

Croydon Local Plan: Detailed Policies and Proposals (Preferred and Alternative Options)

Education evidence base

September 2015

Croydon Local Plans – school sites

Pupil Place Projections for Primary and Secondary schools

Introduction

Croydon Council has a statutory duty to ensure that sufficient school places are available for people of statutory age across the Borough. Over the past ten years, Croydon's largest area of population growth is amongst children. The demand for additional school places in Croydon has been widely recognised as proportionately very high across the London boroughs.

The significant housing developments, particularly in the Centre and South West of the borough, are very likely to increase the number of children and young people needing a school place in the foreseeable future.

In order to meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient school place, the Council has been expanding existing schools and establishing new schools in the areas of greatest growth in demand. However, some existing schools have reached their capacity to expand; there is a limited amount of Council owned assets available for education use, therefore there is a need to secure additional sites for educational use.

Croydon Council's analysis of current and projected pupil place planning shows that the demand for pupil places will remain under significant pressure, despite the rate of demand slowing. However, whilst the rate of demand for primary places is slightly reducing as a result of a 5% drop in birth rate in 2013, the pressure felt in the primary phase is now transferring to the secondary phase.

Primary schools

Croydon has six planning areas - Central, East, North West, South, South East and South West - for primary phase pupil place planning. Two of these planning areas – Central and South West - have a specific importance to the Council's growth plan which is designed to transform the economic and social landscape of the borough. This has within it a plan for 9,500 homes in the Centre of Croydon alone, as well as a major housing development in the South West planning area. In both of these planning areas, available, appropriate and affordable school sites are few in number. Alongside this, demand for primary places continues to be at its most intense in the North West of the borough.

Additional Forms of Entry required in Year Reception.

Planning Areas	Academic Year					
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
Central	0FE	1FE	1FE	2FE	3FE	4FE
East	1FE	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE
North West	5FE	6FE	7FE	8FE	8FE	9FE
South	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE
South East	1FE	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE	0FE
South West	1FE	2FE	2FE	3FE	4FE	5FE

1FE = 30Places

The Specific solutions to meet demand are published in the Authority's supply strategy (please refer to 19 January 2015 Cabinet report).

In addition to the projects set out in the strategy, our projections show that we expect to need to deliver further new places to meet the demand. The specific projects to meet demand will be set out in future supply strategies, however based on current projections we have set out the number of forms of entry we will need to meet demand in future years. The exact configuration of new provision is to be determined.

We will need sites to deliver additional school places in the borough between 2018/19 and 2023/24:

- Central – Up to 4 FE required :
 - 1 new 3FE school (site required)
 - possible 1FE Permanent Expansion of an existing school
- East – possible 1FE Permanent Expansion of an existing school
- North West – Up to 9 FE required, possible configurations include:
 - 2 new 4FE schools (sites required) Or; 3 new 3FE schools (sites required)
- South – No sites projected to be required in this time frame
- South East – possible 1FE Permanent Expansion of an existing school.
- South West – Up to 5 FE required:
 - 1 new 4FE school (site required)
 - possible 1FE Permanent Expansion of an existing school

Secondary schools

Croydon has two planning areas - North and South – for secondary phase pupil place planning. Whilst there is an increase in secondary numbers, due to the establishment of 1 new 6FE school in 2014/15; 1 new 6FE school in 2015/16; a 2FE expansion in 2016/17; and plan for a new 6FE free school in 2017/18; there is capacity in the secondary estate to accommodate some of this increase over the next few years.

Additional Forms of Entry required in Year Reception.

Planning Areas	Academic Year					
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
North	0FE	3FE	7FE	11FE	16FE	20FE
South	1FE	4FE	1FE	5FE	6FE	7FE

We will need sites to deliver additional school places in the borough between 2018/19 and 2023/24:

- Borough wide – Up to 24 FE required (by 2022) possible configurations include:
- 2 new 8FE and 1 new 6FE school (sites required) Or; 4 new 6FE schools (sites required).

Special Educational Need (SEN)

Croydon has two planning areas – North and South – for Special Educational Needs (SEN) place planning. There is a significant shortage of places for children with SEN in Croydon, both at primary and secondary phases.

The Council’s plans are to continue to expand local provision to meet increases in demand; however, there may be a need for additional sites to create new provision and to bring the existing cohorts back from out of borough places to schools within their local communities.