



# Building for Excellence



Southampton Secondary School Expansion and Improvement Planning 2015-2025



# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

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**SUBJECT: BUILDING FOR EXCELLENCE**  
**Secondary School Expansion and Improvement 2015-2025**

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### THIS IS NOT A DECISION PAPER

#### SUMMARY:

Southampton has seen a considerable increase in the need for school places and the peak year for entry to Year R (primary) will be 2015/16. However, the number of pupils entering Year R has been growing since 2009 the growth in the school population is beginning to impact on secondary school pupil numbers.

While we currently have a significant surplus of secondary school places in the City (forecast at 14 per cent in Year 7 for 2015), this will fall sharply to 2018/19 where, without intervention and at current Published Admission Numbers (PANs), there is forecast to be a deficit of Year 7 places in the City (-2.6 per cent).

When the 2015/16 Year R classes progress through to the secondary sector, a forecast Year 7 peak will occur in the 2022/23 academic year with a deficit of 605 Year 7 places in the City (-26 per cent).

Some schools' current PANs are below their original intended capacity. The first phase of any expansion plans will be to raise PANs, where possible, to ensure all available places are filled. At some schools this will require minor works to ensure that educational outcomes are not affected.

The Schools Capital Projects Team has begun the process of investigation and consultation into Secondary School Expansion and Improvement. The process has begun with a series of secondary school site visits and discussions with individual Head Teachers about the issues facing each school in the City and about the expansion of places across the City.

This discussion paper feeds back the findings of those site visits and puts forward a proposed plan for further consultation and comment. A separate paper on SEND provision across the City has links with Building for Excellence, in terms of the need for Resourced Provision, and this issue is discussed in that separate paper.

Alongside the need for extra places there is a need to ensure that the secondary estate across Southampton is fit for purpose and allows all schools to offer the safest learning environments for our children and young people. Any proposed plan must therefore ensure that all Southampton secondary schools can be schools of parental preference and reduce the disparity of surplus places across the City.

The proposed Building for Excellence plans are based on the City Council's stated intention that our educational purpose is to secure the highest quality of learning for all. The plan outlines the need to make every secondary school in Southampton a school of parental preference. The majority of secondary schools in the City are rated Good to Outstanding by Ofsted.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

### BACKGROUND and DETAILS:

- 1.1 There are currently 12 secondary schools in the City.
- 1.2 Four have academy<sup>1</sup> status (*Oasis: Lord's Hill; Oasis: Mayfield; St Anne's Catholic School and Upper Shirley High School*). The remainder are LA maintained schools (including *Regents Park Community College* and *Chamberlayne College for the Arts* (Trust Schools<sup>2</sup>) and *St George Catholic College* (Voluntary Aided by the Portsmouth Catholic Diocese).
- 1.3 In the 2015/16 admissions round there were 2, 290 places available in Southampton for Year 7 Pupils against a total of 1,970 pupils requesting a place. This 14 per cent surplus is not evenly spread throughout the City as, despite the majority of Southampton's secondary schools being rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted, parental preference continues to rely on aspects outside the Ofsted criteria.
- 1.4 Several schools in the City are over-subscribed (i.e. they receive more first choice preferences during the admissions process than they have places) while a third of the City's secondary schools attract first choice preferences significantly below their Planned Admission Number (PAN).
- 1.5 As a result, the current 14 per cent (2015/16) surplus of Year 7 places in the secondary sector (a 25 per cent surplus of places in all Years) is primarily focused on four schools: Chamberlayne; Woodlands; Cantell; and Oasis Lord's Hill. Lower pupil numbers means lower revenue funding for these schools which provides a variety of challenges around curriculum choices, school management and building maintenance.
- 1.6 In planning future secondary school places particular regard should be given to the undersubscribed PFI schools. They currently have a considerable number of surplus places (an issue which is being addressed by SCC and the Department for Education (DfE)) and this puts the schools under financial pressure when there is a need to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to pupils. The nature of the PFI contract also places considerable liability on the Council should these schools continue at reduced numbers.
- 1.7 Similarly, Chamberlayne College for the Arts is currently undersubscribed and faces the same challenges in continuing to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to Southampton pupils. In addition, the maintenance of buildings becomes an issue when schools are underfunded.
- 1.8 All three schools face considerable challenges around location, catchment area and, in the case of Chamberlayne, poor quality accommodation.

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<sup>1</sup> **Academies** are publicly funded independent schools. They receive their money direct from the government. However, the responsibility for providing school places continues to lie with the LA.

<sup>2</sup> **Trust schools** hold the legal title to their land and assets 'on trust' but continue to be LA maintained schools in terms of place planning and capital spending.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.9. This disparity must be addressed and the City Council must ensure these schools are filled (at least in Year 7) before further expansion can take place. The Local Authority must do it all it can to support these schools to become schools of parental preference. This is imperative in order to raise pupil numbers and maintain or continue to raise the quality of education provided by these schools.
- 1.10. This is also vital in terms of admissions. As the secondary school population increases, a growing number of children will need to be placed at these schools. If they are not the preferred choice of parents and children, then the LA runs the risk of these schools being incorrectly viewed as the 'last' choice, when in fact their educational outcomes have been good. This is likely to cause a large number of admissions appeals unless the issue is addressed.
- 1.11. Furthermore, the Education Funding Agency (EFA) is unlikely to offer SCC Basic Need funding for secondary places while we have such a surplus of places in the City.
- 1.12. In order to ensure these Good schools are ones of parental preference the Council will need to do all it can to support them in terms of pupil transport (direct from feeder schools), positive marketing (along with all LA maintained schools) and publicizing positive news and outcomes in-house.
- 1.13. As with other schools close to the City's borders, parents have a choice of schools which includes those outside of the LA (i.e. in Hampshire: Romsey, Mountbatten, and Hamble). Where these schools have, in the parents' view, higher standing or better quality provision and accommodation, all SCC schools need to be in a position where they can compete.
- 1.14. Therefore this discussion paper is not merely about the provision of secondary places but also about raising the quality of secondary school buildings in Southampton to ensure that parental preference is kept within, and more evenly spread across, the City.
- 1.15. **The future need for secondary school places in Southampton gives the City Council an opportunity to improve the condition of, and facilities at, all secondary schools to ensure the best outcomes for the children of the City, and to ensure that all schools offer the very highest quality of accommodation and the safest learning environments for all pupils on an equal basis: securing the highest quality of learning for all.**

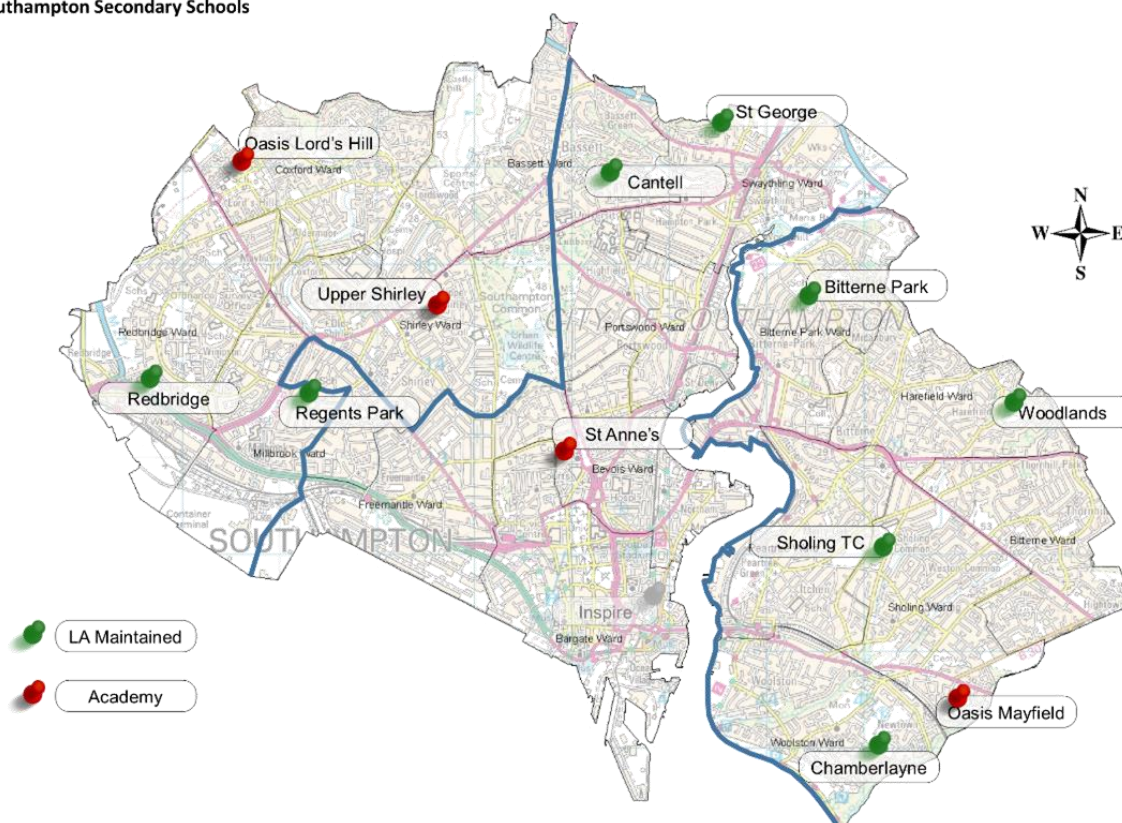
# DISCUSSION PAPER

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1.16. The full list of Southampton secondary schools is:

School	Status	Ofsted Rated									
Bitterne Park Secondary School *	LA maintained	Good									
Cantell School	LA maintained	Good									
Chamberlayne School	LA maintained	Good									
Oasis Academy: Lord's Hill	Academy	Requires Improvement									
Oasis Academy: Mayfield	Academy	Requires Improvement									
Redbridge Community School *	LA maintained	Outstanding									
Regents Park School	LA maintained	Good									
Sholing Technology College	LA Maintained	Good									
St Anne's RC School	Academy	Good	St George RC School	LA maintained	Good	Upper Shirley High School	Academy	Good	Woodlands Community College	LA maintained	Requires Improvement
St George RC School	LA maintained	Good									
Upper Shirley High School	Academy	Good									
Woodlands Community College	LA maintained	Requires Improvement									

1.17. Southampton Secondary Schools



# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.18. \*In addition to mainstream provision, two schools have additional accommodation for the resourced provision of SEND pupils. Bitterne Park School has provision for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) (5 places) and Redbridge Community School has provision in their Hearing Impaired (HI) Unit (7 places).
- 1.19. Resourced provision of this kind must be protected and, where necessary, expanded in order to provide sufficient places for all children and young people who require one. The issue of SEND places is more fully explored in the separate SEND Places Discussion Paper Update (July 2015).
- 1.20. For comparison the Key Stage 4 (GCSE) 2014 DfE performance tables for Southampton secondary schools are listed below.

School	Pupils	5+A*-C (English and Maths)	Expected Progress English*	Expected Progress Maths*
<b>England</b>		<b>53.4%</b>	74%	67%
<b>All Southampton Schools</b>		<b>51%</b>	75%	64%
Bitterne Park Secondary School	1,495	<b>65%</b>	83%	72%
Cantell School	839	<b>51%</b>	95%	69%
Chamberlayne School	478	<b>61%</b>	68%	65%
Oasis Academy: Lord's Hill	511	<b>45%</b>	70%	71%
Oasis Academy: Mayfield	650	<b>38%</b>	66%	61%
Redbridge Community School	1,012	<b>37%</b>	68%	52%
Regents Park School	693	<b>64%</b>	85%	77%
Sholing Technology College	1,034	<b>50%</b>	70%	45%
St Anne's RC School	972	<b>72%</b>	87%	70%
St George RC School	548	<b>45%</b>	48%	81%
Upper Shirley High School	741	<b>49%</b>	77%	60%
Woodlands Community College	586	<b>37%</b>	67%	22%

\*Pupils making at least the minimum expected levels of progress between KS2-KS4

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.21. The combined Planned Admission Number (PAN) of Year 7 places for all secondary schools in the City in 2015/16 is 2,290. The table below shows the forecast number of students who will require a Year 7 place over the coming years and the shortage of spaces if we fail to programme an expansion and improvement of secondary provision.

Academic Year	Number of Year 7 Pupils	Surplus/Deficit Year 7 Places	Surplus/Deficit
2015/16	1,970	320	+14%
2016/17	2,158	132	+5.8%
2017/18	2,292	58	+2.5%
2018/19	2,411	-61	-2.6%
2019/20	2,661	-311	-13.2%
2020/21	2,598	-248	-10.6%
2021/22	2,767	-417	-17.7%
2022/23	2,955	-605	-25.7%
2023/24	2,683	-333	-14.2%
2024/25	2,581	-231	-9.8%
2025/26	2,601	-251	-10.7%
2026/27	2,708	-358	-15.2%

Bitterne Park Secondary School will expand from a PAN of 300 to 360 in September 2017 and this will increase the City PAN to 2,350. This is represented in the table.

- 1.22. When broken down by area (as per the School Capacity Survey Forecasts 2014) it is easier to see how this pressure on school places is not evenly spread throughout the City.

Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
West	51	4	-29	-58	-121	-105	-147	-197	-126	-101
Central	116	60	51	-15	-89	-70	-120	-176	-95	-65
East	153	67	66	12	-102	-73	-150	-236	-112	-65

- 1.23. An increasing number of large scale developments are planned on the borders of the City and we have seen a similar increase in mid-scale developments and changes within the City itself. While the LA currently sees a 5 per cent net loss of pupils to Hampshire schools (between Year 6 and 7 – a 7.4 per cent net loss overall), as Hampshire’s population grows this is forecast to decrease.
- 1.24. It has been noted that as Further Education (i.e. sixth form) provision within the City continues to improve, this could cause a change in parental preference toward Southampton schools.



# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.25. The close proximity of developments on the City's borders could mean increasing pressure on school places in Southampton as parents choose to attend SCC Good schools which are closer than the Hampshire alternatives. Given the nature and location of Southampton schools this pressure could affect all schools in the City.
- 1.26. Similarly, an increasing number of mid to large scale residential developments are planned within Southampton. Close attention will need to be given to the movement of the population that this, and other local issues, could cause.
- 1.27. The size of a school is often discussed with reference to its forms of Entry, where one form of entry equates to 30 pupils. In terms of forms of entry (FE) this forecast suggests the LA will need to provide an additional 24 FE (equal to 720 Year 7 places) by September 2022 to meet demand.
- 1.28. It should be noted that, unlike the primary school (Year R) forecast, which is based predominantly on Birth Data and Child Benefit data, the secondary school pupil forecast is principally based on numbers of pupils already in the Southampton primary schools. Nevertheless, secondary pupil forecasts beyond 2022/23 will be less reliable as these children are not yet in School.
- 1.29. There has been an historic net loss of pupils between Year 6 and Year 7 (a net loss of around 7.4 per cent overall) to Hampshire schools. Recent developments on the City's borders as well as a rise in Hampshire's own school population means there is likely to be a further increase of pupils requiring a place in Southampton's secondary schools. The forecasts used here take account the current trend and numbers could rise as we see more development on Southampton's border with Hampshire.
- 1.30. In addition, the DfE has assumed in its planning that a minimum 5 per cent surplus of places is necessary to support operational flexibility and parental choice. This is reflected in the Audit Commissions 1996 *Trading Places: The Supply and Allocation of School Places* which recommends that LAs plan for a 95 per cent occupancy rate at schools. The 2002 update on *Trading Places* also recommends that 'it is unrealistic and probably undesirable to aim for a perfect match of pupils and places at each school. Some margin of capacity is necessary to allow parents' choice.'
- 1.31. **Southampton is forecast to fall below the recommended 5 per cent surplus in 2017/18 without further intervention.**
- 1.32. In the absence of a City-wide plan for new places, individual academies and free schools can plan for expansion (in consultation with the Local Authority) in line with the legislation outlined below: 7.8.- 7.10.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.33. A proposal has been put together by the Jeffery’s Education Trust (JET: part of the Hamwic Trust) to expand Upper Shirley High School (academy) from a PAN of 150 to a possible PAN of 260 places. This is in response to the expansion of Wordsworth Primary School (JET Academy Trust) and the trusts perception that parental preference is for children to attend Upper Shirley High School and remain within the Hamwic Trust family. If approved by the DfE the expansion could take affect from September 2017. However the Hamwic Trust are yet to secure funding.
- 1.34. This could add 110 places to the City’s Year 7 capacity in the west planning area of the City.
- 1.35. The effect of this expansion (if approved) would be to relieve pressure on secondary school places in the short term. Allowing for this expansions, SCC would have a surplus of places (178 places/7.2 per cent) in 2017/18 and would fall below the recommended 5 per cent surplus in 2018/19 (59 places/2.4 per cent surplus). This expansions could only offset any deficit of places until 2019/20 (-191 places/7.7 per cent deficit).

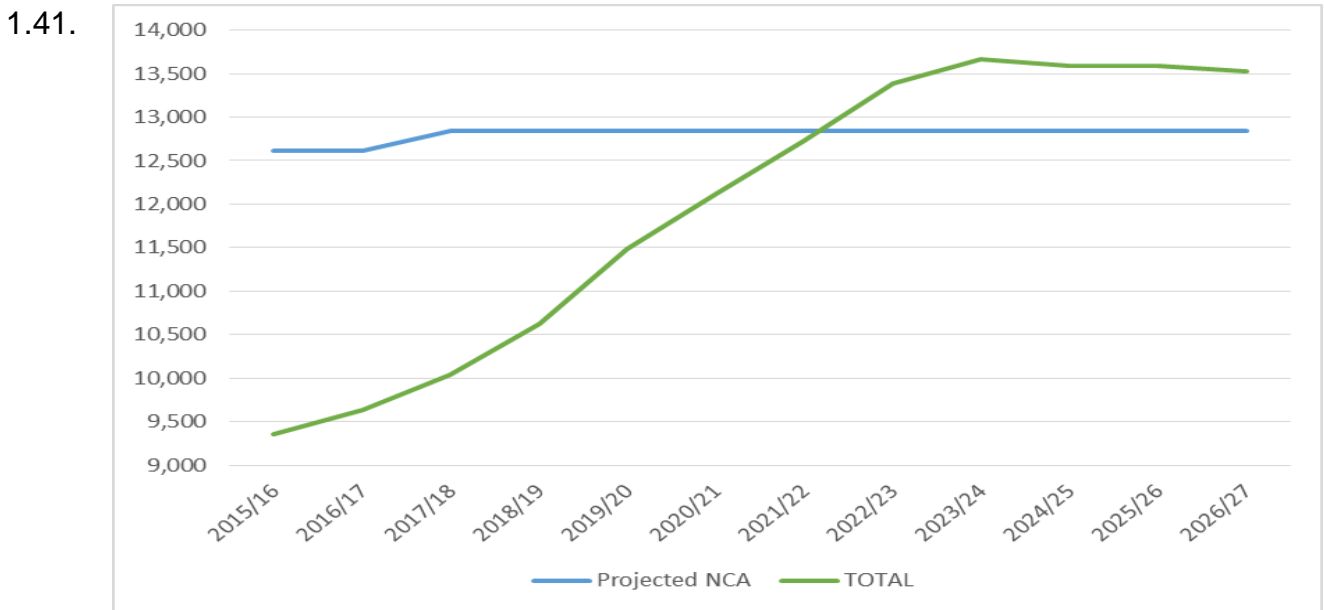
Year	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
West	51	4	91	62	-1	15	-27	-74	-6	19
Central	116	60	21	-15	-89	-70	-120	-176	-95	-65
East	153	67	66	12	-102	-73	-150	-236	-112	-65
Total %	14	5.8	7.2	2.4	-7.7	-5.2	-12.0	-19.6	-8.6	-1.8

- 1.36. An application was made by the Inspire Enterprise Academy proposing a change from studio school status (work related learning aimed at 14-19 year olds with admissions in Year 10) to a mainstream academy (provision for 11-16 year olds with admissions at Year 7). The application has been refused and the studio school will close from September 2015.
- 1.37. Students currently on-roll at the school have been offered alternative provision within the City or at the Isle of Wight Studio School, with free transport provided.
- 1.38. **It should be noted that this discussion paper, while taking account of such plans, does not include them in the proposed options (below) as they are currently not approved by the DfE. Should either plan be approved, the need for places across the City will change and the programme will need to be altered. The DfE decision on these plans will therefore need to be known before progressing to a decision.**
- 1.39. Consideration will need to be given to the effect of these expansions on the overall surplus of spaces in the City given the nature of the current surplus (as discussed above).

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

1.40. Provisional forecasting based on birth data suggests that following the 2022/23 peak of demand there will be a slight drop in the number of places needed at Year 7 followed by a possible future rise. However, as the peak year works its way through the system there will continue to be pressure on the overall number of school places required in the secondary sector.



Forecast future demand on Secondary places SCC Total

1.42. As such, it may be that we increase the Year 7 Pan at some schools for one year only, before reducing it the following year. This approach of 'bulge' classes is the approach currently being taken in the primary sector and allows for flexibility in responding to forecasts that, nearer to the time, will improve in accuracy.

1.43. Bulge classes could be considered at any or all of the City's secondary schools. It is proposed that this be managed in association with schools and a clear plan put in place to allow the provision of any required spaces.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.44. Each school has a Net Capacity Assessment (NCA) which calculates the maximum number of students that a school can accommodate. This figure is calculate using the number of available teaching spaces against the area guidelines of Building Bulletin 103: Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools (June 2014).
- 1.45. Some Southampton secondary schools have an indicated NCA which is larger than their current PAN. As such, some schools have the capacity to accommodate extra pupils within their existing buildings. These schools are:

School	Area	Current PAN	Maximum NCA	Potential PAN
<b>Regents Park Community College</b>	Central	150	1,052	<b>210</b>
<b>Cantell Maths and Computing College (PFI)</b>	Central	230	1,545	<b>300</b>
<b>St Anne's Catholic College</b>	Central	200	1,079	<b>210</b>
<b>Chamberlayne College for the Arts</b>	East	180	1,059	<b>210</b>
<b>Woodlands Community College (PFI)</b>	East	180	1,290	<b>240</b>

- 1.46. It should be noted that changes in provision at Regents Park Community College will affect its ability to expand without new facilities (particularly toilets and sports facilities) and appropriate space for the additional pupils.
- 1.47. However, where expansion is possible, and if it were approved, the added 170 places would give the City an adequate number of secondary places up to, and including, the 2018/19 academic year (providing a 3.9 per cent surplus of places in that year). Further expansion would still be required by September 2019 as these expansions would leave a 6 per cent deficit of places in 2019/20.<sup>3</sup>
- 1.48. It is anticipated that any expansion within a school's Net Capacity Assessment would require relatively minor works to be carried out at some schools. Such expansions would be seen as 'Quick Wins': where minimal works could add places while improving current provision within the City. Such works could include improving toilet facilities, refurbishment or addition of science rooms, improved sports facilities, etc. In each case (below) the requirements of Building Bulletin 103 (DfE) Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools have been taken into account.
- 1.49. It should be noted that the expansion of secondary school provision is more complicated than previously seen at primary. Secondary school expansion needs to consider the wider curriculum offered to pupils at this point of their education and a wide range of teaching facilities need to be provided to avoid timetable problems for individual schools.

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<sup>3</sup> Again, possible expansions at the Inspire Enterprise Academy and Upper Shirley High School have not currently been approved and are not taken into account in these figures.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 1.50. Such expansion also brings a challenge for recruitment and retention of appropriate staff, including teaching staff who can continue to improve the outcomes for the children and young people of Southampton. The City Council should work together with schools, colleges, universities and other teacher training providers to ensure that the best staff and teachers are attracted to Southampton schools.
- 1.51. Officers have visited all maintained and academy secondary schools in Southampton, along with an architect from Capita (our strategic partners), to continue the process of school consultation.
- 1.52. It is our intention to work in collaboration with schools, Head Teachers and Governors to develop a long term plan for expansion of secondary provision in-line with the forecast rise in pupil numbers.
- 1.53. The site visits have also allowed officers to review each school's Net Capacity Assessment (NCA) and talk to Head Teachers and other staff about the needs of each school and the future needs of Southampton's children. The findings are presented below.
- 1.54. Schools below are listed by planning area (west, central and east). Such planning areas allow us to more accurately judge the need for school places in different parts of the City. It should be noted that in terms of the School Capacity Survey and Basic Need Grant the City is regarded as a whole planning area in terms of school places and Basic Need Funding.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

### 2. West

#### 2.1. Redbridge Community School (PFI) LA Maintaned

2.2. Redbridge School is currently rated Outstanding by Ofsted and is oversubscribed, being in an area of dense housing in a popular part of the City. The school has expressed an interest in expansion and parental preference suggests it could expand.

2.3. However the school is at or near its net capacity and currently needs space to maintain its curriculum. The school has undertaken some preliminary investigation with the PFI contractor (Interserve/Pyramid) to provide extra classrooms on-site for 2016/17 using portable buildings on an area of unused land.

2.4. Alternative plans have been developed (but not progressed) by the school to provide extra classrooms and/or dining space and library in an area of the main quad adjacent to the sports-hall (which could free the current library to become performance or classroom space) and a separate classroom in the space formed by the overhang on the opposite side of the quad. Consideration could also be given to extending the new-build (E-Block) of the school to provide extra classroom space (were permanent expansion required).

2.5. With the addition of these spaces, the school could provide a 1 or 2 FE Bulge Class in September 2022 if required.

#### 2.6. Upper Shirley High School Academy

2.7. Upper Shirley High School is currently rated Good by Ofsted and is generally oversubscribed. As part of the Jeffrey's Education Trust (Hamwic Trust) family they are keen to expand to allow pupils at feeder primaries to continue within the trust.

2.8. The Hamwic Trust have submitted plans to the EFA to expand the school from a PAN of 150 to a PAN of 260 from September 2017. The Trust is currently trying to secure funding from the EFA for this expansion.

2.9. It is likely that expansion at Upper Shirley High School (particularly at this size) would require major building work.

2.10. Expansion in this part of the City would be required by 2019, when there is forecast to be a shortage of Year 7 places. If Upper Shirley High School does not expand then further expansion work will be required in this part of the City. This could be at Upper Shirley high School, or through permanent expansion at Redbridge Community School, Oasis, Lord's Hill, or Regents Park Community College.

2.11. To maintain a city wide balance of secondary school places, the school would expand to a Pan of 240 in 2019 at the earliest, with a bulge class possible in 2022/23.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 2.12. **Oasis Academy: Lord's Hill Academy**
- 2.13. Oasis Academy: Lord's Hill was rated as Requires Improvement (with some Good areas) in November 2013. The school was built to a capacity of 900 pupils but has yet to reach that capacity. The site has limited space for expansion but there is some scope to extend the main building.
- 2.14. Consideration should be given to expanding the school if planned developments in the Rownhams area (north of the City) are likely to lead to an increase in required spaces.

### 3. Central

- 3.1. **Regents Park Community College LA Maintained** (Regents Park Learning Community Trust)
- 3.2. Regents Park Community College has been rated Good by Ofsted and is generally oversubscribed. The school has a Net Capacity Assessment (NCA) which suggests it is larger than its Planned Admission Number (PAN) however the school has moved from single sex to mixed sex provision and this has limited the available space for expansion. While the school sits to the west of the City centre, its catchment area has traditionally been from City centre primary schools which have seen a considerable rise in numbers in recent years.
- 3.3. The most recent area guidelines for schools suggests that Regents Park would require improved science provision, enlarged and improved sports facilities and further work to the school's toilets to expand to a PAN of 210 (from 150). The current dining arrangements, although just under guideline areas, are also inadequate for an increase in the school's PAN. The dining hall is poorly sited for a school this size and is also used as a teaching space as the school has a shortage of available PE teaching space. Alternative arrangements have been considered by the school (i.e. an extra or portable servery) and should be supported were the school to expand. Improved sports facilities (and additional space) would offset some of the schools concerns around catering.
- 3.4. The site has limited space for expansion but several possible routes were explored during the site visit. The most likely being the addition of a new sports-hall to replace an existing modular extension, relocating the PE classroom and Dance space to a ground floor extension to the main building. The second floor of this extension would provide the required science laboratories. Existing toilets in the school could be refurbished and improved in the same way as those on the ground floor of the school (recently refurbished).

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 3.5. The school has a large hard play area separated from the school by a road. Improving access to this site and upgrading the surface to a Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) would also provide additional PE space as well as outdoor play space (which is lacking on the main site). Safety and safeguarding issues would need to be addressed. Possible solutions during the site visit included road calming measures or the possibility of a footbridge. Either solution would require further development but it was felt that this should be explored to allow the school full access to all its outdoor space, including during break times, without the need for increased staff supervision on the road crossing.
- 3.6. Based on the most recent condition surveys by Capita, the school currently has between £2,000,000 and £2,500,000 of maintenance and repair works outstanding (when projected to 2022). This figure could be offset against expansion works which would also improve the condition of the school.
- 3.7. Were the school to expand to a PAN of 210, the added space could be used to also take a bulge class in September 2022.
- 3.8. **Cantell Maths and Computing College (PFI) LA Maintained**
- 3.9. Cantell College has been rated Good by Ofsted. The school currently has a surplus of places which will start to fill as the forecast rise in population puts increased pressure on places in the City. The school was originally built to a PAN of between 270 and 300. The nature of the site means there is limited access to outdoor space during break times and the larger increase may not be beneficial to pupils.
- 3.10. To provide the school places required within the City the school should expand from a PAN of 230 to a Pan of 270 (9FE) from September 2017.
- 3.11. The school could then take a Bulge Class (as required) in September 2018 and/or September 2019. However, given the current forecast, this would not negate the need to expand other schools at the same time.
- 3.12. As noted above, there is a danger, therefore, that without further work by the school and intervention from the Local Authority surplus places may remain at Cantell College. Particular consideration should be given to the availability of transport from City centre primary schools to Cantell College to make Cantell the school of choice for parents in the central-southern area of the City.
- 3.13. This again highlights the need to make each school in the City to be a school of parental preference. It is in the Council's best interests to ensure Cantell College's admissions continue to rise.



# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 3.14. **St Anne's Catholic School (Girls) Academy**
- 3.15. St Anne's Catholic School has been rated Good by Ofsted and is usually oversubscribed. The school is on a restricted City centre site with only limited room to expand.
- 3.16. The school have indicated that they could expand to a PAN of 210 (from 200) without capital works. A further increase to a PAN of 240 would be possible with the addition of extra space and the school have suggested an area on their site for an eight classroom block which would allow future expansion.
- 3.17. The site visit at St Anne's drew out some interesting areas for further consideration, including the use of land to the east of the main site to add a classroom block and create extra outdoor space for pupils. The use of local buildings, currently a mix of commercial, residential and/or houses of multiple occupancy (HMO) to form a new school block should also be considered.
- 3.18. An increase in pupil numbers at St Anne's will also require the addition of improved sports facilities. Much of the school's excellent sports provision makes good use of off-site facilities. The school and pupils would benefit from an increase in activity space. The site visit identified one possible solution to rebuild the gym as a two storey build with added activity, performance, classroom space above.
- 3.19. Given its location and popularity, St Anne's should expand to a PAN of 210 from September 2019 and then to a permanent PAN of 240 from September 2021.
- 3.20. **St George Catholic College LA Maintained (Diocese: Voluntary Aided)**
- 3.21. St George Catholic College has been rated Good by Ofsted and has recently been awarded a Priority School Building Programme (PSBP) 2 bid to rebuild its science and technology block. Having spoken to the school, the Diocese and the Education Funding Agency (EFA), there is scope within this project for St George to expand in line with parental preference.
- 3.22. In order to expand by 1FE (Pan 180) the school will require increased science and technology provision (2 extra Science and 2 extra Technology rooms) as well as an increase in classroom space.
- 3.33. This provision could be housed in the PBSP2 block with the additional funding (for the expansion in numbers only) coming from SCC. This will need to be negotiated with the EFA in the early stages of planning.
- 3.34. The preferred date for expansion would be 2021 (in line with the forecast need for places) and any additional space would need to be completed for September 2021 to accommodate the increase in pupils in the City. This will also need to be negotiated with the EFA who have currently given no indication as to the proposed date of any works at St George.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 3.35. If the new-build were to add space for the permanent expansion of St George (i.e. built in one phase), the added space would allow for possible bulge classes for September 2021 and September 2022, further alleviating the need for spaces in the City during these forecast peak years.
- 3.36. Any expansion at St George would need to include the reconfiguration of the library and IT spaces within the school as well as an increase in dining space to allow for the increase in pupils. This would be a separate project (outside of the PSBP” bid). One possible solution from the site visit would be to reconfigure the entrance to the school, increasing the adjacent dining space and adding a new library resource centre at the front of the school. This project would be separate for the PSBP2 bid.
- 3.37. It should be noted that while the school and Diocese have shown support for the principle of expansion, any growth would need the formal approval of the Catholic Diocese.

### East

- 4.1. **The Sholing Technology College LA Maintained**
- 4.2. The Sholing Technology College is rated Good by Ofsted and is the school is currently oversubscribed. Its position within the Sholing campus of schools makes it a popular choice for parents and pupils in this area.
- 4.3. The school is on a restricted site and lacks space for future expansion, being below the minimum total site size recommended in the Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools. The school is particularly short of adequate space for its current curriculum due to restrictions on space and the recent loss of their library building (see below).
- 4.4. The main school hall is below the recommended area for a school this size and is also used as the only dining space available to pupils, meaning it is restricted in terms of use as a valid teaching space. DfE guidelines recommend that a school this size should have a separate dining room (in this case an additional 214m<sup>2</sup>).
- 4.5. The school has previously been expanded and this has removed much of the already limited outdoor space available to pupils. The only green space available to the pupils is a small picnic area, which is also the only available outdoor space for certain PE activities.
- 4.6. The school’s Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) needs refurbishment (including resurfacing and new fencing) and remedial work is also required on the sports hall. Outdoor PE is currently restricted to a small area of land in the south-east of the site. Veracity Recreation Ground is close to the school but is open to the public and managed by Active Nation.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 4.7. According to the Head Teacher and pupil surveys the Veracity Recreation Ground has a bad reputation in the area and is not used by pupils outside of school. The school currently has use of the Itchen College sports field (shared with the College and other local schools) but a recent bid for an all-weather pitch on this site will mean the end of this arrangement.
- 4.8. The school was considered for the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme before its cancellation in 2010 and a significant backlog of maintenance work remains. The newest block was completed in the 1990s and the school makes use of portable buildings to add much needed classroom space.
- 4.9. In particular, the school's library, previously housed in a temporary portable build, has been deemed unfit for purpose and is the subject of ongoing legal dispute between SCC and the contractor. These factors have added to the pressure on space within the school.
- 4.10. The Area Guidelines for Mainstream Schools Guidance (June 2014), including Building Bulletin 103 (BB103), recommends a total site area for a school this size to be approximately 75,000m<sup>2</sup>. The Sholing Technical College is split over two sites (separated by access to Sholing Infant School) with a total site area of 20,546m<sup>2</sup>.
- 4.11. In addition, based on the most recent condition surveys, the school has between £600,000 and £800,000 of outstanding repairs and maintenance works outstanding: a figure that will rise once associated costs are considered.
- 4.12. In addition, the school's windows, the majority which are single glazed, need updating and maintenance. There are ongoing associated health and safety concerns in terms of glass falling into the playground.
- 4.13. Also, the shared access entrance poses a significant safeguarding issue which the school is keen to address. A second entrance is needed with remote/electronic opening to stop members of the public from accessing the site. A significant part of the boundary fence is failing and can be accessed from the residential areas.
- 4.14. Given the location and popularity of this school (within the Sholing campus) the school should be expanded as part of a new-build on a larger and more suitable site.
- 4.15. This will allow for an expansion of the school to a Pan of 240 (or larger if required) from September 2021. The added space could then be used for a bulge class in September 2022, increasing the Pan for that year to 270.
- 4.16. The rebuild should take account of the school's current position within the Sholing campus and any new-build could provide improved facilities for community sports access and pitches (including access for other local schools). The most suitable site would be the Veracity Recreation Ground.
- 4.17. This would release the current site either for sale or retention as education use. As development increases in this part of the City there remains a need for primary places. Both Sholing Infant School and Sholing Junior School have been expanded but, as with the secondary provision, both lack suitable outdoor space for the number of pupils they hold. The Sholing Technology College Site could therefore be used for future primary school expansion.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 4.18. In the interim, and up to the completion of any rebuild, there will be a need to manage the school site to ensure that pupils are safe and have the best possible environment in which to learn.
- 4.19. A more limited expansion of the school could be achieved through reconfiguration of the school site. This would require a new library, dining and reception areas to the school; an upgrade of science laboratories and toilets; and an increase in classroom accommodation, including new food rooms and other specialist facilities.
- 4.20. In addition, part of the Veracity Ground would need to be utilised to provide a safe all-weather pitch with changing facilities for the school's sole use. The school's current pitch could then be resurfaced as Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) to provide appropriate PE space. There is significant cost attached to this option and the overall issue of appropriate space would not be resolved.
- 4.21. Even without expansion this school is in need of an increase in classroom space and significant remedial works in order to maintain its status as a school of parental preference.
- 4.22. **Chamberlayne College for the Arts** LA Maintained
- 4.23. Chamberlayne College is rated Good (with Outstanding features) by Ofsted. The school is not currently at full capacity and the available places at the school will need to form a considerable part of the expansion plans in the City.
- 4.24. The school are keen to expand having been considered for the BSF programme before its cancellation in 2010. Despite recent work on new windows, etc. there are a considerable number of repair and maintenance works required as there are areas of concern (including some external walls) which are in poor condition.
- 4.25. Despite being on a large site, the school has outdated and poor quality sports facilities that deter pupils and parents from choosing the school as a preference, despite good academic results. Other schools, both in Southampton and Hampshire, have better facilities and attract more pupils as a result.
- 4.26. The school has use of the Chamberlayne Leisure Centre sports hall and changing facilities (managed by Active Nation) at a cost of £35,000 per year but this arrangement is far from ideal. The acoustics of the sports hall are unsuitable for teaching and Active Nation have recently added fixtures that prevent full use of the hall.
- 4.27. Additionally, access is via a public (off-site) right of way and a five to ten minute walk from the school. As the school is low on numbers the PE staff are down to two so children are supervised by only one member of staff, both on the walk and while using the Leisure Centre changing rooms which are open to the public. As a result there are considerable safeguarding problems with this arrangement and it should be reconsidered).
- 4.28. The school's boundary fence also requires work as the local community use the school playing field as a cut through during the school day. The sports facilities on-site date from the 1950s and the changing rooms and small gym are outdated and do not inspire pupils.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 4.29. Internally, the school is in need of major refurbishment and update. Pupil toilets are in poor condition and need improvement; PE changing facilities are poorly placed and require significant maintenance; and the school's gym is too small and, while it could become a good small activity space, requires considerable maintenance works.
- 4.30. A recent Capita survey also highlighted issues with the heating system, including the boilers and heating pipes throughout the School, including in the relatively new science block.
- 4.31. According to the most recent condition surveys, the school has in between £900,000 and £1,200,000 in repairs and maintenance works outstanding, which could be offset as part of this programme.
- 4.32. While the size of the school's Hall falls within the recommendations in Building Bulletin 103 it recently fell below the standards required by a Fire Risk Assessment. New fire-doors and double glazing may have rectified this issue. However, the school has no separate dining area (recommended as 184m<sup>2</sup> in BB103) so the hall is not available as a teaching space for much of the day.
- 4.33. The school lacks WiFi and as a result has utilised much of its spare capacity as IT classrooms (currently 9 IT rooms against a recommended 2 for a school this size).
- 4.34. Two of the school's technology rooms have been leased out to the Army, whose cadet programme also makes use of the school site and provides a much needed resource and revenue stream for the school. It is intended that this provision be allowed to stay on-site as it is a positive resource for the City.
- 4.35. The school could expand to a PAN of 210 through the reconfiguration of classrooms, science rooms and specialist rooms but will require new dining space and updated and on-site sports facilities.
- 4.36. An expansion to a PAN of 240 for September 2019 would be possible in the existing building. However, this would require two additional science laboratories (possibly in the existing library space), the re-commissioning of existing technology and food technology rooms and the addition of added technology and art/graphics classrooms in a phased programme of works.
- 4.37. The school would also require a new dining space, and improved on-site sports facilities. This should include MUGA/All-Weather Pitch and on-site 4-court sports hall to eradicate the safeguarding and cost issues around the current arrangement.
- 4.38. The sports facilities should include provision for the Army Cadet programme to maintain the revenue stream for the school and the excellent provision within this area of the City.
- 4.39. The school will also require an expanded library and a considerable refurbishment programme to ensure it is a school of parental preference.
- 4.40. Given the work required at Chamberlayne, the school should be considered for a rebuild on the same site. The school has space to accommodate a new-build on its current playing fields. This would move the school buildings closer to the sports facilities it currently leases but would not negate the need for improved on-site facilities at the school or a change in the current arrangements.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 4.41. It is recommended that the sports facilities currently leased to Active Nation could be returned to the Council and put under the control of the school, with improved access and changing facilities to link the sites and safeguard pupils. The school would then manage the community use at the centre.
- 4.42. **Bitterne Park School** LA Maintained
- 4.43. This school will be rebuilt and expanded to a Pan of 360 as part of the Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP) by the EFA. Final completion is due for September 2017.
- 4.44. **Woodlands Community College (PFI)** LA Maintained
- 4.45. Woodlands College was rated Requires Improvement by Ofsted in June 2014 but is 'taking effective action to tackle areas requiring improvement'. The school currently has a surplus of places which will start to fill as the forecast rise in population puts increased pressure on places in the City. The school was originally built to a PAN of 240.
- 4.46. To provide the school places required within the City the school should expand from a PAN of 180 to a Pan of 240 (8FE) from September 2018.
- 4.47. The school could then take a bulge class (as required) in September 2019 and/or September 2022. However, given the current forecast, this would not negate the need to expand other schools before this date.
- 4.48. As at Cantell College, there is a danger that without further work by the school and intervention from the Local Authority in terms of transport and parental preference, surplus places may remain at Woodlands College.
- 4.49. This again highlights the need to make each school in the City a school of parental preference. It is in the Council's best interests to ensure Woodlands College's admissions continue to rise.
- 4.50. **Oasis Academy: Mayfield** Academy
- 4.51. Oasis Academy: Mayfield was rated Requires Improvement in March 2014 but is now 'taking effective action to tackle areas requiring improvement'. The school was built to a capacity of 900 pupils and has yet to reach capacity. The academy is considering options to increase classroom space to manage a changing curriculum.
- 4.52. A significant increase in the primary school population in this area of the City could be exacerbated by new housing developments in Hamble and the surrounding area. As with developments in the Rownhams area, Hampshire County Council have indicated that they are not planning to increase local secondary provision and this will lead to an increased pressure on places in Southampton, either from displaced Southampton pupils or from parents/pupils choosing Southampton schools.
- 4.53. Therefore, consideration should be given to expanding the school if planned developments to the east of the City indicate a change in the forecast.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

### DISCUSSION POINTS:

- 5.1. This discussion paper has been put together to aid the next stage of consultations with schools, as well as to inform Councillors and officers. Therefore it does not contain a definitive plan for expansion of particular secondary schools.
- 5.2. The findings above are dependent on further discussion, changing forecasts and detailed surveys and plans. There are any number of possible routes forward, however, it is recommended future expansion of Southampton's secondary schools be constrained by the following guiding principles.
- 5.3. **Guiding Principles of Secondary Expansion**
- Surplus places at current schools will be filled (where possible) before further expansion of other secondary schools.
  - Expansion will be based on the local need for places and not by individual schools catchment areas (where they exist).
  - Capital works toward expansion of secondary schools will represent best value for money while also removing (where possible) barriers to parental preference.
  - Capital works will support the improvement of provision across the City and the
  - Planning will be by broad geographic area to ensure places are provided (as far as possible) where required.
  - Head Teachers, Governors, Dioceses and all relevant stakeholders will be consulted on any proposed change before decisions are made.
- This includes:*
- Bulge classes which will be used to manage the peak years of forecast admissions to 2022 to give flexibility to any planning.
    - Where possible bulge classes will utilise current or built spare capacity at schools (i.e. where a school is expanded to a final capacity but fills from Year 7).
    - If bulge classes are to be used at schools with no spare capacity (with the approval of Head Teachers and Governors), the temporary expansion of the school should support the principles above.
- 5.4. The options outlined below are intended to encourage discussion and do not represent one final plan or any decision on the best way forward. It is intended that a full study be completed of all plans outlined in sections 2, 3 and 4 above in order to put in place an agreed plan which represents the views of all stakeholders and matches the guiding principles set out above.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

### 5.5 Option A: Current Parental Preference

5.6. The first option for discussion is based only on parental preference, using historic data on pupil numbers and admissions to forecast the need for places at individual schools.

5.7.

School Name	2015 PAN	Expansion	Expanded PAN
<b>September 2017</b>			
<b>Bitterne Park School</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>PSBP completion to PAN 360</b> Possible bulge class in 2022	<b>360/390*</b>
<b>Cantell College (PFI)</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 270 (within current NCA)</b> Possible bulge class in 2019	<b>270/300*</b>
<b>September 2018</b>			
<b>Woodlands College (PFI)</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (within Current NCA)</b> Possible bulge class in 2018 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>September 2019</b>			
<b>Chamberlayne School</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (within current NCA)</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Regents Park School</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 180 (within current NCA)</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Upper Shirley High</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 270 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2022	<b>270/300*<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>St Anne's RC School</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b>	<b>240</b>
<b>Oasis: Mayfield</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2022	<b>210/240*</b>
<b>September 2021</b>			
<b>Redbridge School (PFI)</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2021 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>Sholing College</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2021 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>St George RC School</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 180 (new-build alongside PSBP2)</b> Possible bulge class in 2022	<b>180/210*</b>
<b>Oasis: Lord's Hill</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>No Expansion Planned</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Total Current PAN</b>	<b>2290</b>	<b>Total Proposed PAN/Maximum Bulge</b>	<b>2820/3030*</b>

5.8. \* Indicates Bulge Year to accommodate forecast peak.

i Upper Shirley High School (Hamwic Trust) have current plans for expansion in 2017.



## **DISCUSSION PAPER**

### **Building for Excellence**

- 5.9. The plan takes account of the guiding principle of surplus places and of the site visits to consider what is possible in terms of expansion for parental preference.
- 5.10. It must be noted that parental preference is in constant flux and relying on historical parental preference data to forecast school places to this level will have inherent dangers. Across the life of a ten year plan parental preference is likely to change and the number of bulge classes in this plan reflects this and responds only to the numbers in forecast for each school.
- 5.11. This plan maintains a forecast surplus of 2.5 per cent (in the peak year).
- 5.12. However, the number of bulge classes used (8 in 2022/23 focused mainly in the east of the City) leaves little spare capacity for further expansion should it be required. Bulge classes should, in theory, provide flexibility to respond to a changing forecast but the option proposed above would leave very little tractability for change.
- 5.13. Furthermore, this plan does not make reference to the quality of school buildings and facilities which is, in itself, one barrier to parental preference considered in this paper. It does not therefore meet the guiding principle of ensuring that all Southampton schools are schools of parental preference.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

### 5.14 Option B: Need for Improvement

5.15. A further option would be to focus spending where there is a clear need to maintain the principles of supporting improvement and removing the barriers to parental preference caused by a schools buildings, appropriate space and/or facilities.

5.16.

School Name	2015 PAN	Expansion	Expanded PAN
<b>September 2017</b>			
<b>Bitterne Park School</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>PSBP completion to PAN 360</b>	<b>360</b>
<b>Cantell College (PFI)</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 270 (within current NCA)</b> Possible bulge class in 2019 and/or 2022	<b>270/300*</b>
<b>September 2018</b>			
<b>Woodlands College (PFI)</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (within Current NCA)</b> Possible bulge in class 2019	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>Chamberlayne School</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (within current NCA)</b> Possible bulge Class in 2021 and/or 2022	<b>210/270*</b>
<b>Regents Park School</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (Capital works required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2022	<b>210/240*</b>
<b>September 2019</b>			
<b>Upper Shirley High</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 270 (new-build required)</b>	<b>270<sup>1</sup></b>
<b>St Anne's RC School</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (within current NCA)</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>September 2021</b>			
<b>Sholing College</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 270 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2022	<b>270/300*</b>
<b>Chamberlayne School</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge class in 2021 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>St George RC School</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 180 (new-build alongside PSBP2)</b> Possible bulge class in 2021 and/or 2022	<b>180/210*</b>
<b>Redbridge School (PFI)</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Bulge classes in 2022 and/or 2023 (new-build required)</b>	<b>210/240*</b>
<b>Oasis: Lord's Hill</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>No Expansion Planned</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Oasis: Mayfield</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>No Expansion Planned</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Total Current PAN</b>	<b>2290</b>	<b>Total Proposed PAN/Maximum Bulge</b>	<b>2820/3030*</b>

5.17. \* Indicates Bulge Year to accommodate forecast peak.  
 i Upper Shirley High School (Hamwic Trust) have current plans for expansion in 2017.

## DISCUSSION PAPER

### Building for Excellence

- 5.18. The plan takes account of the guiding principle of surplus places and of the site visits to consider the improvement of secondary provision in Southampton to change the preferences of parents and children. An important aim of Building for Excellence is to ensure all schools have the opportunity to be schools of parental preference through improved facilities and safe, welcoming learning environments for all pupils.
- 5.19. Five of Southampton's secondary schools are in relatively modern or new buildings and one (Bitterne Park Secondary School) is due to be rebuilt through the Priority School Building Programme for September 2017.
- 5.20. Six of Southampton's secondary schools are in much older buildings. Many of these have been previously extended with additional blocks added as schools have grown over the years.
- 5.21. As a result, at least three of these schools might be considered to be 'land-locked'. Further expansion at these schools would need careful consideration and in at least one case the improvement of the schools would be best met by a rebuild to maximise space.
- 5.22. Several were considered under the Buildings Schools for the Future Programme (2010) before it was cancelled and, as noted above, the older buildings have a considerable maintenance and repair backlog.
- 5.23. An ever changing curriculum means these buildings often lack appropriate space and facilities and, as is the case at Chamberlayne, parents and children will often choose schools where facilities are more modern even where a school has shown excellent outcomes for children and young people.
- 5.24. This plan maintains a 2.5 per cent surplus for September 2022.
- 5.25. Again, careful consideration would need to be given to the use of bulge classes.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

5.26. It has been proposed that a third option for discussion should focus on 'lowest cost'. However, this discussion paper has avoided estimating cost options for Capital works in order to stimulate discussion around the best available options for expansion. The third option presented here is therefore **one possible** best fit which follows the guiding principles and the available options outlined by the site visits.

5.27.

School Name	2015 PAN	Expansion	Expanded PAN
<b>2017</b>			
<b>Bitterne Park School</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>PSBP completion to PAN 360</b>	<b>360</b>
<b>Cantell College (PFI)</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 270 (within current NCA)</b> Possible bulge class in 2018 and/or 2029	<b>270/300*</b>
<b>2018</b>			
<b>Woodlands College (PFI)</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (within Current NCA)</b> Possible bulge in class 2019 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>St Anne's RC School</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (within current NCA)</b>	<b>210/240</b>
<b>2019</b>			
<b>Chamberlayne School</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (within current NCA)</b>	<b>210</b>
<b>Regents Park School</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 210 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge in class 2021 and/or 2022	<b>210/240*</b>
<b>Upper Shirley High School</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge in class in 2019 and/or 2022	<b>240<sup>i</sup></b>
<b>2020</b>			
<b>Chamberlayne School</b>		<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge in class 2021 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>2021</b>			
<b>Sholing College</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b> Possible bulge in class 2021 and/or 2022	<b>240/270*</b>
<b>St George RC School</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>Expand to PAN 180 (new-build alongside PSBP2)</b> with 2021/22 and/or 22/23 1FE Bulge Year	<b>180/210*</b>
<b>St Anne's RC School</b>		<b>Expand to PAN 240 (new-build required)</b>	<b>210/240</b>
<b>2022</b>			
<b>Redbridge School (PFI)</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>1FE Bulge Year September 2022</b>	<b>210/240*</b>
<b>Oasis: Lord's Hill</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>No Expansion Planned</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Oasis: Mayfield</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>No Expansion Planned</b>	<b>180</b>
	<b>2290</b>		<b>2790/3030*</b>

5.28. \* Indicates Bulge Year to accommodate forecast peak.

<sup>i</sup> Upper Shirley High School (Hamwic Trust) have current plans for expansion in 2017.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

5.29. Further bulge years may be required to maintain a sufficient surplus of school places to take account of parental preference. It is proposed these be decided in association with schools.

5.30. The following timeline is proposed for further work leading to 2022.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Decision Required</b>
<b>March 2015</b>	Pilot School Capacity Survey/Site Visit	
		<b>DDN (RH) virement from Fire Risk Assessment to new budget</b>
(Deadline) <b>June 2015</b>	Secondary School Capacity Surveys/Site Visits	
<b>July 2015</b>	Options briefings (Capita) to cost feasibility studies on all options	<b>Secondary Heads Conference (Discussion Paper)</b>
<b>July – Sept 2015</b>	Feasibility Studies on all Options and Appraisal	<b>Officer Decision/Approval to Spend (required for feasibility)</b>
	Programme Planning (Options for Consultation)	
<b>Oct – Nov 2015</b>	School/Governor/Diocese Consultations	<b>Council Capital Board Briefing Finance and Capital Risk</b>
<b>November 2015</b>	Expected completion of Provisional Feasibility Studies Options and Appraisal	<b>Council Capital Board Briefing</b>
<b>November 2015 to February 2016</b>	Pre Statutory and Statutory Consultation on proposed expansions of PAN	<b>Council Capital Board Approval to consult</b>
		<b>Forward Plan</b>
<b>3 February 2016</b>	Publication of Forward Plan (April 2016)	
<b>25 February 2016</b>	Cabinet Report to Democratic Services	
<b>15 March 2016</b>		<b>Cabinet Decision on proposed expansions and approval to spend</b>
<b>May 2016</b>	Commission Expansion Works (Quick Wins)	
	Commission Projects (Expansions)	
	Feasibility and Design Work	
<b>January 2017</b>	Commence Procurement	
<b>July 2017</b>	RIBA Stage J – Sealing Contracts	
<b>September 2017</b>	First Expansions (within NCA)	
(from) <b>August 2017</b>	Commence Works	
<b>September 2018</b>	Expansions (within NCA)	
(from) <b>September 2019</b>	First Capital Works Expansion Available	
<b>September 2021</b>	Larger Capital Works offset to 2021	

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 5.31. This discussion paper, following further consultation with schools and Head Teachers, will form the basis of a briefing which will seek approval to spend on full condition surveys of each school and feasibility studies for any proposed projects.

Once these studies and further consultations are completed a more definitive plan for secondary expansion can be formed, with more accurate estimates of costs. This plan will then be presented to Council for approval to spend before commissioning the capital work required to create the proposed school places.

- 5.32. Officers will also need to seek an indication of the Council's vision, direction and priorities for secondary schools in the City in order to programme and prioritise a series of works to provide sufficient school places and to improve the condition of all secondary schools to ensure that all schools offer the safest learning environments for all pupils on an equal basis: securing the highest quality of learning for all and building for excellence.

### ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

6.1. **Build a New School:**

This option was previously discounted for the following reasons:

- It would be disproportionately expensive relative to expansion of existing schools, owing to the need to build ancillary facilities and potential site acquisition costs;
- There is a paucity of suitable sites (in terms of location and size) to accommodate such provision; and
- The creation of such provision could create issues in the future if pupil numbers were to drop again, as it would not be as readily "mothballed" as expansions on existing sites.

6.2. **Creation of a City Centre Annexe School**

As opposed to a new school a City Centre Annexe would be an expansion of an existing school onto a second (satellite) site. The option has been discounted at present due to similar issues stated above. In addition, the planned satellite school was planned for the centre of the City while the highest pressure on school places is currently forecast in the east and/or west.

6.3. **Utilisation of Primary Schools:**

This option was considered in terms of the potential to create "all through" provision on primary sites. This option was discounted on the basis that there aren't any primary sites in the city that would be of sufficient size, without the total redesign and rebuild of facilities. As stated above, such a proposal would be disproportionately expensive relative to the proposals included within this report.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 6.4. **Reutilisation of recently closed School sites:**  
This option was previously discounted primarily on the basis of these sites being in the wrong location for new provision, with regard to the anticipated spread of pupil numbers across the city. Other discounting factors included the expense of refurbishing the accommodation in question (bearing in mind the lack of maintenance since its closure), as well as the fact that the sites have typically been earmarked for disposal (with this process being fairly well progressed).
- 6.5. **Approach Hampshire to provide additional places:**  
Whilst a number of families do exercise their right to attend a school outside the City, we would seek to provide the opportunity for all residents who want to, to access the excellent provision already in Southampton. If all our schools are rated 'Good' or better, the number leaving the city, currently approximately 200 children per year, is likely to reduce. In addition, ongoing discussions with Hampshire County Council have indicated that they are not intending to expand secondary provision close to the Southampton border and that, in fact, they may expect the number of Southampton-based pupils attending Hampshire schools to reduce in the coming years, as their own indigenous population increase works its way through to the secondary sector.

### RESOURCE/POLICY/FINANCIAL/LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 7.1. The Department for Education currently issue an annual un-ring-fenced Basic Need capital grant to assist Local Authorities with expansion of the school estate (maintained schools and academies) due to increases in pupil numbers. The total unallocated Basic Need grant currently confirmed and available to the Council is £9.4 million (2015-17). Much of this has already been allocated to projects to increase capacity in the primary sector.
- 7.2. The council has received additional Targeted Basic Need funding for some primary expansion projects e.g. St Johns Primary, so additional grant may be awarded if sufficient need can be demonstrated.
- 7.3. Local Authorities have a statutory duty under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 to ensure that sufficient school places are available in their area and to secure diversity of provision, increasing opportunities for parental choice.
- 7.4. Section 13 of the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Education and Inspections Act 2006) ensures that a Local Authority has a statutory duty relating to the provision of education that is of a high standard, guarantees fair access and opportunity for all and promotes the educational potential of every child.
- 7.5. There is a presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools.

# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

- 7.6. Several periods of consultation would need to take place before any PAN and/or building size increases are implemented. Any changes to admissions arrangements (e.g. PAN & oversubscription criteria) for all schools must be consulted on for a minimum of 6 weeks between 1 October and 31 January of the year prior to the arrangements being implemented. For example, to increase PAN's in 2017/18, consultation would need to take place between October 2015 and January 2016. For community schools the Local Authority determines the PAN; for voluntary aided and foundation schools the Governing Body has this authority and for academies this responsibility lies with the academy trust. All admission authorities must determine admission arrangements by 28 February every year.
- 7.7. In addition to standard admissions, the Local Authority (LA) must plan for the provision of places for children and young people who move into the area after places have been allocated, or at other times during the year. There is therefore a need for more places to be available than the forecast number of children in any given year. The DfE recommends a 5 per cent surplus to allow for parental preference.
- 7.8. However, as a consequence of the changes introduced by The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Mainstream Schools) (England) Regulations 2013, Governing Bodies of all categories of mainstream school can now make the following changes to their schools without following a formal statutory process:
- Expansion (enlargement of premises);
  - Alteration of upper or lower age limit by up to two years (except for adding or removing a Sixth-Form); and
  - Adding boarding provision.
- 7.9. It should be noted that schools cannot expand or alter unless they have secured the required funding, accommodation and permissions (including landlord's consent and planning permissions); and The LA (where it is the Admission Authority) will need to have consented to a change in the school's Published Admission Number (PAN).
- 7.10. It is therefore imperative that SCC work in partnership with all schools to ensure a clear plan for future expansion is in place to provide the best way forward for all Southampton's children and young people. The Building for Excellence proposals are the first step in securing such a plan and ensuring our intention to secure the highest quality of learning for all.



# DISCUSSION PAPER

## Building for Excellence

**Appendices/Supporting Information:**

None

**Further Information Available From:**

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