

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



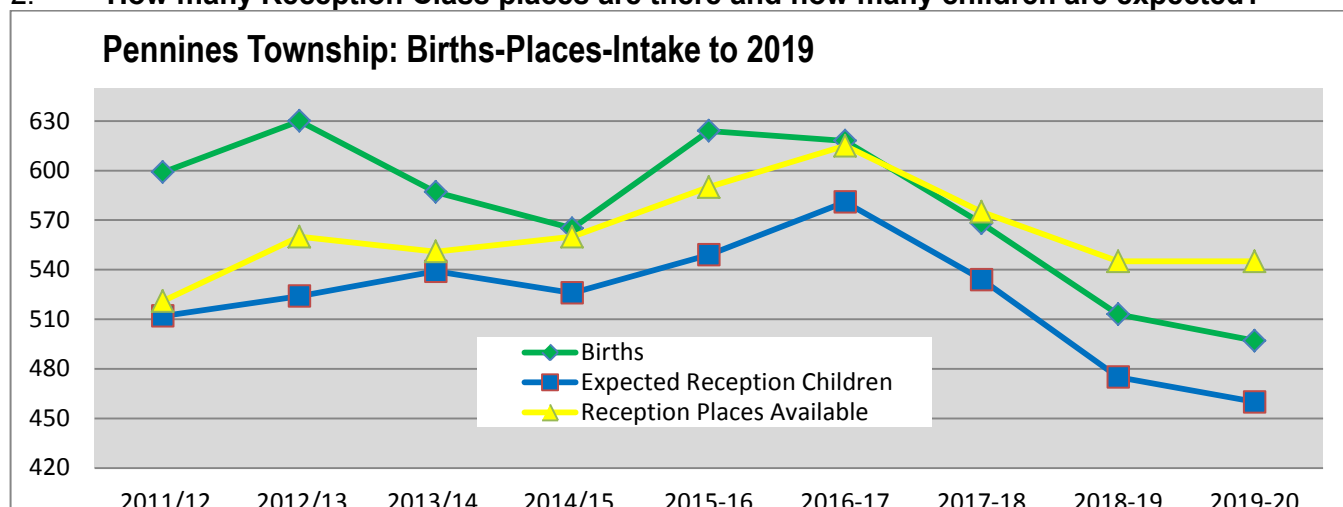
12th September 2016

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 2 years from 2016/17.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Births	599	630	587	565	624	618	568	513	497
Expected Reception Children	512	524	539	526	549	581	534	475	460
Reception Places Available	521	560	551	560	590	615	575	545	545

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 12% 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. How many children were born in each Ward for admission up to 2019?

Ward	Sept 16 (Born 2011-12)	Sept 17 (Born 2012-13)	Sept 18 (Born 2013-14)	Sept 19 (Born 2014-15)
Littleborough Lakeside	120	112	102	108
Wardle & West Littleborough	114	143	128	118
Smallbridge & Firgrove	231	193	191	200
Milnrow & Newhey	114	96	86	71
total	579	544	507	497

7. Are any extra places needed in Pennines Township?

Overall there are enough places across the Township. However there is a significant imbalance between the fall in demand in Milnrow, Firgrove and Newhey areas and the rest of the Township- so some extra places may be needed in the Smallbridge, Dearnley and Littleborough area.

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Places Available	615	575	575	575
Estimated pupils	581	534	475	460
Extra Places Needed	Enough places - Extra places were provided to meet local demand at St.Andrew's CE and Stansfield Hall	41 spare places	70 spare places	85 spare places
Options		i) Consider whether 30 extra places are still needed at Moorhouse; ii) Consider whether extra places are needed in the Dearnley and Littleborough areas to meet changing demand by increasing St..Andrew's CE to 60 places and Stansfield Hall to 30 for some of this period.		

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

There are 615 Reception class places in Pennines schools this September 2016 as follows:

Littleborough-Wardle-Dearnley-Smithy Bridge-Smallbridge area				Milnrow and Newhey area	
School	Places	School	Places	School	Places
Littleborough	60	Stansfield Hall CE VC	30	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 (PAN=30)	45

9. 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_reception_places

You can also get a copy by contacting Robert Aspinall at robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk

10. 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.**