

CONSULTATION PAPER
Need for Extra Reception Places from September 2017 until
September 2019
MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP

12th September 2016

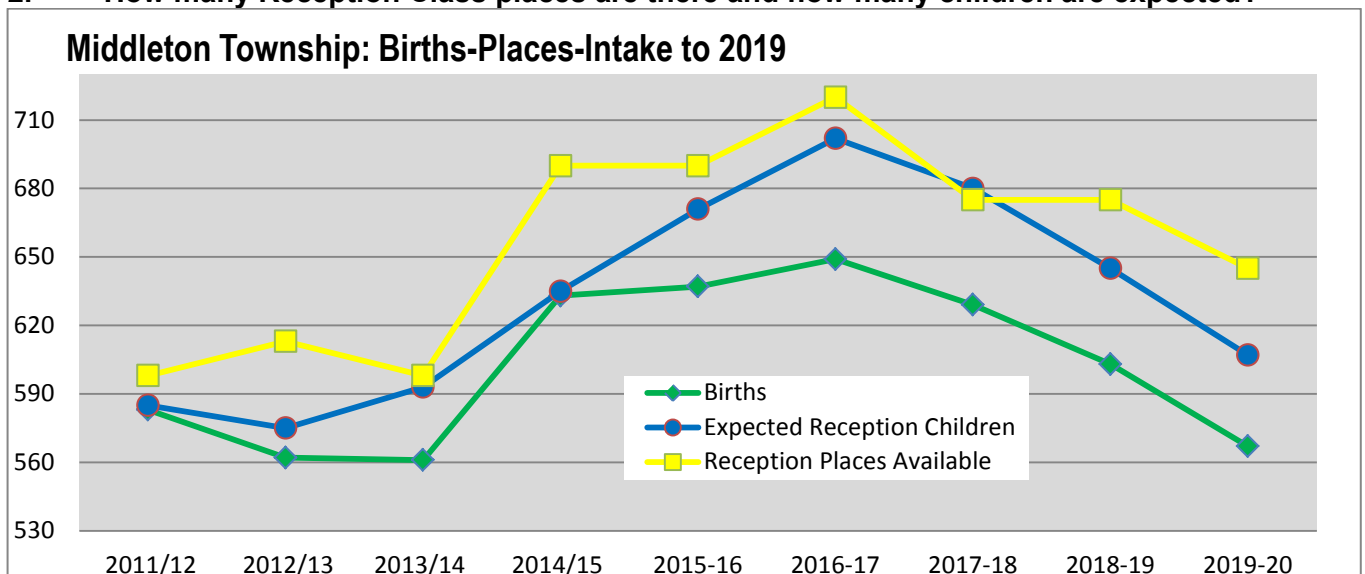


To: Parents and carers of children in Middleton Township, Headteachers, staff and governors of Middleton Township primary schools, Middleton Township Councillors, Secondary Headteachers, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, Manchester and Salford Dioceses, The Methodist Church- Rochdale and Littleborough 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 Middleton 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 2 years from 2016/17.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Births	583	562	561	633	637	649	629	603	567
Expected Reception Children	585	575	593	635	671	702	680	645	607
Reception Places Available	598	613	598	690	690	720	675	675	645

The graph shows that the increase in demand for reception class places is expected to peak in 2016/17 and whilst intakes are expected to fall there is still a need for more places in 2017 and 2018 only. Whilst overall there may be enough places, account needs to be taken of the distribution of those places and the need for some flexibility.

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 5% more children wanted Reception places in Middleton than were born in the Township and the projected numbers take this growth 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. In deciding the number of extra places needed, 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,
Reception Class Places Consultation Letter Middleton Sept2016

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 meet the extra 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?

	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019
Places available	710	675	645	645
Estimated Pupils	690	669	634	596
Extra Places Needed	Enough places with a margin for growth	A shortfall of 5 places, so at least an extra 30 places are needed to provide a margin for growth	30 spare places each year so there are just enough places overall with a margin for growth	
Options		i) Continue to provide up to an extra 30 places at Boarshaw ii) consider an extra 30 places at Little Heaton CE iii) consider an extra 15 places at St.Peter's RC		

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

There are 720 Reception class places in Middleton schools this September 2016 as follows:

School	Places	School	Places	School	Places
Boarshaw	60	Hollin (30 from 2017)	60	St Thomas More RC	45
Bowlee Park	120	Middleton Parish CE VA	60	St Michael's CE VA	30
St Mary's RC VA	60	Parkfield	30	St Gabriel's CE VC	30
Elm Wood	60	Little Heaton CE VC	30	St Peter's RC (30 from 2018)	45
Alkington	60	St John Fisher RC	30		

8. Where can I find out more?

This letter concerns Middleton 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-reception-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 **MONDAY 10th OCTOBER 2016.**