

# Commissioning Plan for Education Provision

**KENT**

**2012 – 2017**

**Dover (extract)**



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## Foreword

The role of local authorities within the education sector has been redefined by a combination of legislation. Local authorities have significant core responsibilities as strategic commissioners of education provision, agents for school improvement and champions of children and their communities.

These three responsibilities are intertwined. The role of strategic commissioner is to ensure there is sufficient, suitable education provision, in the right place for all local children and young people; and also to ensure we achieve improved educational standards and good outcomes for children and young people, by ensuring they can attend a good or outstanding school.

New provision opens opportunities to make schools better environments in which to learn. Expansion of popular and successful schools makes these accessible to more pupils. Places should be removed where capacity is not needed and it is necessary to protect standards and the quality of education. However, an element of surplus capacity ensures parents are able to exercise choice, whilst balancing this with the need to achieve an efficient and effective education system.

The County Council's goals by 2015 are to ensure:

- There will be more good schools, with at least 85% of primary and secondary schools judged as good or outstanding. All special schools will be good or outstanding
- At least 85% of families secure school places at their first preference school, and 95% secure either their first or second preference
- We maintain at least 5% surplus capacity in the primary school sector in each District of Kent
- We maintain at least 5% surplus capacity in the secondary school sector in each travel to learn area of Kent
- We make appropriate provision for children with special educational needs so as to reduce by 10% the number who need to attend independent and out of county provision away from their local community

The context within which the Local Authority fulfils its role is changing. The Local Authority is increasingly operating in a more diverse educational environment where decisions about school size and capacity are taken following dialogue and negotiation with a number of providers in the light of local demand. Many schools can now make their own decisions about expansion and there are new providers coming into the market, such as free schools. Nevertheless the Local Authority remains the strategic commissioner of education provision, with a duty to plan strategically and ensure we have the right number and quality of school places for local children and their families. We have a statutory responsibility to monitor the supply and demand for places and for ensuring that there is sufficient capacity to meet demand.

This Commissioning Plan sets out our future plans as strategic commissioner of education provision across all types and phases of education. We will update this on an annual basis and consult regularly on future developments.

***County Councillor Mike Whiting***  
***Cabinet Member for Education, Learning and Skills***

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Commissioning Plan for new educational provision in Kent is key to achieving our aim to be the most forward looking area in England for education and learning and one of the best places for children and young people to grow up, learn, develop and achieve.
- 1.2 Good and outstanding schools are the basis of strong communities and a strong local economy. All parents want their children to go to a good school and they want a choice of schools. And all children and young people should be able to achieve well at school, from the earliest years through primary and secondary education, no matter what their background. The goal of the education system in Kent is for all young people to have the best opportunities and to gain the right qualifications for rewarding employment and independence as they become young adults. Securing good quality school places in every community is essential for every young person to have the best start in life.
- 1.3 In Kent we are seeing a significant increase in pupil numbers and consequently a need for new provision. The number of primary-aged pupils is expected to rise significantly from 116,600 in 2011, to 127,300 in 2016. Beyond this point numbers remain comparatively level, although increases in some Districts are off-set by reductions in others. There will be a need to continue to make new provision available in some Districts on a permanent basis.
- 1.4 The secondary-aged population, while reducing between now and 2015 will rise through the latter part of this decade, and fall again in the first half of the 2020s. The number of 11 to 16 year olds in Kent secondary schools is 80,372 in 2011-12, which will fall to 77,600 in 2015 and is forecast to rise to a peak of around 83,200 in 2021. The falling numbers to 2015 mask significant growth in some districts that run counter to the overall trend, so that additional forms of entry in Year 7 in some areas will still be needed.
- 1.5 This Commissioning Plan, therefore, identifies the need for permanent new school provision as follows: 22.1 forms of entry in primary schools and 4 forms of entry in secondary schools across Kent by 2013. By 2016 we will need 30.4 additional forms of entry in primary schools and 13 forms of entry in Year 7 in secondary schools because of growth in some areas, for example in Ashford, Sittingbourne, Tonbridge and Malling and Gravesham. This is roughly equivalent to 25 new primary schools and 2 new secondary schools, although much of it will be achieved by expanding existing schools. Beyond this period we are forecasting a need for 51 new forms of entry in primary schools and 26 new forms of entry in secondary schools. While in many cases these needs are dependent upon future housing development, the increase in demand for education places is significant.
- 1.6 By clearly setting out the Local Authority's future commissioning needs and plans we hope parents and providers will be in a better position to make proposals and suggestions regarding how these needs can be met. This is a different approach to setting out predetermined solutions to perceived need, and should enable a greater range of options to be considered. We welcome the fact that new providers, such as free schools, will be entering the market and believe that parents and communities should have a strong voice in proposals for future school development. The Local Authority also recognises that popular schools may wish to expand, or be under pressure from the local community to do so. We support this greater diversity in the range of education provision available to Kent children and young people. As the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision, we welcome proposals from existing schools and new providers that address the needs, identified in this Plan, for new provision to meet increased demand and to improve the quality of education.

- 1.7 The draft Plan was widely consulted on during May and June 2012, and the responses to the consultation have informed this final version for publication. We will continue to consult regularly, review our forecast data and publish a revised Plan on an annual basis. This is an on-going process which will evolve as circumstances change and we take on board the views of parents and communities about the future shape of education provision in Kent.

**Patrick Leeson**  
**Corporate Director**  
**Education, Learning and Skills**

## **2. Executive Summary**

### **2.1 Purpose**

Kent County Council (The Local Authority) is the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision in the County. This Commissioning Plan sets out how we will carry out our responsibility for ensuring there are sufficient places of high quality for all learners, while at the same time fulfilling our other responsibilities to raise education standards, and be the champion of children and their families in securing good quality education. The Plan also supports the delivery of the Local Authority's Medium Term Plan, "Bold Steps for Kent", and its "Vision for Kent 2011-21". The purpose of the Commissioning Plan is to be transparent about the future need for education provision in Kent, in order to enable parents and education providers to put forward proposals as to how these needs might best be met.

### **2.2 Statutory Duties**

This Plan seeks to provide the framework within which we discharge the commissioning of future education provision. The Local Authority has duties to ensure:

- there are sufficient places for 3 and 4 year old children to be able to access their free early years entitlement (15 hours per week for 38 weeks a year); from September 2013, this duty will extend to providing free places to disadvantaged 2 year olds;
- all Kent residents of statutory school age (5 to 16 years old) have school places, if their families wish to take these up;
- it provides full-time education to children who are not in school for reasons of illness, exclusion or otherwise;
- that from September 2013 all 16/17 year olds are in full time education or employment with training; and from September 2015 all young people are in such provision up to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday;
- that children and young people's learning needs are assessed, and statements of Special Educational Need (SEN) issued, where appropriate; this may require placement in special school provision in order to meet the child's needs. These responsibilities may extend to young people up to the age of 25;
- that it considers parental representations about the exercise of its functions in relation to the provision of primary and secondary school education.

### **2.3 Delivering Bold Steps – Vision for Education, Learning and Skills**

"Our aim is to be the most forward looking area in England for education and learning so that we are the best place for children and young people to grow up, learn, develop and achieve. We want Kent to be a place where families thrive and all children learn and develop well from the earliest years so that they are ready for school, have excellent foundations for learning and are equipped for success in life, no matter what their background. We want every child to go to a good or outstanding school. We have the same expectations for every child and young person to make good progress in their learning, to achieve well at school and to have the best opportunities for an independent economic and social life as they become young adults."

- 2.4** In support of achieving this vision, by 2015 the Local Authority is planning to maintain a modest surplus of primary and secondary school places (between 5% and 7%); to increase the percentage of parents securing their preferred school(s) ( at least 85% to secure their first preference, and 95% to secure either their first or second preference); to improve the quality of schools (at least 85% of primary and secondary schools, and all special schools, will be judged as good or better); and to further develop in-County special education provision so as to reduce (by at least 10%) the

number of out-County independent and non-state maintained special school places commissioned for Kent pupils.

## **2.5 Principles and Guidelines**

It is important that the Local Authority is open about the principles and planning guidelines it will adhere to when making commissioning decisions or assessing the relative merits of any proposals it might receive. This Commissioning Plan sets these out.

## **2.6 Forecasting Future Education Provision Needs**

The Local Authority uses data on births and pre-school population figures from the Health Authority to inform the forecasting of pre-school and primary school pupil rolls. Secondary school and post-16 education needs are calculated from primary school rolls and transfer rates to secondary schools. Migration in and out of different parts of Kent and housing developments are taken into account. The methodology for forecasting the future needs for special education provision is being developed further, alongside the Local Authority's SEN review, and will be incorporated into the next edition of this plan. Over the last five years, forecasting for primary and secondary pupils at County level has generally been accurate to within plus or minus 1%. As would be expected, local forecasting has a greater variance, largely due to migration and pupil mobility.

**2.7** The increasing birth rate in Kent mirrors that of England and Wales. Since 2002, the birth rate has risen from 56 births per 1000 women aged 15-44 years, to a little over 65 in 2010. The birth rates and trends in individual Districts in Kent vary. Long term primary-aged population forecasts indicate primary school rolls will peak around the year 2016. Beyond this date, the growth in some Districts, such as Ashford and Dartford, offset the reducing population in other Districts. This data is used to ensure short and medium term planning decisions make sense in the long term context, with temporary and permanent accommodation solutions being used to meet changing demand.

**2.8** The increasing Reception Year numbers are expected to plateau in 2012/13, although a spike is expected in 2015/16. The total pupil number attending primary schools will increase throughout the forecast period up to 2016/17. Secondary school rolls will continue to fall, until 2016/17 when the Year 7 pupil intake numbers begin to exceed the outgoing Year 11 pupil numbers. Year 7 rolls will begin to reduce again from 2020, and thus secondary school rolls will fall shortly after this time.

## **2.9 Commissioning Additional Temporary and Permanent Places**

The Local Authority uses both temporary and permanent increases in school provision to help manage capacity. Where forecasts indicate fluctuating pressure on places, or where short term local demographic factors influence demand, a temporary solution might be sought as the most appropriate or cost effective option. Where forecasts indicate increases in demand caused by new housing development, rising indigenous population or longer term demographic factors, a permanent solution may be the more appropriate solution. Temporary solutions may also be established as a precursor to a permanent solution if rising trends continue.

## Commissioned additional places 2010 to 2014

Year	Cumulative temporary places added	Cumulative permanent places added	Total
2010	80	200	280
2011	270	658	928
2012	560	1611	2171
2013	675	3407	4082
2014	735	4459	5194

The cumulative number of places will continue to increase over the next 5-6 years as we admit additional pupils in to Year R, and enlarged cohorts work through all the subsequent school year groups.

### 2.10 Kent's Forward Plan

Detailed analysis, at District level, of the future need for primary and secondary school places is contained in this Plan. This clearly sets out what provision needs to be commissioned, where, and when. We need permanent accommodation as follows: 22.1 forms of entry (FE) in primary provision and 4 forms of entry in secondary schools across Kent by 2013; 30.4 forms of entry in primary, and 13 forms of entry in secondary by 2016; and 51 forms of entry in primary schools and 26 forms of entry in secondary schools beyond this period. Temporary enlargements (bulge year groups) will also be required. It is recognised that in many cases these needs are dependent upon future planned housing developments, and thus the timing may need to be adjusted. We will keep this under review. However, by clearly setting out the Local Authority's future commissioning plans, it is hoped parents and providers will be in a better position to make proposals and suggestions regarding how these needs are met. The identified needs have been costed to enable the Local Authority's future capital programmes to be delivered.

### 2.11 Funding for School Places

The Local Authority has a key role in securing funding to provide sufficient numbers of pupil places. The cost of additional school places is currently met from basic need grant from the government, supported borrowing by the County Council and S106 property developer contributions. Other funding options include the Academies and Free Schools programmes. There is a current government funding review for school building which will impact on education provision planning and may result in changes to the existing developer contribution mechanism.

### 2.12 Special Educational Needs

The Local Authority is currently developing a new strategy for SEN to ensure we make better provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. At present we do not have enough provision in the county for children with autism and behavioural and emotional needs, and there is insufficient provision for post 16 students with learning difficulties and disabilities. Future decisions on SEN provision as well as capacity issues will be considered within the context of the need to consider cost effectiveness and value for money. This Plan provides details of the Special Schools and Units within mainstream schools in Kent, but at this stage does not forecast future needs. This will form part of the next edition of the Plan.

### 2.13 Early Years Education

In Kent, there is currently sufficient childcare provision for children aged 3 and 4 years. However, the position changes on a regular basis, as providers join and leave the market. The need for new provision relating to the extension of the entitlement to free provision for 2 year olds in lower income families has been calculated at a

District level. The Government has set Kent a target of establishing 3600 places by September 2013 and 7000 places by September 2014. The Local Authority will work with providers to ensure this demand is met.

#### **2.14 Post-16 Education and Training in Kent**

The Plan recognises the need to ensure that education or employment with training pathways are available to young people in line with the legislative changes for raising the participation age for young people to age 18 by 2015. This programme of work requires new education and training provision for approximately 6000 more 16-18 year olds each year, and more detailed plans are set out in the 14-24 Learning, Employment and Skills Strategy.

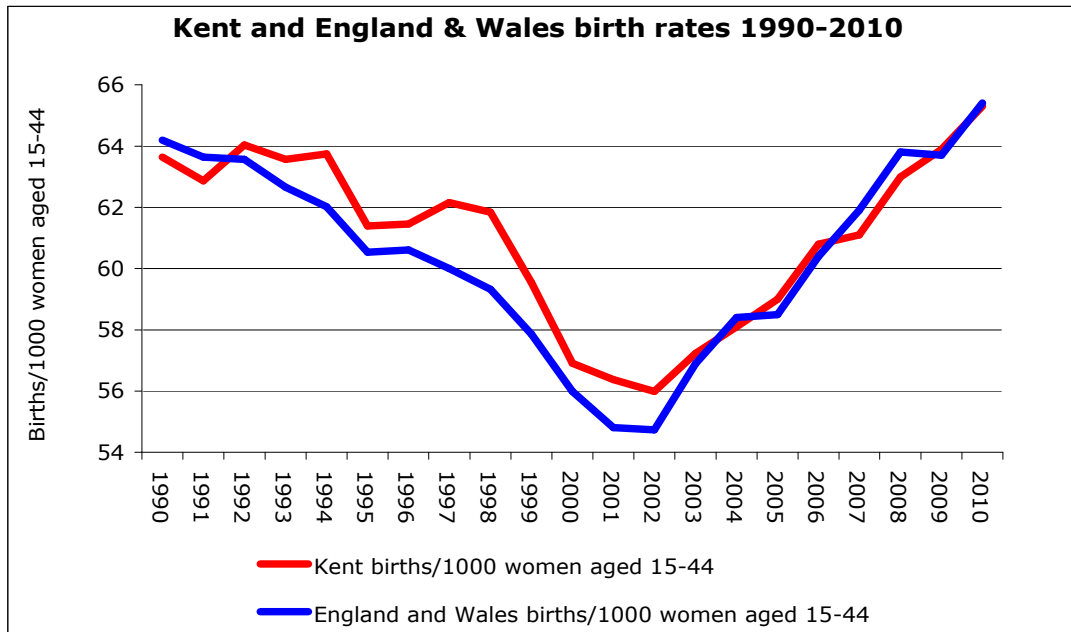


## 4 Overview of Kent's Demographic Trends

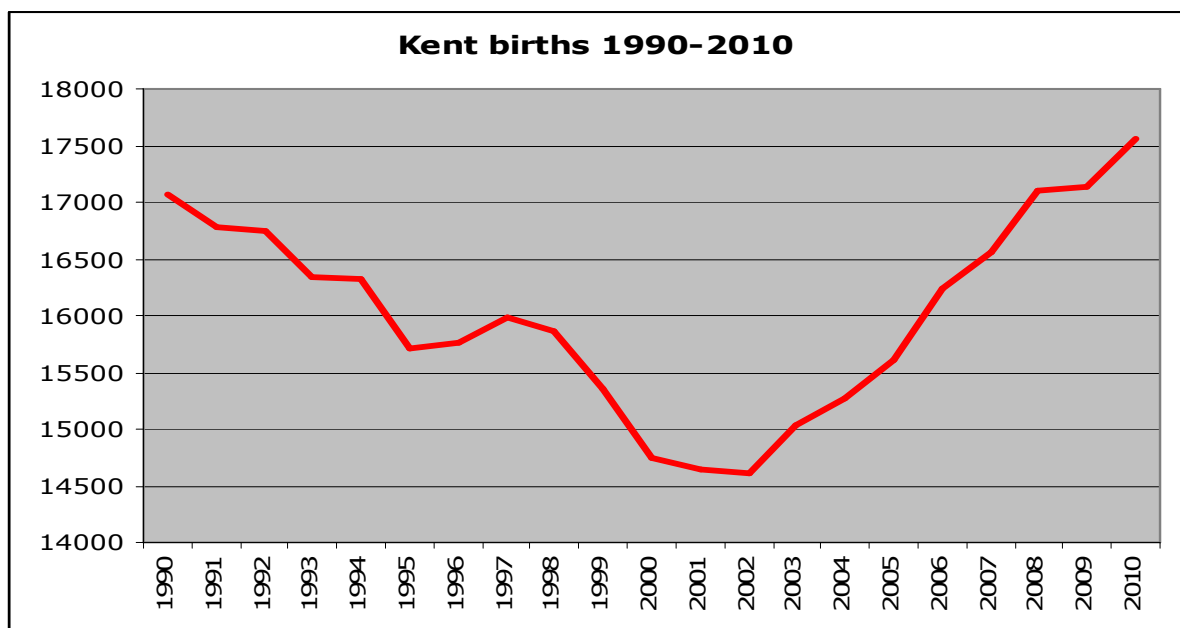
### 4.1 Kent Birth Rates and Long Term Forecasts

Chart 1 shows the changing birth rate in England and Wales, and in Kent over the past 20 years. Chart 2 shows the number of births in Kent. These demonstrate that the upward trend we have seen in the number of Reception Year children entering our schools will continue for the next few years, and as from 2013 the pattern of declining numbers of Year 7 pupils entering our secondary schools will reverse. The trend for individual Districts<sup>1</sup> in Kent will vary, and will affect the District forecasts contained in Appendix 1.

**Chart 1 – Birth rates in England & Wales and Kent**



**Chart 2 – Number of births in Kent**



**Notes:** (1) Births data shown above is by calendar year from the Office for National Statistics release FM01

- 4.2 Chart 2 (above) indicates that the number of births in Kent has increased by in excess of 20% between the period 2002 and 2010.
- 4.3 Tables 3 and 4 below provide long term population forecasts. These allow for planned housing developments and expected in-migration to the County. In Kent there is a resident-based take-up of mainstream education of about 92% at the primary phase and 87% at the secondary phase (mid year population estimate 2010 compared with annual schools census January 2011). This ranges from 79% primary take-up and 68% secondary take-up of mainstream places in Tunbridge Wells to near 100% take-up in some eastern Kent areas. Those not attending maintained schools in Kent are instead educated at home (1,045 pupils), attend independent schools, special schools or alternative education provision.

**Table 3**  
**Long term primary-age population forecast by Kent District**

District	2011	2016	2021	2026
Ashford	10700	12600	13600	14800
Canterbury	10500	10900	10900	10300
Dartford	8000	9400	10200	11200
<b>Dover</b>	<b>8000</b>	<b>9100</b>	<b>9400</b>	<b>9900</b>
Gravesham	8200	9400	9600	10100
Maidstone	11900	12600	11900	11700
Sevenoaks	9900	10400	9600	9300
Shepway	7500	8200	7700	7600
Swale	11300	12300	11700	11600
Thanet	10400	11400	11100	10600
Tonbridge & Malling	10700	10900	10200	10100
Tunbridge Wells	9500	10100	9100	8900
<b>Kent</b>	<b>116600</b>	<b>127300</b>	<b>125000</b>	<b>126100</b>

**Notes:**

- (1) KCC strategy forecast (October 2011), Research and Evaluation, KCC  
(2) All figures have been individually rounded to the nearest one hundred and therefore may not sum

**Table 4**  
**Long term secondary-age population forecast by Kent District**

District	2011	2016	2021	2026
Ashford	7500	8400	9800	10200
Canterbury	8500	7900	8300	8500
Dartford	5700	5800	6900	7400
<b>Dover</b>	<b>6700</b>	<b>6100</b>	<b>7100</b>	<b>7200</b>
Gravesham	6200	5800	6900	7000
Maidstone	8600	8400	9100	8700
Sevenoaks	7000	6900	7600	6900
Shepway	5800	5200	6000	5700
Swale	8600	8100	9200	8700
Thanet	8500	7500	8500	8300
Tonbridge & Malling	7800	7800	8200	7800
Tunbridge Wells	7700	7000	7800	7000
<b>Kent</b>	<b>88600</b>	<b>84900</b>	<b>95400</b>	<b>93400</b>

**Notes:**

- (1) KCC strategy forecast (October 2011), Research and Evaluation, KCC  
(2) All figures have been individually rounded to the nearest one hundred and therefore may not sum

- 4.4 Table 3 indicates that the number of primary-aged children in Kent is expected to rise significantly from 116,600 in 2011, to 127,300 in 2016. Beyond this point the population remains comparatively stable, although increases in some Districts are

off-set by reductions in others. This indicates there will be a need to continue to make new provision available in some Districts on a permanent basis, while in others, temporary solutions may represent better value for money.

- 4.5 Table 4 shows the secondary-aged population reducing between now and 2016, before rising through the latter part of this decade, and falling again in the first half of the 2020s.

#### 4.6 Long Term Primary Forecasts

Our primary forecasts provide a medium term view of the need for primary school places. Long term primary forecasts, before children are born, are inherently difficult to produce. However, it is important to have a view of the longer term to avoid making poor short and medium term decisions. We are developing long term primary forecasts (Appendix 6) for each District using base data from the long term primary aged population data and historic uptake of places in each District. These help guide the decisions made in Section 11.

#### 4.7 Housing

Table 5 provides an overview of completions and planned housing by District. The planned housing numbers are used as part of the forecasting process but the current volatility in the UK and global economies, and Kent housing market means that the eventual level of house completions may differ significantly from the planned level, and this will alter the need for school places. A comparison of historic actual and planned levels of housing completions by District has been completed<sup>2</sup>. This information informs the District confidence levels referred to in Section 8.16 above. The number of planned house completions in the period 2011-16 is very high when compared to completion rates of the past, and in view of the current economic climate.

**Table 5**  
**Completions and future planned housing for Kent Districts**

District	1996-2001	2001-06	2006-11	2011-16	2016-21	2021-26
Ashford	3236	4020	2653	7091	8274	1472
Canterbury	2775	2662	3651	1880	500	100
Dartford	1438	2839	2423	5081	5432	4165
<b>Dover</b>	<b>937</b>	<b>1796</b>	<b>1507</b>	<b>1628</b>	<b>2411</b>	<b>1563</b>
Gravesham	399	1283	1554	1633	1332	756
Maidstone	2275	3232	3629	2063	218	N/A
Sevenoaks	1370	1487	1363	1189	875	261
Shepway	1912	2451	1513	2109	3066	1823
Swale	2549	3196	3332	1607	2636	3296
Thanet	1461	2214	3773	3538	638	300
Tonbridge & Malling	1754	3169	3358	4011	1077	N/A
Tunbridge Wells	1457	1790	2031	916	N/A	N/A
<b>Kent</b>	<b>21563</b>	<b>30139</b>	<b>30787</b>	<b>32746</b>	<b>26459</b>	<b>13736</b>

**Notes:**

(1) Future planned housing from Kent Integrated Infrastructure and Finance Model (IIFM) April 2012

(2) It should be noted that where future planned housing looks very low it may be that Districts have yet to make housing allocations for those years

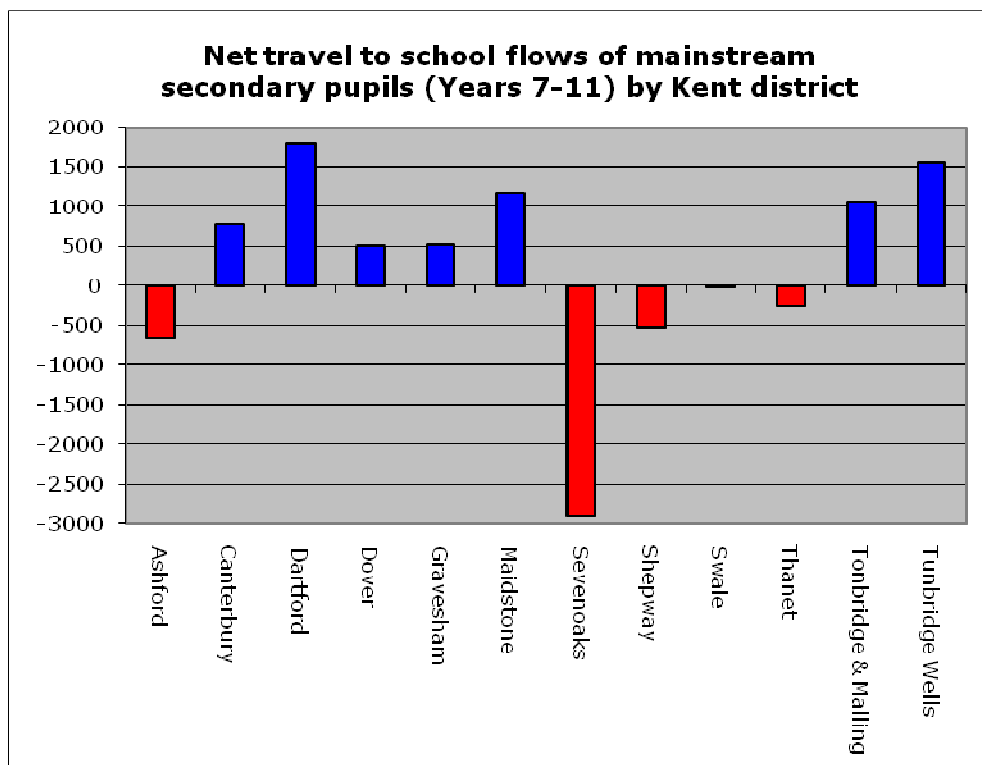
(3) Districts are no longer obliged to follow South East England Regional Assembly (SEERA) housing allocation levels and are now to be determined locally

#### 4.8 Travel to School Patterns (pupil migration)

Travel to school patterns from one District to another at the primary phase are relatively insignificant but the situation is very different at the secondary phase where

there are some significant cross border flows (Chart 3), including into and out of the County as well as between Kent Districts.

**Chart 3**



**Notes:** (1) Management Information Unit, KCC, based in analysis of District of home address against District of school location, Annual Schools Census (ASC) 2011

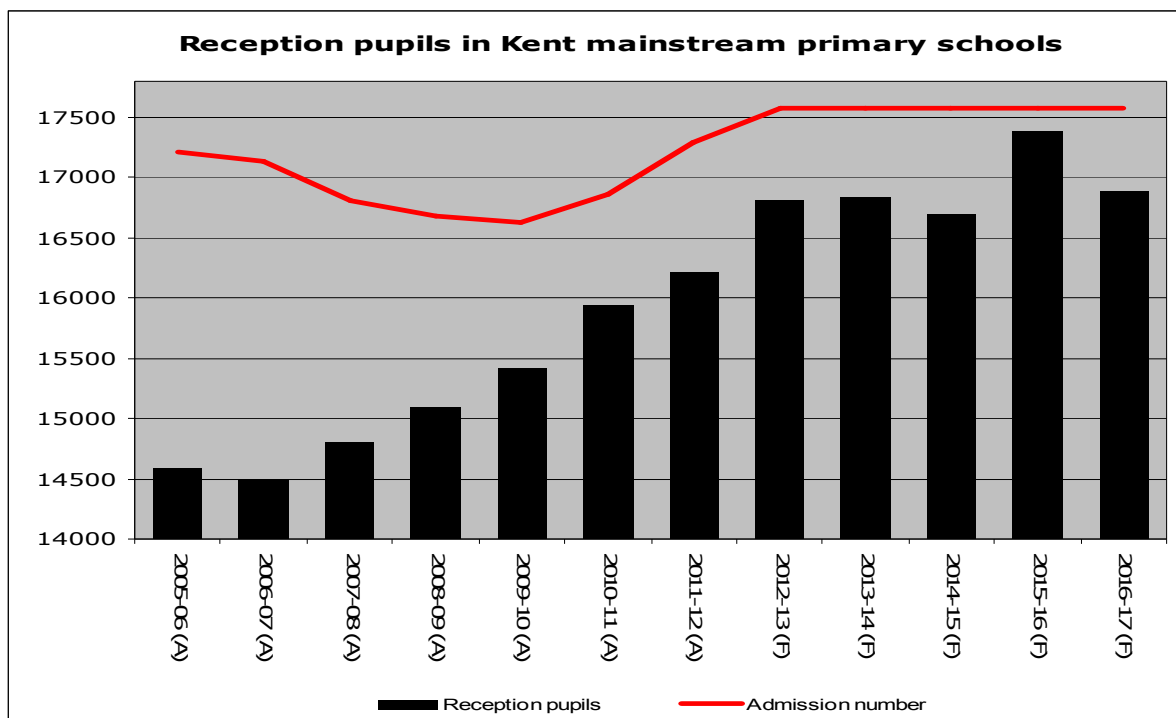
**4.9 The headlines for secondary travel to school patterns are as follows:**

- Pupils often travel significant distances, especially in the west of the County to grammar school and denominational provision
- 3000 out of County children travel into Kent secondary schools (predominantly grammar schools). This figure includes: 700 Medway children, 1,200 children travel into Dartford from London Boroughs (mainly Bexley Borough), 270 travel into Tonbridge and 500+ into Tunbridge Wells
- Only around 25% of children resident in Sevenoaks attend mainstream secondary provision within Sevenoaks District; 1,000 travel to Dartford, 1,300 to Tonbridge and 700+ to Tunbridge Wells

**4.10 Current and Forecast Pupils in Mainstream Primary Education**

Chart 4 (below) shows that the number of Reception pupils in Kent schools has risen from 14,498 in 2006-07 to 16,209 in 2011-12. This is an increase of almost 12%. In 2006-07 Reception year groups at Kent primary schools operated with over 15% surplus capacity. This has reduced to 6% in 2011-12. The number of Reception pupils is forecast to be around 16,600 to 16,800 over the next five years, apart from in 2015-16 where there is expected to be a peak of about 17,200 pupils.

**Chart 4  
Forecast reception pupil numbers**



Notes: (1) KCC pupil forecasts (2011-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC

**4.11** Table 6 presents Reception Year group data at District level. It shows that the growth in pupil numbers is not uniform across the County, nor is the level of surplus capacity. The current surplus capacity for Reception year groups varies from 2% in Swale to 15% in Sevenoaks. If no further action is taken (apart from the completion of projects already planned and proposed) by the end of the forecasting period (2016-17) there will be 4% surplus capacity in Reception year groups across the county. Action will be taken in those Districts where surplus capacity will fall below 5% to provide additional places. Solutions will vary from brand new provision to expansion of existing facilities through permanent or temporary means.

**Table 6**  
**Current and forecast Reception Year pupils in mainstream schools by Kent District**

District	Admission numbers		Pupil roll 2011-12	Surplus places 2011-12	Surplus capacity 2011-12 (%)	Pupil roll 2016-17	Surplus places 2016-17	Surplus capacity 2016-17 (%)
	2011-12	2016-17						
Ashford	1456	1559	1415	41	2.8	1540	19	1.2
Canterbury	1510	1506	1361	149	9.9	1435	71	4.7
Dartford	1275	1380	1210	65	5.1	1299	81	5.9
<b>Dover</b>	<b>1297</b>	<b>1260</b>	<b>1201</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>1202</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>4.6</b>
Gravesham	1304	1346	1242	62	4.8	1301	45	3.3
Maidstone	1736	1800	1622	114	6.6	1718	82	4.6
Sevenoaks	1436	1366	1220	216	15.0	1252	114	8.3
Shepway	1201	1210	1128	73	6.1	1150	60	5.0
Swale	1696	1719	1662	34	2.0	1724	-5	-0.3
Thanet	1498	1560	1459	39	2.6	1595	-35	-2.2
T&M	1561	1566	1479	82	5.3	1394	172	11.0
T Wells	1321	1311	1210	111	8.4	1276	35	2.7
<b>Kent</b>	<b>17291</b>	<b>17583</b>	<b>16209</b>	<b>1082</b>	<b>6.3</b>	<b>16886</b>	<b>697</b>	<b>4.0</b>

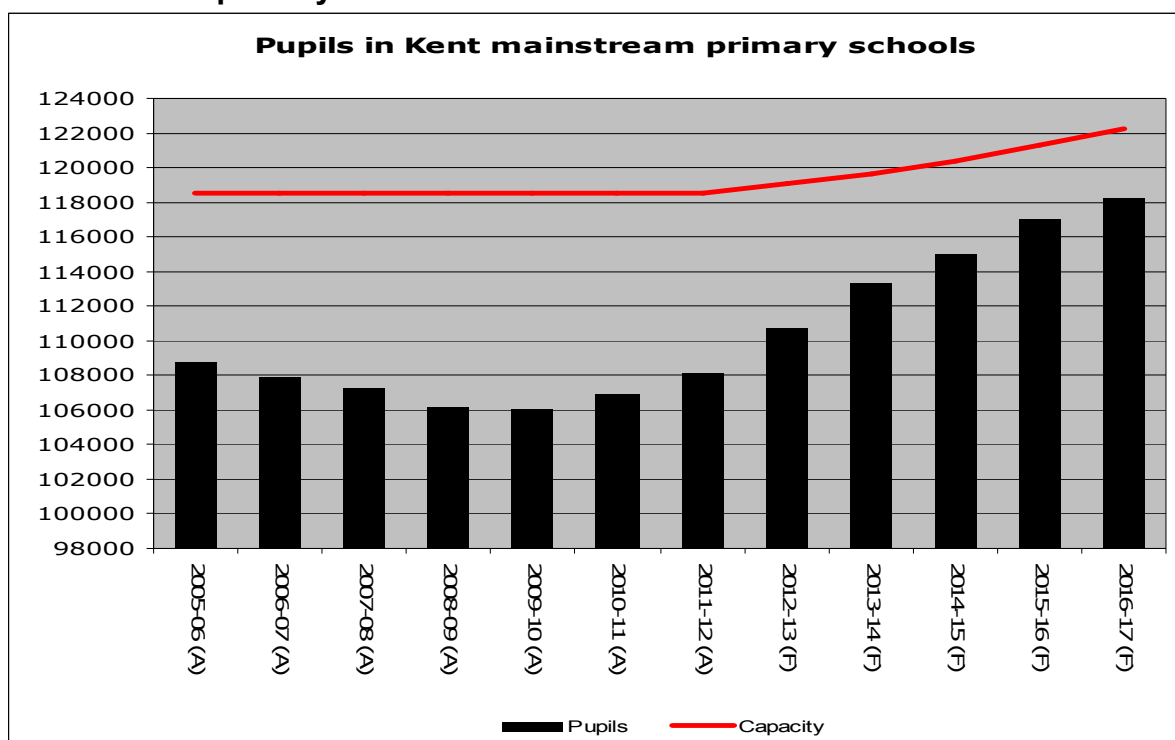
Notes: (1) Provision Planning and Operations, KCC (December 2011)

(2) 2011-12 (A) pupil roll data from Schools Census (Autumn term), October 2011

**4.12** Chart 5 and Table 7 (below) show that the number of primary pupils in Kent schools is forecast to rise from 106,097 in 2009-10 to around 118,000 in 2016-17. This is an increase of 11.2%. Kent primary schools currently operate with almost 9% surplus

capacity but this is forecast to decrease over the coming years to a little over 3% by 2016/17 (taking into account the planned capacity changes (see Section 11)).

**Chart 5**  
**Forecast total primary school rolls**



Notes: (1) KCC pupil forecasts (2011-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC

**Table 7**  
**Current and forecast primary pupils in mainstream schools by Kent District**

District	Capacity 2011-12	Pupil roll 2011-12	Surplus places 2011-12	Surplus capacity 2011-12 (%)	Capacity 2016-17	Pupil roll 2016-17	Surplus places 2016-17	Surplus capacity 2016-17 (%)
Ashford	10011	9522	489	4.9	10757	10751	6	0.1
Canterbury	10895	9534	1361	12.5	10592	9861	731	6.9
Dartford	8504	7925	579	6.8	9380	9348	32	0.3
Dover	9100	7688	1412	15.5	8913	8459	454	5.1
Gravesham	8631	8228	403	4.7	9304	9059	245	2.6
Maidstone	11969	10902	1067	8.9	12442	11894	548	4.4
Sevenoaks	9302	8327	975	10.5	9661	8892	769	8.0
Shepway	8633	7636	997	11.5	8461	8245	216	2.6
Swale	11791	11022	769	6.5	11929	11937	-8	-0.1
Thanet	10545	9910	635	6.0	10799	11056	-257	-2.4
T&M	10772	9770	1002	9.3	10972	10154	818	7.5
T Wells	8329	7639	690	8.3	9059	8614	445	4.9
<b>Kent</b>	<b>118482</b>	<b>108103</b>	<b>10379</b>	<b>8.8</b>	<b>122269</b>	<b>118270</b>	<b>3999</b>	<b>3.3</b>

Notes: (1) Provision Planning and Operations, KCC (December 2011)

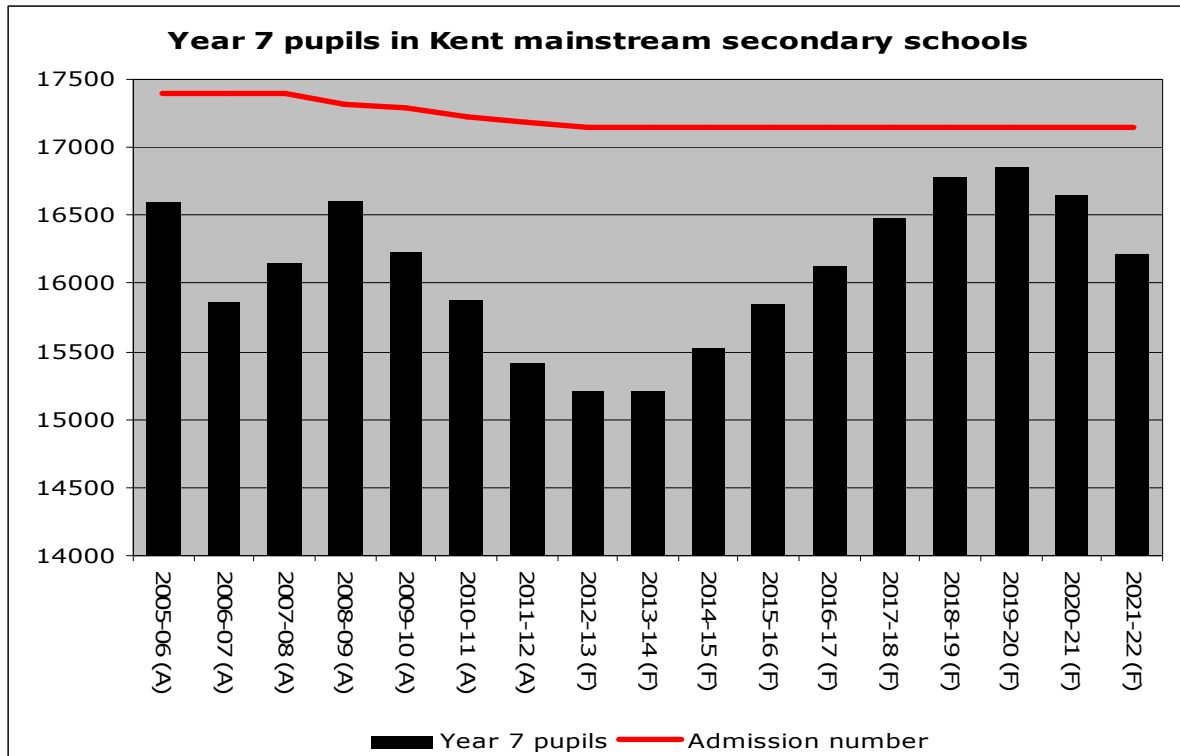
(2) 2011-12 (A) pupil roll data from Schools Census (Autumn term), October 2011

**4.13** Table 7 shows that current surplus capacity for primary year groups (Reception - Year 6) varies across the County; from 5% in Gravesham to 16% in Dover.

#### 4.14 Current and Forecast Pupils in Mainstream Secondary Education

Chart 6 indicates how Year 7 pupil numbers in Kent schools are forecast to rise up to 2019-20 before falling again. Table 8 below provides an overview of this at District level. Chart 7 and Table 9 below provide similar information but for pupil numbers of Years 7 – 11.

**Chart 6**  
**Forecast Year 7 pupil numbers**



**Notes:** (1) KCC pupil forecasts (2011-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC

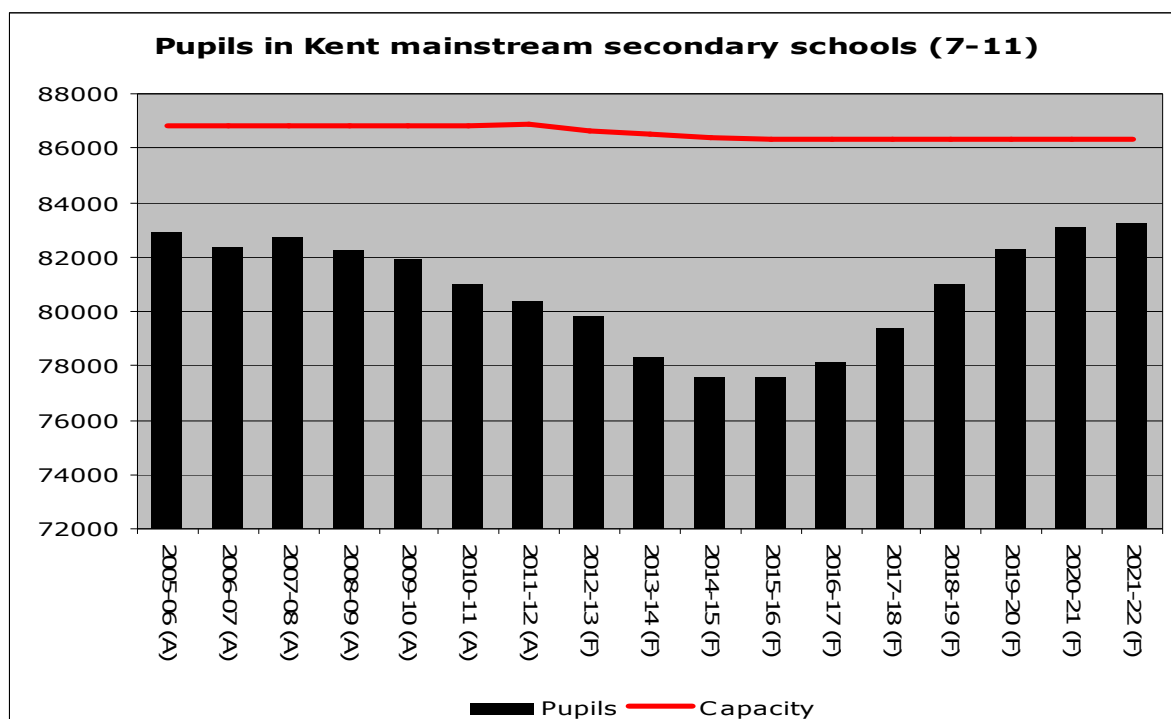
- 4.15** The number of Year 7 pupils in Kent schools has fallen for three consecutive years from 16,605 in 2008-09 to 15,421 in 2011-12 and is expected to continue falling to around 15,200 in 2013-14. Thereafter, Year 7 rolls are forecast to rise to a peak of around 16,900 in 2019-20, a growth of 9% on current numbers, before declining once again.
- 4.16** Table 8 (below) shows that current surplus capacity for Year 7 is 10% across Kent, but the figure varies from District to District with the extremes being from 3% in Dartford to 27% in Sevenoaks. By the end of the forecasting period (2021-22) there will be 5% surplus capacity in Year 7 across the County, an improvement in the situation two years prior when only 2% surplus capacity is forecast.

**Table 8**  
**Current and forecast Year 7 pupils in mainstream schools by Kent District**

District	Admission numbers		Pupil roll 2011-12	Surplus places 2011-12	Surplus capacity 2011-12 (%)	Pupil roll 2021-22	Surplus places 2021-22	Surplus capacity 2021-22 (%)
	2011-12	2021-22						
Ashford	1351	1361	1258	93	6.9	1345	16	1.2
Canterbury	1718	1724	1481	237	13.8	1401	323	18.7
Dartford	1405	1435	1366	39	2.8	1664	-229	-16.0
<b>Dover</b>	<b>1418</b>	<b>1393</b>	<b>1183</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>1358</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2.5</b>
Gravesham	1284	1284	1160	124	9.7	1257	27	2.1
Maidstone	1965	1965	1805	160	8.1	1817	148	7.5
Sevenoaks	510	510	372	138	27.1	410	100	19.6
Shepway	1210	1210	1022	188	15.5	961	249	20.6
Swale	1642	1657	1571	71	4.3	1661	-4	-0.2
Thanet	1544	1544	1460	84	5.4	1487	57	3.7
T&M	1642	1649	1544	98	6.0	1564	85	5.2
T Wells	1499	1409	1199	300	20.0	1292	117	8.3
<b>Kent</b>	<b>17188</b>	<b>17141</b>	<b>15421</b>	<b>1767</b>	<b>10.3</b>	<b>16217</b>	<b>924</b>	<b>5.4</b>

**Notes:** (1) Provision Planning and Operations, KCC (December 2011)  
(2) 2011-12 (A) pupil roll data from Schools Census (Autumn term), October 2011

**Chart 7**  
**Forecast total secondary school rolls**



**Notes:** KCC pupil forecasts (2011-based), Provision Planning and Operations, KCC

**4.17** Chart 7 shows that the number of Year 7-11 pupils in Kent schools has been declining over the previous six years from 82,934 in 2005-06 to 80,372 in 2011-12 and is expected to continue falling to around 77,600 in 2015-16. Thereafter it is forecast to rise to a peak of around 83,200 in 2021-22 – a growth of just over 4% on current roll numbers.



**Table 9**  
**Current and forecast secondary pupils (Years 7-11) in mainstream schools by**  
**Kent District**

District	Capacity 2011-12	Pupil roll 2011-12	Surplus places 2011-12	Surplus capacity 2011-12 (%)	Capacity 2021-22	Pupil roll 2021-22	Surplus places 2021-22	Surplus capacity 2021-22 (%)
Ashford	6755	6343	412	6.1	6805	7038	-233	-3.4
Canterbury	8590	7901	689	8.0	8620	7433	1187	13.8
Dartford	7025	6840	185	2.6	7175	8157	-982	-13.7
Dover	7055	6361	694	9.8	6965	6952	13	0.2
Gravesham	6574	6203	371	5.6	6420	6453	-33	-0.5
Maidstone	9930	9119	811	8.2	9930	9276	654	6.6
Sevenoaks	2550	2029	521	20.4	2550	2045	505	19.8
Shepway	6050	5340	710	11.7	6050	4908	1142	18.9
Swale	8285	7998	287	3.5	8346	7953	393	4.7
Thanet	8008	7591	417	5.2	7720	7560	160	2.1
T&M	8210	7760	450	5.5	8245	8171	74	0.9
T Wells	7871	6887	984	12.5	7480	7270	210	2.8
<b>Kent</b>	<b>86903</b>	<b>80372</b>	<b>6531</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>86306</b>	<b>83216</b>	<b>3090</b>	<b>3.6</b>

Notes: (1) Provision Planning and Operations, KCC (December 2011)  
(2) 2011-12 (A) pupil roll data from Schools Census (Autumn term), October 2011

**4.18** Table 9 shows that current surplus capacity for secondary year groups (Years 7-11) is 7% across Kent, with the extreme ranges being 3% surplus in Dartford to 20% in Sevenoaks. This is forecast to decrease over the coming years, such that by the end of the forecasting period (2021-22) there will be 4% surplus capacity in secondary schools across the County. While these figures indicate that across Kent there will be sufficient places for all children, this will not be true for all Districts (for example Ashford, Dartford and Gravesham). The different demographic trends resulting from house building and inward migration will require additional capacity to be added to meet localised demand at times when rolls are falling in other parts of the County. The District level data in Appendix 1 highlights these differences, and are reflected in the commissioning plans in Section 11.

## **5. Analysis and Forward Plan for Dover District**

### **District Analysis – Primary**

There are currently 41 schools in the Dover District serving the primary phase with a total of 1267 places available annually in Reception Year. There was an increase in the demand for Reception Year places for entry in September 2011 in the Deal locality. In agreement with the local authority, Hornbeam Primary School admitted 60 pupils (30 over the PAN of 30), to meet this demand. Forecasts indicate that this was an exceptional year and that these additional places will not be required in the near future.

The number of surplus places forecast for the Dover District primary schools across the entire primary age range will reduce to 5% by 2016. This means that, on the basis of current projections, there is sufficient capacity across the District to meet the expected demand.

Major new housing is projected for Dover over the next 20 years with up to 14000 new houses predicted over that period. Potential development is documented within the Local Development Framework. The most intensive development is planned for the Whitfield area where up to 6000 new houses are anticipated. Realisation of development on this scale would require significant new primary school capacity. A new 1FE school will need to be commissioned by 2016 with the potential for expansion to 2FE in the longer term

In Aylesham, planned new house building has not so far impacted on demand for primary school places. Unless proposed housing developments bring forward additional pupils it may be necessary to consider reducing the capacity in the planning area.

The long term population forecast is for the primary school pupils to increase to 9900 by 2026. This would require 800 additional places (4FE) to those currently available (2011/12) if a 5% surplus is to be maintained (and assuming 95% of the cohort seek places in Dover's state schools.

*Accuracy of forecasts – Forecasts for Dover primary schools have in recent years tended to over estimate the number of pupils consistently.*

### **District Analysis – Secondary**

On the basis of current projections, the existing Year 7 capacity of secondary schools in the Dover District exceeds the demand for places in each of the next 10 years. This means that unless there is a substantial acceleration in the pace and/or scale of proposed housing development, there will be no need to commission additional secondary school places in Dover over the next 6 years.

Currently five of the nine secondary schools in the Dover District are academies with a further conversion of one school expected this year.

*Accuracy of forecasts – Dover secondary forecasts have proved to be largely accurate over the last 5 years.*

## Dover Primary School Commissioning Position

Planning Area or group of Planning Areas	Short Term Commissioning Position (by 2013)	Medium Term Commissioning Position (by 2016)	Longer Term Commissioning (> 2016)
<b>Dover and Whitfield</b>	Any shortfall of places will be met by increasing capacity at existing schools as necessary.	A 1FE school will need to be commissioned by 2016 with the potential for expansion to 2FE.	A further two 2FE primary schools will be needed in the longer term.
<b>Aylesham and Nonington</b>	No change	Consideration may need to be given to reducing surplus capacity unless further new housing comes forward.	

## Dover Secondary School Commissioning Position

Short Term Commissioning Position (by 2013)	Medium Tem Commission Position (by 2016)	Longer Term Commissioning (>2016)
No change.	No change.	The local authority may need to commission additional capacity in Dover in the longer term.

Dover primary schools planning areas	Year R admission number (September 2011)	Year R roll (Autumn 2011)	Year R surplus / deficit capacity (%) (Autumn 2011)	Total capacity 2011-12	Total roll (Autumn 2011)	Total surplus / deficit capacity (%) (Autumn 2011)	Year R 2012-13 (F)	Year R 2013-14 (F)	Year R 2014-15 (F)	Year R 2015-16 (F)	Year R 2016-17 (F)	Total roll 2012-13 (F)	Total roll 2013-14 (F)	Total roll 2014-15 (F)	Total roll 2015-16 (F)	Total roll 2016-17 (F)
Dover	350	318	9.1	2503	2077	17.0	332	396	382	330	335	2083	2189	2291	2194	2192
Whitfield	57	65	-14.0	369	414	-12.2	54	46	62	54	55	405	494	400	414	414
Aycliffe	20	15	25.0	170	98	42.4	25	19	16	19	19	114	116	115	113	113
St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe	30	29	3.3	210	201	4.3	18	21	24	23	23	182	176	170	190	190
Guston & Langdon	32	38	-18.8	214	216	-0.9	21	26	25	24	24	169	162	153	178	178
River	60	59	1.7	420	403	4.0	81	71	48	67	68	472	495	485	474	474
Lydden & Temple Ewell	32	28	12.5	224	200	10.7	26	38	26	31	32	213	220	220	219	219
Capel-le-Ferne	30	29	3.3	206	190	7.8	20	12	15	18	19	171	154	143	171	171
Deal	315	310	1.6	2100	1791	14.7	265	263	263	252	256	1802	1834	1841	1851	1850
Kingsdown	28	30	-7.1	196	206	-5.1	29	35	37	30	31	210	216	224	219	219
Eastry & Northbourne	50	45	10.0	350	295	15.7	40	44	38	39	40	308	315	302	315	315
Eythorne & Sibertswold	50	44	12.0	380	278	26.8	40	34	30	35	36	286	274	257	285	285
Aylesham & Nonington	87	58	33.3	654	358	45.3	53	53	49	50	51	373	387	398	385	385
Ash & Wingham	90	74	17.8	626	558	10.9	78	83	61	70	71	554	556	527	565	565
Sandwich	66	59	10.6	478	403	15.7	53	70	45	58	59	437	452	450	451	450
District pupil product adjustment	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	17	22	27	32	83	121	157	190	223
District pre-school migration	-	-	-	-	-	-	23	35	46	50	51	35	69	115	165	216
<b>Total</b>	<b>1297</b>	<b>1201</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>9100</b>	<b>7688</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>1170</b>	<b>1263</b>	<b>1189</b>	<b>1177</b>	<b>1202</b>	<b>7897</b>	<b>8230</b>	<b>8248</b>	<b>8379</b>	<b>8459</b>
Forecast Year R admission number / Total capacity	-	-	-	-	-	-	1269	1260	1260	1260	1260	9064	9024	8975	8941	8913
Forecast surplus / deficit places	-	-	-	-	-	-	99	-3	71	83	58	1167	794	727	562	454
Forecast surplus / deficit capacity (%)	-	-	-	-	-	-	7.8	-0.2	5.6	6.6	4.6	12.9	8.8	8.1	6.3	5.1

<b>Dover secondary schools</b>	<b>2011-12</b>	<b>2012-13</b>	<b>2013-14</b>	<b>2014-15</b>	<b>2015-16</b>	<b>2016-17</b>	<b>2017-18</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>
Year 7 admission number	1418	1393	1393	1393	1393	1393	1393	1393	1393	1393	1393
Year 7 roll	1183	1224	1198	1248	1248	1319	1314	1446	1361	1450	1358
Year 7 surplus / deficit places	235	169	195	145	145	74	79	-53	32	-57	35
Year 7 surplus / deficit capacity (%)	16.6	12.1	14.0	10.4	10.4	5.3	5.7	-3.8	2.3	-4.1	2.5
Total capacity (Years 7-11)	7055	7040	7025	7010	6990	6965	6965	6965	6965	6965	6965
Total roll (Years 7-11)	6361	6410	6258	6195	6187	6262	6350	6598	6711	6913	6952
Total surplus / deficit places (Years 7-11)	694	630	767	815	803	703	615	367	254	52	13
Total surplus / deficit capacity (Years 7-11) (%)	9.8	8.9	10.9	11.6	11.5	10.1	8.8	5.3	3.6	0.7	0.2
Post 16 roll	1454	1499	1515	1521	1495	1457	1426	1396	1405	1422	1456
<b>Total roll (including Post-16)</b>	<b>7815</b>	<b>7909</b>	<b>7773</b>	<b>7716</b>	<b>7682</b>	<b>7719</b>	<b>7776</b>	<b>7994</b>	<b>8116</b>	<b>8335</b>	<b>8408</b>