

CONSULTATION PAPER

Need for Extra Reception Places from September 2018 until September 2020

ROCHDALE TOWNSHIP

5th October 2017

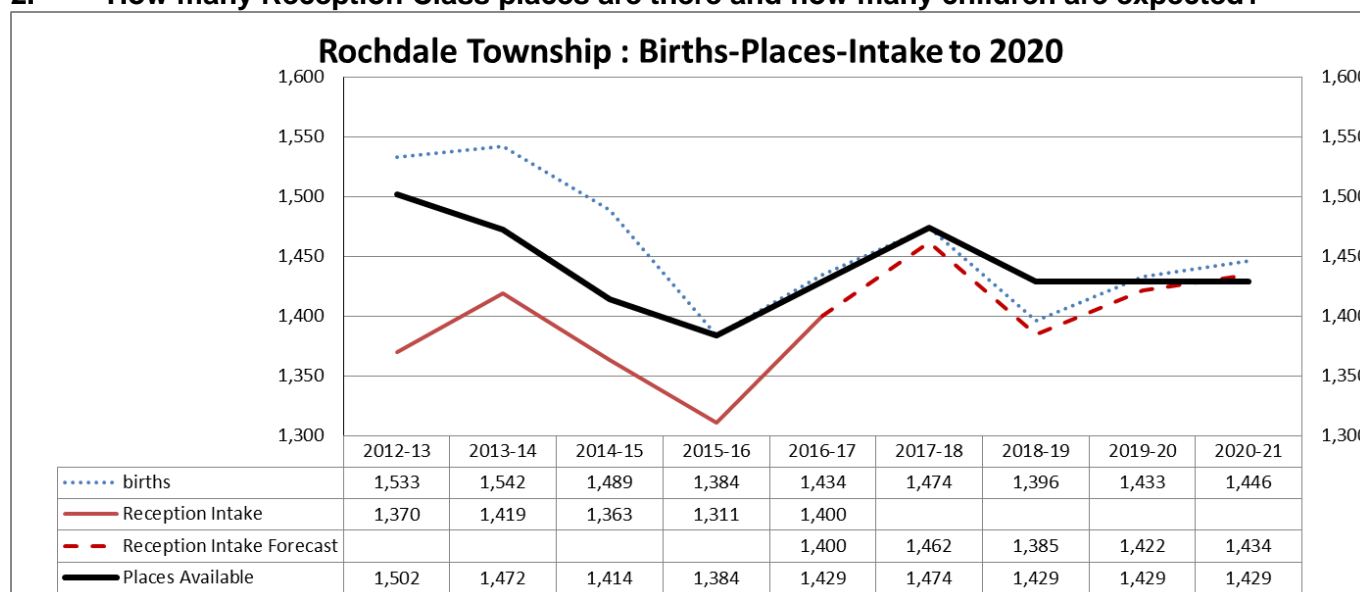


To: Parents and carers of children in Rochdale Township, Headteachers, staff and governors of Rochdale Township primary schools, Rochdale Township Councillors, Secondary Headteachers, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, Manchester and Salford Dioceses, The Methodist Church- Rochdale and Littleborough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

1. What is this Letter about?

The Local Authority is looking at how many extra Primary 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 Rochdale 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 that there will be an increase in the demand for reception class places until September 2017/18, followed by a fall in demand in 2018/19 and an increase for September 2019. However, when birth data is examined at Ward level, there are significant localised differences from year to year, which suggest that extra places may be needed in some localities for a short period of time. More detail of births can be found in the full consultation papers on the council website.

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 2.4% fewer children wanted Reception places in Rochdale Township than were born there 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. Where are you thinking of putting extra new places?

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21
Extra Places Needed	57 spare	44 spare	7 spare	5 spaces needed
Plans were	Sandbrook enlarged Permanently (PAN 60 to 90) from 2016 Whittaker Moss enlarged Permanently (PAN 45 to 60) from 2017 Bulge classes at Greenbank (+30), Castleton (+15)			
Possible Ways Forward	n/a	n/a	Consider Belfield moving to permanent PAN of 60 (+15) Consider Lowerplace moving to PAN of 90 (+30)	

7. How many Reception places are there in Rochdale Township Schools now?

There are 1474 Reception class places in Rochdale Township schools this September 2017 as follows:

School	PAN	School	PAN	School	PAN	School	PAN
Healey F	30	Meanwood	60	Belfield	45	St Peter's CE VC	60
Shawclough	60	Norden	60	Holy Family RC	30	St Mary's CE VC	30
All Saints CE VA	30	Spotland	60	Sandbrook	90	St John's RC	30
Greenbank	60	Caldershaw	30	Brimrod	30	Sacred Heart RC	30
St Patrick's RC	45	Whittaker Moss	60	Broadfield	60	Castleton	30
Heybrook	90	St Vincent's RC	60	Deeplish	60	St Edward's CE VC	52
Ashfield Valley	30	Bamford Academy	45	Lowerplace	60	St John's CE VA	12
				Marland Hill	60	St Gabriel's RC	30

8. Where can I find out more?

This letter concerns Rochdale 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

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 by **WEDNESDAY 8th NOVEMBER 2017**.