

CONSULTATION PAPER
Need for Extra Reception Places from September 2017 until
September 2019
ROCHDALE TOWNSHIP
 12th September 2016

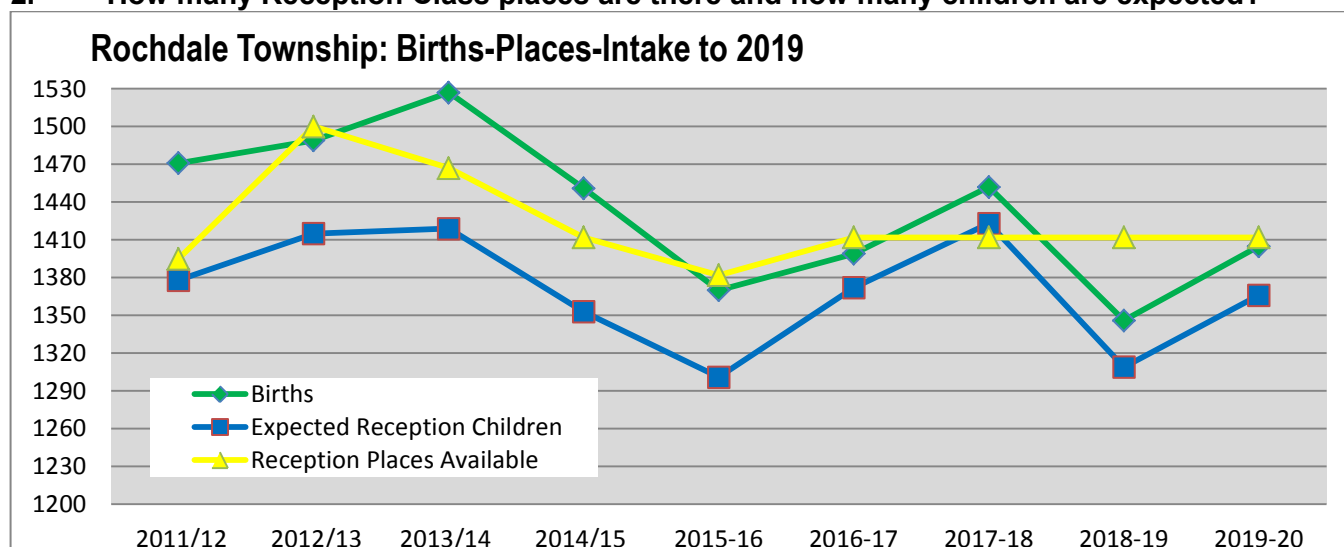


To: Parents and carers of children in Rochdale Township, Headteachers, staff and governors of Rochdale Township primary schools, Rochdale Township Councillors, Secondary Headteachers, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, Manchester and Salford Dioceses, The Methodist Church- Rochdale and Littleborough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

1. What is this Letter about?

The Local Authority is looking at how many extra 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 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 2 years from 2016/17.

	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Births	1471	1489	1527	1451	1370	1399	1452	1346	1405
Expected Reception Children	1378	1415	1419	1353	1301	1372	1423	1309	1366
Reception Places Available	1395	1500	1467	1412	1382	1412	1412	1412	1412

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 5% 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?

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Places Available	1412	1412	1412	1412
Estimated pupils	1372	1423	1309	1366
Extra Places Needed	40 spare	11 needed	103 spare	46 spare
Options		i) Consider permanent enlargement of Whittaker Moss from 45 to 60 places. ii) Consider additional 30 places at Greenbank (additional accommodation previously provided at the school)	Enough places overall	Need to review distribution of births across the Township to meet local demand pressures

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

There are 1412 Reception class places in Rochdale Township schools this September 2016 as follows:

School	Places	School	places	School	places	School	places
Bamford Academy	45	All Saints CE VA	30	St Peter's CE VC	60	St John's CE VA Thornham	10
Whittaker Moss	45	Heybrook	90	Brimrod	30	Holy Family RC VA	30
Norden	60	Belfield	45	Marland Hill	60	Sacred Heart RC VA	30
Caldershaw	30	Broadfield	60	Ashfield Valley	30	St Gabriel's RC VA	30
Meanwood	60	Deeplish Academy	60	Sandbrook	90	St John's RC VA	30
Spotland	60	Lowerplace	60	St Mary's CE VC	30	St Patrick's RC VA	45
Shawclough	60	Greenbank	60	Castleton	30	St Vincent's RC VA	60
Healey Foundation	30			St Edward's CE VC	52		

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_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.**