**School Places: September 2024**

We hope you had a good break over the Summer and were able to take the opportunity to relax and re-charge.

Following the circulation of the School Places Bulletin last year, we thought it would be helpful to share some of the latest available information and data on school place planning in Derby, to help support schools and Academy Trusts with future planning.

Contact details, are included at the end of this bulletin, should you have any queries.

**Strategic School Place Planning**

**Assess, Plan, Do, Review**

* The Council has a legal duty to ensure sufficient school places.
* Strategic place planning proposals are developed with schools and academy trusts in response to population changes, as well as housing growth.
* The aim is to achieve a good balance of provision, with flexibility to accommodate pupil numbers throughout the year, whilst at the same time not having ‘overprovision’ in the system.
* Ongoing careful monitoring and reviewing of pupil numbers and trends.

**Partnership**

The Council works in close partnership with a wide range of education providers, including the Schools’ Sector and neighbouring Local Authorities, to commission sufficient places to meet the needs of Derby's residents and is committed to continuing this approach into the future.

**City-wide Pupil Projections**

Line graphs showing primary and secondary pupil projections are set out below. Further supporting data and information on pupil numbers and trends is set out at the end of this bulletin.

It is important to note that projections indicate a trend and actual pupil numbers may vary. Pupil projections are updated annually, using the latest available data.

Line Graph1: City-wide Primary Pupil Projections

City-wide projections are starting to show a more stable trend in primary pupil numbers over future years. For example, pupil numbers moving into Reception are projected to remain at around 3,100 – 3,150 over the next three years. There will, however, continue to be some variation across different parts of the city.

Line Graph 2: City-wide Secondary Pupil Projections

As a result of the continuing growth in secondary pupil numbers, some additional capacity has been created through temporary Published Admission Number (PAN) increases in Year 7 for 2024/25. This is to ensure sufficient places in the projected peak in-take years and has been achieved through close collaborative working with the secondary schools’ sector. It is projected that there will continue to be pressures for the Year 7 in-take in 2025-26, which the Council is closely monitoring.

**School Admissions**

Admissions arrangements for September 2025 have now been determined and, therefore, the next opportunity to consult on any changes to existing admission arrangements will be for September 2026.

The School Admissions Code advises that consultation on admissions arrangements must be for a minimum of 6 weeks and musttake place between 1 October and 31 Januaryof the school year before those arrangements are to apply. Consultation will, therefore, start around October this year for September 2026 admissions arrangements. Academy Trusts have the option to join the Council’s co-ordinated annual consultation on school admissions arrangements, if they wish.

Thank you to all schools for notifying the Council’s Admissions Team promptly when pupils leave during the academic year. This is a requirement of the School Admissions Code and is really important as it enables the Council to accurately advise parents on the availability of places and also offer places to any pupils on waiting lists.

The School Admissions Code is published on the Gov.uk website and can be accessed via the following link:

[School Admissions Code](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2)

**Contact Details**

If you have any queries regarding place planning or the admissions process, please contact the School Organisation & Provision Team using the following email addresses:

Place planning queries: school.proposals@derby.gov.uk

Admissions queries: admissions@derby.gov.uk

Thank you once again for working in close partnership with the Council on accommodating changing trends in pupil numbers in the City.

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**Director for Commissioning and Delivery**

**School Places Bulletin – September 2024: Supporting Data and Information**

This note sets out supporting information for Schools and Academy Trusts on pupil projections, as follows:

1. City-wide Primary Pupil Projections
2. City-wide Secondary Pupil Projections
3. Contact details
4. **City-wide Primary Pupil Projections**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **R** | **1** | **2** | **3** | **4** | **5** | **6** | **Total** |
| 2024/25 | 3099 | 3286 | 3371 | 3387 | 3547 | 3583 | 3581 | 23854 |
| 2025/26 | 3153 | 3227 | 3438 | 3468 | 3499 | 3668 | 3668 | 24120 |
| 2026/27 | 3142 | 3272 | 3366 | 3532 | 3572 | 3606 | 3747 | 24238 |
| 2027/28 | 2973 | 3261 | 3412 | 3457 | 3638 | 3683 | 3686 | 24109 |
| 2028/29 | 2947 | 3088 | 3403 | 3508 | 3563 | 3754 | 3770 | 24033 |
| 2029/30 | 2947 | 3053 | 3207 | 3481 | 3599 | 3661 | 3828 | 23776 |

1. **City-wide Secondary Pupil Projections**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Academic Year** | **7** | **8** | **9** | **10** | **11** | **12** | **13** | **Total** |
| **2024/25** | *3628* | *3715* | *3550* | *3510* | *3467* | *1007* | *897* | *19775* |
| **2025/26** | *3603* | *3674* | *3741* | *3570* | *3522* | *1044* | *932* | *20086* |
| **2026/27** | *3581* | *3640* | *3688* | *3753* | *3573* | *1065* | *967* | *20266* |
| **2027/28** | *3563* | *3617* | *3654* | *3700* | *3756* | *1084* | *987* | *20360* |
| **2028/29** | *3439* | *3603* | *3635* | *3670* | *3706* | *1134* | *1004* | *20191* |
| **2029/30** | *3363* | *3461* | *3605* | *3634* | *3659* | *1113* | *1050* | *19884* |
| **2030/31** | *3295* | *3385* | *3462* | *3603* | *3624* | *1098* | *1030* | *19498* |

1. **Contact details**

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