

Cambridgeshire's 0-19 Education Organisation Plan 2021-2022




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Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing counties in the country. The prospect of almost 50,000 new homes planned in total across its five districts by 2031 means there continues to be significant demand for education places.

The Council's absolute priority is that children and young people achieve the best outcomes possible and go on to succeed in further learning and in work. Crucial to this is the way that we work with early years and childcare providers, schools and partners to plan and deliver high quality establishments in which to learn.

The Council has a proven track record of working with a wide range of education providers to commission sufficient places to meet the needs of Cambridgeshire's children and young people and remains committed to continuing this approach into the future. The Organisation Plan considers education provision in Cambridgeshire across the whole 0 – 19 age range, and up to the age of 25 for children with special educational needs and/or disability (SEND).

We are delighted to present this Education Organisation Plan to you and would welcome your continued engagement with it.



If you would like any further information or would like to discuss any part of the Education Organisation Plan in detail, please contact:

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Chapter 1: Introduction - What is Cambridgeshire like as a place?

1.1 Governance, location and population

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are a Combined Authority with a directly elected Mayor over the Authority's area. An Education Committee has been established with the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) and other key local stakeholders. The RSC works with the Committee to provide strategic direction on education across the Combined Authority area. Cambridgeshire County Council (the Council) has a number of statutory duties with regard to the sufficiency, diversity and planning of places for early years, school-aged children (including special schools) and post-16 education and training provision, which are outlined in the relevant chapters below.

The Council continues to work with five District Councils: Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire, Fenland, Huntingdonshire and South Cambridgeshire. The Council's various Committees determine its policies and operational priorities. However, some decisions, including setting the revenue and capital budgets for Council services, are reserved for full Council.

Of Cambridgeshire's 662,620 residents (population estimates as at mid-2018), approximately 20% live in Cambridge, which has national and global importance as a centre of learning and research. This is focused largely around the City's two universities, Addenbrooke's Hospital and associated research facilities, and a cluster of high-technology industries. The other four districts are largely rural, with population centres focused around a number of market towns, and the City of Ely.

1.2 Demographic Change

Using the actual number of births per year in each district, and a forecast of future birth numbers¹, helps to provide an overview of the demand for early years and childcare and school places. In line with the underlying national trend, there was a general, although not uniform, increase in birth rates² across Cambridgeshire between 2007 and 2012. Since then birth rates county-wide, have fallen away, again following the underlying national trend.

The graph below shows the number of births per year by district between 2011 and 2020, along with the Council's 2018-based forecast of number of births per year from 2021 to 2026. After sustained growth in the total number of births between 2009 and 2012, annual numbers of births have fallen overall to 2020, although with some year-on year fluctuations to this trend. Overall, the number of births across Cambridgeshire was broadly stable between 2014 and 2015, increased between 2015 and 2016 and was broadly stable between 2017 and 2018,

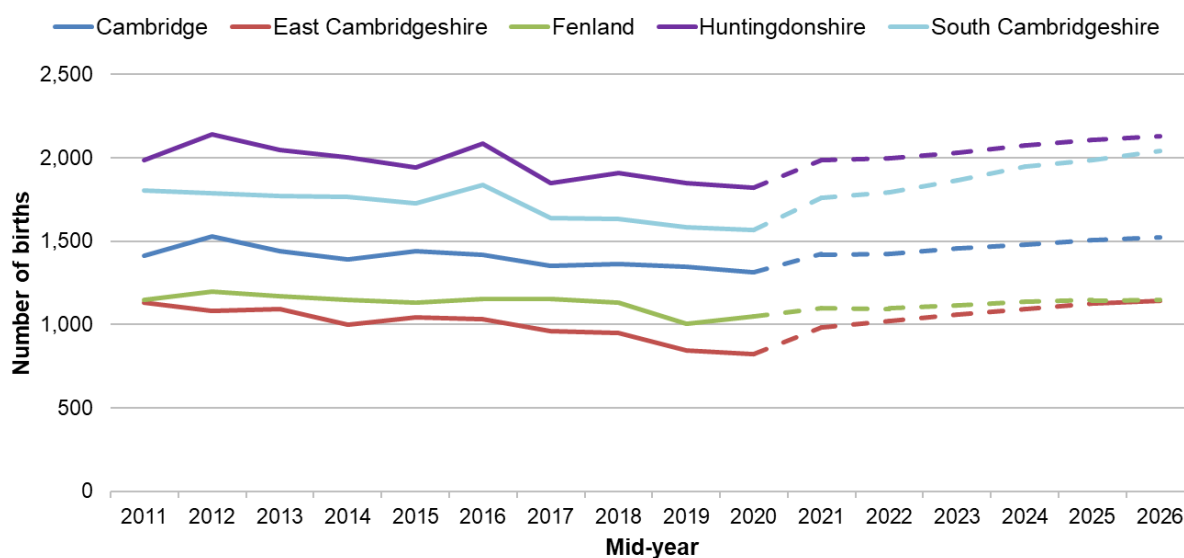
¹ Actual numbers of births (2009-2020) are from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-year estimates. Future forecasts (2021-2026) are taken from Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence Service's 2018-based population forecasts, published in March 2020 – before mid-year 2019 and 2020 births were known.

² Birth rate is expressed as number of live births per 1,000 population of all ages.

and between 2019 and 2020. There were almost 6,600 total births in 2020, compared to the peak of 7,700 births in 2012.

The Council’s 2018-based forecast of births takes into account planned housing development as at the time the forecasts were produced. Local district authorities’ expected levels of net housing completions (as published late 2019) contribute to overall forecasts of very gradually rising numbers of births over the forecast period. It should be noted that the Council’s 2018-based forecasts were produced before the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Number of births in Cambridgeshire



Source: ONS Mid-Year Estimates (2020)/Cambridgeshire County Council Business Intelligence Research Team’s 2018-based population forecasts (March 2020)

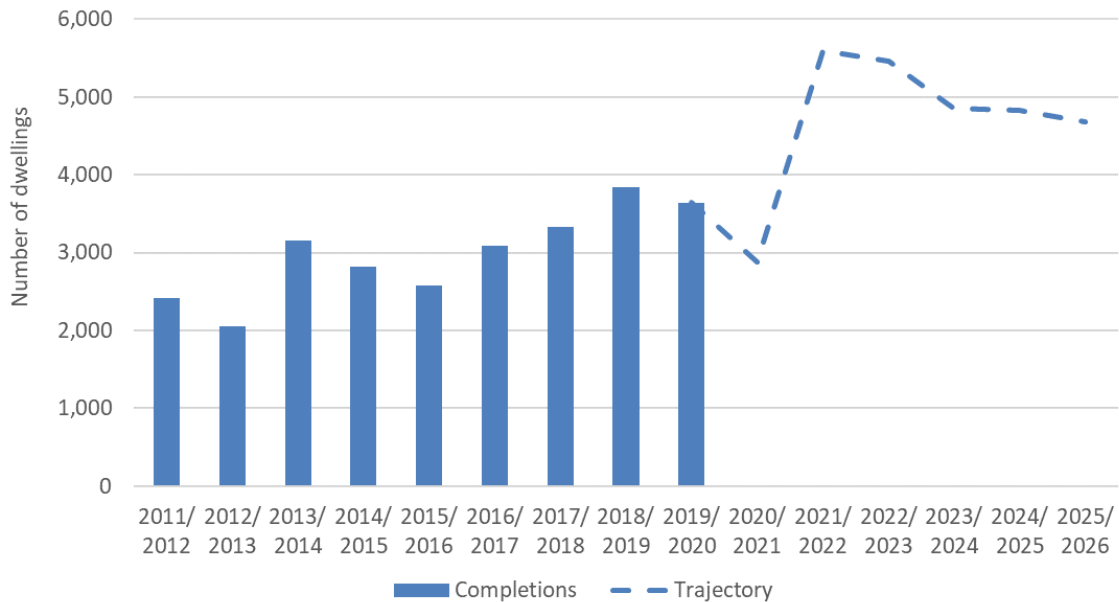
1.3 Housing Development

Cambridgeshire is facing a period of significant new housing development, with the prospect of almost 50,000 new homes in total across its five districts between 2020 and 2031. The largest developments include Northstowe, a new town to the north of Cambridge, and Waterbeach New Town, with a total of 10,000 and 11,000 homes respectively when they are complete. The district councils’ development plans include many other sites with over 600 homes. The majority of these will require their own new schools and early years and childcare facilities.

Annual house building completion rates have significantly increased in Cambridgeshire over the last three years, including more than 1,100 new dwellings completed in Cambridge City alone in both 2017 and 2018. In 2019, more than 1,000 new dwellings were built in Huntingdonshire and more than 1,100 in South Cambridgeshire, a trend which has continued in 2020. The graph below shows net housing completions between 2011 and 2020 and forecast completions from 2021 to 2026. There is a notable decrease in expected completions

in the housing trajectory for 2020/21, most likely due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Net housing completions and trajectory

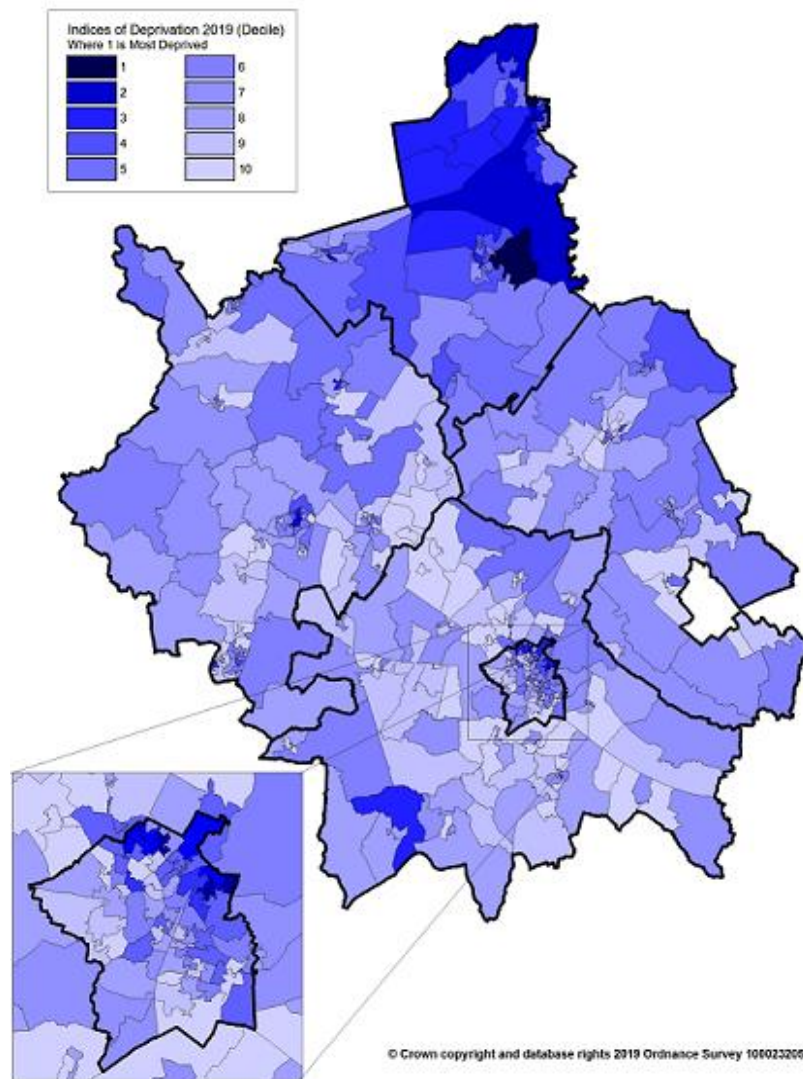


1.4 Social and Economic Diversity

Cambridgeshire is generally regarded as being a wealthy and prosperous county, although the COVID-19 pandemic means the area, like the wider UK, has faced a period of economic disruption and uncertainty.

Within the county there are areas which have higher levels of deprivation, most notably to the north of Fenland, but also in parts of Huntingdon and Cambridge, as shown below. High quality education is of central importance in improving the outcomes of all children and young people.

Economic and social deprivation in Cambridgeshire



The population of Cambridgeshire is predominantly White-British. The increased ethnic diversity in Cambridge City can be linked to the number of students, academics and workers within the high-tech industries. In rural parts of the county, especially in the north, the economy is focused largely around agriculture and associated industries. Early years and childcare providers and schools in these areas are often subject to seasonal changes to their pupil populations. These areas have attracted migrants from Eastern Europe, although Brexit has had an impact on this in more recent years.

Changes in the number of registrations for National Insurance Numbers (NINo)³ by migrant workers indicate that Cambridgeshire experienced a more delayed response to Brexit compared to trends seen across the wider UK. Cambridgeshire recorded a sustained increase in NINo registrations from 2012 to 2016 with new highs recorded in consecutive years from

³ All people coming to the UK and who take up employment for the first time must obtain a National Insurance Number (NINo).

2014 to 2016. Whilst all the Cambridgeshire districts subsequently saw a reduction in NINo registrations in 2017 and 2018, largely caused by a fall in registrations from EU workers, the sharpest reductions came in 2018, a year later than seen across the UK generally. Furthermore, in 2019 there was a marginal increase in migrant worker NINo registrations across all the districts compared to 2018. Due to the disruption caused by the restrictions imposed in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, comparative data on NINo registrations in 2020 is not available. The patterns post-Brexit and as the UK recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic will require close monitoring because of the relationship between migration, population growth and the demand for school places.

The county has one of the largest Traveller populations in the country. Schools near Traveller sites can also experience similar fluctuations in pupil populations to those described above. Another aspect of Cambridgeshire's diversity is the historic presence of a number of military bases. The relationship between these and the early years and childcare providers and schools in the local area may result in large reductions or increases in pupil numbers with little advance warning. For example, the re-opening of Bassingbourn Barracks has seen a number of service families move into the area. Meanwhile, the closures of Brampton and Waterbeach barracks resulted in reductions in the number of children on roll at early years and childcare settings and schools in these areas. These effects are now beginning to be reversed with housing development starting to take place on these former military bases.

Chapter 2: Early Years and Childcare

2.1 What is the national policy?

Childcare Act (2006)

The Childcare Act (2006) places a duty on local authorities (LAs) to secure sufficient and suitable quality early education and childcare places to enable parents to work or to undertake education or training which could lead to employment. The Education Act (2011) extended this to include an entitlement of 570 hours of free early education per year for eligible two-year olds, starting the term following their second birthday. This was in addition to the 570 hours of free early education already in place for all three and four-year olds, in the term following their third birthday. This is usually taken as 15 hours per week for 38 weeks of the year, but it is flexible. Some parents may choose to take fewer hours over more weeks, for example.

Whilst LAs are not expected to provide childcare directly, they are expected to work with local private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sector providers to meet local need. Where this cannot be achieved, the LA is required to secure places and, if necessary, manage provision directly as provider of last resort.

The Act also includes the requirement for providers to apply for registration on the Early Years Register and/or The Childcare Register and comply with the associated regulations applicable to all providers.

Childcare Act (2016)

The Childcare Act (2016) extended the previous entitlement and since September 2017, children aged three and four from working families have been entitled to an additional 570 hours (equivalent to 15 hours per week, 38 weeks per year) of free childcare, subject to their parents meeting the following eligibility criteria:

- Both parents are working (or the sole parent is working in a lone parent family)
- Each parent earns, on average, a weekly minimum equivalent to 16 hours at national minimum wage and less than £100,000 per year

The overall entitlement for families meeting these criteria is now 30 hours of free childcare per week (per week 38 weeks per year).

Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage

[The Early Years Foundation Stage \(EYFS\) framework](#) sets standards for the learning, development and care of children from birth to five years old. All schools and early years' providers registered with The Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted) must follow the framework, including childminders, preschools, nurseries and school reception classes.

The framework has been revised for September 2021, with key changes as follows:

- Educational programmes are longer, in greater depth and include suggestions of activities.
- There is a new focus on early language and extending vocabulary.
- There is a new requirement to promote good oral health of children.
- The Early Learning Goals are clearer and more specific.
- The age bands within the non-statutory guidance, 'Development Matters', have been simplified. There are now 3, as opposed to 6.
- There is additional non-statutory guidance, "Birth to Five Matters", which providers can choose to use to support their curriculum.

2.2 What are the Council's responsibilities?

- To ensure sufficient and suitable quality early education and childcare places to enable parents to work, or to undertake education or training which could lead to employment
- To secure sufficient and suitable early years and childcare places to meet predicted demand
- To secure free early years provision for all three and four-year olds, and the 40% most vulnerable two-year olds, of 570 hours per year and an additional 570 hours for those eligible to the extended entitlement. To provide information, advice and assistance to parents and prospective parents on the provision of childcare in their area and other services which may be of benefit to parents, prospective parents or children and young people in their area
- To provide information, advice and training to childcare providers to improve early years outcomes

The Council, in line with Department for Education (DfE) guidance, requires that eligible two, three and four year olds can access their free early education entitlement with registered early years and childcare providers (including early years registered childminders) that are newly registered and/or achieve an Ofsted grading of good or outstanding⁴. Quality of provision is a criterion for consideration where schools directly manage provision, either through lowering their age range or community powers (section 27), or, in the case of academies, the trust's charitable objectives. The Council would not support a school to set up or take over early years provision if the school has received a 'Requires Improvement' or 'Inadequate' Ofsted rating, or where early years' leadership capacity is limited.

2.3 How does the Council manage the quality of provision?

Ofsted is the arbiter of quality through its inspection framework, but the Council will, as part of its assessment of the childcare market, identify where improvements to quality could be made as part of any identified market development priorities. The Council will not support

⁴ Relates to Section A3 of the Early Education and Childcare guidance (2018), see section 2.8 below.

the development of any new provision, of any governance type, in an area where there is evidenced capacity to improve in a setting with a Requires Improvement judgement, or where good or outstanding provision is currently meeting the needs of local families.

The Council's Early Years and Childcare Training Centre offers support and guidance to provide informed choices for careers in early childhood education. This includes a Gateway to Early Years Careers, checking qualifications are full and relevant, signposting for courses not available through the Council (English, maths), interviews by phone on career pathways with guidance on qualifications, skills and knowledge required in the early years workforce.

The Early Years and Childcare Training Centre are a CACHE registered provider delivering accredited qualifications to practitioners in the workforce to gain recognised 'full and relevant' qualifications for working in Early Childhood Education. It reaches out to learners who are currently working in the setting to enhance their skills and knowledge in the workplace. Qualifications through the Training Centre are funded in partnership with Cambridgeshire Skills allowing practitioners to upskill without having to take out learner loans. We recruit and train new and existing childminders through our contract with the national organisation PACEY.

The Early Years' Service produce an annual training programme to meet current national and local agendas to ensure practitioners have current and up-to-date knowledge and skills to embed into their practice ensuring the best start in life for children in Cambridgeshire. The programme is updated termly with additional courses ranging from basic to intermediate training covering subjects required for mandatory and non-mandatory EYFS requirements.

The programme also provides opportunities for practitioners wishing to specialise in particular subjects to gain an accredited qualification in roles such as Designated Person for Special Educational Needs, Designated Person for Child Protection/ Safeguarding, Speech, language and communication and Designated Person for Equalities.

It is the Council's priority to develop the early years workforce to support children to improve in all areas of attainment with a focus on communication, language and literacy scores at the end of reception. The Best Start in Life Strategy (2019) outlines the Council's and its partners' strategic intentions to keep our youngest children safe and healthy, to develop confidence and to promote an aptitude for lifelong learning.

The Council provides intensive support to currently registered early years and childcare providers at the point of registration, and if they receive an Ofsted judgement of 'Requires Improvement' or 'Inadequate', or if there are evidenced concerns about quality of provision. Following the inspection or an intervention, a risk assessment is completed, which includes consideration of whether to continue funding early years places. This is regularly monitored

and reviewed throughout the intervention process. The Council’s position is that no new funded two-year olds should access their early years entitlement at a provider graded ‘Requires Improvement’ or ‘Inadequate’. Where parents insist that they wish to access three- and four-year-old entitlement from a provider who has received a ‘Requires Improvement’ judgement, the provider will be required to work intensively with the Council to improve practice and show that it has the leadership capacity to improve within a required timescale.

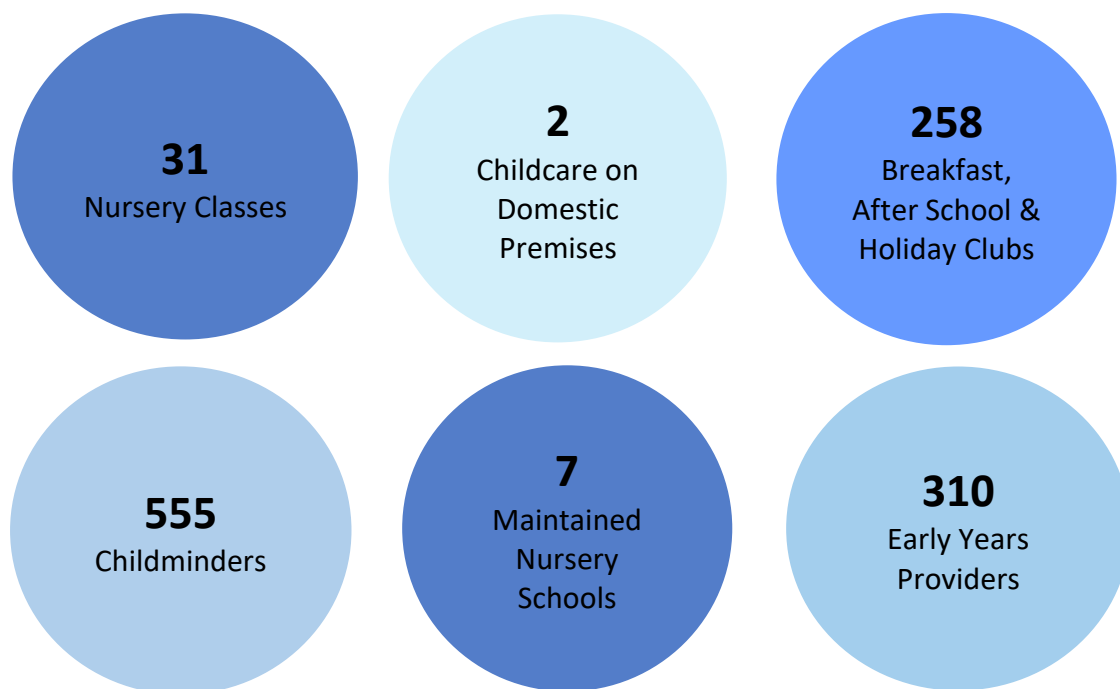
In certain circumstances, it may be necessary to withdraw all government funding, e.g. where an Ofsted report or Welfare Requirements Notice highlights concerns, or where the Council identifies concerns regarding safeguarding, equalities or Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) that cannot be mitigated. In these circumstances, the Council will gather the relevant sufficiency data to identify settings and childminders with available places, and will provide information, advice and assistance to parents and carers.

When required, designated officers from the Early Years’ Service will liaise with the regulator and other agencies to share relevant and proportionate information.

2.4 What types of provision are available?

In Cambridgeshire, there are a total of 1,163 Early Years and Childcare providers who offer places for children from birth upwards. The variety of provision is shown below.

Early Years and Childcare in Cambridgeshire as of 1st September 2021



The Council supports registered providers to have regard to the SEND Code of Practice and provides a wide range of training, including annual courses for Special Educational Needs Co-

ordinators (SENCOs). Specialist officers will work with providers to develop exemplary inclusive practice, and to ensure that all children have the support they need to access a quality early years' experience.

All providers within Cambridgeshire should have clear admissions policies that provide equality of opportunity and develop a working ethos that has regard for the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) and the Equalities Act (2010).

2.5 What does take-up look like in Cambridgeshire?

Since 2017, there has been a decline in the number of 2 and 3- year olds taking up their funded entitlement in Cambridgeshire. The number of 4-year olds taking up their entitlement has remained fairly static, except for the latest year (2021) where numbers have dipped. This is also the trend which has been observed nationally.

The cohort of children accessing free early education entitlement increases throughout the academic year, peaking in the summer funding period before falling in autumn when children leave early years provision and take up a place in school reception. Development of early years and childcare places is a delicate balance between ensuring sufficient places are available in the summer and that provision remains sustainable in quieter autumn funding periods.

Education provision: children under 5 years of age (DfE, January 2021)⁵

Percentage of 2, 3 and 4-year-old children benefiting from universal places (%)						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
2-Year Olds						
Cambridgeshire	79	79	68	67	65	59
East of England	71	73	70	69	71	64
England	68	71	72	68	69	62
3-Year Olds						
Cambridgeshire	98	96	94	94	91	90
East of England	95	93	94	93	92	87
England	93	93	92	92	91	87
4-Year Olds						
Cambridgeshire	95	96	95	94	96	92
East of England	96	95	95	96	95	93
England	96	95	95	95	94	93

⁵ Education provision: children under 5 years of age, Reporting Year 2021 – Explore education statistics – GOV.UK (explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk)

2.6 How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected Early Years and Childcare provision?

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted every facet of society and the early years and childcare sector is no exception. Since the government announced the first national lockdown on 23rd March 2020, the sector has been required to respond to continual change and upheaval, initially with closure and then with the requirement to operate in small, consistent groups ('bubbles') which ceased on 19th July 2021.

There has been anecdotal evidence and research at a national level (Institute of Fiscal Studies, 2020⁶) that suggests nurseries were especially impacted by the first national lockdown due to their reliance on private income which was lost as provision was closed to the majority of children, with the exception of children of critical workers. This was also an area of concern for many childminders, with limited numbers able to access self-employment support.

For the whole of the sector, the requirement to adapt provision at short notice in response to changes in government guidance, and short-term closure due to confirmed cases of COVID-19 have proved a challenge. The fortnightly data published by the DfE⁷ (July 2021) estimated that the number of children attending early years settings was approximately 63% of the usual daily level for a typical summer term pre-pandemic. The November 2020 Ofsted briefing⁸ found that changes to families' employment patterns have had an impact on the demand for places. Increases in unemployment in some areas and a greater ability to work from home in some sectors have reduced some families' need for childcare. In addition, providers told Ofsted that some parents are more anxious about sending their children to nursery, and some raised concerns that more parents will want to keep children at home. Consequently, the future level of demand for childcare is currently unknown; until this is established at a settled rate it will be exceptionally difficult to clearly assess longer-term childcare sufficiency across Cambridgeshire.

The tables below show how the early years and childcare market has changed in Cambridgeshire over the last three years. Whilst there is a varied picture, it shows that fewer settings have opened across the sector since the pandemic began.

⁶ The Institute of Fiscal Studies (September 2020): Challenges for the childcare market: the implications of COVID-19 for childcare providers in England

⁷ Department of Education Statistics (Week 3 2021): Attendance in education and early years settings during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak

⁸ OFSTED (November 2020): COVID-19 series: briefing on early years

<i>Nursery openings and closures in Cambridgeshire</i>		
23rd March 2018 to 31st December 2018 13 nurseries opened 8 nurseries closed	23rd March 2019 to 31st December 2019 9 nurseries opened 4 nurseries closed	23rd March 2020 to 31st December 2020 8 nurseries opened 7 nurseries closed
<i>Source: ONE report</i>		

<i>Pre-School openings and closures in Cambridgeshire</i>		
23rd March 2018 to 31st December 2018 1 pre-school opened 0 pre-schools closed	23rd March 2019 to 31st December 2019 0 pre-schools opened 5 pre-schools closed	23rd March 2020 to 31st December 2020 4 pre-schools opened 5 pre-schools closed
<i>Source: ONE report</i>		

<i>Wraparound settings openings and closures</i>		
23rd March 2018 to 31st December 2018 23 wraparound settings opened 31 wraparound settings closed	23rd March 2019 to 31st December 2019 12 wraparound settings opened 11 wraparound settings closed	23rd March 2020 to 31st December 2020 7 wraparound settings opened 21 wraparound settings closed
<i>Source: ONE report</i>		

2.7 How do we identify pressures in the Early Years and Childcare market?

The early years and childcare market is continually monitored and reviewed to ensure that there are sufficient places for all children whose parents would like one. This ensures that the Council can identify where potential pressures may arise and respond accordingly.

In assessing where more capacity in the childcare market is required, consideration is given to:

- occupancy levels and capacity within existing provision
- child population using NHS data
- eligible population, by area
- housing development
- quality of provision

The Council also publishes a Market Position Statement which sets out the priorities for the development of early years and childcare provision across the county. Through these statements, all providers, regardless of their governance model (e.g. childminder, private,

voluntary, independent, school or academy), are invited to expand or develop new early years and childcare provision to meet the identified pressures.

The Council is aware of the importance of settings implementing a successful business model from opening and, therefore, works with new providers through the pre-opening process. The Council also looks to facilitate the expansion of provision which has been rated 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in order to meet demand.

2.8 Where are the current pressures? How are we responding?

The information below sets out the early years and childcare places that are already in development or planned but have not yet opened. This includes the following types of provision:

- Those which are currently being commissioned by the Council to run from its own premises
- Those on the site of new schools which are subject to a tender process
- Expansion of existing early years settings
- Those planned due to a lowering of school age range
- Those operating under Section 27 community powers
- Other new, privately, voluntary or independently-run settings of which the Council has been informed

Following its approval by elected members (Councillors) in January 2016, it has been Council policy to build new schools with space for early years facilities on site. This can help to ensure sufficient places exist for the earliest occupants of a development and help to alleviate the pressure on existing settings.

The timing at which the facility is required will be dependent upon the level of demand in the local area to avoid creating surplus capacity. The Council is therefore committed to working in partnership with new schools to ensure that the facilities are delivered in the best interests of the whole community. The Council will not support the development of new EY places immediately if there is no requirement and other providers are meeting local need.

Cambridge City

Cambridge City (North)

What are the current pressures?

The demand for early years and childcare provision is high. For this reason, the sufficiency information is kept under continuous review. The Council is currently aware of the need for additional full day care, and in particular the need to provide more places for children under the age of two.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Darwin Green is a housing-led mixed-use development on the northern edge of Cambridge including land in both South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City. The site has outline planning permission for up to 1,593 dwellings, community facilities, retail units and a primary school. In line with Council policy, the school site will include facilities for early years and childcare. The timing for this provision is not yet known and will be subject to the pace of housing development.

Cambridge City (South)

What are the current pressures?

The Council is aware of pressures in Trumpington and has identified the need for additional provision to offer the full range of funded childcare entitlements, including childcare for funded two-year olds.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Marleigh is a strategic site situated to the north of Newmarket Road. Outline planning permission was granted in 2016 for up to 1,300 homes, as well as community facilities including a nursery and primary school. The final stage of planning permission, reserved matters, has already been granted for phase one (547 homes) with the first of these homes occupied last year. In line with Council policy, the new school, due to open in September 2022, will include facilities for early years and childcare. In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families who move into this housing development.

East Cambridgeshire

What are the current pressures?

None.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Significant growth is planned in both Soham and Littleport. As a result, the Council has commissioned feasibility studies to explore the potential of expanding existing primary schools, and the early years and childcare provision run from them, to enable them to accommodate children moving into the developments.

The Council is also currently in the process of expanding the early years provision at Millfield Primary School, Littleport This will enable them to offer a further 26 early years places.

Fenland

What are the current pressures?

None.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Huntingdonshire

What are the current pressures?

Due to the recent closure of some settings, and the reopening of others, we are monitoring the sufficiency information in particular areas of the district very closely. These areas include Huntingdon, St Neots and Hartford. Hartford Infant School has also increased its age range to enable it to take children aged 3 to 7 from September 2021. Consequently, there will be up to 30 early years' places available.

Further provision, including both full day care and sessional provision is required in Ramsey. The Council would be particularly keen to secure the full range of funded childcare entitlements, including childcare for funded two-year olds.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

There are several large developments planned within the district, including Alconbury Weald and the Eastern Expansion (consisting of Loves Farm 2 and Wintringham Park) in St Neots. In response, new schools are planned to serve these new communities, all of which will include early years and childcare provision. The first school on Wintringham Park, Wintringham Park Primary School, opened its Pre-School in September 2021.

In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families who move into these developments. As part of the Section 106 (S106) agreement, sites on these developments have been secured from which the sector can provide full day care provision. These business opportunities are likely to be advertised directly by the developer.

South Cambridgeshire

What are the current pressures?

The demand for early years and childcare provision in Sawston is high with many settings operating a waiting list. However, completion of the village's community hub has meant that space on the site of The Bellbird Primary School, formerly occupied by Children's Centre Services, has been used to facilitate the expansion of an existing setting (Jigsaw Pre-School). This has enabled the setting to increase the number of places for children aged 2 to 4 years.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

There are several large developments planned within the district, including both Northstowe and Waterbeach New Town. In response to this, new schools are planned to serve these new communities, each of which will have accommodation for early years and childcare provision.

In addition to this, a full range of childcare, including full day care, sessional provision and wrap around care, will be required to meet the needs of children and their families who move into these developments.

2.9 Useful Links

[Actions for early years and childcare providers during the coronavirus \(COVID\) outbreak](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council Capital Programme: Business Plan \(2020-21 to 2024-25\). See Section 3A, Tables 4 and 5.](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council Early Years & Childcare Market Position Statement](#)

[Childcare Act \(2006\)](#)

[Childcare Act \(2016\)](#)

[Contingency Framework: Education and childcare settings](#)

[Disability Discrimination Act \(1995\)](#)

[Early Years: Business Support](#)

[Early Years Foundation Stage Framework](#)

[Equalities Act \(2010\)](#)

[Extended entitlement \(30 hours\) childcare for working parents](#)

[Family Information Directory \(Cambridgeshire Directory of Services: Childcare\)](#)

[Learn Together – Cambridgeshire: Portal for Early Years Providers](#)

[Ofsted](#)

[Universal entitlement to free childcare for 3 and 4-year olds](#)

Chapter 3: Primary and Secondary Provision

3.1 What is the national policy?

Education Act (1996)

Section 14 of The Education Act (1996) places LAs under a general duty to provide a school place for every child living in their area of responsibility who is of statutory school age and whose parents want their child educated in the state-funded sector.

Education and Inspections Act (2006)

The Education and Inspections Act (2006) made LAs commissioners, rather than providers, of new schools. This legislation also places additional duties on LAs to ensure fair access to educational opportunity, to promote choice for parents and to secure diversity in the provision of schools. In addition to this, the Act places an explicit duty on LAs for the first time to respond formally to parents seeking changes to the provision of schools in their area, including new schools.

Academies Act (2010)

The Academies Act (2010) made it possible for all publicly-funded schools in England to acquire Academy Status, including special schools. Becoming an academy provides schools with increased autonomy over their curriculum, budget and staffing.

Education Act (2011)

The Education Act (2011) changed the arrangements for the establishment of new schools by introducing a presumption that when LAs set up new schools, they will be academies (including free schools). It also made changes to the legislation relating to school land, to increase the Secretary of State's ability to make land available for free schools.

3.2 What are the Council's responsibilities?

The Council continues to respond positively to the changes in national policy direction, working closely with existing and potential education providers and the RSC to promote diversity, choice and quality in education provision across the County.

The Council is committed to working in partnership with all education providers, regardless of status. In its role as a champion for children, young people and their families, the Council continues to provide advice, guidance and support to:

- promote educational development and school improvement
- challenge the lowest performing schools to deliver improved outcomes
- enable early years and childcare provision and reception classes to be supported as one foundation stage and work together to secure good early years outcomes

The Council also acts as a critical friend, raising concerns over educational performance and

outcomes directly with schools. Where these are not addressed by the school's leadership and governors, the Council will request that Ofsted undertakes an inspection.

The Council believes that all education provision should be inclusive, attractive and welcoming, whilst promoting safeguarding. It should also enable children, young people and their families to access a range of support, advice and positive activities which includes transport beyond the statutory walking distances and in cases where there is not an available walking route to and from their designated school.

Breakfast/After School and Holiday Clubs

Breakfast Clubs, After School Clubs and Holiday Clubs also play an important role in ensuring that sufficient childcare is available outside of school hours. The Council therefore monitors the availability of provision to ensure that sufficient places are accessible for parents who want them. Where there is a need for additional places which cannot be met by existing providers, this will be noted in the LA's Market Position Statement.

The Holiday Activity and Food (HAF) Programme

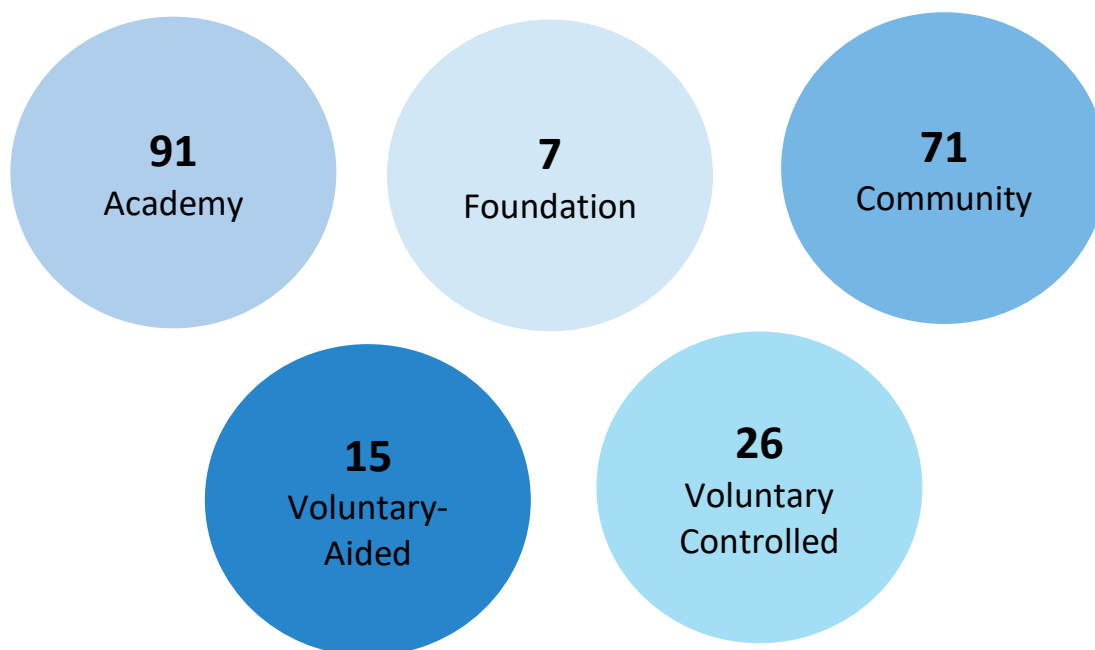
New to Cambridgeshire is the DfE-funded HAF programme. This nationwide initiative, aimed at school aged children from disadvantaged backgrounds, includes the provision of nutritious food and education, enriching experiences, social stimulation and physical activity through funded places at local holiday playschemes. Children in receipt of benefits-related free school meals and families supported by early help services or children's social care are eligible for the programme. There were 607 fully funded places offered to eligible families over Easter with 31 providers participating in the pilot, and 2,070 places available over the summer holiday with 83 providers taking part. The programme will continue to operate over the 2021 Christmas school holidays. The Council are working with existing and newly established holiday scheme providers, including playschemes, multi-sports schemes, youth schemes, creative arts workshops and childminders to create capacity based on anticipated demand. The HAF programme may be expanded into 2022 and beyond, following the Government's spending review this autumn. The Council will therefore be supporting providers going forward with additional demand for childcare places locally.

3.3 What types of provision are available?

Primary Provision

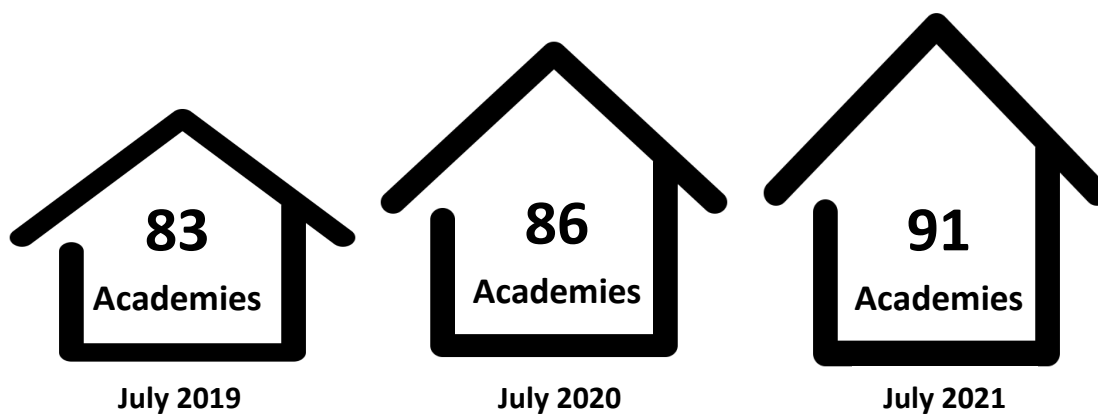
There are currently 210 primary schools in Cambridgeshire, with the largest proportion of these now operating as academies.

Primary Schools in Cambridgeshire as of 1st September 2021



In line with national trends, Cambridgeshire has seen a steady rise in the number of primary schools converting to, or being opened as, an academy.

Number of primary academies in Cambridgeshire as of July 2021



Secondary Provision

There are currently 33 secondary schools in Cambridgeshire. In addition, there is one University Technical College (UTC) which serves students aged 13-19.

The overwhelming majority of the County's secondary schools became academies before 2017. Effective from 1 September 2020, all 33 secondary schools are academies following the conversion of Northstowe secondary College from a Foundation school.

3.4 How do we commission school places?

The different pressures on available education places require a range of approaches to commissioning school places. These include local area reviews, new development negotiations and working in partnership with other key stakeholders such as the DfE.

Planning areas

In urban areas, the impact of pupil forecasts on available provision is considered more widely than at the level of individual schools, reflecting the fact that there is often greater choice for parents when several settings or schools are located in close proximity. This also allows the Council to provide sufficient places, without creating surplus capacity. To support this approach, the Council groups schools within planning areas. These:

- include schools in close proximity
- link primary schools to their catchment or designated secondary schools
- take account of federations and partnerships between schools
- take account of natural barriers and constraints on journeys between schools
- have been agreed with the DfE and form the basis of the Council's annual school capacity return (SCAP) to government

A full list of the planning areas in Cambridgeshire, and the schools within each of them, is included in Appendix C. This will be kept under review as the Council responds to demographic changes and housing development proposals.

Commissioning school places

There are currently three ways to establish a new mainstream school:

- Central Free School route: This requires an application from a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) directly to the DfE. The DfE decides whether or not to approve the application. Costs are the responsibility of the DfE.
- Presumption route: The Council publishes a specification for a school and invites MATs to apply to run that school. This requires an application to the Council, but it is the DfE which decides whether or not the preferred sponsor recommended by the Council will be approved to run the school. Costs are the responsibility of the Council.
- Voluntary Aided (VA) route: Anyone, including a Diocese or LA, may publish a proposal for a new VA school in response to a clear demand for places that the new school would provide.

Where new schools are commissioned to meet basic need, LAs are responsible for the pre-opening start-up and post-opening diseconomy of scale costs. These are currently met from centrally retained Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) funding which is subject to annual Schools Forum approval.

Given the uncertainty of future funding, and the current burden of revenue expenditure, the Council will utilise the national Free Schools Programme, as appropriate. If the Council believes that a new school is required but no free school proposal is approved, then it will follow the presumption route, advertising the opportunity widely to ensure that there is a strong field of high-quality applications.

In existing areas, mostly urban, where the Council is responding to demographic change, the option of providing a new school may not necessarily be the right approach educationally. In these circumstances, the preference is to work with existing schools and Trusts to expand provision, where possible, in good or outstanding schools. For example, the expansion of Westwood Primary School in March to 4FE/840 places was carried out in partnership with the Elliot Foundation Multi-Academy Trust.

3.5 How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected primary and secondary provision?

Schools in England closed on 20th March 2020, other than for vulnerable pupils and children of critical workers. This meant they were unable to carry out normal activities to support learning or prepare for transition and were instead required to provide education which could be accessed remotely. As schools put in place preventative measures to keep staff and pupils safe, it meant visits on site were restricted to those which were essential only. Risk assessments were therefore put in place to enable construction to continue on all active projects meaning that fortunately, in Cambridgeshire, there were no delays in expanding existing schools or developing new schools.

3.6 How have the Council responded to pressures experienced within the last two years?

Pressures within the primary phase

Cambridge City

- No pressures identified.

East Cambridgeshire

- Temporary accommodation has been provided at Sutton Primary School to enable the school to meet the demand for places from within its catchment area.

Fenland

- Temporary accommodation has been provided at Manea Primary School to increase its pupil intake in response to housing development within the village.
- Cromwell Community College has changed its age range to include provision for 3 to 10-year olds, starting with Reception in 2020/21. This has involved a significant

investment in permanent accommodation suitable for primary phase education on the site.



Change of age range: Cromwell Community College

Huntingdonshire

- Wyton Primary School was rebuilt in 2019 as its condition meant it was no longer fit for purpose. The replacement school has capacity for 315 pupils: an increase of 105 places overall.
- Wintringham Primary Academy, the second school delivered in response to the St Neots Eastern Expansion, opened in September 2018. The school has capacity for 3FE/630 places.



New Build: Wintringham Primary Academy

South Cambridgeshire

- An expansion of The Bellbird Primary School was completed in September 2019 in response to housing development, and increased birth rates, within the area. The school now has a capacity of 2FE/420 places.
- An expansion of Meldreth Primary School was completed in 2018 in response to housing development within the village. The school now has a capacity of 1FE/210 places.
- An expansion of Waterbeach Community Primary School was completed in 2020 in response to housing development within the village. The school now has a capacity of 3FE/630 places.
- A three-class expansion of Barrington C of E Primary School was completed in 2019 following approval of a speculative planning application for 300 homes on the former CEMEX site on the outskirts of Barrington. The school now has a capacity of 1FE/210 places.
- Histon and Impington Infant and Junior Schools were redeveloped to enable them to extend their age ranges to operate as all-through primary schools and in January 2020,

the Infant school relocated to a new site at Buxhall Farm. The former Infant School is known as Histon & Impington Park Primary and the former Junior School as Histon & Impington Brook Primary.

- An expansion of Bassingbourn Primary School was completed in 2020 in response to the decision by the Ministry of Defence to re-open Bassingbourn Barracks. The school now has a capacity of 2FE/420 places.



Expansion of Bassingbourn Primary School

Pressures within the secondary phase

Cambridge City

- A 2FE/300 place expansion of Chesterton Community College was completed in 2019. However, the school has not yet increased its PAN and this will be subject to ongoing monitoring and review of demand.

East Cambridgeshire

- A 3FE/450 place expansion of Bottisham Village College was completed in 2019 in response to new housing development in the area.



Expansion of Bottisham Village College

Fenland

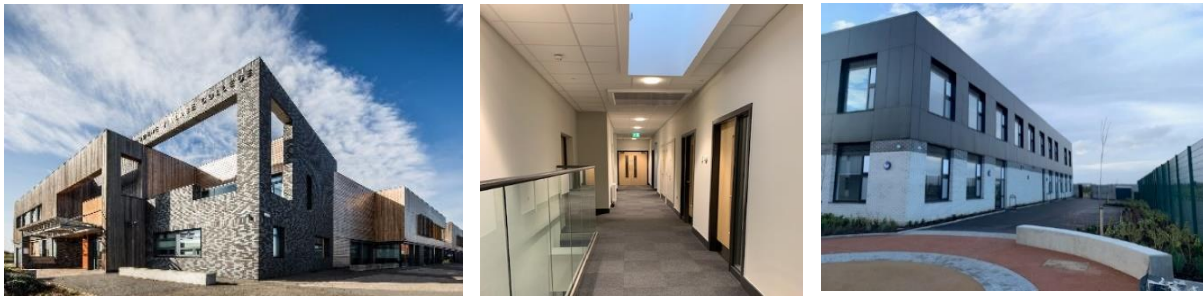
- The Brooke Weston Trust's application, in Wave 14 of the government's Free School programme, to run a new 4FE/600 place secondary school in Wisbech was approved by the DfE and granted permission to move to pre-opening stage in February 2021. The design and build of the new school will be procured by the DfE using its own contractor framework.
- An expansion of Cromwell Community College was completed in August 2020. This provides a further 1FE/150 places.

Huntingdonshire

- No pressures identified.

South Cambridgeshire

- An expansion of Cambourne Village College was completed in January 2020. This provides a further 2FE/300 places to meet the demand from within its catchment area.



Expansion of Cambourne Village College

3.7 What are the current pressures in the primary phase? How are we responding?

Cambridge City

After a period of significant increases in the birth rate, the most recent demographic data suggest that it has begun to level off. The number of children born and living within Cambridge remains steady. This indicates that there will continue to be a close balance between demand and capacity for the near future, especially when the impact of the high levels of new housing developments in and around the City are taken into consideration. The Greater Cambridge Housing Trajectory and Five-Year Land Supply report (2021) reaffirms the expectation that over 14,000 new homes will be built in Cambridge in the period up to 2031.

The report indicates that over the six years prior to 2019/20 the pace of housing development in the City has exceeded the identified housing trajectory. However, over the two-year period 2019/20 to 2020/21, the actual number of house completions is predicted to be well under the annualised target of 700 dwellings per year, before picking up again in the period 2021/22 to 2023/24. At the time of writing, the actual number of completions for 2020/21 is not known and will only be confirmed in the latter part of 2021 when a comprehensive survey of all extant planning permissions has been undertaken. Over the coming five years, around 3,300 homes are projected to be delivered, compared to the scheduled target of 2,800 homes for the period if existing completions are taken into consideration.

These figures are for homes delivered within the Cambridge City Council administrative area. They do not include housing allocations within the South Cambridgeshire District Council administrative area which abut the City boundary. The impact of these developments, which

are considered to be urban extensions, are assessed as part of the overall planning of the Cambridge City planning area.

Cambridge City North of the River Cam

What are the current pressures?

The Council is keeping numbers under review, with particular reference to occupations in the major developments around the Northwest Fringe.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

In addition to some small infill sites, the majority of major housing development over the coming five years will be delivered as part of the Northwest Fringe. This consists of two major sites; both of which straddle the administrative boundary with South Cambridgeshire:

- The Northwest Cambridge site: This will deliver 3,000 new homes including 50% for identified University key workers. It includes approximately 1,500 homes within Cambridge and 1,500 homes within South Cambridgeshire. The first 700 units were available for occupation from September 2017 with further homes being released in batches.
- Darwin Green: This will deliver around 2,500 new homes across two phases. The first homes, in the first phase (Cambridge City delivering up to 1,500) were occupied in late 2019. Timescales for the second phase of development (around 1,000 homes in South Cambridgeshire) are currently unknown.

There is the potential for further significant housing development in the north of the City on land surrounding the new Cambridge North Railway Station. However, it is unlikely that these developments would be under construction within the next five years.

There will be two new schools as part of the Darwin Green development. Planning consent for the first school has been secured by the Council. The final timetable for opening the new school is being kept under review; it is anticipated that it will not be required before 2023/24, however this may be impacted by the availability of places at nearby primary schools such as Girton Glebe. The need for the second school on the development is not expected to emerge for several years.

Cambridge City South of the River Cam

What are the current pressures?

The growth in demand in Trumpington continues to be monitored to allow increases in the PANs of both Trumpington Meadows Primary School, and Trumpington Park Primary School to be made at the appropriate time.

Discussions are also ongoing with planning officers from the City Council to identify potential options for increasing primary education capacity in the Coleridge/Romsey/ Petersfield wards as part of the Local Plan process.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

In addition to several larger infill sites, there are a number of urban fringe development sites. The largest of these is the Cambridge Southern Fringe, with additional development sites in the east of the City. Several of these sites straddle the administrative boundary.

The Cambridge Southern Fringe consists of three major housing developments:

- Clay Farm/Showground: This will deliver approximately 2,200 new homes. The development commenced in 2012 and it is now approximately 85% complete.
- Glebe Farm: This will deliver approximately 300 new homes. The development commenced in 2012 and is now complete.
- Trumpington Meadows: The development commenced in 2012 and is approximately 70% complete. This will deliver approximately 1,200 new homes. This includes 600 in Cambridge City and 600 in South Cambridgeshire.

Other housing development sites in the south of the City include:

- Marleigh (formerly known as Wing): This will deliver up to 1,300 new homes in the east of the City to the north of Cambridge Airport. Delivery of the site, which is within South Cambridgeshire, began in 2020, with the first occupations in 2021.
- Land North of Cherry Hinton: This will deliver up to 1,200 new homes in the south east of the City, on land south of Cambridge Airport. The site, which is split across the administrative boundary, is not expected to have its first occupations until at least 2022. A site for a new school is being sought through the S106 agreement attached to the planning consent for housing.

A new 2FE/420 place primary school was approved to pre-implementation stage through Wave 12 of the government's Free School Programme to serve the Marleigh housing development. The school is currently scheduled to open in September 2022 and will be run by the Anglian Learning Trust.

Discussions between the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), the Council and the Anglian Learning Trust reached an agreement that the school would open with 30 places in Reception. This is to ensure that the school will serve the new community and mitigate the impact of surplus capacity on surrounding schools. This will be subject to a funding agreement being agreed with the ESFA.

The proposed development on Land North of Cherry Hinton is anticipated to generate demand for a further new 2FE/420 place primary school. The decision to deliver this school

will be taken as part of reviewing capacity at surrounding schools, specifically Teversham and Bewick Bridge Primary Schools.

East Cambridgeshire

The East Cambridgeshire Local Plan adopted in 2015 sets an expectation that 11,500 new homes will need to be built in the period 2011 to 2031. These development targets are formally set out in the adopted Local Plan. A large part of this new housing development will be located within the market towns of Ely, Littleport, and Soham but there will also be significant levels of new housing built within villages throughout the district.

The Local Plan documents set out a vision for:

- Over 3,900 new dwellings in Ely to be built in the period up to 2031, this includes 3,000 homes proposed for an urban extension to the north of the town.
- New housing allocations to the east and south of Soham bringing the total to 1,655 dwellings to be built in the period up to 2031.
- A potential 1,447 new homes in Littleport to be built in the period up to 2031.

East Cambridgeshire District Council had been reviewing the Local Plan in response to changing circumstances. The Plan was expected to be adopted earlier this year but was withdrawn following the Examination in Public and the subsequent recommendations of the appointed Planning Inspector. This means that, the 2015 Local Plan will continue to be used as the basis for the future planning of school places. However, the absence of a five-year housing land supply is likely to result in housing applications coming forward on unallocated sites which will need to be considered within the National Planning Policy Framework.

Although the annual number of births has fallen in the last few years, this may be counter-balanced by a recent increase in annual housing completions.

Bottisham Rural 1

What are the current pressures?

The Council commissioned a feasibility study to assess the works required to expand Bottisham Primary School to 330 places. However, as pupil numbers have not risen as quickly as anticipated, this project is currently on hold, and being kept under review.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Bottisham Rural 2

What are the current pressures?

In September 2021, Cheveley Primary School will over-admit pupils because of in-catchment demand using accommodation already available in the school.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Ely Town 1

What are the current pressures?

An expansion of Littleport Primary School is now underway and due for completion in September 2024.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The East Cambridgeshire Local Plan establishes the potential for the further development of 1,700 dwellings in Littleport. As part of the consultation process on the Littleport Masterplan and following the expansion of the existing Millfield Primary School, the Council identified the need for an additional 210 primary school places. These have been secured through the work underway to expand Littleport Primary School, as detailed above.

Ely Town 2

What are the current pressures?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

In addition to the impact of demographic changes, there are a number of development proposals, notably for 3,000 dwellings to the north of Ely. Locations for two new primary schools were secured ahead of the new developments being built so that they can meet the needs of both the existing Ely community and the new housing when it is built and occupied.

Witchford Rural 1

What are the current pressures?

A number of planning applications have been granted approval in both Haddenham and Wilburton, indicating that additional places will be required if these developments proceed. In response, the Council has commissioned a feasibility study to consider the options for increasing the capacity of Robert Arkenstall Primary School to 2FE/420 places. This option is being explored as Wilburton CE Primary School is on a restricted site, and any project will therefore need to be sufficient in size to be able to accommodate additional children from the Wilburton developments.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

As above.

Witchford Rural 2

What are the current pressures?

The Council has commissioned a feasibility study to prepare proposals for expanding Sutton Primary School in response to an outline planning application for 250 homes on nearby land.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

A number of developments in the village of Witchford may require Rackham Primary School to be expanded by 0.5FE (an additional 105 places). The timing of this expansion will be kept under review and is subject to the build out of the development.

Soham Rural 1

What are the current pressures?

In recent years, several developments have come forward in Isleham. One sizeable development has been approved and if any more obtain planning permission, it is likely that additional places will be required. The existing school, Isleham CE Primary School, is on a restricted site therefore the Council has recently undertaken a feasibility study to explore the options for providing these places, with a new site identified elsewhere in the village should the school need to relocate to expand.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

In May 2019, a planning application for a new garden village of 500 homes at Kennett was approved. The Council is currently working with the Staploe Education Trust, the MAT which is responsible for Kennett Primary Academy on a proposal for the relocation and expansion of the school to meet the long-term demand for places. The school will increase in size from 0.5FE/105 places to 1FE/210 places with a planned completion date of January 2024.

Soham Town 1

What are the current pressures?

A feasibility study is underway to consider options to expand either St Andrew's CE Primary School or The Shade Primary School from 2FE/420 places to 3FE/630 places to ensure further capacity can be created within the town.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

There are major development sites allocated in the Local Plan in the eastern and northern gateways to Soham, however, there is some uncertainty regarding the timescales for delivery. If the sites which have been allocated are developed, additional primary school provision will be required, and the Council will need to secure a further primary school site through the Local Plan review process. The investment of public funds by the Peterborough and

Cambridgeshire Combined Authority, and planned opening of a new railway station in 2022, may contribute to bringing these sites forward sooner than may have been the case.

Fenland

Fenland District Council's Local Plan sets out a broad level of growth of 11,000 new homes for the district in the period up to 2031, mainly to be built as urban extensions to the market towns. These proposals include:

- 4,350-5,050 homes to the east, south and west of Wisbech.
- 3,400-5,500 homes to the north-east, south-west, south and east of March.
- 1,150-2,400 homes to the south-east and south of Chatteris.
- 1,250-1,950 homes to the north of Eastrea Road in Whittlesey.

Although the annual number of births has fallen in the last few years, this may be counter-balanced by a recent increase in annual housing completions. In the coming years there will be a need for school place planning to respond but also reflect the pace of development, which may be slow because of issues around development viability, and the impact of Brexit in those areas of the district where inward migration from the EU in recent years has been high.

Chatteris Rural 1

What are the current pressures?

Feasibility studies are being carried out at both Benwick Primary School and Manea Primary School. For Benwick, this is to replace the mobile classrooms with a permanent build. For Manea, this is to expand the school to 270 or 330 places, in permanent accommodation.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Chatteris Town 1

What are the current pressures?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

There is a significant amount of housing planned in the town although this has progressed more slowly than had been expected. A further expansion of Cromwell Community College, to include an additional form of entry in both the primary and secondary phases, should accommodate children from the two major development sites with outline planning consent.

March Town 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The potential for future growth in March is identified in the Fenland Local Plan with additional housing identified in the south, south-west and south east of the town. This is likely to require the provision of new primary schools within these major housing development areas. Pre-application discussions have begun with the developers of the March West site, but the other sites are some way from coming forward.

Whittlesey Town 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Wisbech Rural 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Wisbech Rural 2

What are we doing now?

The catchment population of Friday Bridge has exceeded the capacity of the school for several years. In the past, it has been possible to accommodate children at other local schools. However, there is housing development coming forward to the south of Wisbech town which may limit these options in the future. As a result, a case was approved by the Council's Capital Programme Board to carry out a feasibility study into a modest expansion of Friday Bridge Primary School to 1FE/210 places.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Wisbech Town 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The potential for future growth in Wisbech is identified in the Fenland Local Plan. This is likely to require the provision of new primary schools within the major housing development areas

both to the east and west of the town. Potential sites are already identified. There is also an active bid submitted for a garden town to be built near Wisbech.

Huntingdonshire

Huntingdonshire District Council's (HDC) Local Plan sets out the development plan for 21,458 new homes to be built by 2036, an average of 858 new homes per year. Combined with existing targets, the Local Plan includes:

- approximately 8,339 new homes in Huntingdon, Godmanchester and Brampton
- 6,500 new homes on the former Alconbury Airfield, now known as Alconbury Weald, and Grange Farm site as part of a new Enterprise Zone
- 1,680 new homes on the site of the former RAF Alconbury
- 5,302 new homes in St Neots and at Little Paxton
- 873 dwellings planned in St Ives

The demand for Reception places across the District will rely on the close monitoring of local variations and the impact of new housing developments.

Huntingdon Rural 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Huntingdon Rural 2

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Huntingdon Rural 3

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Huntingdon Town 1

What are we doing now?

The second phase of Ermine Street Church Academy, to expand the school to 3FE/630 places, is about to commence with the project due for completion within the next two years.

The Council is working with developers and HDC, as the local planning authority, to monitor build trajectories from the various sites closely in order to ensure a sufficient number of primary school places are available at the right time and that new schools are financially sustainable.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Alconbury Weald, a 5,000-home, mixed-use development is part of a Government approved Enterprise Zone. The first houses were released for sale in autumn 2016. The anticipated build rate is between 160 (initially) and 400 homes a year as the development progresses. It currently sits at 208 dwellings a year. It is anticipated that a development of this size will generate the demand for between 1,500 and 2,000 primary school places.

A planning application has also been submitted for the development of a further 1,500 dwellings on the southern area of the Alconbury Weald site known as Grange Farm. This application, if approved, would require an additional 3FE/630 place primary school.

An area adjacent to the Alconbury Weald development, known as RAF Alconbury, has been included in the Local Plan. If approved, this will deliver a further 1,680 homes and will require a new primary school and additional secondary school places.

Ramsey Rural 1

What are we doing now?

None.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The Local Plan includes details of developments amounting to 590 new dwellings. There is currently some capacity in local schools which can accommodate children arising from these developments, however, this will need to be kept under review to ensure that sufficient places are available.

Ramsey Town 1

What are we doing now?

Ramsey Spinning Infant School and Ramsey Junior School both previously had a PAN of 90. The Junior School reduced its PAN some years ago, and negotiations are now underway to gain agreement with the Academy Trust to increase the PAN once again to accommodate children from new developments.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The Local Plan includes details of developments in Ramsey Town amounting to 895 new dwellings. It may be possible to provide some additional places within existing schools to meet the needs of pupils arising from new development, but this is being kept under review.

Sawtry Rural 1

What are we doing now?

The Local Plan includes details of developments in the catchment area of Sawtry Infant and Junior Schools amounting to 375 new dwellings. In addition, a further application for 300 dwellings has been approved and a site for a 2FE/420 place primary school has been secured on the new development. A presumption process to identify a sponsor to establish and run the new primary school recently launched on 1st September and will conclude towards the end of October 2021. The new school is expected to open in September 2023. However, this is dependent upon the pace of housing development and is, therefore, subject to change.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Sawtry Rural 2

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

St Ives Town 1

What are we doing now?

No further actions.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

St Neots Rural 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

St Neots Rural 2

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

St Neots Rural 3

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The Local Plan includes details of developments in this area amounting to 119 new dwellings. Forecasts suggest that there is sufficient capacity in the existing primary schools to accommodate children from these developments.

St Neots Town 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

In addition to 140 dwellings planned in the town, the main housing will be delivered at Wintringham Park, (a 2,800 home development to the east of the railway) and Loves Farm 2 (a 1,020 home development adjacent to Loves Farm) known jointly as the St Neots Eastern Expansion. The planning applications include sites for three new primary schools on the Eastern Expansion site: two schools on Wintringham Park and one on Loves Farm 2.

The Council is working with developers and HDC to monitor build trajectories closely in order to ensure a sufficient number of primary school places are available at the right time and that new schools are financially sustainable.

Peterborough Rural 1

What are we doing now?

The need for a second phase of expansion at Fourfields Community Primary School is currently under review, although, at this time, it seems that further expansion will be unnecessary.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

South Cambridgeshire

The Greater Cambridge Housing Trajectory and Five-Year Land Supply report (2020) states the expectation that around 23,500 new homes will be built in South Cambridgeshire in the period up to 2031. Although the existing South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, alongside the Cambridge City Local Plan, was only adopted in September 2018, a new Local Plan is being drafted with an expected adoption date of 2023.

The Local Plan anticipates the majority of these new homes to be delivered through urban extensions of Cambridge and Cambourne, or the creation of new developments proposed at Bourn Airfield, and two new towns at Northstowe and Waterbeach. The first families moved into Northstowe in May 2017, and the development has continued to grow at a steady pace since then. Following completion of the A14 upgrade in the spring of 2020, Phase 2 of the development can now proceed.

Consent has also been given for the development of 2,590 new homes to the west of Cambourne which is expected to begin in the next 12 months. The developer's proposals for Waterbeach have been approved by South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Planning Committee and the S106 agreements have been signed. It is anticipated that the first homes will be available in 2021/22. The other major developments are at an early stage of discussion in the planning process.

The combination of the following factors has led to growing pressures on numerous village schools across the district:

- an increase in the birth rate seen in previous years.
- inward migration, with many family houses becoming available as older homeowners begin to downsize.

Bassingbourn Rural 1

What are we doing now?

Pupil numbers for the area are being kept under review should any further works be required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Comberton Rural 1

What are we doing now?

In Caldecote, a number of planning applications for residential development have been approved. Caldecote Primary School currently operates close to its capacity, although some of the demand arises from pupils coming from outside the catchment area. The Council will therefore need to monitor this as it may be necessary to expand the school by 0.5FE (105 places) to create 1.5FE/315 places overall.

In Hardwick, two sizeable housing developments have also been approved. The Council is keeping under review demand in the village and the impact of housing development on projected pupil numbers, as it may be necessary to increase the capacity at the Hardwick campus of Hardwick and Cambourne Primary School to 2FE/420 places.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

There are several housing developments which fall within this planning area, including 3,500 homes in the new village proposed for development at Bourn Airfield in the submitted Local Plan. Two new primary schools have been identified to mitigate this development and pre-application discussions are now underway. The timescales for delivery of the first new school will depend on the outcome of these discussions and commencement of the housing development.

Comberton Rural 2

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The proposed housing development of Cambourne West will create a 50% increase in homes across Cambourne. The scale of this development will lead to the need for two new primary schools. The timescale for opening the first of these will depend on the house building rate, and the future demand for places within the current Cambourne community, in order not to undermine the stability of the four existing schools. It is anticipated that it would not need to open before 2023.

Cottenham Rural 1

What are we doing now?

There are several speculative housing development proposals which have been approved in Cottenham. This means that, in total, around 500 new homes could be delivered in the village. Although there is currently some capacity within Cottenham Primary School, depending on build-out of the approved sites, there might be a requirement to secure additional capacity through further expansion of the school. This will be determined once there is greater clarity about the scale of development in the village.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Impington Rural

What are we doing now?

The age-range changes of Histon & Impington Park Primary School and Histon & Impington Brook Primary School came into effect for admissions on 1 September 2021. Both are now all-through primary schools.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

An outline planning application has been approved for the first phase of the major new development of 6,500 homes at Waterbeach Barracks. The developer has indicated that they anticipate delivering an initial phase of development of around 1,600 homes with development potentially commencing in 2021. If the development of Waterbeach Barracks proceeds as planned and proposed timescales are met, a new primary school will be required from 2023 and the competition to seek a sponsor to open and run this school is already underway.

A second application, for 4,500 homes adjacent to the Barracks site has also been approved. The timescales for this development are less clear at this stage. It is likely that an additional primary school would be needed in response to the second application, and that this would be required at an early stage of the development. However, this would depend on the connectivity between the two developments.



New Build: Histon & Impington Park Primary School

Linton Rural 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Melbourn Rural 1

What are we doing now?

It is anticipated that there could be small scale speculative housing development across all catchment areas. Further pressures are also being experienced because of a shift in the demographic make-up of some villages. Specifically, there is anecdotal evidence that a large

number of family houses from earlier developments (i.e. 1950s and '60s) are returning to the market as the baby boomer generation chooses to downsize. This is supported by the growth in demand within some year groups, accounting for inward migration as well as changes in birth rates. These pressures are being monitored, especially in the context of the more significant housing development proposals detailed below.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Melbourn Rural 2

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Sawston Rural 1

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Outline planning permission for up to 1,500 residential dwellings has been granted for an extension of the Genome Campus, Hinxton, which will require additional primary provision within the area. A new 1FE/210 place primary school is planned to meet additional demand, with the capacity to expand to 2FE/420 places, should the development require it. This is a unique development and the pupil yield is uncertain as is the pace at which the houses will be built. If the pupil yield is higher than 420, the Council has contingency plans to expand a neighbouring village school, Duxford Primary School.

Sawston Rural 2

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Sawston Rural 3

What are we doing now?

The Council is exploring the potential for an expansion at The Icknield Primary School, however, timescales for redevelopment will depend on the pace of development across the village.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

As above.

Swavesey Rural and Northstowe

What are we doing now?

The first new primary school at Northstowe, The Pathfinder C of E Primary School, opened in September 2017. The school will ultimately become 3FE/630 places but opened with a reduced PAN. This is in line with the long-standing approach of the Council to ensure that schools in new communities are able to grow in line with the housing development and community which they serve. Plans to convert rooms, previously used as early community space for the new development, into new classrooms have been considered and the work will be completed in the Summer of 2022. From that date, the school will be able to operate at 3FE, if required to.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The delivery of the new town of Northstowe, which has been planned over an extended period, began with the first new residents arriving in spring 2017. Plans are in place for a second Northstowe primary school, that will ultimately become 3FE/630 places, to meet additional demand from the 3,500 homes expected in the second phase of Northstowe's development. An opening date of September 2024 or September 2025 is currently being considered, dependent upon the rate of development of Northstowe Phase 2.

Swavesey Rural 2

What are we doing now?

Several speculative planning applications have been approved with a significant number of new homes anticipated in Papworth over the next three to five years. To meet the increased number of pupils projected from new development, it may be necessary to expand Pendragon Community Primary School. The options for expansion are currently under review, but the timescales are not yet known, and will be determined by the pace of housing development in the village.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

No major housing developments are planned beyond the speculative applications outlined above.

Swavesey Rural 3

What are we doing now?

The Council is currently exploring a range of options to ensure sufficient capacity and to meet the increased demand arising from the housing developments within the village. These

options may include a review of primary school catchments, to ensure any changes do not negatively impact the financial stability of other schools in the area.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

3.8 What are the pressures in the secondary phase? How are we responding?

Cambridge City

The conclusion of a detailed review of demand for secondary education provision in Cambridge City in 2017, was that although there is currently capacity across the city, the impact of the larger primary school cohorts, seen since 2008, mean that there will be a growing shortfall in provision in coming years.

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Delays in the commencement of development at Darwin Green mean that the opening date of the new school (to be run by Cambridge Meridian Academy Trust (CMAT)) required to serve new housing development in the northwest of the City continues to be kept under review. Discussions are underway with CMAT to explore the most effective approach for opening the new school. Ultimately this will be a 6FE school, offering 900 places, but will open with a smaller PAN and grow gradually as the developments are built out and demand for places rises.

East Cambridgeshire

The Local Plan for East Cambridgeshire, which was adopted in 2015, promoted widespread but small pockets of housing development accompanied by a major expansion of Ely (3,900 homes), Soham (1,665 homes) and Littleport (1,447 homes).

A district-wide review of secondary school provision was undertaken to ensure sufficient places are delivered. It concluded that current secondary schools in East Cambridgeshire should be expanded to meet their in-catchment need for places, as and when it arises. This will allow for a more flexible response to the slowly rising demand for places and provide these places at a local school. The Council is yet to implement this strategy as a Wave 12 application for a new 4/5 FE free school in Soham, sponsored by the St Bede's Trust, has been approved by the DfE and is planned to open in September 2024.

A single new school to meet the cumulative demand across East Cambridgeshire is not the Council's favoured approach given the distances involved and the potential impact of a new school on existing schools within the District.

Bottisham, Ely, Soham, Witchford

What are we doing now?

The local demography indicates that there will be a relatively high secondary intake in September 2022. Discussions are taking place with the schools to address this and Bottisham Village College, Ely College, Soham Village College and Witchford Village College have agreed to over-admit if necessary.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Fenland

Specific proposals have been adopted following the district-wide review of secondary school provision in Fenland and these are set out below in the actions section. The review concluded in March 2017. Original decisions were revisited and confirmed in May 2018.

Chatteris, March, Whittlesey, Wisbech

What are we doing now?

A 1FE/150 place expansion of Sir Harry Smith Community College, Whittlesey is likely to be required in the foreseeable future. A feasibility study has been carried out and a scheme included in the Capital Programme, although this is on pause until the rate of local housing developments increases.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Huntingdonshire

HDC's Local Plan sets out the planned development of 21,458 new homes for the District up until 2036; an average of 858 new homes per year. The proposed developments and demographic changes will have a significant impact on secondary provision across Huntingdonshire.

In addition to the new developments, the primary cohorts across the district have been increasing. This is now starting to impact on the demand for secondary places. Most secondary schools are experiencing an increase in pupils, though this is forecast to reach a peak between 2023 and 2025. Many of the secondary schools can accommodate increased numbers, however, when combined with new developments, there is the need for additional

secondary places in Huntingdon. The current pupil projections indicate that there is insufficient capacity at the two secondary schools to meet demand for places within their respective catchment areas in 2022 and then from 2026.

Pupil forecasts will be kept under review as the larger primary cohorts age through, and as the new developments are built. Agreements are in place with local schools to ensure that all pupils can be accommodated until the opening of the new secondary school to serve Alconbury Weald.

Huntingdon

What are we doing now?

Pupil forecasts will be kept under review as the larger primary cohorts age through, and as the new developments are built. Agreements are in place with local schools to ensure that all pupils can be accommodated until the opening of the new secondary school at Alconbury Weald.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The DfE has approved an 8FE/1,200 place secondary school to pre-implementation stage under Wave 11 of the Free School Programme, to serve the new development at Alconbury Weald. The opening date of the school is yet to be agreed by the DfE and is dependent on the housing build out rate and families with children of secondary school age moving into the development. Sawtry Community Academy is providing secondary school places to the early residents and pupil numbers will be closely monitored as the development progresses. Should the new school not be approved to open in 2024 or 2025 there will be the need for additional secondary school places in the area to accommodate Alconbury Weald pupils until the new school is open.

A new development on the outskirts of Huntingdon, known as Ermine Street, will result in the need for additional secondary school places to be provided at either St Peter's School or Hinchingsbrooke School.

Ramsey

What are we doing now?

Abbey College reduced its PAN to 180 to better to reflect demand from in-catchment pupils. The number of pupils in-catchment currently exceeds PAN and is forecast to continue to increase to 9.5FE by 2024, however, a large number of children take their secondary place out of catchment. The condition of the buildings at Abbey College presents additional challenges in offering sufficient places to in-catchment children. The college is currently considering ways to improve to accommodation and the Council is providing support to enable the College with its option appraisal.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Sawtry

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

St Ives

What are we doing now?

The number of secondary-aged children in the St Ivo catchment is rising, however, these children can be accommodated within the school's existing capacity.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

St Neots

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Due to the fall in birth rates in the catchment areas of both Ernulf and Longsands Academies, additional secondary school provision will not be needed to accommodate the additional pupils from the Eastern Expansion. As demographics previously suggested that expansion would be required, a feasibility study was undertaken. The demographics will be kept under review as the developments progress and an expansion of one or both secondary schools will be carried out if required. However, the DfE may approve a free school in the area moving to pre-opening stage. If this takes place, there will be no need to expand either of the existing schools.

Peterborough Rural

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

South Cambridgeshire

The Greater Cambridge Housing Trajectory and Five-Year Land Supply report (2020) states the expectation that around 23,500 new homes will be built in South Cambridgeshire in the period up to 2031. Although the extant South Cambridgeshire Local Plan, alongside the Cambridge City Local Plan, was only adopted in September 2018, a new Local Plan is being drafted with an expected adoption date of 2023.

The major new towns of Northstowe and Waterbeach New Town will be built out over the next fifteen to thirty years. These towns, along with fringe development areas around the City of Cambridge, will be the main determinant for secondary places in South Cambridgeshire in the years ahead.

Comberton and Cambourne

What are we doing now?

Future demand for places will rise steeply once the proposed major development of 2,590 houses to the west of Cambourne, approved in 2017, is built out. In response to this, the Council has identified a need for an additional 4FE/600 places of secondary school provision which will be provided through the expansion of the existing Village College. The completion date for the capital project is September 2023.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Additional demand will also arise from the planned 3,500 home development at Bourn Airfield. The planning for this development is at an early stage. In response, the Council has identified a need for additional secondary school capacity. This may take the form of an annexe site of Comberton Village College. The final pattern and timing of delivery for the additional capacity required will be part of the ongoing pre-application discussions with the developer.

Cottenham and Impington

What are we doing now?

The Council is carefully monitoring data and plans in conjunction with developers in anticipation of the new town at Waterbeach.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

The first homes are expected to be built at Waterbeach New Town in 2022. The development will require at least one new secondary school of at least 8FE/1,200 places. However, further provision may be required dependent upon the extent, and pace, of development. Cottenham Village College has sufficient capacity to accommodate the initial demand.

Linton

What are we doing now?

No actions required.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

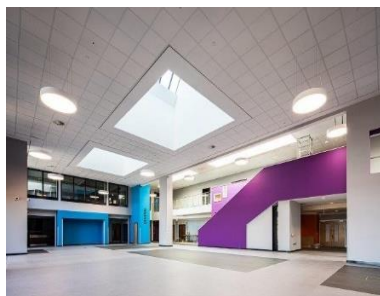
Swavesey

What are we doing now?

To mitigate the anticipated growth in demand as a result of the large number of speculative planning applications within the school's catchment area, the Council is exploring the potential to increase the capacity of Swavesey Village College by a further 1FE/150 places.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

Northstowe Secondary College opened in September 2019 to serve the new town of Northstowe. The school currently has capacity to accommodate 600 pupils but will expand in subsequent phases to be able to accommodate 1,200, and ultimately 1,800 pupils.



New build: Northstowe Secondary College

Sawston

What are we doing now?

An assessment of the growing demand for places, a result of a combination of both larger primary cohorts beginning to reach secondary school age and planned housing development within the catchment area, is underway. Depending on the outcome of this assessment there could be a need to secure additional capacity at Sawston Village College to meet the increase in pupil numbers. Options for achieving this will be discussed with the school should the need be identified. It is unlikely that any action will be required within the current forecast period.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

Bassingbourn and Melbourn

What are we doing now?

An assessment of the impact of increased pupil numbers, and of the options to create additional capacity at the school is underway.

What are the requirements for major new housing developments?

None.

3.9 Useful Links

[Academy and Free School Presumption, DfE Guidance](#)

[Actions for schools during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council Capital Programme: Business Plan \(2020-21 to 2024-25\). See Section 3A, Tables 4 and 5.](#)

[Contingency Framework: Education and childcare settings](#)

[Education Act \(1996\)](#)

[Education Act \(2011\)](#)

[Education and Inspections Act \(2006\)](#)

[First Steps: Admission to Primary School – Cambridgeshire Admissions Guidance](#)

[Learn Together Cambridgeshire website, Guidance and Teaching in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough schools](#)

[Next Steps: Admission to Secondary School – Cambridgeshire Admissions Guidance](#)
[Ofsted](#)

[Youthoria: website for 11-19 year olds in Cambridgeshire](#)

Chapter 4: Post 16 Provision

4.1 What is the national policy?

Education and Skills Act (2008)

The Education and Skills Act (2008) increased the minimum age at which young people in England can leave learning.

Since 2015, young people have been required to continue in learning or training until the age of 18. Raising the participation age has not changed the statutory school leaving age, this remains 16. Young people do not need to stay in school until they are 18; they can choose from one of the following options:

- Full-time education, such as school, college or home education
- Apprenticeships, work-based learning
- Part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering for at least 20 hours a week

Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act (2009)

The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act (2009) set out the commissioning infrastructure and provision of suitable and sufficient learning options.

4.2 What are the Council's responsibilities?

The LA has the duty to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in education or training. It therefore has the responsibility to:

- secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people in the area who are over compulsory school age but under 19 or aged 19 to 25 and for whom an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan is maintained
- secure sufficient education and training for young people who wish to travel into their area to learn
- encourage diversity and increase choice for young people in the type of education and training available, including apprenticeships, full and part-time academic and vocational courses and access to the 'core entitlement' of Mathematics, English and ICT
- secure sufficient suitable education and training for young people subject to youth detention

4.3 What types of provision are available?

The post-16 offer, which covers a wide range of content and qualifications, is delivered in Cambridgeshire by a range of providers including:

- sixth form colleges
- further education colleges
- academies with a 6th form
- specific vocational skills centres at a number of schools and colleges

- maintained and private special schools for young people with SEND whose needs cannot be met within the range of support or specially resourced provision offered by mainstream providers
- independent schools
- independent private providers
- apprenticeship providers

Huntingdonshire Regional College merged with Cambridge Regional College on 1st August 2017. The merger combined the strengths of both colleges, providing a range of courses including post-GCSE programmes, further education qualifications and some higher education courses.

Effective from September 2020, T Levels are gradually being rolled out as new post-16 qualifications. These are equivalent to 3 A levels and are two-year courses developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work, further training or study.

T Levels offer students a mixture of classroom learning and ‘on-the-job’ experience during an industry placement of at least 315 hours (approximately 45 days).

Cambridge Regional College will offer Digital Business Services and Education and Childcare route T levels from 2021. Cambridge Academy of Science and Technology is planning to offer the Health and Science route T level from 2022.

4.4 How do we identify pressures?

In 2019/20, the Council’s Research Team, in conjunction with commissioning and delivery partners, undertook a county-wide review of post-16 provision in response to forecast growth in the numbers of 16- and 17-year olds. The review was predicated on the principle that there is little, or no likelihood of any capital funding sources being made available by central government to support expansion. Therefore, the focus was necessarily on collaborative approaches within the sector to provide solutions which make use of and/or re-configure the existing capacity for expansion locally, where appropriate, and avoid duplication.

Modelling demand for post-16 provision is particularly challenging because of:

- the different types of provision (academic and vocational)
- the variety of providers; and
- the travel to learn culture which characterises this sector particularly in the City and South Cambridgeshire where most secondary schools provide only for the 11 to 16 age range

The review concluded that the combination of planned new provision (Alconbury Weald, Cambourne and Northstowe) and proposals put forward by the sector during the review, are sufficient to expand the supply of post 16 places to meet the forecast demand across the County and will also continue to provide some market flexibility.

Population Forecasts

The Council's current population model takes account of all relevant demographic trends (including international and national migration, change in birth-rate). The model also includes all future housing development plans, based on each of the published District Council's house building trajectories.

The 2015 mid-year-based forecasting run of the population model was used to provide the baseline numbers for young people aged 16+.

Post-16 Options

In order to understand demand for post-16 education satisfactorily, information is needed about the proportion of young people opting into different types of education or training settings and their geographical movement around the county (as well as possible movements in and out of county).

For this information, the results of the annual post-16 options surveys carried out by the Council in 2016, 2017 and 2018 were used. The surveys were conducted during the autumn, following-up with the previous summer's school leavers, and are used for performance monitoring on issues such as young people being 'NEET' (Not in Education, Employment or Training).

The Cambridgeshire surveys provide each school leaver's origin institution and post-16 destination by institution name, type and level of course. This allows for the analysis of movements between different geographical areas.

4.5 How do we commission post-16 places?

In recent years, the role of the Council, with regard to post-16 provision, has moved away from being the commissioner of learner places, to working with schools and colleges in an influencing role, with a strategic overview of provision and needs. The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority has a Skills Committee to oversee strategies and programmes to ensure local provision meets the needs of local learners and employers, in line with labour market and local economic needs.

The Council recognises that the providers of post-16 education and training, including general further education colleges, sixth form colleges and school sixth forms, are autonomous institutions which determine their own curriculum and are able to attract students within a

free market. Likewise, providers recognise the statutory responsibility placed on LAs to secure sufficient suitable education and training opportunities to meet the reasonable needs of all young people in their area. Each provider is responsible for delivering a high-quality learning experience promoting young people’s successful progression to 19 and beyond in the light of current legislation, including the raising of the participation age to 18.

The Council is committed to ensuring that the needs of all Cambridgeshire’s young people are met, while recognising that post-16 education and training provision is ultimately determined by learner choice. This requires cooperation and collaboration between all parties. Across the county, there have historically been three geographically focused commissioning partnerships: Cambridge Area Partnership, covering the areas of Cambridge City, South and East Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and Fenland. These geographic areas are used below.

4.6 What are the pressures? How are we responding?

Demand

Cambridgeshire has been a rapidly growing county and many places are expected to experience continued high levels of housebuilding in the near future. Past growth, in the last ten years, and future growth serve to increase the post-16 population by a range of +14% (Fenland) and +40.5% (East Cambridgeshire) over the next 18 years.

District	Forecast Increase in Post-16 numbers 2018-2036	Percentage increase in Post-16 numbers 2018-36
Cambridge City	861	28.0%
East Cambridgeshire	705	40.5%
Fenland	327	14.4%
Huntingdonshire	800	20.0%
South Cambridgeshire	1,208	34.4%
Total:	3,901	

In the short to medium term, over the period 2020-2025, we see the following forecast:

District	Forecast Increase in Post-16 numbers 2020-2025	Percentage increase in Post-16 numbers 2020-25
Cambridge City	700	23.1%
East Cambridgeshire	392	20.6%
Fenland	292	13.5%
Huntingdonshire	512	13.2%
South Cambridgeshire	610	16.4%
Total:	2,506	17.1%

There are, therefore, forecast to be approximately 2,500 more 17- and 18-year olds in education and training across Cambridgeshire by 2025, an increase of around 17%.

There is expected to be a significant period of house-building in the Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire area during the period 2021 to 2031 on large sites such as Waterbeach, Northstowe and Cambourne West. Beyond 2031 development growth is assumed to return to longer-term averages for the area.

Supply

Summary tables of what the review found for theoretical capacity at sixth form and FE settings across the county, as of summer 2019, are given below. It can be seen that places available across both types of settings are sufficient to respond to the demand outlined above in the medium term at least, through to 2025. Patterns of take-up for sixth form and FE settings and plans for expansion at specific institutions are described in the area commentaries below.

Post-16 Capacity Figures, Sixth Form, Year 12 only

District	Current Theoretical* Capacity (Summer 2019)	Planned change** to Future Capacity	Notes
Cambridge / South Cambridgeshire	3,905	+345	+ 175 at Cambourne in 2023/24. +200 Northstowe 2024/25, -30 places at Cottenham (2020/21)
East Cambridgeshire	150	-	No changes indicated
Fenland	345	-	No changes indicated
Huntingdonshire	1,013	+175	+175 at Alconbury in 2026.

Post-16 Capacity Figures, FE College, Year 12 only.

District	Current Theoretical* Capacity (Summer 2019)	Planned Change** to Future Capacity	Notes
Cambridge / South Cambridgeshire	1,600	1,600	2019 includes +250 flex at CRC Cambridge site
East Cambridgeshire	0	0	There is no existing FE provision in East Cambridgeshire
Fenland	415	415	No change indicated
Huntingdonshire	700	700	2019 includes +425 flex at CRC Huntingdon site; 100 per year at IMET

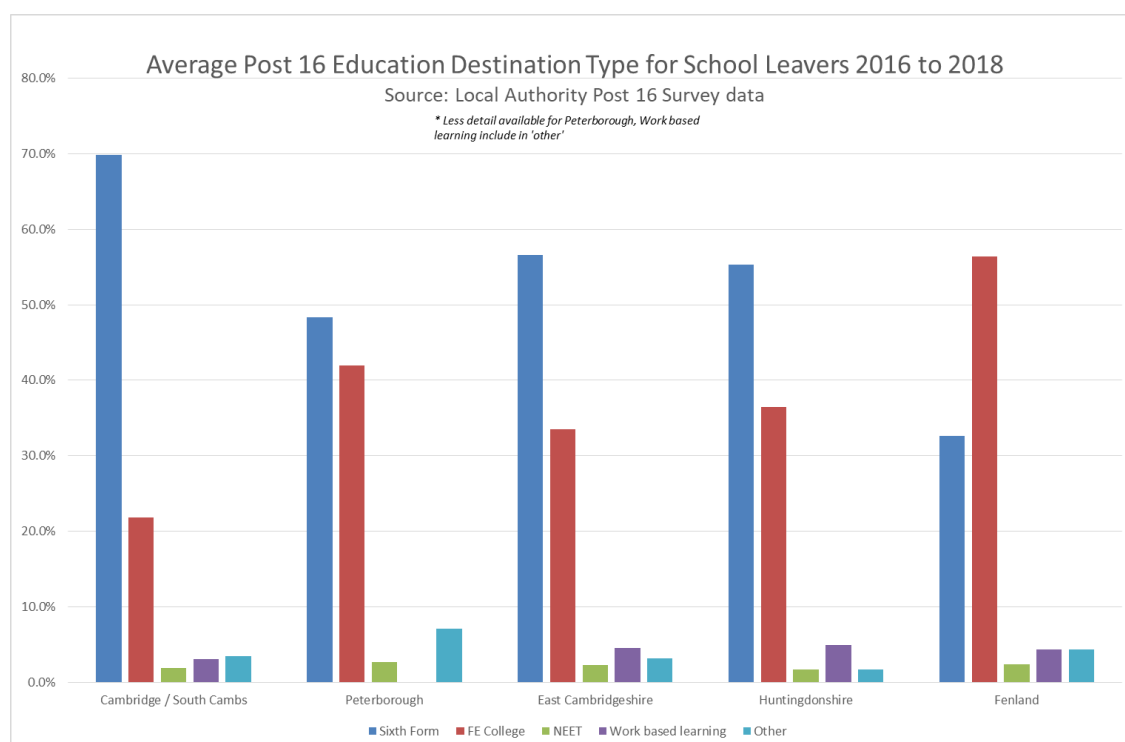
* Theoretical capacity reflects the number of physical places that could be available without building ('bricks and mortar') additional spaces and includes, the flexible use of sites / facilities in the event of future demand where known. Figures shown are for single year group, Year 12 only to align with forecasting model outputs.

** Planned Change to Future Capacity only includes fully committed projects to build ('bricks and mortar') additional capacity

Post-16 Learning Preferences

Learners' different patterns of preference for education or training settings or types of post-16 learning can be seen across the county. The review data showed that the post-16 options for Fenland and for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire were substantially different compared to other areas. Fenland was the only district where the majority of school leavers go on to an FE college rather than sixth form. For Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire, the opposite was true, with almost 70% of school leavers going on to sixth form. All other districts have a broadly similar pattern with slightly more school leavers going to sixth form compared to an FE college.

Travel to learn and options patterns are the part of the future forecasting model that is most vulnerable to change overtime. Previous pupil forecasting experience has shown that over an extended period of time (in the case of this modelling - fifteen years), there will be variation in the offer and popularity of different institutions. For the purposes of this review, the average of the last three years for the options/movement of young people has been used as a constant in the demand forecasting model.



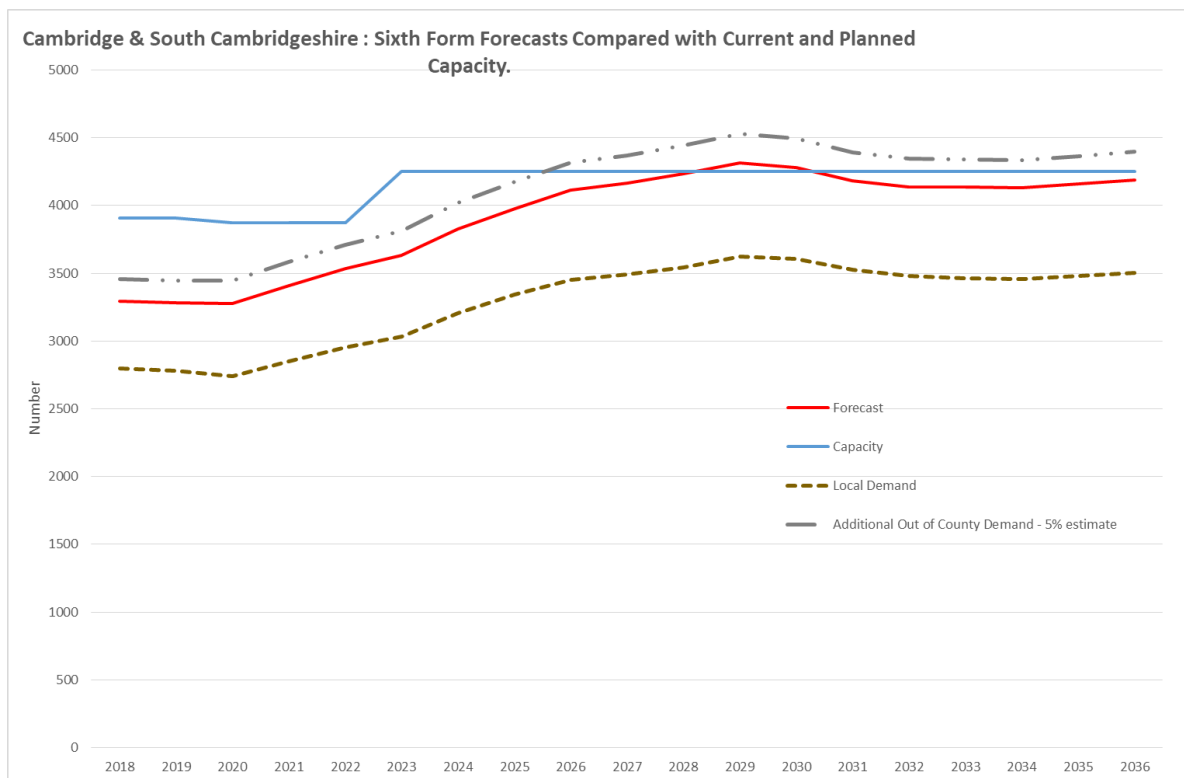
Cambridge Area (Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire)

Sixth form demand and capacity

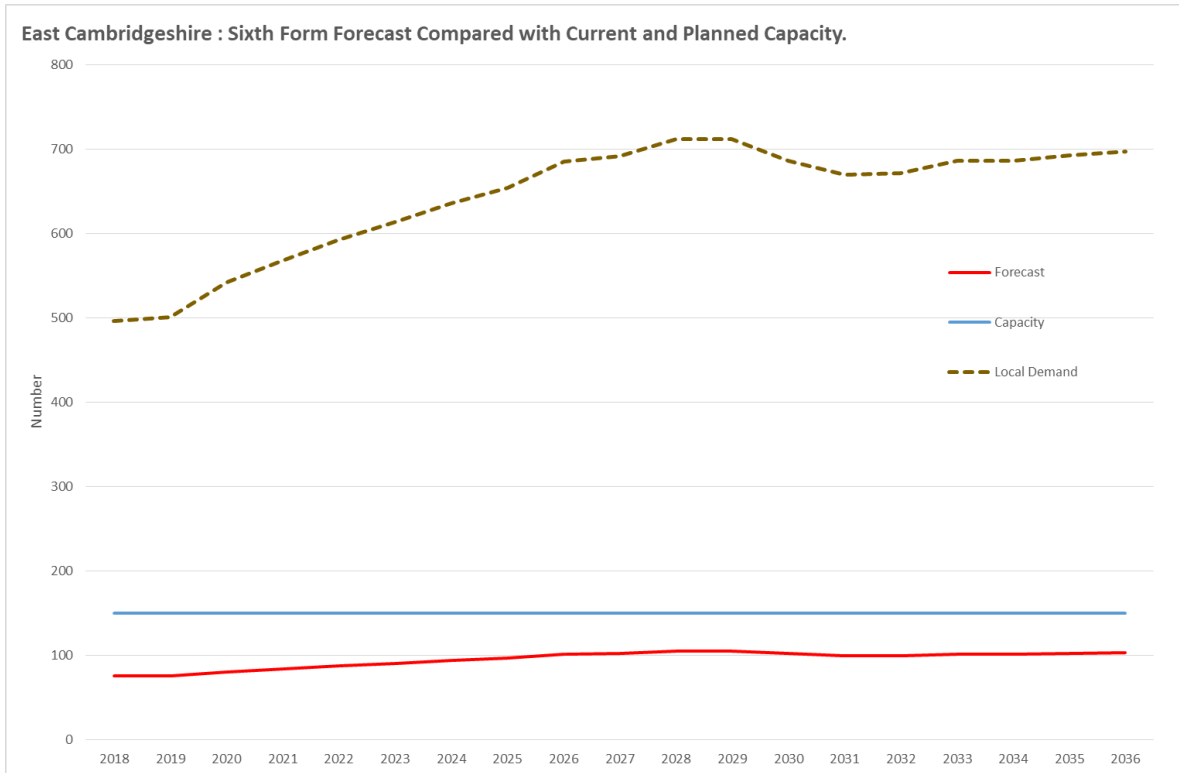
The recent post-16 review found that the average annual cohort size across Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire attending sixth forms or sixth form college provision in the period

2016-18 was 1,880. In East Cambridgeshire the average cohort was 260. Of those resident in the City and South Cambridgeshire and opting for sixth form provision, 97.9% of the cohort continued at settings in those districts. Of those from East Cambridgeshire, 11.4% took up provision within the district while 87.3% travelled to settings in Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire and under 1% went to 6th form studies outside the county.

The chart below shows sixth form forecasts for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire compared with current and planned capacity. While the dashed green line shows local demand, the dashed-dotted green line adds a 5% estimated demand for places from young people coming into the area from outside the county.



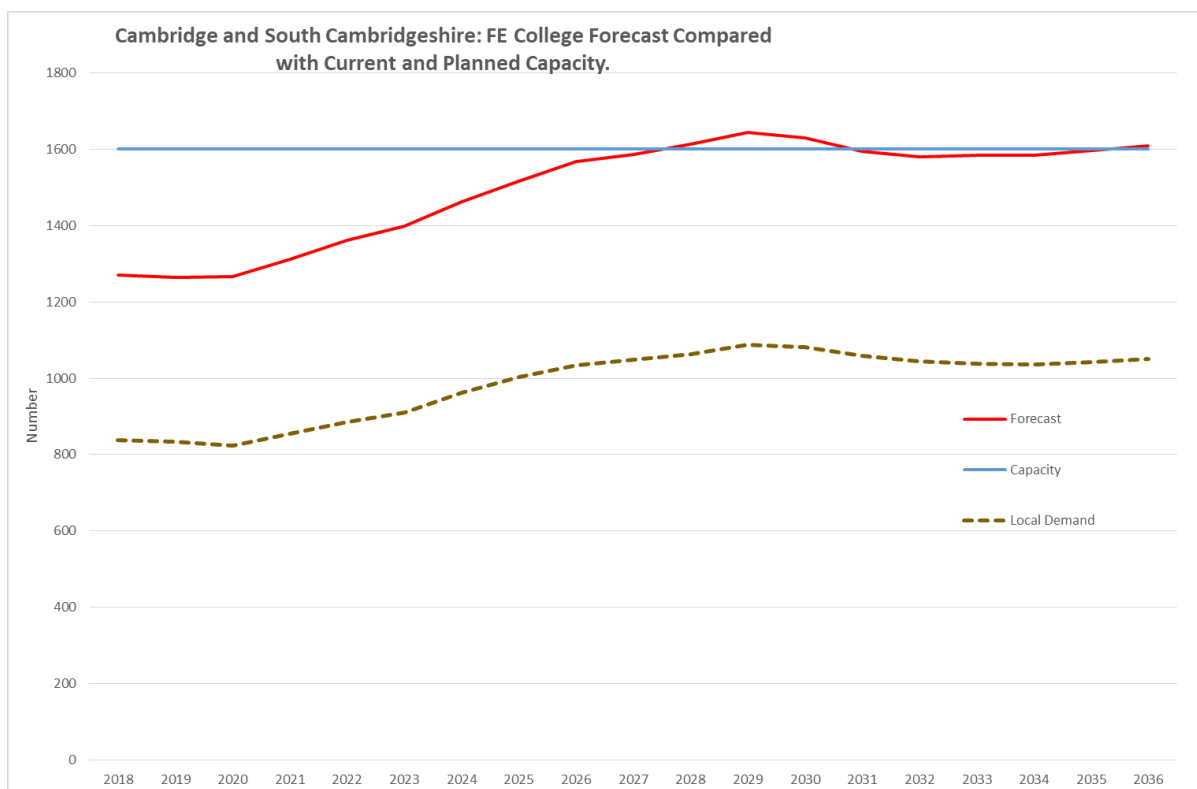
The sixth form forecast of demand as against current and planned capacity in East Cambridgeshire is shown below:



FE demand and capacity

The average annual cohort size across Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire attending FE college provision in the period 2016-18 was 590. In East Cambridgeshire the average cohort was 160. Of those resident in the City and South Cambridgeshire and opting for FE courses, 87.5% of the cohort continued at settings in those districts; 11% went to colleges and settings outside the county and 2.8% went to settings elsewhere across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Of those from East Cambridgeshire, where there is no general FE college, 77.7% travelled to settings in Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire, 23.5% went out of county and just under 1% went to other settings across Cambridgeshire.

The chart below shows forecast FE demand for Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire compared with current and planned capacity.



Cambridge Area (Cambridge City, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire)

What are we doing now?

The review has found that there are plans underway and further opportunities to create additional sixth form places in Cambridge.

- The Oakes Sixth Form at The Netherhall School, operated by the Anglian Learning Trust, is planning to bring a further 100 places on stream from 2022/23, primarily for A levels and BTecs.
- Parkside Community College is a secondary school with a 200 place sixth form comprising a 150 place International Baccalaureate (IB) programme and 50 places currently focused on diploma courses. From 2021 European Union (EU) funding will no longer be available to students from the EU so it is expected that this will free a number of places for local students.
- Long Road Sixth Form College has a large site and could extend to provide additional capacity; potentially over 1,000 places. The college is looking to obtain planning permission to extend. Current provision focuses mainly on A levels, some applied qualifications at Level 3 and some alternative Level 2 courses. It is exploring the introduction of T levels and Level 2 transition courses.
- Hills Road Sixth Form College does not have the space to expand much further than possibly around another 50 places, if needed. However, it is interested in collaborating with others to provide additional specialist capacity in other parts of the county, e.g. the north and east, as necessary.

- In September 2023, The Learning Alliance will open The Cambridge Maths School, a specialist 16-19 mathematics college which will draw students from across the east of England. Starting with 100 places in Year 12, the school will have a full capacity of 200 places from September 2024.
- Cambridge Regional College, an FE college, operates two main campus sites, one in Cambridge and the other in Huntingdon. The college currently has around 2,700 students studying a wide a wide range of vocational course options, including BTec and Apprenticeships from entry up to Levels 4 and 5. The college aims to begin delivery of T Levels from 2023. The college has significant options to expand places rapidly, should they be required, with around another 500 places potentially available.
- The Eastern Learning Alliance have aspirations to change the age range of Chesterton Community College from 11-16, to 11-18 and to open a Sixth Form on site from September 2022.

In South Cambridgeshire, partners also have significant plans for post-16 development:

- Impington Village College has a sixth form of 100 places, offering BTec and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses. As EU funding was removed from the IB courses effective from September 2021, approximately 30 places have become available for local students. The Learning Alliance, which took over sponsorship of the college from September 2020, also aspires to offer a further 50 Level 1 and 2 course places across the Multi-Academy Trust.
- Cambourne Village College, currently an 11-16 school, is looking to establish a sixth form with 350 places. The intention is for this to be available to the first students from September 2023, with a range of A level and BTec courses offered.
- Northstowe Secondary College also has a future sixth form planned. From September 2024 it intends to open the first 100 places of a 400 place sixth form, again offering a wide range of A level and vocational courses.

In East Cambridgeshire:

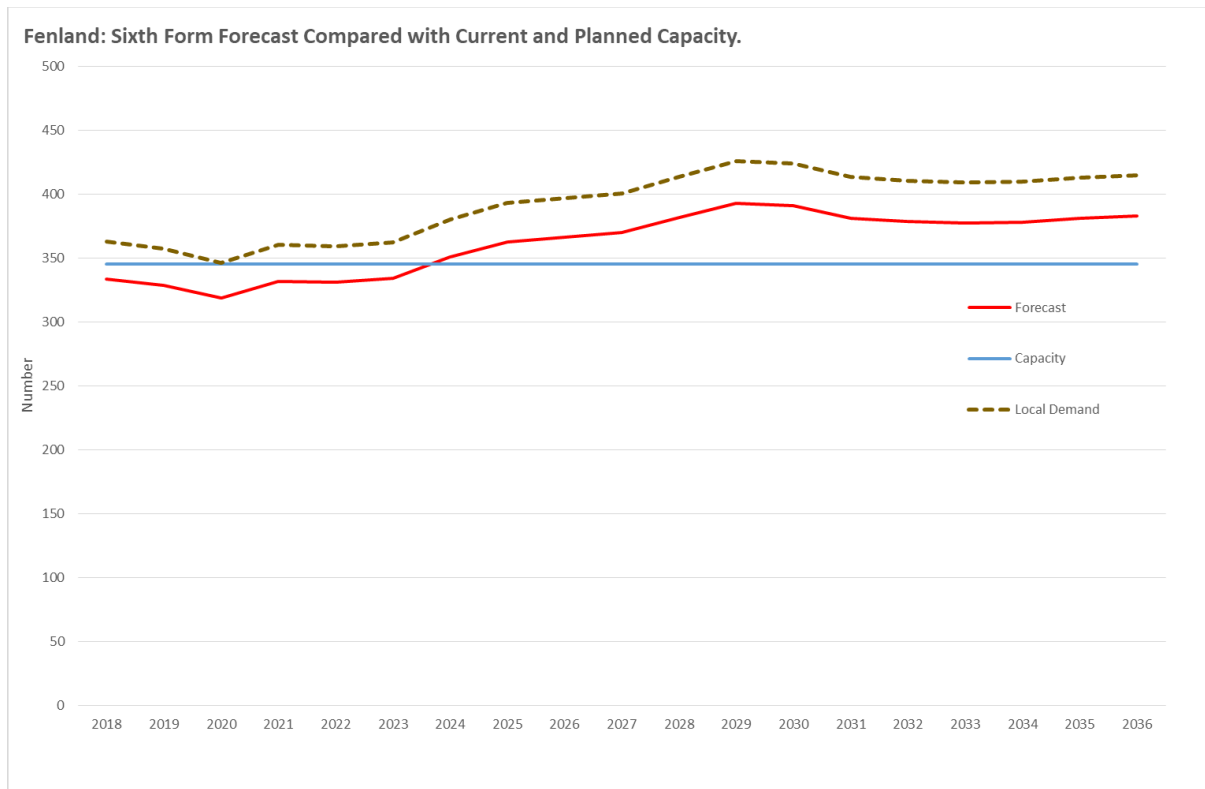
- Bishop Laney Sixth Form at Ely College intends to have 500 places available by September 2023, offering Level 2 and 3 courses along with A levels.

Fenland

Sixth form demand and capacity

The review found that the average annual cohort size of Fenland residents attending sixth forms or sixth form college provision in the period 2016-18 was 290. Of those opting for sixth form provision, 87.9% of the cohort continued at settings in Fenland, 7.1% travelled to Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire, 1.5% travelled to Peterborough or Huntingdonshire respectively and 0.6% took up a place in East Cambridgeshire.

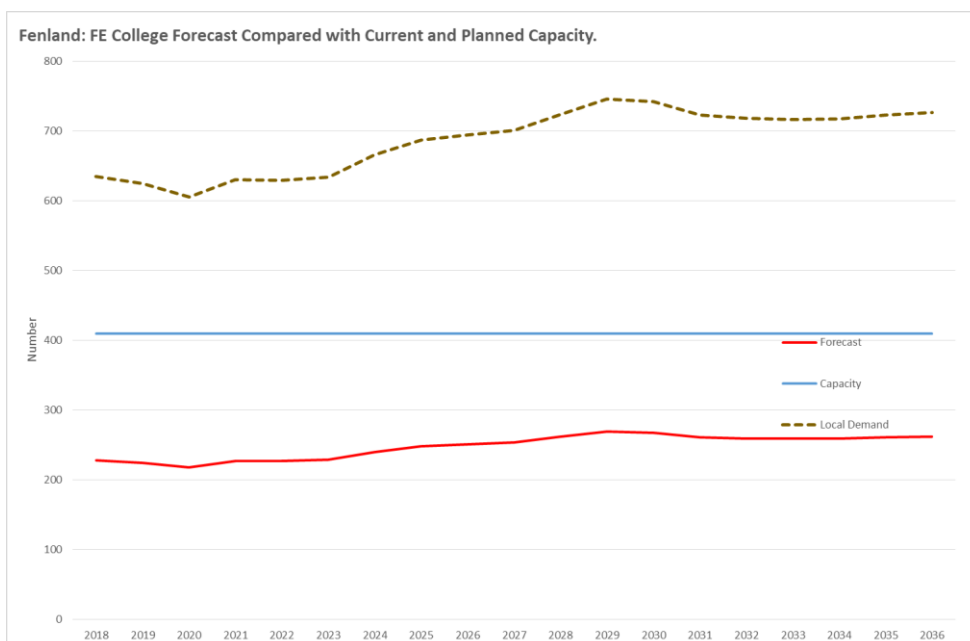
The chart below shows sixth form forecasts for Fenland compared with current and planned capacity.



FE demand and capacity

The average annual cohort size in Fenland attending FE college provision in the period 2016-18 was 490. Of those resident in Fenland and opting for FE courses, 39.2% went to colleges and settings in Peterborough, 34.0% of the cohort continued at settings within Fenland; 15.9% went out of county, 5.8% travelled to Huntingdonshire and 4.9% went to settings in Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire.

The chart below shows FE forecasts for Fenland compared with current and planned capacity.



What are we doing now?

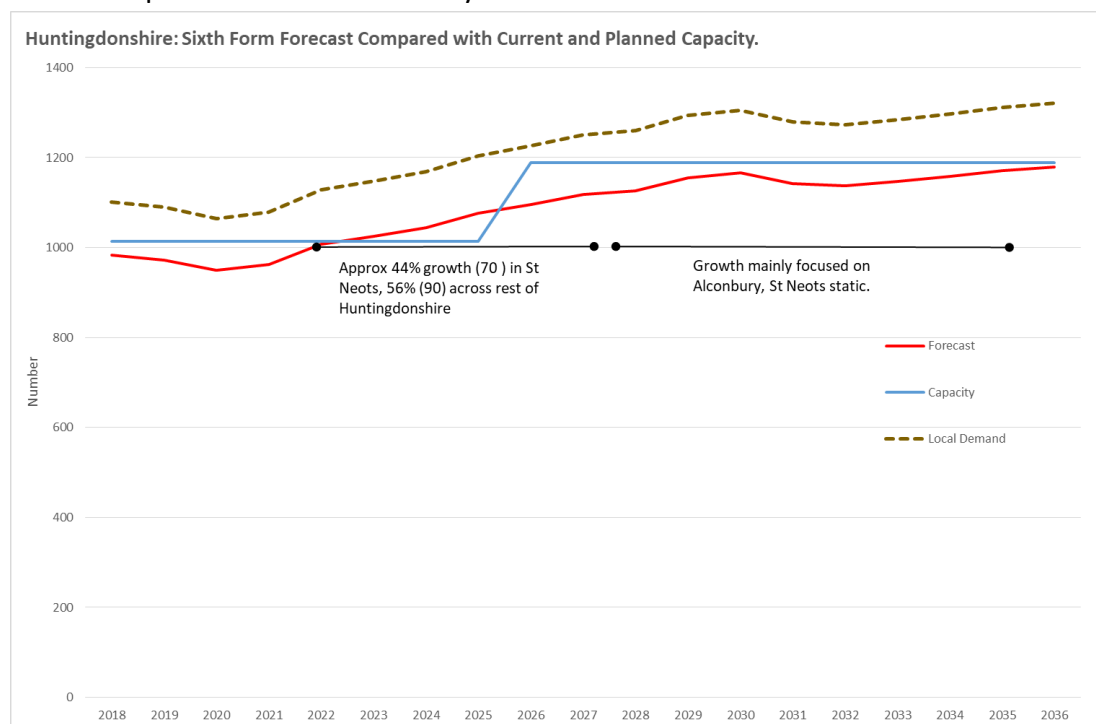
There is no requirement for further expansion in terms of place sufficiency, though Sir Harry Smith Secondary School, part of the Aspire Trust in Whittlesey is understood to be exploring a potential expansion of sixth form capacity in line with a 1FE expansion of its 11-16 places.

Huntingdonshire

Sixth form demand and capacity

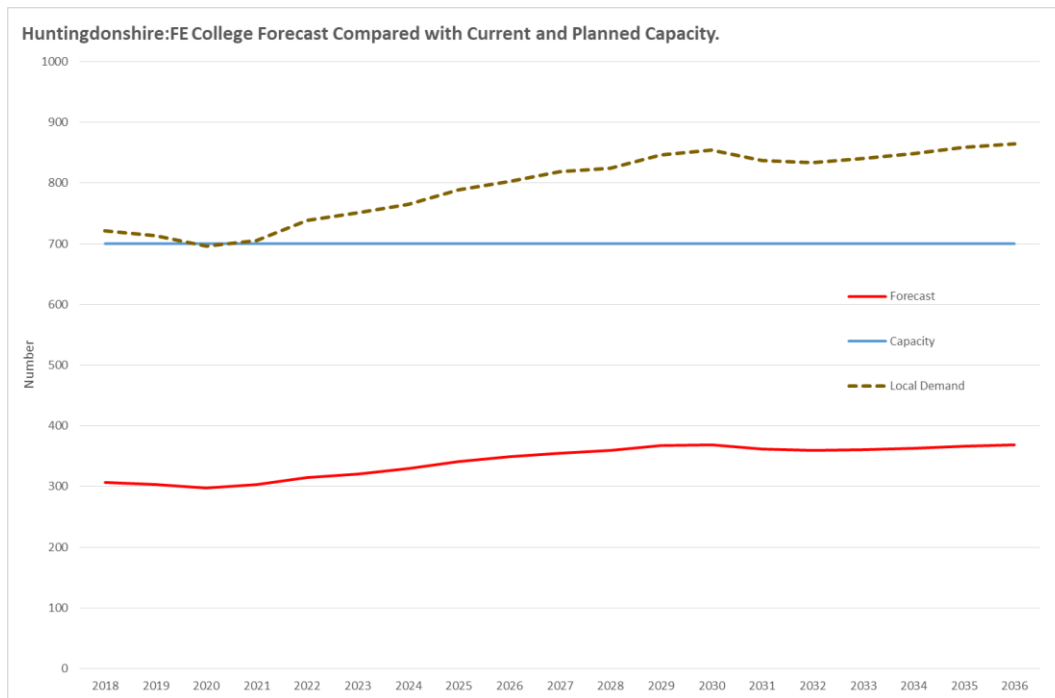
The review found that the average annual cohort size of Huntingdonshire residents attending sixth forms or sixth form college provision in the period 2016-18 was 860. Of those opting for sixth form provision, 88% of the cohort continued at settings in the district, 9% travelled to Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire, 1.7% travelled to Peterborough and 0.3% took up a place in Fenland.

The chart below shows sixth form forecasts for Huntingdonshire compared with current and planned capacity, with particular reference to the effects of population growth at St Neots Eastern Expansion and at Alconbury Weald.



FE demand and capacity

The average annual cohort size of Huntingdonshire residents attending FE college provision in the period 2016-18 was 570. Of those, 32.2% went to colleges and settings in Cambridge City or South Cambridgeshire, 28.1% remained at settings within the district, 20.1% went to Peterborough, 17.3% went to settings outside Cambridgeshire, e.g. to Bedford, and 0.4% of the cohort took up a place in Fenland. The chart below shows FE forecasts for Huntingdonshire compared with current and planned capacity.



What are we doing now?

Partners have reported capacity within existing provision and in anticipation of new housing development areas within Huntingdonshire:

- At the main Cambridge Regional College (CRC) campus in Huntingdon, there is theoretical capacity for 1,200 places. A significant proportion of this capacity is not needed currently.
- CRC also collaborates with Peterborough Regional College to deliver advanced technical training courses at the iMET centre on the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus. This 200-place facility opened in summer 2018 with help from the Local Growth Fund via the Combined Authority for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is addressing an identified need to deliver higher-level training for the manufacturing, built environment and science & technology sectors.
- Also, at Alconbury Weald, plans are in place to open a new secondary school with sixth form, sponsored by the Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust (DEMAT) to provide for the needs arising from new housing developments. The sixth form would have an approximate capacity of 380 places.
- Sawtry Village Academy has refurbished its sixth form centre, and this has capacity for more than 150 places.

4.7 Useful Links

[Actions for FE colleges and providers during the coronavirus outbreak](#)

[Apprenticeships](#)

[Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act \(2009\)](#)

[Contingency Framework: Education and childcare settings](#)

[Education and Skills Act \(2008\)](#)

[Education Transport for young people post-16](#)

[Learn Together Cambridgeshire website: Guidance and Teaching in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough schools](#)

[Ofsted](#)

[T Levels: a guide to their introduction](#)

[UCAS: admissions to further education and sixth form colleges](#)

[Youthoria: website for 11-19 year olds in Cambridgeshire](#)

Chapter 5: Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

5.1 What is the national policy?

Children and Families Act (2014)

The Children and Families Act (2014) aims to ensure that all children, young people and their families are able to access the right support and provision to meet their needs. The Act outlines the Code of Practice for children and young people with SEND.

Special Educational Needs Code of Practice (2015)

The Code of Practice sets out a general presumption of mainstream education for children with SEND. In addition, it states parents of children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and young people with such a Plan have the right to seek a place at a special school, special post-16 institution or a specialist college.

Other key pieces of legislation which are used to guide practice include:

- Mental Capacity Act (2005)
- Equalities Act (2010)
- Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018)
- Care Act (2014)
- NHS Five Year Forward View (2014)
- Think Autism: an update to the Department of Health strategy (2014)
- Transforming Care - Building the right support (2015)

5.2 What are the Council's responsibilities?

Section 14 of the Education Act (1996) places LAs under a general duty to provide a school place for every child living in their area of responsibility, irrespective of their needs. This may be in mainstream or specialist provision.

Health services, the LA and their partners are required to:

- include children, young people and their parents/carers in decision-making at individual and strategic level
- work cooperatively together both at a strategic level when developing, buying and managing services and also at an individual level when agreeing support to families including the production of EHCPs for children and young people

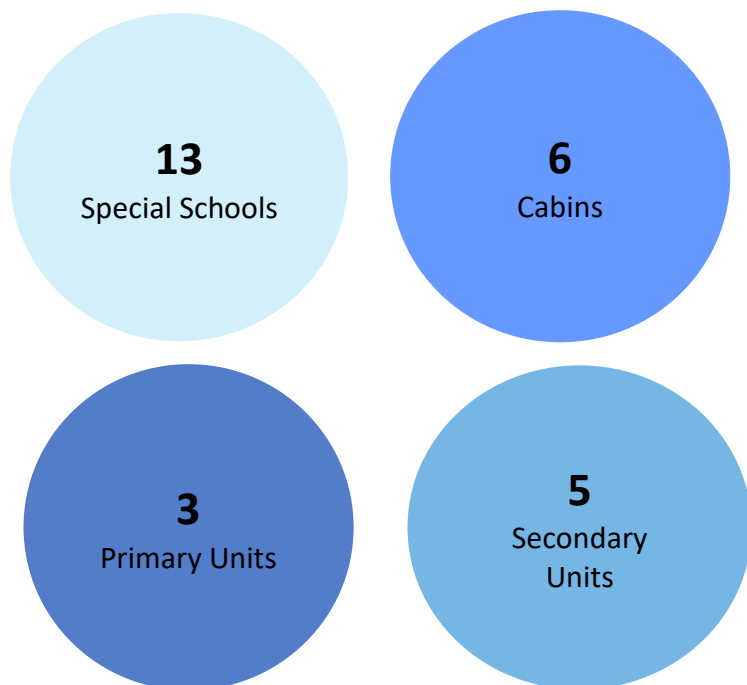
The Children and Families Act (2014) also places a duty on every LA to publish a Local Offer, setting out in one place information on the provision they expect to be available in their area for children and young people aged between 0 and 25 who have SEND.

5.3 What types of provision are available?

The Council is committed to inclusion and will endeavour to support children in mainstream schools wherever possible. However, for those children and young people for whom

mainstream is not considered appropriate, there are a number of specialist education providers in the county.

Specialist Education Providers in Cambridgeshire as of 1 September 2021



5.4 How has the COVID-19 pandemic affected SEND provision?

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on SEND provision. Whilst settings were open to vulnerable pupils, many were only able to offer reduced timetables with limited space and staffing and the requirement to maintain small, consistent groups ('bubbles').

Whilst restrictions have now been lifted, and children and young people able to return to education full-time, it is acknowledged that the situation is ever-changing and needs to be monitored closely. The government have made it clear that should further restrictions be required, these should only be considered as a last resort, kept to the minimum number of settings or groups, and for the shortest amount of time possible.

The effects of COVID-19 on place planning are not yet known. The number of applications for an Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment has increased. Data will therefore need to be monitored carefully as we enter this period of recovery to fully understand any changes as a result of the pandemic.

5.5 How do we identify pressures?

National Statistics

The DfE publishes national statistics on an annual basis. These are collated using the information provided as part of the school census on pupils with SEND and SEND provision in schools. This provides further analysis by primary type of need, and the trends over time.

Forecast Information

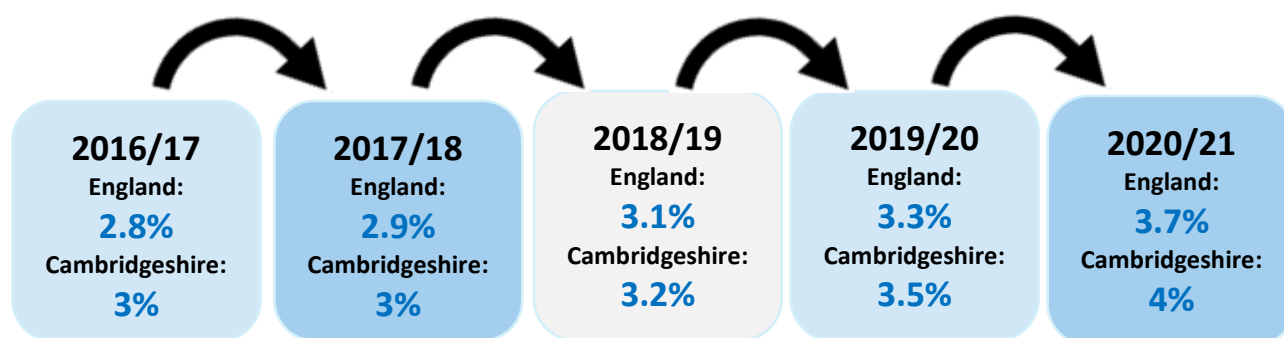
Projections of SEND need are calculated based on a standard formula using data from the last four years. These provide a snapshot of possible trends and pressures for the future. This method places most focus on areas where there is growth or turbulence beyond what might be expected from population increase and where a clear strategy is required to ensure that needs can be met.

5.6 How has this changed over time?

Nationally, the percentage of pupils with an EHCP has increased to 3.7%, continuing a trend of increases since 2017. The percentage of pupils with SEN but no EHCP has also increased slightly, from 12.1% to 12.2% (DfE, July 2021).

In Cambridgeshire, 4% of children and young people currently have an EHCP. This is slightly higher than the national average.

Percentage of pupils with EHC Plans / Statements of SEN



5.7 How do we commission places for pupils with SEND?

The Children and Families Act (2014) states that LAs must integrate educational provision and training provision with health and social care provision, where it promotes well-being and improves the quality of provision for children or young people with SEND.

LAs and NHS clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) must make joint commissioning arrangements for education for children and young people aged 0 to 25 with SEND. Joint commissioning may involve services that we already run or buying services from other organisations. Reviewing and monitoring of services is ongoing and involves service users and providers.

5.8 What are the pressures? How are we responding?

The growth in the number of pupils with SEND, and with an EHCP means that additional places will be required across the 0 to 25 age range. In the next five years, this is likely to have the greatest impact on the secondary sector and potentially post-16 due to the Council's responsibility under the Children and Families Act to ensure provision for young people with special educational needs and disabilities up to the age of 25. A cross-Directorate working group has been established to produce and implement an action plan in response to current known need.

The information provided below sets out where in the county additional SEND provision is being developed, or planned, but yet to open. The SEND Capital Plan, published on the Council's website, also includes an allocation of funding towards adaptations to mainstream provision. Where this is considered to be necessary, an assessment based on the child's individual requirements is carried out. The request is then taken to a county panel to be discussed and approved on a case-by-case basis.

Cambridge City

What are the current pressures?

The Castle School is an Area Special School for children and young people aged 2 to 19. The school is currently operating at capacity and is unable to respond to requests for places from families living in the local area.

How are we responding?

In 2019, a project to reconfigure existing space at The Castle School to create a room suitable for early years was completed. This means the school has increased its capacity by 10 places.

East Cambridgeshire

What are the current pressures?

There is increasing demand for provision for pupils with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. The Harbour School, Wilburton, provides education for boys with SEMH needs but with limited capacity.

How are we responding?

A small scheme is planned at The Harbour School, Wilburton, to enable the school to become co-educational and increase its capacity.

Fenland

What are the current pressures?

There has been a significant and growing need for SEMH provision in Wisbech as current provision is in premises deemed unsuitable. As a result, there is a need to relocate and expand existing provision.

How are we responding?

A capital scheme has been identified to co-locate purpose built SEMH provision with a new secondary school in Wisbech. The new secondary school, which has been approved by the DfE to pre-opening stage, will be delivered by the ESFA. The SEMH provision will be delivered by the Council.

Huntingdonshire

What are the current pressures?

Spring Common Academy in Huntingdon is an Area Special School for children aged 2 to 19. An assessment of the school concluded that improvements were required to address issues with the suitability of existing accommodation.

Samuel Pepys School in St Neots is an Area Special School for children and young people aged 2 to 19. The school is currently operating at capacity and is unable to respond to requests for places from families living in the local area.

The Alconbury Weald development is currently underway and is expected to deliver approximately 6,500 homes once complete. Due to the size of the development, it is recognised that there will be increased demand for specialist provision, above that which can be met by existing area special schools.

How are we responding?

Work has been completed at Spring Common Academy to address issues with suitability and condition of the school's accommodation. This is due for completion this year.

A project to expand Samuel Pepys School has been identified within the Council's Capital Programme. This will address the current issues with the suitability of accommodation and enable the school to offer a further 63 places. The project is due for completion in September 2023.

An Area Special School will also be built as part of the Alconbury Weald development. The new school, to be known as Prestley Wood, will cater for children aged between 2 and 19. In total, this school will have 150 places and will be run by the Spring Common Academy Trust

following their successful application to the presumption competition run by the Council in 2017.

South Cambridgeshire

What are the current pressures?

Northstowe is a new town being developed on the site of RAF Oakington. On completion, it is expected to have approximately 10,000 homes. Due to the size of the development, it is recognised that there will be increased demand for specialist provision above that which can be met by existing area special schools.

There is also an identified shortfall in provision for students with autistic spectrum disorders (ASD).

How are we responding?

A new area special school, The Martin Bacon Academy, opened on the Northstowe site in 2020. This school has capacity for 110 pupils aged 2 to 19, with a large proportion of those expected to be residents of the new town.

The Cavendish School, opened in September 2021, providing education for up to 80 children aged between 8 and 19 years of age, with a primary diagnosis of Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). It is co-located with Impington Village College.



New Build: The Martin Bacon Academy

5.9 Useful Links

[Cambridgeshire County Council Capital Programme: Business Plan \(2020-21 to 2024-25\). See Section 3A, Tables 4 and 5.](#)

[Cambridgeshire County Council's SEND offer: 'the local offer'](#)

[Care Act \(2014\)](#)

[Children and Families Act \(2014\)](#)

[Contingency Framework: Education and Childcare Settings](#)

[Equalities Act \(2010\)](#)

[Learn Together Cambridgeshire website: Guidance and Teaching in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough schools](#)

[Mental Capacity Act \(2005\)](#)

[Ofsted](#)

[SEND and specialist settings: additional COVID-19 operational guidance \(applies after Step 4\)](#)

[SEND Code of Practice \(2015\)](#)

[SEND Information and Advice Support Service \(SENDIASS\)](#)

[Think Autism: an update to the Department of Health strategy \(2014\)](#)

[Transforming Care - Building the right support \(2015\)](#)

[Working Together to Safeguard Children \(2018\)](#)

Appendix A: Demographic Forecast Methodology

A.1 Analysis of data

The Council's Business Intelligence Team undertakes research and analysis of population data. This includes birth data supplied by the NHS, school census data and the Government's ten-year census. From this data, a range of population and school place forecasts are produced.

A.2 Early Years and Childcare

Future demand for pre-school provision is assessed on the basis of the number of children born in the county each year. Data is obtained from NHS Provide, providing counts of children aged 0 to 4 that are registered with a doctor, by school catchment area and by lower super output area⁹. Translating this information into a pattern of demand for childcare is difficult as families can choose to take up provision close to their workplaces rather than to their home and take up rates for childcare places are different depending on family circumstance. Therefore, the NHS data is only considered together with a broader Childcare Sufficiency Assessment.

A.3 Primary and Secondary Provision

District and County level forecasts are produced once a year. These show the number of pupils forecast to attend schools within each District Council area. The key inputs to the forecasting model are the latest data on actual school rolls (taken from the annual January school census counts) and NHS data, showing the number of 0-4 year olds in each district. The forecasts are based on the assumption that recent trends, generally those in the past three years, will continue over the next ten years. In detail, the assumptions used are as follows:

- 4 year-old pupils: Intake of 4 year-olds into reception classes the following year is projected on the basis of the relationship over the last three years between the numbers of children aged 4 arriving at school and the numbers of births five years earlier – currently an average arrival rate of 96% across Cambridgeshire; however, this varies greatly across districts
- 5-10 year-old pupils: Projected on the basis of the average change in the size of year-groups over the last three years
- 11 year-old pupils: Projected on the basis of the average proportion transferring from the top primary year-group to secondary school over the last three years – currently a transfer rate of 95% averaged across the County. The net loss on transfer mainly represents moves into the private sector

⁹ A Super Output Area (SOA) is a geographical area designed for the collection and publication of small area statistics. It is used on the Neighborhood Statistics site and has a wider application throughout national statistics. SOAs give an improved basis for comparison throughout the country because the units are more similar in size of population than, for example, electoral wards. Further information can be found at: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/geography/beginner-s-guide/census/super-output-areas--soas-/index.html>

- 12-15 year-old pupils: Projected on the basis of the average change in the size of year-groups over the last three years.

While the District and County-level forecasts of pupil numbers are the most robust for planning future provision at a strategic level, they do not give sufficient geographical detail to enable planning at a local level or to assist individual schools with their plans. Therefore, two other kinds of pupil forecasts for existing schools and communities are produced, these are:

- Future pupil numbers, determined by the school they are forecast to attend (trend based)
- Future pupil numbers, determined by catchment areas (catchment based)

Individual (trend based) forecast

Individual (trend based) school forecasts are produced once a year. These forecasts apply recent trends of parental preference, as well as taking current catchment numbers into account. These forecasts are primarily used to support individual schools' budgetary and organisational planning.

Catchment area forecast

For strategic planning purposes, catchment area forecasts are produced. These forecasts take full account of all pupils living within each primary school catchment area and are not limited by the capacity at any school. These forecasts make no assumptions about which school pupils will go to; therefore, they do not attempt to model the impact of parental preference. Experience has shown that parental preference can change dramatically over relatively short periods of time. The catchment forecasts also follow a trend-based approach, specifically:

- Numbers of 4 year olds living in each catchment and attending a school are forecast on the basis of the relationship between the numbers of children recorded as living in the catchment in the NHS GP Registration data and the numbers attending maintained schools and living in each area (as shown by the January school census) over the previous three years.
- Year-groups are assumed to progress through the school phases, within the same catchment area, adjusted for the average net gains and losses experienced within those areas over the past three years.

This approach provides a sound basis for ensuring that the overriding statutory duty to provide a school place for all pupils whose parents want them educated in the state-funded sector is met. It is particularly effective when considering not just capacity and demand for places at individual schools, but those within geographical areas, enabling effective utilisation of resources. Using this approach, and not looking specifically at demand and capacity of individual schools, also means it is possible to make allowances for parental preference.

The Council is able to collate data about parental preference from admission applications. The annual school census can also be used to show where children are not attending their

catchment school. In combination with other information gathered, this provides a means of assessing patterns of parental preference. Although patterns of parental preference can, and often do, change on a regular basis, it is important that due consideration is given to promoting choice during reviews of education provision.

Whilst accepting the rights of parents to express a preference for a school place, this is considered to be secondary to the Council's duty to secure sufficient school places. This is especially important in terms of making efficient use of limited capital resources. However, where pressures are identified, due consideration is given to parental preference in determining solutions to providing additional capacity.

A.4 Local Population Forecasts and Estimates

The Council's Business Intelligence team produces local population estimates and forecasts. The current forecasts start from a base year of 2015 derived from the Council's mid-2015 population estimates. These population forecasts are 'policy-led', so that they are consistent with planned levels of house building between 2015 and 2036. The 2015-based population forecasts are mainly based on the 2015 housing trajectories, with some interpolation and extrapolation by the Council.

The Council uses POPGROUP¹⁰ to produce its population forecasts. The forecasts are produced by ageing forward the population by sex and single year of age, year by year, from 2015 to 2036 in the 2015-based population forecasts. Population change is forecast by allowing for the main components of population change: births and deaths (which together give natural change), and migration. This is the standard population forecasting methodology, as used by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).

Births are forecast by applying age-specific fertility rates to the numbers of women of child-bearing age in the local population. The forecast age-specific fertility rates used in the model to produce the 2015-based population forecasts are taken from the ONS 2014-based population projections for the relevant districts within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Deaths are forecast by applying age-specific mortality rates to the number of men and women in the local population. The forecast sex- and age-specific mortality rates used in the model to produce the 2015-based population forecasts are taken from the ONS 2014-based population projections for the relevant districts within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

¹⁰ POPGROUP is a suite of demographic software developed to generate population estimates and forecasts, now managed and developed by Edge Analytics under licence from the Local Government Association (LGA) / Improvement and Development Agency (IDeA), the owners of the software.

Net migration is the balance between migration into an area and migration from it. The age and sex structure of migrants gives the probability of migrants being of a particular age and sex. This structure is determined for the base year of the model and then fitted to forecast totals of net migration to produce numbers of migrants into or out of an area by sex and age. The age and sex structure of migrants used in the model is taken from the ONS 2014-based population projections for the relevant districts within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. In the 2015-based population forecasts, in-migration is adjusted such that the number of households generated by the model is consistent with the number of dwellings that are expected to be built between 2015 and 2036.

A.5 New communities

The scale and likely impact of housing growth within the County is assessed from each District Council's¹¹ development plans, and specifically their Housing Trajectories and Site-Specific Development Plans. It is important to emphasise that these plans do not provide assurance that this level of development will occur, as housing development is driven by economic conditions and market forces. Likewise, these strategies do not preclude additional 'speculative' development being proposed. They do, however, provide the best information available on which to base planning of future education provision in relation to proposed development.

Housing developments range in size from major development sites, often of 100+ homes, to windfall developments which can be as small as 1-2 dwellings.¹² Whilst windfall developments are not identified within them, most Core Strategies will include references to areas and circumstances under which such development may be welcomed.

As the scale of development is lower on windfall sites, the impact on demographic pressures from these sites is less than from major developments and can be incorporated within general forecasts. In contrast, major developments require specific forecasts, and often lead to the identification of a need for additional provision. However, as this can be over extended periods, it is important to understand the likely short and long-term impact of these developments to support strategic planning of future provision.

¹¹ Each District Council is also the Local Planning Authority, overseeing the planning process for their geographical area.

¹² Windfall housing is any residential development that is granted consent on land or buildings not specifically allocated for residential development within a Core Strategy or Local Plan. Typical examples of a windfall development include:

- Infill plots in settlements;
- Development on unexpected brownfield sites such as at a factory which suddenly closes down;
- Properties in people's gardens or the intensification of sites by demolishing one property and replacing it with several new ones; and
- Conversions of rural buildings to residential properties.

The scale and pace of development is assessed by the Council's Business Intelligence team, who prepare and publish an annual development survey of housing development across the county.

All forecasting is an inexact process, heightened by the number of unknowns that exist in relation to future developments. While some key variables, such as dwelling size and tenure mix can be identified, many, for example, the impact of place and design influencing the desirability of a development, cannot. Added to this is the need for infrastructure to evolve to meet the needs of the population as the development settles and matures.

To aid its forecasting for new housing developments, the Council has adopted assumptions for the numbers and age-range of children likely to live in different types of housing. These assumptions are known as multipliers, these were approved by the Children and Young People's Committee in September 2015. The figures were revised and re-approved by the Committee in 2017. The current figures are listed below:

- 20-30 pre-school aged pupils per 100 dwellings
- 30-40 primary children per 100 dwellings,
- 18-25 secondary pupils per 100 dwellings

Underpinning the 'general multipliers' are detailed multipliers for different tenures and dwellings sizes.

The general multipliers, together with projections of the pace of housing delivery, enable the build-up of demand for school places to be modelled and planned at an early stage. As development proposals progress, the forecasts continue to evolve, as details of housing and tenure mix and pace of development become confirmed. These forecasts are monitored alongside pupil numbers obtained from school census data and NHS GP Registrations, and revised forecasts are produced.

Appendix B: School Capacity Forecast Methodology

B.1 Statutory requirements

Regulations require the LA to provide a statement to accompany the School Capacity Collection forecast pupil numbers explaining the method by which the forecast has been made.

B.2 Sources of data

- Pupil numbers already on roll come from the January annual school census, **January 2021**.

Primary forecasts of reception numbers are based on numbers of children under school age living in catchments derived from **NHS Provide Data**. To complete this piece of work the Council received a data table listing numbers of children by postcode. The Council used a detailed look-up table / gazetteer so that children aged 0-4 (**as at August 2020**) could be allocated to school catchment areas. **Admissions for autumn 2020** are based on actual admissions data as at the end of the second round of applications under the Council's school admissions process.

- Intakes for 2023/24 are based on **forecast numbers of births** taken from a three-year average of births for the previous three years.
- Data about future house building is taken from an assessment of the District Councils' Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) and **published future housing trajectories / five-year land supply reports**. This assessment was supported by the Council's Business Intelligence team who provide a planning monitoring service for all of Cambridgeshire's districts.

B.3 Processing the data

The Council has developed a combined pupil forecasting model, which has been in use since 2018. Together with the improved model there are set written procedures for updating and rolling forward the model with new data:

- Raw data for school roll, 0-4s and births were entered into the model and subject to a quality assurance process (see below).
- By default, year-groups are assumed to move through schools with an average of the net gains and losses experienced within the schools over the past three years. Where there was a significant reason to vary this methodology (for example because of erratic or exemption year group change in one of three of the past years) then this decision was made by the pupil forecaster and recorded.
- The model was adjusted to take into account changes in school organisation. For example, the opening of new schools.
- Intake at 4 years old is forecast on the basis of the relationship between the numbers of children recorded as living in the primary school catchment in the Child Health

Information Services (CHIS) data, and the average of actual intakes at that school from the previous three years. Real-time information from schools and the Admissions Team on the expected September 2021 intake (allocations) is also incorporated in the forecasts.

- Intake at 11 years old is forecast on the basis of the relationship between the numbers of 10-year-old pupils in the primary schools normally feeding to a secondary school and the average of actual intakes at that school from the previous three years. Admissions system data on allocations to school places from the second round of admissions for the September 2021 intake is also incorporated into the forecast.

B.4 Quality Assurance

- The Council's Business Intelligence Team that has an established track record / expertise in forecasting and also holds the population forecasting model and the regional economic forecasting model.
- All data-entry is quality assured. The process is that one member of the team at 'analyst' level enters the data and checks it. Then a second member of the team at 'senior analyst' level rechecks all the data entry. Key checks are then made against totals etc. to ensure all 0-4 numbers and PLASC numbers equal the original totals.
- This point provides a chance to check the accuracy of the previous year's one year forecast. Significant differences are identified and explained. For the most part variances are attributable to known uncertainties for example areas undergoing rapid house building, schools with poor Ofsted judgements or areas of significant population turnover. Where the difference is attributable to modelling decisions (only a small number of cases) then assumptions are adjusted for the following year's forecasts.
- Forecasts generated and then sense checked against previous years' forecasts. Where there are significant variations then the forecasts are rechecked and adjusted if needed. This process is managed through regular meetings of the forecasting team.
- Forecasts are then passed to the Place Planning Team and checked with Place Planning Officers. Again, variations in officers' understanding of the situation on the ground are checked with the Research Team and a dialogue is held to ensure that the forecasts represent as accurate a picture as possible given the known information.

B.5 Other Factors

Housing

Individual primary school forecasts are adjusted for expected major changes in house building within the school catchment, i.e., the beginning or completion of a large housing estate. Housing additions are based on trajectories provided by District Council planning departments each year.

Cross border movement

Pupil numbers from the January 2021 annual school census includes pupils on roll at Cambridgeshire schools living outside the LA area, so that cross border parental preference is accounted for.

B.6 Forecasting model

There have been no changes to the forecasting model since last year.

Appendix C: School Planning Areas

School Name	Planning Area Name
Arbury Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Chesterton Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Kings Hedges Educational Federation	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Mayfield Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Milton Road Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Orchard Park Community Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Shirley Community Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
St Laurence's Catholic Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
St Luke's CofE Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
The Grove Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
University of Cambridge Primary School	Cambridge City (North of River Cam) Primary
Bewick Bridge Community Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Cherry Hinton CofE VC Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Colville Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Fawcett Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Morley Memorial Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Newnham Croft Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Park Street CofE Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Queen Edith Community Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Queen Emma Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Ridgefield Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
St Alban's Catholic Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
St Matthew's Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
St Pauls CofE VA Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
St Philip's CofE Aided Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
The Galfrid School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
The Spinney Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Trumpington Meadows Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Trumpington Park Primary School	Cambridge City (South of River Cam) Primary
Bottisham Community Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Burwell Village College Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Fen Ditton Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Fulbourn Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Great Wilbraham CofE Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Swaffham Bulbeck CofE Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Swaffham Prior CofE Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Teversham CofE VA Primary School	Bottisham Rural 1 Primary
Cheveley CofE Primary School	Bottisham Rural 2 Primary
Ditton Lodge Primary School	Bottisham Rural 2 Primary
Kettlefields Primary School	Bottisham Rural 2 Primary
Littleport Community Primary School	Ely Town 1 Primary
Millfield Primary School	Ely Town 1 Primary
Downham Feoffees Primary Academy	Ely Town 2 Primary
Ely St John's Community Primary School	Ely Town 2 Primary

School Name	Planning Area Name
Ely St Mary's CofE Junior School	Ely Town 2 Primary
Isle of Ely Primary School	Ely Town 2 Primary
The Lantern Community Primary School	Ely Town 2 Primary
Spring Meadow Infant School	Ely Town 2 Primary
Little Thetford CofE VC Primary School	Witchford Rural 1 Primary
Robert Arkenstall Primary School	Witchford Rural 1 Primary
Stretham Community Primary School	Witchford Rural 1 Primary
Wilburton CofE Primary School	Witchford Rural 1 Primary
Mepal and Witcham CofE Primary School	Witchford Rural 2 Primary
Sutton CofE VC Primary School	Witchford Rural 2 Primary
The Rackham CofE Primary School	Witchford Rural 2 Primary
Fordham CofE Primary School	Soham Rural 1 Primary
Isleham CofE VC Primary School	Soham Rural 1 Primary
Kennett Primary School	Soham Rural 1 Primary
St Andrew's CofE Primary School	Soham Town 1 Primary
The Shade Primary School	Soham Town 1 Primary
The Weatheralls Primary School	Soham Town 1 Primary
Benwick Primary School	Chatteris Rural 1 Primary
Lionel Walden Primary School	Chatteris Rural 1 Primary
Manea Community Primary School	Chatteris Rural 1 Primary
Thomas Eaton Primary Academy	Chatteris Rural 1 Primary
Glebelands Primary School	Chatteris Town 1 Primary
Kingsfield Primary School	Chatteris Town 1 Primary
All Saints Inter-Church Academy	March Town 1 Primary
Burrowmoor Primary School	March Town 1 Primary
Cavalry Primary School	March Town 1 Primary
Townley Primary School	March Town 1 Primary
Westwood Community Primary School	March Town 1 Primary
Alderman Jacobs School	Whittlesey Town 1 Primary
Coates Primary School	Whittlesey Town 1 Primary
New Road Primary School	Whittlesey Town 1 Primary
Park Lane Primary & Nursery School	Whittlesey Town 1 Primary
Alderman Payne Primary School	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Gorefield Primary School	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Guyhirn CofE VC Primary School	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Kinderley Primary School	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Leverington Primary Academy	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Murrow Primary Academy	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Wisbech St Mary CofE Aided Primary School	Wisbech Rural 1 Primary
Beaupre Community Primary School	Wisbech Rural 2 Primary
Elm CofE Primary School	Wisbech Rural 2 Primary
Friday Bridge Primary School	Wisbech Rural 2 Primary
Clarkson Infant and Nursery School	Wisbech Town 1 Primary
Elm Road Primary	Wisbech Town 1 Primary
Orchards Church of England Academy	Wisbech Town 1 Primary
Peckover Primary School	Wisbech Town 1 Primary

School Name	Planning Area Name
Ramnoth Junior School	Wisbech Town 1 Primary
St Peter's CofE Aided Junior School	Wisbech Town 1 Primary
The Nene Infant and Nursery School	Wisbech Town 1 Primary
Brington CofE Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 1 Primary
Spaldwick Community Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 1 Primary
Brampton Village Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 2 Primary
Buckden CofE Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 2 Primary
Offord Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 2 Primary
Abbots Ripton CofE Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 3 Primary
Houghton Primary School	Huntingdon Rural 3 Primary
Wyton on the Hill Community Primary	Huntingdon Rural 3 Primary
Cromwell Academy	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Ermine Street Church Academy	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Godmanchester Bridge Academy	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Godmanchester Community Academy	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Hartford Infant School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Hartford Junior School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Huntingdon Primary School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
St Anne's CofE Primary School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
St John's CofE Primary School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Stukeley Meadows Primary School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Thongsley Fields Primary and Nursery School	Huntingdon Town 1 Primary
Earith Primary School	Ramsey Rural 1 Primary
Somersham Primary School	Ramsey Rural 1 Primary
St Helen's Primary School	Ramsey Rural 1 Primary
Warboys Community Primary School	Ramsey Rural 1 Primary
Bury CofE Primary School	Ramsey Town 1 Primary
Ramsey Community Junior School	Ramsey Town 1 Primary
Ramsey Spinning Infant School	Ramsey Town 1 Primary
The Ashbeach Primary School	Ramsey Town 1 Primary
Upwood Primary Academy	Ramsey Town 1 Primary
Alconbury CofE Primary School	Sawtry Rural 1 Primary
Great Gidding CofE Primary School	Sawtry Rural 1 Primary
Sawtry Infants' School	Sawtry Rural 1 Primary
Sawtry Junior Academy	Sawtry Rural 1 Primary
Folksworth CofE Primary School	Sawtry Rural 2 Primary
Holme CofE Primary School	Sawtry Rural 2 Primary
Stilton CofE VC Primary School	Sawtry Rural 2 Primary
Eastfield Infant and Nursery School	St Ives Town 1 Primary
Hemingford Grey Primary School	St Ives Town 1 Primary
Holywell CofE Primary School	St Ives Town 1 Primary
Thorndown Primary School	St Ives Town 1 Primary
Westfield Junior School	St Ives Town 1 Primary
Wheatfields Primary School	St Ives Town 1 Primary
Barnabas Oley CofE Primary School	St Neots Rural 1 Primary

School Name	Planning Area Name
The Newton Community Primary School	St Neots Rural 1 Primary
Great Paxton CofE Primary School	St Neots Rural 2 Primary
Little Paxton Primary School	St Neots Rural 2 Primary
Great Staughton Primary Academy	St Neots Rural 3 Primary
Kimbolton Primary Academy	St Neots Rural 3 Primary
Bushmead Primary School	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Crosshall Infant School Academy Trust	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Crosshall Junior School Academy Trust	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Eynesbury CofE C Primary School	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Middlefield Primary Academy	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Priory Park Infant School	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Priory Junior School	St Neots Town 1 Primary
St Mary's Church of England Primary School St Neots	St Neots Town 1 Primary
The Round House Primary Academy	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Winhills Primary Academy	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Wintringham Primary Academy	St Neots Town 1 Primary
Farcet CofE (C) Primary School	Peterborough Rural 1 Primary
Fourfields Community Primary School	Peterborough Rural 1 Primary
The Elton CofE Primary School	Peterborough Rural 1 Primary
William de Yaxley CofE Academy	Peterborough Rural 1 Primary
Yaxley Infant School	Peterborough Rural 1 Primary
Bassingbourn Primary School	Bassingbourn Rural 1 Primary
Guilden Morden CofE Primary Academy	Bassingbourn Rural 1 Primary
Petersfield CofE Aided Primary School	Bassingbourn Rural 1 Primary
Steeple Morden CofE VC Primary School	Bassingbourn Rural 1 Primary
Barton CofE VA Primary School	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Bourn CofE Primary Academy	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Caldecote Primary School	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Coton CofE (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Gamlingay Village Primary School	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Haslingfield Endowed Primary School	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Meridian Primary School	Comberton Rural 1 Primary
Hardwick and Cambourne Community Primary School	Cambourne Primary
Jeavons Wood Primary School	Cambourne Primary
Monkfield Park Primary School	Cambourne Primary
The Vine Inter-Church School	Cambourne Primary
Cottenham Primary School	Cottenham Rural 1 Primary
Willingham Primary School	Cottenham Rural 1 Primary
Girton Glebe Primary School	Impington Rural 1 Primary
Histon and Impington Park Primary School	Impington Rural 1 Primary
Histon and Impington Brook Primary School	Impington Rural 1 Primary
Milton CofE VC Primary School	Impington Rural 1 Primary
Oakington CofE VA Primary School	Impington Rural 1 Primary

School Name	Planning Area Name
Waterbeach Community Primary School	Impington Rural 1 Primary
Burrough Green CofE Primary School	Linton Rural 1 Primary
Castle Camps CofE (Controlled) Primary School	Linton Rural 1 Primary
Great Abington Primary School	Linton Rural 1 Primary
Linton CofE Infant School	Linton Rural 1 Primary
Linton Heights Junior School	Linton Rural 1 Primary
Meadow Primary School	Linton Rural 1 Primary
Barrington CofE VC Primary School	Melbourn Rural 1 Primary
Fowlmere Primary School	Melbourn Rural 1 Primary
Foxtan Primary School	Melbourn Rural 1 Primary
Harston and Newton Community Primary School	Melbourn Rural 1 Primary
Hauxton Primary School	Melbourn Rural 1 Primary
Thriplow CofE VA Primary School	Melbourn Rural 1 Primary
Melbourn Primary School	Melbourn Rural 2 Primary
Meldreth Primary School	Melbourn Rural 2 Primary
Duxford CofE Community Primary School	Sawston Rural 1 Primary
William Westley CofE VC Primary School	Sawston Rural 1 Primary
Great and Little Shelford CofE (Aided) Primary School	Sawston Rural 2 Primary
Stapleford Community Primary School	Sawston Rural 2 Primary
Babraham CofE (VC) Primary School	Sawston Rural 3 Primary
The Bellbird Primary School	Sawston Rural 3 Primary
The Icknield Primary School	Sawston Rural 3 Primary
Bar Hill Primary School	Swavesey Rural 1 & Northstowe Primary
Dry Drayton CofE (C) Primary School	Swavesey Rural 1 & Northstowe Primary
Hatton Park Primary School	Swavesey Rural 1 & Northstowe Primary
Pathfinder CofE Primary School	Swavesey Rural 1 & Northstowe Primary
Elsworth CofE VA Primary School	Swavesey Rural 2 Primary
Pendragon Primary School	Swavesey Rural 2 Primary
Fen Drayton Primary School	Swavesey Rural 3 Primary
Fenstanton and Hilton Primary School	Swavesey Rural 3 Primary
Over Primary School	Swavesey Rural 3 Primary
Swavesey Primary School	Swavesey Rural 3 Primary
Cambridge Academy of Science and Technology	Cambridge City Secondary
Chesterton Community College	Cambridge City Secondary
Coleridge Community College	Cambridge City Secondary
North Cambridge Academy	Cambridge City Secondary
Parkside Community College	Cambridge City Secondary
St Bede's Inter-Church School	Cambridge City Secondary
The Netherhall School	Cambridge City Secondary
Trumpington Community College	Cambridge City Secondary
Bottisham Village College	Bottisham Secondary
Ely College	Ely Secondary
Littleport and East Cambs Academy	Ely Secondary

School Name	Planning Area Name
Soham Village College	Soham Secondary
Witchford Village College	Witchford Secondary
Cromwell Community College	Chatteris Secondary
Neale-Wade Academy	March Secondary
Sir Harry Smith Community College	Whittlesey Secondary
Thomas Clarkson Academy	Wisbech Secondary
Hinchingbrooke School	Huntingdon Secondary
St Peter's School	Huntingdon Secondary
Abbey College, Ramsey	Ramsey Secondary
Sawtry Community College Academy	Sawtry Secondary
St Ivo School	St Ives Secondary
Ernulf Academy	St Neots Secondary
Longsands Academy	St Neots Secondary
Cambourne Village College	Comberton Cambourne Secondary
Comberton Village College	Comberton Cambourne Secondary
Cottenham Village College	Cottenham Impington Secondary
Impington Village College	Cottenham Impington Secondary
Linton Village College	Linton Secondary
Sawston Village College	Sawston Secondary
Swavesey Village College	Swavesey Secondary
Northstowe Secondary College	Swavesey Secondary
Bassingbourn Village College	Bassingbourn Melbourn Secondary
Melbourn Village College	Bassingbourn Melbourn Secondary

Appendix D: Capital Funding

D.1 Capital Programme

The Council, as part of its annual budget-setting process, sets out its five-year capital spending projections.

The Council recognises the importance of planning and prioritising the allocation of funding within a transparent and objective framework. Its criteria are¹³:

- health and safety improvements to avoid school closures
- investment in the provision of sufficient school places in line with the Council's statutory duties (referred to commonly as meeting basic need)
- implementing statutory changes, for example, increasing the age range a school serves
- implementing the recommendations of a review of education provision
- implementing new statutory duties or education policy changes where no other funding is available
- reducing schools' maintenance costs, prioritising schools in the worst condition
- improving schools' environmental performance, prioritising those with the most inefficient buildings

Whether temporary or permanent, the Council is committed to providing accommodation that meets both statutory and local policy requirements, including the Equalities Act (2010), to support children and young people with SEND in mainstream schools. In doing so the accommodation should:

- be of high quality
- be fit-for-purpose
- provide value for money
- provide flexibility to respond to changes in need and curriculum

The very nature of capital planning necessitates alteration and refinement to proposals and funding during the planning period. Therefore, whilst the early years of the Business Plan provide robust, detailed estimates of schemes, the later years only provide indicative forecasts of the likely infrastructure needs and revenue streams for the Council.

[Business Plan 2020-2021](#)

D.2 Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)

The ESFA, which is part of the DfE, provides all funding for free schools including capital funding. Once approved, free schools are given an ESFA contact who will work with them to

¹³ These **criteria** were endorsed by the Children and Young People's Policy Development Group, in a paper on the Children and Young People's Capital Programme, 4 November 2010

acquire a suitable site for the school. The ESFA will pay for the purchase and lease of the building or land as well as any building work or refurbishment that needs to be done.

In addition, the Council will work with academies and free schools to seek to secure capital funds from the ESFA to help address condition and suitability needs.

D.3 Developer Contributions

When a new development is being built the Council will seek Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) contributions from the respective District Council or S106 contributions from the developer to ensure the effect of the development is mitigated.