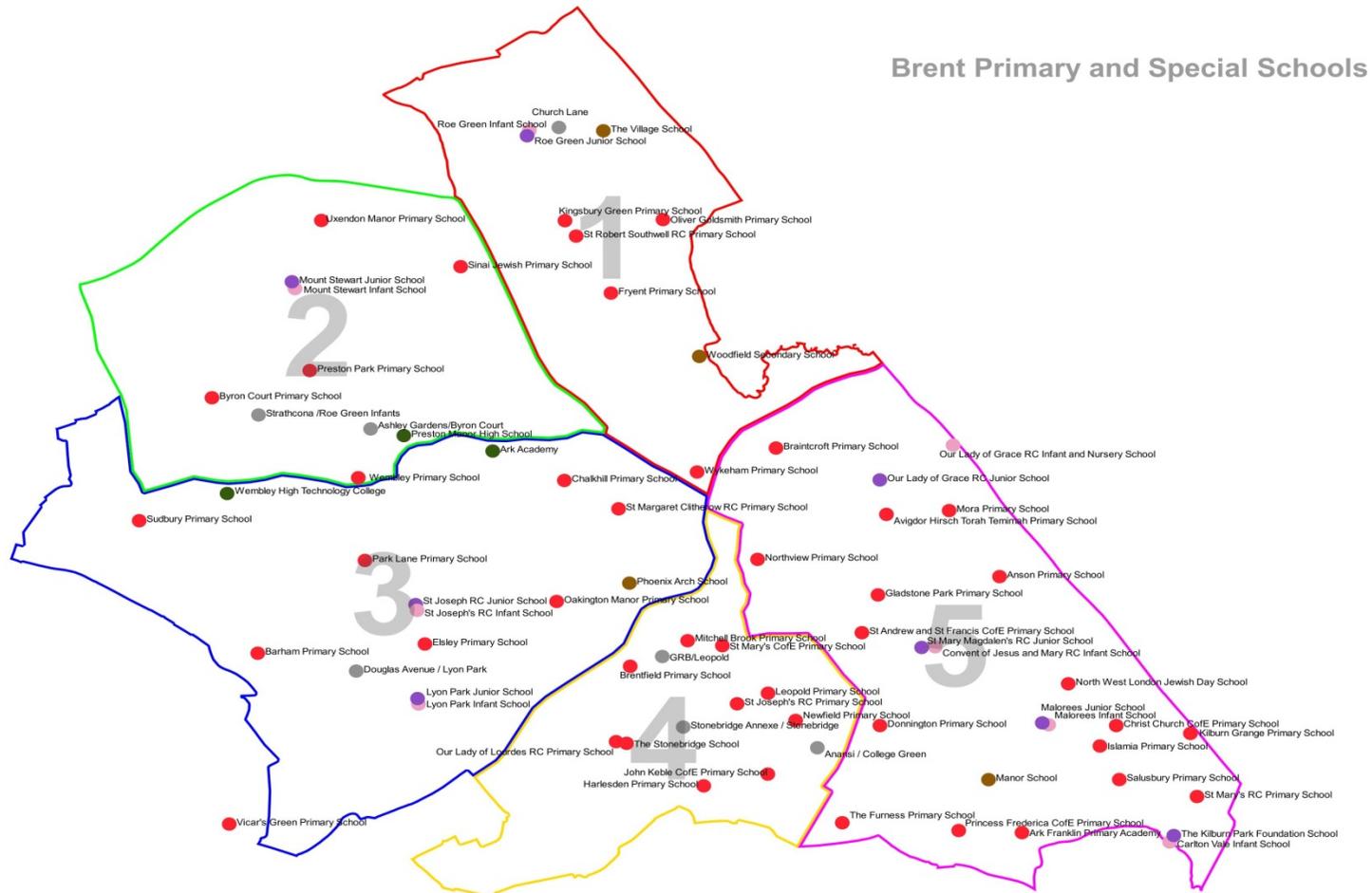
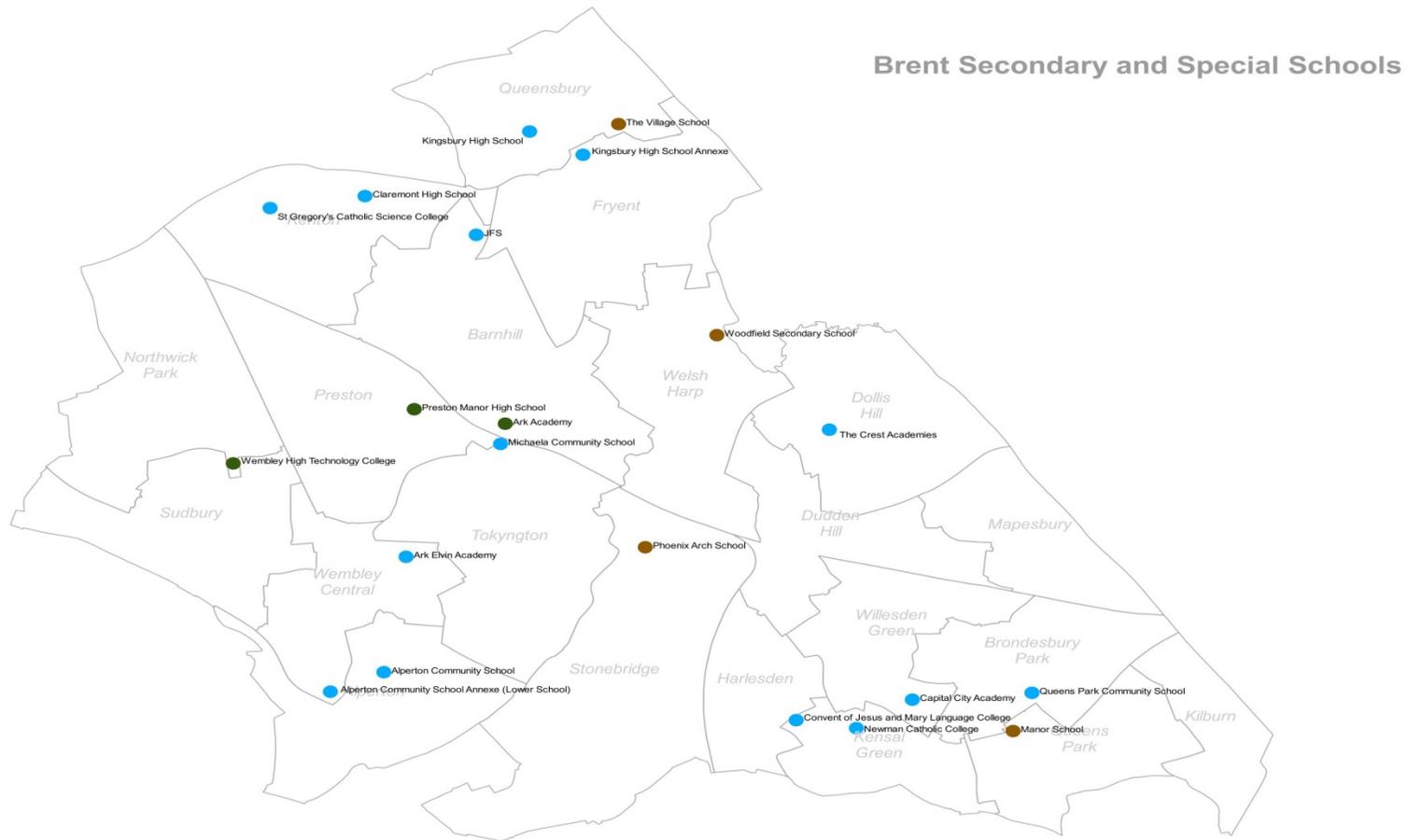


Figure ii



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Figure iii



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