

**CONSULTATION PAPER**  
**Need for Extra Reception Places from September 2018 until**  
**September 2020**  
**PENNINES TOWNSHIP**



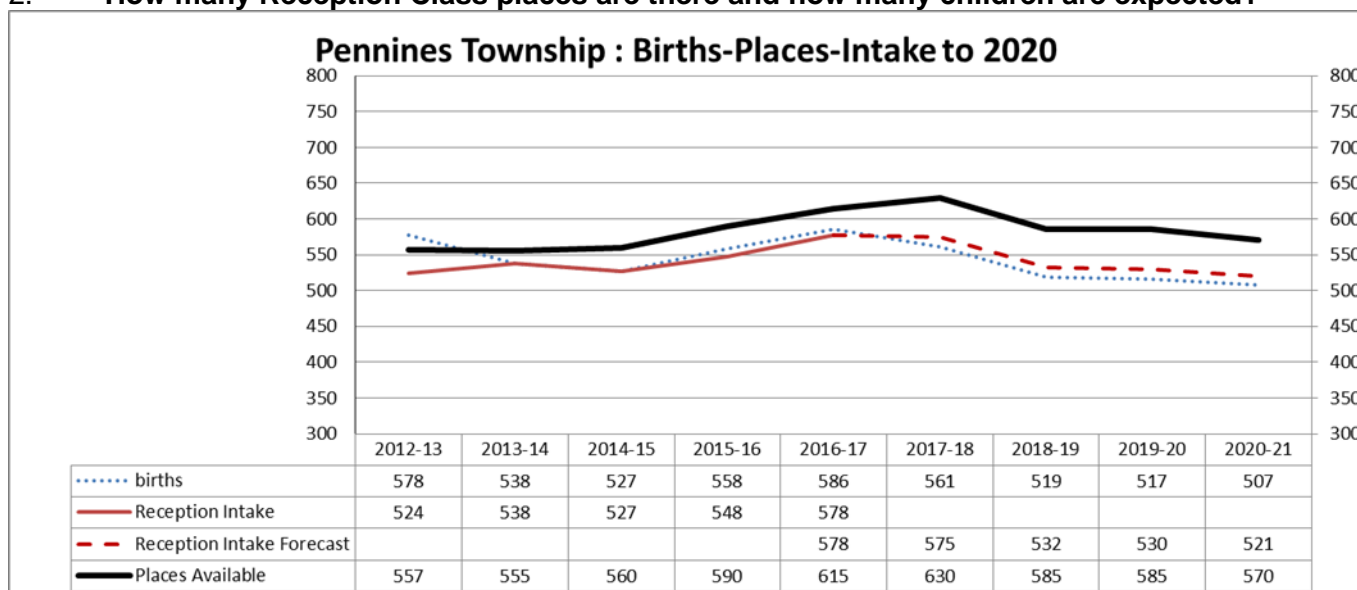
5<sup>th</sup> October 2017

**To: Parents and carers of children in Pennines Township, Headteachers, staff and governors of Pennines Township primary schools, Pennines Township Councillors, Secondary Headteachers, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, Manchester and Salford Dioceses, The Methodist Church- Rochdale and Littleborough Circuit, Neighbouring Local Authorities, MPs for the Rochdale Borough.**

**1. What is this Letter about?**

The Local Authority is looking at how many extra Reception Class places are going to be needed in the next few years. The reason for this letter is to tell you how many extra places are likely to be needed in Pennines Township, and to ask your views about where these places should be provided.

**2. How many Reception Class places are there and how many children are expected?**



**NOTE: Projections include potential pupil yield from new housing, and are based on current approvals where the site is in development, with the numbers factored over 5 years from 2017/18.**

The graph shows there has been an increase in demand for reception class places up to September 2016, but a fall in demand up to September 2019. Whilst the number of children born across the Township have fallen, so has demand for places overall. However, there are significant local pressures to consider.

**3. Where do you get your information from and how accurate is it?**

The Local Authority uses government figures on the **actual** number of children born in the township. Based on past trends the Authority then looks at the proportion of those children who take up Reception Class places. Last year 2% fewer children wanted Reception places in Pennines than were born in the Township and the projected numbers take this change into account.

**4. What do you take into account to decide where to put extra places?**

The Local Authority has to make sure there are enough school places for all children who need them, as well as ensuring that there are not too many. In looking at demand for places it is assumed that all current Reception places will be filled. The Authority has taken into account a number of factors to decide where to put extra places, these are:- distribution of births; physical space in schools; scope to put in extra accommodation; making sure schools can comply with class size limits; and avoiding creating too many extra places. The proposals in the table below show the current thinking to address the issues arising from the current trend in demand. **Alternative proposals and views are invited.**

**5. How will you put extra space into schools and how will you avoid overcrowding?**

The solution is likely to be different for each school. We will look at each school individually- some schools have more space than others and so extra places might be possible by using spare or under-used spaces. In some cases demountable classrooms might be needed or extensions to current buildings. Each year the Authority will need to look closely at the number of applications for places in the Township.

## 6. Are any extra places needed in Pennines Township?

Overall there are enough places across the Township. However there is a significant imbalance between the demand in Wardle and Littleborough areas and the rest of the Township, and some extra places may be needed in the Milnrow and Newhey area from 2018/19 through to 2020/21.

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Extra Places Needed	35 spare	53 spare	55 spare	49 spare
Plans were	Moorhouse extra 30 for 2017/18 Newhey extra 10 permanently (PAN 30 to 40) Littleborough extra 30 (extra 15 for 2018 -19)	Littleborough extra 15 (extra 15 for 2018 -19)	Littleborough extra 15 (extra 15 for 2018 -19)	n/a
Possible Ways Forward	n/a	South Pennines: Consult on Moorhouse (+15) bulge with PAN to 45 for 3 years		

## 7. How many Reception places are there in Pennines Schools now?

There are 630 Reception class places in Pennines schools this September 2017 as follows:

Littleborough-Wardle-Dearnley-Smithy Bridge-Smallbridge area				Milnrow and Newhey area	
School	Places	School	Places	School	Places
Littleborough	90	Stansfield Hall CE VC	20	Moorhouse (pan=30)	60
Holy Trinity CE VA	30	St Mary's RC VA	30	St Thomas' CE VA	21
St James' CE F	30	St. Andrew's CE VC	60	Crossgates F	45
Smithy Bridge F	60	Kentmere Academy	45	Milnrow Parish CE VA	30
Alice Ingham RC VA	24	Hamer	45	Newhey	40

## 8. Where can I find out more?

This letter concerns Pennines Township. Information on the other townships and the full consultation paper is available on the Rochdale Council website at:

<http://consultations.rochdale.gov.uk/extra-primary-places>

You can also get a copy by contacting Robert Aspinall at [robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk)

## 9. Making your views known:

Your views on the following will be helpful,

\* are we proposing enough extra places?

\* are the places in the right locality to meet need?

\* would you suggest something different about the need for extra reception places?

After the closing date a report will go to the Council's Cabinet for a final decision.

Please send any comments or responses to: **Robert Aspinall, School Organisation & Development Team, Rochdale Borough Council, Schools Service, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU** or e-mail: [Robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk](mailto:Robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk) by **WEDNESDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2017**.