

BRIEFING PAPER

For: Schools Forum
By: Kevin Verdon (Interim Schools Planning Manager)
Date: January 2017
Subject: Secondary school expansion – for information only

BACKGROUND

At present, there are less than 10,000 pupils attending our secondary schools. By the mid 2020's there will be over 13,000. We have been on an upward trend for a few years now and when we reach the peak in 2023/24, we will have 40% more pupils in our secondary schools than we had 3 years ago. (See Appendix 1 for breakdown).

Whilst this is a significant increase, we do have surplus capacity in the sector at present, however and this is slowly being 'mopped up' and will continue to be until we need to physically expand schools in the future.

ISSUE

The DfE will not allocate Basic Need funding to the LA for new buildings at one school if there is spare places in another school nearby.

Recently we have persuaded the DfE to divide Southampton's secondary schools into three geographical areas, West, Central and East for school place planning purposes. This has the advantage of looking at each area separately for Basic Need funding, ie surplus places in one area of the city will not cancel out the need for places in another area of the city.

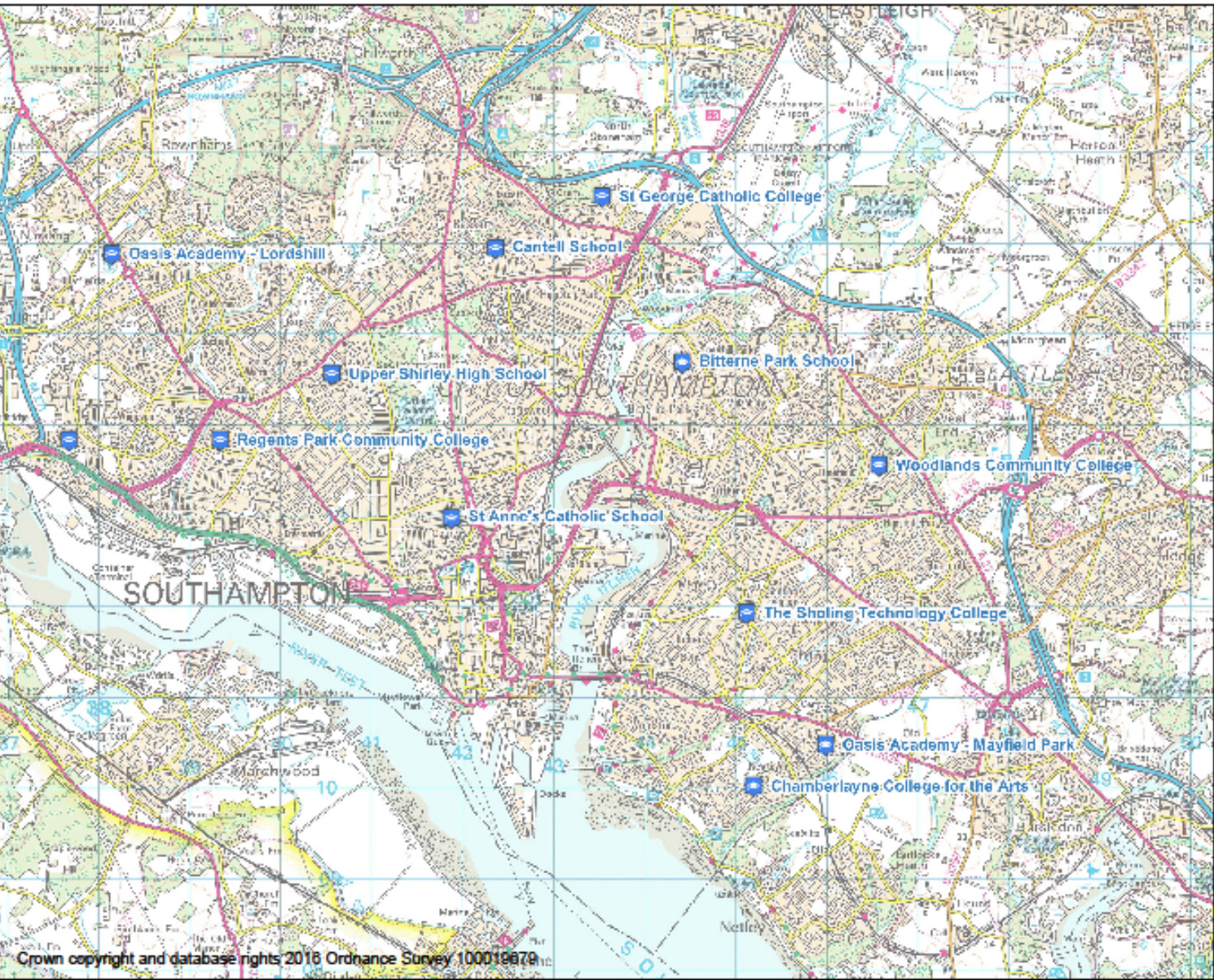
At present the total capacity of our secondary schools, as measured by PAN is 11,900 but the true capacity, as measured by the NCA, is 12,726. It is the NCA that the DfE uses to calculate Basic Need.

It is very difficult to expand schools that are not classified as 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted, this limits our ability to 'spread the load' of expansion. Furthermore, some schools are on such constrained sites that it would be extremely costly to expand them, if not impossible.

NEXT STEPS

Because of these constraints, we are looking at options for our expansion proposals across the city, in response to the data forecast. These will be shared with Cabinet in due course

No decisions have yet been taken on which schools to expand and by how much. We need to be prudent and not build in too much extra permanent capacity. We may wish to make use of bulge classes for the peak of the surge in the mid 2020's so that capacity can be readily reduced towards the end of the 2020's.



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<p>Soton Sec Schools</p>
<p>Secondary Schools</p>
<p>0 1 2km</p> <p>Printed 20-12-2016</p>
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Appendix 1

	NCA capacity (incl BP 1800)	Secondary school forecasts to 2021 and LA projection to 2025									
		2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Central	3,219	2,603	2,750	2,959	3,196	3,407	3,701	3,837	3,889	3,876	3,873
East	5,861	4,283	4,381	4,510	4,686	4,736	4,972	5,155	5,224	5,207	5,203
West	3,752	3,098	3,241	3,387	3,575	3,696	3,755	3,893	3,946	3,933	3,930
Total	12,832	9,984	10,372	10,856	11,457	11,839	12,428	12,886	13,059	13,016	13,006

Surplus/Deficit of places in September - 2017 to 2025										
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	
Central	469	260	23	-188	-482	-618	-670	-657	-654	
East	1,480	1,351	1,175	1125	889	706	637	654	658	
West	511	365	177	56	-3	-141	-194	-181	-178	
Total	-	-	-	-188	-485	-760	-864	-838	-832	

The above table demonstrates the need for extra places in the Central and West areas of the city. It does NOT include 5% 'headroom' as advised by DfE.

Central Schools: St George, Cantell, Regents Park, St Annes

East Schools: Bitterne Park, Woodlands, OASIS Mayfield, Chamberlayne Park

West Schools: Redbridge, OASIS Lord's Wood, Upper Shirley High