

Planning for new school places 2022/23 to 2026/27

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Local authorities are responsible for making sure there are enough school places to meet the need of children and young people living in the borough (*Section 14, Education Act 1996*). This duty should be exercised with a view to maintaining a balanced supply of places, avoiding either a shortfall or large surplus, as well as securing diversity in the provision and increasing opportunities for parental preference (*Education and Inspections Act 2006*). Whilst local authorities are the commissioners or brokers of school places, school place planning requires collaborative working between councils, schools, admission authorities and other partners.
- 1.2 Maintaining a balanced supply of school places is a task of enormous complexity. Trends in demand are driven by a number of variables, some of which are acutely sensitive to changes at local, regional, national and global level. Whilst factors that determine the borough's changing population (**birth rates**, **death rates** and **migration**) can be estimated, and to some extent predicted over time, other variables such as **parental preference** and the **autonomy** own admission authority schools have to vary their admission limits, fundamental principles that underpin the legislative framework surrounding school admissions, are difficult to predict and reconcile with place planning. The greatest challenge is the uncertainty around the medium and long-term impact of the **Covid-19 crisis** and **Brexit**, both of which have caused unprecedented disruption to the education system.
- 1.3 In order to effectively plan for and maintain the appropriate level of school places, the Council undertakes an annual review of the existing primary and secondary capacity and compares this against the pupil forecast for the future decade. We subscribe to the **Greater London Authority's (GLA) School Roll Projection Service** for pupil forecasts and sense-check the projections against a variety of datasets to ensure local context has been taken into account.
- 1.4 This report provides an updated summary of the Borough's demographics and emerging trends and patterns that are used for pupil forecasting - and informs the shape of our future school place planning strategy. It focuses on future demand and provision for both mainstream and specialist settings. Meeting the need for additional early years places is driven by the Early Years strategy which promotes and champions new provision across the private, voluntary and independent providers sectors as well as in the school sector. However, where appropriate, additional early years places are provided as part of the growth in primary school places covered in this report.

2. CONTEXT

- 2.1 The population in Barnet is continuing to rise. According to the 2021 population Census, the borough's population has increased by **almost 33,000** from 356,836 in 2011 to 389,300 in 2021 – **an increase of 9.2%**. This is higher than the London and England population increase at 7.6% and 6.6% respectively. The population aged 0 to 19 in Barnet has increased by 7% (6,000 people). Over the next decade, Barnet's population is expected to grow further in areas where largescale regeneration across the borough is already delivering new homes.
- 2.2 Barnet is building more new homes than any other borough in outer London. There are **seven major regeneration schemes** across the borough, delivering **27,000 new and replacement homes** and **500 new council owned homes**. The schemes have been delivering new homes

since 2011 and the majority are expected to complete before the end of the decade (see *Appendix 1 for map of major regeneration schemes*).

- 2.3 Barnet is one of the areas in the UK that has seen the highest number of Hong Kong migrant arrivals, many with school-aged children settling in the borough for its diverse and high quality educational offer. Barnet has received approximately **600 in-year applications in respect of children from Hong Kong British National Overseas (BNO) families** and in the 2021/22 academic year, approximately **8% of in-year offers** have been made to migrant children in this category. More recently, Barnet has seen an increasing number of school admission applications, in respect of Ukrainian migrant children. So far, more than **226 applications** have been processed and more than **177 Barnet school places have been allocated to Ukrainian children**.
- 2.4 Barnet has been home to **four asylum seeker contingency hotels** since 2020, last recorded as accommodating **154 children and young people of statutory school age**, and one hotel with 32 children under five years old .
- 2.5 Live births in Barnet have seen a downward trend, with a **12% fall in live births** between 2014 and 2021. Over the next five years, births are projected to increase from 4,600 in 2021/22 to 4,708 in 2028/29, **an increase of 2.3%**.
- 2.6 The borough of Barnet borders with five London boroughs, **Brent, Camden, Enfield, Haringey** and **Harrow**, and **Hertfordshire County**. Cross-borough flow of pupils is significant particularly near the borough boundaries.

3. PAST SUCCESS AND CHALLENGES AHEAD

- 3.1 Local Authorities have a statutory duty under *Section 14 of the Education Act 1996* to ensure sufficiency of school places for its resident children. Failure to fulfil this obligation carries serious consequences, including adverse publicity and legal challenge.
- 3.2 Between 2010 and 2016, an unprecedented rise in primary mainstream demand resulted in a **25% increase in the number of ‘on-time’ applications**, in respect resident children rising to five years of age and first starting school. Since 2017, a downward trend has been observed in the borough’s primary demand largely as a result of a London-wide fall in birth-rate. A parallel increase has been seen in secondary demand as aging primary bulges are transferring across to the secondary phase. Over the last decade, **secondary transfer application from home residents have increased by 30%**.
- 3.3 In anticipation of growth in demand, the council commissioned a total of over **12,000 additional mainstream places** in the last decade. Over **5,800** of these additional places have been created in the primary phase, excluding **630 former independent places converting to voluntary-aided places** across three primary schools that have joined Barnet’s maintained sector. In the secondary phase, over 6,500 additional mainstream places have been provided (*see Appendix 2 for a list additional primary and secondary provision created since 2009*).
- 3.4 Over the next decade, Barnet’s population is expected to grow further in areas where largescale regeneration is already underway in the South-West of the borough: Brent Cross, Colindale and West Hendon.
- 3.5 When new school places are needed as a result of pupil yield from housing development, there is an expectation that the developers will contribute to the capital costs. The Council plays a difficult role in facilitating and supporting discussions between developers and the Department for Education (DfE), in relation to funding based on basic need, particularly in the recent financial climate and the anticipated recession in the coming months.

Negotiations about a new primary school (Saracens Primary) in the heart of the Colindale regeneration area have been on-going for the past five years. This is a DfE decision and the DfE has yet to make a final decision.

- 3.6 So far, the Council has made good judgements in predicting demand and planning for additional capacity at both the primary and secondary level. The delivery of additional school places in a measured and timely way has enabled the Council to allocate a school place to every child who has needed one at both the normal points of entry and to movers-in, in contrast to a shortfall experienced by most other North London boroughs during the peak of the surge.
- 3.7 Whilst these investment programmes have ensured sufficient high-quality mainstream provision to meet the anticipated demand over the next decade, the focus is now on creating additional Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision, where demand has been rising and a growing shortfall is anticipated.
- 3.8 Falling primary rolls has become a cause for increasing concern shared by schools across London. An over-supply of school places presents its own problems, particularly for one-form entry schools where the financial challenge is more acute and benefits from economies of scale do not apply. The Council has supported a small number of primary schools that have experienced financial pressure and struggled with effective staff planning due to falling pupil numbers. A range of measures has helped to tackle this issue, including reduction in published admission numbers, temporary capping and re-design of surplus capacity to create additional SEND provision, thereby alleviating pressure in this category. The Council has also supported the Board of Trustees for **Grasvenor Avenue Infant School** and the DfE with the **permanent closure of the school**, effective from July 2022, after it was deemed financially unviable for the academy to continue operating as a one-form entry infant school.
- 3.9 Whilst the statutory duty to ensure a sufficient supply of school places falls to the local authority, the ability to directly control supply is impacted by the growth in academies and free schools. For example, the Council has no jurisdiction with respect to the decision-making process that leads an Academy to expand and all newly commissioned schools in the borough are free schools (academies). Within this complexity, the Council has taken a measured and balanced approach in utilising its basic needs grant to ensure that its statutory duty is met.

4. EDUCATION STRATEGY

- 4.1 The local strategic context for the commissioning and delivery of new school places in the borough is rooted within **Barnet's Education Strategy 2021-2024**. This sets out the shared strategic vision for education in Barnet:
'Resilient schools – resilient communities: We want Barnet to be the most successful place for high quality education where excellent school standards result in all children achieving their best, being safe and happy and able to progress to become successful adults'
- 4.2 The strategy further sets out the shared mission to ensure that every child attends a **good or outstanding school**; the attainment and progress of children in Barnet schools is **within the top 10%** nationally, the progress of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils is accelerated in order to **diminish the difference** between them and their peers, every child receives a high-quality education through **clear curriculum intent** and effective implementation and we **minimise the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on learning**.
- 4.3 In order to achieve these outcomes, the primary strategic goal is to ensure **access to sufficient high-quality school places** to meet the needs of Barnet residents, including

local specialist provision when required for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.

5. ADDITIONAL PROVISION THROUGH INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

- 5.1 The Council has commissioned new primary and secondary school places through a combination of different routes ensuring that decisions are centred around cost-effectiveness and high-quality provision. This has primarily involved the **permanent expansion** of existing schools and the **academy presumption route**, whereby the Council has invited proposals for new academy schools. In addition, the Council has ‘supported’ **free school proposals** where the need for new places has been identified.
- 5.2 **Expanding existing schools and remodelling surplus capacity** is often the more cost-effective option funded by the Council from the Basic Need Grant or Special Provision Capital Funding for Additionally Resourced Provision and SEND places. The majority of the new places in Barnet have so far been provided through working with headteachers and governing bodies of successful primary schools that have been accredited with ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ Ofsted rating. Since 2009, the primary expansion programme has delivered a total of **3,136 new mainstream** places across 17 primary schools. In the secondary phase, 14 schools have expanded to provide a total of **2,390 additional mainstream places**, over the last decade. The potential for expansion reduces once schools on larger sites have been expanded.
- 5.3 **New Schools (including free schools)** have been funded through the DfE’s Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). In the last three years the DfE has approved five new free schools in Barnet, as follows:
- **Saracens High School** (opened in September 2018, mainstream, 11-18 years);
 - **Ark Pioneer Academy** (opened in September 2019, mainstream, 11-18 years);
 - **Kisharon Free School** (opened in August 2018, Special School, 4-19 years);
 - **Saracens Primary School** (currently under review, mainstream 4-11 years);
 - **The Windmill** (Special School, 5-18 years, planning to open in September 2023).
- 5.4 **Independent schools joining Barnet’s maintained sector as voluntary-aided schools** have further enriched Barnet’s diverse educational offer and helped to meet the demand for faith school places in the borough. In 2019, **Shalom Noam**, former independent Jewish school joined Barnet’s maintained sector making a total of five independent schools joining Barnet’s family of voluntary aided schools in the last decade. In September 2023, **Barnet Hill Academy**, an Independent School in West Hendon, is expected to join Barnet’s maintained sector as Barnet’s first voluntary aided Islamic school, subject to conditions. Barnet is home to a well-established and growing Muslim community, which represents approximately **12% of the borough’s population (45,000 Muslims)**.

6. METHODOLOGY FOR 2022 SCHOOL ROLL PROJECTIONS

- 6.1 The GLA’s forecast methodology creates school roll projections essentially based on population projection and the home wards of the pupils that attend each Barnet school. Most London boroughs subscribe to this service, as the GLA has expertise in the area and uses a model that incorporates the boroughs own housing development and pupil roll data, together with national data on births, deaths, migration and household formation.
- 6.2 For the 2022 forecast, the GLA School Roll Projection Service provided each borough with projections based on **two migration variants**. In both projections the ward-level assumptions are identical. Initial rates are designed to reflect the immediate impacts of COVID-19 and Brexit on the population in the years 2021 and 2022. In these years

Scenarios 1 and 2 are identical. From 2023 rates in the scenarios begin to diverge and from 2025 return to averages based on past observed behaviours.

- **Scenario 1:** Standard migration assumptions for the covid period; Higher domestic out-migration assumptions in the longer-term (5-year average).
- **Scenario 2:** Standard migration assumptions for the covid period; Lower domestic out-migration assumptions in the longer-term (10-year average).

Barnet has opted for Scenario 2 as the borough's population is continuing to rise, regeneration across the borough has started to yield additional school-aged child population and numbers are expected to rise later in the decade as the majority of the new housing comes to fruition. The same migration variant was used for pupil numbers provided in the DfE's annual school capacity survey 2021, with the GLA's reassurance that the Council had made sound judgement in selecting this scenario given the Borough's development trajectory.

6.3 For the relationship between the child's home ward and the school attended, the GLA has offered three options of back-series (historical school roll data), as follows:

The **3/4 option** is the default variant and incorporates several years of past data to smooth out fluctuations and give more stable results. It uses

- **three years** of past detailed flow (2019-2021) to define the relationship between the ward of residence and the school attended for the 2022 intake;
- **four years** of school roll data (2019 – 2022) to calculate the size of the new intake.

The **3/1 option** aims to smooth out fluctuations in the underlying patterns of pupil movement, whilst reflecting only the most recent data in terms of pupil roll numbers. It uses

- **three years** of past detailed flow (2019-2021) to define the relationship between the ward of residence and the school attended for the 2022 intake;
- **one year** of school roll data (2022) to calculate the size of the new intake.

The **1/1 option** aims to reflect most recent patterns where it is anticipated that these will continue in the future. It uses

- **one year** of past detailed flow (2021) to define the relationship between the ward of residence and the school attended for the 2022 intake;
- **one year** of school roll data (2022) to calculate the size of the new intake.

Barnet has opted for the standard 3/4 scenario for more stable results particularly given the fluctuations observed in the wake of the pandemic.

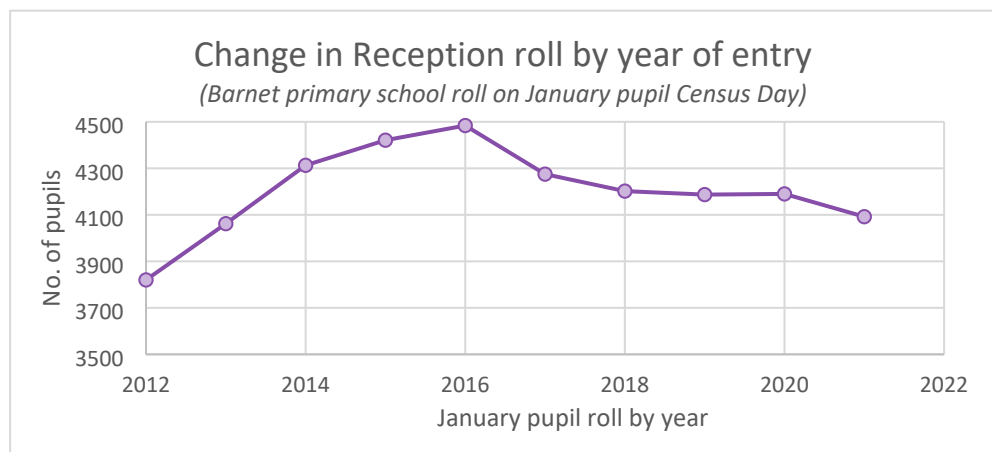
7. CHANGES IN PRIMARY DEMAND AND FUTURE PROJECTIONS

7.1 The demand for primary school places across London rose at a faster rate than any other region, during the last decade. This was reflected in Barnet, with applications numbers rising by almost **1000 applications (25%)** between 2010 and 2016. However, since 2017 Barnet, along with the rest of the Capital, has seen a growing surplus of primary school places partly as a result of declining birth rates. For the 2022 Reception intake, Barnet received a total of **4052 'on time' applications**, an **11% drop** compared to the peak seen in 2016. However, there is considerable variation across the borough, with two-thirds of Barnet school

remaining oversubscribed and the main surplus in a small number of schools that have experienced the highest rates of falling rolls.

7.2 Figure 1 below shows the change over time in the number of Reception pupils on roll in Barnet schools on January Pupil Census Day:

Figure 1: Number of on-time Reception applications from Barnet residents, by year of entry



7.3 Falling primary rolls continue to create significant budget challenges for some schools that are operating with vacant places and higher unit costs. The Local Authority is mindful of the unpredictable nature of the factors that can influence quick changes in population and where trends have become evident at school level, we will continue to work with schools to explore a variety of measures that we have already used, including reductions to published admission numbers, soft capping and redesignating spare capacity to help tackle the rising demand for SEND provision. This will enable schools to use resources more efficiently whilst retaining some existing capacity in the case of an unexpected rise in future demand.

7.4 Based on the latest forecast and local intelligence, the Council anticipates continued variation across the borough, with growth expected in Brent Cross/Cricklewood, Colindale and West Hendon, where large-scale regeneration is underway, but an overall decline across the rest of the borough. A primary **surplus of 5% is recommended** to allow for in-year demand. This is particularly significant in Barnet, where approximately 45% of primary schools and 40% of secondary schools have faith character.

Primary Planning Areas

7.5 Barnet has **six planning areas**, which were drawn around the 2013 wards. In May 2022, Barnet's ward boundaries changed and the **number of wards increased from 21 to 24**. The 2022 school roll projections and information in this report refers to the 2013 ward boundaries. We intend to carry out a review of the primary planning areas based on the new wards, at the end of the year.

7.6 Below is a summary of activity, forecast and projected surplus / deficit in each primary planning area. The majority of Barnet's faith schools are over-subscribed which means that school choices are limited for families who do not practise the faith of the individual school or who prefer to send their children to a secular school. To put this in context, Figures 2 to 9 below show the pupil forecast against the number of non-denominational school places, as well as the total number of school places available.

Planning Area (PA) 1: Burnt Oak, Colindale, Hendon and West Hendon

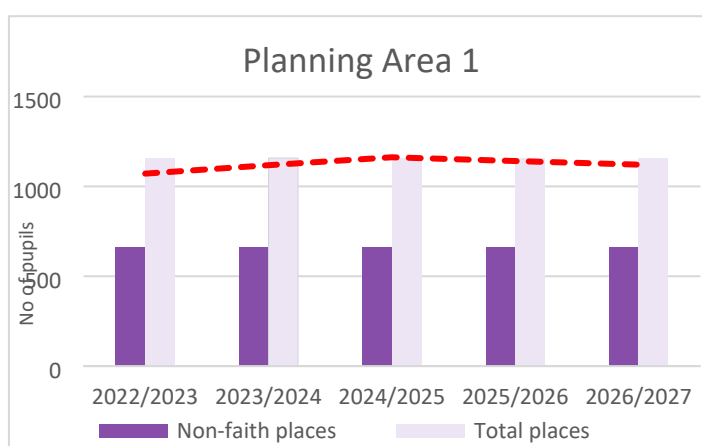
- 7.7 The demand for primary places in Planning Area 1 is expected to increase over the next five years, as new housing developments continue to yield additional school-aged children.
- 7.8 Colindale is one of the largest regeneration areas in the borough and continues to make the single largest contribution to housing growth (including affordable housing) in the borough. Colindale regeneration will continue over the next 10 years to be one of the biggest growth areas in North London. Previous plans to open a new two-form entry **Saracens Primary School**, as part of the development, are currently under review by the DfE given the overall projected surplus in planning area.
- 7.9 Colindale is a border ward straddling the A5 boundary with Brent and is delivering significant mixed-use, mixed tenure developments. On the Barnet side of Colindale alone several housing schemes have been completed with **5,276 homes in 2020/21**, a further **5,600 for completion by the year 2027** and **2,689 homes with planning consent**.
- 7.10 The West Hendon regeneration in the south-west of the borough, will create a new mixed neighbourhood of social, private and affordable homes. The programme in West Hendon will deliver **2,194 new homes**.
- 7.11 There are currently **1,158 permanent mainstream Reception places** in PA1 across 20 schools. Half of these schools, which together provide **43%** of total primary places in the area, **have religious character** and five of these schools are Jewish.
- 7.12 The May 2022 pupil roll Census shows **6% surplus places in Planning Area 1**, but 2% of this surplus exists in a single Catholic school which has previously filled three forms across all year groups and is now struggling to fill two forms.
- 7.13 The latest school roll projections indicate pressure for primary schools emerging from 2024/25, across the planning area and a localised rising deficit in the Colindale ward. The new two-form entry Saracens Primary was expected to open at the heart of the regeneration in 2024/25, to help to meet the additional demand. This is now under review and a decision is awaited.
- 7.14 In the West Hendon ward, Barnet Hill Academy, Islamic Independent school is expected to convert to a voluntary aided school in September 2023 subject to certain conditions being met. In the first academic year as a voluntary aided school, Barnet Hill Academy will operate with one form of entry (30 places) in Years 1 to 6 and two forms of entry in the Reception year (60 places), with each subsequent year accruing an additional form from bottom up, thus completing the transition to a full two-form entry school by 2029/30.
- 7.15 A two-form community school proposed as part of the latter stages of the West Hendon regeneration scheme may no longer be required but the position will be kept under review.
- 7.16 Barnet's Planning Area 1 borders with Brent's Planning Area 1 and Harrow's South-East planning area. Brent's housing target in the London Plan is set to significantly increase, with Colindale and Burnt Oak identified as two of the main growth areas. Brent has no current plans to increase mainstream primary provision on the border of Barnet. Harrow has two schools included in its regeneration programme aligned to open when new housing developments start to yield child population, but neither school is near the border of Barnet.
- 7.17 The projections in Table 1 below do not include the additional provision in the pipeline (Saracens Primary and Barnet Hill Academy places). However, it is anticipated that these places will be delivered and will help to meet the deficit expected in 2024/25, as well as creating a small buffer for in-year movement and future growth.

Table 1: Updated Reception forecast in Planning Area 1

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith	Total places*	Shortfall/surplus places	Shortfall/Surplus forms of entry
2022/2023	1071	660	498	1158	87	2.90
2023/2024	1118	660	498	1158	40	1.33
2024/2025	1162	660	498	1158	-4	-0.13
2025/2026	1141	660	498	1158	17	0.57
2026/2027	1121	660	498	1158	37	1.23

* Barnet Hill Academy (60 faith places) and Saracens Primary (60 non-denominational places) are not included in figures

Figure 2. Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Planning Area 1



Planning Area 2: Hale, Mill Hill, Edgware & Totteridge

- 7.18 The regeneration and growth in Mill Hill will deliver **2,240 new homes**. The development in Mill Hill East delivered the three-form entry Millbrook Park Primary. The school has been operating with two-forms of entry since it opened in 2014, due to the subsequent fall in primary demand seen London-wide. The additional capacity will help to meet the anticipated future growth in the area as the regeneration scheme continues to deliver new homes and starts to yield additional school-aged children.
- 7.19 There are currently **853 permanent mainstream Reception places** in Planning Area 2, across 19 schools. Almost half of the schools in the area have religious character.
- 7.20 Planning Area 2 has experienced the highest level of surplus places since 2017, when primary demand plummeted. The May 2022 pupil roll Census shows **8% surplus places** in this planning area. Half of the schools in the area are undersubscribed and this has created particular financial difficulty for the schools listed below. The Council has supported these schools to reduce their admission numbers to enable more efficient use of resources and financial management.
- **Dollis Primary:** On 1 April 2019, Dollis Junior amalgamated with Dollis Infant to form a new all-through Dollis Primary School. As part of the amalgamation, the school's PAN was reduced from three forms of entry to two forms of entry.

- **Frith Manor:** From 1 September 2020, the school’s PAN was reduced from three to two forms of entry.
- **Edgware Primary:** From September 2021, the school’s PAN was reduced from three to two forms of entry. Remodelling of surplus capacity has created additional SEND provision.
- **Deansbrook Infant and Deansbrook Junior:** Both schools have three forms of entry but are now operating with temporary reductions in year groups that have been seen the highest level of falling rolls.

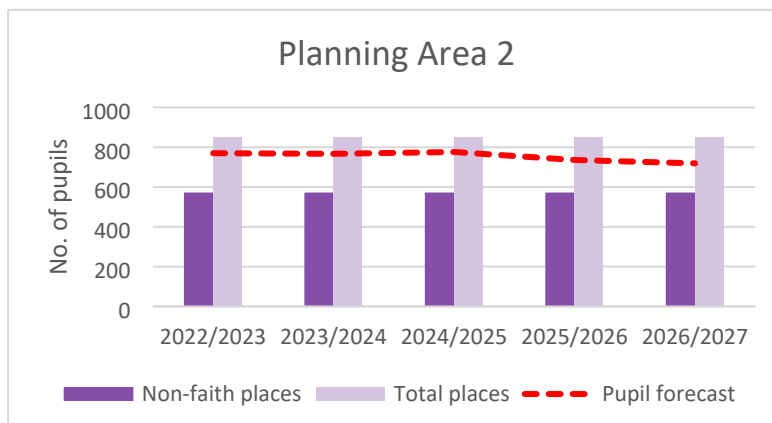
7.21 The pressure point in Planning Area 2 tends to be on the border with adjoining Planning Area 1, and its current surplus is helping to ease the pressure across the border. Planning Area 2 also borders with Harrow, with a net inflow of Harrow pupils drawn into Barnet schools near the border.

7.22 The projected surplus shown in Table 2 below is below 5% and will help to meet in-year demand and additional pupil yield from the Mill Hill development.

Table 2: Updated Reception forecast in Planning Area 2

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith places	Total places	Surplus places	Surplus forms of entry
2022/2023	770	570	283	853	83	2.77
2023/2024	767	570	283	853	86	2.87
2024/2025	776	570	283	853	77	2.57
2025/2026	736	570	283	853	117	3.90
2026/2027	719	570	283	853	134	4.47

Figure 3: Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Planning Area 2



Planning Area 3: Childs Hill, Garden Suburb and Golders Green

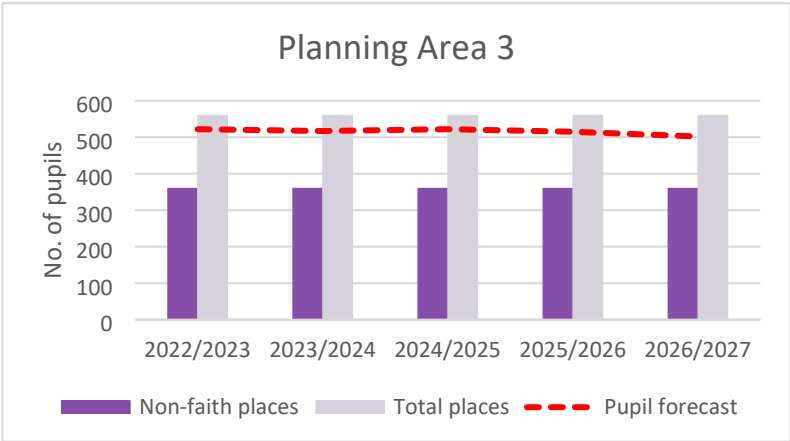
7.23 The Brent Cross Cricklewood scheme is one of the largest regeneration projects in Europe and is expected to deliver **7,500 new homes** within the next 10 years. Additional demand is expected to emerge over the next few years, as the scheme starts to yield additional school-aged children. However, there is already some surplus capacity in the wards adjoining the regeneration area and no shortfall is anticipated.

- 7.24 There are currently **560 permanent mainstream Reception places** in this planning area across 12 schools, five of which have religious character. The May 2022 pupil roll Census shows **8% surplus** primary school places in Planning Area 3.
- 7.25 Since 2016, no bulge has been required for entry into Reception. However, Orthodox Jewish primary schools in Planning Area 3 continue to admit over number in response to the pressure for Jewish school places.
- 7.26 A detailed ward-level analysis of school roll projections indicates an increase in the demand for primary places in the Golders Green ward, near the Brent Cross Cricklewood regeneration. Surplus capacity in the Childs Hill and Garden Suburb wards is unlikely to fully off-set the growing primary demand in Golders Green as most of the schools in Childs Hill and Garden Suburb will not be within the 2-mile statutory home-school distance from the heart of regeneration. The Council will monitor emerging patterns and expected child yield over the course of the development trajectory. Any deficit that arises in the longer term will be addressed through inviting proposals to deliver more school places through the regeneration scheme itself. Golders Green ward borders with West Hendon in PA1, another area of regeneration and anticipated rising demand.
- 7.27 The projected surplus shown in Table 3 below is less than 2% which could result in localised pressure to meet in-year demand. However, nearly half of the schools in the area are currently undersubscribed and a few have applied soft caps for efficient use of resources.

Table 3 : Updated Reception forecast in Planning Area 3

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith places	Total places	Surplus places	Surplus forms of entry
2022/2023	522	360	200	560	38	1.27
2023/2024	517	360	200	560	43	1.43
2024/2025	522	360	200	560	38	1.27
2025/2026	515	360	200	560	45	1.50
2026/2027	502	360	200	560	58	1.93

Figure 4. Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Planning Area 3



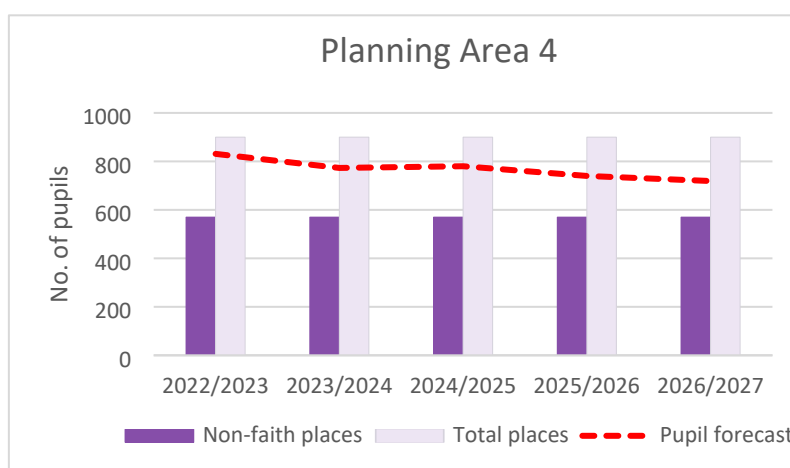
Planning Area 4: Coppetts, East Finchley, Finchley Church End, West Finchley and Woodhouse

- 7.28 There are currently **900 permanent mainstream Reception places** in PA4, across 21 primary schools. Nine schools have religious character. Previous localised pressure in Planning Area 4 necessitated several bulge classes prior to 2017, one of which are still in operation.
- 7.29 PA4 borders with Haringey, in the North-East. There is a high level of cross-borough flow in the area with Barnet. Haringey draws high numbers of Barnet pupils in schools across the border. For the Reception 2022 intake, **21 Haringey children have secured a place at a school in Barnet**. The reciprocal figure is five times higher, with **106 Haringey school places allocated to Barnet children**.
- 7.30 Latest school roll projections indicate a downward trend in the demand for school places in the area, as shown in Table 4 below. However, the arrival of migrant children has helped to fill the surplus in the area and most of the schools in Planning Area 4 are currently oversubscribed. The May 2022 pupil roll Census shows **3% surplus** primary school places in Planning Area 3. There are no plans to add or remove places in the planning area.

Table 4 : Updated Reception forecast in Planning Area 4

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith	Total places	Surplus places	Surplus forms of entry
2022/2023	831	570	330	900	69	2.30
2023/2024	773	570	330	900	127	4.23
2024/2025	780	570	330	900	120	4.00
2025/2026	740	570	330	900	160	5.33
2026/2027	719	570	330	900	181	6.03

Figure 5. Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Planning Area 4



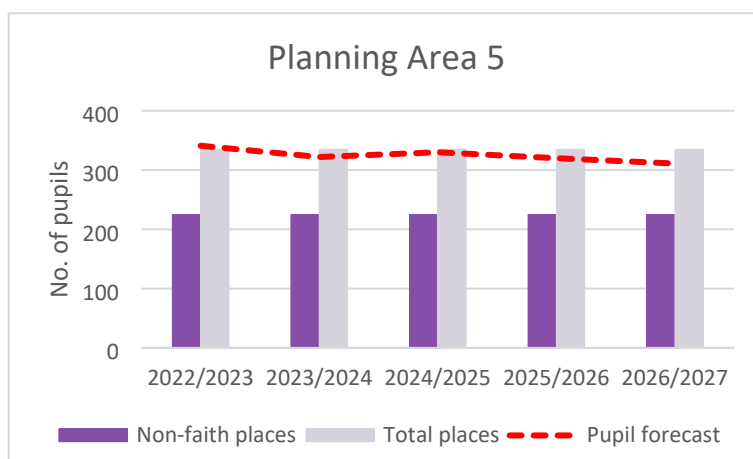
Planning Area 5: Underhill & High Barnet

- 7.31 The regeneration of Dollis Valley Estate on the North of the borough is one of the seven major regeneration schemes in Barnet. The programme is well underway and will deliver **631 new homes**, on completion. Permission for a new two-form entry primary school as part of the regeneration was previously refused. PA5 borders with PA2 on the South side and PA6 on the East. Surplus capacity in the bordering planning areas is concentrated to a small number of schools and unreasonable home-to-school distance is likely limit cross-border allocations.
- 7.32 Following the closure of Grasvenor Avenue Infant School, the planning area will have **335 permanent mainstream Reception places** remaining across seven schools, three of which have religious character.
- 7.33 Planning area 5 has been an area of localised pressure for some years. For this reason, the Council has commissioned **two in-year bulge classes at Underhill School**, in order to accommodate Grasvenor's displaced pupils and help to meet in-year demand. The additional places at Underhill School may be outside the statutory distance for a small proportion of the children who would normally be accommodated at Grasvenor Avenue. The situation will be kept under review and temporary expansion of other existing schools will be considered if additional places are required in the future.
- 7.34 The latest forecast indicates a downward trend in demand for places in the area, from 2023/24, as shown in Table 5 below. However, the May 2022 pupil roll Census shows less than **2% surplus** primary school places in the planning area and half of the schools have already been required to take children in excess of their admission limits to accommodate new arrivals in the area.

Table 5 : Updated Reception forecast in Planning Area 5

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith places	Total places	Surplus shortfall places	Surplus / shortfall forms of entry
2022/2023	341	225	110	335	-6	-0.20
2023/2024	322	225	110	335	13	0.43
2024/2025	330	225	110	335	5	0.17
2025/2026	320	225	110	335	15	0.50
2026/2027	311	225	110	335	24	0.80

Figure 6. Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Planning Area 5



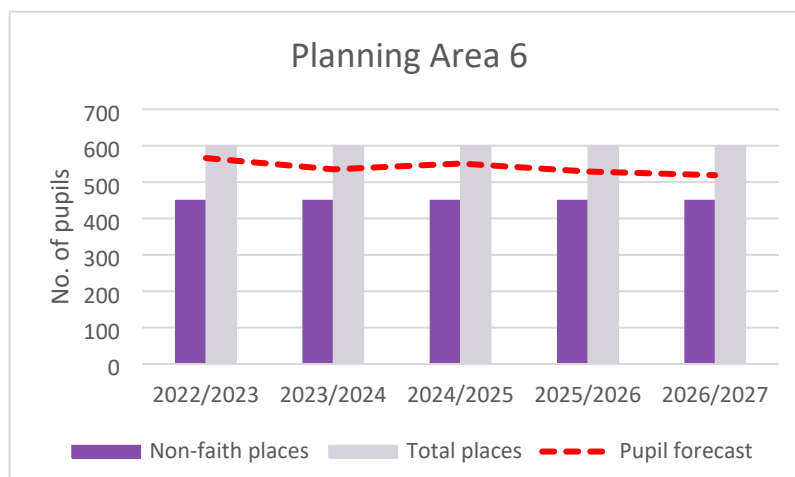
Planning Area 6: Brunswick Park, East Barnet and Oakleigh.

- 7.35 There are currently **600 permanent Reception mainstream places** in PA6 across 13 schools, four of which have religious character. Most of the schools in the area are oversubscribed and over a third have been required to admit in excess of their admission limit to accommodate new arrivals. The schools in the area draw a high percentage of children from the neighbouring Enfield borough. Queenswell Infant and Queenswell Junior have previously undergone permanent PAN reductions from three forms to two forms of entry, due to falling pupil numbers. Surplus capacity has been remodelled as SEND provision, where demand currently outweighs existing capacity.
- 7.36 The latest forecast, as shown on Table 6 below, indicates sufficient primary capacity to meet the projected demand over the next five years and there are no further plans to create or reduce primary provision in the planning area. However, the surplus is small and this is another area where the actual demand has been higher than projected over the past five years. The pressure is localised on the South of the PA6, bordering PA5 and so far this has been managed through equitable sharing of unplaced pupils across local schools that are already full.
- 7.37 Planning Area 6 borders the London Borough of Enfield. For the Reception 2022 intake, **81 Barnet children have secured a place at a school in Enfield**. The reciprocal figure is slightly higher, with **96 Barnet school places allocated to Enfield residents**.

Table 6 : Updated Reception forecast in Planning Area 6

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith places	Total places	Surplus places	Surplus forms of entry
2022/2023	566	450	150	600	34	1.13
2023/2024	535	450	150	600	65	2.17
2024/2025	551	450	150	600	49	1.63
2025/2026	529	450	150	600	71	2.37
2026/2027	519	450	150	600	81	2.70

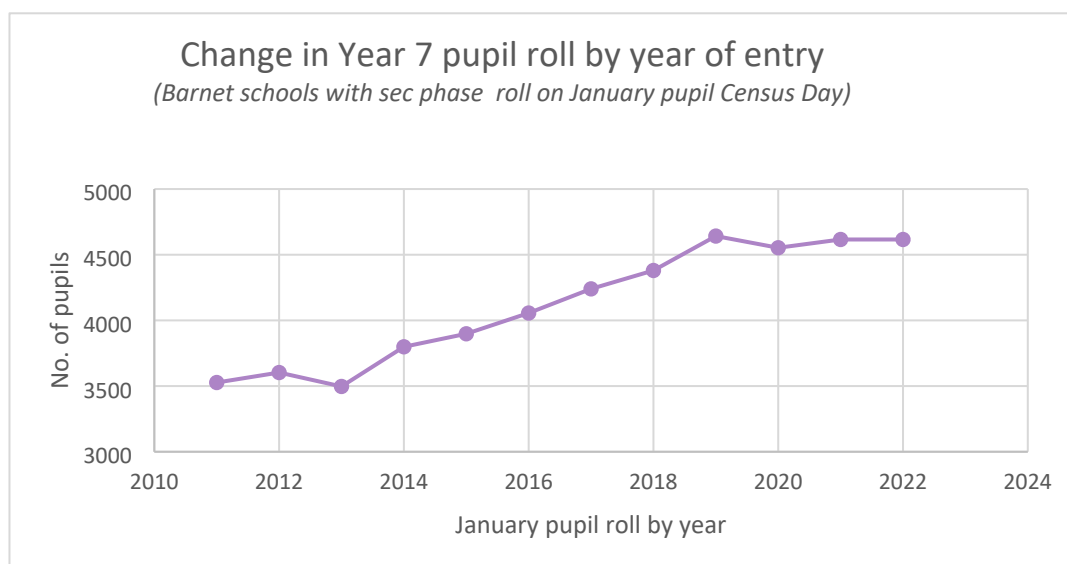
Figure 7. Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Planning Area 6



8. CHANGES IN SECONDARY DEMAND AND FUTURE PROJECTIONS

- 8.1 Barnet has a single planning area in the secondary phase. The desirability of Barnet secondary schools makes home-to-school distance and travel far less significant and the competition for school places is mainly driven by parental preference and perceptions.
- 8.2 There are currently **28 schools with a secondary phase** in the borough; one community school, 6 voluntary-aided schools, 17 academies and 4 free schools. Of the **4,812 permanent secondary transfer places, 1,632 (34%)** are in schools **with religious character**.
- 8.3 Three schools with a secondary cohort are all-through schools that also have a primary phase: London Academy, St Mary's and St John's CE and Wren Academy. The borough also has three heavily oversubscribed secondary Grammar schools: Queen Elizabeth Boys, Henrietta Barnett and St Michael's Catholic that select wholly on academic ability and draw pupils from far and wide. In addition, Mill Hill County High, Ashmole Academy offer a quota of available places on aptitude.
- 8.4 Barnet's secondary expansion programme, in addition to new provision at two six-form entry Free schools (Saracens High and Ark Pioneer) has helped to meet the rise in demand for secondary places, which started to emerge in 2017 and reached a peak in 2019. Since then, there has been some fluctuation in demand and the rate of growth has slowed down but no clear trends can be drawn at present. Surplus capacity at Copthall Girls School has been remodelled to create additional SEND provision. Other secondary schools have capped in-year admission limits across selected year groups where surplus exists.
- 8.5 Figure 8 below shows the change in Year 7 pupil roll on January Census Day, over the last decade.

Figure 8: *Number of Year 7 pupils on roll at Barnet secondary and all-through schools, on January Census Day*



- 8.6 There are no current plans to create or reduce secondary capacity. However, several Barnet secondary schools continue to admit in excess of their PAN at secondary transfer stage. For secondary Transfer 2022, six secondary schools provided a combined total of **156**

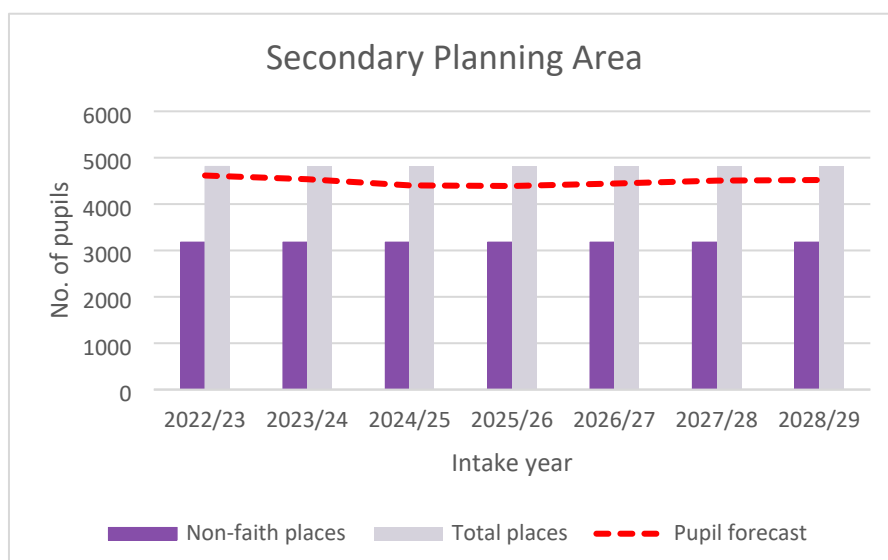
unplanned additional temporary places. Despite this additional unplanned provision, the majority of Barnet secondary schools remain oversubscribed.

- 8.7 There is a high level of cross-borough secondary flow, with over **25% of Barnet school places allocated to children from other boroughs**. In comparison, **approximately 15% Barnet children on average secure a place at an out-borough school**.
- 8.8 In line with GLA projections, the surge in secondary demand started to decline from 2020/21 and we have already seen a plateau emerging in the last few years. Current provision is expected to meet the projected need through to the end of the decade, with a surplus for in-year arrivals and cross-borough movement, and there are no further plans to invest council funds in additional secondary school places at present.

Table 6 : Updated Secondary forecast

Academic Year	Pupil forecast	Non-faith places	Faith places	Total places	Surplus places	Surplus forms of entry
2022/23	4616	3180	1632	4812	196	6.53
2023/24	4536	3180	1632	4812	276	9.20
2024/25	4403	3180	1632	4812	409	13.63
2025/26	4390	3180	1632	4812	422	14.07
2026/27	4443	3180	1632	4812	369	12.30
2027/28	4506	3180	1632	4812	306	10.20
2028/29	4519	3180	1632	4812	293	9.77

Figure 9. Forecast shown against total available places and non-denominational places in Secondary Planning Area



9. IN YEAR ADMISSIONS

- 9.1 In-year demand across all year groups has returned to pre-Covid level, with **over 5,000 in-year applications** received for Barnet school places during the 2021/22 academic year.

More than 25% of these in-year applications are in respect of children from outside the UK. So far, there has been no significant pressure and places have been allocated well within statutory timescales for both the primary and secondary school-age children.

- 9.2 Barnet continues to receive applications from Hong Kong Migrants arriving under the resettlement scheme. The number of applications in respect of Ukrainian migrant children arriving under both the 'Ukraine Family Scheme' and 'Homes for Ukraine scheme' is also rising. The table below shows the breakdown of in-year Barnet school place allocations to children from abroad.

Table 7: Number of Barnet school places allocated in-year to children from abroad, by phase of education

Country of origin	Primary allocations	Secondary allocations	Total allocations
Ukraine	110	67	177
Hong Kong	178	107	285
Afghanistan	36	41	77
Other country	525	320	845

10. EARLY YEARS PROVISION

- 10.1 In Barnet there are a total of 387 providers delivering Early Education and Childcare. These providers are categorised as childminders, private, voluntary and independent nurseries, nurseries within schools and 4 maintained nursery schools. The providers are across the three 0-19 Early Help localities. The latest census data shows Barnet has a total of 24,100 children aged 0-4 years .
- 10.2 As with other Local Authorities, Barnet has experienced several settings closing and others opening. The sample period below demonstrates that this does not necessarily have a negative impact on the overall sufficiency levels. In this sample larger providers have opened. Further work is to be undertaken to explore the reasoning why the number of childminders deregistering has increased.

January – August 2022	Closed	Number of spaces	Newly Opened	Numbers of Spaces	Impact on sufficiency
Early Years Settings	4	96	4	268	172
Childminder	23	124	9	54	-70
					102 Additional spaces

- 10.3 Where previously sufficiency issues had been identified in localised areas such as Burnt Oak, Colindale and Golders Green where more provision was required, data now highlights the impact of the introduction of the new Ofsted inspection framework (February 2022). As with

national statistics, Barnet has seen an increase in the numbers of settings receiving requires improvement or inadequate.

The Early Education and Childcare Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities (June 2018) states we should

'Secure alternative provision and withdraw funding from a provider (other than a local authority maintained school), as soon as is practicable, when Ofsted publish an inspection judgement of the provider of 'inadequate' or an inspection judgement of a childminder agency of 'not effective'

And for 2 year olds

'Only fund places for two-year-old children in 'satisfactory' or 'requires improvement' providers where there is not sufficient, accessible 'good' or 'outstanding' provision.'

In the past we have managed to avoid placing children in these settings and have been able to work with families to find a suitable alternative, whilst working with the settings to improve. However, this is now beginning to influence sufficiency across the Borough.

- 10.4 The council will be undertaking some further data analysis with a view to target areas of need with capital support and expand existing provision.

11. ALTERNATIVE PROVISION

- 11.1 The council has been continuing to work with the Education and Skills Funding Agency to progress the delivery of a project to re-build the Pavilion Pupil Referral Unit on its current site. This project was completed in June 2022 and the school has taken occupation of the new building and the temporary accommodation has been removed from the site. The new Sports Pavilion has also been completed and works to the new sports pitches have commenced.
- 11.2 On 1 May 2017, Oak Hill School was established as a special Academy following the de-merger of the Oak Hill provision from the Mill Hill Academy Trust. The new Oak Hill school is part of the newly established AP Barnet Multi-Academy Trust and the longer-term intention is for the Pavilion Pupil Referral Unit and Northgate school to become part of this Multi-Academy Trust.

12. SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) PROVISION

- 12.1 A report outlining the Special Educational Places Plan will be presented to the CES Committee in the November 2022 meeting, in line with the Committee Work Programme.

13. POST-16 PROVISION

- 13.1 In Barnet, the Post 16 provision has more than sufficient places across the borough to ensure that young people aged 16 plus have access to a varied and quality provision. The focus has been on ensuring that young people have knowledge of what provision exists at Post 16, as there has been a small increase in young people travelling to learn in other neighbouring boroughs. This has been achieved through improved centralised collation and publicity of the range of course choices on offer.
- 13.2 Most schools in Barnet have a sixth form and offer predominantly level 3 provision (small level 2 provision) consisting of A' levels and some Level 3 vocational qualifications (BTEC/CTEC) . Vocational provision is offered mainly at Barnet and Southgate College, where learners can access work-based qualifications as well as BTECs and A' level provision. There are also a very small number of private training providers offering traineeships and apprenticeships to learners in the borough. In terms of new provision:

- **Woodhouse College** has been given approval to collaborate with Imperial College London to open a new Post-16 maths school in North Finchley, offering 150 places for students aged 16-19 years. The new free school is expected to open in 2023.
- **Totteridge Academy** reopened its sixth form in September 2020, offering 50 places to young people in Year 12. The school plans to grow the sixth form and initial discussions indicate that this would involve a two-fold increase in PAN, to 100 pupils, for the next Year 12 intake. The school will be offering predominately A levels provision only.
- **St Andrews Apostle Greek school** opened its sixth form in September 2018 and offers a wide range of A' Level and BTEC options to post-16 students.
- **St Mary's and St John's CE all-through school** opened its sixth form in September 2019, offering a broad range of A' Level courses.
- **Saracens High School** and **Ark Pioneer Academy** are new free schools that are still growing and have plans to provide sixth form provision in the future.
- **JCoSS** plans to open a post 16 Technical College in 2024/25, offering T Levels to help students progress into skilled employment.

14. CAPITAL FUNDING

- 14.1 The government makes capital grant funding available for the 'basic need' for school places through an annual allocation. Barnet has not received a Basic Need Allocation since 2019 because the government has assessed that there is sufficient capacity within the existing school estate to meet the future demand for school places in the borough. However, as part of the regeneration schemes, the Council has secured Section 106 funding that has contributed towards the educational infrastructure in some areas under development. Additional funding has also been provided from government by way of a SEND capital funding grant. To date the following projects has been delivered through this funding stream:

2018/19

- Remodelling the Additional Resource Provision (ARP) at Coppetts Wood Primary School to create and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) ARP.
- New build ASD ARP at Chalgrove Primary School

2019/20

- Remodelling space in Oakleigh Special School to provide additional capacity.
- Remodelling space in Claremont Primary School to provide an ASD ARP
- New build ASD ARP at Whitefield School

2020/21

- Remodelling space in Northway Special School and Fairway Primary School to provide addition special school places for Northway.
- Remodelling space at Queenswell Infant School to create a satellite class for Oakleigh Special School.
- Remodelling space at Edgware Hospital to provide additional space for Northgate Pupil Referral Unit.

2021/22

- New Build ASD ARP at Broadfields Primary School
- Remodelling Edgware Primary School to create space for Oakbridge Special Provision (19 – 25yrs)

- Remodelling Copthall Academy to create satellite classes for Mapledown Special School

2022/23

- New build additional space at Queenswell Infant School to create further satellite classes for Oakleigh Special School
- Remodelling Grasvenor Infant School to create satellite classes for Northway Special School
- Remodelling Underhill Primary School to accommodate displaced Grasvenor classes following the closure of the school.
- Remodelling Whitefield ARP to create satellite classes for Mapledown Special School

14.2 The government also makes capital grant funding available to improve the condition of maintained schools. The 'School Condition Allocation' grant funding is provided on an annual basis and for 2022/23 the council received £3.8m. Annually, following receipt of this funding, the council and its delivery partner, Capita CSG, designs and delivers a programme of works. The programme of works is prioritised using condition surveys and the local knowledge of a team of building surveyors within Capita CSG. It aims to target works to address failing roofing, the replacement of windows to improve energy efficiency and the upgrading of electrical and mechanical items within the school estate. A small contingency is held to support schools with significant emergency works that would otherwise result in the closure of the school.

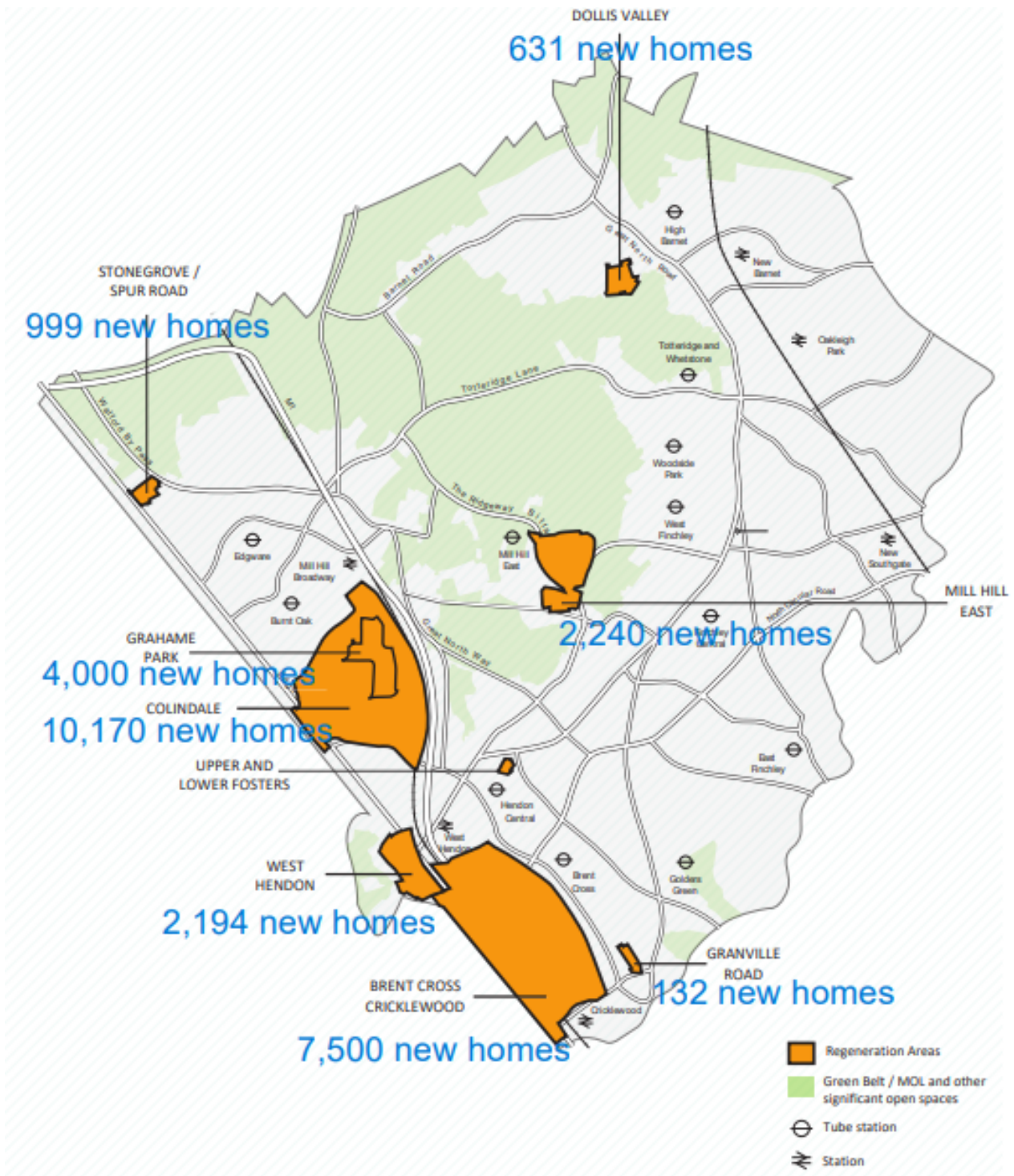


Table 1. *New permanent primary school places in Barnet since 2009*

Year	Primary School / Phase	Type of project	Total places added
2009	St Catherine's RC	Expansion	105
	Parkfield	Expansion	105
2010	Colindale	Expansion	210
2011	Beit Shvidler Jewish	Entering the VA sector	210
	Etz Chaim Jewish	New Free School	210
2012	Broadfields	Expansion	210
	Rimon Jewish	New Free School	210
2013	Alma Jewish	New Free School	210
	Blessed Dominic Catholic	Expansion	210
	Brunswick Park	Expansion	210
	Martin	Expansion	210
	Menorah Foundation Jewish	Expansion	210
	Sacks Morasha Jewish	Entering the VA sector	210
	Moss Hall	Expansion	210
	The Orion	Re-provision and Expansion	210
2014	Beis Yaakov Jewish	Expansion	196
	Millbrook Park	New Academy	420
	The Orion	Expansion	210
2015	London Academy	New all-through provision	420
	Monkfrith	Expansion	210
	Watling Park	New free school	420
	St Joseph's RC Primary	Expansion	210
	Wren Academy	New all-through provision	420
2016	Ashmole Primary Free School	New free school	420
2017	Childs Hill	Expansion	105
	St Agnes Catholic	Expansion	105
2019	Noam Primary Jewish	Entering VA sector	210
TOTAL			6496

Table 2: *New permanent secondary school places in Barnet since 2010*

Year	Secondary School / Phase	Type of project	Total places added
2010	East Barnet	Re-provision and expansion	50
	Jewish Community Secondary School (JCoSS)	Entering the VA sector	750
2011	Jewish Community Secondary School (JCoSS)	Expansion	150
	Wren Academy, Finchley CE	Expansion	90
2012	The Compton	Expansion	150
2013	The Archer Academy	New Free School	750
	Christ College Finchley	Expansion	150
	St Andrew the Apostle Greek Orthodox	New Free School	750
2014	Ashmole Academy	Expansion	40
	Hasmonean High	Expansion	100
	St Mary's and St John's CE	All through	600
2015	Copthall School	Expansion	150
	Finchley Catholic High	Expansion	150
2016	Menorah High	Entering the VA sector	300
2017	St Mary's & St John's CE	Expansion	300
	St James' Catholic High	Expansion 1	150
2018	Saracens High	New Free School	750
2019	Ark Pioneer Academy	New Free School	900
	St Michael's Catholic Grammar	Grammar school expansion	160
	St James' Catholic High	Expansion 2	150
TOTAL			6590

Primary Planning Areas (2013 Ward boundaries)

Planning area 1	Planning area 2	Planning area 3	Planning area 4	Planning area 5
Barnfield	Beit Schvidler Jewish	All Saints CE NW2	Alma Jewish	Christ Church CE
Beis Yaakov Jewish	Broadfields Primary	Brookland Infants	Akiva Jewish	Cromer Road
Bell Lane	Courtland	Brookland Junior	Chalgrove	Foulds
Blessed Dominic Catholic	Deansbrook Infant	Childs Hill	Coppetts Wood	Grasvenor Avenue Inf
Colindale	Deansbrook Junior	Claremont	Hollickwood	Monken Hadley CE
Goldbeaters	Dollis Primary	Garden Suburb Infant	Holly Park	St Catherine's RC
Hasmonean Jewish	Edgware	Garden Suburb Junior	Holy Trinity CE	Underhill
Independent Jewish Day	Etz Chaim Jewish	Menorah Primary	Manorside	Whitings Hill
Menorah Foundation Jewish	Fairway	Pardes House	Martin Primary	Planning area 6
Noam Jewish	Frith Manor	Rimon Jewish	Moss Hall Infant	All Saints' CE N20
Parkfield	London Academy	St Agnes' RC	Moss Hall Junior	Ashmole Primary
St Joseph's RC	Mathilda Marks Kennedy Jewish	Wessex Gardens	Northside	Brunswick Park
St Mary's and St John's CE	Millbrook Park		Our Lady of Lourdes	Church Hill
Sunnyfields	Rosh Pinah Jewish		Sacks Morasha Jewish	Danegrove
The Annunciation RC	St Andrew's CE		St John's CE N11	Livingstone
The Annunciation RC Junior	St John's CE N20		St Mary's CE N3	Monkfrith
The Hyde	St Paul's CE NW7		St Paul's CE N11	Osidge
The Orion	St Vincent's Catholic		St Theresa's	Queenswell Infant
Watling Park	Woodridge		Summerside	Queenswell Junior
Woodcroft Primary			Tudor	Sacred Heart Catholic
			Wren Academy CE	St Mary's CE EN4
				Trent CE

