

Context: population, school organisation and places

Headline performance

Table 1 below shows the context the borough and its schools are operating in. It continues to see one of the fastest if not the fastest increases in population in the country, bringing with it significant mobility and change. That most schools are continuing to improve their outcomes for children in this context should not be underestimated.

Table 1

	2010/11 Reception	2011/12 Reception	2012/13 Reception	2013/14 Reception
Number of children in Reception	3354 (as at the closing date)	3481 (as at the closing date)	3486 (as at the closing date)	3507plus 361 late (16 January to 31 August)
Number of additional Reception classes	4	9	5	6
Total additional primary classes	20	28	41	45
Number of amalgamations/federations	1	4	2	1
Number of new schools	-	1	1	-

Levels of mobility in primary schools are typically high, partly owing to families being rehoused from other boroughs. We have seen a significant amount of increase in school applications over the past few years and this will increase since the introduction of the welfare reform tax.

The borough is continuing to keep pace with demand but there are particular pressure times and year groups. The summer period is particularly volatile when we tend to get an influx of families. In July and August of this year 357 new requests for places were received with 149 families coming from abroad.

In this case it meant that we have had to open three additional classes (1 x R, 1 x Y1, 1 x Y2) since the start of term. We may need further Y1 classes and will probably require up to three Reception classes between January and July as children turn five and have to go to school.

School organisation

Amalgamations & Federations

School	Effective Date of Amalgamation/Federation
Ripple Infant & Junior Schools Now Ripple Primary School	1 September 2009
Cambell Infant & Junior Schools Now James Cambell Primary School	1 January 2012
William Bellamy Infant & Junior Schools Now William Bellamy Primary School	1 April 2012

Grafton Infant & Junior Schools Now Grafton Primary School	1 April 2012
Rush Green Infant & Junior Schools Now Rush Green Primary School	1 April 2013
Northbury Infant & Junior Schools To become Northbury Primary School	1 January 2014
Furze Infant and Warren Junior Schools (Hard Federation)	1 October 2010
Leys Primary and Beam Primary Schools (Soft Federation)	March 2012
Marks Gate Infant & Junior Schools (Hard Federation)	17 January 2013

New schools opened are The George Carey Primary School in September 2011 and Barking Riverside Secondary School in September 2012.

Forecasts

A separate report to the December Cabinet provided more detailed information on forecasts and budget for the capital programme. The headline forecasts remain that since the academic year 2007/08 to the present, 4,500 additional primary aged pupils have had to be accommodated. This is equivalent to 150 new classes across all year groups in the primary phase. The forecast in the next 5 years is an additional 6,130 primary pupils to 2017/18. Overall this forecast would be equivalent to nearly 10 3FE primary schools.

For secondary aged pupils, there has been an increase in secondary school demand over the last 5 years 2007 to 2013 of 640 pupils, this has been equivalent to 21 classes, and has largely been accommodated through existing provision.

The forecast for the next 5 years is an additional 4,180 pupils in the secondary phase up to 2018, this is equivalent to 140 classes or 3 8FE secondary schools, largely generated from pupils passing through the primary phase.

In respect of places for pupils identified with special educational needs the forecast is demand for 66 places in additional resource provisions across the Borough, and a 160 place special needs school. This latter provision is to be provided through the development of the Barking Riverside Free School SEN facility.

Conclusion

Cabinet received a report on 13 November 2012 which explained that the likely scope of cost to meet demand over the period to 2016/17 would be in the region of £228m, or £45.6m per year. Based on the numbers now forecast and having taken into account the rise in the cost of design, procurement and construction this estimate remains constant and would mean that from 2015 when we have to provide additional places as set out in the Strategy for Ensuring Sufficient School Places, there will be no funding unless the Government allocate additional resources.