

Supply of School Places 2007

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Q14 – commentary

There are 25 Primary Schools and 11 Secondary Schools in Worcestershire that fall within the surplus place criteria of 25% or above and >30 places.

1) Wyre Forest Area Schools

Currently, schools are operating on a three-phase system. This will be replaced by a two-tier system in September 2007. 45 first, middle and high schools will close on 31st August 2007 and 30 primary and secondary schools will open on September 1st 2007. At the same time, most surplus places will be removed. During the 2006/07 academic year the middle schools in this area have been operating with only 3 year groups, hence the increase in surplus places in the middle schools. Additionally, 4 first schools that are closing in August 2007, with no new primary school opening on the site, have significant levels of surplus places.

2003	Areley Common First
2081	Birchen Coppice First
2083	Foley Park First
2086	Lea Street First
3340	St. Mary's CE First, Kidderminster
3379	Stone First
4412	Birchen Coppice Middle
4414	Franché Middle
4415	Sion Hill Middle
4425	Lickhill Middle
4577	St John's C.E. Middle
4580	Windmill CE Middle
4802	The Sladen C.E. Middle

2) Redditch Area Schools

Redditch was a new town, which expanded rapidly in the 1970's and 1980's when many young families moved out from Birmingham. The population profile is maturing, leaving many surplus places in the schools. There was a major review of provision in 1999-2001. As the pupil population has continued to decline the Authority has taken action to reduce PANs and/or reorganise schools. This area is regularly monitored by the Authority

a) Roman Way First School (2141)

This is the first time Roman Way First School has met the surplus places trigger

point.

Ofsted said in the June 2004 report that Roman Way First is an improving school that is working effectively to improve pupils' achievements and raise standards. A new headteacher started in April 2007.

b) Moons Moat First School (2192)

The percentage of surplus places has increased, despite an increase in catchment area following the closure of Marlfield Farm First and Ravens Bank First Schools and the opening of a replacement school, Abbeywood First(3398). Ofsted said in the May 2007 report that Moons Moat First is a good school and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 2.

c) Matchborough First (2919)

A PAN reduction from 90 to 60 has been agreed for September 2007. Surplus accommodation will be used for a Children's Centre and nursery places, to support families in this deprived area.

Ofsted said in the March 2003 report that Matchborough First provides a satisfactory education for its pupils.

d) St. Stephen's First (3094)

A PAN reduction from 40 to 30 has been agreed for September 2008. The accommodation will be reduced accordingly.

Ofsted said in the June 2006 report that St Stephen's is a good school, with outstanding features.

e) Birchensale Middle (4418)

A PAN reduction from 150 to 120 was agreed for September 2006. Some accommodation changes have been made to reduce capacity and further changes will follow. Ofsted said in the July 2006 report that Birchensale Middle is a good school and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 2.

f) Dingleside Middle (4419)

Following a recent Ofsted inspection the school has been placed in 'Special Measures'. The Local Authority is currently consulting on options for the future of Dingleside Middle School; these options include closure or federation with another school.

g) Church Hill Middle, (4427)

A PAN reduction from 120 to 90 has been agreed for September 2007. The accommodation will be reduced accordingly. Ofsted said in the June 2007 report that Church Hill Middle is a good school and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 2.

2) Bromsgrove Area Schools

a) Charford First (2016)

Charford First has surplus places above the trigger point due to small cohorts entering school as 4 year olds in September 2005 and 2006

Ofsted said in the February 2007 report that Charford First is a good school with some significant strengths because of the good leadership and management, and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 2.

b) Parkside Middle (4403)

A new PFI school to replace the existing school will open at Easter 2008. This school was inspected in November 2005 and has made satisfactory progress since the last report when it was judged to have serious weaknesses.

Pupil numbers are improving and are expected to continue to do so following the opening of the new school.

3) Droitwich Area Schools

a) Westlands First (2035)

The school was inspected in January 2006 and was given a notice to improve. The LA has been working with the school to respond to the issues identified in the Ofsted report.

Ofsted said in the February 2007 report that Westlands First has improved since it was last inspected and now provides a satisfactory education for its pupils, and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 2.

b) Cutnall Green CE First (3316)

This school serves a rural population where there is little alternate provision. No significant recovery in numbers is expected in the near future although there is a larger cohort due to start in reception in September 2007. The LA will continue to monitor levels. The school was inspected in October 2004 and was deemed to be good and improving.

c) Ombersley Endowed First (3365)

This school serves a rural area where pupil numbers are on the decline. The Authority discussed the situation of surplus places with the Governing Body of this Voluntary Aided School in the autumn term, 2006, at the start of the annual review of admission arrangements. This will be reviewed annually. An Ofsted inspection was carried out in November 2003 and it was reported that this is a good school, which achieves high standards.

4) Evesham Area Schools

There are a number of small village schools in this area of the County. A low intake in any one year can trigger the school appearing on this return. The Authority monitors the situation regularly. Broadway, Honeybourne and Cleeve Prior are all affected by this for this return.

a) Broadway First School (2013)

Ofsted said in the November 2006 report that Broadway First is a good school which has improved well since its last inspection and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 2.

b) Honeybourne First School (2078)

Ofsted said in the March 2007 report that Honeybourne First is a satisfactory school with good features.

c) Cleeve Prior CE First School (3020)

Ofsted said in the March 2003 report that Cleeve Prior CE First is a most effective school that provides a very good and enriching quality of education.

5) Malvern Area Schools

a) Malvern Hills Primary (2106)

The Authority published a notice to close the School in July 2006 but the Schools Adjudicator, on the grounds of insufficient accommodation particularly for KS2 pupils in neighbouring schools, rejected the proposal. The Authority is monitoring the situation. The school was inspected in May 2006 under Sections 8 and 5 of the Education Act 2005, it was reported that the school no longer required special measures. The school is now providing a good education and has several strengths and has made outstanding progress since the previous inspection.

As the demographic profile in Malvern continues to show fewer primary aged children, the Authority may have to look at the viability of the school again.

b) The Grove Infants (2110)

This school will amalgamate with the Grove Junior School in September 2007 to form an all-through primary school. The PAN will remain at 60 and the accommodation reorganised accordingly.

c) Suckley Primary (2153)

This is a small rural school. If the school were to close there are no schools nearby that would have the capacity to take all the pupils. Ofsted said in the July 2007 report that the school is satisfactory, and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 3

6) Pershore Area of Schools

a) Defford-cum-Besford CE First School (3029)

This is the first time Defford-cum-Besford CE First School has met the surplus places trigger point and is due to a small cohort entering school as 4 year olds in September 2006. Numbers are expected to increase slightly.

7) Upton on Severn Area Schools

a) Longdon St Mary's CE Primary (3352)

Falling rolls in the Upton area of Worcestershire are a cause of concern and the Local Authority has visited local schools to alert headteachers to this trend. St. Mary's, Longdon serves a remote rural population and there are few alternative schools within easy access. There has been a small increase in numbers this year but are forecast to fall thereafter. Ofsted said in the January 2007 report that the school is satisfactory, and rated its overall effectiveness as Grade 3.

8) Worcester City Area Schools

a) Gorse Hill Primary (2167)

A PAN reduction from 56 to 45 has been agreed for 2007. The LA will monitor take up of places in the context of PAN reductions at this and the neighbouring Warndon Primary School. An Inspection was carried out in March 2006 and the school was put into Special Measures. The LA is working with the school to respond to the issues raised. A monitoring inspection was carried out in July 2007 and reported that progress since being subject to special measures, and since the previous monitoring inspection, is satisfactory.

b) Stanley Road Primary (2179)

Neighbouring Redhill Primary School has been rebuilt with a reduced capacity. Catchment area changes introduced from 2005 appear to have impacted on the expected numbers at Stanley Road Primary. The level of surplus places has continued to reduce, from 30% in 2006 to 25% in 2007, and further improvement is expected as the reduction in PAN at neighbouring Red Hill School "works through". The school was inspected in June 2005. The school is a good school and provides effectively for its pupils.

c) The Fairfield Community Primary (3394)

Since the school was opened under a Fresh Start initiative in September 2004, local confidence has grown and it now admits a greater proportion of in catchment children. A monitoring inspection was carried out in March 2007 and reported that the school's overall progress is satisfactory. Numbers attending the school continue to increase and the level of surplus places has reduced from 38% to 26% between 2006 and 2007.

Academies: There are no existing or proposed Academies in Worcestershire.