

Cabinet

Monday 2 February 2026

3.00 pm

Ground floor meeting rooms, 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Appendices

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Date: 22 January 2026

Enhanced Biodiversity Duty Report

London Borough of Southwark

Final report
January 2026



View from One Tree Hill across Southwark. © Holly Weber

Southwark Council

Enhanced Biodiversity Duty Report London Borough of Southwark

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The reporting template and initial drafts of this report were produced by Land Use Consultants Ltd (LUC), in partnership with Southwark Council (London Borough of Southwark; LBS), with data analytical support from Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL). Subsequent drafts and final version prepared and approved by LBS (2025).

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OHS627041



Executive Summary

The Enhanced Biodiversity Duty (EBD) was introduced under the Environment Act (2021). It requires all public authorities in England to consider how we can actively conserve and enhance biodiversity. Defra requires all Local Planning Authorities and Local Authorities to report and publish what actions we have taken and plan to take to meet the EBD. The first round of EBD reporting is due within 12 weeks from the 1st January 2026 and will continue in five-year cycles.

This report is intended to start the process and help build a repeatable study for all local authorities to utilise and for Southwark to replicate and make comparisons with for our next report in five years. The aim is to build something effective and efficient and nationally and temporally consistent.

This report starts with a “state of nature” section providing a clear baseline set against measurable criteria that can be repeated in future iterations. It then sets out the Council’s strategies, policies and plans relating to the delivery of our EBD. It identifies the various ways in which the Council is taking and funding action for nature and outlines how we will deliver the EBD across the next five years.

Southwark contains a diverse mosaic of green and blue spaces, with 37.6% of the borough (1,124 ha) covered by green space and a further 4.2% (126 ha) comprising rivers, canals, ponds, and other blue infrastructure¹. Tree canopy cover, a key asset for biodiversity, air quality, and climate resilience, is estimated at 21.6%; above the London average of 19.6%¹. The borough’s ecological network includes 7 Local Nature Reserves, 4 Metropolitan, 44 Borough, and 45 Local grade SINC. Southwark is contributing significantly to national, regional and local targets through further increases in habitat creation and restoration as well as site designations.

Southwark is a national leader in the management of Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) with 81% under positive management. This is delivered through long-term partnerships and effective ecological management and resourcing. Southwark’s recognition as one of London’s top boroughs for parks and biodiversity-friendly management shows strong delivery on public realm commitments. Habitat creation and enhancements have been delivered including species-rich grasslands, hedgerows as well as effective invasive species management across sites.

SuDS are a fundamental part of Southwark’s flood resilience strategy, integrated into planning and infrastructure design. Southwark became the first inner London borough to surpass 100,000-trees on council land, including over 5,000 planted in 2024. Over 56,600 volunteer hours were delivered through third-sector management contracts in 2024-2025, with strong attendance at community event and training days. Volunteer-driven tree planting exceeded targets, engaging over 300 residents and 17 schools in 2023/24. Being the first London borough to adopt a “Right to Grow”, has positioned Southwark as a leader in community food growing and citizen-led urban greening. A programme of public biodiversity workshops was offered in 2025 to deepen nature literacy and participation in ecological monitoring.

Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is embedded into the internal process of the planning department, with an in-house ecologist who engages with applicants on biodiversity issues at the pre-application stage and assesses BNG metrics, and four BNG plans approved by the council to date.

Southwark funds multiple nature related projects through grants. In 2025, £550,000 worth of grants were awarded to non-for-profit organisations through the Southwark Biodiversity Fund, part of a wider £1 million allocated to greening and biodiversity improvements to enable strategically impactful, lasting interventions for biodiversity and nature recovery in Southwark.

Over the next five years the Council will continue to consider climate risks and build resilience using nature-based solutions. The Council is delivering a SINC review and an update of the Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP) to support delivery, and take account of, the London LNRS once published in 2026. The Council will continue to monitor key metrics and report in five years on further progress.

¹ Greater London Authority 2024. <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/green-cover-2024-e56n0/>

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to enable Southwark Council to meet the requirements of their Enhanced Biodiversity Duty, for the reporting period of 1st January 2024 to 1st January 2026.

1.2 The report brings together existing work including policies, strategies and action plans that Southwark Council have completed or have in progress. It sets out what actions Southwark Council have taken for biodiversity since 2023 and takes a forward look at future actions to 2030. It provides a framework to assess current progress and sets a baseline for future reporting periods.

1.3 Above and beyond Defra guidance, this report also presents a “state of nature” section providing a baseline of the quantity, quality and accessibility of nature-rich green space across the borough. It provides an overview of key national and regional biodiversity targets and the progress the council is making toward helping to achieve them. Beyond biodiversity, the inclusion of elements focussing on climate resilience seek to emphasise the importance of joined up thinking and the reality of climate risks for now and the future, and how best to ameliorate them and work with nature-based solutions for people, nature and the climate.

Why Nature Matters

1.4 Nature is essential for all life on earth. We depend on it for the air we breathe, the water we drink and the food we eat. It boosts health and wellbeing, captures and stores carbon and has a vital role to play in climate change adaptation. Nature underpins all economic activity, and the benefits received from nature were estimated to be valued at £1.8 trillion in 2022².

1.5 Nature also has intrinsic worth beyond the quantifiable value we attribute it via natural capital and ecosystem services thinking. It enriches us spiritually, brings us great joy and warrants an ethical consideration beyond the framework we conventionally ascribe value, an intangible, but important, aspect of our humanity and our connection with nature.

1.6 In Southwark, the conservation and enhancement of nature is key to achieving Southwark 2030, the council's overarching strategic framework, the ambitions and targets of the Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP), Southwark Plan, the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and other related strategies, policies and action plans across the council.

1.7 The council's approach to climate change, including the declaration of a Climate Emergency, is heavily integrated with



Rockingham Estate community garden. © Holly Weber

² UK natural capital accounts: 2024. Office for National Statistics.
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/uknaturalcapitalaccounts/2024>

its work with nature. This reflects the interdependencies of the twin-crises and effort to mitigate and increase resilience. This report also includes emphasis on climate resilience to emphasise this interdependence and outline thinking on how to tackle both climate and nature crises together.

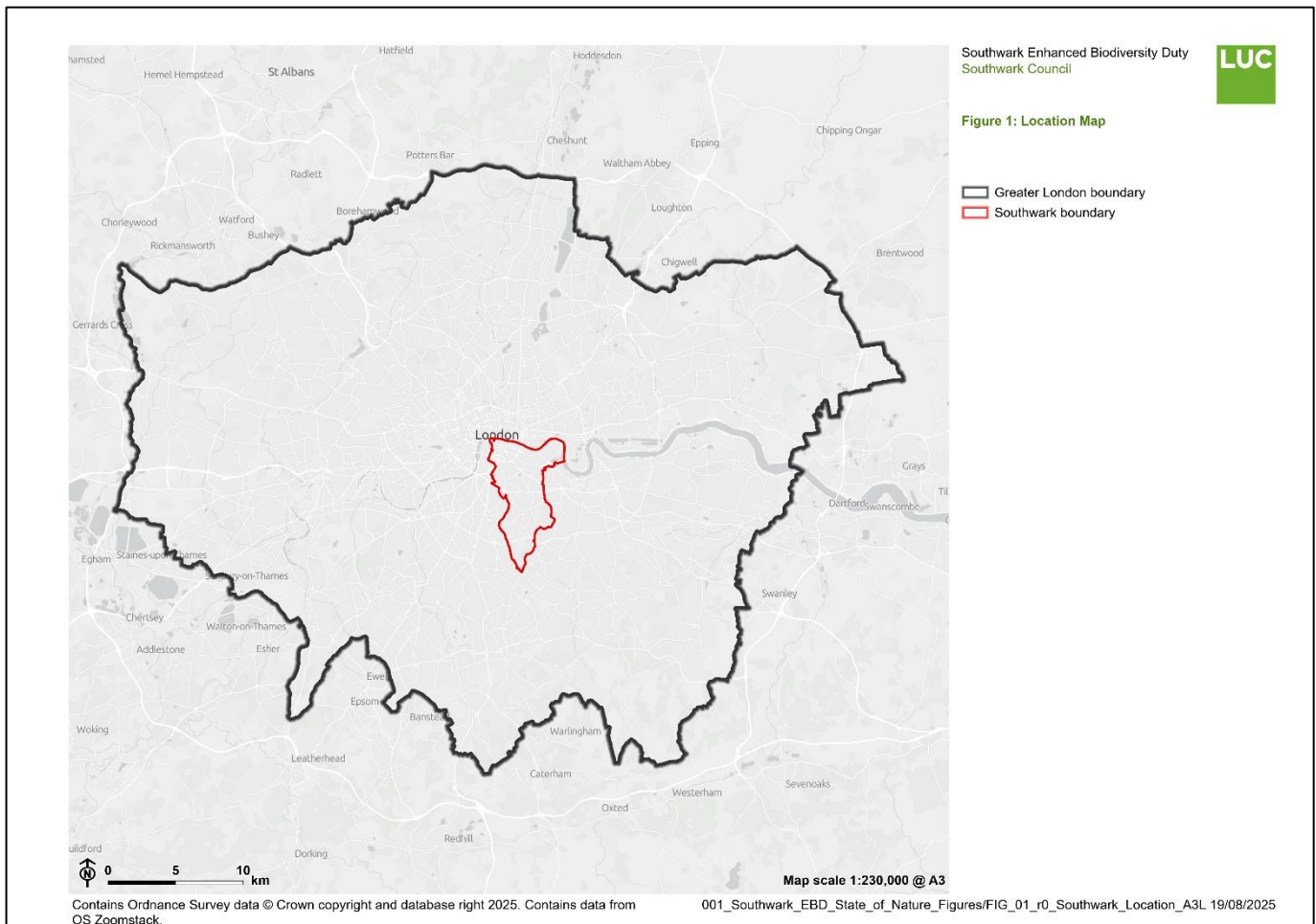
The Southwark Area

1.8 The London Borough of Southwark is an inner-London borough within Greater London, England (see **Figure 1**). Located on the south bank of the River Thames with the City and Westminster to the north, Lambeth to the west, Greenwich and Lewisham to the east and Bromley and Bexley to the south, it covers an area of 29km². It is densely populated yet retains over 220 parks and open spaces. Of these sites, 93 are designated as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) and seven as Local Nature Reserves (LNR) (see **Figure 2**³).

1.9 The borough has a long history of biodiversity conservation – in 1976 Britain's first urban ecological park, the William Curtis Ecological Park, was created in Southwark.

Southwark Council

1.10 Southwark Council is one of the 32 London borough councils under the Greater London Authority (GLA). It had a population of 307,600 residents in the 2021 Census, making it the 7th most densely populated district in England. It is a billing authority, setting council tax, a planning authority, setting and enforcing planning policies, and a local education authority. The council is responsible for social services, libraries, waste collection and disposal, traffic, most roads, environmental health, public parks, and others. Southwark is the largest local authority social landlord in London, managing over 55,000 council homes. Since last boundary changes in 2018 the council has comprised 63 councillors representing 23 wards. The Mayor of Southwark is a largely ceremonial role, with political leadership provided by the leader of the council.



³ Data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC July 2025'

Legal and National Policy Context

The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006

1.11 The NERC Act 2006 first introduced the Biodiversity Duty, requiring all public authorities in England to consider what action they can reasonably take for the conservation of biodiversity.

The Environment Act 2021

1.12 The Environment Act 2021 strengthened the Biodiversity Duty and amends the NERC Act. Under the strengthened duty, public authorities must consider what they can do to, not just conserve, but also enhance biodiversity. The Act also introduced Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS) and Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG), amongst other key instruments for conserving and enhancing nature. LNRS, prepared by a Responsible Authority (the GLA for London), identify priorities for nature recovery locally and propose measures in locations identified using local evidence and input from local stakeholders. BNG mandates that developers must deliver a biodiversity uplift of at least 10%, in some circumstances.

1.13 The Environment Act 2021 also introduces Protected Species Strategies and Protected Site Strategies. Southwark does not have any such schemes, nor has any proposed therefore these will not be referred to again in the report.

The Environment Improvement Plan

1.14 The Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 took forward the delivery of the Environment Act 2021. It sets out the legally binding targets and actions needed for protecting, conserving and enhancing the natural environment. The Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra) will use EBD reporting to assist in their requirements to monitor the delivery of the Environmental Improvement Plan.

Levelling Up and Regeneration Act (LURA) 2023

1.15 The LUR Act 2023 instructs Public Authorities to “take account” of the LNRS; the Environment Act 2021 requiring public authorities to “have regard” for the LNRS. This strengthened duty places an onus on Local Authorities to consider how they can “take account” of the LNRS. The EBD provides clear opportunity for these bodies to articulate how they have or are planning to deliver this duty.

This Report

1.16 This report has been prepared by LUC as part of a pro-bono pilot with Southwark Council to test the process, data and report structure within a restricted timeframe. The process has included:

1. **An inception meeting** to discuss the scope, timeline and relevant data to support delivery of the report.
2. **The preparation of a template** to outline the scope and focus for the report and to enable a clear structure aligned with the statutory guidance and the Council’s needs.
3. **Targeted research** to identify key targets, metrics, actions and other relevant quantitative and qualitative data that could help capture the local, regional and national objectives and measures and the progress in achieving them, including a **workshop** with officers from across the organisation to discuss and identify relevant strategic targets and actions undertaken to deliver for biodiversity and climate change resilience.
4. **Data analysis** including spatial analysis through GIS. With support from the local environmental records centre, Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC (GiGL), and analysis of other data collated to assess progress against targets.
5. **Breakfast Event** with other London borough council ecology leads, GiGL, the GLA and other public bodies and supporting organisations to interrogate the process and start to build consensus and common data development across the London boroughs.
6. **The preparation of this report** capturing the research and analysis undertaken and delivering the requirements of the EBD reporting. Council officers reviewed the analysis, providing further information, and prepared the final version of the report.

Target Audience

1.17 This report will provide key information to **Defra** to assist in the monitoring of Environmental Improvement Plan delivery and to enable them to evaluate whether public authorities are delivering their EBD.

1.18 This report will be taken to cabinet and provide a useful overview to Southwark **councillors and officers** of contributions the council has made to conserving and enhancing biodiversity within the borough.

1.19 This report will be published on the Southwark Council website and provide information to **residents** to understand what action is being taken for nature in their borough.

Consultation

1.20 This report has been prepared in consultation with Southwark council officers from a range of council departments. Data has been collated and analysed through targeted consultation and workshops with officers representing Southwark functions.

Chapter 2 State of Nature



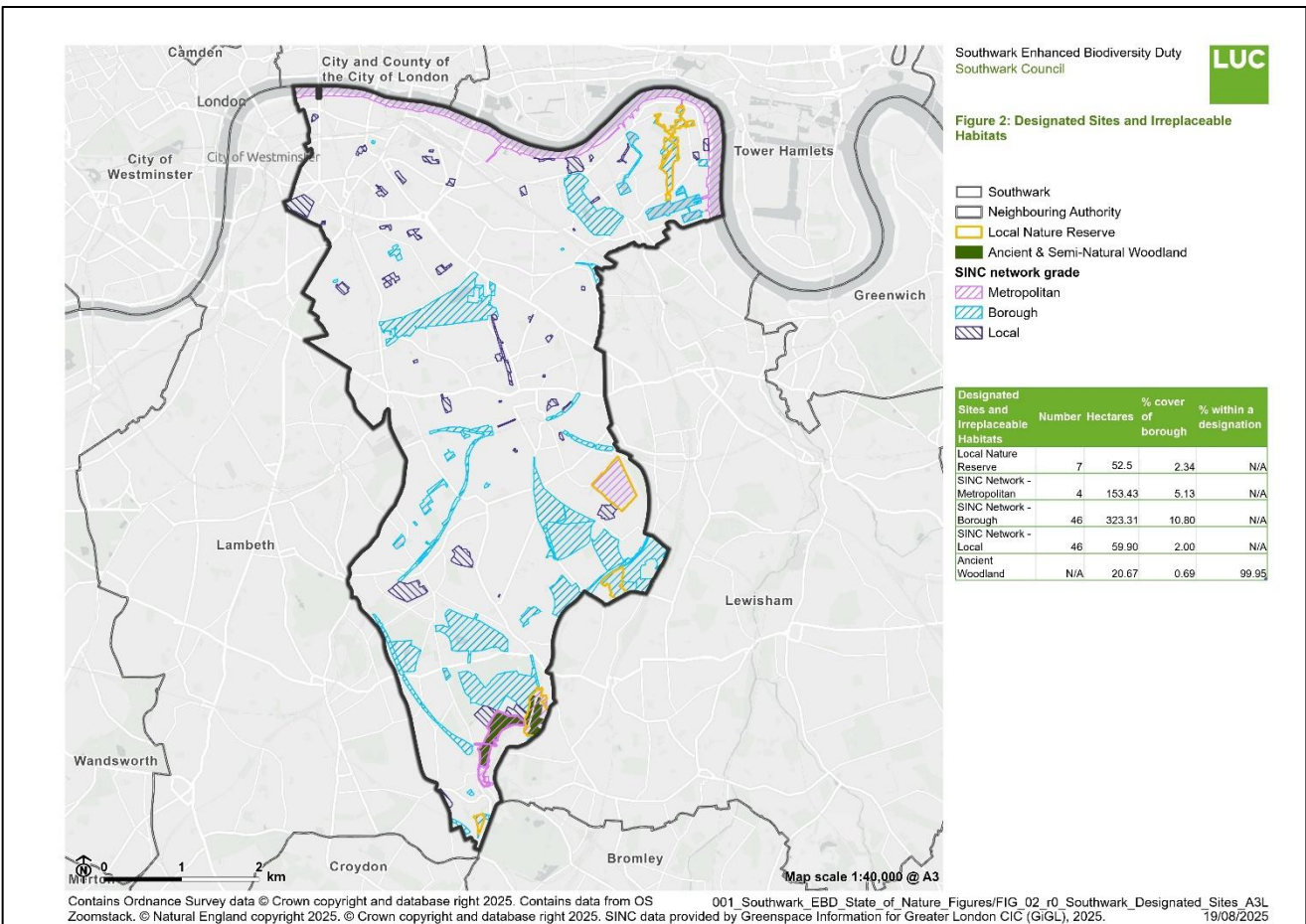
Noctule bat, Sydenham Hill Woods © Liam Nash

This chapter describes the current biodiversity baseline across Southwark. Formed from a set of measurable criteria, it can be repeated in future iterations.

The State of Nature

Designated Sites

2.1 Southwark’s ecological network includes 7 Local Nature Reserves (52.5 ha), 44 Borough-grade SINCs (323 ha), 4 Metropolitan SINC (153 ha total coverage) and 45 Local SINC (63 ha) (see **Figure 2 Designated Sites**⁴). The borough does not support any national (SSSI/NNR) or international (SAC/SPA/RAMSAR) designations.



⁴ Data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC July 2025'

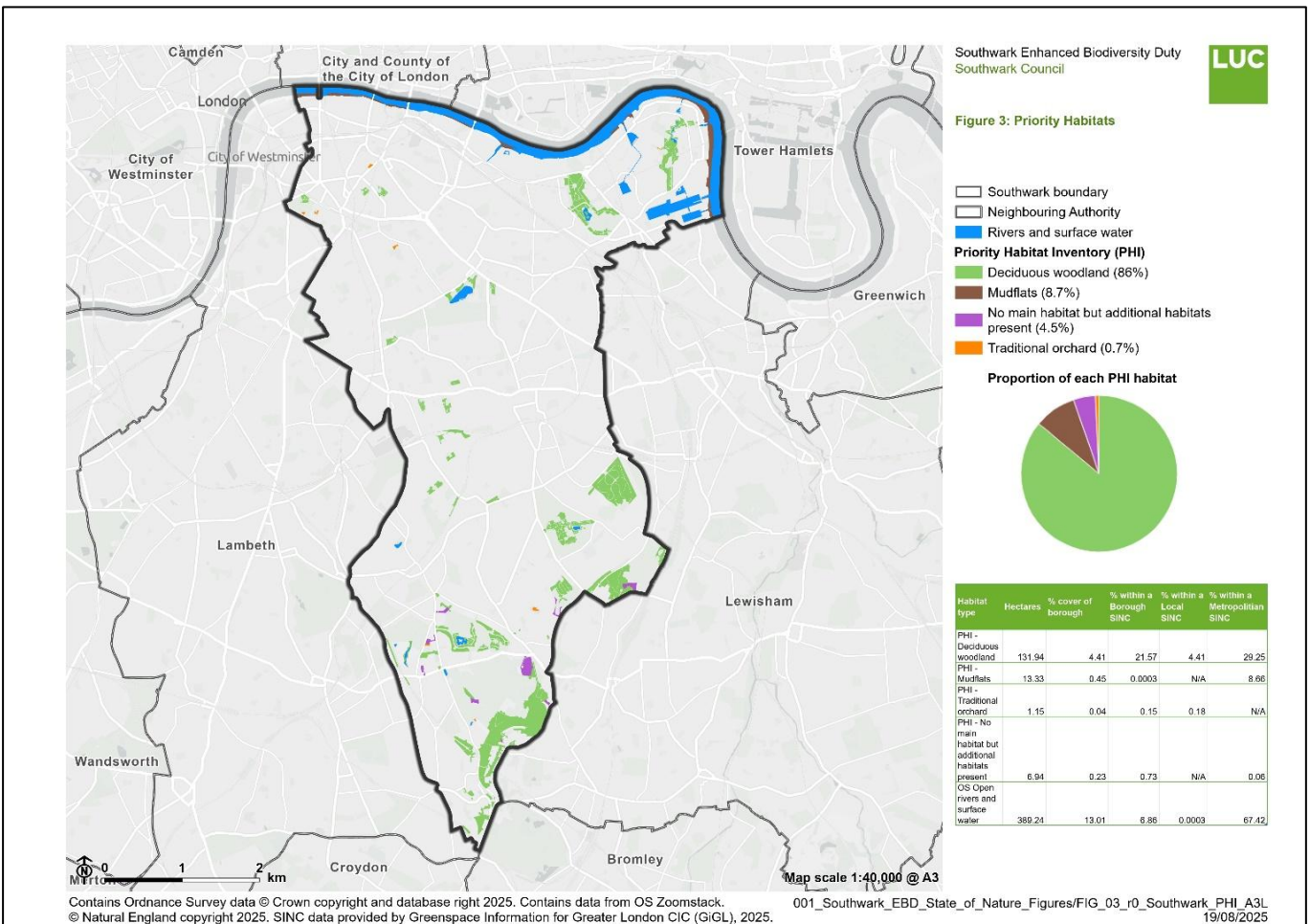
2.2 Southwark Council reports on the National Indicator SDL160 (SINCs in positive environmental management). 82% of Southwark’s sites were recorded as in positive environmental management in 2025, and 81% in 2024⁵. This figure dropped from 89% in 2023, due to the inclusion of 29 additional SINCs within the calculation but remains one of the highest rates in England.

Habitats and Species

2.3 Southwark contains a diverse mosaic of green and blue spaces, with 37.6% of the borough (1,124 ha) covered by green space and a further 4.2% (126 ha) comprising rivers, canals, ponds, and other blue infrastructure⁶. Tree canopy cover, a key asset for biodiversity, air quality, and climate

resilience, is estimated at 21.6%; above the London average of 19.6%⁶.

2.4 Priority habitats are an important part of the landscape (**Figure 3 includes mapped priority habitats⁷**). Deciduous woodland covers 132 ha (4.4% of the borough), with more than half located within the SINC network. Woodland more generally covers 7.1% of the borough (211.8ha of total coverage) The borough also supports 13.3 ha of mudflats, 1.15 ha of traditional orchards, and almost 7 ha of other habitat mosaics. Southwark’s water network, including the Thames, its tributaries, and man-made docks and lakes, extends across 389 ha (13% of the borough) and provides significant ecological connectivity, 73% of which lies within the SINC network⁸. Note the priority habitat inventories are managed by Natural England and do not necessarily



⁵ Southwark Council (2021) *Tackling the climate emergency together: Our strategy for a carbon neutral Southwark by 2030*, July. Southwark Council. Available at: <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-12/Climate%20Change%20Strategy%20%28July%202021%29%20%287%29.pdf>

⁶ Greater London Authority 2024. <https://data.london.gov.uk/dataset/green-cover-2024-e56n0/>

⁷ Priority Habitat Inventory, Natural England 2025 <https://naturalengland-defra.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/Defra::priority-habitats-inventory-england/about>

⁸ Data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC July 2025'

represent the most up to date habitat extents. The 2025 SINC Review currently underway should work to address this discrepancy.

2.5 Most of Southwark’s 20.7 ha of ancient woodland are afforded protection (99.9%), while 87% of its 153 ha of priority habitats (ranging from species-rich grasslands to wetlands) are within designations.

2.6 GiGL’s records show 4,206 species in Southwark: about 9% are designated species of conservation importance, 1% are invasive species requiring management. Refer to **Appendix A** for GiGL’s Southwark Factsheet for further information.

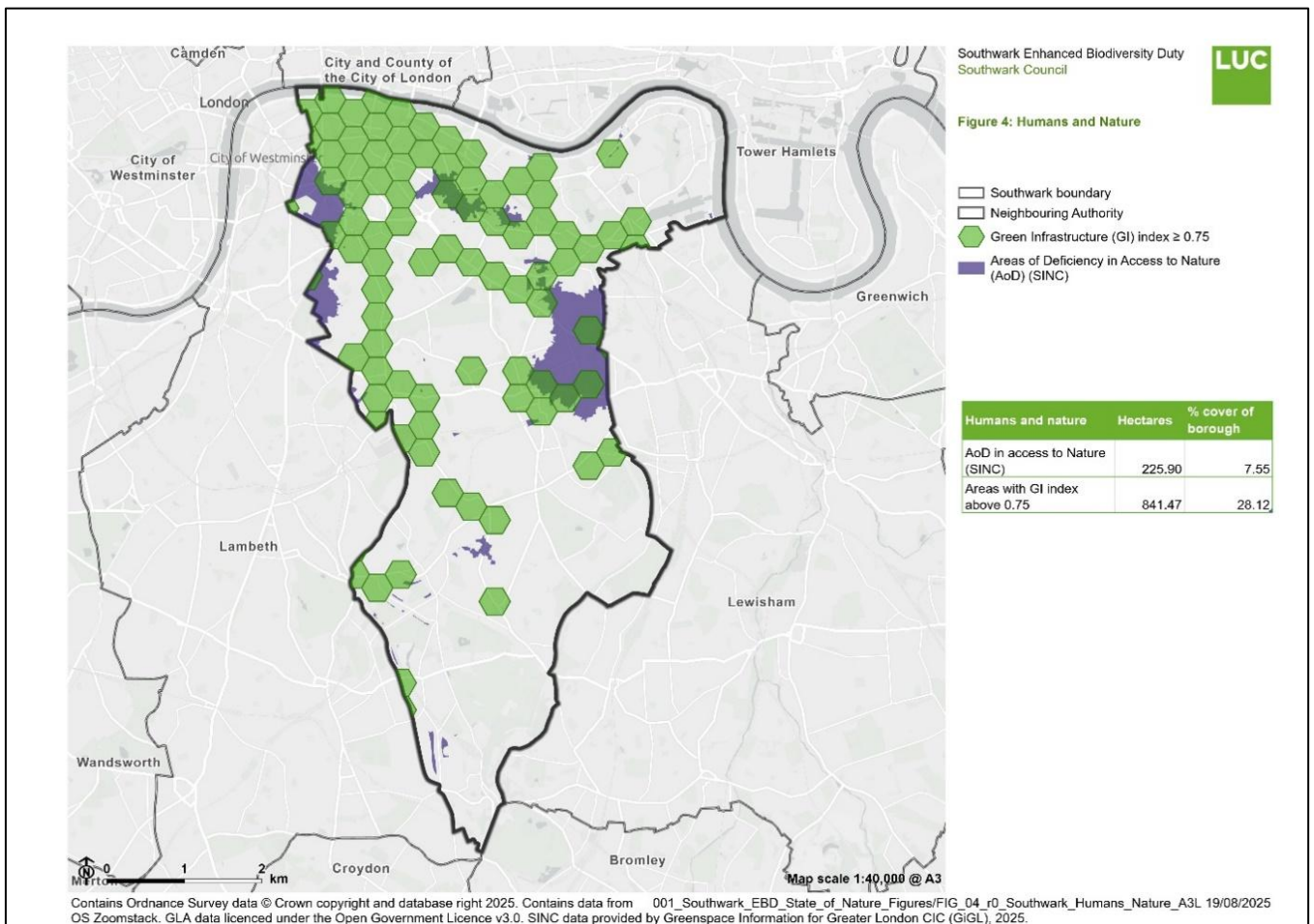
Green Infrastructure

2.7 The wider green infrastructure, collectively forming key connections of the borough’s ecological network, includes 223 parks and open spaces (614 ha total coverage), highway verges, Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SuDS), street trees

and green roofs, as well as 18 formal allotments, 26 community gardening plots and 556 ha of private garden.

Access to Nature

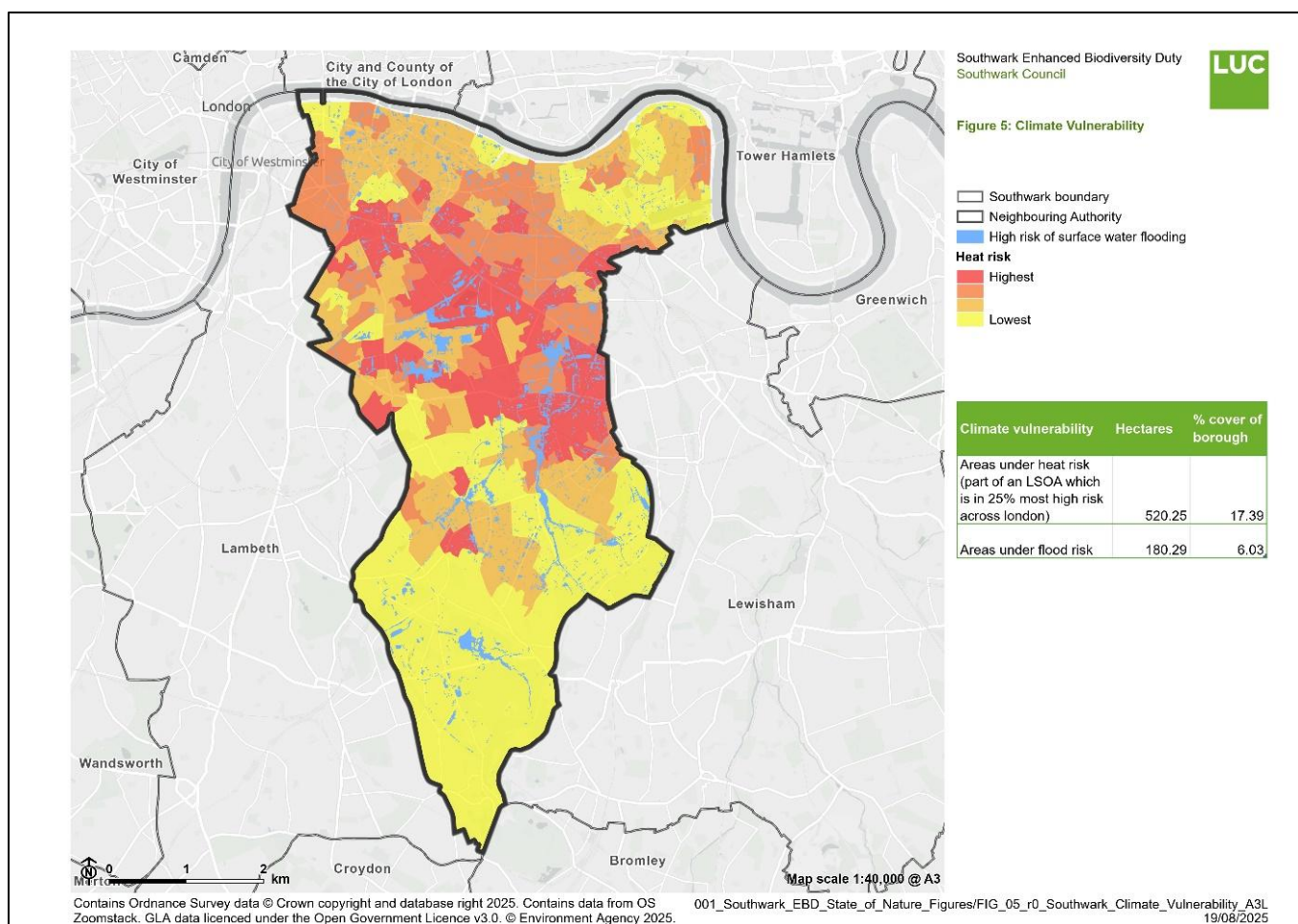
2.8 Many residents live within proximity of high-value green spaces and waterways, enabling daily interaction with nature, a key factor in mental and physical wellbeing. However, despite the extent of green space, 7.55% of Southwark’s land is assessed as an Area of Deficiency in access to nature (AoD) (**Figure 4**⁹). This has been reduced by 11.55% since 2014. Areas with a Green Infrastructure Index score above 75% (indicating the greatest need for investment) are clustered in parts of the north-west, central, and south-east of the borough, where green space quality, accessibility, and connectivity are lower.



⁹ Data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC July 2025'

Climate Change

2.9 Climate pressures are significant, with 17.4% of the borough in the highest quartile for heat risk across London and 6% at high risk of surface water flooding (**Figure 5**¹⁰). Some of the borough’s most densely populated neighbourhoods face high heat exposure and surface water flood risk.



¹⁰ Data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC July 2025'

Chapter 3

Meeting the Biodiversity Duty



This chapter sets out the plans, policies and strategies that form the principal instruments to conserve and enhance biodiversity in Southwark and the actions for nature the borough has committed to through the delivery of its functions.

The Enhanced Biodiversity Duty

3.1 The Enhanced Biodiversity Duty (EBD) was introduced under the Environment Act 2021. It requires all public authorities in England to consider how they can actively conserve and enhance biodiversity. Public Authorities must report their consideration, actions they've carried out to comply with the EBD and how they will comply with it over the next five years.

3.2 By law, the report must include

- The policies and objectives they have set to meet the biodiversity duty and the actions completed to date.
- What strategies (including the London Local Nature Recovery Strategy) have influenced their policies, objectives and action and how they have contributed to their preparation.
- How they plan to comply with the biodiversity duty in the next reporting period.
- Any other information they consider appropriate.

3.3 Reports from local planning authorities must also include:

- Actions carried out to meet Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) obligations.
- Details of gains resulting, or expected to result, from biodiversity gain plans they are approved.
- Plans to meet BNG obligations in the next reporting period.

First Consideration

3.4 The duty required a "first consideration" by all relevant public bodies by January 2024. This consideration had to

include agreement of policies, objectives and actions that will support the delivery the duty over the next two years.

3.5 In 2024, Southwark Council presented our first consideration to cabinet recommending they note and support the requirement of the EBD. It detailed the reasons for recommendation, the requirements and implications of meeting the duty and the biodiversity objectives of the council.

3.6 This report builds on that consideration, providing further detail on actions and achievements, whilst framing these using national, regional and local targets and metrics.

Local Policy Context and Progress

Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP)

The Council's Southwark Nature Action Plan sets the objective of '**protecting biodiversity and making nature accessible to all**'.

3.7 Adopted in 2020, the SNAP is the borough's primary framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity. Work is underway to update the plan to reflect the forthcoming London LNRS and strengthen delivery through planning, community engagement, and climate resilience measures and ensures that Southwark's nature recovery actions contribute to both borough-level and city-wide ecological networks.

3.8 The SNAP (2020¹¹) provides the principal framework for nature recovery in Southwark. It is organised around three themes:

1. Making Nature Accessible for All
2. Biodiversity Net Gain
3. The Nature Recovery Network

3.9 The SNAP sets out over 300 targeted actions to protect and enhance habitats and species. These include both habitat-based plans (e.g. for built environment, gardens, parks, and woodlands) and species-specific plans for bats, hedgehogs, stag beetles, pollinators, swifts, terns, peregrines, and other priority birds.

3.10 Works undertaken which contribute to the SNAP are provided in **Chapter 4** and **Appendix B** summarises the progress the Council is making on the various actions of the SNAP.

Local Plan and SPDs

3.11 Biodiversity and green infrastructure are embedded in Southwark's planning policy framework through the London Plan (2021), the Southwark Local Plan (2022), and the Climate and Environment Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (2025).

3.12 The Southwark Plan (2022) policies P59–P61¹² require major developments to provide green infrastructure with long-term stewardship, protects open space and designated sites from development.

3.13 The Southwark Plan also commits to retaining and enhancing the borough's tree canopy, protecting mature and veteran trees, and ensuring that planting supports climate resilience and native species. Biodiversity policies will be reviewed as part of the next Southwark Plan review.

Other Relevant Strategies

3.14 The Southwark 2030 Strategy, Council Delivery Plan (2025 - 2026) and the Streets for People Strategy (2023) ensure that ecological recovery is embedded in Southwark's community strategies. Southwark 2030 identifies a "healthy environment" as its 6th goal, reflecting the importance the borough puts on nature. **Appendix B** summarises the progress that Southwark have made towards targets within their community strategies.

3.15 In response to the ongoing and anticipated climate change pressures, Southwark declared a climate emergency in 2019 and adopted a Climate Change Strategy in 2021. In 2025, the strategy was updated to combine it with the 2024 Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy, creating an overarching Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2025) committing us to doing all we can to make the borough carbon-neutral by 2030. It includes targets for reducing emissions while preparing the borough for the impacts of climate change, bringing together a range of actions to improve the lives of residents, make Southwark a healthier place to live and improve biodiversity. **Appendix B** summarises the progress the Council has made towards the climate change strategies.

3.16 In addition, Southwark's strategic framework includes several complementary plans that influence biodiversity outcomes. These include the Tree Management Policy (2020), Open Spaces Strategy (2013), Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2023), the Allotment Expansion Guarantee, and Right to Grow (2025), Health and Wellbeing strategy (2022), Southwark Food Security Action Plan (2019), Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan (2017), and the Environment

¹¹ https://www.southwark.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/southwark_nature_action_plan.pdf

¹² <https://www.southwark.gov.uk/planning-environment-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy-and-guidance/southwark-plan-2022>

Scrutiny Commission's Biodiversity Review (2024). Progress towards relevant aims towards these strategies are summarised in **Appendix B**.

Regional Policy Context and Progress

London Local Nature Recovery Strategy

3.17 The London LNRS, currently in development by the GLA, will provide a spatial framework for nature recovery, identifying priority areas and opportunities to restore habitats, reconnect ecological networks, and target species at risk. Southwark's priorities have been fed into the London LNRS preparation process and will be reflected within the LNRS where possible and appropriate, ensuring that borough-level action feeds into London-wide ecological connectivity and supports the city's biodiversity objective.

3.18 While still currently in development, the version sent for public consultation provides a draft structure for the London LNRS. This contains a Statement of Biodiversity Priorities (SoBP), and a Local Habitat Map. The SoBP identifies several focussed priorities, many of which are relevant to Southwark. Each priority focus is associated with a selection of primary measures and species-specific measures – actions to take to deliver the LNRS. Annex 1 of the LNRS identifies priority species associated with each focus. The Local Habitat Map spatially maps these measures onto specific sites, differentiating between Areas of Particular Importance for Biodiversity (APIBs) – existing SINCS, LNRs and irreplaceable habitats, and Areas that Could Become of Particular Importance (ACBs) – areas outside of the designated site network where measures for nature recovery can be implemented.

3.19 Southwark acts as a Supporting Authority to the Greater London Authority (GLA) who act as the Responsible Body for preparing the LNRS. Southwark officers have contributed to the preparation of the LNRS via working groups and via the consultation functions delivered throughout the development process.

3.20 The GLA aim to publish the LNRS in early 2026, and it is still subject to change. Thus, specific measures or targets to meet the LNRS cannot be finalised within this report. However, the delivery of the LNRS within Southwark will be monitored over the next five years and reported in subsequent Biodiversity Duty reports, as outlined in **Chapter 7** of this report.

Mayor's Environment Strategy (2018)

3.21 The Mayor's Environmental Strategy (2018), with a Greater London focus, sets the ambition for the environment within the GLA. It includes targets for green infrastructure, climate change, waste and other themes across the environmental spectrum. The strategy calls for >50% for greenspace across London. At a local level, Southwark is approximately 12% off >50% green space, though this target is for the city as a whole and equal distribution across boroughs is not expected. Despite the small size and central location of Southwark, the council continues to strive to increase greenspace coverage. It is anticipated that larger outer boroughs will balance out the spatial limitations of smaller central boroughs. Southwark is almost meeting the 22% tree canopy cover target set for the capital as a whole. Actions identified in the SNAP and elsewhere indicate the borough is contributing to other biodiversity related targets (see **Appendix B**).

National Policy Context and Progress

Environmental Improvement Plan

3.22 The Environmental Improvement Plan 2023 sets binding national targets for habitat restoration, species recovery, tree cover, and protected area expansion. Key commitments include restoring or creating 500,000 ha of wildlife-rich habitat by 2042, halting species decline by 2030 and protecting 30% of England's land and sea for nature by 2030.

3.23 Southwark contributes to the Environmental Improvement Plan through delivery of the LNRS, the SNAP, and planning policy. Habitat creation and enhancement projects (such as meadows, SuDS and hedgerows detailed in **Chapter 4**) support the national ambition of wildlife rich habitat restoration, while the species-specific actions in the SNAP contribute to halting species decline. With 20.27% of the borough designated as SINC or LNR and 81% of these in positive management, Southwark contributes to underpinning the national 30-by-30 target. Sustained tree planting (see **Chapter 4**) has increased canopy cover to 21.6%, exceeding the national target of 16.5% (see **Appendix B**).

Chapter 4

Integrated Action



This chapter sets out what actions Southwark Council has taken for nature, across all departments, through the delivery of its functions and duties since 2024. It focuses on delivery, highlighting how those ambitions are being translated into concrete projects, policies, and partnerships on the ground.

Designated Sites Network

4.1 Designated sites form the backbone of Southwark's ecological network, providing protected spaces for habitats and species, and anchoring wider efforts to connect and enhance biodiversity across the borough.

4.2 The Council strives to work alongside third-sector partners, community organisations and residents to manage and enhance key SINCs, such as Sydenham Hill Woods, Stave Hill Ecology Park, Nunhead Cemetery, Redcross Gardens, and more. These partnerships not only support the condition of these sites at the core of the local ecological network but also provide nature engagement opportunities and build stronger of stewardship of nature among residents.

4.3 A wide range of habitat enhancement works have been delivered across the SINC network, including:

- Native tree and hedge planting
- Meadow planting and maintenance
- Installation of new ponds and SuDs to improve wetland habitat
- Installation of habitat structures including bird and bat boxes, stag-beetle loggeries, rock piles and insect hotels.
- Invasive species management, including a programme for the eradication of Japanese Knotweed in parks
- Eliminating scheduled use of Glyphosate or other herbicides in parks and green spaces and reducing herbicide application on streets and grey infrastructure.

4.4 Biodiversity data for these sites is collated from ecological surveys, local recorders, and quarterly updates provided by GiGL under a service-level agreement.

4.5 In 2025, Southwark commissioned LUC to undertake a borough-wide ecology survey and SINC Review, involving field surveys of over 100 existing and potential SINC sites across the Borough. The results of this work will produce an evidence base to support the ongoing protection of the SINC designation within the planning system, identify new candidate sites for designation, and provide recommendations for actions to improve and protect habitats within the SINC network. The results of this work are expected in early 2026.

Highlights & Challenges

- 82% of Southwark's SINC's are in positive management in 2025, making Southwark a leading local authority in England for designated site management.
- Long-term delivery partnerships secure continuity of ecological management and community engagement.
- Challenges remain in balancing urban pressures with the need to expand and connect the designated sites network.
- Analysis in the 2025 SINC Review identifies connectivity pinch-points across Southwark, disrupting ecological networks connecting the Thames corridor through to the southern woodlands. Candidate SINC's overlapping with these pinch-points should be prioritised for designation or enhancement to strengthen borough-wide ecological connectivity.

Development Management – habitats and species

4.6 Southwark Council has implemented the following for developers to ensure development supports biodiversity:

- BNG - Planning applicants must comply with BNG requirements as part of the planning application process (see **Chapter 5** for more information).
- Built-in wildlife features in permitted developments are often conditioned. A recent permissions case for Peckham Rye station¹³ required swift nesting bricks to be installed before first occupation, along with specifications for biodiverse green roofs, in line with Southwark Plan Policies P56–P60 and London Plan policies G5 and G6. Other built in wildlife features such

as bee bricks, loggeries and bat bricks are often conditioned.

- Southwark often includes planning conditions to ensure that biodiversity considerations are considered. For example:
 - Landscape and Ecological Management Plans with details of the maintenance of ecological features which needs to be approved by the LPA.
 - Bat and bird box conditions which require the placement of the boxes to be in suitable locations
 - A wildlife friendly lighting plan is often imposed as a condition to ensure that lighting impacts on ecological features are minimised.
- New public green spaces and habitats are being delivered and planned through area masterplans, such as the Old Kent Road Area Action Plan and Canada Water. This included major wetland habitat restoration at Canada Water with a new 170m bridge to promote access to nature.

Highlights & Challenges

- Mandatory 10% BNG now required in all new (non-exempt) developments. Long-term habitat management plans (30 years) embedded into planning consents.
- Implementation of biodiversity features (e.g. green roofs, swift bricks, bat boxes) included as planning conditions.
- The 2025 SINC Review desk study records that just 5.1% of Southwark (153.7 ha) is mapped as priority habitat, the majority being deciduous woodland (131.2 ha). Other habitat types are limited: mudflats (13.3 ha), traditional orchards (1.15 ha), and habitat mosaics (7 ha). This highlights the opportunity to target habitat creation and restoration beyond woodland, particularly wetlands and orchards, to diversify ecological resilience.

Managing Land to Improve Biodiversity

4.7 Southwark continues to deliver biodiversity improvements across its public realm, integrating ecological gains with urban maintenance:

¹³ <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Peckham-Rye-Railway-Station-Planning-Consent-granted-25-August-2023.pdf>

- The council currently holds 30 Green Flag awards and was ranked 1st by Good Parks for London in 2022 and 7th in 2024. Both consider biodiversity in their judging criteria.
- Invasive species management including a programme for the eradication of Japanese Knotweed, which has been eradicated from 38 parks and open spaces across the borough, as of 2025.
- Eliminating scheduled use of Glyphosate and other herbicides in parks and green spaces, and reduced herbicide application on streets and grey infrastructure from three times to once annually. An Integrated Weed Management working group is in development to guide the council's future approach to herbicide use and weed management. Over half of councils in the UK continue pesticide use; only 45% actively reduce or eliminate glyphosate. This underscores Southwark's relative progress and the need for continued innovation¹⁴.
- Relaxed mowing implemented and new meadows planted across housing estates, road verges and parks, assisted by two cut and collect flails purchased through a successful Rewild London fund bid. Routine amenity grass cutting for biodiversity was reduced by over 20% in our parks and open spaces by 2022.
- Over 1.4km of native hedging planted inside parks and green spaces in 2023-2025.
- The council offered capital grants (Southwark Biodiversity Fund) to not-for-profit groups to deliver biodiversity and greening enhancements. The fund targets high-impact areas, particularly those at risk of flooding or heat, and is supporting projects starting in 2025.
- From 2024-2025, the Leisure Policy and Programmes team have delivered capital and park refurbishment projects with associated biodiversity enhancements in Burgess Park, Surrey Canal Walk, Consort and Dr Harold Moody Park, Peckham Rye Park and Victory Community Park, including planting trees, creating grassland, meadow and woodland understory, as well as planting shrubs and bulbs. From 2026, 7 further projects are planned with habitat improvement elements, in Bethwin Park, Brimington Park, Burgess Park, Dog Kennel Hill Adventure Playground, Lavender Pond and Little Dorrit Park.

Highlights & Challenges

- Southwark's recognition as London's top borough for parks and biodiversity-friendly management shows strong delivery on public realm commitments.
- Expansion of meadows and hedgerows, alongside Japanese knotweed eradication and reduction of herbicide use, demonstrates clear progress on habitat restoration at scale.
- Balancing biodiversity management with public expectations for "tidiness" in parks and estates is being addressed through engagement projects and clear communication.
- Climate pressures, including hotter summers and flooding risks, will test the resilience of newly planted habitats and hedgerows. Diverse and considered planting schemes supports urban habitat resilience.
- Implementation of investment pipeline via the Biodiversity Fund supports grassroots and local ecological projects beyond council-managed sites.
- According to the SINC Review 2025, 84% of protected species records occur within SINC, but only 36% of notable species records are within designated sites. This suggests that many priority species rely on undesignated land (gardens, cemeteries, rail land). Integrated actions extend habitat management to these overlooked areas through community grants, and partnership working.

Climate Change Resilience: Natural Flood Management

4.8 The following actions have aimed to strengthen Southwark's flood resilience and nature-based adaptation using SuDS and other nature-based solutions across the public realm:

- Specific guidance was published in 2024 to implement SuDS in Southwark. Local SuDS typologies e.g. such as swales, raingardens, and filter strips, are designed to mimic natural hydrological systems, improve water quality, and reduce flood peaks. The Local Flood Risk Management Team delivered three SuDS projects in 2024-2025, in addition to completing a £2.2m flood alleviation scheme in Peckham Rye Park and Common which delivered 2,206 m² of meadow planting. A schedule of further SuDS schemes is in the pipeline for

¹⁴ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/jul/30/uk-councils-pesticides-weedkiller-glyphosate>

2026 onward, including creation of a major water retention basin in Long Meadow Park, Gipsy Hill.

- Beyond SuDS, wetland and freshwater habitats are being improved or expanded across the borough, including 10 new or restored ponds in 2024-2025, and new wetland habitat in Greenland Dock, Canada Water and Burgess Park. A further 3 pond builds and restorations are planned for 2026, as well as wetland habitat restoration in Albion Channel.
- In the London Bridge area (identified as a critical drainage zone), large steel SuDS planters have been installed to capture and slowly release rainwater, improving flood resilience while enhancing biodiversity and urban amenity.
- In partnership with Team London Bridge, rain gardens installed in 2022 at Snowfields and Melior Street capture surface water via street gullies into underground tanks, releasing it slowly to reduce peak flow. This project achieved Gold and BID Best-in-Category at the 2023 London in Bloom Awards.
- In 2024/25, the council's Highways department, under its overarching Streets for People strategy (2023), installed 4 parklets, 10 rain gardens and 24 trees as part of the Walworth Pocket Parks and Dulwich Village schemes.
- Work is underway to develop a Southwark Riverside Strategy to address future flood risk from sea level rise.

Highlights & Challenges

- SuDS are a fundamental part of Southwark's flood resilience strategy, integrated into planning and infrastructure design.
- Award-winning rain gardens show success in combining performance and design; recognized at London in Bloom's 2023 awards.
- Parts of Southwark are within the Environment Agency's Flood Zone 2 (medium probability of flooding) and Flood Zone 3 (high probability), highlighting the risk to residents from flooding and the importance of implementing flood-risk mitigation¹⁵.
- The 2025 SINC Review further highlights that 7.55% of the borough is an AoD in access to nature, concentrated in the central belt. These areas also overlap with zones of high surface water flood risk and heat stress. Prioritising investment in new SINC's, habitat creation, and SuDS in these

locations would simultaneously deliver biodiversity, climate resilience, and improved community access.

Trees

4.9 Tree planting has been a top priority for Southwark Council given its urban setting but extensive green assets. Trees can offer cooling in urban settings, protection against heatwaves and flood risk reduction when planted appropriately, as well as helping create strong connections with nature locally for residents through the action of planting or enjoying the trees and picking fruit. Examples of successes include:

- Since 2020, Southwark has planted 38,409 trees and saplings, encompassing 254 species to enhance biodiversity and resilience.
- 104 fruit trees planted since 2023, supported by local groups like Trees for Bermondsey and Herne Hill Tree Watch.
- In 2024/25 alone, the council planted 7890 trees, including 1,390 mature trees and 6500 saplings in hedges and copses. As a result, Southwark became the first inner London borough to exceed 100,000 council-managed trees.
- The tree program is supported by Neighbourhood CIL funding, which covers greening and tree planting.
- Efforts are underway to identify new planting sites via the Treeconomics Tree Planting Opportunity Map (2020) and the Treeequity map, which targets areas of low canopy, high deprivation, flooding risk, and heat zones to maximize ecological and social impact.¹⁶
- Officers participate in the London Tree Officers Association (LTOA) and London Borough Biodiversity Forum (LBBF) to share best practice and leverage guidance and support. Working in partnership with local major landowners e.g. Dulwich Estate, Thames Water, Network Rail, TfL, and housing associations maximises opportunities on their land for nature restoration in the borough.
- The tree management policy 2020 commits the council to replace every tree felled. Section 106 and external grant funding (e.g. Trees Outside of Woodlands grant) are being explored for further tree planting.

Highlights & Challenges

¹⁵ <https://geomap.southwark.gov.uk/connect/analyst/mobile/#!/main>

¹⁶ <https://treeconomics.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Southwark-Tree-Planting-Strategy-Report.pdf>

- Southwark surpassed the 100,000-tree on council-land milestone, including over 7,800 planted in 2024/25.
- Diverse species mix (254 species) supports urban tree resilience.
- Strong community engagement in orchard and planting site selection.

Education and Engagement

4.10 Community involvement is central to Southwark's approach to nature recovery, with thousands of residents, schools, and local groups contributing time, skills, and stewardship to support biodiversity across the borough:

- The Southwark Biodiversity Partnership (SBP) is a coalition of Southwark Council, community groups and organisations with a significant role in protecting and improving biodiversity in Southwark. The primary purpose of the SBP is to protect, enhance, and promote biodiversity in Southwark through collaborative action and community engagement. The group is facilitated by Southwark Council and meets quarterly. A list of participating organisations is maintained on [the Council website](#).
- Several key council-owned wildlife sites are leased and managed by third-sector organisations. Leases coupled with ecological management contracts are in place with Bankside Open Spaces Trust (BOST), London Wildlife Trust (LWT) and The Conservation Volunteers (TCV). Leases are in place with other local organisations for management of SINCs, including Walworth Garden, Surrey Dock Farm, Grow London (Galleywall Nature Garden), South London Urban Growers (SLUG) (Bellenden Road Nature Garden), and Bede House Association (Aspinden Road Nature Garden).
- Across the borough, resident groups, Tenants and Residents Associations, and Tenant Management Organisations manage community gardens on housing estates, many of which are supported by the council's Community Gardening Coordinators. The council supports creation of new community gardens and provides training and networking opportunities to empower existing community gardens. Notable habitat management plans and projects have been implemented on the Rockingham, Kipling, Elmington, Northfield House, and Rouel Road estates.
- Within ecological management contracts with BOST, LWT and TCV, there is a provision for community engagement, events and volunteer opportunities. In 2024 and 2025, these contracts engaged 4764 individual volunteers, delivering 56,667 volunteer hours, put on 113 events with 27,031 attendees and held 172 training and education days with 683 participants, and hosted 180 school visits.
- Under the Parks grounds maintenance contract, Idverde delivered 263 corporate volunteering, 206 community volunteering, 279 community payback, and 166 work-placement sessions in Southwark's parks and open spaces across 2024 and 2025.
- The council supports several organisations' activities with grants, including BOST, Surrey Dock Farm, LWT's Centre for Wildlife Gardening, Global Generation, and Walworth Garden. These grants fund services that bring Southwark's diverse communities together, tackle social exclusion, and promote access to nature and a greener borough. See **Chapter 6** for further details on grants.
- The council strives to collaborate with significant private and institutional landowners in the borough towards shared ecological goals for nature recovery and access to nature, including the Dulwich Estate, Thames Water, TfL, Network Rail, the NHS, schools, universities, and housing associations, in line with the Southwark Land Commission (2023).
- The council supports Friends of groups throughout the borough, providing advice on positive ecological management and empowering volunteer-led delivery of nature recovery. This includes management of Local Nature Reserves, such as the Friends of Nunhead Cemetery (FONC), Friends of One Tree Hill, and Friends of Russia Dock Woodland.
- As part of the Southwark's Tree Management Plan (2020), 313 residents (target 150) and 17 schools were engaged in community tree planting events in 2023/24, and 450 residents and 29 schools engaged in 2024/25.
- Southwark Council funded the Burgess Park Community Plant Nursery, providing thousands of free vegetable seedlings to community food growing groups across the borough.
- Southwark became the first London Borough to adopt the "Right to Grow" motion. The initiative empowers residents to cultivate public land for food production and wildlife conservation. This is the culmination of years of groundwork laid by Southwark Council's community gardening team, which set up a process in 2020 for residents on estates to set up and run growing projects with council support, which has led to 27 new community gardens with 287 food growing plots, as of 2025, with more in development.

- Southwark hosted ten biodiversity workshops in summer/autumn of 2025 with 233 attendees to help residents understand and record plants and wildlife.
 - Working with education partners including Kings College London and London Southbank University - the Green Skills Hub is a LSBU/Council programme that has trained more than 800 in green skills - and National Education Nature Park and local schools to improve biodiversity and opportunities for young people to connect with nature across the district.
 - 12 Forest Schools are currently operating in Southwark's parks, as of 2025.
 - Southwark Council is a collaborator with the Department for Education and Royal Horticultural Society's National Education Nature Park project, with 8 eligible schools receiving funding in 2024-25, and a further 21 schools registered with the programme.
 - From 2024-2025, Southwark Council has collaborated with several national nature conservation charities to deliver biodiversity projects and ecological engagement, including Froglife's London Blue Chain, Butterfly Conservation's Big City Butterflies, Buglife's Get London Buzzing, and the Bat Conservation Trust's Project Nightwatch.
 - Southwark are a key partner on the London Wildlife Trust's £1.5 million National Lottery Heritage funded project, with the Dulwich Estate, to reunite Sydenham Hill and Dulwich Woods, widening access and protecting the ancient woodland.
 - Outreach work from the nearly £4 million National Lottery Heritage Fund project to restore Nunhead Cemetery's East Lodge has engaged 370 participants in 2024-25 with the nature reserve, with a target for over 15,000 participants engaged by 2029.
 - Working in partnership with the five business improvement districts within the local area; Team London Bridge, Better Bankside, Blue Bermondsey BID, We Are Waterloo and Southbank BID. Partnership projects include working with Team London Bridge to revitalise flower beds with a new sustainable planting scheme in Potter's field.
 - Pages on the Council website provides advice to residents on promoting biodiversity within their gardens and local neighbourhood and accessing food growing opportunities.
- Over 56,600 volunteer hours from third-sector ecology contracts delivered in 2024 and 2025, with strong community event and training participation.
 - Volunteer-driven tree planting exceeding targets, engaging over 750 residents and 46 schools from 2023-2025
 - Adoption of the "Right to Grow" policy has positioned the borough as a leader in community food growing and citizen-led greening.
 - A series of public biodiversity workshops were offered in 2025 to deepen nature literacy and involvement with biological recording.

Highlights & Challenges

Chapter 5

Biodiversity Net Gain

This chapter provides an overview of the actions taken and the gains achieved and anticipated from BNG.

5.1 Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) is a statutory requirement arising from the Environment Act (2021). It ensures that habitats are left in a measurably better state than they were before the development.

5.2 Major and minor developments (with some exemptions) must provide a minimum of 10% Biodiversity Net Gain over the pre-development biodiversity value of a site. BNG does not remove the need for the ecological mitigation hierarchy, or other environmental and protected species legislation, guidance and professional codes.

5.3 Exemptions to BNG, set out in law, include;

- householder applications
- self-build and custom build applications
- development that does not impact a priority habitat and which impacts less than 25 square metres (5m by 5m) of on-site habitat, or 5 metres of on-site linear habitats such as hedgerows.

5.4 This means that many planning applications in Southwark are exempt from the legal requirement for BNG. However, the current Southwark Plan (2022) policy P60 (Biodiversity) still ensures that biodiversity is addressed as part of a development.

5.5 BNG became mandatory in early 2024 and still in its infancy. As BNG is delivered through a planning condition, Southwark council is only now approving some of the gain plans of early planning applications under the legislation. The table below shows the progress made in the approval of BNG eligible planning applications.

Criteria	Number
Number of applications that are BNG eligible and have been approved.	27 approved, of which 10 were major applications and 17 minor.



Green wall, Elephant and Castle © Liam Nash

Percentage of all applications received that are BNG eligible	2.16%
Number of Biodiversity Gain Plans approved	4

5.5 At Southwark, applicants are expected to consider how BNG and other biodiversity measures can be multi-functional. They can form part of the site's landscaping and amenity space strategy, or nature-based sustainable drainage systems. Applicants are encouraged to deliver BNG in a way which is most beneficial to the site. For example, creating habitat corridors, providing a buffer to adjacent SINC's and utilising native species.

5.6 Major developments are also expected to achieve the London Plan targets for Urban Greening Factor. This works in tandem with BNG and provides an incentive to developers with no or very few existing habitats on site at baseline stage to incorporate greening measures such as green roofs in their schemes. The targets set for Urban Greening Factor are 0.4 for predominantly residential development and 0.3 for commercial.

5.7 Applicants must follow the recognised biodiversity gain hierarchy set out in Government guidance. These are that:

- On-site BNG should be prioritised. Adverse effects on on-site distinctive habitats should be avoided and effects compensated for through the enhancement of existing on-site habitats where possible, followed by the creation of new on-site habitats.
- If BNG cannot be met on-site, registered offsite biodiversity units can be used. Currently, there are no habitat banks established in Southwark which is providing registered biodiversity units which can be used by developers seeking offsite units.
- Statutory credits should be used as a last resort if on-site and off-site measures are not possible. In Southwark, this should be discussed with the planning case officer before an application is submitted.

5.8 BNG which is considered by Southwark to be 'significant' must be managed and maintained by the developer or landowner for at least 30 years after the completion of the development. In Southwark, the definition of 'significant' BNG depends on:

- The size and complexity of the proposed biodiversity habitat.
- The pre-development and post-development biodiversity distinctiveness.

- The habitat condition, as defined by the Biodiversity Metric.

Government guidance is used when making this assessment. This includes whether the proposed habitat contains:

- Habitats of medium or higher distinctiveness in the biodiversity metric.
- Habitats of low distinctiveness which create a large number of biodiversity units.
- Habitat creation or enhancement where distinctiveness is increased.
- Areas of habitat creation or enhancement which are significant in area compared to the size of the development.
- Enhancements to habitat condition.

5.9 Significant BNG is secured by planning condition or a S106 agreement. Development sites with significant BNG will be required to submit a Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan (HMMP) for approval. This should set out the agreed intervals for habitat condition monitoring reports, usually at years 1, 3, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30. The HMMP must be submitted after planning approval and before the commencement of development. This is in addition to the Biodiversity Gain Plan.

5.10 Of the four approved gain plans, three are considered significant and have legal agreements which include a monitoring fee of £12,874. All are achieving net gain onsite only.

5.11 Phased development must also meet the biodiversity gain objective of at least 10% biodiversity net gain. However, phased development is subject to a different approach for meeting the biodiversity gain condition. An Overall Biodiversity Gain Plan must be submitted and approved by the planning authority before any development can begin. A Phase Biodiversity Gain Plan for each phase must also be submitted to and approved by the planning authority before the development of that phase can begin.

The below bullet points detail the number and type of units approved in the four Biodiversity Gain Plans to date. Hectarage per habitat of gains is also provided:

Scheme 25/AP/1335 Construction of block of flats

- 0.06 habitat unit uplift equates to **12.74%** gain onsite. Habitats created include a green roof and vegetated garden.
- Total of 0.08ha created including 0.0279ha of intensive green roof and 0.0295ha of vegetated gardens. Other areas include developed land sealed surface and artificial unvegetated unsealed surface.

Scheme 24/AP/0918: Demolition and extension of office building

- 0.35 habitat unit uplift equates to **20.11%** gain. Habitats created include urban trees, ground level planters, ground based green walls and introduced shrub.
- Total of 0.83ha created, 0.01ha enhanced. This includes the creation of 0.0162ha of urban trees, 0.1851ha of ground level planters, 0.0246ha of ground based green wall, and Enhances habitats are urban trees.

Scheme: 25/AP/2096: Installation of new play equipment

- 0.06 habitat unit uplift equates to **10.7%** gain including urban trees.
- Total of 0.15ha including 0.0855ha of urban trees and 0.0078ha of modified grassland. Other proposed areas include developed land sealed surface and artificial unvegetated unsealed surface.

Scheme: 25/AP/2778 - Phased development: mixed use comprising residential, flexible commercial business and service, food, drink and leisure.

- Overall gain plan is a 1.16 habitat unit uplift which equates to a **55.73%** gain.
- Overall gain plan total of 1.28ha created including 0.179ha of urban trees, 0.103ha of intensive green roof, 0.015 biodiverse green roof and 0.096ha of introduced shrub. Other proposed areas include developed land sealed surface.

Actions Taken to Meet BNG Obligations and the next reporting period.

5.12 BNG is a planning matter, with the assessment, processing and approval of planning applications requiring BNG a responsibility of the development management team and ecologists. Most actions therefore relate to how these applications are processed and assessed and how BNG is secured in planning agreements with the input from the council's legal team.

5.13 The SNAP (2020) committed the council to developing systems for delivering BNG, ahead of national requirements. To do so actions taken by the planning function Southwark Council have included:

- Embedding BNG in development management processes and systems. Since April 2024, all major and small-site developments which are not exempt must deliver a minimum 10% BNG, including pre/post habitat

impact assessments, metrics, and biodiversity gain plans.

- The **Climate and Environment SPD**¹⁷, adopted in 2025, provides guidance on how to implement BNG alongside Urban Greening Factor, tree planting, habitat measurements, and biodiversity enhancements.

5.14 Additionally, the Council has:

- In early 2024, expanded their ecological staffing from two to four ecology specialist roles covering parks and natural environment and planning ecology, reinforcing BNG delivery and monitoring.
- Worked in partnership with GiGL on BNG pilot projects to develop habitat baselines and use the Biodiversity Metric for future assessments. These pilots are laying groundwork for future delivery.
- Updated Section 106 and CIL SPD, including revisions to the BNG fee and arboriculture specialist fee. The SPD clarifies the definitions of BNG 'significant' schemes in Southwark and the obligations around biodiversity and other environmental management plans.

Highlights & Challenges

- BNG is now a legal requirement. The council's strategic planning tools, systems and processes have successfully embedded BNG requirements and set out clear planning guidance.
- Enhanced staffing is in place, with an in-house ecology officer within the development management team. This ensures in-house capacity to review BNG metrics and meet with applicants at pre-application stage to discuss appropriate biodiversity net gain measures.
- Future challenges include ensuring consistent monitoring and enforcement of BNG compliance over the long-term (30 year) period.

Biodiversity Gains Anticipated

5.15 GiGL collaborated with Southwark on a BNG pilot¹⁸ project to develop habitat baselines and use the Biodiversity Metric for future assessments. These pilots are laying groundwork but don't yet quantify delivered gains.

¹⁷ Climate and Environment Supplementary Planning Document (2025) [Climate and environment SPD | Southwark Council](#)

¹⁸ <https://www.gigl.org.uk/2023/08/17/biodiversity-net-gain-pilot-projects>

5.16 Through the planning process Southwark LPA have successfully approved four Biodiversity Gain Plans (BGP) at date of publication.

5.17 The Southwark Plan (2022) has several site allocations yet to submit planning applications. Additional new development sites will need to be included in the next Southwark Plan, the review of which is due to commence in 2026. Sites meeting the legal threshold for BNG will be required to submit BNG metrics to ensure that the BNG secured onsite is maximised.

5.18 Of the 27 applications that have been approved, four have had their biodiversity gain plans approved. It is anticipated that the other applications will be submitting gain plans before the next reporting period.

Legal Agreements

5.19 Southwark secures biodiversity delivery through legal frameworks, primarily Section 106 (S106) agreements, that embed long-term obligations into development projects:

- The updated Section 106 & CIL SPD (Chapter 2 - BNG and Ecological Management) (2024) confirms that S106 can be used to enforce BNG. Developers are required to secure the BNG commitment through a planning obligation, which includes a post-approval Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan
- The SPD sets out a mandatory BNG monitoring fee of at least £12,874, payable as part of S106 for developments assessed as “significant.” This funds ongoing compliance and data tracking.

5.20 To secure the gains ascribed within the BGP for three schemes the Council has agreed a Section 106 agreement over a 30-year period.

Habitat Bank and Offsite provision

5.21 At present, no BNG habitat banks are registered in inner London, including Southwark, and none are anticipated soon:

- The National Biodiversity Gain Site Register (DEFRA) lists all legally secured off-site BNG sites in England. As of August 2025, none are in inner London.
- The largest provider, The Environment Bank, has established new habitat banks across England (c. 950 acres, 2,500+ units), but none in inner London.

5.22 The uncertainty over the financial and practical deliverability of habitat banking with the capital means that there are no existing habitat banks within inner London. This means Southwark and other boroughs currently rely on on-site delivery, with off-site options available only outside inner London. The lack of Southwark habitat banks highlights a

potential challenge for developers who cannot deliver BNG onsite and need to deliver BNG offsite. There may be a strategic opportunity for the borough to explore future habitat banking and ensure biodiversity gains remain within Southwark.

Chapter 6

Investment In Nature



This chapter describes funding for nature-related activities in the borough and the structure of governance for nature is outlined.

Grant Funding (Council-led)

6.1 Southwark operates dedicated funding to enable community and organisational projects that deliver biodiversity, climate resilience, and environmental enhancements. These grants ensure that action for nature is not only council-led but also embedded within neighbourhoods and driven by residents, schools, charities, and local partners. These include:

- **Southwark Biodiversity Fund** - In March 2025, Southwark Council awarded £550,000 to 12 local projects, that will provide lasting impacts for biodiversity and nature recovery, improve climate change resilience and protect, enhance and grow the community benefits of green spaces.
- **Common Purpose Grants (2024-2026)** - funding for local not-for-profit organisations to provide services that support Southwark's diverse communities in being more resilient and greener. Funds four organisations for ecological activities and education, (totalling over £110,000 annually): BOST across various sites in Borough and Bankside, Global Generation at the Paper Garden, LWT at the Centre for Wildlife Gardening and Surrey Dock Farm
- The **Southwark Adult Learning Centre** funds Walworth Garden to teach City & Guilds accredited horticulture courses, promoting environmental and nature-first practices.
- From Sept 2025, Southwark is streamlined three neighbourhood funding pots into a single application route (£3.31m total in 2025/26: £1.88m **Cleaner Greener Safer (CGS)**, £630k **Neighbourhoods Fund**, £800k **Devolved Highways**). These fund projects with local organisations or individuals who live or work in Southwark which demonstrably improve their local areas. Grants can fund delivering wildlife areas, trees, flower planting and community gardening.
- Between the 2024 and 2025 funding calls, CGS awarded £944,446 across 163 projects proposing an element of greening. Of these, 56 projects (given £356,026)

proposed specific biodiversity enhancing elements, including tree planting, wildlife/pollinator-friendly plants, wildflower meadows, bird boxes, green roofs or de-paving, ponds, swales, or were in a wildlife site or nature reserve.

Planning-Related Mechanisms

6.2 Southwark leverages statutory planning tools to secure funding for nature. These include Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) allocations for green infrastructure, S106 agreements securing on-site or off-site habitat enhancements, and future monitoring fees and unit purchases under BNG (see Chapter 5 for more information on BNG).

6.3 Over £4.6 million allocated from Neighbourhood CIL, as of August 2025, for projects involving an element of greening or habitat enhancement alongside other elements, including BNG-applicable projects in parks.

6.4 Park enhancements to be delivered as part of development proposals include Bramcote park. There has been extensive work with the local community to co-design the park renovations. The latest proposal is to renovate the northern park to create a multi-functional space with landscaping and new trees to create a more open and accessible space. The refurbishment of the northern park is to take place early 2026, with the southern park programmed for late 2026.

Council Resourcing

6.5 Beyond grant funding, Southwark sustains biodiversity action through roles hosted by the Council. Southwark currently employs four ecological specialists embedded within various functions across the organisation:

- **Senior Ecologist – Planning** – this role is focussed on the assessment of statutory biodiversity net gain and other biodiversity and ecological interventions as part of planning applications. The ecologist reviews the BNG metric and provides advice for applicants at pre-apps.
- **Ecology Officer – Parks and Natural Environment** – this role is focussed on the protection and management of the borough’s ecological assets and strategic delivery of the Southwark Nature Action Plan, including supporting resident-led biodiversity projects and the Southwark Biodiversity Partnership, developing engagement activities, implementing biological recording, and providing ecological expertise to other council teams
- **Ecology Officer- Climate Change** – this role delivers capital investment in biodiversity projects in the context of the climate emergency, including oversight of the

Southwark Biodiversity Fund, which is delivering grants to local organisations to accelerate the nature recovery in the borough. This role also provides ecological advice to other council departments to protect and enhance the SINC’s and other green assets in the borough. This role also supports partnership working and community engagement.

- **Tree Planting and Ecological Projects Officer** - this role oversees Southwark’s ambitious tree planting programme, including mitigation and replacement tree planting, hedgerow planting and community engagement and outreach with tree planting, woodland management and ecological projects.

Partnerships

6.6 Southwark further financially supports nature recovery through working with a wide network of delivery partners:

- The Council funds three Ecology and Environment Management contracts, for a total of £88,401 per annum with BOST, LWT and TCV for the management of Red Cross Gardens, Sydenham Hill Woods, Stave Hill Ecological Park, Lavender Pond and Dulwich Upper Wood. Under these contracts, the providers collectively delivered 56,667 volunteer hours, 113 engagement events with 27,031 participants, 172 training and education days with 683 participants and 180 school visits across 2024 and 2025
- In 2025, the Council awarded £75,000 for a three-year Woodland Nature Recovery contract with LWT, for woodland management and promoting access to nature within council-managed woodlands throughout the borough.

The Council has held an SLA with GiGL since 2009 for quarterly species/habitat updates and SINC evidence base for planning/monitoring, as recommended through the Mayor’s Environment Strategy 2018 (see **Appendix A.1** for further information on GiGL data sharing and records).

Highlights & Challenges

- Southwark has established one of the largest biodiversity-dedicated local funds in London (£550k in 2025). The integration of neighbourhood pots into a streamlined £3.31m programme (from 2025/26) should make access simpler and improve delivery.
- Partnership ecosystem is broad (spanning community groups, third sectors, BIDs and more) giving projects reach and resilience.

Chapter 7

Looking Ahead for Nature



This chapter sets out how Southwark Council will fulfil the biodiversity duty over the coming reporting period. It identifies next steps, monitoring and reporting and considers the challenges facing the vision/goal/targets for Southwark.

7.1 Meeting the Enhanced Biodiversity Duty for the future has implications for strategic planning and delivery across council functions. Embedding the ambition of Southwark 2030 and other strategies into delivery plans has the potential to be challenging but a hugely important step. The next five years will see greater integration of biodiversity considerations within council teams and their work areas.

Pressures

7.2 Southwark Council could experience several different challenges over the next five years. These include but are not limited to:

- Funding challenges for the management and maintenance of green spaces in the borough. A 2019 review¹⁹ found that 90% of London boroughs had reduced revenue budgets for parks over the previous seven years, with maintenance and staffing particularly impacted.
- Competing demands from development and house building targets potentially reducing the quantity of greenspace in the borough. The Local Plan 2022 sets out ambitious housing development across the local plan period with the UGF, London Plan and London Environment Plan seeking to secure more greenspace across London.
- New, or exacerbation of already present, invasives, pests and diseases affecting the health of the natural environment. A risk exacerbated by climate change, but one that is already live and affecting the borough and the country more widely, this will be addressed through the

¹⁹ <https://parksforlondon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/A-review-of-Londons-parks-and-green-spaces-strategy-governance-and-value-2019.pdf>

updated SNAP, the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan, and the Climate and Environment SPD.

- Climate change affecting ecosystem function across the borough and the health and wellbeing of residents. The Council's Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan seek to mitigate these risks and build resilience.
- Water scarcity and reduced water quality affecting the viability of habitats and species. Water is typically delivered at a catchment scale with close coordination between key stakeholders. Southwark and the other London boroughs will continue to engage Thames and river catchment partnerships and stakeholders, and feed into the Thames River Basin Management Plan and the GLA's Clean and Healthy Waterways Strategy.

Vision and Opportunities

7.3 Despite these challenges, Southwark's goal remains to create a borough where nature is protected, restored, and accessible to all. This includes delivering the priorities of the London LNRS, continuing to meet BNG requirements, and expanding tree canopy cover and habitat diversity as part of the Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan and the SNAP.

7.4 Over the next five years, opportunities exist to embed nature into regeneration schemes, leverage external funding (including BNG and climate resilience grants), and deepen partnerships with community groups, third sectors, and business improvement districts. These actions can help Southwark not only meet local and national targets but also ensure long-term resilience of its parks, waterways, and natural heritage.

Priorities

7.5 Actions Southwark can prioritise to deliver national, regional and local biodiversity targets across the next 5 years include:

- Continued restoration and creation of wildlife-rich habitat, especially grasslands, woodlands, watercourses, ponds, hedgerows and reedbeds.
- Halting decline of species abundance.
- Protecting additional sites for nature
- Manage tree stock across the borough to maintain or increase canopy cover.
- Increasing the area and accessibility of greenspace.
- Delivering the priorities and measures identified in the LNRS
- Continued provision for SNAP & LNRS priority species.
- Continued engagement with residents and partners.

Delivery Actions

7.6 Southwark Council has committed to several specific actions to deliver for biodiversity over the next 5 years including:

- The 2025 SINC review - new SINC designations and management recommendations to be considered.
- Support of major developments delivering public or private amenity greenspace, for example through the Old Kent Road Action Plan and Canada Water Masterplan.
- Facilitation of park refurbishment and renewal capital projects.
- Implementation of further biodiversity actions on council housing estates.
- Use S106 and external grant funding for tree planting for maintenance of tree stock and canopy cover
- Continued investment into green funding through grant programmes such as: Cleaner, Greener, Safer. From Sept 2025, Southwark is streamlining neighbourhood funding pots into a single application route (£3.31m total in 2025/26: £1.88m CGS, £630k Neighbourhoods Fund, £800k Devolved Highways).
- Continued contracts and lease arrangements with third sector and community organisations for the ecological and environmental management of SINC sites and greenspaces across the borough.
- Securing and recording the delivery of habitat for BNG via S106 agreements.
- Developing the Right to Grow policy with additional resource to support and expand food growing within Southwark.

Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP)

7.7 The SNAP 2020 is due for renewal; an updated place-based strategy, aligned with the London LNRS will:

- Review and map the Borough's existing areas of importance for biodiversity. Southwark's nature sites (SINCs) were last time reviewed in 2015 with 22 additional sites added to the Southwark Plan 2022. The SINC Review currently underway is due for publication in 2026 and will contribute significantly to this objective.
- Agree priorities and strategic objectives for nature recovery in the borough.
- Identify opportunities for nature recovery through habitat creation, regeneration or enhancement, or where nature

recovery could contribute to other environmental benefits.

Other Related Policies and Strategies

7.8 In addition to those mentioned above, Southwark Council has identified several policies and strategies spanning the next reporting period that incorporate elements of biodiversity delivery including:

- **Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2025):** overarching climate strategy, committing the council to do all it can to make the borough carbon-neutral by 2030, including targets for reducing emissions while preparing the borough for the impacts of climate change, through a range of actions to improve the lives of residents, make Southwark a healthier place to live and improve biodiversity.
- **Streets for People (2023 - 2030):** overarching highways strategy to make streets cleaner, greener and safer, including the installation of raingardens, SuDS, parklets and street trees.
- **Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (2023 - 2029):** delivery of flood alleviation schemes many of which include green or blue habitat creation via SuDS or major schemes.
- **Air Quality Strategy and Action Plan (2023 - 2027):** actions to improve air quality, acknowledging the role of nature-based solutions such as tree planting to improve air quality.
- **Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2022-2027):** the Five Ways to Wellbeing campaign following this strategy acknowledges the role nature and biodiversity play for improving resident wellbeing
- **Good Food Strategy 2023 – 2026** centres upon food security and provision and makes no reference to potential environmental improvements. This strategy could be revised to include positive environmental benefits delivered via food growing.

Taking Account of the LNRS

7.9 Southwark has provided consultation responses to the GLA to aid in the preparation of the London LNRS. Council officers participated in two stakeholder consultation events in 2024 and will promote the public consultation of the emerging plan with residents and key stakeholders.

7.10 The new Local Plan, Southwark Nature Action Plan and London Green Infrastructure Framework will all align with the upcoming LNRS.

7.11 While the final version of the LNRS is still in development, Southwark will consider the delivery of the focussed priorities and LNRS measures within any future strategies or plans, particularly the next iteration of the SNAP.

Climate Change Resilience

7.12 Though not among the requirements identified by Defra, consideration of the effects of climate change over the next five years and identification of actions to be taken to build climate resilience is essential. The climate and biodiversity crises are inextricably linked and the rapidly changing climate will affect biodiversity in the UK, especially in cities first, whilst nature-based solutions can offer benefits to biodiversity as well as for climate mitigation and resilience.

7.13 Furthermore, Southwark Council have declared a Climate Emergency and updated the Climate Change Strategy 2021 to combine the Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy (2024) into a single Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2025). The ongoing monitoring and reporting of these strategies will enable efficiencies moving forward with capturing relevant data for both.

Climate Change Risks

7.14 The London Climate Risk Maps shows that areas in the north of the borough are at the greatest risk of climate change both in terms of flood and heat, while the south faces lower but still significant pressures (see **Figure 5**). Met Office data predicts with a 4°C rise in temperature, the hottest summer day could rise to 42.6°C from 37°C. The average number of days above 25°C could increase to 21°C and Summer rainfall days may fall (from 8 to 5), but the wettest day's rainfall could rise by 21% (43mm to 52mm).

7.15 These Drought risk, high temperatures and water stress pressures pose challenges for biodiversity as well as human health. Hotter, drier summers may stress trees, wetlands, and park habitats, while heavier rainfall could overwhelm drainage systems. New pests and diseases linked to climate change also threaten the resilience of species and habitats.

Strengthening Resilience

7.16 London's forthcoming Green Infrastructure Framework (LGIF) will provide a consistent method for assessing the climate change resilience delivered by habitats and designated sites across the capital. It will set out how climate and biodiversity emergencies are inextricably linked, and how habitats can deliver resilience by, for example, slowing surface water runoff, storing floodwater, moderating heat, and sequestering carbon.

7.17 For Southwark, the LGIF will be particularly relevant to:

- Designated sites - recognising the climate adaptation role of SINC, LNRs, and priority habitats (e.g. floodplain meadows, woodlands, wetland ponds).
- Providing a tool to embed climate resilience metrics into site assessment, supporting the borough's Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy (2024).
- Aligning habitat priorities with the LNRS, ensuring investment targets habitats that deliver both biodiversity and climate benefits.
- Guiding how risk and resilience are incorporated into SINC management recommendations and planning conditions.

Monitoring and Evaluation

7.18 A variety of metrics can be used to support the monitoring and evaluation of associated targets and objectives. Metrics associated with other reporting, such as the Council Delivery Plan and Climate Change Action Plan, requirements are preferential to avoid duplication. Those that the Council could record include, but are not limited to:

- **Funding** - Amount (£) invested into green or biodiversity projects, type of projects and resulting impacts.
- **BNG** - Number of units, type and extent of habitats created/enhanced resulting from BNG.
- **Planning related action** - Number, type and extent of nature positive actions resulting from planning advice.
- **SINCs** - Number of newly designated SINCs, condition of SINCs / number and extent of SINCs under positive management.
- **Habitat** - Number and extent of new or restored habitats.
- **Management** - Number and extent of management undertaken by council officers and partners in support of biodiversity. Extent / coverage of invasive species and eradication rates / actions (e.g. number of parks where an invasive species has been removed). Changes in pesticide use. Number and value of management agreements / leases in place for ecological management on SINCs / green spaces.
- **Trees** – Number of tree under council management and total canopy cover
- **Engagement** - Number of groups in the borough supported (e.g. advice given) to take nature positive action. Number of meetings held with the Southwark Biodiversity Partnership and other partners. Engagement statistics from third sector organisations including volunteer hours, number of events and attendees,

training sessions delivered. Resident feedback and satisfaction.

- **Open space** - Number of food growing plots created. Good Parks for London rating and the number of parks holding Green Flags, for which biodiversity is a key evaluation factor.

7.19 Additionally, targets for which no data was available to track progress included the following metrics:

- Area of species rich habitat created,
- Area of reedbeds created,
- Number of ponds created,
- Number of habitat management plans prepared,
- SuDS programme development.

7.20 These can be considered for data collection over the next reporting period. The 2025 SINC Review, currently underway should provide data on habitat creation since 2015.

Next Report

7.21 The next enhanced biodiversity duty report will cover the next five years, from 1 January 2026 to 1 January 2031. The report will be due for submission to Defra within 12 weeks of the end of this reporting period.

Appendix A

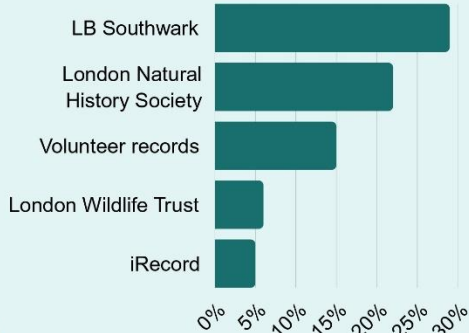
GiGL's Southwark Data

GiGL's Southwark Data



GiGL

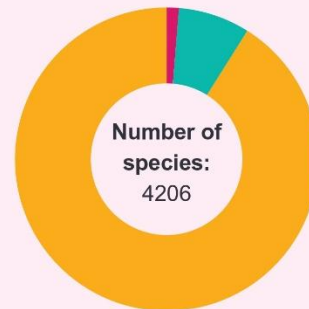
Top 5 Contributors of Wildlife Records:



Wildlife Records

● Invasive, 55 ● Designated, 377

● Other, 3830



Taxon Group	Count
Amphibians	799
Birds	58535
Fish	8
Fungi	1695
Invertebrates	25029
Mammals	4471
Other (<i>bacteria, diatoms, etc.</i>)	781
Plants	138964
Reptiles	46
Total records	228539

Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)

Number of SINCs: 93
SINC area: 536.8 ha, 17.9% of borough

Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature:
226 ha, 7.6% of borough

Habitats

Category	Hectares	% of borough area
Gardens	555.9	18.6%
Natural Habitat	680.5	22.7%
Woodland	211.8	7.1%
Grassland	286.7	9.6%
Priority habitats	1.6	0.1%

Open Space

Number of open spaces: 245
Open space area: 718.7 ha, 24% of borough

Number of Public Open Spaces: 42
POS area: 330.6 ha, 11% of borough

Click the links to find out more...

[Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation](#) [Areas of Deficiency in Access to Nature](#)
[Species](#) [London Invasive Species](#) [Habitats](#) [Priority Habitats](#) [Open Spaces and POS](#)



GiGL
Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC
The capital's environmental records centre

an ALERC
Accredited LERC

accredited LERC

NBN
MEMBER

Social Enterprise UK
Certified Member

April 2025

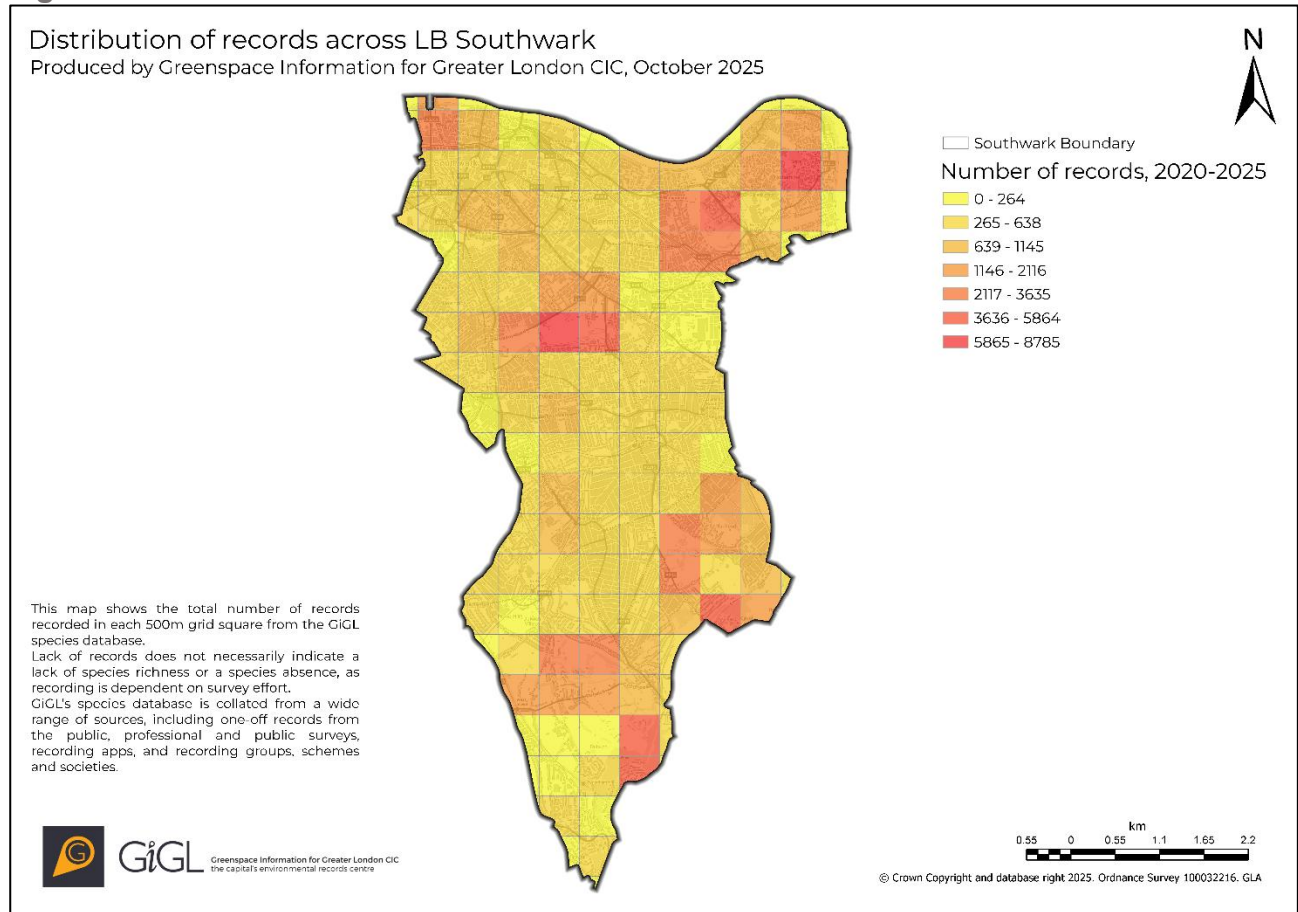
Table A.1 GiGL Enhanced Biodiversity Reporting metrics for London Borough of Southwark.

Prepared to support standardised data reporting across London Boroughs. (Data provided by Greenspace Information for Greater London CIC, October 2025).

GiGL Service Level Agreements (Source: GiGL)						
Metric	Since SLAs started in 2001/02 (25 years)			During the lifetime of the London Environment Strategy (8 SLA years since May 2018)		
Number of SLAs	17			8		
Notes: The average number of SLAs for London boroughs since 2001 is 16. The range is from 1 SLA to 25 SLAs since 2001.						
Data search reports stats (Source: GiGL)						
Metric	23/24			24/25		
Percentage of planning applications informed by a GiGL data search report	2.74%			3.15%		
Notes In 2016, a project by the Mayor of London concluded that about 18% of planning applications in a one-year period in London should have been supported by a biodiversity data search, based on a set of criteria used to assess the potential impacts of the proposed developments on biodiversity. These criteria include the presence of protected and priority species, designated sites (statutory and non-statutory) and priority habitats. The results of the project showed that only 1% of applications that were validated were informed by a GiGL data search during the same period. The overall number for Greater London in 24/25 was 1.7% and in 23/24 1.6%.						
Caveats These percentage figures are calculated by using the number of GiGL data search reports and the total number of planning applications (numbers provided by MHCLG & DLUHC in the Government's website). This percentage is indicative as we cannot determine at this stage the actual number of data search reports that have been submitted with planning applications, so we use our commercial data search report numbers as a proxy. For more information see here: https://www.gigl.org.uk/our-data-holdings/data-searches-and-planning/ .						
Species Data: Data from GiGL's Species Database, July 2025.						
Metric	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
Number of records held by GiGL for LPA area	3,478	2,968	6,224	26,080	10,413	71,737
Number of records submitted by LPA	28	0	0	0	0	0
Number of invasive non-native species recorded	56	96	115	630	247	2,931
Records or species in accessible SINCs	2,202	2,246	4,730	20,648	9,012	32,383
London Priority Species	77	125	280	2,332	843	1,313
LNRS longlist species	77	62	280	1,573	769	1,124
Bespoke community science	0	0	0	0	0	0
Notes: See Figure A.1 for locations where recording is happening. GiGL have not helped the borough with any bespoke surveys since 2020						
Caveats						

- Differences in numbers could be due to recording effort rather than specific interventions.
- Some assumptions might be required when it comes to data ownership as sometimes this is not clear when data are shared with GiGL.
- There might be more monitoring surveys/programmes taking place in the local authority but data might not be shared with GiGL or it might not be obvious that they have come from regular surveys. The lists are populated to the best of our knowledge based on the information provided.
- 2025 data is not from a complete year.

Figure A.1.



Designated sites, SINCs, AoD, POS, and habitat data (Source: GiGL & external)

Metric	2025
Number or total area of sites with new designations e.g. designation has improved or new designation entirely, since 2023	No change in designations of SINCs or LNRs
Percentage of borough within an area of deficiency in access to nature	7.54%

Estimated percentage of population living within an area of deficiency in access to nature	3.63% - Calculated using 2021 census data of population per Lower Super Output Area. % of SINCAoD within each LSOA was used to calculate total population within SINCAoD.
Modelled interventions that would alleviate AoD	45 local grade SINCAs could help alleviate AoD if upgraded to borough grade
Actual reduction (or increase) of AoD	Decrease of 11.55% AoD since from 2014 to 2025
Gardens that are green (rather than built on)	48% (Source: GiGL's Habitat and Land Use garden data and GLA's Green Cover data, 2024)
<p>Caveats: Sometimes difficult to identify what causes AoD changes - can be due to changes in highways network, MOL/Green Belt, site boundaries or access points (manual investigating will be required to establish the cause of changes). Habitat data may not be complete in all areas and relies on GiGL being sent up to date data. Changes in habitats may come from up-to-date data rather than actual changes in habitat area.</p>	

Appendix B

Southwark's progress against national, regional and local targets

Table B.1 National, regional and local policies, objectives, targets and progress summary

Further descriptions of individual policies or strategies are found in chapter 1, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
NATIONAL		
<u>Environmental Improvement Plan 2023</u>	Apex goal: “improving nature” with ten goals Goal 1: “Thriving plants and wildlife”	
	Restore/create 140,000 ha wildlife-rich habitat by 2028; >500,000 ha by 2042	ONGOING Southwark contributes to this target via multiple functions, guided by the SNAP. From 2015 – 2020, 10 ha of habitat was created. New figures available following SINC Review 2025.
	Halt the decline in species abundance by 2030; increase abundance by ≥10% by 2042.	ONGOING Southwark contributes to this target via multiple functions, guided by the SNAP. However, standardised monitoring data on species abundance is not available.
	Reduce the risk of species extinction by 2042	
	Protect 30% of UK land and sea for nature by 2030	IN PROGRESS 20.27% of Southwark is designated as a LNR or SINC. Revaluation expected following completion of the SINC Review 2025
	Increase woodland and tree canopy cover to 16.5% by 2050	EXCEEDED Tree canopy cover in Southwark is estimated at 21.6%
REGIONAL		
	Aim 5: Green Infrastructure Objective 5.1: make more than half of London's area green by 2050	

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
<p><u>London Environment strategy 2018</u></p>	<p>>50% of London’s total area to be green or blue space by 2050</p>	<p>IN PROGRESS 37.6% of the borough covered by green space and 4.2% blue space (GiGL)</p>
	<p>Objective 5.2: conserve and enhance wildlife and natural habitats</p>	
	<p>Increase the proportion of land covered by tree canopy from about 20% to 22% by 2050 (an increase of 10% from 2018) Create 20 ha species-rich woodland by 2025; +200 ha by 2050</p>	<p>ONGOING Tree canopy cover in Southwark estimated at 21.6%. Planted 13,000 tree and saplings in 2023 – 2025, bringing the total to >100,000 trees on council land (2025). 15 ha of woodland (SNAP 2020) – new figures available following SINC Review 2025</p>
	<p>Create >50ha flower rich grassland by 2025; >250 ha by 2050</p>	<p>ONGOING 7 ha of flower-rich grassland created 2015-2020 (SNAP 2020). New figures available following SINC Review 2025</p>
	<p>Restore >10 km of rivers and streams by 2025; >40 km by 2050</p>	<p>NOT APPLICABLE Southwark does not have any waterways identified in the London Environment Strategy (this excludes the Thames)</p>
	<p>Create >5 ha reedbeds by 2025; >30 ha by 2050</p>	<p>ONGOING 3 ha of new wetland created 2015-2020 (SNAP 2020). New figures available following SINC Review 2025.</p>
<p><u>London Plan (2021)</u></p>	<p>Policies: <i>Green Infrastructure and Natural Environment (G)</i> G1: Green infrastructure G3: Metropolitan open land G4: Open space G5: Urban greening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Achieve UGF ≥ 0.4 (residential), ≥ 0.3 (commercial) G6: Biodiversity and access to nature G7: Trees and woodlands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase tree canopy cover by 10% by 2050 G8: Food growing <i>Sustainable Infrastructure (SI)</i></p>	<p>ONGOING Delivered through Southwark planning policies. London Plan targets are embedded into the Southwark Plan (2022) – see below. The Southwark plan approach to Urban Greening Factor will be reviewed as part of the Southwark Plan review. The London Plan’s UGF standards of 0.4 for predominantly residential and commercial developments and 0.3 for predominantly commercial developments are currently sought as part of major planning applications.</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
	SI13: Sustainable drainage SI17: Protecting and enhancing London's waterways	<p>Since the adoption of the Southwark Plan, 20 predominantly residential applications have been approved with a score greater than 0.4 and 10 predominantly residential applications have been approved with a score less than 0.4.</p> <p>For predominantly commercial developments, 12 applications have been approved with a score greater than 0.3 and 11 applications have been approved with a score less than 0.3.</p>
<u>London Local Nature Recovery Strategy (emerging, expected 2025)</u>	<p>Overarching priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined <p>Focussed priorities: 16/30 relevant to Southwark</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be determined 	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>Southwark contributes to this target via multiple functions, guided by the SNAP. The next iteration of the SNAP and other relevant council strategies will consider the LNRS.</p> <p>The priority measure locations in Southwark on the LNRS Local Habitat Map, will be monitored over the next five years.</p>
LOCAL		
<u>Southwark Nature Action Plan (SNAP) 2020</u>	<p>Three overarching themes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Making Nature Accessible for All Biodiversity Net Gain Nature Recovery Network <p>Eleven specific action plans:</p> <p><i>Habitat Action Plans:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built Environment Habitat Action Plan Gardens and Grounds Habitat Action Plan 	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>Areas of Deficiency in access to nature is 7.5% (2025), which was reduced by 11.55% since 2014 (from 19.04% AoD). See Chapter 4 for details on engagement with nature.</p> <p>ONGOING/EXCEEDED</p> <p>See Chapter 5 for delivery progress on BNG</p> <p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>The Nature Recovery Network theme will be delivered through consideration of the London LNRS, due for publication in late 2025</p> <p>ONGOING</p> <p>Progress towards delivery of the over 300 actions within each SNAP Action Plan are summarised throughout Chapter 3, 4, 5 and 6 of this report. Limited data is available on individual actions, including the nest site targets.</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Open Spaces Habitat Action Plan • Woodland Habitat Action Plan <p>Species Action Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bats Species Action Plan • Hedgehog Species Action Plan • Stag Beetle Species Action Plan • Freshwater fauna Species Action Plan • Birds Species Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide 10 house sparrow nest sites by 2022; 25 by 2025 ○ Provide 3 black redstart nest sites by 2023; 6 by 2025 ○ Install 5 additional common tern rafts by 2023; 10 by 2025 ○ Secure 2 peregrine falcon nest sites by 2025 ○ Provide 10 swift nest sites by 2022; 20 by 2025 • Woodland flora and fungi Species Action Plan • Pollinators Species Action Plan 	<p>Work is underway to produce the next iteration of the SNAP, during which a comprehensive review of progress of each action will be undertaken in consultation with the Southwark Biodiversity Partnership.</p>
<p>Southwark Plan 2019-2036 (2022)</p>	<p>Relevant policies to meet the EBD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P57 Open Space • P58 Open water space • P59 Green Infrastructure • P60 Biodiversity • P61 Trees 	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>See chapter 5 for delivery of biodiversity enhancement and protection via the planning and development system.</p> <p>Biodiversity policies will be reviewed as part of the next Local Plan Review.</p> <p>Since the introduction of mandatory BNG in 2024, 27 BNG-eligible applications have been approved (10 major and 17 minor applications), 2.16% of all applications received were BNG eligible, and 4 Biodiversity Gain Plans have been approved.</p>
<p>Climate and Environment SPD (2025)*</p>	<p>Provides guidance on achieving sustainable outcomes for development, in line with the Southwark Plan.</p> <p>Relevant sections:</p>	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>See chapter 5 for delivery of BNG and other biodiversity measures via the planning and development system.</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
<p>*This document is currently under consultation and subject to change</p>	<p><i>Green infrastructure</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designated Open Spaces • Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation • Urban Greening Factor • Green roofs and green walls • SuDS and rain gardens • Food growing <p><i>Biodiversity and ecology</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological mitigation hierarchy • Biodiversity Net Gain <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Minimum 10% BNG applicable on new developments</i> <p><i>5.3 Trees</i></p> <p><i>5.4 Wildlife habitats</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diverse planting <p><i>5.5 Open water</i></p>	<p>10% mandatory BNG is now embedded within planning policy</p>
<p><u>Climate Change Strategy (2025)*</u> *Merged and updated the Climate Change Strategy (2021) and Climate Resilience and Adaptation Strategy (2024) into a single document.</p>	<p>Natural Environment focus, with following action commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve biodiversity and introduce new green corridors to help wildlife to move • Make our streets a green place to walk, play and relax • Further increase tree canopy coverage across the borough with more planting, ensuring any loss of existing trees cover is a last resort and that those trees are replaced • Increase food growing in the borough, expanding allotments and community gardening • Enable building and development that works alongside and enhances our natural environment 	<p>IN PROGRESS See Climate Action Plan 2025 for details on delivery.</p>
<p><u>Climate Action Plan (2025)</u></p>	<p>Theme 3 “Natural Environment”:</p> <p>Action 14: Plant and maintain more trees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainably manage our existing trees in a way that supports long-term environmental, social, and economic benefits for all. This includes regularly monitoring tree health and maintaining them to prevent disease and damage, and replacing trees, when necessary, 	<p>EXCEEDED The Tree Management Policy 2020 commits the council to the sustainable management of existing tree stock, and the Southwark Plan 2022 Policy P61 implements protections for trees during development.</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
	<p>with appropriate species. We will protect mature trees during construction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endeavour to increase the number of trees and the size of the borough's canopy cover by undertaking new tree planting throughout the planting season and working with community groups and partners to do this. 	<p>Since 2020, Southwark has planted 38,409 trees and saplings, encompassing 254 species. In 2024/25 alone, the council planted 7890 trees, including 1,390 mature trees and 6500 saplings in hedges and copses. As a result, Southwark became the first inner London borough to exceed 100,000 council-managed trees. Canopy cover in currently 21.6%.</p>
	<p>Action 15: Enhance our streets and green spaces to increase biodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the delivery of new biodiversity projects, green corridors, de-paving projects, and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), as well as the creation and enhancement of wildlife ponds. • Work with local community groups to create new spaces for nature and deliver community-led habitat creation and enhancement projects through our Southwark Biodiversity Fund. • Prepare a new Southwark Nature Action Plan which is the biodiversity strategy for Southwark and consider the latest research on the link between climate change and ecology. 	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>4 parklets, 10 rain gardens and 24 trees as part of the Walworth Pocket Parks and Dulwich Village Highway schemes, with an additional programme underway as part of the Streets for People 2023 strategy.</p> <p>The Local Flood Risk Management Team delivered four SuDS projects in 2024-2025. A schedule of 11 further SuDS schemes are in the pipeline for 2026 onward.</p> <p>10 wildlife ponds were built and restored in 2024/25 with a further 3 planned for 2026.</p> <p>£550,000 allocated to 12 local nature recovery projects in 2025 via the Southwark Biodiversity Fund</p> <p>Plans to prepare a new SNAP are in place to start in 2026 and will closely consider climate change.</p>
	<p>Action 16: Monitor and manage our natural environment in a healthy way</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with our community partners to monitor the borough to quickly detect new pests and diseases, using modern monitoring techniques such as drones equipped with sensors. • Ensure the use of herbicides and pesticides in the public realm better protects residents, wildlife and promotes biodiversity. • Develop an integrated weed management plan for our highways and housing estates. 	<p>IN PROGRESS</p> <p>A detailed drone survey of Southwark's tree stock was conducted in 2023-2024</p> <p>Development of an Integrated Weed Management Policy is underway to assess our approach to herbicide use in respect to ecology. Schedule herbicide application has been eliminated from parks and green spaces and reduced from three to one application on streets</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure our parks and green spaces continue to offer cooler areas that provide respite during periods of hot weather when they see increased use. 	<p>Since 2020, Southwark has planted 1597 mature trees in parks, providing cooler areas via shading.</p>
<u>Southwark 2030</u>	<p>Organised around six goals. The sixth goal relates directly to biodiversity, with relevant deliverables highlighted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Decent homes for all A good start in life A safer Southwark A strong and fair economy Staying well A healthy environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create more green space and biodiversity for our community to enjoy Help people and businesses switch to healthy, clean and green transport Make our buildings energy efficient with clean, green power 	<p>IN PROGRESS See Council Delivery Plan 2025-2026 for details on delivery of relevant actions.</p>
<u>Council Delivery Plan (2025 – 2026)</u>	<p>Goal 6: a healthy environment Action area 1: Create more green space and biodiversity for our community to enjoy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local people to create more green spaces, nature sites, woodlands and urban planting and develop a new Green Spaces Plan for our borough Deliver major improvements to our parks and green spaces across the borough, including Alexis, Bramcote, Elephant, and Guy’s parks 	<p>ONGOING Southwark contributes to this target via multiple functions, guided by the SNAP, as outlined in Chapter 4 of this report.</p> <p>The 2025 SINC Review will provide an evidence base for improving the quality and size of our nature site network.</p> <p>IN PROGRESS Leisure Policy and Programmes team have delivered capital and park refurbishment projects with associated biodiversity enhancements in Burgess Park, Surrey Canal Walk, Consort and Dr Harold Moody Park, Peckham Rye Park and Victory Community Park. An ongoing programme of park improvements are planned from 2026.</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with local people to create more opportunities to be involved in planting and greening within the borough 	<p>ONGOING Over 56,660 volunteer hours from third-sector ecology contracts delivered 2024-2025</p> <p>313 residents and 17 schools were engaged in community tree planting events in 2023/24, and 450 residents and 29 schools engaged in 2024/25</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the land and support available for residents who want to grow their own food 	<p>ONGOING Southwark adopted the “right to grow” motion in 2025. Since 2020, the community gardening service has supported 27 new community gardens with 287 food growing plots.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure neighbourhoods across the borough benefit from more tree canopy cover 	<p>ONGOING Canopy cover is currently 21.6%</p>
<p><u>Streets for People strategy (2023) and delivery plan 2025-2030</u></p>	<p>Theme 4: Streets for Nature <i>Objective 12: Make streets greener and more resilient to extreme weather. Relevant commitments below:</i></p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reallocate space for additional tree planting, parklets and greening on the highway. At least 10% of every Highways scheme footprint should be dedicated to planting and nature-based solutions. 	<p>IN PROGRESS 4 parklets, 10 rain gardens and 24 trees as part of the Walworth Pocket Parks and Dulwich Village Highway schemes, with an additional programme underway as part of the Streets for People 2023 strategy</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make Southwark the first inner London council to have over 100,000 trees by planting at least an additional 20,000 trees. 	<p>EXCEEDED Since 2020, Southwark has planted 38,409 trees and saplings. In 2024/25, planted 7890 trees, including 1,390 mature trees and 6500 saplings. As a result, Southwark became the first inner London borough to exceed 100,000 council-managed trees in 2024</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a programme for implementation of SuDs by 2024. 	<p>ONGOING The Local Flood Risk Management Team delivered four SuDS projects in 2024-2025. A schedule of 11 further SuDS schemes are in the pipeline for 2026 onward.</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that once planted, new street trees are maintained until they have become established. 	<p>ONGOING All new trees planted are contracted for three-years of maintenance to become established</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
<p><u>Tree Management Policy 2020</u></p>	<p>Five strategic objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage existing tree stock in accordance with good practice • Maintain a general presumption against the removal of trees • Recognise the relationship between trees and the urban environment, promoting "right tree, right place" • Ensure protection of trees and woodlands subject to TPOs, in Conservation Areas and SINCs. • Promote the value of trees to residents, business and the developers 	<p>ONGOING /EXCEEDED</p> <p>Since 2020, Southwark has planted 38,409 trees and saplings, encompassing 254 species. In 2024/25 alone, the council planted 7890 trees, including 1,390 mature trees and 6500 saplings in hedges and copses. As a result, Southwark became the first inner London borough to exceed 100,000 council-managed trees.</p>
<p><u>Open Spaces Strategy (2013)</u></p>	<p>Biodiversity objectives:</p> <p>B1: Ensure the protection, management and enhancement of SINCs, biodiversity, and the linkages between them.</p> <p>B2: Encourage innovative new areas of natural habitat within new and existing open space, natural play environments and developments.</p> <p>B3: Continue to protect and enhance the River Thames, including its value for biodiversity.</p>	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>Several council functions contribute to this objective, guided by the SNAP, as outlined in this report.</p> <p>The 2025 SINC Review will provide updated recommendations for the protection and enhancement of the SINC network.</p> <p>Protection of the Thames is outlined in the Southwark Plan policy P25. Southwark works alongside various Thames authorities and stakeholder to coordinate ongoing protection of the river's habitats in line with multiple regional and local strategies outlined in the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy</p>
<p><u>Environment Scrutiny Committee Biodiversity Review 2023-2024</u></p>	<p>34 Recommendations arising from the ESC's Biodiversity Review, following evidence gathered between 2023-2024, focussed on the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision: Adopt 30x30 and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). • Strategy: Ecological Networks • Planning and Construction • More and Bigger • Better • Joined up • More animated • Bolder • Food and biodiversity 	<p>ONGOING</p> <p>The council provided a response to all 34 recommendations, which was approved by cabinet 17 June 2025 (link).</p>

Source	Relevant objectives, aims and targets	Progress and future actions
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2023 - 2029	<p>Objective 3: support development across Southwark encouraging the integration of SuDS within planning designs to promote sustainable multi-beneficial solutions that contribute to wider social, economic and environmental outcomes.</p>	<p>ONGOING 4 SuDS projects in 2024-2025 with biodiversity components. A schedule of further SuDS schemes is in the pipeline for 2026 onward.</p>
Joint Health and Wellbeing strategy 2022-2027	<p>Observation commitment: “create and develop healthy and sustainable places and communities”, relevant aims highlighted: 1. Ensure everyone has access to good quality parks and green spaces 2. Improve air quality and reduce the impact of air pollution 3. Tackle climate change.</p>	<p>ONGOING Area of deficiency in access to nature is 7.5% in Southwark (GiGL, 2025). The SINC Review 2025 recommendations should contribute to reducing this number</p>
Air Quality Strategy (2017) and Action Plan (2023 – 2027)	<p>Action Plan 6: Localised solutions air quality Action 6.1 Green Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of Green Infrastructure projects implemented by Southwark during the year. • Identify potential green corridors between key green spaces/Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation • Review definition of green corridors within the early review of New Southwark Plan and consult on including within formal planning policy 	<p>IN PROGRESS Green infrastructure is delivered by multiple teams, as outlined in chapter 4, 5 and 6 of this report. Green corridors and SINCs are being reviewed through the SINC Review 2025</p>

Southwark community primary schools

Admission arrangements for September 2027 intake

A child with an Education, Health and Care Plan whose plan names a school must be admitted to the school in accordance with section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014. This is a separate process from the coordinated admission arrangements set by Southwark Council.

1.1 Oversubscription criteria for Southwark community primary schools (all years excluding nursery)

In the event of there being more applications than places available, places will be allocated in the following order of priority:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order) immediately following having been looked after. It also includes children who appear to the Local Authority [the "LA"] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted [see note (a)]
2. Children with siblings who are already on roll at the school and will still be on roll at their date of entry [see note (b)]
3. Children with exceptional medical, social or psychological needs, where it is agreed by the Local Authority ["LA"] and the headteacher that these can best be addressed at a particular school [see note (c)]
4. Children of permanent staff employed at the school [see note (d)]
5. Children living nearest to the school as measured by a straight line from the child's home to the main school gate/entrance [see note (e)]

Notes

- a) A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

All references to previously looked after children in the School Admissions Code 2021 mean such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

Child arrangements orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace

residence orders and any residence orders in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.

Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

- b) Sibling includes full, half, step, foster and adopted brother or sister living in the same family unit and at the same home address as the child.

The home address is where the parent/carer lives and the child permanently resides unless otherwise directed by a Court Order. This will also apply to informal care arrangements. Where a child spends time with both parents/carers in separate homes and both have parental responsibility, the school will need to establish where the majority of school nights (Sunday to Thursday) are spent. This will then be treated as the home address.

Siblings attending the nursery or in Year 6 who will be transferring to secondary school will not be regarded as a sibling under this criterion.

- c) Supporting evidence to substantiate that the child or their family has a medical, social or psychological need must be provided at the time of application. The evidence must be in a written format and should set out the reasons why, in their view, a particular school is the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

This evidence must be current and either from the child's registered general practitioner or any another relevant qualified professional that the child has been referred to and/or who is providing direct care/support/treatment to the child on an ongoing basis in their professional capacity e.g. a child or educational psychologist, a child psychiatrist, an orthopaedic consultant or a social worker.

- d) Applications will be prioritised where permanent staff employed at Southwark community primary schools are applying for a place for their child at the school they work in. For the purposes of this criterion, the 'permanent staff' member must:
- Be employed at the Southwark community primary school they are applying to for a minimum of two years at the time of submitting the application
 - Work as a teaching assistant or a qualified teacher at that school on a permanent basis; and
 - Work at the school for a minimum of 0.6fte (16.5 hours teaching staff).

Supporting evidence and verification from the headteacher at the school must be provided at the time of application to substantiate that the permanent staff member is employed as per the requirements set out above. Where supporting evidence has not been provided, priority will not be given under this criterion.

'Children of permanent staff' includes the natural, step, foster or adopted child living in the same family unit and at the same home address as the staff member making the application.

Priority is limited to a maximum of 1 child per form of entry per academic year at each Southwark community primary school as per the table below. If the staff member has multiple birth children or more than one child in the same academic year, Southwark community schools will admit all qualifying children under this criterion.

Published admission number at the Southwark community primary school	Maximum limit for children prioritised under criterion 4
90	3
60	2
30	1

- e) The LA uses the eastings and northings linked to an applicant's address to calculate a straight-line distance measurement to all of our community schools in Southwark, which is generated by our Capita pupil database.

Due to Ivydale School being based at two sites, the distance for this school only will be calculated using a straight line from each applicant's home address to the main gate/entrance of both school sites. The shorter of the two distances will then be used.

If a child lives in a block of flats where a communal entrance is used, the LA will use the grid references for the block, not for the individual flat. When dealing with multiple applications from a block of flats to the same community school, lower door numbers will take priority.

- f) A child's attendance at a co-located nursery class does not guarantee admission to the school for primary education. A separate application must be made for transfer from nursery to primary school.
- g) Multiple births – if only one place is available at the school and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth siblings, Southwark community schools will admit all qualifying siblings as 'excepted pupils' by going over their published admission number.

1.2 Tie break

Where two applications are equal in any given criterion, places will first be offered to children living nearest to the school measured by a straight line as described under criterion 5 of the oversubscription criteria. If however there is still a tie break, lots will be drawn to decide which child is offered a place.

1.3 Proof of address

Any offer of a school place will be conditional until proof of address has been provided within 15 days of the date of the offer of the place. Original copies of the following documentation will be required:

- Council tax bill; and
- One other proof of address such as a bank statement, TV licence or credit/store card statement

Occasionally, if the LA has reason to suspect that a family does not live at the address stated on their application an investigation will be carried out. Should the LA discover that a parent has stated a fraudulent address, the offer of a school place will be withdrawn.

1.4 Dates of entry

Southwark Council will provide for the admission of children into the Reception year group in the September following their fourth birthday. However, a child is not required to start school until they have reached compulsory school age. Compulsory school age is set out in section 8 of the Education Act 1996 and The Education (Start of Compulsory School Age) Order 1998. A child reaches compulsory school age on the prescribed day following his/her birthday (or on his/her birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.

Deferred entry

In accordance with Paragraph 2.17 of the School Admissions Code 2021, families are able to:

- Defer their child's entry to school until later in the same academic year (but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age); or
- Take up their child's Reception place part time in the same academic year, until s/he reaches compulsory school age.

Where entry is deferred until later in the same academic year, the child's school place will be held and not offered to another child. Please view [Southwark Council's policy on deferring entry to primary school](#) for further information.

Admission of children outside of their normal age group

Families with summer born children who have not reached compulsory school age may request to delay their child's entry to Reception until the following academic year.

Please view [Southwark Council's policy on the admission of children outside of their normal age group](#) for further information.

For updates on the admission of summer born children you can also view the [Department for Education's website](#).

1.5 Waiting lists

Southwark Council will continue to co-ordinate admissions beyond offer date. Waiting lists for all oversubscribed community schools will be maintained for a minimum of one term (until at least 31 December 2027).

Children will only automatically be placed on the waiting lists of those schools which have been stated as higher preferences on their application unless there are exceptional circumstances which will be considered by the local authority. Each child on the waiting list will be ranked in line with the oversubscription criteria stated at paragraph 1.1 above. Looked after children or previously looked after children allocated a place at the school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol must take precedence over those on a waiting list.

Any parent/carer wishing to know of their child's ranking on the waiting list and the criteria that applies to them has the right to be informed should they request this information.

Southwark primary schools

Published admission number ["PAN"] for
September 2027 intake

The tables in this document show the published admission numbers for all mainstream primary schools in Southwark for the September 2027 intake.

Please note, academies, voluntary aided, foundation and free schools may consult separately on their published admission number for 2027/28 which will supersede the information below.

1.1 Community primary schools

School	PAN
Albion	60
Alfred Salter	60
Bellenden	30
Bessemer	60
Bird in Bush (formerly Camelot)	60
Brunswick Park ¹	60
Crampton	30
Crawford ⁶	30
Dulwich Wood	60
Goodrich ⁵	60
Grange	30
Heber	60
Hollydale	30
Ilderton	30
Ivydale ⁵	60
John Ruskin ²	58
Keyworth ⁵	30
Michael Faraday	60
Oliver Goldsmith	60
Phoenix ⁶	60

School	PAN
Pilgrims Way	30
Riverside	45
Robert Browning ³	28
Rye Oak ¹	60
Snowsfields ³	28
Southwark Park	60
Tower Bridge	30
Victory	30

1.2 Academies

School	PAN
Angel Oak	60
Ark Globe	60
Charles Dickens	60
Dulwich Hamlet ⁴	90
Goose Green	60
Grove (formerly known as Dog Kennel Hill)	60
Harris Academy Peckham Park	30
John Donne	60
Lyndhurst	60
Redriff ¹	60
Rotherhithe	60
St Anthony's RC	60
St George's Cathedral RC	30
St Joseph's RC, George Row	45
St Joseph's RC, Gomm Rd	30

School	PAN
St Paul's CE	30
Surrey Square	60

1.3 Voluntary aided schools

School	PAN
Boutcher C of E	30
Dulwich Village C of E	90
English Martyrs RC	30
Peter Hills with St Mary's & St Paul's C of E	30
Saint Joseph's Catholic, Borough	30
St Francis RC	30
St George's C of E	30
St James C of E	60
St James the Great RC	30
St John's RC	30
St John's & St Clement's C of E	60
St Joseph's RC Infants	60
St Joseph's RC Juniors ⁴	60
St Jude's C of E	30
St Peter's C of E	30
The Cathedral School of St Saviour & St Mary Overie	30

1.4 Free schools

School	PAN
Galleywall Primary School – A City of London Academy	60
Harris Primary Academy, East Dulwich	60
John Keats Primary School	60
Judith Kerr Free School	56
The Belham Primary School	60

1.5 Foundation school

School	PAN
Friars	30

Notes

- 1 These schools have a designated ASD Base. Places at the ASD Base are reserved for children with autism who have a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan, but who may benefit from inclusion in a mainstream school.
- 2 In addition to the 58 places, 2 places are allocated to children accessing the specialist support provided.
- 3 In addition to the 28 places, 2 places are allocated to children accessing the ASD base.
- 4 Admission limit for year 3.
- 5 PAN reducing from 60 to 30 places each from September 2027 intake onwards.
- 6 PAN reducing from 90 to 60 places each from September 2027 intake onwards.

Southwark secondary schools

Published admission number for September
2027 intake

The tables in this document show the published admission numbers ["PAN"] for all mainstream secondary schools in Southwark for the September 2027 intake.

Please note that academies, voluntary aided and free schools may consult separately on their published admission numbers for 2027/28 which will supersede the information below.

1.1 Academies

School	PAN
Ark All Saints	120
Ark Globe	140 ¹
Ark Walworth Academy	180
Bacon's College	180
Haberdashers' Aske's Borough Academy	180
Harris Academy Bermondsey	180
Harris Academy Peckham	120
Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich	150
Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich	150
Kingsdale Foundation School	420
Notre Dame RC Girls' School	124
Sacred Heart Catholic School	120
South Bank University Academy	120
St Michael's Catholic College	150
The Charter School North Dulwich	192
The City of London Academy	240

1.2 Voluntary aided schools

School	PAN
St Saviour's & St Olave's School	125

School	PAN
St Thomas the Apostle College	152

1.3 Free schools

School	PAN
The Charter School Bermondsey	110
The Charter School East Dulwich	240

Notes

1. The PAN of 140 relates to the number of places available to external applicants only. As Ark Globe Academy is an all through school, an additional 60 places are reserved for internal pupils who are transferring from year 6 in to year 7 at the Academy. If fewer than 60 of the Academy's own year 6 pupils transfer into year 7, additional external pupils will be admitted until year 7 meets its capacity of 200.

Responses to Southwark Council's consultation on admissions 2027/28

The following responses to Southwark council's consultation on admission arrangements for 2027/28 were received during the consultation period, 21 November 2025 to 4 January 2026 (11.59pm).

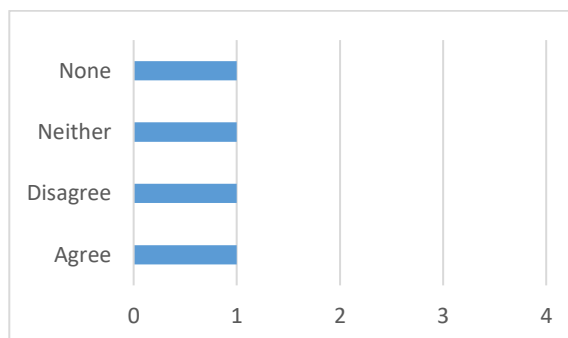
Four (4) responses have been received by the deadline date.

Question 1

Do you agree with Southwark Council's proposal to reduce the PAN at Keyworth Primary School from 60 to 30 places for the September 2027 intake onwards? (Please see document B).

Response

Agree	1
Disagree	1
Neither	1
No response	1



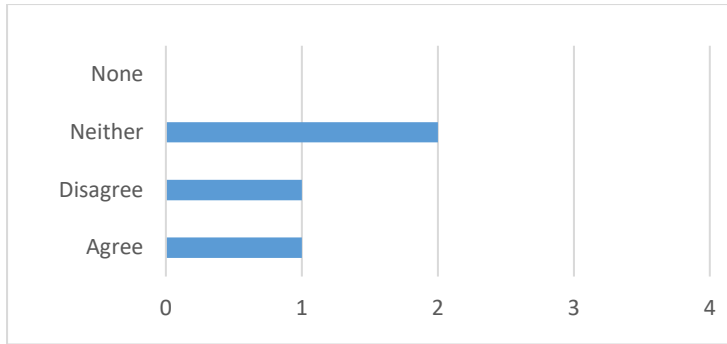
Summary of comments received	Officer response
1. <i>"The reduction you have demonstrated may be an anomaly and I would therefore suggest waiting one year to ascertain whether this is a trend or an anomaly."</i>	<p>The number of children allocated a place in Reception at Keyworth Primary School in September 2021 was 50. This number has consistently reduced each year and is now 29.</p> <p>The number of pupils overall at Keyworth Primary School has reduced from 314 to 271 at present – again, this has been a consistent reduction year on year.</p>
2. <i>"I am not surprised at the reduction of intake" with critical comments on the management of the school.</i>	This response is not relevant to the LA's proposed PAN reduction.

Question 2.

Do you agree with Southwark Council's proposal to reduce the PAN at Phoenix Primary School from 90 to 60 places for the September 2027 intake onwards? (Please see document B).

Response

Agree	1
Disagree	1
Neither	2
No response	0



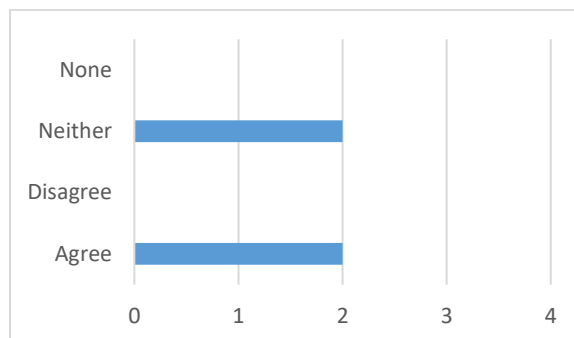
Summary of comments received	Officer response
<p><i>“The reduction you have demonstrated may be an anomaly and I would therefore suggest waiting one year to ascertain whether this is a trend or an anomaly.”</i></p>	<p>The number of children allocated a place in Reception at Phoenix Primary School in September 2021 was 82. This number has consistently reduced each year and is now 63.</p> <p>The number of pupils overall at Phoenix Primary School has reduced from 572 to 447 at present – again, this has been a consistent reduction year on year.</p>

Question 3.

Although there are no changes, do you agree with Southwark Council’s proposed admission arrangements 2027-28 for community primary schools in the borough? (Please see Document A)

Response

Agree	2
Disagree	0
Neither	2
No response	0



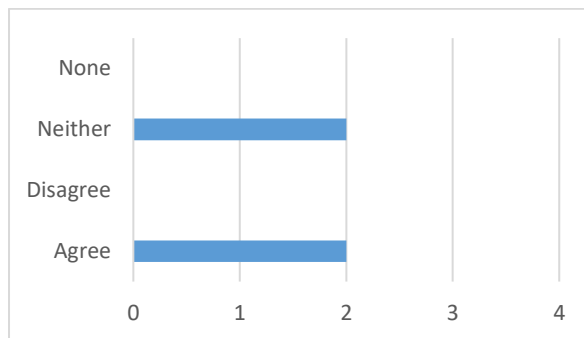
Summary of comments received	Officer response
No comments received.	N/A

Question 4.

Although there are no changes, do you agree with Southwark Council's proposed co-ordinated schemes for admission of children to Reception, Junior, Year 7 and Year 10 for 2027-28 (Documents D, E, F, and G)?

Response

Agree	2
Disagree	0
Neither	2
No response	0



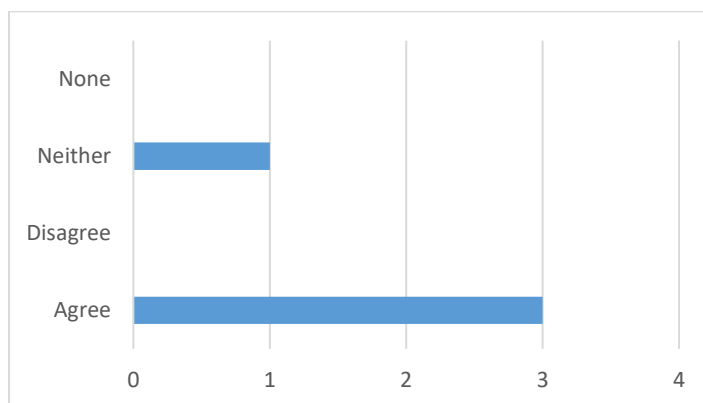
Summary of comments received	Officer response
No comments received.	N/A

Question 5.

Do you agree with Southwark Council's 'relevant area' remaining the same as the administrative area for the council?

Response

Agree	3
Disagree	0
Neither	1
No response	0



Summary of comments received	Officer response
No comments received.	N/A

***Equality Information
Needs Analysis (EINA) for
the PAN reductions of
Keyworth and Phoenix
Primaries in August 2027***

November 2025

Guidance notes

Things to remember:

Under the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) public authorities are required to have due regard to the aims of the general equality duty when making decisions and when setting policies. Understanding the affect of the council's policies and practices on people with different protected characteristics is an important part of complying with the general equality duty. Under the PSED the council must ensure that:

- Decision-makers are aware of the general equality duty's requirements.
- The general equality duty is complied with before and at the time a particular policy is under consideration and when a decision is taken.
- They consciously consider the need to do the things set out in the aims of the general equality duty as an integral part of the decision-making process.
- They have sufficient information to understand the effects of the policy, or the way a function is carried out, on the aims set out in the general equality duty.
- They review policies or decisions, for example, if the make-up of service users changes, as the general equality duty is a continuing duty.
- They take responsibility for complying with the general equality duty in relation to all their relevant functions. Responsibility cannot be delegated to external organisations that are carrying out public functions on their behalf.
- They consciously consider the need to do the things set out in the aims of the general equality duty not only when a policy is developed and decided upon, but when it is being implemented.

Best practice guidance from the Equality and Human Rights Commission recommends that public bodies:

- Consider all the [protected characteristics](#) and all aims of the general equality duty (apart from in relation to marriage and civil partnership, where only the discrimination aim applies).
- Use equality analysis to inform policy as it develops to avoid unnecessary additional activity.
- Focus on the understanding the effects of a policy on equality and any actions needed as a result, not the production of a document.
- Consider how the time and effort involved should relate to the importance of the policy to equality.
- Think about steps to advance equality and good relations as well as eliminate discrimination.
- Use good evidence. Where it isn't available, take steps to gather it (where practical and proportionate).
- Use insights from engagement with employees, service users and others can help provide evidence for equality analysis.

Equality analysis should be referenced in community impact statements in Council reports. Community impact statements are a corporate requirement in all reports to the following meetings: the cabinet, individual decision makers, scrutiny, regulatory committees and community councils.

Community impact statements enable decision makers to identify more easily how a decision might affect different communities in Southwark and to consider any implications for equality and diversity.

The public will be able to view and scrutinise any equality analysis undertaken. Equality analysis should therefore be written in a clear and transparent way using plain English. Equality analysis may be published under the council's publishing of equality information, or be present with divisional/departmental/service business plans. These will be placed on the website for public view under the council's Publications Scheme. Equality analysis should be reviewed after a sensible period of time to see if business needs have changed and/or if the effects that were expected have occurred. If not then you will need to consider amending your policy accordingly. This does not mean repeating the equality analysis, but using the experience gained through implementation to check the findings and to make any necessary adjustments. Engagement with the community is recommended as part of the development of equality analysis. The council's Community Engagement Division and critical friend, the Forum for Equality and Human Rights in Southwark can assist with this (see section below on community engagement and www.southwarkadvice.org.uk).

Whilst the equality analysis is being considered, Southwark Council recommends considering Socio-Economic implications, as socio-economic inequalities have a strong influence on the environment we live and work in. As a major provider of services to Southwark residents, the council has a legal duty to reduce socio-economic inequalities and this is reflected in its values and aims. For this reason, the council recommends considering socio-economic impacts in all equality analyses, not forgetting to include identified potential mitigating actions. Similarly, it is important for the Council to consider the impact of its policies and decisions in relation to tackling the climate emergency. This includes both the potential carbon emissions of a policy or decision and its potential effect on the borough's biodiversity. You are asked to consider the impact on climate of your policy and decision under discussion by competing the Climate impact section below.

Section 1: Equality impact and needs analysis details

Proposed policy/decision/business plan to which this equality analysis relates	The proposed reduction of PANs at Phoenix, Keyworth and Primaries on the 31 st August 2026				
Equality analysis author	Ric Euteneuer				
Strategic Director:	David Quirke-Thornton				
Department	Children's' & Adults'	Division	Education		
Period analysis undertaken	November 2025				
Date of review (if applicable)	Not applicable				
Sign-off	Alasdair Smith	Position	DCS	Date	

Section 2: Brief description of policy/decision/business plan

2.1 Brief description of policy/decision/business plan

Keyworth Primary School and Phoenix Primaries are presently a 2FE and a 3FE primary school respectively, both of whom have seen a reduction in demand since 2019. This lower level of admissions has had a substantial financial and organisational impact on the schools over the years, which has led to growing financial pressure year on year, which would ultimately be unsustainable. Roll projections show little prospect of falling rolls reversing themselves. Given vacancy levels in the vicinity of the schools, the consideration of PAN reduction proposals is recommended – Keyworth from 2FE to 1FE, and Phoenix from 3FE to 2FE. This EINA measures the equalities impacts of doing so.

Section 3: Overview of service users and key stakeholders consulted

3. Service users and stakeholders

Key users of the department or service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children (3-11 years olds) attending a primary, infants, juniors or attached nursery setting in Southwark • Parents, carers and families of those children. • School staff (teaching or non-teaching) • Governors of those schools • Local Authority departments (Children’s Social Care, Education)
Key stakeholders were/are involved in this policy/decision/business plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head teachers of all primary schools in Southwark • Governors of all primary schools in Southwark • Members of the Council • Leadership teams in Education and Children’s and Adults’ services • Finance, Sustainable development, Schools’ HR, Legal, Communications colleagues

Section 4: Pre-implementation equality impact and needs analysis

This section considers the potential impacts (positive and negative) on groups with ‘protected characteristics’, the equality information on which this analysis is based, any mitigating actions to be taken and importantly any improvement actions to promote equality and tackle inequalities. It is important to also understand impacts as including needs of different groups. **Due regard is about considering the needs of different protected characteristics in relation to each part of the duty as relevant and proportionate to the area at hand.** An equality analysis also presents as an opportunity to improve services to meet diverse needs, promote equality, tackle inequalities and promote good community relations. It is not just about addressing negative impacts. It is important to consider any actions which can be considered to advance equality of opportunity through positive actions, for example.

The columns include societal issues (discrimination, exclusion, needs etc.) and socio-economic issues (levels of poverty, employment, income). As the two aspects are heavily interrelated it may not be practical to fill out both columns on all protected characteristics.

The aim is, however, to ensure that socio-economic issues are given special consideration, as it is the council's intention to reduce socio-economic inequalities in the borough. Key is also the link between protected characteristics and socio-economic disadvantage, including experiences of multiple disadvantage.

Socio-economic disadvantage may arise from a range of factors, including:

- *poverty*
- *health*
- *education*
- *limited social mobility*
- *housing*
- *a lack of expectations*
- *discrimination*
- *multiple disadvantage*

The public sector equality duty (**PSED**) requires us to find out about and give due consideration to the needs of different protected characteristics in relation to the three parts of the duty:

1. Eliminating discrimination, harassment and victimisation
2. Advancing equality of opportunity, including finding out about and meeting diverse needs of our local communities, addressing disadvantage and barriers to equal access; enabling all voices to be heard in our engagement and consultation undertaken; increasing the participation of underrepresented groups
3. Fostering good community relations; promoting good relations; to be a borough where all feel welcome, included, valued, safe and respected.

The PSED is now also further reinforced in the two additional Fairer Future For All values: that we will

- *Always work to make Southwark more equal and just*
- *Stand against all forms of discrimination and racism*

Age - Where this is referred to, it refers to a person belonging to a particular age (e.g. 32 year olds) or range of ages (e.g. 18 - 30 year olds).																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.	Potential Socio-Economic impacts/needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
<p>The PAN reductions at Phoenix and Keyworth Schools could potentially reduce choice for parents wanting a secular education in the locality for their child. It could <i>potentially</i> affect all age groups from 4-11 (children) and parents (generally 18-50) differentially. This, however, does not take into account the</p> <p><i>i) reduction in pupil numbers and applications for the school</i> <i>ii) reduction in births in the locality</i> <i>iii) the outmigration of children from the locality and Southwark as a whole</i></p> <p>There has been a considerable fall in demand for places at the schools concerned. Therefore, the loss of “choice” will largely be theoretical.</p>	<p>As outlined in the adjacent “<i>potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy</i>” column, the potential socio-economic impacts of PAN reductions at the school as regards to age will be minimal. Reducing the schools PANs will not effectively change the intake and relative demographics of the children attending other schools in the locality.</p> <p>As most of the pupils attending the school live locally, and this is the case with other local schools, the PAN reduction at the primary schools will not in itself change the local demographics or socio-economic profile.</p>																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Socio-Economic data on which above analysis is based																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
<p>i) The reduction of pupil numbers at the schools concerned is self-evident – there has been a 20% loss of pupils (187 pupils) since 2020/21 across the 2 schools</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Total</th> <th>R</th> <th>1</th> <th>2</th> <th>3</th> <th>4</th> <th>5</th> <th>6</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2015/6</td><td>172</td><td>119</td><td>117</td><td>116</td><td>116</td><td>106</td><td>98</td><td>844</td></tr> <tr><td>2016/7</td><td>152</td><td>169</td><td>115</td><td>112</td><td>113</td><td>110</td><td>99</td><td>870</td></tr> <tr><td>2017/8</td><td>137</td><td>159</td><td>172</td><td>112</td><td>115</td><td>114</td><td>104</td><td>913</td></tr> <tr><td>2018/9</td><td>136</td><td>133</td><td>155</td><td>165</td><td>106</td><td>113</td><td>113</td><td>921</td></tr> <tr><td>2019/20</td><td>144</td><td>125</td><td>129</td><td>152</td><td>156</td><td>101</td><td>110</td><td>917</td></tr> <tr><td>2020/1</td><td>120</td><td>124</td><td>119</td><td>117</td><td>142</td><td>151</td><td>98</td><td>871</td></tr> <tr><td>2021/2</td><td>132</td><td>120</td><td>116</td><td>113</td><td>113</td><td>141</td><td>152</td><td>886</td></tr> <tr><td>2022/3</td><td>89</td><td>132</td><td>126</td><td>117</td><td>111</td><td>116</td><td>131</td><td>821</td></tr> <tr><td>2023/4</td><td>119</td><td>83</td><td>129</td><td>119</td><td>116</td><td>111</td><td>114</td><td>791</td></tr> <tr><td>2024/5</td><td>103</td><td>117</td><td>82</td><td>129</td><td>122</td><td>107</td><td>112</td><td>772</td></tr> <tr><td>2025/6</td><td>83</td><td>100</td><td>115</td><td>82</td><td>130</td><td>120</td><td>105</td><td>734</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(Source, School Censuses 2016-25)</p> <p>Phoenix shows a drop of 18% (103 pupils) over the same time period</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Phoenix</th> <th>R</th> <th>1</th> <th>2</th> <th>3</th> <th>4</th> <th>5</th> <th>6</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>2015/6</td><td>112</td><td>59</td><td>57</td><td>56</td><td>59</td><td>57</td><td>52</td><td>452</td></tr> <tr><td>2016/7</td><td>111</td><td>110</td><td>58</td><td>56</td><td>57</td><td>53</td><td>52</td><td>497</td></tr> <tr><td>2017/8</td><td>86</td><td>114</td><td>112</td><td>60</td><td>58</td><td>60</td><td>53</td><td>543</td></tr> <tr><td>2018/9</td><td>85</td><td>86</td><td>109</td><td>108</td><td>58</td><td>59</td><td>59</td><td>564</td></tr> <tr><td>2019/20</td><td>104</td><td>85</td><td>81</td><td>105</td><td>102</td><td>56</td><td>57</td><td>590</td></tr> <tr><td>2020/1</td><td>79</td><td>91</td><td>76</td><td>73</td><td>97</td><td>101</td><td>54</td><td>571</td></tr> <tr><td>2021/2</td><td>82</td><td>74</td><td>83</td><td>70</td><td>69</td><td>94</td><td>100</td><td>572</td></tr> <tr><td>2022/3</td><td>54</td><td>80</td><td>71</td><td>82</td><td>65</td><td>66</td><td>85</td><td>503</td></tr> <tr><td>2023/4</td><td>81</td><td>51</td><td>78</td><td>70</td><td>77</td><td>60</td><td>64</td><td>481</td></tr> <tr><td>2024/5</td><td>69</td><td>79</td><td>48</td><td>76</td><td>66</td><td>74</td><td>60</td><td>472</td></tr> <tr><td>2025/6</td><td>56</td><td>66</td><td>77</td><td>49</td><td>77</td><td>65</td><td>71</td><td>461</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Total	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	2015/6	172	119	117	116	116	106	98	844	2016/7	152	169	115	112	113	110	99	870	2017/8	137	159	172	112	115	114	104	913	2018/9	136	133	155	165	106	113	113	921	2019/20	144	125	129	152	156	101	110	917	2020/1	120	124	119	117	142	151	98	871	2021/2	132	120	116	113	113	141	152	886	2022/3	89	132	126	117	111	116	131	821	2023/4	119	83	129	119	116	111	114	791	2024/5	103	117	82	129	122	107	112	772	2025/6	83	100	115	82	130	120	105	734	Phoenix	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total	2015/6	112	59	57	56	59	57	52	452	2016/7	111	110	58	56	57	53	52	497	2017/8	86	114	112	60	58	60	53	543	2018/9	85	86	109	108	58	59	59	564	2019/20	104	85	81	105	102	56	57	590	2020/1	79	91	76	73	97	101	54	571	2021/2	82	74	83	70	69	94	100	572	2022/3	54	80	71	82	65	66	85	503	2023/4	81	51	78	70	77	60	64	481	2024/5	69	79	48	76	66	74	60	472	2025/6	56	66	77	49	77	65	71	461	<p>The Census 2021 data shows that the same percentage of the population aged 0-19 lives in the ward (21%) than live in the borough (21%). The under 4 component of the ward population has fallen by 281 (26%) since 2011, and the 5-9 cohort by 191 children (21%). Overall, under 19s have fallen by 9% since the last census.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age</th> <th>2011</th> <th>2021</th> <th>+/-</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>0-4</td><td>1,082</td><td>801</td><td>-281</td><td>-26%</td></tr> <tr><td>5-9</td><td>909</td><td>718</td><td>-191</td><td>-21%</td></tr> <tr><td>10-14</td><td>738</td><td>855</td><td>+117</td><td>+16%</td></tr> <tr><td>15-19</td><td>735</td><td>792</td><td>+57</td><td>+8%</td></tr> <tr><td>0-19</td><td>3,464</td><td>3,166</td><td>-298</td><td>-9%</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(Source ONS Census 2021)</p> <p>Overall the under 19 component of the population has fallen and the 0-4 cohort are the future primary pupils in the ward.</p>	Age	2011	2021	+/-	%	0-4	1,082	801	-281	-26%	5-9	909	718	-191	-21%	10-14	738	855	+117	+16%	15-19	735	792	+57	+8%	0-19	3,464	3,166	-298	-9%
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Keyworth has seen a reduction of 84 pupils (24%)

Keyworth R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
2015/6	60	60	60	60	57	49	392
2016/7	41	59	57	56	56	57	373
2017/8	51	45	60	52	57	54	370
2018/9	51	47	46	57	48	54	357
2019/20	40	40	48	47	54	45	327
2020/1	41	33	43	44	45	50	300
2021/2	50	46	32	43	44	47	314
2022/3	35	52	54	35	46	50	318
2023/4	38	32	51	49	39	51	310
2024/5	34	38	34	53	56	33	300
2025/6	27	33	39	33	53	55	273

In terms of applications for the schools, the numbers show a steep fall overall both in terms of first choices and choices overall. Over the 2 schools, a reduction in preferences overall since 2019 totaled 86 – a **39%** reduction. These were even steeper at Phoenix (**41%**). Phoenix's preferences rose from 2018/19 to 2020/21, but have fallen since. Overall there has been a drop of 50 in first preferences (**42%**), and a fall of 86 in 1st to 3rd preferences (**39%**). Phoenix saw a steep drop in 1st preferences of **55%**.

Keyworth	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Total	1st to 3rd
2017/18	43	21	14	11	8	6	103	78
2018/19	43	21	11	10	5	5	95	75
2019/20	22	15	18	8	6	7	76	55
2020/21	27	12	6	7	6	5	63	45
2021/22	35	17	8	12	3	6	81	60
2022/23	27	15	9	2	4	2	59	51
2023/24	25	20	11	8	0	2	66	56
2024/25	26	7	13	4	0	3	53	46
2025/26	25	6	5	7	5	4	52	36

Phoenix	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Total	1st to 3rd
2017/18	63	45	32	24	10	9	183	140
2018/19	72	41	31	25	12	8	189	144
2019/20	96	35	33	22	14	8	208	164
2020/21	83	30	22	22	16	6	179	135
2021/22	82	31	27	27	8	8	183	140
2022/23	50	41	27	15	13	11	157	118
2023/24	80	35	22	13	24	7	181	137
2024/25	64	32	26	20	9	8	159	122
2025/26	43	24	30	8	5	8	118	97

Both	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	Total	1st to 3rd
2017/18	106	66	46	35	18	15	286	218
2018/19	115	62	42	35	17	13	284	219
2019/20	118	50	51	30	20	15	284	219
2020/21	110	42	28	29	22	11	242	180
2021/22	117	48	35	39	11	14	264	200
2022/23	77	56	36	17	17	13	216	169
2023/24	105	55	33	21	24	9	247	193
2024/25	90	39	39	24	9	11	212	168
2025/26	68	30	35	15	10	12	170	133

(Source, Applications records - 2019-25)

ii) the schools are situated in the following wards and planning areas (PA)

School (PA)	Ward of School
Phoenix (2)	Old Kent Road
Keyworth (1)	Newington

The schools take their pupils from a variety of locations inside and outside Southwark. Distribution by planning area and ward are show below.

therefore it is likely that pupil numbers in this ward will continue to fall (Source, ONS Census 2021)

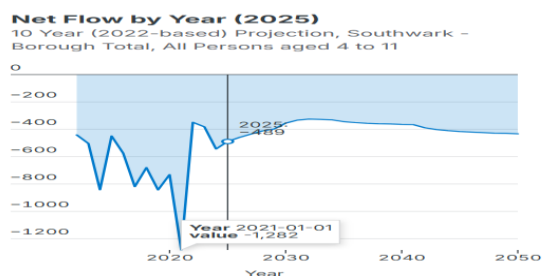
School	PA Intakes above 5%
Phoenix (2)	PA1(37%), PA2 (35%), PA3 (23%)
Keyworth (1)	PA1 (81%), Lambeth (10%)

School	Ward Intakes above 5%
Phoenix (2)	Old Kent Road (44%), South Bermondsey (24%), Peckham (7%)
Keyworth (1)	Newington (65%), North Walworth (8%), Kennington (Lambeth) (9%)

It can be seen that Keyworth takes the majority of their pupils from the planning areas it is situated in. Phoenix's intake is more or less equally divided between PAs 1 and 2, and smaller contribution from PA3. and the largest proportion of pupils in each case comes from the wards the schools are situated in.

All of these localities have seen a reduction in births (including Lambeth) over the last 5 years, and this is projected to continue in the near future (*Source, School Census 2025, ONS Census and Birth data 2021-22, GLA population projections*)

iii) In terms of outmigration, there has been net outmigration of pupils aged from 4-11 in recent years since 2013, and this continues to be the case – the net migration figures by age for Southwark as a whole are given below (GLA migration estimates, 2025). This shows a projected net outmigration of primary aged pupils this year of 489 children, and for this trend to continue for the foreseeable future.



Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken

As there have been no differential negative impacts relating to age identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed.

Disability - A person has a disability if s/he has a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. Please note that under the PSED due regard includes: Giving due consideration in all relevant areas to "the steps involved in meeting the needs of disabled persons that are different from the needs of persons who are not disabled include, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities." This also includes the need to understand and focus on different needs/impacts arising from different disabilities.

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.

Potential socio-economic impacts/ needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)

The PAN reduction at the 2 schools will have a negligible effect on disabilities, as the facilities, adaptations and services offered at school campuses for pupils and staff will remain available at the schools concerned. Indeed, the rebuild of both schools in 2016-18 considerably enhanced these provisions

There will be negligible potential socio-economic impacts arising from disadvantage as regards disability, as schools in the locality will remain in their present location with the same facilities

Equality information on which above analysis is based

Socio-economic data on which analysis is based

No central record of disability is maintained by the LA, but a proxy measure is the number of children with Education and Healthcare Plans (EHCPs), or children who have been identified as SEND Support at a variety of geographies. The two primaries have a similar or lower level of EHCPs nationally and Londonwide, The SEND Support percentages are generally around or above local, regional and national averages.

As there is no perceptible potential socio-economic impacts/needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage for people with disabilities, no data has been identified.

Type	Keyworth	Phoenix
EHCP	5.1%	2.4%
SEND Support	10.1%	17.1%

Type	LBS	London	England
EHCP	4.6%	4.1%	4.8%
SEND Support	16.8%	11.7%	13.6%

(Source, School Census January 2025- [EHCPs and SEN Support, DfE Statistics 2024](#))

In terms of staffing, no register of staff disability is maintained – disability does not form part of the selection process for staff recruitment or redundancy, so is unlikely to affect disabled staff disproportionately. In England, in the 2021 Census, a smaller proportion but larger number of

people were disabled (17.7%, 9.8 million), compared with 2011 (19.3%, 9.4 million). In Southwark, the prevalence is 18.6%, and in London, 15.8%, so Southwark has a higher than England and London average.	
Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken	
As no reduction in facilities are proposed, there are no mitigating or improvement actions required	

Gender reassignment: - The process of transitioning from one gender to another.	
Gender Identity - Gender identity is the personal sense of one's own gender. Gender identity can correlate with a person's recorded sex or can differ from it.	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.	Potential socio-economic impacts/ needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)
Gender reassignment is unlikely to involve children of primary age, though it could potentially involve parents or carers. That said, the reduction in capacity at the schools concerned would have no differential impact on transgender or transitioning adults. Gender identity and reassignment would form no part of any recruitment or reorganization processes arising from the proposed changes.	There will be minimal socio-economic impacts/ needs/ issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage resulting from gender reassignment; this will not affect pupils and is unlikely to affect parents/carers and staff.
Equality information on which above analysis is based.	Socio-economic data on which above analysis is based
Data is not collected for children, parents or carers on gender reassignment. It is likely to be such a small number as to make it statistically insignificant. In the 2021 Census, 0.6% of the UK population identified themselves as not having the same gender they were born with. In London, this rose to 1.4%, and Southwark, 1.2%. Such a percentage would mean that the lack of a transgender staff member would not be statistically significant. (Source, ONS Census 2021)	As there is no potential socio-economic impacts arising from socio-economic disadvantage for people with gender reassignment, no appropriate or useful data has been identified.
Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken	
As there have been no negative impacts relating to gender identity or reassignment identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed.	

Marriage and civil partnership – In England and Wales marriage is no longer restricted to a union between a man and a woman but now includes a marriage between a same-sex couples. Same-sex couples can also have their relationships legally recognised as 'civil partnerships'. Civil partners must not be treated less favourably than married couples and must be treated the same as married couples on a wide range of legal matters. (Only to be considered in respect to the need to eliminate discrimination.)																	
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan	Potential socio-economic impacts/ needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)																
<p>The marital status of the parents or carers of school pupils forms no part of the admissions process, and children are admitted to the schools concerned based on sibling, medical social or distance criteria alone</p> <p>As regards staffing, no records of the marital status of the staff at the schools are kept at the school at present, but, were this to be the case, the marital or civil partnership status of a staff member or potential applicant would form no part of any recruitment or reorganization processes arising from the proposed changes.</p> <p>the recruitment or indeed any redeployment process, so would not negatively impact on staffing.</p>	<p>As mentioned in the adjacent “potential impacts of the proposed policy”, the marital status of the parents or carers of school pupils forms no part of the admissions process. Children are admitted based on sibling presence, medical needs or distance criteria alone. Therefore there are no realistic socio-economic impacts, needs or issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage relating to marital status</p>																
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Socio-economic data on which above analysis is based																
<p>No records are maintained on the marital or civil partnership status of parents & carers, or staff members of the schools concerned, so it would be challenging to evidence any level of discrimination or disadvantage. Figures at a ward, borough, regional and national level for the percentage of the local population by marital and civil partnership status are given below. Newington and Old Kent Road wards are slightly lower than the Southwark average for marital status, and some way adrift of the London and England averages (<i>Source, ONS Census 2021</i>)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>%</th> <th>Area</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Old Kent Road</td> <td>22.1%</td> <td>Southwark</td> <td>26.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Newington</td> <td>20.8%</td> <td>England</td> <td>44.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>London</td> <td>39.7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Area	%	Area	%	Old Kent Road	22.1%	Southwark	26.4	Newington	20.8%	England	44.5			London	39.7	<p>As there is no potential socio-economic impacts/ needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage identified, no appropriate data has been located.</p>
Area	%	Area	%														
Old Kent Road	22.1%	Southwark	26.4														
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		London	39.7														
Mitigating actions to be taken																	
As there have been no differential negative impacts relating to gender reassignment identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed.																	

Pregnancy and maternity - Pregnancy is the condition of being pregnant or expecting a baby. Maternity refers to the period after the birth, and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.																
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.	Potential socio-economic impacts/ needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)															
<p>Pregnancy and maternity are unlikely to directly involve children of primary age, though may involve parents and carers.</p> <p>As regards staffing primary school staff's contracts mean that they are paid for some of their pregnancy and maternity leave; the pregnancy status of a staff member or potential applicant would form no part of any recruitment or reorganization processes arising from the proposed changes, so would not negatively impact on staffing.</p>	<p>As mentioned in the adjacent "potential impacts of the proposed policy", the pregnancy/maternity status of the parent/carers of pupils forms no part of the admissions process, and pupils are admitted based on sibling/medical/social distance criteria alone. This would not form part of the recruitment process. Therefore there are no impacts arising from disadvantage relating to pregnancy/maternity status.</p>															
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Socio-economic data on which above analysis is based															
<p>Fertility is measured at a range of rates and geographies by the ONS. These include the "GFR" and "TFR". The "<i>General Fertility Rate (GFR)</i>" is the number of live births per 1,000 women aged 15-44. The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) is the number of births per woman aged 15-44</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Area</th> <th>GFR</th> <th>TFR</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Southwark</td> <td>42</td> <td>1.05</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Inner London</td> <td>48</td> <td>1.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>London</td> <td>56</td> <td>1.35</td> </tr> <tr> <td>England</td> <td>56</td> <td>1.41</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(Source, GLA/ONS 2024 (latest figures))</p> <p>From this, we can see Southwark has very low fertility rate compared to the rest of London and England. This is another explanation, together with outmigration – why pupil numbers in Southwark are falling.</p>	Area	GFR	TFR	Southwark	42	1.05	Inner London	48	1.11	London	56	1.35	England	56	1.41	<p>As there is no perceptible potential socio-economic impacts/needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage for people with pregnancy or maternity status, no appropriate or useful data has been identified.</p>
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England	56	1.41														
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<p>Race - Refers to the protected characteristic of Race. It refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, and nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins. N.B. Gypsy, Roma and Traveller are recognised racial groups and their needs should be considered alongside all others</p>																																																																																																													
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<p>A potential impact of the proposed PAN reductions could be that the pupils from Global Ethnic Majority (GEM) backgrounds could be disproportionately affected. They could potentially be placed in less diverse schools than the schools proposed for PAN reduction.</p> <p>Given that a relatively small number of pupils displaced by the PAN reduction, it is not felt that there is evidence therefore that PAN cuts would de-diversify the schools concerned</p>			<p>A potential impact of the PAN reduction could be that the school becomes less diverse socio-economically. This is unlikely, as there is no major development or in-migration near the schools. What is evident is that Southwark parents are having less children, and those that are, tend to be from the families that have remained, and are the same socio-economic class as the present parents and carers – just fewer of them.</p>																																																																																																										
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<p>A table giving the relative percentages of the local population at schools and in the locality is given below, broken down by ethnicity.</p>			<p>The Census 2021 and School Census 2025 figures opposite show that the school population is considerably more diverse than the population at large,</p> <p>Providing the children attending school remain in borough, that the population of Southwark will continue to become more diverse as time advances. Evidence is given elsewhere that the birth rate is falling in the locality, under “pregnancy and maternity”.</p>																																																																																																										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Group</th> <th>Keyworth</th> <th>Phoenix</th> <th>Southwark primary pupils</th> <th>Southwark population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bangladeshi</td> <td>5.3%</td> <td>3.3%</td> <td>2.3%</td> <td>1.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Indian</td> <td>0.6%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.7%</td> <td>2.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pakistani</td> <td>0.6%</td> <td>1.7%</td> <td>0.7%</td> <td>0.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Asian Background</td> <td>1.2%</td> <td>5.6%</td> <td>1.8%</td> <td>2.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black African</td> <td>24.0%</td> <td>26.9%</td> <td>25.2%</td> <td>15.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Black Caribbean</td> <td>8.2%</td> <td>6.1%</td> <td>6.3%</td> <td>5.9%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Any Other Black Background</td> <td>6.1%</td> <td>9.6%</td> <td>5.2%</td> <td>3.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chinese</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>1.7%</td> <td>1.3%</td> <td>2.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed - White & Black African</td> <td>1.7%</td> <td>4.0%</td> <td>2.2%</td> <td>1.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed - White & Caribbean</td> <td>3.6%</td> <td>3.8%</td> <td>3.3%</td> <td>2.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mixed - White & Asian</td> <td>1.7%</td> <td>2.1%</td> <td>1.7%</td> <td>1.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Any Other Mixed Background</td> <td>7.3%</td> <td>0.6%</td> <td>6.5%</td> <td>2.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White British</td> <td>6.5%</td> <td>14.2%</td> <td>21.1%</td> <td>35.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>White Irish</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.4%</td> <td>2.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gypsy / Roma</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>0.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Traveller of Irish Heritage</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.0%</td> <td>0.1%</td> <td>0.1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Any Other White Background</td> <td>4.1%</td> <td>9.4%</td> <td>9.3%</td> <td>13.4%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Any Other Ethnic Group</td> <td>4.6%</td> <td>8.8%</td> <td>7.7%</td> <td>1.0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unknown / Missing</td> <td>14.8%</td> <td>1.9%</td> <td>4.1%</td> <td>5.3%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>GEM = Non-White UK+Missing</td> <td>88.7%</td> <td>85.9%</td> <td>74.8%</td> <td>59.2%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Group	Keyworth	Phoenix	Southwark primary pupils	Southwark population	Bangladeshi	5.3%	3.3%	2.3%	1.8%	Indian	0.6%	0.0%	0.7%	2.0%	Pakistani	0.6%	1.7%	0.7%	0.7%	Other Asian Background	1.2%	5.6%	1.8%	2.7%	Black African	24.0%	26.9%	25.2%	15.7%	Black Caribbean	8.2%	6.1%	6.3%	5.9%	Any Other Black Background	6.1%	9.6%	5.2%	3.5%	Chinese	0.0%	1.7%	1.3%	2.7%	Mixed - White & Black African	1.7%	4.0%	2.2%	1.2%	Mixed - White & Caribbean	3.6%	3.8%	3.3%	2.1%	Mixed - White & Asian	1.7%	2.1%	1.7%	1.5%	Any Other Mixed Background	7.3%	0.6%	6.5%	2.4%	White British	6.5%	14.2%	21.1%	35.5%	White Irish	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	2.0%	Gypsy / Roma	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%	Traveller of Irish Heritage	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	Any Other White Background	4.1%	9.4%	9.3%	13.4%	Any Other Ethnic Group	4.6%	8.8%	7.7%	1.0%	Unknown / Missing	14.8%	1.9%	4.1%	5.3%	GEM = Non-White UK+Missing	88.7%	85.9%	74.8%	59.2%				
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Keyworth and Phoenix are more diverse than the Southwark primary pupil population, their respective planning areas, and the Southwark population as a whole.

Group	PA1 School pupils	PA2 School pupils	Southwark primary pupils	Southwark population
Bangladeshi	5.0%	2.1%	2.3%	1.8%
Indian	0.7%	1.2%	0.7%	2.0%
Pakistani	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%
Other Asian Background	2.1%	2.1%	1.8%	2.7%
Black African	27.9%	22.8%	25.2%	15.7%
Black Caribbean	5.4%	4.7%	6.3%	5.9%
Any Other Black Background	6.6%	3.6%	5.2%	3.5%
Chinese	0.7%	1.3%	1.3%	2.7%
Mixed - White & Black African	2.1%	2.4%	2.2%	1.2%
Mixed - White & Caribbean	2.4%	3.4%	3.3%	2.1%
Mixed - White & Asian	1.4%	1.9%	1.7%	1.5%
Any Other Mixed Background	7.3%	8.6%	6.5%	2.4%
White British	11.5%	20.7%	21.1%	35.5%
White Irish	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	2.0%
Gypsy / Roma	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%
Traveller of Irish Heritage	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Any Other White Background	7.2%	11.5%	9.3%	13.4%
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Unknown / Missing	5.2%	3.5%	4.1%	5.3%
GEM = Non-White UK+Missing	83.3%	76.8%	74.8%	59.2%

Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken

As there have been no negative impacts relating to race identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed.

Religion and belief - Religion has the meaning usually given to it but belief includes religious and philosophical beliefs including lack of belief (e.g. Atheism). Generally, a belief should affect your life choices or the way you live for it to be included in the definition.

Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.

The removal of 60 places from schools with no religious foundation could potentially remove choice and the availability of secular primary places in Southwark and beyond. Additionally, guidance when deciding this type of decision requires us to consider the balance of religious places in the borough. All of this said, the effect on the provision of secular places is likely to be minimal – for one, the take up of religious places has been falling for years – as indeed it has for other secular provision. Secondly, the effect of a loss of 60 places (2FE), seen in the context of the overall number of places is also minimal.

Potential socio-economic impacts/needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)

Religious schools in the past have often had a markedly different intake to academy, foundation and community schools, socio-economically. This is no longer the case, and very often, voluntary aided schools are more diverse ethnically and socio-economically than community schools or academies

As regards staffing, selection of staff for employment is not affected by the religion of the staff member, as religious observance in an alternative Southwark school is not a requirement.																																																			
Equality information on which above analysis is based	Socio-economic data on which above analysis is based																																																		
The percentages of religious/non-religious places (Non-VA) in Southwark are given in the table below, both before (2022 and 2023) and after the proposals in 2026. As a percentage of places this is as shown below. Figures <i>in italics</i> are estimates. Secular places (Non-VA remain at between 78-79% throughout)	Non-religious parents may wish for a secular education, but this is unlikely to be based on socio economic background. A table is given overleaf of the level of religious observance extracted from the 2021 Census. No breakdown of Christian faith is recorded for Newington and Old Kent Road (OKR) wards. No religious register is kept of staff or pupils.																																																		
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Places</th> <th>2022</th> <th>2023</th> <th>2024</th> <th>2025</th> <th>2026</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>VA</td> <td>22%</td> <td>22%</td> <td>21%</td> <td>21%</td> <td>22%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non-VA</td> <td>78%</td> <td>78%</td> <td>79%</td> <td>79%</td> <td>78%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Places	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	VA	22%	22%	21%	21%	22%	Non-VA	78%	78%	79%	79%	78%	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Religion</th> <th>OKR</th> <th>Newington</th> <th>Southwark</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Christian</td> <td>51%</td> <td>48%</td> <td>46%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buddhist</td> <td>1%</td> <td>1%</td> <td>1%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hindu</td> <td>1%</td> <td>0%</td> <td>10%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jewish</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Muslim</td> <td>12%</td> <td>13%</td> <td>7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sikh</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0%</td> <td>0%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other/ No religion/ not stated</td> <td>28%</td> <td>29%</td> <td>37%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Religion	OKR	Newington	Southwark	Christian	51%	48%	46%	Buddhist	1%	1%	1%	Hindu	1%	0%	10%	Jewish	0%	0%	0%	Muslim	12%	13%	7%	Sikh	0%	0%	0%	Other/ No religion/ not stated	28%	29%	37%
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This shows the <u>demand</u> for secular places has increased, but only by +1% of pupils overall. As noted above, there is no requirement for staff to be of a particular religion or none and therefore no record of staff's religious belief is maintained. It is therefore unlikely that a school capacity reduction will have any discernible effect on secular/non-religious education in Southwark as regards staffing and as regards pupil choice. Similarly, any restructuring as regards staff is also unlikely to have repercussions on any particular religious group or another.																																																			
Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken																																																			
As there have been no negative impacts relating to religion or belief identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed.																																																			

Sex - A man or a woman.												
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.											Potential socio-economic impacts/ needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)	
If there was a significant imbalance in the provision or uptake of places at the school then the reduction of the schools capacities may affect this. Prevalence of male to female pupils in the both at the school and in the locality are approaching 50:50, so the proposed school changes will not have an effect on the mix of pupils in terms of gender. Similarly as regards staffing, a large proportion of the staff are female, but this is normal for primary schools of any type across the UK											There are no potential socio-economic impacts or issues arising from disadvantage as regards the reduction of capacity of the school with respect to the gender of pupils. As regards staffing, it could be that female staff are affected more, due to their prevalence in the workforce	
Equality information on which above analysis is based											Socio-economic data on which above analysis is based	
School		E2	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Keyworth	F	6	2	7	19	9	16	24	23	16	25	147
Keyworth	M	9	1	20	15	29	18	25	25	19	27	188
Keyworth	All	15	3	27	34	38	34	49	48	35	52	335
Phoenix	F	0	0	8	37	45	30	40	39	36	35	270
Phoenix	M	0	0	18	35	36	20	36	28	40	25	238
Phoenix	All	0	0	26	72	81	50	76	67	76	60	508
School		E2	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Keyworth	F	40%	67%	26%	56%	24%	47%	49%	48%	46%	48%	44%
Keyworth	M	60%	33%	74%	44%	76%	53%	51%	52%	54%	52%	56%
Phoenix	F	0%	0%	31%	51%	56%	60%	53%	58%	47%	58%	53%
Phoenix	M	0%	0%	69%	49%	44%	40%	47%	42%	53%	42%	47%
School		E2	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Both	F	6	2	15	56	54	46	64	62	52	60	417
Both	M	9	1	38	50	65	38	61	53	59	52	426
School		E2	N1	N2	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	Total
Both	F	40%	67%	28%	53%	45%	55%	51%	54%	47%	54%	49%
Both	M	60%	33%	72%	47%	55%	45%	49%	46%	53%	46%	51%
The percentage of girls to boys varies from year to year and school to school. Overall, numbers across both schools are 49% girls to 51% boys, though this varies on a year-to-year basis											The number of female staff on the workforce are generally high. It is not felt that the PAN reduction therefore will disproportionately affect women more than men, save that there are more female staff than male across most of our schools in any case	
Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken												
As there have been no negative impacts relating gender identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed.												

Sexual orientation - Whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, the opposite sex or to both sexes											
Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan; this also includes needs in relation to each part of the duty.								Potential socio-economic impacts/needs/issues arising from socio-economic disadvantage (positive and negative)			
At age 4-11, it is unlikely that children will have identified with any particular sexuality but they may have parents or carers who are LGBTQ+. In either case, admissions do not take into account the sexuality of the child or parent/carer. Reducing the capacity of the schools will therefore have no differential effect on parents whatever their sexuality. Similarly, with regard to staff, sexuality or sexual orientation forms no part of the selection for recruitment or redundancy, so a capacity reduction will not disproportionately affect staff members as regards their sexual orientation.								There are no potential socio-economic impacts or issues arising from disadvantage as regards the PAN reduction of the school with respect to the sexual orientation of pupils, parents/carers or staff.			
Equality information on which above analysis is based								Socio-economic data on which above analysis is based			
The prevalence of different sexualities was covered in the 2021 Census for the first time. This is not (yet) available at a ward level, but the figures for Southwark show the following figures for the population over 16.								There are no potential socio-economic impacts as regards the PAN reduction of the school.			
Area	Straight or Heterosexual	Gay or Lesbian	Bisexual	Pansexual	Asexual	Queer	All other sexual orientations			Not answered	Non heterosexual
Southwark	82.7	4.5	2.6	0.7	0.1	0.2	0.1			9.2	8.1
London	86.2	2.2	1.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.04			9.5	4.3
England	89.4	1.5	1.3	0.2	0.1	0.03	0.02			7.5	3.2
Southwark is lower than the national and London-average for heterosexuality and more than twice the London average for gay and lesbian residents over 16.											
Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken											
As there have been no negative impacts relating to sexual orientation identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed or required.											

<p>Human Rights</p> <p>There are 16 rights in the Human Rights Act. Each one is called an Article. They are all taken from the European Convention on Human Rights. The Articles are The right to life, Freedom from torture, inhuman and degrading treatment, Freedom from forced labour , Right to Liberty, Fair trial, Retrospective penalties, Privacy, Freedom of conscience, Freedom of expression, Freedom of assembly, Marriage and family, Freedom from discrimination and the First Protocol</p>
<p>Potential impacts (positive and negative) of proposed policy/decision/business plan</p> <p>In respect of the 16 rights listed, the proposal to reduce PANs will not affect any of those listed. This said, the “First Protocol”, this states “<i>The first sentence of Article 2 of Protocol No. 1 guarantees an individual right to education. The second guarantees the right of parents to have their children educated in conformity with their religious and philosophical convictions</i>”. Removal of 2 forms of entry (2FE) from Southwark Primary Schools will not endanger this freedom, as there are numerous school places available in schools within walking distance of the schools. This proposal will also not affect the rights of staff members.</p>
<p>Information on which above analysis is based</p> <p>At the last census time (October 2025), there were 4,745 spare places in Southwark primary schools. For secular education, there are numerous alternative schools very close to the schools concerned with numerous spare places available</p>
<p>Mitigating and/or improvement actions to be taken</p> <p>As there have been no negative impacts relating to human rights identified, no mitigating or improvement actions are proposed or required.</p>

Conclusions

Summarise main findings and conclusions of the overall equality impact and needs analysis for this area:

Section 5: Further equality actions and objectives

5. Further actions			
Based on the initial analysis above, please detail the key mitigating and/or improvement actions to promote equality and tackle inequalities; and any areas identified as requiring more detailed analysis.			
Number	Description of issue	Action	Timeframe
As no mitigating or improvement actions to promote equality and tackle inequalities have been proposed, no further actions are required or proposed			

5.1 Equality and socio-economic objectives (for business plans)				
Based on the initial analysis above, please detail any of the equality objectives outlined above that you will set for your division/department/service. Under the objective and measure column please state whether this objective is an existing objective or a suggested addition to the Council Plan.				
Objective and measure	Lead officer	Current performance (baseline)	Targets	
			Year 1	Year 2
Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
6. Review of implementation of the equality objectives and actions				
As no mitigating or improvement actions to promote equality and tackle inequalities have been required or proposed, no further reviews of the equality objectives and actions are required				

7. Implementation Equality Impact and Needs Analysis

No issues as regards equalities and needs have been identified – therefore no mitigating or improvement actions to promote equality and tackle inequalities have been proposed as a result of this analysis.

Further actions and objectives

Further actions			
Based on the initial analysis above, please detail the key mitigating actions or the areas identified as requiring more detailed analysis.			
No negative impacts of the arrangements have been identified, so no mitigating actions are required, and no actions will derive from these specific proposals.			
Number	Description of issue	Action	Timeframe
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Equality objectives (for business plans)

Based on the initial analysis above, please detail any equality objectives that you will set for your division/department/service. Under the objective and measure column please state whether this objective is an existing objective or a suggested addition to the Council Plan.

No negative impacts of the arrangements have been identified, so no mitigating actions are required, and no equality objectives will derive from these specific proposals.

Objective and measure	Lead officer	Current performance (baseline)	Targets	
			Year 1	Year 2
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Health objectives (for business plans)

Based on the initial analysis above, please detail any health objectives that you will set for your division/department/service. Under the objective and measure column please state whether this objective is an existing objective or a suggested addition to the Council Plan.

No negative impacts of the arrangements have been identified, so no mitigating actions are required, and no health objectives will derive from these specific proposals.

Objective and measure	Lead officer	Current performance (baseline)	Targets	
			Year 1	Year 2
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

APPENDIX 6 - PUPIL PLACE PLANNING STATEMENT 2025/26

Prepared by Ric Euteneuer, Planning & Strategy Officer (School Places)

Executive summary

1. Southwark Council has a duty under the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended by the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#)) to “ensure that a sufficient capacity of school places exist for children of statutory school age”. Monitoring and analysis of appropriate data and trends are carried out to produce this annual report on place planning, to ensure that “sufficient capacity” exists. This report therefore aims to provide an overview of school place capacity, as well as forward place planning for Southwark.
2. The number of primary pupils has been falling for several years, and the report outlines some of the measures taken to address this. The highlights from the report for 2025-26 are as follows.
 - Southwark has a considerable excess of pupil places in all year groups to meet existing demand in both primary and secondary phases of education in Southwark. The authority was able to offer a primary or secondary school place for the 2025-2026 academic year and many years before this, to all on-time Southwark applicants at the normal points of entry and also has sufficient provision available to accommodate late and in year applicants for both phases.
 - All the indicators for the short to medium term are that primary rolls are continuing to fall. From September 2015 to the present time (September 2025 for rolls, December 2024 for births)
 - *The number of primary pupils overall (Years R-6) has fallen by **21%***
 - *The number of reception pupils has fallen by **35%***
 - *The number of births has fallen by **38%***
 - *The number of reception applications has fallen by **38%***
 - There are areas of Southwark where a steeper decline in primary demand has been observed - PA1 “Borough & Bankside” has seen a drop in reception numbers from 2015/6 to 2025/6 of **44%**, and PA3 “Peckham and Nunhead” a **43%** drop. In PA1, there has been a **36%** drop in primary numbers overall (years R to 6) and PA3, **35%**. Births in both PAs has dropped as well – PA1 - **19%** and PA3 – **28%** over the same time period.
 - Southwark therefore has taken decisive action to reduce surplus capacity with a [Keeping Education Strong strategy agreed in December 2022](#) and subsequently implemented. Eight primary schools have closed since 2021, and there have been reductions in the Published Admissions Number (PAN) at 25 further schools since 2019 – more than a third of existing primaries. This has or will have taken out 945 reception places (31.5FE) by September 2026 and will reduce excess reception capacity from **25%** in 2024/25 to **21%** in 2026/27. There are around 1,070 less vacancies across all year groups than there were in 2022/23.
 - In respect of secondary school places there has been a net increase in demand and provision since 2016, but numbers have fallen at Y7 since 2019/20 and since 2023/24 for years 7-11. This is in part due to the reduction in primary numbers feeding through to secondary schools

- To summarise for secondary:
 - *The number of Y7 pupils has increased by +14% since 2015/16, but has actually fallen by -9% since 2019-20*
 - *The number of Y7-11 pupils overall increased by +26% since 2015/6, but has fallen by -3% since 2023-24*
 - *The number of Y7 places has increased (net) by +13% (by +9% since 2019/20) over the same time period, but has fallen -5% since 2023/4*
 - *The number of Y7-11 places has increased by +30% since 2016 (+10% since 2019/20)*
- It is becoming evident that overall secondary demand (Y7-11) levelled out in the academic year 2023-24 and is projected to continue to decrease. Consequentially, we do not anticipate that secondary demand will exceed capacity, and additional capacity is unlikely to be required going forward. Although there are no immediate concerns about surplus capacity in the secondary sector overall, less popular schools are being disproportionately affected by falling pupil numbers, with some schools seeing losses of up to **40%** of Y7-11 pupil numbers since 2015/6. South Bank University Academy (SBUA) did not admit a Y7 cohort in September 2025 due to low numbers of applications, and the school is consulting on making this permanent and gradually transforming to a solely post 16 establishment. Two schools are presently consulting on a 1FE reduction in PAN (St Saviour's & St Olave's and ARK Globe, meaning there will have been a **-6%** reduction in secondary capacity overall by September 2031.
- Given that almost all (18 out of 20) secondary schools are now Academies or Free Schools, decisions on their future would primarily be a matter for Multi Academy Trusts (MATs), the Regional Schools' Director for London and the Department for Education (DfE) rather than for the council.
- Despite the downward trend in pupil numbers overall, there are still identified areas of potential growth for both primary and secondary in Southwark linked to long term regeneration programmes in the borough – i.e., at Canada Water, and in the Old Kent Road growth area. The council will consider appropriate ways to reconfigure *existing* schools to meet this demand, should this materialise. In the first instance it is anticipated that additional numbers of pupils could be accommodated in existing schools. Only if growth is unable to be contained within existing provision would new schools be considered and commissioned.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. [Southwark's Pupil Place Planning update was last reported to Cabinet in February 2025.](#) The annual update describes the demand for primary and secondary school places and details steps being taken to manage that demand. School place planning for primary schools is undertaken using five geographically based "planning areas". For secondaries, the planning is undertaken as a single planning area, reflecting the distance people travel to attend secondary schools and the numerous out borough pupils that attend our schools. [The legal requirements](#) in the Education Act 1996 as regards place planning are for the council to "*secure that sufficient schools for providing primary education, and[...] secondary education [...] are available for their area*" and that "*The schools available for an area shall not be regarded as sufficient [...] unless they are sufficient in number, character and equipment to provide for all pupils the opportunity of appropriate education*".

4. This requires Southwark to ensure all projected demand is met with sufficient supply, and to determine whether increases or decreases in demand are temporary or permanent. Based on this evidence and needs, the council will then work with schools, Multi-Academy Trusts (MATs) and the Department for Education (DfE) to increase or decrease supply as required. If demand is falling, this may entail merging and/or closing schools or reducing their Published Admissions Number (PAN). Where demand has increased actions may include encouraging schools to admit additional pupils or adding an additional form of entry for a fixed period of time, or in some cases to expand permanently. The council monitors and predicts demand for school places using a variety of methods. Each are examined in detail in the following text and planning area summaries.
5. Methods to track and monitor primary demand include:
- *examining prior trends in pupil numbers at reception and Year R to 6 totals (paras 9 to 14);*
 - *projections provided by external bodies for school places and births – in our case, the Greater London Authority (GLA) (paras 18 to 20);*
 - *looking at the numbers of historical applications made (paras 32 to 35);*
 - *looking at the numbers of births (para 36);*
 - *examining the cross-border flow of primary and secondary pupils – children resident in other authorities attending schools in Southwark and vice versa (Paragraphs 37-42 and Statistical Annex Section 9)*

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR FUTURE ACTION

Approach to primary and secondary pupil place planning

6. Southwark's pupil place planning figures are predominantly based on GLA projections, commissioned by the council annually. The GLA calculates projections based on current school rolls, birth rates, underlying population projections, migration, and new housing developments. [A detailed methodology is available](#). For primary place planning, the council area is split into five Planning Areas ("PAs"), detailed in **the Statistical Annex Section 3a**.
7. A list of primary schools by planning area and by ward is also included in **Statistical Annex Section 4**; a map showing all primary schools in the borough is attached at **Statistical Annex Section 3b**. Secondary school planning is carried out on a borough-wide basis because the admissions distance for some secondary schools extends up to and beyond borough boundaries. A map of secondary school locations is attached at **Statistical Annex Section 14**.

KEY FACTORS AFFECTING PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Headline figures for primary – Reception Year

8. The trend of falling rolls continues apace and shows no sign of abating. Detailed graphs and tables of reception year projections are given in **Statistical Annex Section 8** and summary highlights of the overall figures are given below:
- a. *In September 2025, there were 3,116 primary reception places available in Southwark, and 23,312 year R to 6 primary places;*
 - b. *The take up of primary reception places shows a vacancy rate in September 2025 of 766 places, equivalent to 26 forms of entry (25% overall)*

- c. This vacancy figure was 834 (**25%** - 28FE) in September 2024, so there are around 68 less vacancies (3FE) than this time last year – most likely the result of school closures and PAN reductions
- d. There are 4,730 vacancies (**20%**) in YR to Y6, around 168 less than in 2024-25 (6 classes - **-3%**). The former is equivalent to 158 classes or around 12 x 2FE primary schools

9. Southwark has seen a substantial reduction since 2015-16 in primary reception and whole school rolls. Reception rolls have fallen by 1,233 pupils – 42 forms of entry (42FE) – **34%** less overall – in the 10 years since September 2015 – this is an average annual loss of 123 reception pupils (4FE) overall. Whole school (years R to 6) rolls have decreased by 4,882 pupils over the same period – equivalent to 163 classes or **21%** less overall. This averages a loss of 488 pupils per annum – the equivalent of just over one 2FE school a year.

Trends in rolls in primary schools – Reception rolls and R to Year 6 rolls

Table 1: Primary rolls September 2015-25 (reception and whole school)

Year	R	+/-	%	R to 6	+/-	%
2015-16	3,579			23,374		
2016-17	3,520	-59	-2%	23,476	+102	+0.4%
2017-18	3,331	-189	-5%	23,426	-50	-0.2%
2018-19	3,247	-84	-3%	23,242	-184	-1%
2019-20	3,220	-27	-1%	22,690	-552	-2%
2020-21	2,985	-235	-7%	22,071	-619	-3%
2021-22	2,929	-56	-2%	21,382	-689	-3%
2022-23	2,823	-106	-4%	20,707	-675	-3%
2023-24	2,786	-37	-1%	20,024	-683	-3%
2024-25	2,507	-279	-10%	19,323	-701	-3%
2025-26	2,350	-157	-6%	18,582	-741	-4%
2015-24	-1,229	-34%		-4,792	-21%	

(Source: Pupils Censuses 2016-25)

10. It is expected that the overall number (Year R to 6) will continue to fall as each year group works its way through schools. Pupil projections received from the GLA in May 2025 and outlined in **Statistical Annex Section 8** support this scenario.
11. Within the excess capacity noted above, the number and percentage of empty school places in specific areas of Southwark have grown at a greater or lesser extent. Figures for reception and all primary year groups are given below by planning area – the percentage of some areas are considerably higher than others.

Table 2a Reception Roll, Capacity and Vacancies September 2025

Category	PA1	PA2	PA3	PA4	PA5	LBS
YR Roll 2025-6	446	669	391	404	430	2,350
PAN Total 2025-6	630	930	510	570	506	3,116
YR Vacancies	184	261	119	166	76	766
Percentage	29%	28%	23%	29%	15%	25%

Table 2b Year R-6 Roll, Capacity, Vacancies September 2025

Category	PA1	PA2	PA3	PA4	PA5	LBS
YR-6 Roll 2025-6	3,615	5,373	3,191	3,212	3,190	18,582
PAN Total 2025-6	4,590	6,840	4,050	4,140	3,722	23,312
YR-6 Vacancies	975	1,467	859	928	532	4,730
Percentage	21%	21%	21%	22%	14%	20%

12. [The ONS 2021 Census showed only a 4% reduction](#) in the 0-15 population since 2011, but a **21%** reduction in the 0-4 age cohort. This essentially means considerably fewer children are proceeding to primary schools and the situation is expected to remain the same in the near future.
13. Drivers for the reduction in population outlined above include:
- e. [The number of children being born in Southwark](#) has reduced by 1,875 since 2010 – **-37%** less - equivalent to 63 classes of (primary) children.
 - f. [Migration from Southwark](#): net outmigration from Southwark of primary aged children (4-11) in 2025 was estimated by the GLA to be around 600 children with further net outmigration projected for the foreseeable future
 - g. Brexit: [Net migration from EU countries is now in decline across London and Southwark](#). Net migration of EU citizens in 2024 was estimated at **-96k**
 - h. Housing costs: [Southwark average sold property prices have reached over £642k this year](#), and [average private rents are £2,345 per month](#) - an increase from £564k (purchase - **+14%**) and £2,224pm (rent - **+5%**) in June 2024 – unaffordable to many families.
 - i. Welfare reforms: including the introduction of Universal Credit (UC), the level of the [“Local Housing Allowance”](#), and the effects of the ‘bedroom tax’.

Actions taken to address falling rolls – Keeping Education Strong (KES)

14. Southwark has been taking decisive action to reduce surplus capacity including implementing a “Keeping Education Strong” from 2022 to 2025. s Eight schools have closed since 2021 and there have been reductions in the Published Admissions Number (PAN) at 26 schools since 2019.

Table 3 – Primary school capacity reductions 2019-26

Primary School	Change	Date	Reduction
St George’s Cathedral RC	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Charlotte Sharman	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Keyworth	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Robert Browning	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Hollydale	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-15
Bellenden	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Camelot (now Bird-in-Bush)	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-15
Ivydale	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Brunswick Park	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-15
Comber Grove	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-15
Crawford	PAN reduction	Sep-19	-30
Phoenix	PAN reduction	Sep-20	-30
St John’s Walworth	Closure	Sep-21	-30
Harris Peckham Park	PAN reduction	Sep-21	-30
St Francesca Cabrini RC	PAN reduction	Sep-21	-30
Cobourg	PAN reduction	Sep-22	-30
Harris Primary Free Peckham	PAN reduction	Sep-22	30
Cobourg	Closure	Sep-23	-30
Townsend	Closure	Sep-23	-30
St Francesca Cabrini RC	Closure	Sep-23	-30
Dog Kennel Hill*	PAN reduction	Sep-23	-30
English Martyrs RC	PAN reduction	Sep-23	-30
Ilderton	PAN reduction	Sep-23	-30
Harris Primary Free Peckham	Closure	Sep-23	-30
Comber Grove	Closure	Sep-24	-30
Bessemer Grange	PAN reduction	Sep-25	-30
Grange	PAN reduction	Sep-25	-30
St Francis RC	PAN reduction	Sep-25	-30
Charlotte Sharman	Closure	Sep-25	-30

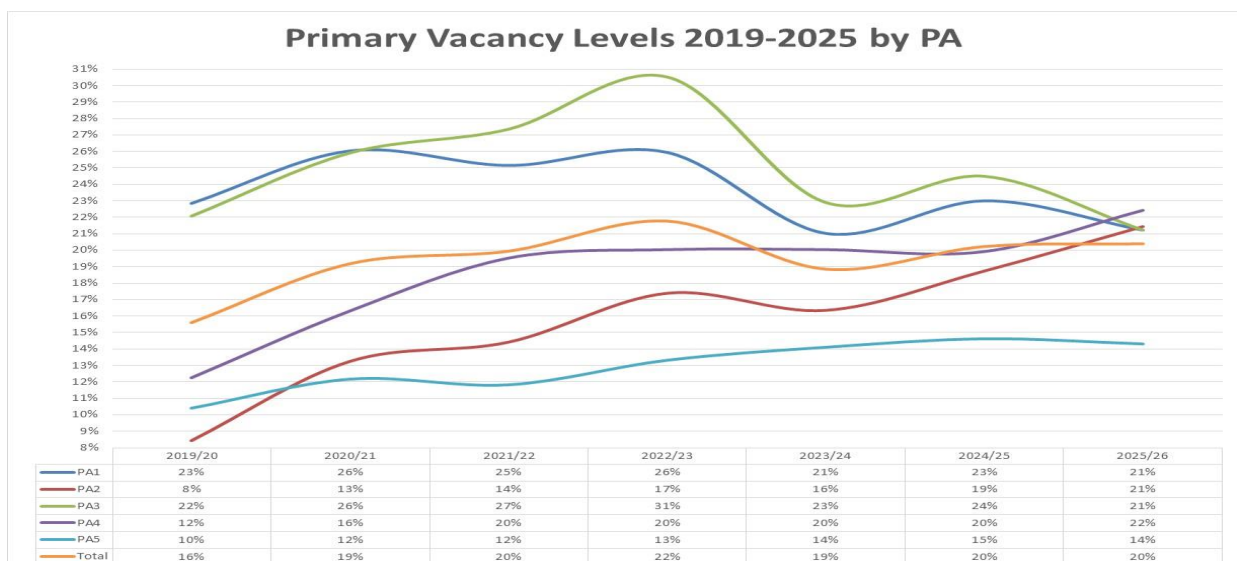
Primary School	Change	Date	Reduction
St Mary Magdalene	Closure	Sep-25	-30
Goodrich	PAN reduction	Sep-25	-30
St Pauls CE Academy	PAN Reduction	Sep-25	-15
Ivydale	PAN reduction	Sep-25	-30
Crawford	PAN reduction	Sep-26	-30
Total			-945

15. These changes will have taken out 945 (32FE) surplus reception places by September 2026, but further action will be required if, as expected, numbers continue to fall.

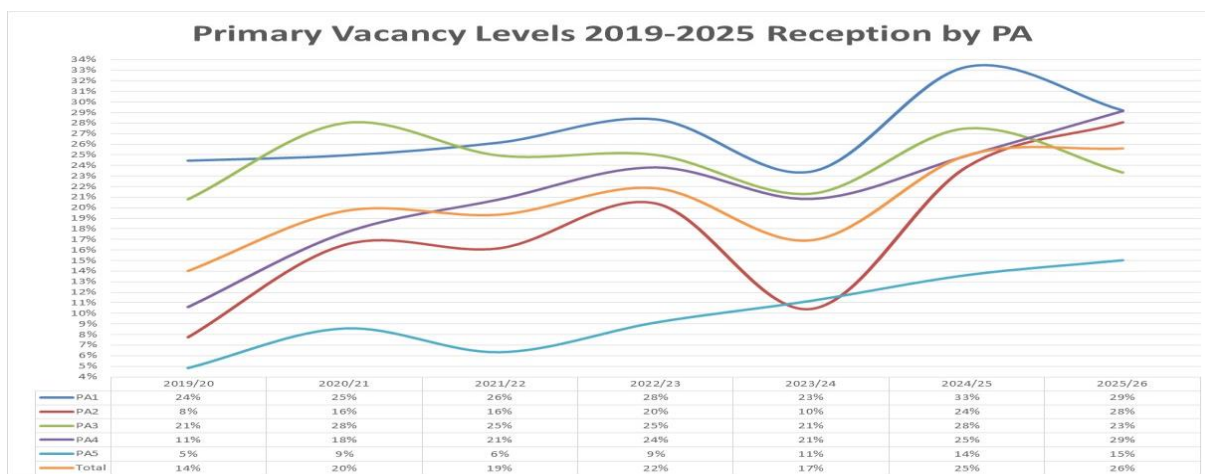
Table 4 – YR Vacancy levels and percentages 2021/22 to 2026/27 (projected)



16. Overall, since 2022-23, there has been a **-2%** reduction in vacancies as a percentage overall, including reductions of **-5%** in PA1 and **-10%** in PA3, two of the most problematic areas previously.



17. For reception pupils, percentage vacancies began to fall overall from 2024/25 onwards, also for 2 out of the 5 planning areas. The evidence from the tables above does give evidence that the KES programme has had a positive effect on surplus place reduction, but this may not be sufficient to keep pace with the reduction in demand going forward.



18. The council is working closely with school leaders of LA-maintained schools, the DfE's London Regional Schools Director, as well as with the Church of England (the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE) and the Roman Catholic Church (the Catholic Education Commission for Southwark (RCAOS) to discuss the overprovision in their schools. Meetings with Academy Trusts that have schools in the borough have also been held and progress made to reduce capacity where this is possible. 3 primary academies are consulting on PAN reductions for 2027 from 2 different MATs. Pupil Places Planning events have brought together LA and MAT representatives in July 2024 and September 2025 to share information and perspectives on issues we are jointly facing.

Primary roll projections from September 2026 to 2034

19. It is projected by the GLA that reception rolls will fall by a further 118 pupils (4FE – -5%) by the end of the decade. The effects of the reductions outlined will be monitored for their effectiveness, before considering if further reductions are required. Whilst there is a projected reduction in primary numbers overall, there may be areas of growth in specific localities, and a need for localised additional place provision if so.
20. We anticipate that any need for additional places in the medium term to long term could fall into two discreet areas, located within Planning Area 2 (Bermondsey and Rotherhithe) – around the Rotherhithe peninsula (as part of the “Canada Water” development) and along the Old Kent Road as part of the [Old Kent Road Area Action Plan](#) development, as well as pupils from schools that have been closed in the locality.
21. Detailed primary projections are provided in **Statistical Annex Section 8**, including by planning area. These show projections for reception and whole school rolls by planning area, as well as data for applications and the numbers of births.

Effect of Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2025

22. Some of the potential effects on schools place planning of the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill, currently being considered by Parliament are set out below:

Issue	Potential Effect on rolls and planning
State-funded schools to ensure all children on roll in reception to year 6 have access to a free, at least 30-minute-long breakfast club before school.	This could potentially engender greater enrolment at state-funded schools, and therefore (slightly) increase rolls – or mitigate against falling enrolment
Limit of three branded items of school uniform required by primary schools, and four items at secondary if a tie is branded.	This could increase enrolment and rolls at schools that have previously required a large number of branded items
The definition of a private school will be expanded so any operating on a full-time basis must now get government approval and be subject to regular inspections	This may reduce the number of “unofficial” schools operating and mean increased enrolment at private or state funded schools, subsequently higher rolls
All councils must have ‘children not in school’s registers, with a duty to support parents on their registers. Some parents will need council consent to home education their child. It will apply to those with children subject to protection orders, on a protection plan or at a special school under arrangements made by the local authority	This could potentially increase the quality of home education OR drive recruitment to state or private education, meaning higher rolls in either sector
<p>The presumption that new schools must be academies is proposed to be ended.</p> <p>Councils looking to open new schools will be able to invite applications from voluntary and foundation schools, as well as put forward their own plans for new community schools.</p> <p>Where councils want to open their own school, regional directors (government civil servants) will decide on the proposal.</p>	<p>The Academies Act 2010 and related guidance have previously required local authorities to facilitate <i>only</i> academies or free schools, rather than providing new schools themselves.</p> <p>An LA could potentially open, as well as reduce or propose to close (LA-funded) provision. Presently, The Regional Schools’ Director (RSD) consults with (but does not require the approval of) the council when academies/free schools are proposed. This may alter the balance of provision and may ensure projects are delivered in a timelier fashion, and also allow mergers on new sites.</p>
The Schools’ Adjudicator (OSA) will be able to set the published admission number (PAN) of a school, including academies, where an objection is upheld. This will give councils “greater influence” over PANs to assist with their place planning duties	This will potentially end the unequal treatment of LA-funded schools, where people or organisations can object to the PAN of the former, but not academies and free schools. This should make planning places easier and provide a level playing field for admissions to schools.
Councils will be able to direct academies to admit a child to provide a “safety net” to ensure unplaced and vulnerable children get a school place quickly. This power already covers maintained schools. Academies would also be able to appeal to the school adjudicator.	This will end the unequal treatment of LA-funded schools, where LAs can only direct LA-funded schools to accept pupils for admission, but not academies and free schools. This could potentially make planning places easier and provide a level playing field for admissions to schools
A duty for schools and councils to co-operate on admissions – this Includes over place planning and fair access protocols. Education secretary “will be able to intervene” where “co-operating breaks down”.	In terms of rolls and enrolment, a greater degree of cooperation should potentially make place planning easier, meaning, for instance, the RSD would be unlikely to approve a new school or school expansion where there was no demand.

23. For some time, Southwark has engaged meaningfully with the DfE, the Regional Schools Director (RSD) and MATs across the authority area. In July 2024 and September 2025, the LA invited all MAT chains to seminars to discuss forward planning and the role the LA could play in ensuring academies were apprised of the most up to date information. This extended liaison has meant we have ensured demand and supply have broadly matched in more recent years, and academies have played their role in effecting this.
24. There are 39 mainstream schools in Southwark, that are free schools or academies (21 primaries, 17 secondaries and one all through (4-18) school). A list of the 39 academies and their 19 sponsors in Southwark is given at **Statistical Annex Section 17**.

Longer term primary need in identified development areas

25. Consideration also needs to be given to need deriving from developments outlined in the [Southwark Plan 2022-26](#) and to development profiles given to the GLA as part of this and in demographic projection work the GLA undertake. The Southwark Plan will guide and manage new development and growth in the area over the next 15 years and will provide a view on the scale of infrastructure needed to support growth. Sites for educational provision have previously been identified and could be developed as schools should they be required. As we receive data on developments in these localities, these are interpolated into the pupil place planning figures produced by the GLA. Work is ongoing to reflect developments in the projections produced, but a fair amount of development planned takes place after 2033, beyond the scope of this report. School capacity already exists in planning area 2 and further afield to absorb a great deal of any future projected growth. Should demand exceed supply, then consideration will be given to expanding existing schools, first and foremost.

Planning Area Analysis of provision, rolls, capacity, and projections

26. **Section 8** of the **Statistical Annex** give an in-depth analysis of the type of primary provision that exists in each planning area, existing rolls, school capacities and projections for the future. The capacity in the projections takes account of PAN reductions and school closures already undertaken but not yet of proposed amalgamations/closures in early stages of discussion. A short summary for each planning area is given below.
27. **Planning Area 1 (Borough, Bankside & Walworth)** has seen a steep drop in Year R since 2016 – 365 pupils (13FE) – (-45% less), and 2,091 pupils overall (-37% less). Reception capacity in this area has reduced by 270 places (9FE) since September 2015 (-30%) and overall capacity by 1,710 places (-27%) - the gap between demand and supply has therefore widened. This is one of the planning areas with the highest level of reception (29%) and overall vacancies (21%) in Southwark, as capacity reduction has not kept pace with the drop in pupil numbers. Numbers at reception and across year groups are projected to regain a small percentage of their previous fall from September 2033 onwards in Year R and across all year groups.
28. **Planning Area 2 (Bermondsey & Rotherhithe)** has seen a slight fall in capacity and pupil numbers since 2016 – capacity at reception has fallen by 60 (-6%) but an increase across all year groups by 795 (+13%). Pupil numbers at reception have fallen by 269 (-30%), and pupil numbers across all year groups have fallen by 326 (-6%) since 2015/6 and are projected to fall then begin to slowly recover from September 2026 onwards at reception, and then September 2034 across all year groups – a considerable amount of

overcapacity (**28%** for reception and **21%** for Years R to 6) remains and requires attention.

29. **Planning Area 3 (Peckham & Nunhead)** remains an area of concern, with vacancies around **23%** at reception and **21%** across all year groups. Reception numbers in PA3 have fallen by 306 pupils (11FE) since 2015/6 (**-44%**), whereas capacity has fallen by 240 (**-32%**), Overall capacity has fallen by 1,440 (**-26%**), and overall pupil numbers have fallen by 1,641 (**-34%**). Pupil numbers are projected to continue to fall and to begin to slowly recover at reception from September 2030 onwards and from September 2034 onwards across all year groups.
30. **Planning Area 4 (Camberwell)** has in more recent years become an area of concern with overcapacity now running at **25%** reception and **22%** for years R to 6 in 2025/6. Reception numbers have fallen by 242 pupils (**-38%**) since 2015/6 and across all year groups by 903 (**-22%**) whereas capacity at reception has fallen by only 120 (**-17%**), worsening overcapacity in this cohort. Across all year groups, capacity has fallen by 255 (**-6%**), presenting a similar problem. Numbers are projected to begin to slowly recover at Year R from September 2034 on and from September 2036 on across all year groups.
31. **Planning Area 5 (Dulwich)** is the area least affected by falling rolls, with **15%** vacancies at reception, and **14%** overall. Reception numbers have decreased by 61 (**-12%**), but R to 6 numbers have increased by 162 (**+5%**). Reception capacity has decreased by 24 (**-5%**), whereas R-6 capacity has increased overall by 437 places (**+13%**). The situation is complicated by PA5 schools filling with non-Southwark pupils – **+6%** more than the rest of the borough. Additional capacity provided in PA5 was abstractive of other Southwark planning areas (particularly PA3s 3 & 5), as well as from Lewisham, Lambeth and Croydon. Reception and total numbers overall in PA5 are projected to remain at a similar level or fall slightly in the foreseeable future – no further provision is required

Primary reception place applications and preferences

32. Another method of tracking demand for places outside of population-led projections is to look at trends in applications for reception places. The level of applications for reception places since 2008 has been in line with most London boroughs, showing an increase in demand for primary places from 2008 to 2016, and a reduction thereafter. In 2025, there were 1,137 fewer (**-32%**) applicants to Southwark primaries overall than in 2015-6. Out borough applicant numbers have stayed largely the same, but due to the reduction of Southwark applicant, percentagewise they have risen from around 8% of applicants in 2015/16 to around 11% this year, perhaps reflecting the popularity of our primary schools from other LA areas.

Table 5 – Reception Applications 2015-25 (Southwark & outborough)

Year	LBS	Outborough	Total	+/-	%
2015-16	3,231 (92%)	279 (8%)	3,510		
2016-17	3,123 (92%)	274 (8%)	3,397	-113	-3%
2017-18	2,929 (92%)	268 (8%)	3,197	-200	-6%
2018-19	2,861 (90%)	307 (10%)	3,168	-29	-1%
2019-20	2,879 (90%)	309 (10%)	3,188	+20	+1%
2020-21	2,801 (91%)	267 (9%)	3,068	-120	-4%
2021-22	2,604 (91%)	248 (9%)	2,852	-216	-7%
2022-23	2,483 (90%)	275 (10%)	2,758	-93	-1%
2023-24	2,468 (90%)	278 (10%)	2,746	-12	-0.3%
2024-25	2,094 (89%)	265 (11%)	2,359	-373	-14%
2025-26	1,946 (89%)	250 (11%)	2,196	-163	-7%
2015-24	-1,285(-40%)	-29 (-10%)	-1,351		-38%

33. In the planning area summaries in **Statistical Annex Section 8**, individual application statistics are given by planning area. It is perhaps worth noting that applications for planning area 2 have risen, whereas applications for all the other planning areas have fallen. The overall **22%** decrease in applications over the last 9 years would seem to indicate that the trend continues to be downward for Southwark pupils, whereas the number of applications from outside Southwark remains steady, thus becoming a higher percentage of applications overall. Using applications as an indicator would seem to agree with the projections of an overall decreasing number of pupils going forward. In terms of the actual numbers of preferences expressed for primary places, along with a fall in applications has come a fall in the number of preferences expressed.
34. In 2018, applicants for a reception place made an average of 2.5 preferences per available place. This has fallen this year (2024) to 2.0 preferences per applicant. Demand varies by sector, with Community schools showing 2.0 preferences per place (2.3 in 2018), and academies 2.2 (previously 2.3). This is explored in detail in **Statistical Annex Section 11**.

Births

35. Births tend to give a good indication of upcoming primary numbers in a locality. [Birth rates in Southwark](#) increased from 2002 to 2011 and peaked in that year – thereafter, from 2012 to 2024, there has been a marked decline (**-35%**) in the number of births, which normally feeds into reception places four years later. Southwark’s fall in births has been considerable – 2024 saw the lowest level of births in Southwark since 1986. If births are used as an indicator of future primary numbers, this trend indicates a continued reduction in overall demand.

Table 6 Births in Southwark 2012-24

Year	Births	+/-	+/%	Year	Births	+/-	+/%
2012	5,030			2019	4,027	-154	-4%
2013	4,706	-324	-6%	2020	3,557	-470	-12%
2014	4,647	-59	-1%	2021	3,525	-32	-1%
2015	4,587	-60	-1%	2022	3,393	-132	-4%
2016	4,503	-84	-2%	2023	3,265	-128	-4%
2017	4,381	-122	-3%	2024	3,256	-9	-0.2%
2018	4,181	-200	-5%	2012-24	-1,765		-35%

Primary internal and cross authority flows

36. Children can apply to and attend schools in other planning areas and other local authority areas. Indeed, for some pupils living on the border to another authority, the nearest school may not be in Southwark. Admissions authorities cannot reserve places for or prioritise pupils from a particular local authority area.
37. LAs must admit children applying for the school irrespective of in which authority area they reside. Therefore, there has always therefore been ‘cross border traffic’ of pupils’ resident in a borough attending schools in another. Pupil projections do broadly assume that there remains a steady level of cross border flows in and out of Southwark from other authorities from year to year. A variety of factors mean we now see more

outborough pupils in Southwark than previously.

38. Southwark exchanges pupils with more than 30 authorities at primary level – the net effect is “positive” for Southwark (i.e. we receive more primary age pupils from other authorities than those that leave Southwark). The main authorities we “swap” pupils with are Lewisham, Lambeth, Croydon, Westminster, and Greenwich. These five LAs make up 94% of our primary age “cross border traffic” - just Lewisham and Lambeth more than 78%.
39. An indication of what percentage of pupils at specific primary schools come from outside Southwark are given in table 7d, and they range from a handful of non-Southwark pupils at Riverside Primary in Bermondsey (less than 1%), to almost half (48%) of the intake (Judith Kerr Primary in Herne Hill). As regards the relative percentages of outborough pupils, there is not a large variation by planning area in Southwark, or by particular types of schools – there are marginally more outborough pupils at Roman Catholic VA schools and at academies, but not a statistically significant amount. Planning area 5 – Dulwich – has a higher percentage of non-Southwark pupils, due to a falling local population and the popularity of their schools
40. In 2024-25 ([the latest available DfE figures](#)), 1,531 (**8%**) primary school age pupils living in Southwark attend primary schools in around 26 other local authorities outside Southwark, equivalent to around 4 x 2FE schools’ worth of pupils. In Southwark primaries, there are 2,188 (**11%**) non-Southwark pupils from 30 plus LAs outside Southwark – the equivalent of six 2FE schools’ worth of outborough pupils are presently being educated in Southwark.
41. This “net gain” saw an increase in recent years – since 2015-6, when the net gain was around 530 pupils (**+2%**) has risen to 657 pupils (**+3%**) in this year, perhaps connected to all of our primaries being Ofsted-graded “Good” or “Outstanding”. In planning area terms, PA3 sees a net loss (to Lewisham), and PA2 a net gain (mainly from Lewisham and Lambeth). This is equivalent to three 1FE primary schools’ worth of pupils.
42. The slight increase in net gain would seem to indicate that the projections of falling rolls in Southwark will continue and not be mitigated by reductions in other LA’s provision driving pupils to attend Southwark schools. With 11% of our primary pupils coming from outside Southwark, over the last 3 years, around 11% of primary *applicants* come from outside Southwark. **Statistical Annex sections 8 and 9** explore cross borough flow data in greater detail – these are mainly centred on a handful of authorities.

Private primary schooling and Elective Home Education (EHE)

43. Projections assume historically similar proportions of children who are being electively home educated or who attend private schools inside or outside Southwark. If either of these scenarios are inaccurate, then projections accuracy could potentially be affected.
44. The number of primary age home-educated children decreased to around 150 pupils in 2024-25 and amounts to less than **0.8%** of all primary pupils in Southwark and has remained broadly constant since 2022/23. This therefore unlikely to affect projections, unless that proportion increases or decreases drastically. Compared to the [national and local average](#), Southwark’s level of Primary EHE is less than the English average (**1.1%**) and the inner London average (**0.9%**)

45. The percentage of pupils at independent school who are Southwark residents is relatively low – **4%** - and lower than the UK average of **7%**. The figures, intake, roll and location of the seven private schools with private primary provision in Southwark are given in table 7 below. The planning area in which these schools fall is also included – as can be seen, almost all of the schools are situated in planning area 5 (Dulwich), **87%** of the private primary provision in Southwark is contained within this planning area

Table 7 Private Schools with Primary classes in Southwark January 2024

PA	School	Intake (Gender)	Capacity (roll)
1	London Christian	3-11 (Mixed)	130 (118)
1	Imperial Oak Prep	4-7 (Mixed) NEW	24 (0)
3	The Villa	2-7 (Mixed)	175 (197)
5	Dulwich College	0-19 (Mixed)	1,950 (1,919)
5	Dulwich Prep	2-16 (Boys)	999 (812)
5	Herne Hill School	2-7 (Mixed)	430 (287)
5	James Allen's Girls'	4-18 (Girls)	1,240 (1,212)
5	Alleyn's School	4-18 (Girls)	1,475 (1,450)

46. [Imperial Oak Primary School](#) was intended to open as a mainstream private school for pupils aged 4-7 in 2023/24 for up to 48 pupils. The owner has since applied to change their designation to an independent primary SEND school (with an ASD specialty) with an extended age range (4-11) and a reduction in the proposed number of pupils (to 24) pupils.

KEY FACTORS AFFECTING SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Headline figures for secondary

47. In September 2025 there are presently 3,332 secondary Y7 places available in the 19 state-funded mainstream secondaries in Southwark with a Year 7. From Years 7-11, there are 17,440 available places – 21,450 if you also include years 12 and 13. As of September 2025, there are presently 3,047 pupils in Year 7, and 15,799 Year 7-11 pupils (19,190 including sixth form pupils). This leaves 285 – 10FE (**9%**) vacancies in Y7, 1,641 (**9%**) Y7-11 vacancies, as well as 662 (**17%**) sixth form vacancies.
48. Y7 and Y7-11 vacancy levels are around accepted vacancy guidelines and leave scope for late applicants and in year admissions. In anticipation of projected growth at secondary level, resulting from growth in the primary cohort from 2008-2016. Southwark worked with the Department for Education/Education & Skills Funding Agency, and Free School sponsors to add a total of 14FE to the secondary provision that was in place in 2016.
49. Charter School East Dulwich (a Free School), opened in September 2016 on a temporary site in Camberwell, with a steadily rising intake of from 4FE to 6FE, before moving onto its permanent site on the site of the former Dulwich Hospital in 2019. The school took 8FE in year 2023-24, as the main works at the permanent site completed, and the school will be 8FE throughout in September 2027 – a total Y7-11 capacity of 1,200, plus 200 sixth form places.
50. Haberdashers' Borough Academy, situated on the old Fire Station site on Southwark Bridge Road opened in September 2019 as a 6FE Free school. So far, the school has taken five cohorts of 180 pupils (plus 250 post-16 places) and has provided 1,150

additional secondary places (years 7-13) overall. By January 2026, this additional capacity increase has added an additional 392 Y7 places **(+13%)** and 4,020 secondary places **(+30%)** from January 2016 as detailed in **Statistical Annex Section 14**.

51. The Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) that runs South Bank University Academy (SBUA), after a number of years of declining Y7 numbers decided to refocus the academy solely on sixth form studies. It was decided therefore for the MAT to approach the Regional Schools Director (RSD), who granted permission for the school to no longer admit Y7s, with effect from September 2025, and for the existing cohorts to exit the school until the school comprises just Y12 and Y13. This had reduced Southwark's Y7 capacity slightly, and boroughwide Y7-11 capacity overall, going forward, but there are numerous vacancies in the schools nearest SBUA, and across the local authority area.
52. In [last year's place planning report](#), Cabinet was advised that overall, there was sufficient capacity within Southwark schools to meet the demand for Year 7 for that academic year and going forward until (at least) 2033. This remains the case in 2025/6. As mentioned above, ARK Globe and St Saviour's & St Olaves Secondary Schools are consulting on reducing their PANs both by one form of entry, and South Bank University Academy is consulting on closing Years 7 to 11. These changes will in all probability not match the reduction in secondary demand going forward there is a very real possibility that one or more secondaries in Southwark will become unviable.
53. Assessing Secondary demand is undertaken using a similar approach to primary (albeit that the LA monitor roll trends on a whole borough basis rather than by planning area), with demand for secondary places being projected using the methods overleaf:
 - *examining trends in numbers at Y7 and Y7-11 levels*
 - *using the projections the GLA provide*
 - *looking at the numbers of historical applications made*
 - *examining the cross-border flow of primary and secondary pupils – children resident in other authorities attending schools in Southwark and vice versa.*
54. This year's enrolment and the latest GLA (2025) projections show that secondary demand seems to have peaked in September 2024 and is projected to fall back from that year onwards and reduce thereafter. In these circumstances, capacity is projected to be sufficient to meet demand. Although there are no immediate concerns about surplus capacity in the secondary sector overall, less popular schools may be disproportionately affected by falling numbers of pupils. Given that almost all secondary schools are now Academies or Free Schools, decisions on their future would primarily be a matter for Multi Academy Trusts (MATs) and the Department for Education, rather than for the council.

Increasing (and decreasing) secondary rolls

55. Southwark has seen an overall **+14%** net increase (+366 - +13FE) in numbers of Year 7 pupils between 2015/6 and 2025/6 and a **+26%** increase (3,288 – 110 classes) in secondary pupil numbers overall (Y7 to Y11). However, Year 7 numbers have *fallen* since 2019-20 by 318 places **(-9%)**, and overall Y7-11 has fallen since 2023/4 by 581 pupils – **(-4%)** Evidence therefore seems to point to secondary rolls having peaked already at Y7 and across all year groups in 2024-25.
56. By 2034, Year 7 numbers are projected to have further reduced by 475 **(-16%** - 16FE) and 7-11 numbers are projected to have fallen further by around 2,681 pupils (90 classes) **(-17%)**

Table 8: Secondary rolls September 2015-2024 (Y7 and whole school)

Year	Y7	+/-	%	Y7 to 11	+/-	%
2015-16	2,695			12,448		
2016-17	3,036	+341	+13%	13,086	+657	+5%
2017-18	3,063	+27	+1%	13,739	+640	+5%
2018-19	3,268	+205	+7%	14,461	+818	+6%
2019-20	3,379	+111	+3%	15,226	+663	+5%
2020-21	3,271	-108	-3%	15,677	+533	+4%
2021-22	3,203	-68	-2%	15,861	+184	+1%
2022-23	3,241	+38	+1%	16,146	+218	+1%
2023-24	3,230	-11	-0.3%	16,323	+177	+1%
2024-25	3,131	-99	-3%	16,096	-227	-1%
2025-26	3,061	-70	-2%	15,736	-360	-2%
2015-2025	+366	+14%		+3,288	+26%	

57. As regards school-based sixth form students with Southwark's schools, a considerable increase of **+60%** has occurred since 2016 – around 1,250 additional pupils are now in state-funded secondary school sixth forms. This is however projected to then decrease slowly, to around 3,100 by the end of the decade, Table 9 below illustrates the growth over the last 10 years.

Table 9 – Sixth form rolls 2015/6-2025/6

Year	Y12-13	+/-	%	Year	Y12-13	+/-	%
2015-16	2,099			2021-22	2,958	+315	+12%
2016-17	2,205	+106	+5%	2022-23	3,169	+211	+7%
2017-18	1,895	-310	-14%	2023-24	3,211	+42	+1%
2018-19	2,272	+377	+20%	2024-25	3,293	+82	+3%
2019-20	2,346	+74	+3%	2025-26	3,348	+55	+2%
2020-21	2,643	+297	+13%	2015-25		+1,249	+60%

Secondary place applications and preferences

58. Whilst Y7 application numbers have increased by around 507 (**+18%**) since 2015-16, this hides a fall of around 466 since 2020-2021 (**-12%**). The number of outborough applicants for secondary places has increased considerably – an increase of **+64%** since 2015-16, with only a **+0.1%** net increase in Southwark applicants over the same time period. Outborough applicants fell from 2019-23 but have increased from 2023-2024 onwards – LBS applicants have fallen since 2019-20 (**-28%**). The proportion of outborough applicants rose from 28% in 2015-16 to 38% this year.

Table 10 – Y7 Applications 2015-25 (Southwark and out borough)

Year	LBS	Out borough	Total	+/-	%
2015-16	2,060 (72%)	784 (28%)	2,844		
2016-17	2,146 (70%)	920 (30%)	3,066	+222	+8%
2017-18	2,137 (70%)	918 (30%)	3,055	-11	-0.1%
2018-19	2,861 (64%)	1,315 (36%)	3,652	+597	+20%
2019-20	2,879 (63%)	1,397 (37%)	3,790	+138	+4%
2020-21	2,420 (63%)	1,397 (37%)	3,817	+27	+1%
2021-22	2,409 (66%)	1,256 (34%)	3,665	-152	-4%
2022-23	2,345 (65%)	1,255 (35%)	3,600	-65	-2%
2023-24	2,280 (64%)	1,255 (36%)	3,535	-65	-2%
2024-25	2,159 (62%)	1,296 (38%)	3,455	-80	-2%
2025-26	2,063 (62%)	1,288 (38%)	3,351	-104	-3%
2015-25	+3 (+0.1%)	+504 (+64%)		+507	+18%

59. There was a total of 11,633 preferences expressed by all applicants for the 3,332 secondary Y7 places in the 2025/6 admissions round – 212 preferences (**+2%**) more than last year. This equates to around 3.5 preferences per place (3.4 last year). Of the

preferences expressed, 4,511 (39%) came from outside Southwark – above the prevalence of outborough pupils in the borough (30%). The relative popularity of Southwark secondary schools, all but one of whom are graded Ofsted “Good” or “Outstanding” could go some way to explaining this.

60. If we look at preferences per place for just Southwark applicants, this equates to 7,721 preferences, or 2.1 preferences per secondary Y7 place (2.1 last year). However, the figures above are skewed by the 2,883 (25%) applications for one school in Southwark – Kingsdale – whose admissions criteria are *not* distance based, and whose position in the far south of the borough on the borders with Lewisham, Croydon, Bromley, and Lambeth means that the school receives most of its *applications* (75%) from outside Southwark. Kingsdale also recruits most of its pupils (76%) from outside Southwark.
61. Five of the 19 secondary schools admitting Y7 this year (26%) received above the average number of applicants. These are – St Michael’s Catholic College, The Charter School North Dulwich, The Charter School East Dulwich, Sacred Heart RC Secondary School and Kingsdale School. These 5 schools received 53% of all Y7 applications for September 2025, despite only offering 32% of Y7 places.

Secondary cross authority flows

62. Around 2,486 (13%) Southwark residents of secondary school age attend state-funded secondary schools out of borough, across 47 different councils. Pupils’ resident out of borough attending a Southwark school, total 4,573 (29%), a net gain of around 2,087 (+16%) of pupils. The latter figures have risen considerably in recent years – out borough pupils attending Southwark schools have increased from 23% in 2015/16 to 29% in 2024/25. This means that the net flow has increased from +1% (into Southwark) in 2015/16 to a net gain of +16% in 2024/5. For sixth form students, 1,182 (11% of this age group) pupils living in Southwark attend schools in other authorities, whereas 1,340 pupils come from outside Southwark – a net gain of 158 pupils (6 classes).
63. Most models of pupil place planning assume a “steady state” whereas Southwark secondary schools’ draw in pupils from further afield each year, meaning there is less connection with Y6 pupils in Southwark and population increase or decrease. Southwark itself exports secondary age pupils mainly to schools in Lewisham, Lambeth and Westminster – these 3 LAs represent 70% of all pupil exports, and imports pupils mainly from Lambeth, Lewisham, Croydon, Bromley and Tower Hamlets – these 5 LAs represent 91% of all imports. The popularity of our secondary schools – all but one of whom are Ofsted “good” or “outstanding” rated, could explain this level of out borough demand. A breakdown of where pupils are coming from at a borough wide and an individual school level is given in **Statistical Annex Section 16**. Eight of our 19 (42%) secondary schools admitting pupils at Y7 take 30% or more pupils from outside Southwark. Y7 places predicted in the GLA projections are shown at **Statistical Annex Section 10**, along with the expected capacity to accommodate them.
64. This shows that demand is unlikely to exceed supply in the foreseeable future. Similarly, Y7-Y11 places predicted in the GLA projections are shown in **Statistical Annex Section 10**, along with the expected capacity to accommodate them. Again, this shows that demand is unlikely to exceed supply in the foreseeable future

The Southwark Plan – Effect on secondary rolls

65. Consideration needs be given to the [Southwark Plan](#) and potential for growth in the secondary sector, though this may not be immediately necessary if the fall in primary rolls feeds through to secondary and offsets demand. Should additional secondary need materialise, the council will consider schemes for schools that are located close to the areas of demand. School place planning is most closely associated with theme SP2 “A great start in life”, and in particular “*We will give all our young people a great start in life in a safe, stable and healthy environment where they have the opportunity to develop, make choices and feel in control of their lives and future*”

Secondary Elective Home Education (EHE) and private schooling

66. GLA projections rely on numbers of pupils being home or privately educated to remain broadly proportional to existing numbers. The number of secondary age home-educated (EHE) children has slowly increased to around 230 pupils in 2024-25, and privately educated pupil numbers have also increased. The latter (EHE) amounts to around 1.2% of all secondary pupils (Y7-Y11) in Southwark. This figure is (like primary pupils) is therefore unlikely to affect our projections. Pupil projections also assume that a similar proportion of children attend private schools inside and outside Southwark, and or are home educated. Table 11 below gives a list of DfE-recognised independent schools with secondary provision, gender mix, capacity, and the pupils on roll. Some of these are schools – mainly “special schools” or units that are funded by referrals from local authorities, and the rest are fee-paying selective schools – the latter are shaded blue. The number of vacancies at private fee-paying schools stands at around **5%**. Private school pupils make up around **21%** of all secondary school pupils in Southwark, though it is difficult to estimate what proportion of these are actually Southwark-based pupils.

Table 11 Private and Independent Secondary Schools in Southwark

School Name	Gender	Age Range	Roll	Capacity	Vacancies
Alleyn’s School	Mixed	4 to 18	1,450	1,475	25 (2%)
Arco Academy	Mixed	11 to 16	13	60	47 (78%)
Cavendish School	Mixed	11 to 16	38	42	4 (10%)
Dulwich College	Mixed	0 to 19	1,919	1,950	31 (2%)
Dulwich Prep	Mixed	2 to 16	812	999	187 (19%)
James Allen’s Girls	Girls	4 to 18	1,212	1,240	28 (2%)
PhoenixPlace	Girls	11 to 16	35	36	1 (3%)
Bridge SEN*	Mixed	14 to 25	16	70	23 (77%)
The Autism Project (CareTrade)	Mixed	18 to 25	12	40	28 (70%)
Treasure House CIC	Mixed	14 to 19	17	18	1 (6%)
Total Fee-paying Private			5,393	5,664	271 (5%)
Total Other Independents			131	266	135 (51%)
Total Independent Schools			5,524	5,930	406 (7%)

The introduction of VAT on private schooling

67. The government [introduced VAT on private school fees](#) in 2024, and there has been speculation that this might impact on private pupil numbers and create additional demand in Southwark state funded schools. The headcount of private schools in Southwark has increased by 503 (+9%) over the last ten years– see **Statistical Annex Section 18** – and at this stage there is no evidence of any significant change. In any event only a small proportion of the roll of the four private secondaries are estimated to be Southwark residents – perhaps 450 pupils. Should demand rise for state funded

school places there is a considerable spare capacity as highlighted in the report.

Secondary expansions and closures in adjacent boroughs

68. Where secondary expansions or closures have occurred in schools in neighbouring boroughs, this could potentially have a material effect on recruitment to Southwark secondary schools. Two secondary schools in Lambeth closed in August 2023, but the effect was minimal as there were very few Southwark pupils attending these schools.

Accuracy of Projections (Primary and Secondary)

69. An analysis of the accuracy of the GLA primary and secondary projections used by Southwark has been undertaken. Ofsted/DfE guidelines aim for these to be within $\pm 1.5\%$. This has not been achieved overall for primary or secondary schools
70. The accuracy of projections depends very much on any changes to the social makeup and demographics of Southwark and London being gradual and that the economic outlook remaining broadly similar. In both cases, this has not happened in Southwark, and indeed, the rest of London. An accuracy check shows that:
- There has been an average overestimation of primary reception projections since 2016-17, of **+2.6%**, over a period from 2015/16 to 2025/26*
 - Overall, for YR-Y6, primary demand was overestimated by **+6.1%**, averaged over a period from 2015/6 to 2025/6*
 - Explanations for the overestimation of primary reception derive from the negative effects of housing market changes, welfare reform, Covid and Brexit on the 0-4 years of age population, which has prompted people to relocate outside Southwark; therefore, the demand for primary reception places are less than previously anticipated and projected by the GLA*
 - The figure for Year 7 projections at secondary level has been overestimated by around **+1.7%** on average since 2016 and underestimated by **-1.2%** since 2016 for Years 7-11. The latter has not been an issue because sufficient space has existed within the system to be able to accommodate the additional pupils*
 - The overestimation of Y7 derives from a feedthrough of less primary Y6s than previously anticipated. The 7-11 underestimation appears to emanate from a higher influx and proportion of out borough pupils than previously experienced – this is explored in Section 14 of the statistical annex below. This has risen considerably in recent years from around 20% in the last decade to around 30% more recently*
 - In addition, modelling of secondary demand is challenging, as most schools are academies which can – and do – alter their intake dependent on demand on an annual basis*
71. Y7 places predicted in the GLA projections are shown in the table in the Statistical Annex, along with the expected capacity to accommodate them. This shows that demand is unlikely to exceed supply in the foreseeable future. Similarly, Y7-Y11 places predicted in the GLA projections are shown in Section 14 of the statistical annex, along with the expected capacity to accommodate them. Again, this shows that demand is unlikely to exceed supply in the foreseeable future.

SEND Schools Update (Primary, Secondary and 16 plus)

72. Locally, the prevalence of SEND within children and young people continues to rise, reflected by increasing numbers of EHCPs and the associated costs of service provision. This trend has occurred against a background of falling student numbers in some age cohorts, especially primary school age children, in Southwark. The number of EHC plans in Southwark more than doubled between January 2015 and January 2025. There have been annual increases ranging from 2.5% between 2020 and 2019 but an average

annual increase of almost 10%.

73. During and following the global pandemic, Southwark experienced a sharp increase in demand for EHC needs assessments and this growth has not yet slowed. The latest figures from the 2025 Pupil Census show that the percentage of children in Southwark with an Education and Healthcare Plan (EHCP – formerly ‘a Statement’), at **5.6%** and with “SEND Support” status standing at **15.6%**.
74. These are higher than the London (**5.5%** and **12.9%** respectively) and England (**5.3%** and **14.6%**) averages. This also varies by sector in Southwark (Primary **4.6%** EHCP, **16.8%** SEND Support, Secondary **3.1%** and **14.2%**, and Special, **99.5%** and **0.5%**). This equates to around 8,810 children with special needs in Southwark – **21.2%** of all pupils. The number of children with the most complex needs (the 2,337 pupils with EHCPs), has been increasing. This is particularly true at primary age and the need for specialist provision at an early stage is greater.
75. There are 4,452 children in primary school with SEND compared to 3,381 children in secondary schools and post-16 combined.
76. The actual number of EHC plans has more than doubled between January 2015 and January 2024, increasing by **127%** over that period. With the exception of the year 2019 – 2020, which showed a relatively small year-on-year rise in the number of plans of 2.5%, the annual increase has been roughly **10%**, as can be seen in table 12 below.

Table 12a – Number of statements and EHC plans combined, Southwark, 2015-2024

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Under 5	55	6	11	13	80	84	112	113	91	121
Age 5 to 10	598	578	618	631	745	757	807	877	926	1053
Age 11 to 15	621	598	643	666	712	792	868	918	947	1000
Age 16 to 19	147	344	455	532	522	490	518	588	629	679
Age 20 to 25	0	74	152	188	179	171	198	287	363	373
Total	1,421	1,600	1,879	2,030	2,238	2,294	2,503	2,783	2,956	3,226

77. The lower proportion of SEND pupils in secondary schools is principally because of the positive impact of interventions in primary schools, with up to **60%** of SEND pupils achieving the expected standard by age 11. Consequently, some are no longer classed as SEND when they move to secondary.
78. Some pupils with EHCPs who attend mainstream primary schools move on to secondary special schools in or out of Southwark. A key driver of this growth has been the increase in number of children being diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Southwark has a broad range of provision for pupils with ASD which has developed and extended over time. It currently has three special schools that cater specifically for this type of need: one primary (Haymerle), one secondary (Spa Bermondsey) and a recently opened all through free school Spa Camberwell which will have provided 120 additional places when full. A new reception class has been developed for up to 10 children at The Grove Nursery School which feeds into the special free school at Spa Camberwell.
79. There are also four ASD resource bases in mainstream primary schools (Snowfields, Brunswick Park, Rye Oak and Redriff) and a further secondary resource base is planned at the newly opened Charter School in East Dulwich, which will provide up to 22 places with admissions having commenced in September 2023.

80. There is a particular need for places with for children with complex needs and ASD. Specialist provision in Southwark is full, as can be seen in table 13 below. It is the council's intention to provide more specially resourced provision in mainstream schools to enable children with additional needs to access the mainstream curriculum, and to educate pupils inborough rather than to transport them to schools outside Southwark.
81. The rethinking of services incorporates the main areas of growth over the past few years, 16 to 25 year-olds and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), as well as a renewed focus on the provision of more timely high-quality provision for young children with complex needs and their families, in all early years' settings, and with better coordinated support. In addition, although compared to other areas we educate more of the borough's children and young people with SEND needs in local mainstream and special schools, we want to develop even more local provision. Finally, we need to consider the LA position on exclusions and how the work of inclusive schools provides better outcomes for children.
82. Around **15%** of our SEND roll comes from outside Southwark, two-thirds of which come from Lambeth and Lewisham. Southwark sends around 100 pupils outborough (mainly to Lambeth, Lewisham, Croydon and Westminster). There is a net loss of around 40 pupils.
83. [In September 2022, the council launched its strategy for children, young people and their families with SEND aged 0-25.](#) We have developed the strategy with all stakeholders in the SEND Local Area and it has undergone extensive consultation and reconfiguration in light of that. Details of existing special school provision in Southwark provision are outlined below, outlined below in Tables 12b and 13. Plans and proposals for the expansion of SEND provision are set out in Table 14. All of Southwark's SEND provision is either OFSTED rated "good" or "outstanding".
84. As can be seen in table 13, some special schools in the authority area take above the formal capacity outlined. This reflects the high demand for such places in Southwark. As set out in paragraphs 84-91 above, despite falling numbers of school age children the numbers of children with EHCPs continues to rise. This is a national issue, driven by many factors including increased diagnosis of developmental disorders and a rise in children's mental health difficulties. Projects to augment provision in Southwark are constantly assessed to ensure that need in the authority is met appropriately, and that provision is provided "in borough" rather than a lengthy journey distant from the pupil's residence.
85. Consideration is underway for the repurposing of some of council's primary schools recently closed to either expand SEND provision, or to relocate provision in more appropriate and suitable settings than at present.

Table 12b – Children (year group) in SEND schools (R to 13) May 2024

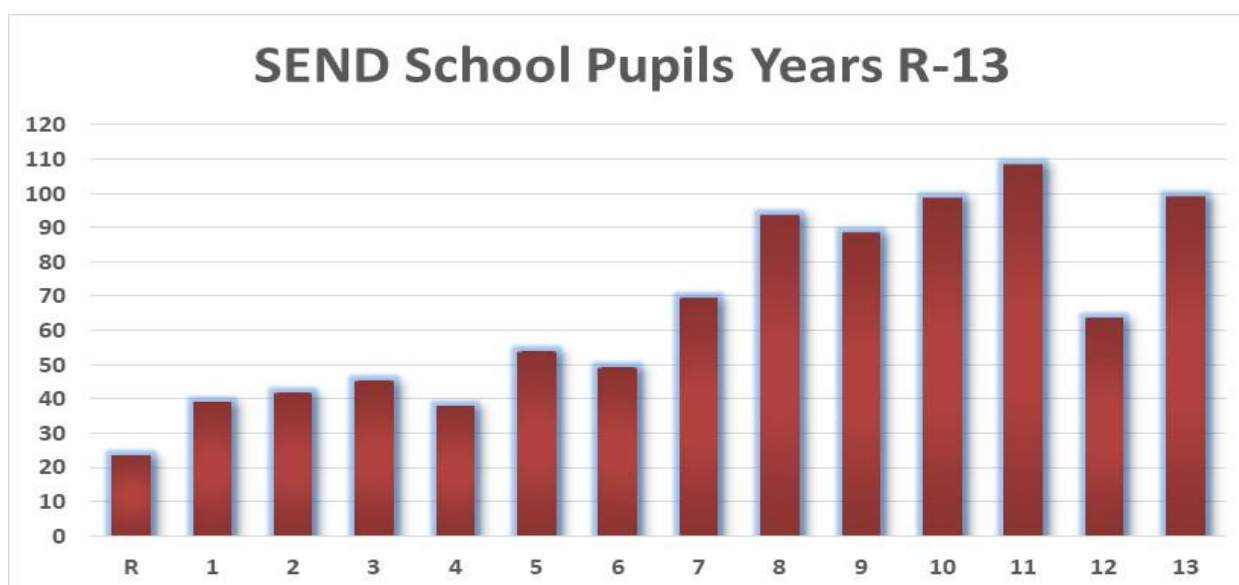


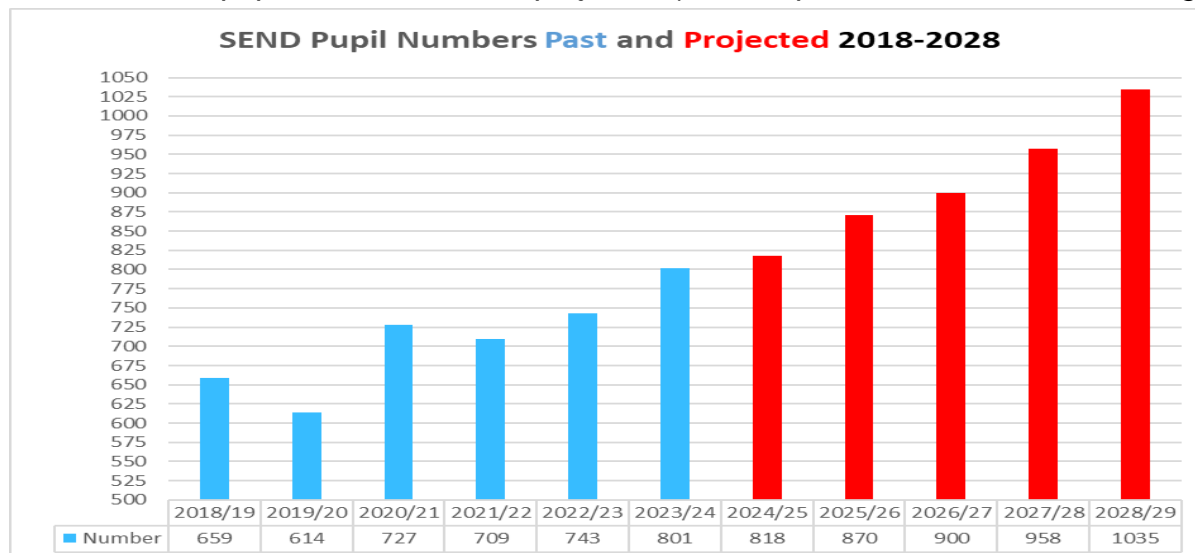
Table 13 Existing Special/non-mainstream schools in Southwark – roll and capacities

School	Specialism, school type (age range)	Roll (2025)	Capacity (2025)
Highshore School	SLD, PMLD Community School (11-19)	155	152
Spa Bermondsey	ASD Academy (11-19)	115	115
Spa Camberwell	ASD Free School (11-19)	101	120
Evelina Hospital School	Community Hospital School (2-19)	109	40
Maudsley & Bethlem Hospital School	Community Hospital School (4-19)	53	40
Haymerle School	ASD Community Primary School (4-11)	72	77
Beormund Primary	SEMH, Community School (5-11)	37	40
Tuke School	SLD/PMLD Community School (11-19)	101	90
Cherry Garden	SLD/MLD Community School (2-11)	88	85
Southwark Inclusive Learning Service (Sils)	Pupil Referral Unit (11-16)	70	112
Newlands Academy	SEMH Academy (11-16)	70	70
Park College	ASD Post 19 Facility (19-25)	40	40
Total		1,011	981

Table 14 SEND expansion proposals

School	Proposal	Capacity	Status
Beormund	Relocation to former site Bellenden Primary School site	58	Gateway 2 approved – completes 2026
Haymerle	School to move to Nunhead and expand	20	Work underway – completes September 2026

Table 15 SEND pupil totals – historical/projected (less hospital schools and Park College)



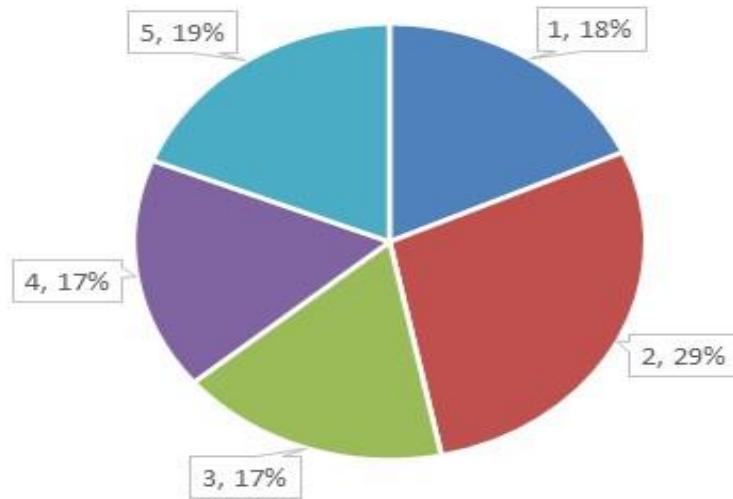
86. Southwark is developing capital plans to expand SEND provision within Southwark, including additional Resource Bases places and sixth form provision.

PLACE PLANNING STATISTICAL ANNEX

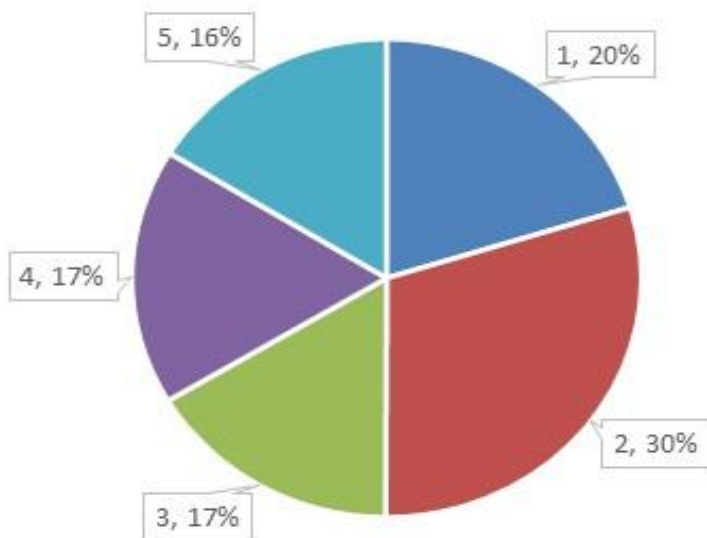
Number	Title
Section 1a	Pupils by Planning Area chart (Reception)
Section 1b	Pupils by Planning Area chart (Years R to 6)
Section 2a	Primary rolls and projections – Years R to 6 2016-33
Section 2b	Primary rolls and projections – Years R 2016-33
Section 3a	Map of Primary Planning Areas in Southwark
Section 3b	Map of Primary Schools in Southwark
Section 4	Primary Schools by Planning Area, Type, PAN, and wards
Section 5	List of wards and schools
Section 6	Births in Southwark, Actual (2012-23) projected (2024-31)
Section 7a	Primary reception Applications 2015-16 to 2025-26
Section 7b:	Primary Applicant Preferences 2015-16 to 2025-26
Section 7c	Primary Applicant Preferences 2015-16 to 2025-26 (Stack)
Section 7d	Primary pupil % by LA in Southwark schools
Section 7f	School population by School Type (Reception/YR-Y6) – Places and Pupils
Section 8	Planning Area Summaries PA1 to PA5
Section 9	Primary Cross Border flows into and out of Southwark
Section 10	Preferences by Sector for Primary Reception Places
Section 11a	Primary vacancies by school type – at reception
Section 11b	Primary vacancies by school type – YR to Y6
Section 12	Agreed Primary PAN reductions/closures 2019-26
Section 13a	Secondary Summary
Section 13b	Map of Secondary Schools in Southwark
Section 14	Secondary Schools by ward and PAN – 2025-2026
Section 15	Secondary Cross border flows to and from Southwark
Section 16	Breakdown of rolls by school - Southwark/Non-Southwark
Section 17	Academies in Southwark and their sponsors
Section 18	Independent School rolls 2016-25

SECTION 1a Percentage primary reception pupils and places by Planning Area

Sep-25 Reception roll

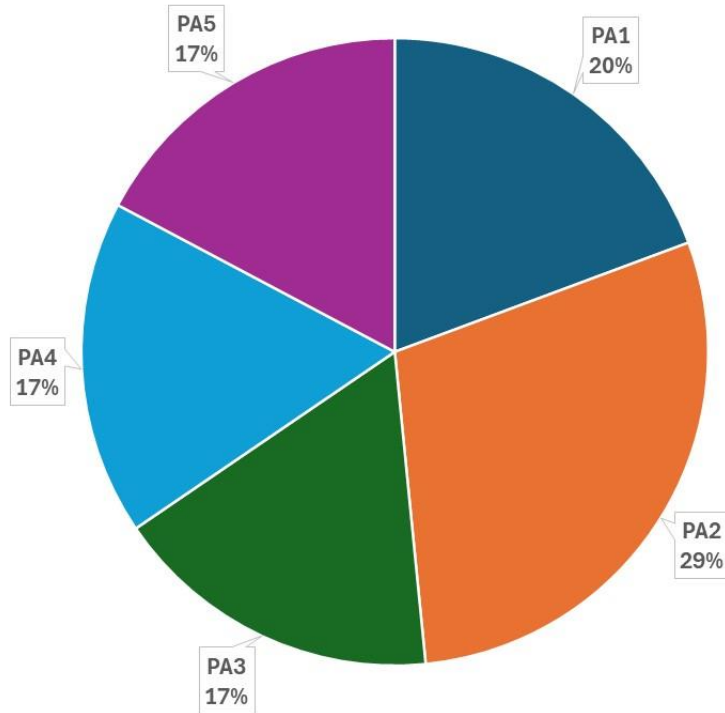


Sep-25 Reception Places

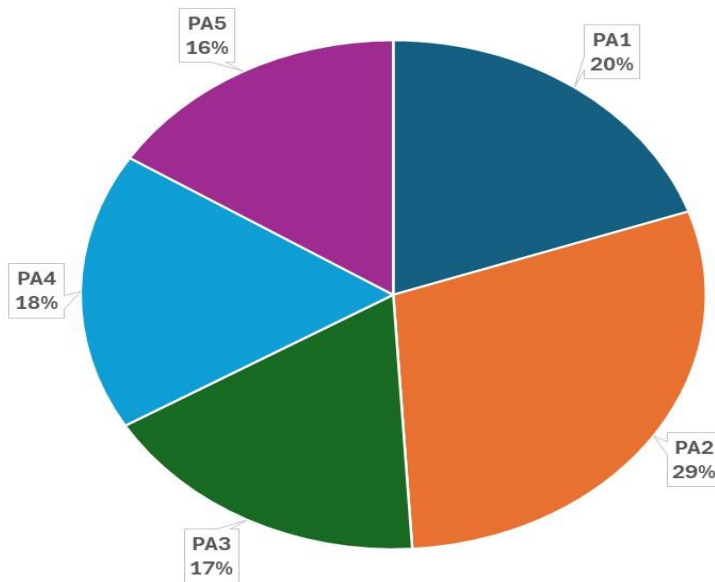


SECTION 1b Primary pupils and places by Planning Area Years R to 6

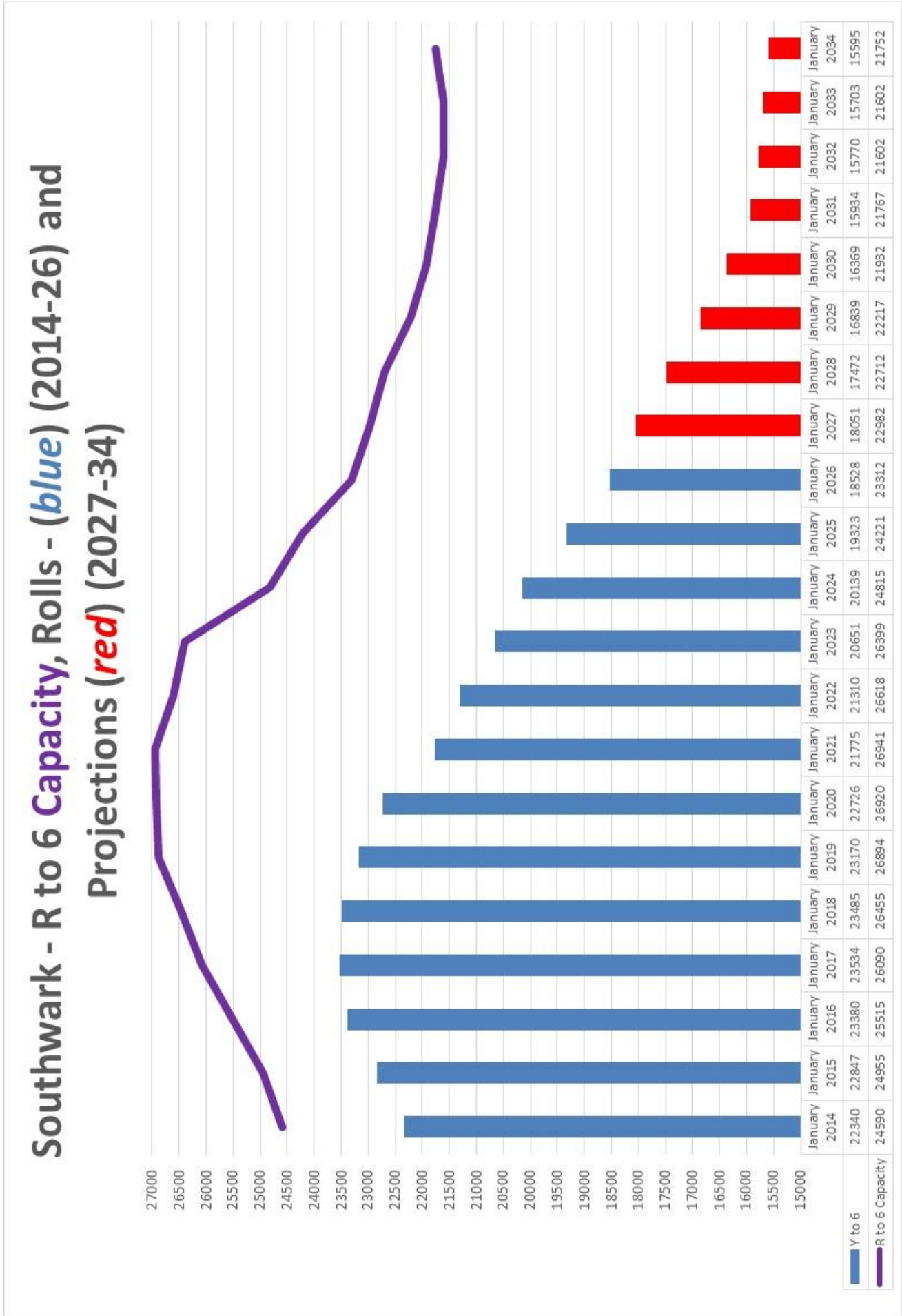
YR-6 Roll by Planning Area 2025-6



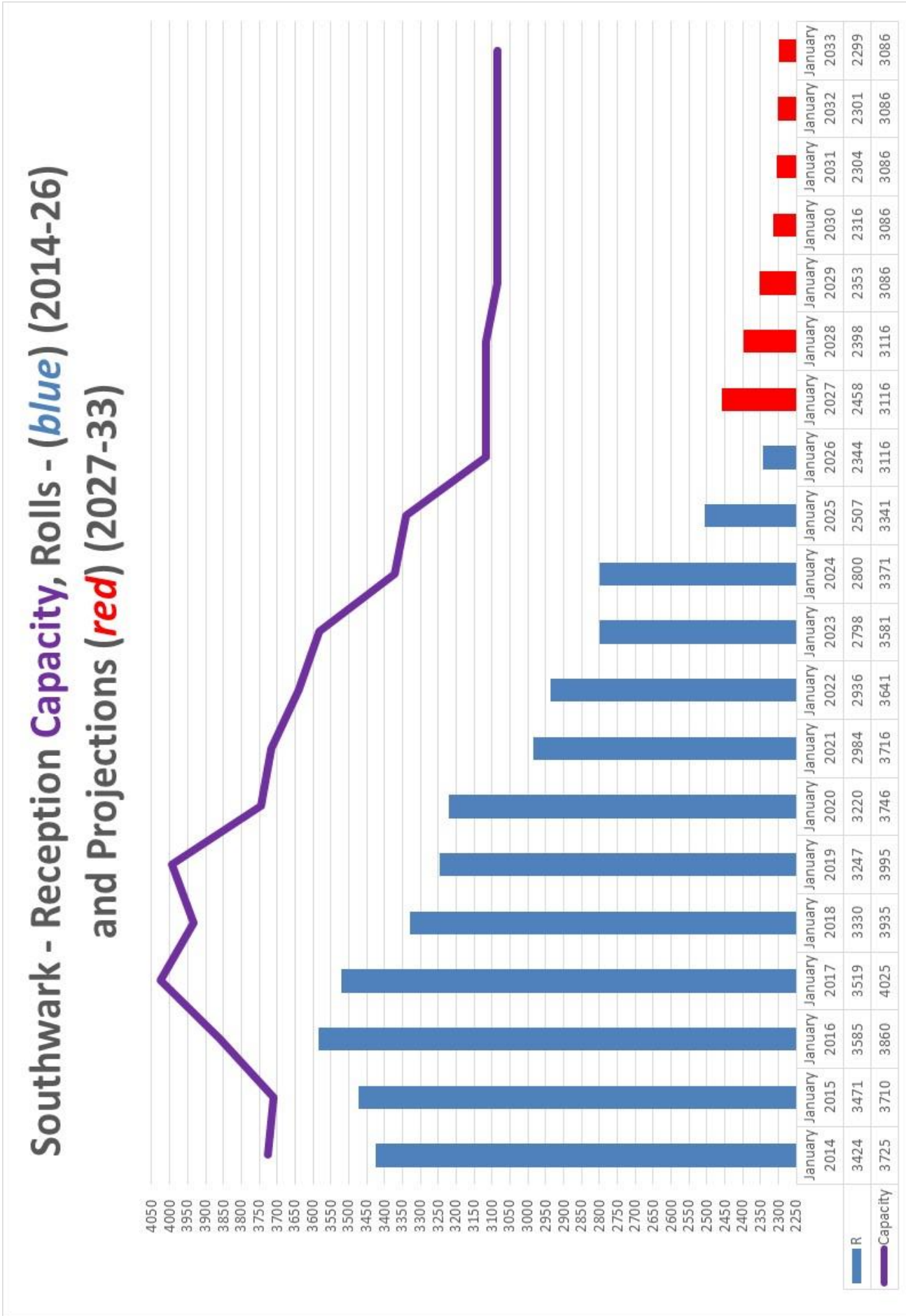
YR-6 Places by Planning Area 2025-6



Section 2a Primary rolls, capacity and projections – Years R to 6 2014-34

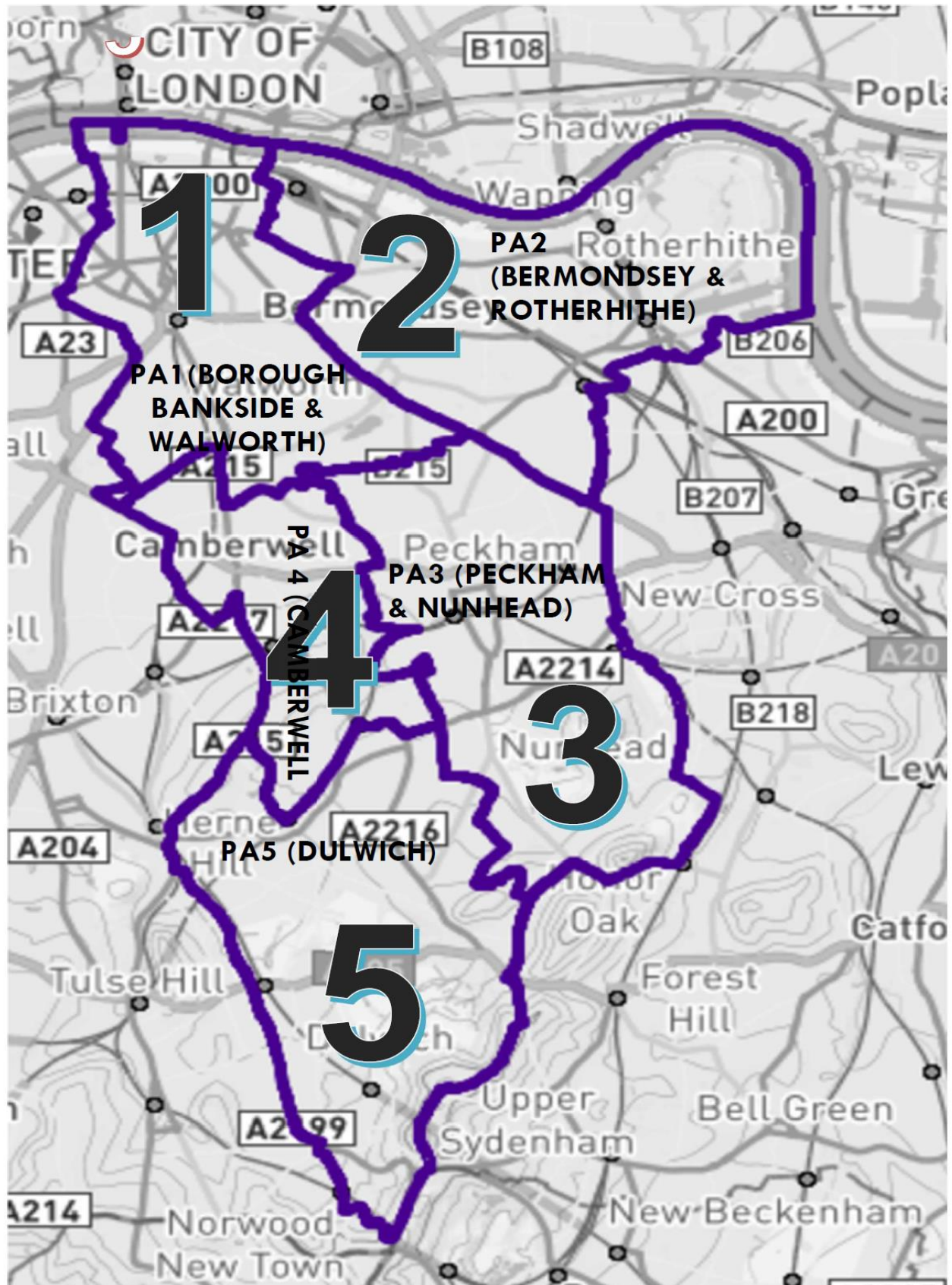


Section 2b Primary Reception Roll and projections – 2014-33



SECTION 3a – MAP OF THE FIVE PRIMARY PLANNING AREAS

PRIMARY PLANNING AREA MAP



SECTION 3b – MAP OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN SOUTHWARK

Map of primary schools in Southwark

Community primary schools

- 1 Albion Primary School
- 2 Alfred Salter Primary School
- 3 Bellenden Primary School
- 4 Bessemer Grange Primary School
- 5 Bird in Bush Primary School
- 6 Brunswick Park Primary School
- 7 Crampton Primary School
- 8 Crawford Primary School
- 9 Dulwich Wood Primary School
- 10 Goodrich Primary School
- 11 Grange Primary School
- 12 Heber Primary School
- 13 Hollydale Primary School
- 14 Ilderton Primary School
- 15 Iydale Primary School
- 16 John Ruskin Primary School
- 17 Keyworth Primary School
- 18 Michael Faraday Primary School
- 19 Oliver Goldsmith Primary School
- 20 Phoenix Primary School
- 21 Pilgrim's Way Primary School
- 22 Riverside Primary School
- 23 Robert Browning Primary School
- 24 Rye Oak Primary School
- 25 Snowsfields Primary School
- 26 Southwark Park School
- 27 Tower Bridge Primary School
- 28 Victory Primary School

Academies

- 29 Angel Oak Academy
- 30 ARK Globe Academy
- 31 Charles Dickens Primary School
- 32 Dog Kennel Hill Primary School
- 33 Dulwich Hamlet Junior School
- 34 Goose Green Primary School
- 35 Harris Primary Academy, Peckham Park
- 36 John Donne Primary School
- 37 Lyndhurst Primary School

Faith schools

- 41 Boucher Church of England Primary School
- 42 The Cathedral School of St Saviour and St Mary Overie
- 43 Dulwich Village C of E Infants' School
- 44 Peter Hills with St Mary's and St Paul's C of E Primary School
- 45 St George's C of E Primary School
- 46 St James' C of E Primary School
- 47 St John's and St Clement's C of E Primary School
- 48 St Jude's C of E Primary School
- 49 St Paul's C of E Primary School
- 50 St Peter's Waltham C of E Primary School
- 51 English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School
- 52 Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School, The Borough
- 53 St Anthony's Catholic Primary School
- 54 St Francis's Catholic Primary School
- 55 St George's Cathedral Catholic Primary School
- 56 St James the Great Catholic Primary School
- 57 St John's Catholic Primary School
- 58 St Joseph's Camberwell Catholic Schools' Federation (Infants)
- 59 St Joseph's Camberwell Catholic Schools' Federation (Juniors)
- 60 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, George Row
- 61 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gomm Road

Foundation schools

- 62 Friars Primary Foundation School

Free schools

- 63 Galleywall Primary City of London Academy
- 64 Harris Primary Academy East Dulwich
- 65 John Keats Primary School
- 66 Judith Kerr Free School
- 67 The Belham Primary School



SECTION 4 – PRIMARY SCHOOLS BY PLANNING AREA, PANs, TYPES, WARDS 2024/25

Primary School	PA	PAN	Type	Ward
Charles Dickens	1	60	Academy	Borough & Bankside
St Joseph's Borough RC		30	VA RC	Borough & Bankside
Cathedral School CE		30	VA CE	Borough & Bankside
Friars		30	Foundation	Borough & Bankside
ARK Globe Academy		60	Academy	Chaucer
Surrey Square		60	Academy	Faraday
Michael Faraday		60	Community	Faraday
St Peters Walworth CE		30	VA CE	Faraday
Crampton		30	Community	Newington
Keyworth		60	Community	Newington
St Paul's CE		30	Academy (CE)	Newington
Robert Browning		30	Community	North Walworth
Victory		30	Community	North Walworth
English Martyrs RC		30	VA RC	North Walworth
St Georges Cathedral RC		30	Academy (RC)	St George's
St Jude's CE		30	VA CE	St George's
Grange	2	60	Community	London Bridge & West Bermondsey
Snowsfields		30	Community	London Bridge & West Bermondsey
Tower Bridge		30	Community	London Bridge & West Bermondsey
Riverside		45	Community	North Bermondsey
Southwark Park		30	Community	North Bermondsey
St James CE		60	VA CE	North Bermondsey
St Joseph's George Row RC		45	Academy (RC)	North Bermondsey
John Keats Primary		60	Free School	Old Kent Road
Ilderton		30	Community	Old Kent Road
Pilgrims Way		30	Community	Old Kent Road
Phoenix		90	Community	Old Kent Road
Albion		60	Community	Rotherhithe
Alfred Salter		60	Community	Rotherhithe
Rotherhithe		60	Academy	Rotherhithe
St Joseph's Gomm Road RC		30	Academy (RC)	Rotherhithe
Boutcher CE		30	VA CE	South Bermondsey
Galleywall		60	Free School	South Bermondsey
Peter Hills CE		30	VA CE	Surrey Docks
Redriff	60	Academy	Surrey Docks	
St Johns RC	30	VA RC	Surrey Docks	

Primary School	PA	PAN	Type	Ward
St John's & St Clements CE	3	60	VA CE	Goose Green
Hollydale		30	Community	Nunhead & Queen's Rd
John Donne		60	Academy	Nunhead & Queen's Rd
Bird-in-Bush (<i>ex-Camelot</i>)		60	Community	Old Kent Road
St Francis RC		60	VA RC	Old Kent Road
Angel Oak		60	Academy	Peckham
Harris Academy Peckham Park		30	Academy	Peckham
St James The Great RC		30	VA RC	Peckham
Rye Oak		60	Community	Rye Lane
Bellenden		30	Community	Rye Lane
Ivydale		60	Community	Peckham Rye
Lyndhurst		4	60	Academy
Oliver Goldsmith	60		Community	St Giles
St Georges CE	30		VA CE	St Giles
Dog Kennel Hill	60		Academy	Champion Hill
Bessemer Grange	60		Community	Champion Hill
The Belham	60		Free School	Rye Lane
Crawford	60		Community	Camberwell Green
John Ruskin	60		Community	Camberwell Green
Brunswick Park	60		Community	Camberwell Green
St Joseph's Camberwell Infants RC	60		VA RC	Camberwell Green
St Joseph's Camberwell Junior RC	60*	VA RC	Camberwell Green	
St Anthony's RC	5	60	Academy (RC)	Dulwich Hill
Goodrich		60	Community	Dulwich Hill
Judith Kerr Free School		56	Free School	Dulwich Village
Dulwich Hamlet Juniors		90*	Academy	Dulwich Village
Dulwich Village Infants CE		90	VA CE	Dulwich Village
Dulwich Wood Primary		60	Community	Dulwich Wood
Harris Primary Free East Dulwich		60	Free School	Goose Green
Heber		60	Community	Goose Green
Goose Green	60	Academy	Goose Green	
SOUTHWARK		3,116	*PAN for Y3	

SECTION 5 - WARDS AND SCHOOLS

Red = Academies/Free Schools, Blue = VA Schools, Green = Foundation school, Black = Community Schools

Borough & Bankside	Charles Dickens, St Joseph's Borough RC, Cathedral School CE, Friars	Haberbdashers' Borough Academy
Camberwell Green	Crawford, John Ruskin, Brunswick Park, St Joseph's Infants RC, St Joseph's Junior RC	Sacred Heart Roman Catholic RC Secondary, ARK All Saints
Champion Hill	Dog Kennel Hill, Bessemer Grange	The Charter School North Dulwich
Chaucer	ARK Globe Academy (all through 4-18 school) No (other) primaries	St Saviour's & St Olave's CE
Dulwich Hill	St Anthony's RC, Goodrich	Harris Boys East Dulwich
Dulwich Village	Judith Kerr, Dulwich Hamlet Juniors, Dulwich Village Infants CE	No secondaries
Dulwich Wood	Dulwich Wood Primary	Kingsdale Foundation
Faraday	Michael Faraday, St Peters CE, Surrey Square	ARK Walworth, South Bank University Academy
Goose Green	Harris Primary Free East Dulwich, St John's & St Clements CE, Goose Green, Heber	Charter School East Dulwich
London Bridge & West Bermondsey	Grange, Snowfields, Tower Bridge	No secondaries
Newington	Crampton, Keyworth, St Paul's CE Academy	
North Bermondsey	Riverside, Southwark Park, St James CE, St Joseph's RC George Row	Charter Bermondsey, St Michael's Catholic College
North Walworth	Robert Browning, Victory, English Martyrs RC	No secondaries
Nunhead & Queen's Road	Hollydale, John Donne	St Thomas the Apostle RC
Old Kent Road	John Keats, Ilderton, Pilgrims Way, Phoenix, Bird in Bush, St Francis RC	No secondaries
Peckham	Angel Oak, Harris Academy Peckham Park, St James The Great RC	
Peckham Rye	Ivydale	Harris Girls East Dulwich
Rotherhithe	Albion, Alfred Salter, Rotherhithe, St Joseph's RC	Bacon's College
Rye Lane	Bellenden, Rye Oak, The Belham School	Harris Peckham Academy
South Bermondsey	Boutcher CE, Galleywall	City of London Academy (COLA) Southwark, Harris Bermondsey
St George's	St Georges Cathedral RC, St Jude's CE	Notre Dame RC
St Giles	Lyndhurst, Oliver Goldsmith, St George's CE	
Surrey Docks	Peter Hills CE, Redriff, St Johns RC	No secondaries

SECTION 6 – Births by calendar year in Southwark

Table 16a: Births in Southwark (actuals 2008-2024, projections 2025-2033 – dotted line)

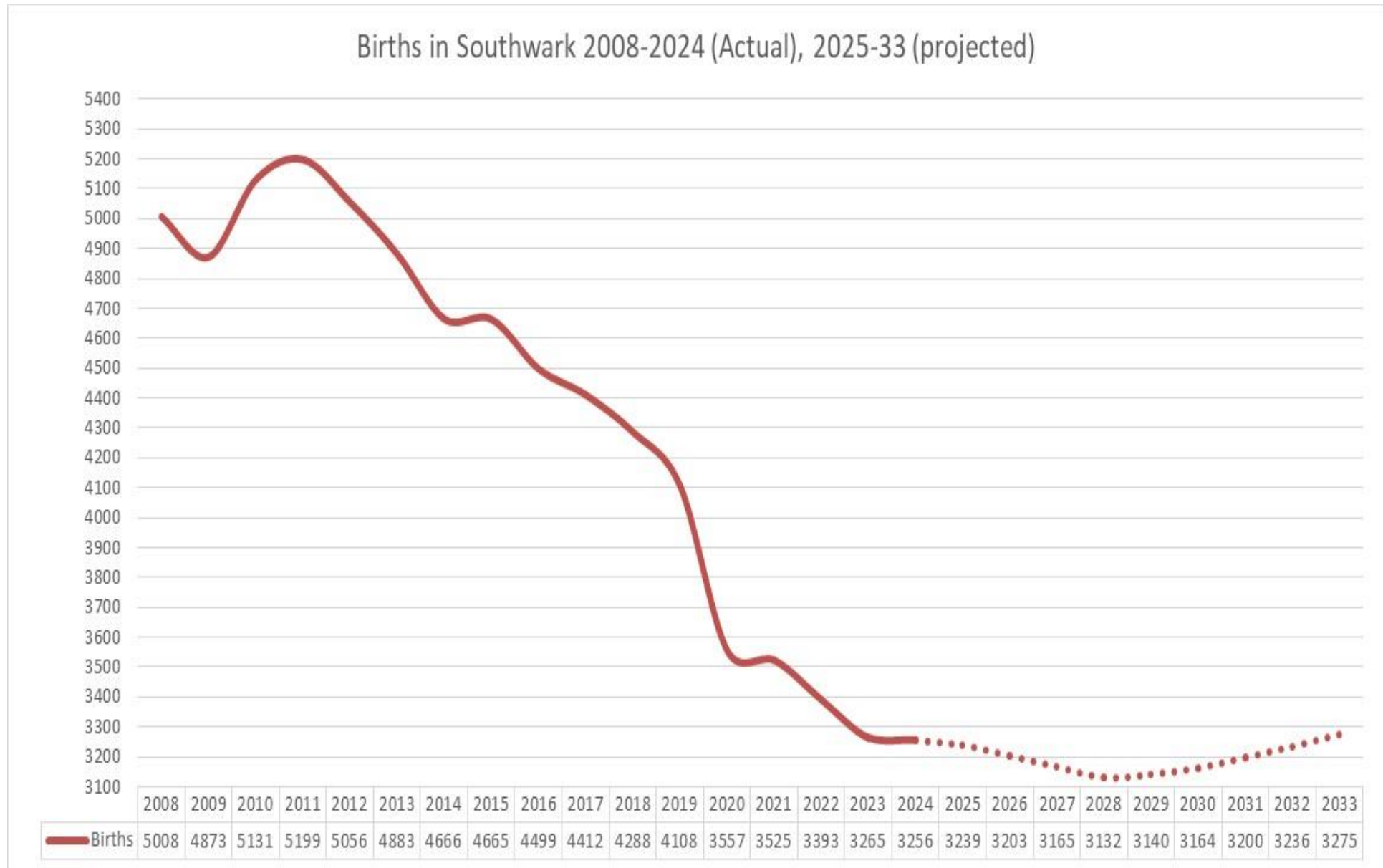
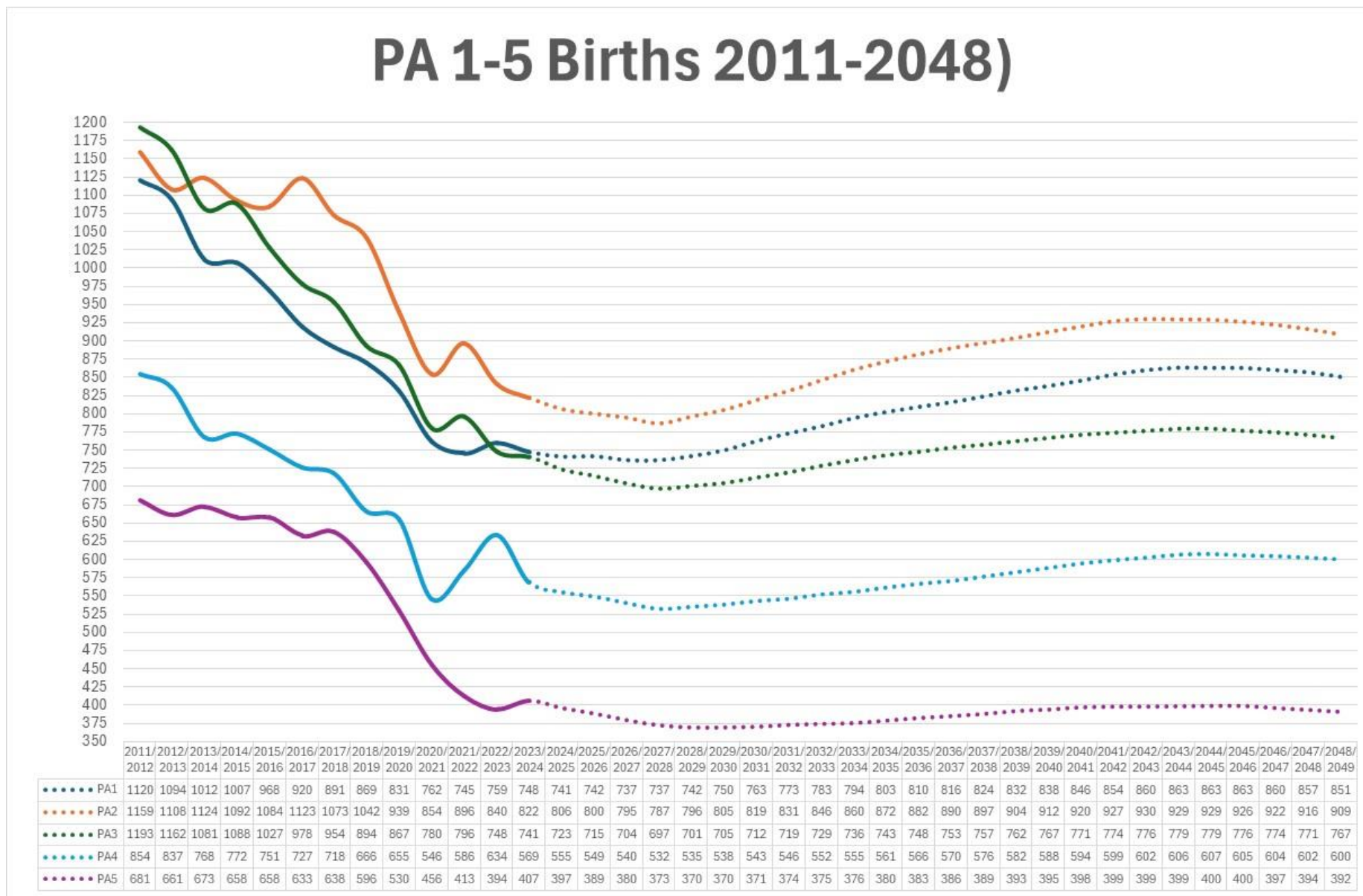
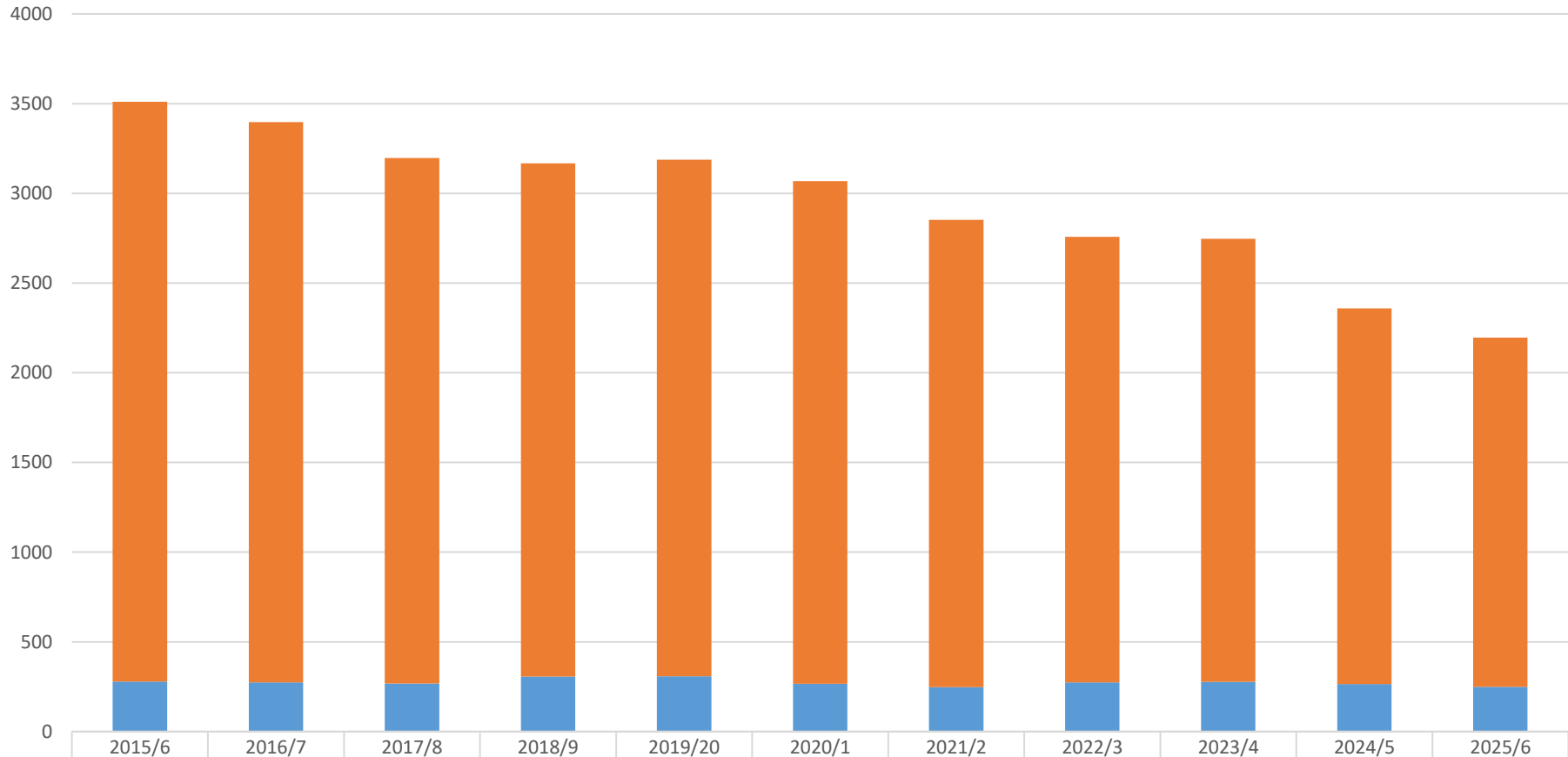


Table 16b: Births in Southwark by planning Area (actuals 2011.2-2023/4, projections 2024/5-2048/49 – dotted line)



SECTION 7a: PRIMARY RECEPTION APPLICATIONS 2015-16 TO 2025-26

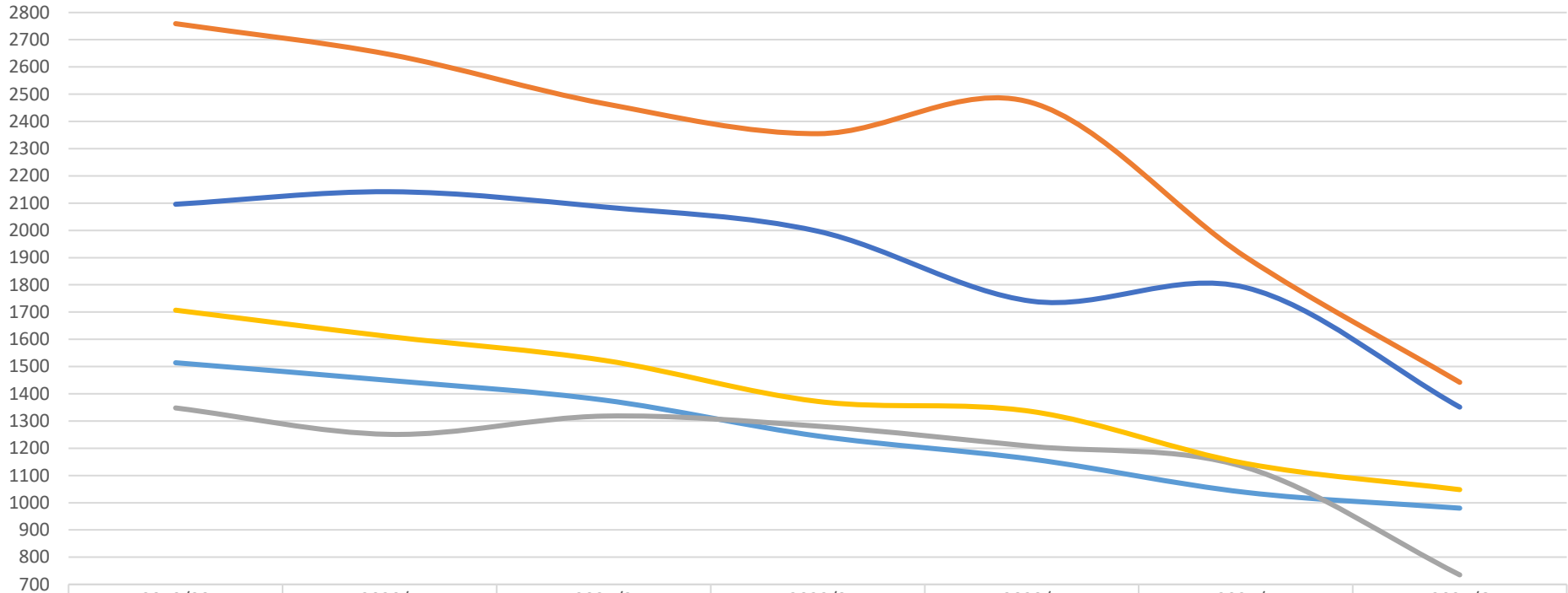
Southwark Primary applications (LBS/Outborough 2015-2025)



LBS	3231	3123	2929	2861	2879	2801	2604	2483	2468	2094	1946
Outborough	279	274	268	307	309	267	248	275	278	265	250

SECTION 7b: TOTAL PRIMARY APPLICANT PREFERENCES 2019-20 TO 2024-25 BY PLANNING AREA

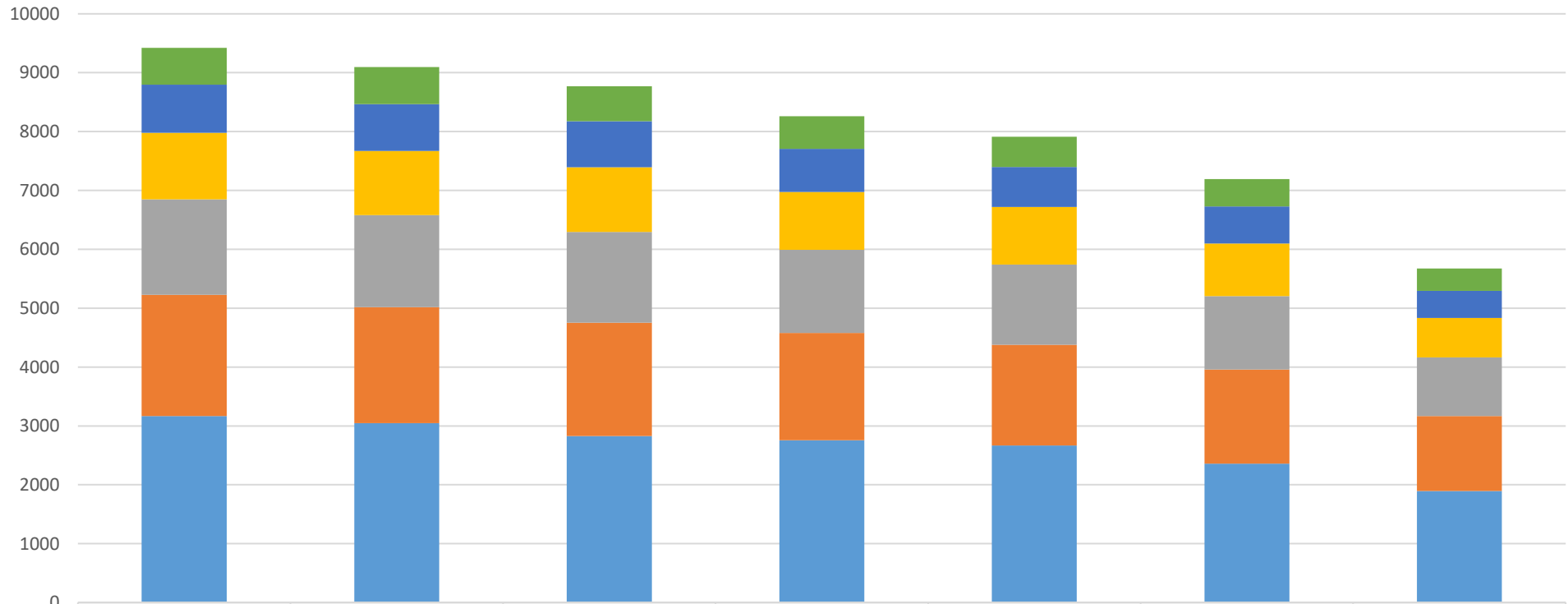
Preferences by Planning area 2019-2025



	2019/20	2020/1	2021/2	2022/3	2023/4	2024/5	2025/6
PA1	1514	1449	1377	1245	1160	1038	980
PA2	2759	2646	2466	2355	2469	1902	1442
PA3	1348	1251	1318	1281	1207	1130	735
PA4	1707	1610	1523	1372	1335	1144	1048
PA5	2096	2142	2086	1997	1740	1790	1351

SECTION 7c: PRIMARY APPLICANT PREFERENCES 2019-20 TO 2024-25 BY PREFERENCE

Applications by Preference 2019-2025



	2019/20	2020/1	2021/2	2022/3	2023/4	2024/5	2025/6
Pref 6	627	632	594	552	512	465	378
Pref 5	820	797	784	733	682	630	464
Pref 4	1127	1088	1096	984	974	894	668
Pref 3	1623	1562	1541	1410	1366	1244	998
Pref 2	2061	1970	1925	1823	1708	1600	1270
Pref 1	3166	3049	2830	2758	2669	2359	1896

Section 7d Primary pupils by LA in Southwark schools 2024/25

Primary pupils by LA in Southwark

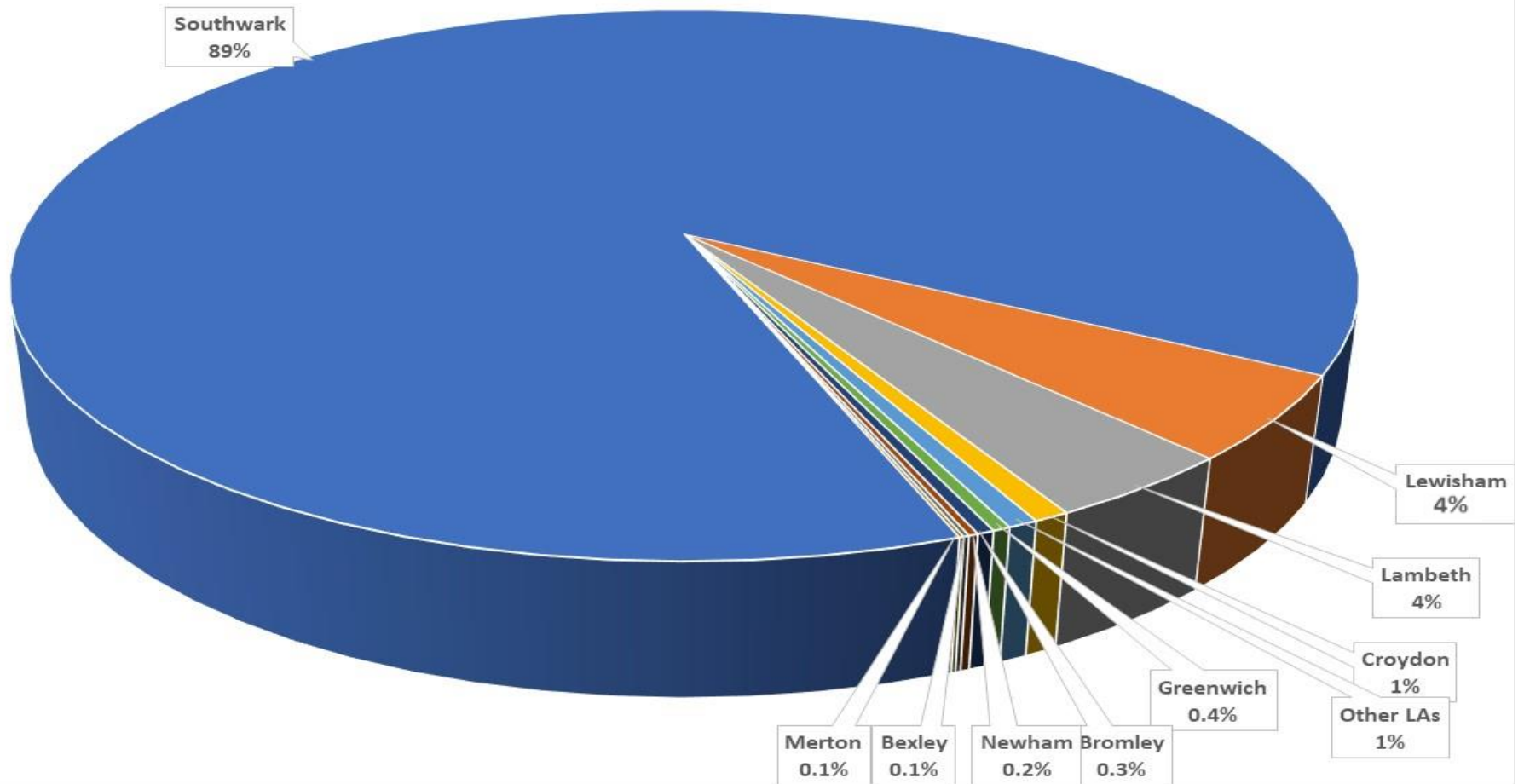


Table 7e Schools by Southwark/Non-Southwark Population by LA

School/Area/Category	LBS%	Non-LBS	Largest	Cohorts at or above 1%
Albion	95%	5%	Lewisham (4%)	None
Alfred Salter	86%	14%	Lewisham (11%)	Greenwich (1%), Havering (1%), Redbridge (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%), Haringey (1%)
Angel Oak	95%	5%	Lewisham (2%)	Havering (1%), Wandsworth (1%),
The Belham	98%	2%	Lambeth (1%), Lewisham (1%)	None
Bellenden	88%	12%	Lewisham (6%)	Croydon (2%), Newham (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Bessemer Grange	78%	22%	Lambeth (18%)	Lewisham (1%), Bromley (1%)
Bird in Bush (ex-Camelot)	88%	12%	Lewisham (7%)	Bromley (1%), Croydon (1%), Lambeth (1%)
Boutcher	96%	4%	Lambeth (2%)	Lewisham (1%)
Brunswick Park	96%	4%	Lambeth (2%)	Lewisham (1%)
Cathedral School	93%	7%	Lambeth (5%)	Camden (1%)
Charles Dickens	94%	6%	Lambeth (3%)	Tower Hamlets (1%)
Charlotte Sharman	83%	17%	Lambeth (14%)	Lewisham (2%), Waltham Forest (1%)
Crampton	95%	5%	Lambeth (4%)	None
Crawford	76%	24%	Lambeth (19%)	Lewisham (3%), Islington (1%)
Dog Kennel Hill	94%	6%	Lambeth (2%), Croydon (2%)	Lewisham (1%), Bromley (1%)
Dulwich Hamlet	83%	17%	Lambeth (15%)	Lewisham (2%), Bromley (1%)
Dulwich Village Infants	80%	20%	Lambeth (16%)	Lewisham (2%), Croydon (1%)
Dulwich Wood Primary School	69%	31%	Lambeth (15%)	Lewisham (7%), Bromley (4%), Croydon (3%), Merton (1%), Barnet (1%)
English Martyrs	92%	8%	Lewisham (2%), Newham (2%)	Croydon (1%), Havering (1%), Enfield (1%), Kent (1%)
Friars	91%	9%	Lambeth (7%)	Lewisham (1%), Barnet (1%)
Galleywall	89%	11%	Lewisham (10%)	Bromley (1%)
Goodrich	89%	11%	Lewisham (8%)	Bromley (1%), Croydon (1%), Lambeth (1%)
Goose Green	94%	6%	Lambeth (2%), Lewisham (2%)	None
Grange	97%	3%	Camden (1%), Lewisham (1%)	None
Harris Academy Peckham Park	92%	8%	Lewisham (4%)	Greenwich (1%), Croydon (1%), Essex (1%)
Harris Primary Free School East Dulwich	93%	7%	Lewisham (4%)	Lambeth (2%), Croydon (1%), Barking & Dagenham (1%)
Heber	96%	4%	Lewisham (2%)	Croydon (1%)

School/Area/Category	LBS%	Non-LBS	Largest	Cohorts at or above 1%
Hollydale	85%	15%	Lewisham (10%)	Greenwich (3%), Bromley (1%), Croydon (1%), Newham (1%), Bucks (1%)
Ilderton	74%	26%	Lewisham (23%)	Croydon (1%), Redbridge (1%)
Ivydale	88%	12%	Lewisham (12%)	None
John Donne	95%	5%	Bromley (2%)	Lambeth (1%) Lewisham (1%), Newham (1%), Redbridge (1%)
John Keats Primary	92%	8%	Lewisham (4%)	Bromley (1%), Lambeth (1%)
John Ruskin	94%	6%	Lambeth (3%)	Lewisham (1%), Croydon (1%)
Judith Kerr Free School	57%	43%	Lambeth (36%)	Bromley (2%), Lewisham (2%), Croydon (2%)
Keyworth	87%	13%	Lambeth (10%)	Lewisham (1%)
Lyndhurst	92%	8%	Lambeth (7%)	None
Michael Faraday	97%	3%	Lambeth (1%)	None
Oliver Goldsmith	93%	7%	Lambeth (2%)	Lewisham (1%)
Peter Hills with St Mary's & St. Paul's CE	87%	13%	Lewisham (7%)	Bexley (2%), Newham (2%), Barking & Dagenham (2%)
Phoenix	96%	4%	Lewisham (3%)	Bromley (1%), Lambeth (1%)
Pilgrims Way	80%	20%	Lewisham (17%)	Lambeth (1%)
Redriff	92%	8%	Lewisham (6%)	Tower Hamlets (1%)
Riverside	99%	1%	None	None
Robert Browning	95%	5%	Lambeth (2%)	Lewisham (1%), Greenwich (1%), Hackney (1%)
Rotherhithe	72%	28%	Lewisham (27%)	Greenwich (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Rye Oak	95%	5%	Lewisham (2%)	Bromley (1%), Redbridge (1%)
Snowsfields	93%	7%	Lambeth (2%), Croydon (2%)	Lewisham (1%), Newham (1%), Hackney (1%), Waltham Forest (1%)
Southwark Park	95%	5%	Lewisham (3%)	Bexley (1%), Lambeth (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%)
St Anthony's	82%	18%	Lewisham (10%)	Lambeth (2%), Croydon (2%) Bromley (1%), Greenwich (1%)
St Francis RC Primary School	89%	11%	Lewisham (6%)	Greenwich (2%), Newham (1%), Redbridge (1%)
St Georges Cathedral RC	72%	28%	Lambeth (21%)	Lewisham (2%), Newham (2%), Greenwich (1%), Merton (1%), Barnet (1%), Wandsworth (1%), Hackney (1%)
St Georges CE	91%	9%	Lambeth (4%)	Croydon (3%), Lewisham (1%), Ealing (1%)

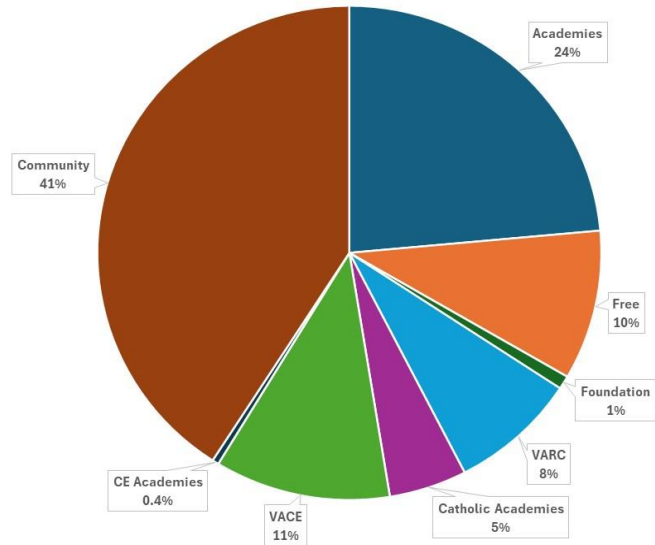
School/Area/Category	LBS%	Non-LBS	Largest	Cohorts at or above 1%
St James CE	97%	3%	Lewisham (1%), Brent (1%)	None
St James The Great Catholic	89%	11%	Lewisham (4%)	Croydon (2%), Newham (1%), Waltham Forest (1%), Brent (1%)
St John's & St Clements CE	95%	5%	Lambeth (2%), Lewisham (2%)	Bromley (1%)
St Johns R.C. Primary School	81%	19%	Lewisham (17%)	Lambeth (1%)
St Joseph's 014B RC	95%	5%	Lewisham 4%	Lambeth (1%)
St Joseph's 026 RC	71%	29%	Lewisham (24%)	Lambeth (1%), Greenwich (1%), Redbridge (1%), Brent (1%), Barking & Dagenham (1%)
St Joseph's 0339 RC	93%	7%	Lambeth (5%)	City (1%), Wandsworth (1%)
St Joseph's 046 Inf RC	83%	17%	Lambeth (9%)	Lewisham (4%), Greenwich (1%), Croydon (1%), Newham (1%), Islington (1%), Waltham Forest (1%)
St Joseph's 046 Jnr RC	81%	19%	Lambeth (11%)	Lewisham (4%), Newham (2%), Croydon (1%)
St Jude's	70%	30%	Lambeth (11%)	Lewisham (6%), Greenwich (6%), Havering (4%), Redbridge (4%), Bromley (2%), Waltham Forest (2%)
St Paul's	89%	11%	Lambeth (5%)	Lewisham (2%), Greenwich (1%), Croydon (1%), Merton (1%), Wandsworth (1%), Kent (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
St Peters	97%	3%	Bromley (1%), Lewisham (1%), Greenwich (1%), Croydon (1%)	None
Surrey Square	96%	4%	Lambeth (1%), Lewisham (1%), Greenwich (1%), Croydon (1%)	None
ARK Globe Academy	94%	6%	Lewisham (3%)	Lambeth (1%)
Tower Bridge	97%	3%	Lewisham (2%)	Tower Hamlets (1%)
Victory	93%	7%	Lambeth (4%)	Camden (2%), Newham (1%), Kent (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%), Waltham Forest 1%)
Southwark	89%	11%	Lambeth (4%), Lewisham (4%)	Croydon (1%)
PA1 (Borough, Bankside and Walworth)	92%	8%	Lambeth (5%)	Lewisham (1%)
PA2 (Bermondsey & Rotherhithe)	90%	10%	Lewisham (8%)	None
PA3 (Peckham & Nunhead)	91%	9%	Lewisham (5%)	Lambeth (1%), Croydon (1%), Bromley (1%)
PA4 (Camberwell)	89%	11%	Lambeth (7%)	Lewisham (1%), Croydon (1%)
PA5 (Dulwich)	83%	17%	Lambeth (10%)	Lewisham (5%), Bromley (1%), Croydon (1%)

School/Area/Category	LBS%	Non-LBS	Largest	Cohorts at or above 1%
Academies/Free Schools	89%	11%	Lambeth (5%), Lewisham (5%)	Bromley (1%), Croydon (1%)
Free Schools	90%	10%	Lambeth (4%)	Lewisham (3%), Croydon (1%)
Academies	85%	15%	Lambeth (9%)	Lewisham (4%), Bromley (1%), Croydon (1%)
VA CE	92%	8%	Lambeth (4%)	Lewisham (2%), Croydon (1%), Bromley (1%)
VA RC	86%	14%	Lewisham 5%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich 1%), Croydon (1%), Newham (1%)
Community	89%	11%	Lambeth (4%)	Lewisham (3%), Croydon (1%), Bromley (1%)
Foundation	91%	9%	Lambeth (7%)	Lewisham (1%), Barnet (1%)

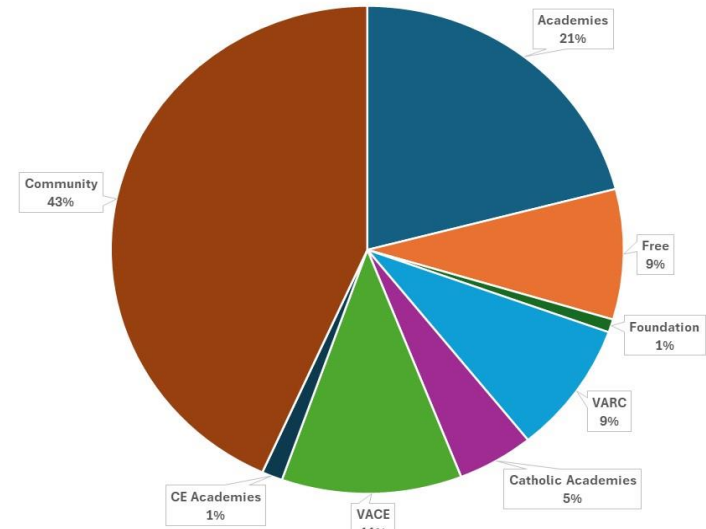
Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding, and fractional percentages

7f School population by School Type (Reception/YR-Y6) – Places and Pupils

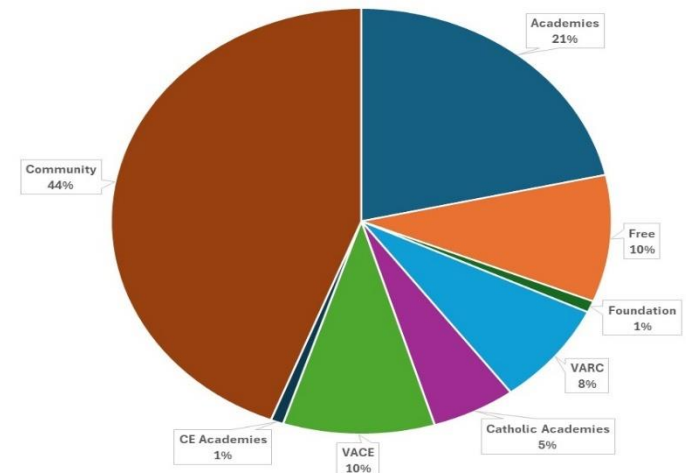
Primary Reception Pupils by type January 2025



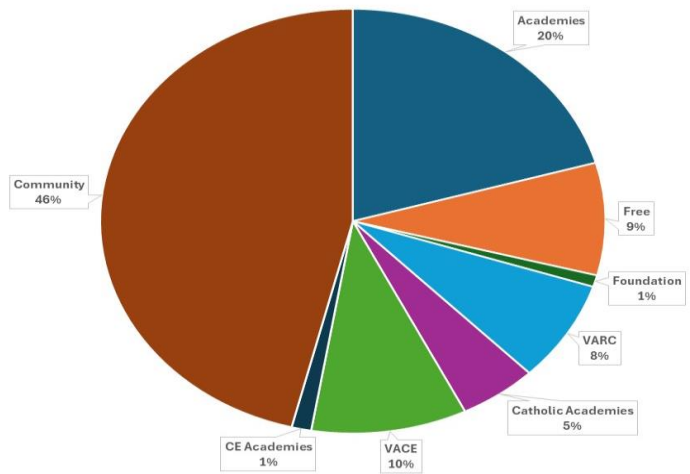
Primary Reception Places by type January 2025



Primary YR-Y6 Pupils by type January 2025



Primary YR-Y6 Places by type January 2025



SECTION 8

PRIMARY PLANNING AREA SUMMARIES

PA1 – Borough, Bankside & Walworth

PA2 – Bermondsey & Rotherhithe

PA3 – Peckham & Nunhead

PA4 – Camberwell

PA5 – Dulwich

- List of schools
- Narrative
- Preferences
- Rolls & Projections for YR/YR to Y6
- Births
- Cross Border flows

PLANNING AREA 1

BOROUGH, BANKSIDE & WALWORTH

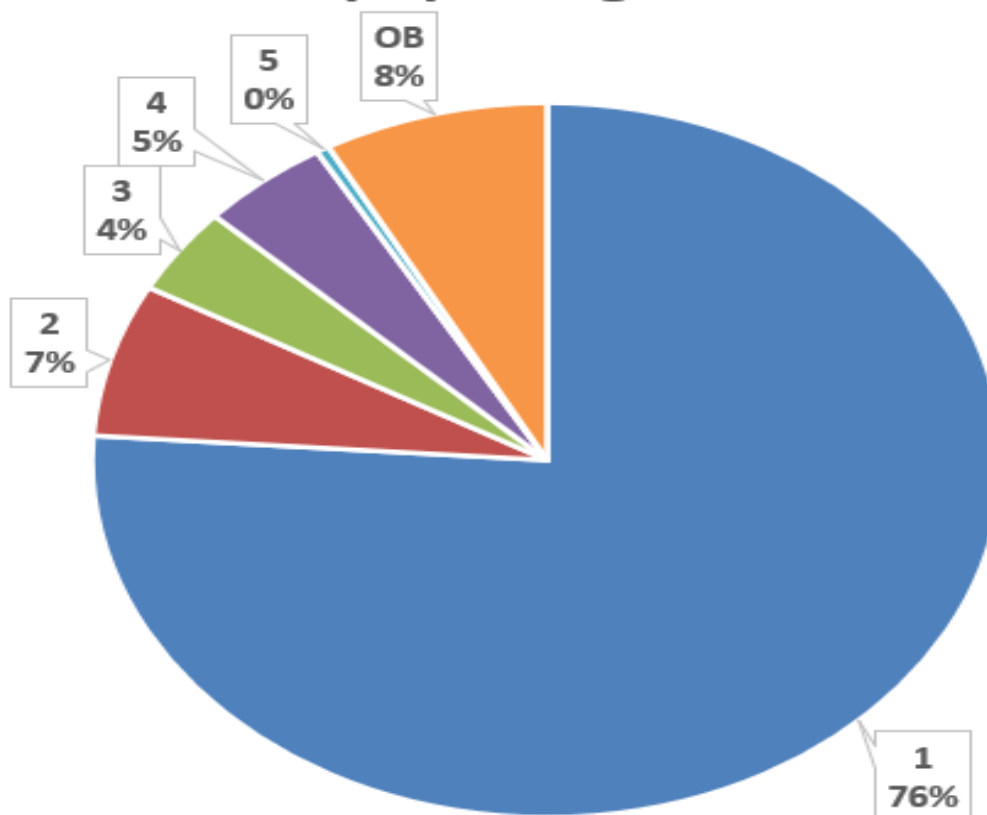
*ARK Globe Academy (**Primary**)*
Cathedral Primary School CE
Charles Dickens Primary School
Crampton Primary School
Friars Primary School
English Martyrs RC Primary School
Keyworth Primary School
Michael Faraday Primary School
Robert Browning Primary School
St Georges Cathedral RC Primary School
*St Joseph's (**Borough**) RC Primary*
St Jude's CE Primary School
St Paul's Primary School
St Peters CE Primary School
Surrey Square Primary School
Victory Primary School

PA1– Borough, Bankside & Walworth						
Wards covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Borough & Bankside, Chaucer, Faraday, Newington, North Walworth, Old Kent Road (<i>part</i>), St George's 					
Schools	Primary School	PAN	Type	Primary School	PAN	Type
	ARK Globe	60	ACAD	Robert Browning	30	COMM
	Charles Dickens	60	ACAD	Victory	30	COMM
	Surrey Square	60	ACAD	Friars	30	FOUND
	St Paul's CE	30	ACAD(CE)	Cathedral School CE	30	VA CE
	St Georges RC	30	ACAD(RC)	St Jude's CE	30	VA CE
	Crampton	30	COMM	St Peters CE	30	VA CE
	Keyworth	60	COMM	English Martyrs RC	30	VA RC
	Michael Faraday	60	COMM	St Joseph's RC	30	VA RC
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 16 Primary Schools: 5 Academies (including 1 CE and 1 RC Academy), 5 Community, 1 Foundation, 3 VA CE schools and 2 VA RC schools 12 x 1FE schools, 5 x 2FE schools PA1 takes around 20% of all Southwark pupils, and 20% reception pupils PA1 provides around 20% of all Southwark primary places, and 20% of reception places 					
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2025 – there are 630 reception places, and 4,590 Years R to 6 places 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charlotte Sharman Primary School, a 1FE Foundation School, closed on the 31st August 2025 St Paul's CE Academy has reduced its PAN from 45 to 30 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in PA1 fell from 2012 to 2022 by -34% and are projected to begin to rise slowly to 2031 by +4%, and by +14% by 2041. At ward level, births in Borough & Bankside ward fell by -2% from 2012-22, but are forecast to grow by +10% by 2031 – however, this is only an increase of 10 births; Chaucer fell by -32%, and is projected to fall a further -5%, Faraday, a -60% drop followed by a 10% rise; Newington, -31% then -8%; North Walworth -14% then a +2% rise, St George's a -3% fall then +14% rise. Some of this derives from decants on the Aylesbury Estate and planned developments there and on the Old Kent Road 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 184 spare reception places (7FE) across PA1 – 29% of all reception places – 41 less numerically than last year (-18%) Since 2019, reception places have reduced by 315 (11FE) through PAN reductions to more closely match demand. However, this has essentially just kept pace with the reduction in rolls The GLA project 187 reception vacancies (7FE) in 2026/7 (30%), with slowly increasing vacancy levels, thereafter, culminating in 202 vacancies in January 2033 (34%) if no further action to reduce capacity is taken There are 975 empty places from years R to 6 – 21% across PA1's primary capacity. Without further actions in place, this is projected to increase steadily to around 1,495 (34%) in 2033 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cobourg Primary – Amalgamation/closure (a net reduction of 30 reception and 390 primary places). Closure of Townsend Primary (net reduction of 30 reception and 210 primary places). St Paul's CE Primary Academy reduction of PAN from 45 to 30 (net reduction of 15 reception and 105 primary places). Closure of Charlotte Sharman Foundation Primary School– a reduction of 30 reception and 360 primary places Overall reduction of 105 reception and 1,065 primary places 					
GLA Projections 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until at least 2033 at reception and across all year groups. The GLA project that reception rolls 					

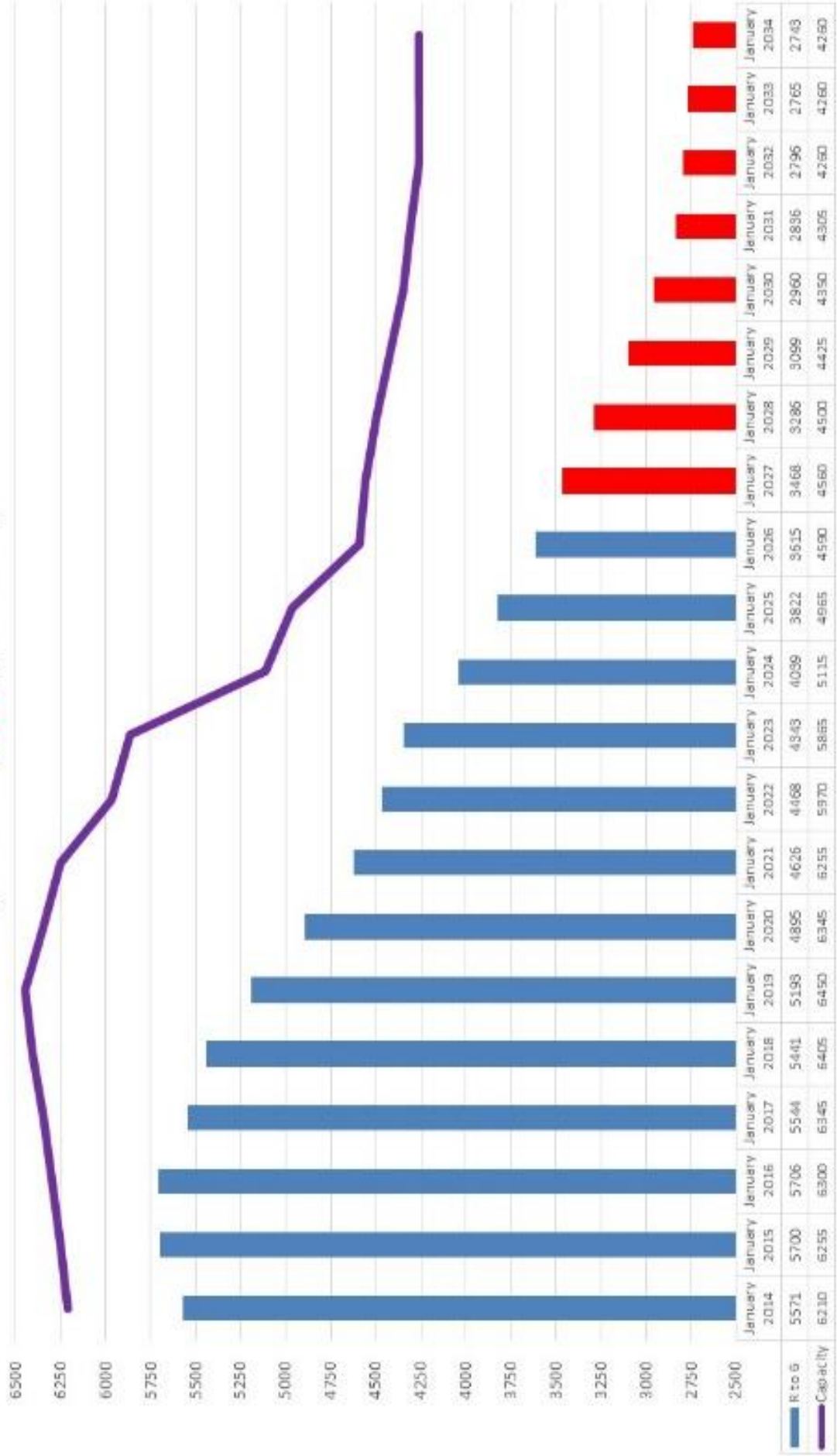
PA1– Borough, Bankside & Walworth

	will reduce by a further 40 pupils (2FE - 10%), and that YR to Y6 by 872 pupils (24%) by then (equivalent to 4 x 1FE schools)
Pupil intake by area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA1 is a net exporter of pupils, exporting just under 100 (4FE) YR to Y6 pupils (-2%) • St George's Cathedral (47%), St Joseph's Borough (36%), both take a significant proportion (more than 30%) of their pupils from outside PA1. Conversely, John Ruskin in PA4 (59%), Phoenix (37%), Grange (36%) and Snowfields (27%) all in PA2 take a high percentage of its pupils from PA1. • St Jude's CE (30%), St George's Cathedral Primary (28%), Charlotte Sharman (17%), and Keyworth (13%) took a significant proportion of pupils from outside Southwark (<i>mainly Lambeth</i>) in 2024/25 • Approximately 24% of pupils attending schools in this PA come from outside the planning area, mainly from other planning areas within Southwark (PAs 2 and 4) and around 330 pupils (8%) come from outside Southwark (<i>from Lambeth (5%), Lewisham (1%), Croydon and Newham (both 0.3%)</i>) • Nearly 27% of PA1 resident children attending state schools attend a school in another planning area or a school outside Southwark – again, mainly PAs 2 (640 pupils – 14%) and 4 (540 pupils - 12%) and a small number out of borough in Lambeth

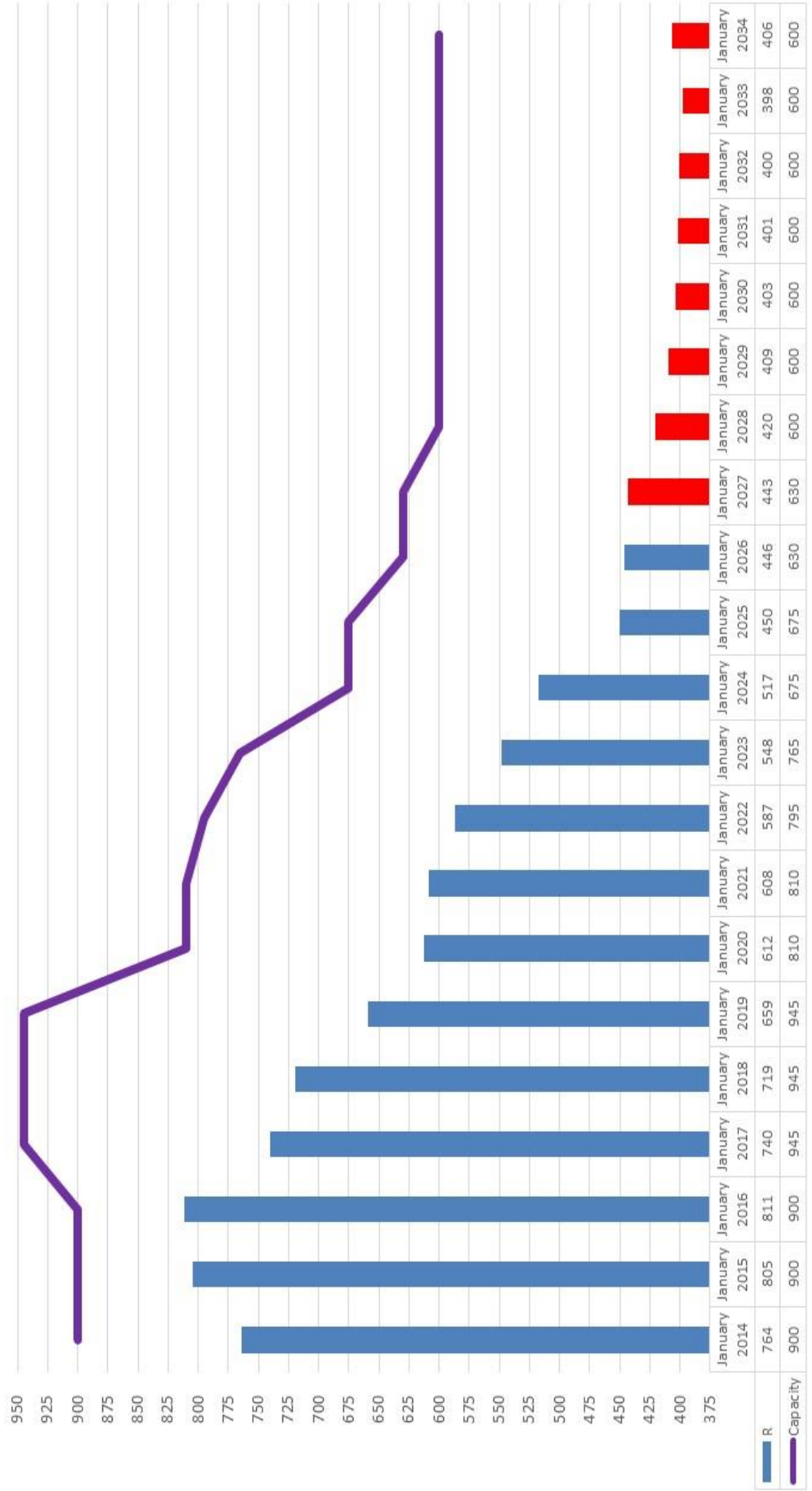
PA1 pupil origins 2025



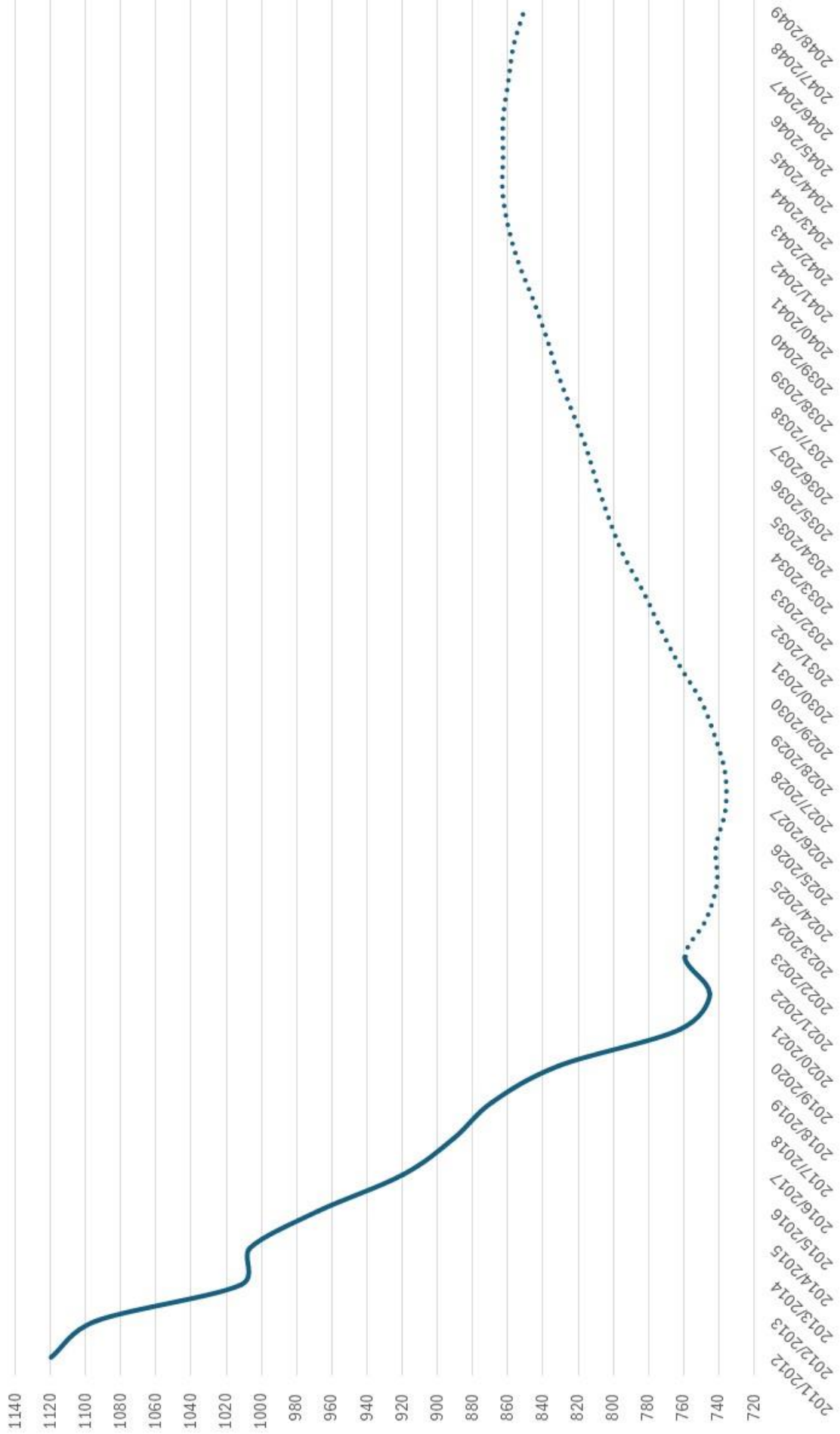
Planning Area 1 - Year R to 6 Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-33)



Planning Area 1 - Reception Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-34)



PA1 Births



PLANNING AREA 2 BERMONDSEY & ROTHERHITHE

Albion Primary School
Alfred Salter Primary School
Boutcher CE Primary School
Galleywall Primary School
Grange Primary School
Ilderton Primary School
John Keats Primary Free School
Peter Hills CE Primary School
Phoenix Primary School
Pilgrims Way Primary School
Redriff Primary School
Riverside Primary School
Rotherhithe Primary School
St James CE Primary School
St Johns RC Primary School
*St Josephs (**George Row**) RC Primary*
*St Joseph's (**Gomm Road**) RC Primary*
Snowsfields Primary School
Southwark Park Primary School
Tower Bridge Primary School

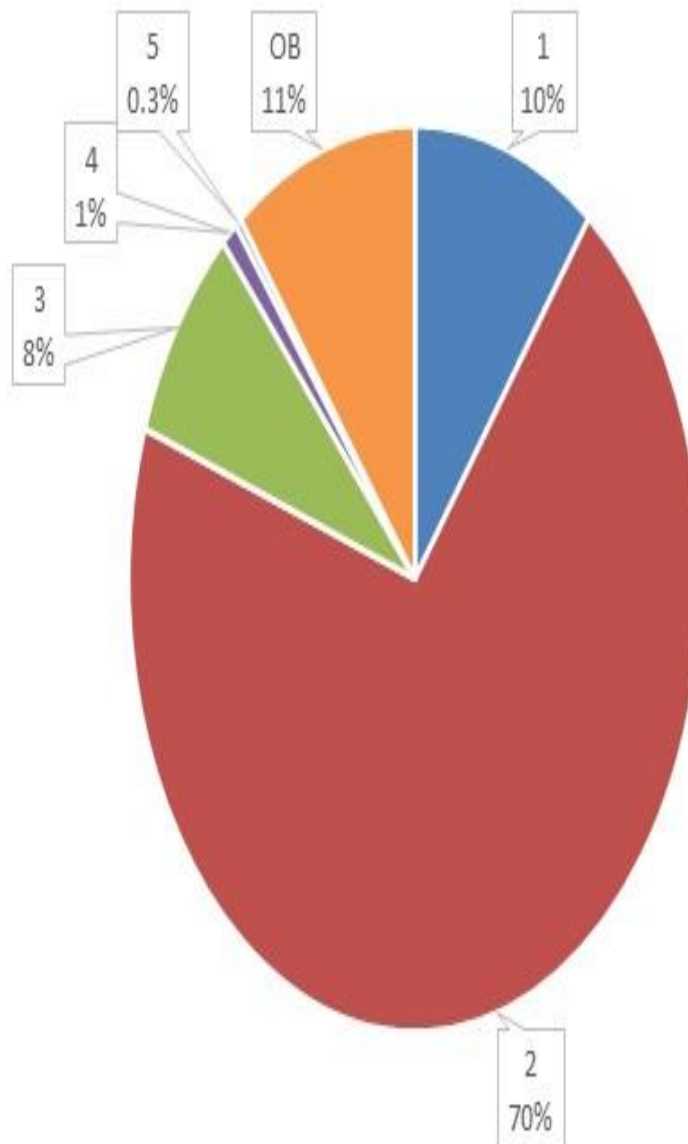
PA2 – Bermondsey & Rotherhithe						
Wards covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Bridge & West Bermondsey, North Bermondsey, Old Kent Road (<i>part</i>), Rotherhithe, South Bermondsey, Surrey Docks 					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Redriff	60	ACAD	Snowsfields	30	COMM
	St Joseph's RC*	45	ACADRC	Southwark Park	60	COMM
	St Joseph's (Gomm Rd)	30	ACADRC	Tower Bridge	30	COMM
	Rotherhithe	60	ACAD	Riverside	45	COMM
	Albion	60	COMM	Galleywall	60	FREE
	Alfred Salter	60	COMM	John Keats	60	FREE
	Grange	30	COMM	Boutcher CE	30	VA CE
	Ilderton	30	COMM	Peter Hills CE	30	VA CE
	Phoenix	90	COMM	St James CE	60	VA CE
	Pilgrims Way	30	COMM	St Johns RC	30	VA RC
<p>* St Joseph's RC George Row</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20 primary schools: 10 Community, 4 Academies (including 2 x RC Academy), 2 Free Schools, 3 VA CE, 1 VA RC 9 x 1FE schools, 2 x 1.5FE schools, 8 x 2FE schools, 1x 3FE school PA2 takes around 29% of all Southwark primary pupils (<i>the highest in Southwark</i>) and 29% of reception pupils (<i>also the highest in Southwark</i>) PA2 provides around 29% of all Southwark primary places and 30% of reception places 						
Capacity	As at September 2025 – 930 reception places. 6,840 Years R to 6 places					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Joseph RC Primary (Gomm Road) and St Joseph's George Row RC Primary have both academised – but no change to PAN 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in PA2 from 2011/12-2022/23 have fallen by -27%. From 2023/4 to 2031, births are projected to increase by +1% In the London Bridge & West Bermondsey ward, births fell by -18% from 2011/2 to 2022/3 and are projected to fall a further -10% by 2031; North Bermondsey -38%, and then +4%; Old Kent Road -32% and +25%; Rotherhithe -30% and +4%; South Bermondsey -28% and a further -8%; Surrey Docks -15% and -4%. Much of this change will relate to decants and developments on the Old Kent Road and Canada Water 					
Reception/ whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are presently around 261 spare reception places (9FE) across PA2 – 28% of all PA2 reception places - this is projected to decrease to 196 (7FE) by September 2033 (18%) There are presently around 1,467 vacancies in PA2 across Years R to 6 (21%). By 2033, this will have increased to 1,700 (27%) 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of PAN for Grange Primary School from 2FE to 1FE (net reduction of 30 reception places and 210 primary places) for 2025/6 intake. 					
GLA Projections 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GLA project there will be 173 reception vacancies in 2026/7 (15%), and 1,479 R to 6 vacancies (21%). There is projected to be sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2033 at reception and across all year groups Projections state that reception demand will increase by 28 places (1FE) (+4%), but R to 6 demand will fall by 550 pupils (-10%) There will be 196 (7FE) surplus reception places in September 2033, based on GLA projections (17%), and 1,666 YR to 6 vacancies (27%) 					

PA2 – Bermondsey & Rotherhithe

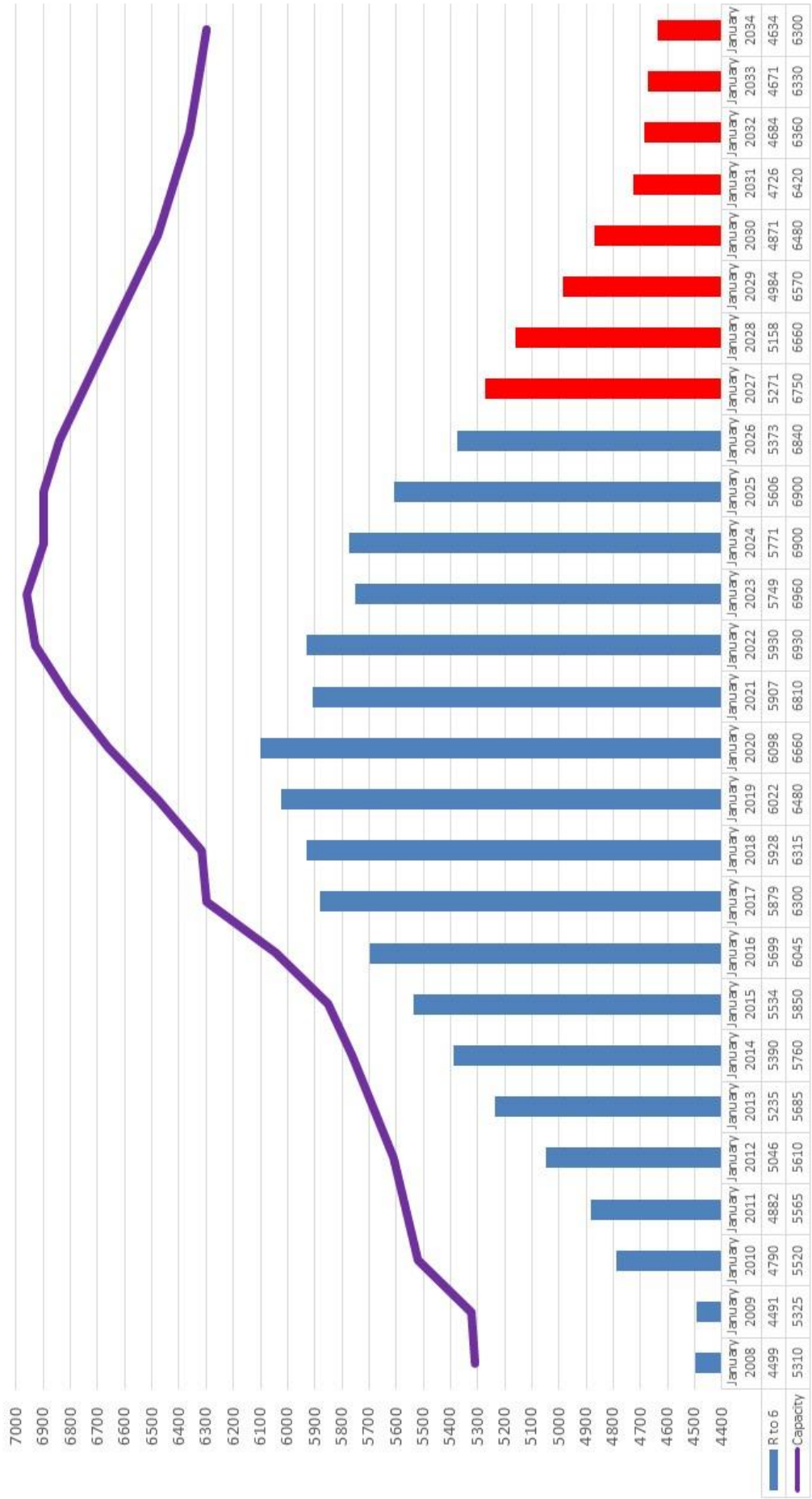
Pupil intake by area

- PA2 is a net exporter of pupils, losing around 800 pupils across all age groups (-20%)
- Pilgrim's Way Primary, situated in PA2, takes a majority of its pupils from PA3 (57%). Other PA2 schools – Phoenix and John Keats Primary take 20%, and 37% of their intake from PA3 (Peckham & Nunhead) respectively, and Phoenix also takes 37% of pupils from PA1
- St Joseph's Gomm Road RC (29%), Rotherhithe (28%), Ilderton (26%), and Pilgrim's Way (20%) take a significant proportion of their intake from outside Southwark (*mainly Lewisham*)
- Around 30% of pupils attending schools in this planning area come from outside the planning area mainly from PA3 (9%) and PA1 (10%), with around 620 pupils (10%) from outside Southwark (*mainly Lewisham* (8%))
- Conversely, 10% of PA2 resident children attending state schools attend a school in another planning area (mainly PA1) or a school outside Southwark (*mainly Lewisham*)

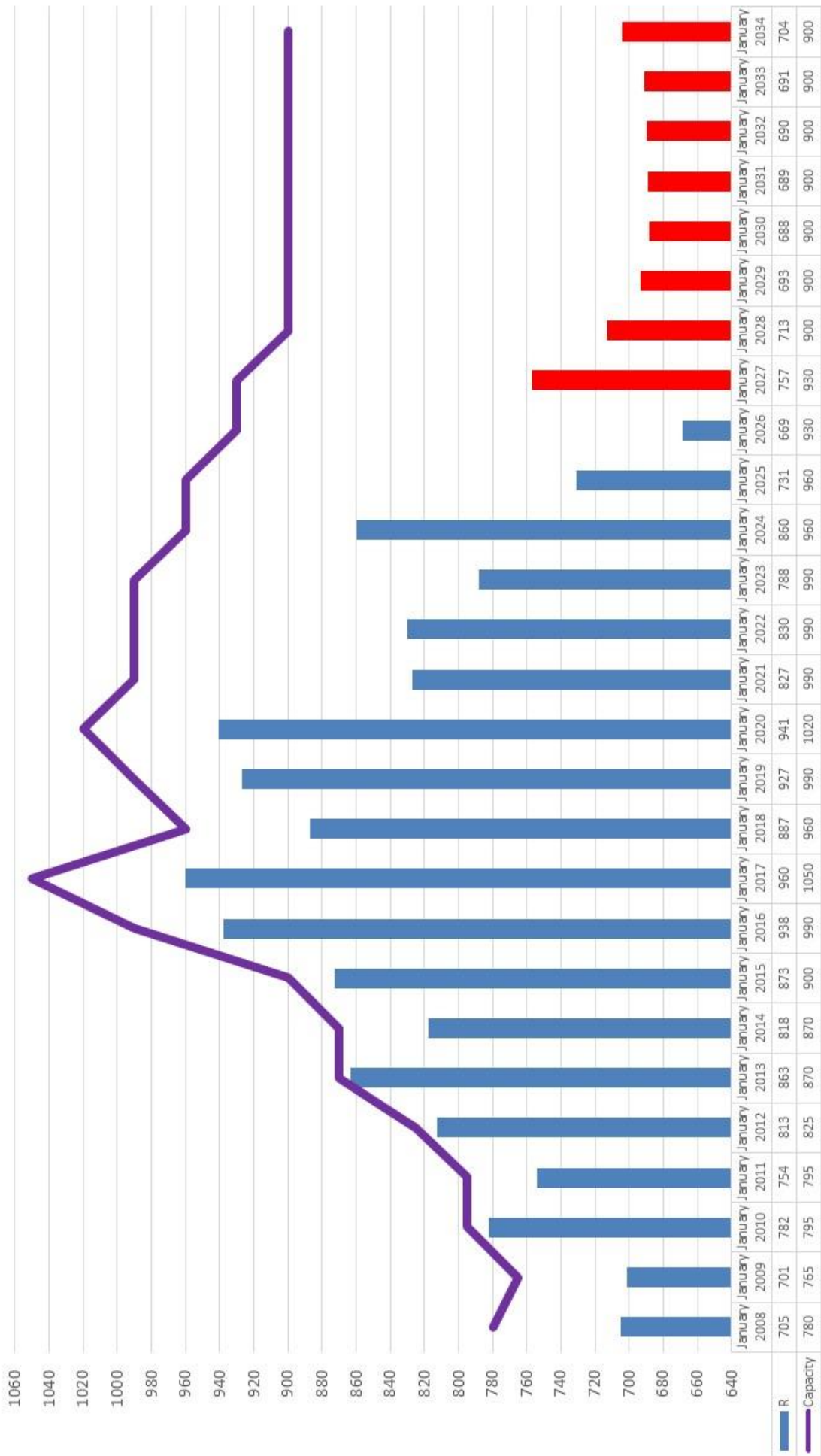
PA2 Pupil origins



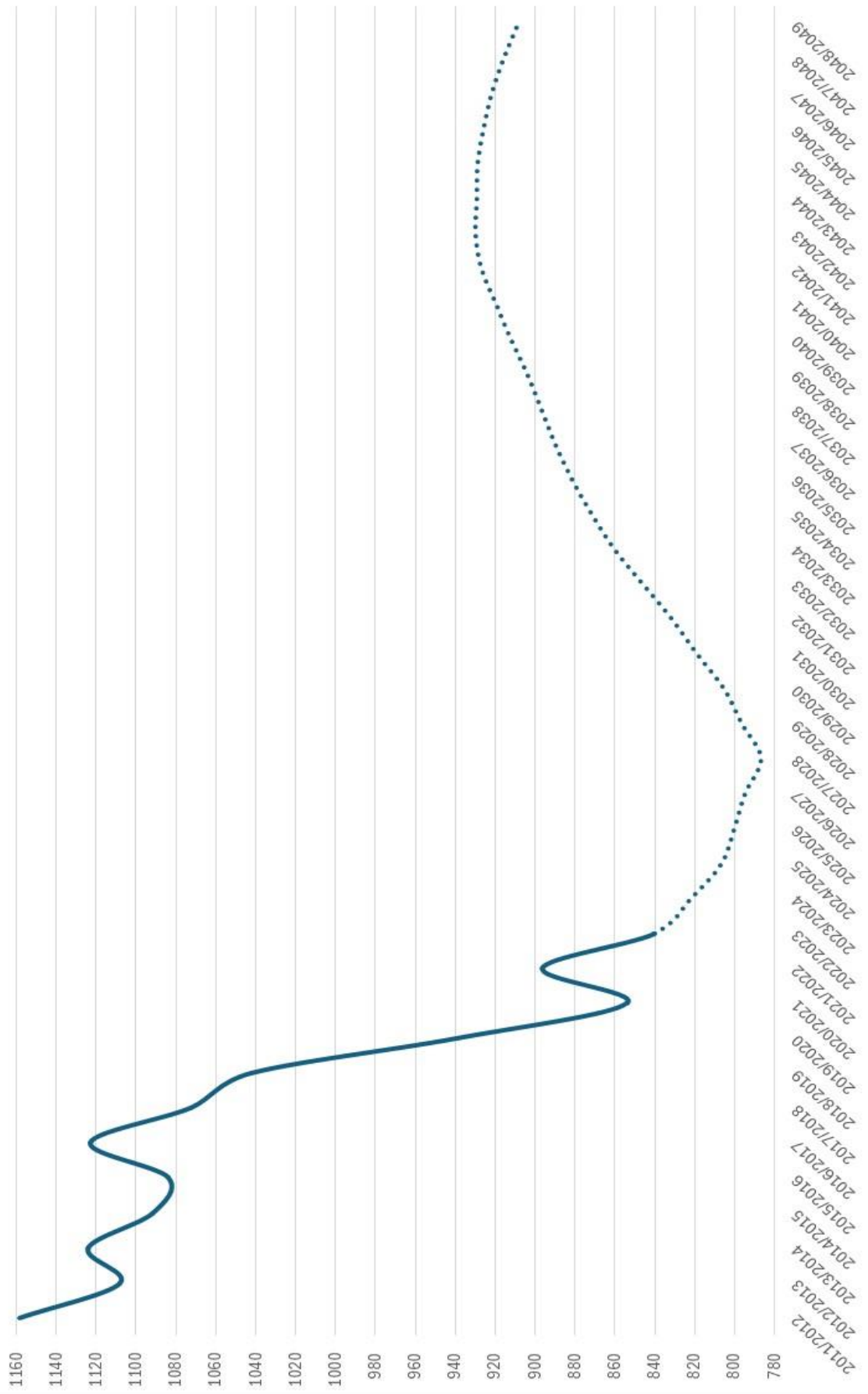
Planning Area 2 - Year R to 6 Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2008-26) and Projections (red) (2027-34)



Planning Area 2 - Year R Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2008-26) and Projections (red) (2027-34)



PA2 Births



PLANNING AREA 3

PECKHAM & NUNHEAD

Angel Oak Primary Academy

Bellenden Primary School

Bird-in-Bush Primary School

Harris Peckham Park Primary Academy

Hollydale Primary School

Ivydale Primary School

John Donne Primary School

Rye Oak Primary School

St Francis RC Primary School

St James The Great RC Primary School

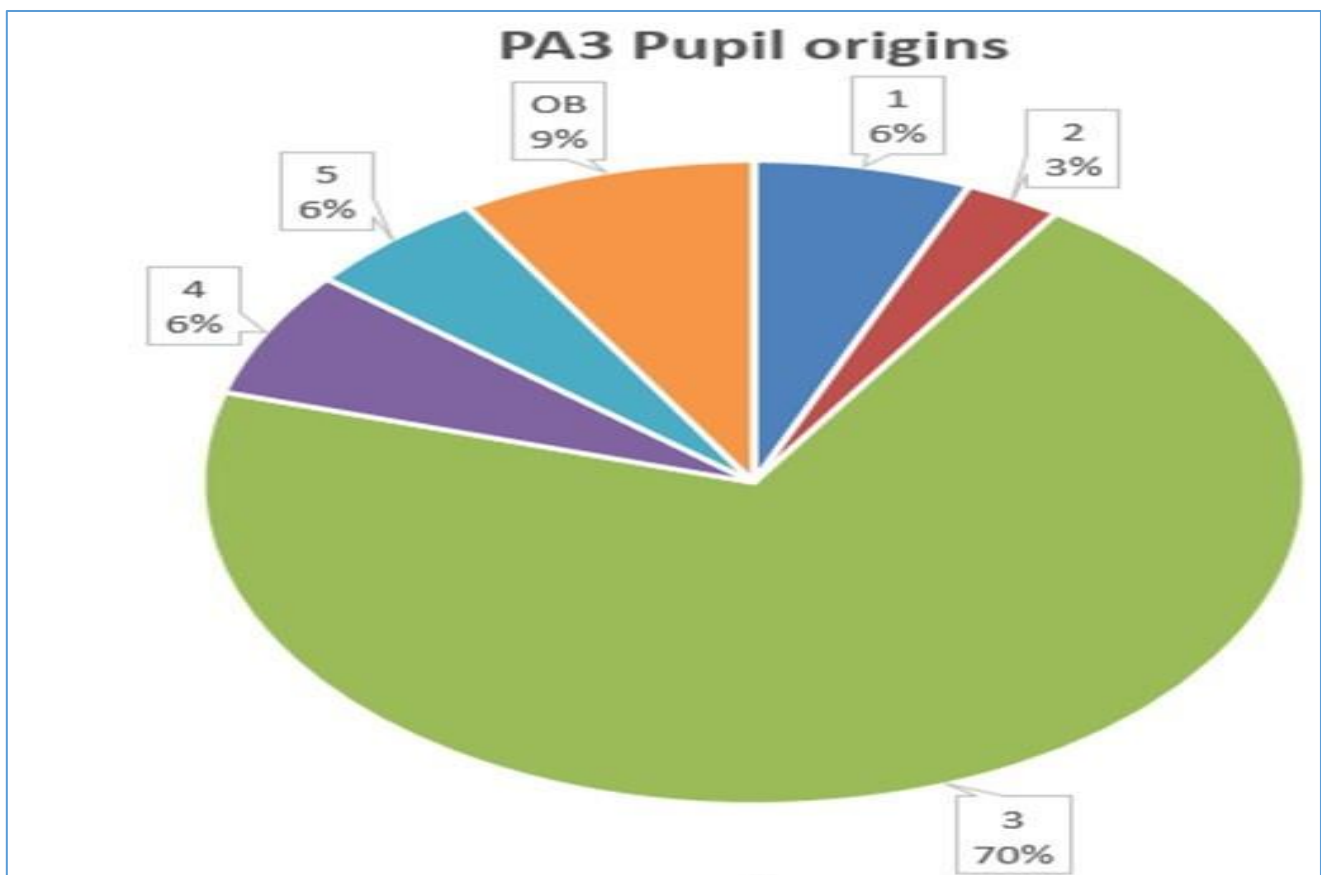
St John's/Clements CE Primary School

PA3 – Peckham & Nunhead						
Wards Covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Goose Green (<i>part</i>), Old Kent Road (<i>part</i>), Peckham, Peckham Rye, Rye Lane (<i>part</i>) 					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Angel Oak	60	ACAD	Ivydale	60	COMM
	Harris Peckham Pk	30	ACAD	Rye Oak	60	COMM
	John Donne	60	ACAD	St John's/Clements CE	60	VA CE
	Bellenden	30	COMM	St Francis RC	30	VA RC
	Bird-in-Bush	60	COMM	St James/Great RC	30	VA RC
	Hollydale	30	COMM			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 primary schools: 5 Community, 3 Academies, 1 VA CE, 2 VA RC 6 x 1FE schools, 6 x 2FE schools PA3 takes around 17% of all Southwark primary pupils and 17% of reception pupils PA3 provides around 17% of all Southwark primary places and 17% of reception places 					
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2025 – 510 reception places, 4,050 Year R to 6 places 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Mary Magdalene CE Primary School closed on the 31st August 2025 Ivydale Primary School reduced its PAN from 90 to 60 with effect from September 2025 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in the PA decreased from 2011/2-2022/3 by -37%, and are projected to decrease further from 2023/4 to 2031/2 by -3% In the Peckham ward, births decreased by -46% from 2011/12 to 2022/23, and are projected to fall by a further -11% by 2031; in Peckham Rye ward, the drop was -38%, to be followed by a further drop of -7%; in Rye Lane ward, the figures were -34% and then an increase of +7%. In Old Kent Road ward, the figures were -32% and +25%. In Goose Green ward, the figures were -33% and a further fall of -8% 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In December 2025, there were 119 spare reception places (4FE) across PA3 - 23% of all reception places, and 898 Year R to 6 vacancies (21%). The GLA project 77 Year R vacancies in 2026/7 (15%) as a result of capacity reduction, and 880 YR to Y6 vacancies (22%) The GLA project 105 (4FE) reception vacancies in September 2033 (21%), and 944 YR to Y6 vacancies (26%) at the same time, if no further work is undertaken to reduce capacity 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Francesca Cabrini RC Primary – closed in September 2023 - (a net reduction of 30 reception places and 390 primary places). St Francis RC Primary PAN Reduction 2FE to 1FE (net reduction of 30 reception places and 210 primary places) implemented in 2025/26. Harris Free Peckham amalgamated with Harris Peckham Park on the Peckham Park site – implemented in September 2023 (a net reduction of 30 reception places and 390 YR to 6 places). St Mary Magdalene CE Primary – closed in September 2025 - (net reduction of 30 reception places and 210 primary places). Reduction of PAN at Ivydale from 90 to 60 and relocation to one site agreed, reducing number of primary places by 210 over time. Overall reductions of 150 reception and 1410 primary places. 					
GLA Projections 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2034 at reception and across all year groups. GLA projections show that reception demand will increase by 14 places (1FE) (+4%), and R to 6 demand will fall by 565 pupils – equivalent to a 2.5FE primary (-18%) 					
Pupil intake by area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PA3 is a net exporter of pupils, losing around 1,147 pupils across all age groups, the equivalent of around three two form entry primaries. The net import/export of pupils from within Southwark is a net loss of around 12%. Around 30% of pupils in this planning area come from outside the planning area. Conversely, around 41% of PA3 resident children 					

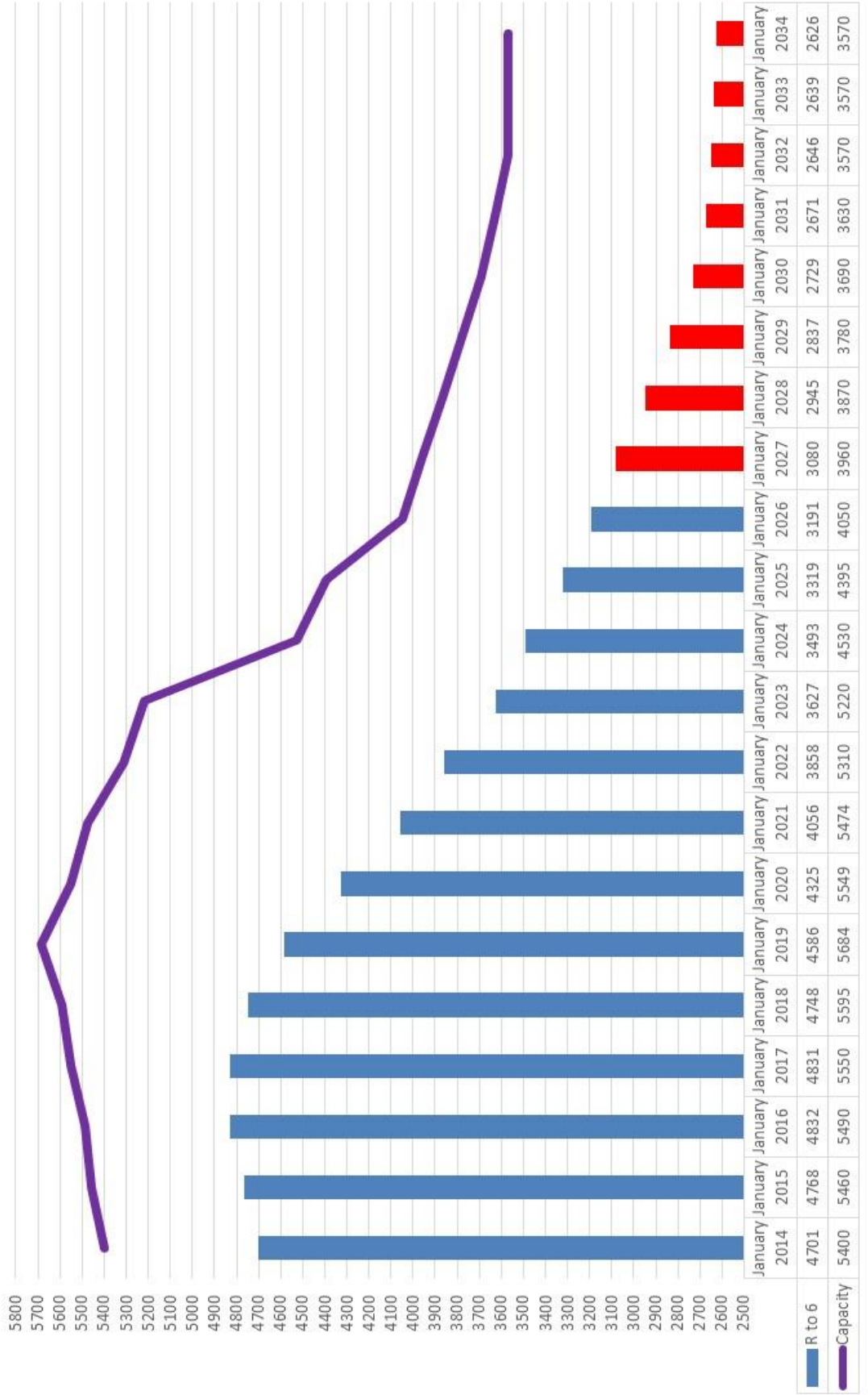
PA3 – Peckham & Nunhead

attending state schools attend a school in another Southwark planning area, or a school outside Southwark – about equally divided between the two. 314 pupils in PA3 (9%) come from outside Southwark – 5% from Lewisham, and 1% each from Croydon, Lambeth, and Bromley

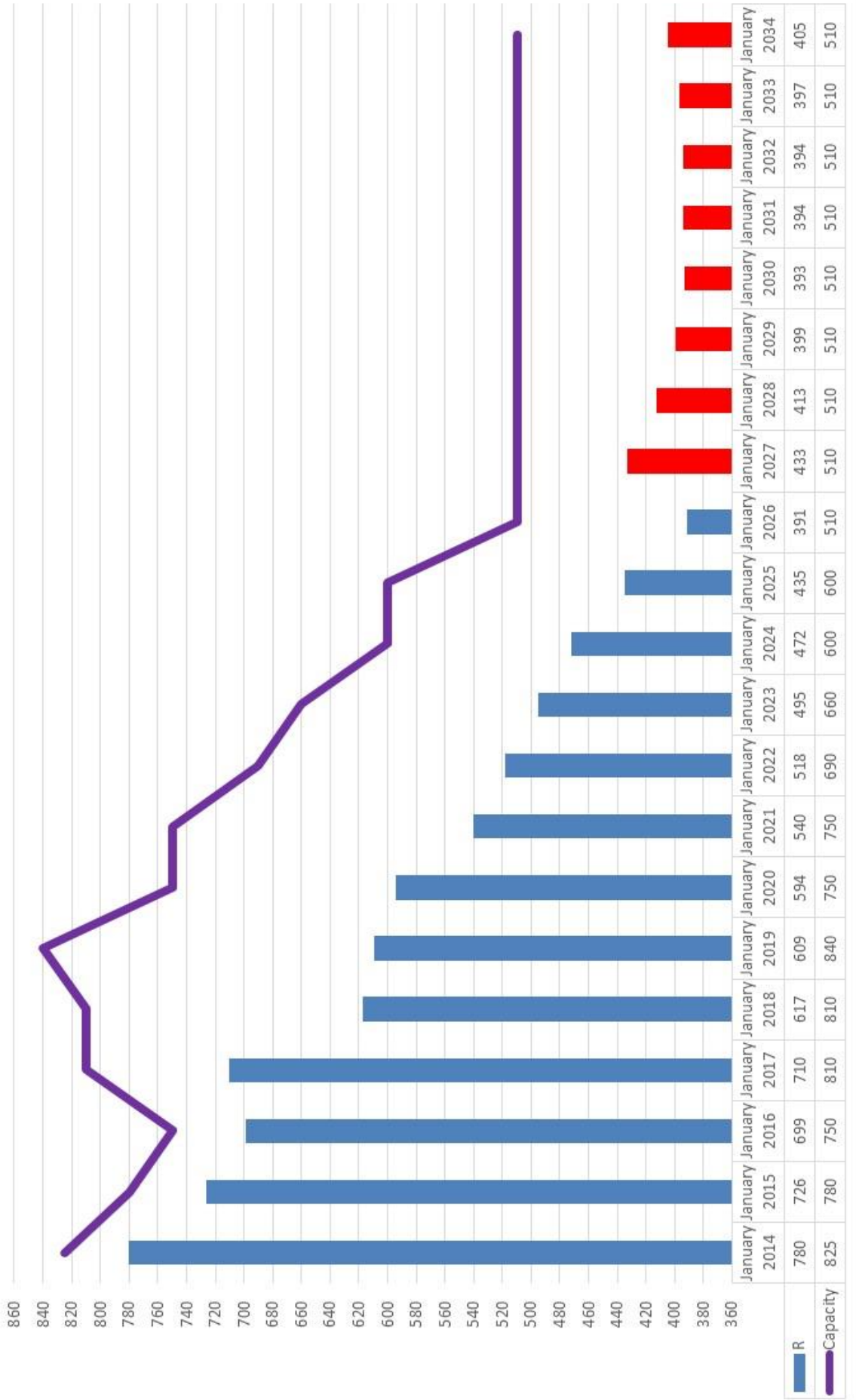
- St John's & St Clements CE takes **48%** of pupils from outside PA3 (mainly PA5 – **32%**); St James the Great RC (**44%**), Bird-in-Bush (**37%**), Bellenden (**35%**) and St Francis RC (**33%**) take pupils from outside their planning area.
- Hollydale (**15%**), St John's & St Clements CE (**12%**), Bird-in-Bush (**12%**) all take higher than average outborough rolls
- Conversely, Pilgrims Way (**57%**) and John Keats (**35%**), and Ilderton (35%) in PA2, the Belham Primary Free School (**71%**), Oliver Goldsmith (**49%**), St George's CE Primary (**31%**), all in PA4, and Goose Green (**30%**) and St Anthony's RC (**25%**) in PA5 take a substantial number of their pupils from PA3.



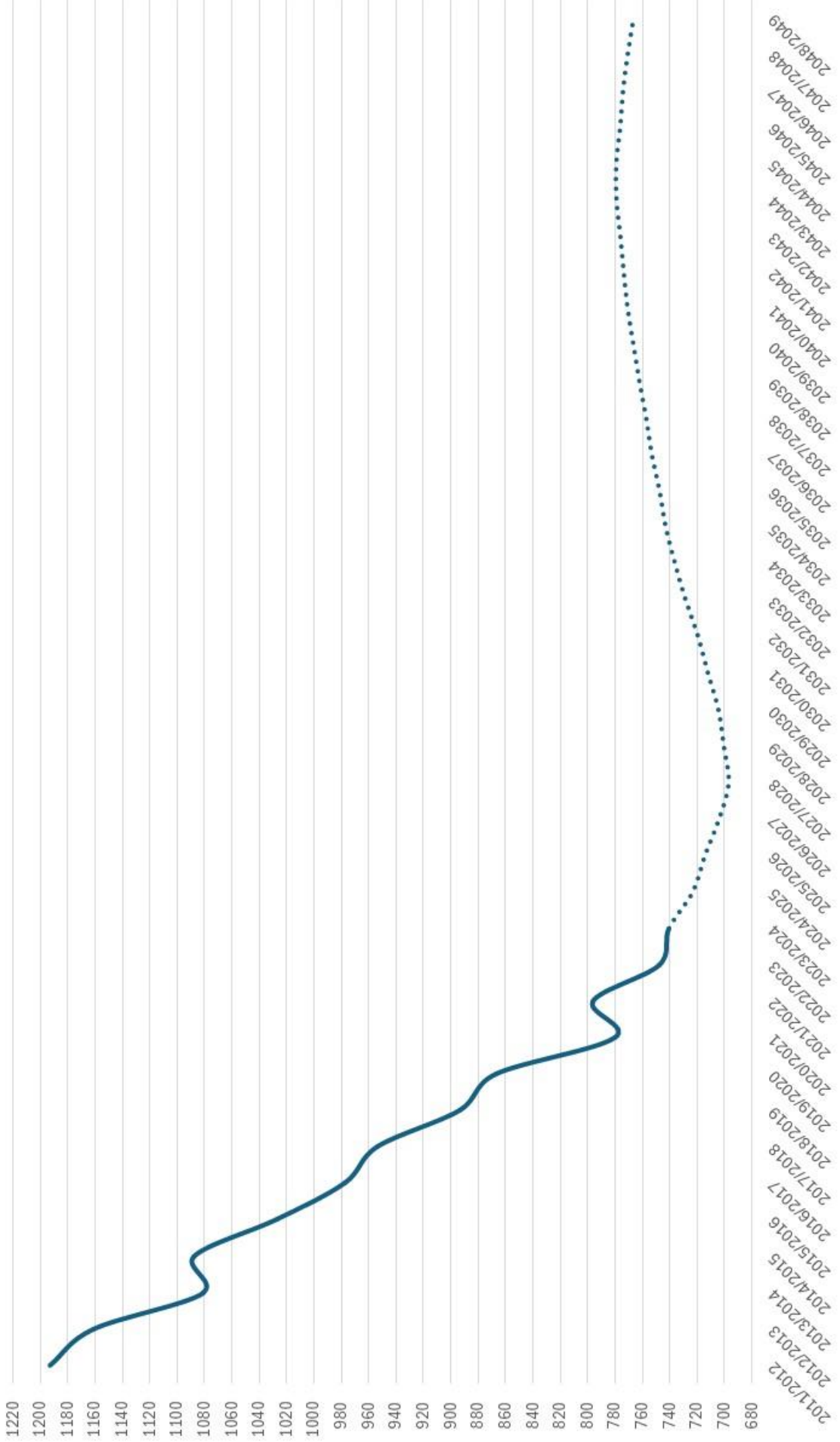
Planning Area 3 - Year R to 6 Capacity (purple), Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-34)



Planning Area 3 - Year R Capacity (purple), Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-34)



PA3 Births



PLANNING AREA 4 CAMBERWELL

*Bessemer Grange Primary School
Brunswick Park Primary School
Crawford Primary School
The Grove (ex-Dog Kennel Hill) Primary
John Ruskin Primary School
Lyndhurst Primary School
Oliver Goldsmith Primary School
St Georges CE Primary School
St Joseph's Camberwell RC Infants
St Joseph's Camberwell RC Junior School
The Belham Primary School*

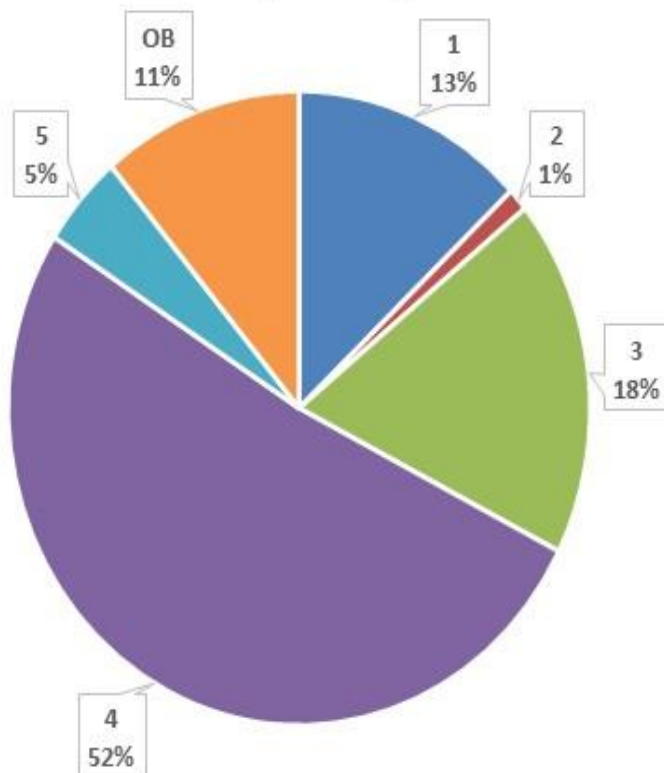
PA4 – Camberwell						
Wards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camberwell Green, Champion Hill, Rye Lane (<i>part</i>), St Giles 					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Lyndhurst	60	ACAD	John Ruskin	60	COMM
	The Grove (ex- Dog Kennel Hill)	60	ACAD	Oliver Goldsmith	60	COMM
	Bessemer Grange	60	COMM	Belham	60	FREE
	Brunswick Park	60	COMM	St Georges CE	30	VA CE
	Crawford	60	COMM	St Joseph's Infants RC	60	VA RC
	* PAN for Y3			St Joseph's Junior RC	60*	VA RC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11 primary schools: 5 Community, 2 Academies, 1 Free School, 1 VA CE, 1 VA RC Infant and 1 VA RC Junior 1 x 1FE schools, 10 x 2FE schools, PA4 takes around 17% of all Southwark primary pupils, and 17% reception pupils PA4 provides around 18% of all Southwark primary places and 17% of reception places 						
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2025 – there were 540 reception places, and 4,110 Year R to 6 places 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bessemer Grange reduced its PAN from 90 to 60 in September 2025 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in the area have decreased -26% from 2011/12 to 2022/23. From 2022/3 to 2031/32, births are projected to decrease further by -4% In the wards that make up the planning area, Camberwell Green births reduced by -25% from 2011/12-2022/3, but are projected to decrease further by -3% from 2022/3-2031/32. Champion Hill ward reduced by -24% and is projected to decrease further by -20% by 2031. St Giles ward births decreased by -23% and will decrease further by -23%. In Rye Lane ward, the figures were a -34% drop and then an increase of +7% 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are presently around 166 (6FE) spare places (29%) at reception this year, with a gradual projected decrease of demand thereafter. Whole school vacancy levels equate to 928 (22%). For 2026/7, the GLA project 117 reception vacancies (22%), and 990 YR-6 vacancies (24%) In January 2033, the GLA project 134 vacancies (5FE) (26%) and 1,183 YR to Y6 (32%) if no further action is taken Year R capacity is scheduled to reduce by 60 (2FE) to 510 if no further action is taken - R to 6 capacity will reduce by 480 (12%) places by 2034 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bessemer Grange Primary - PAN Reduction 3FE to 2FE (Net reduction of reception by 30 and primary roll by 210) implemented in 2025/26. Comber Grove Primary – closure (net reduction of 30 and primary roll by 240) was agreed by Cabinet in July 2024 for September 2024 PAN reduction at Crawford Primary school from 60 to 30 in 2026/27 has been approved (Net reduction of reception by 30 and primary roll by 210) Overall reduction of 90 reception and 660 primary places over time. 					
GLA Projections 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2034 at reception and Years R to 6. GLA projections show that reception demand will fall by 28 pupils (1FE) (-7%), with capacity falling by 60 (2FE - -11%), and R to 6 demand will fall by 735 pupils (-23%), with capacity falling by 480 (-12%) 					
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PA4 is a net importer of pupils, gaining around 195 pupils across all age groups, the equivalent of just under a one-form entry primary. 					

PA4 – Camberwell

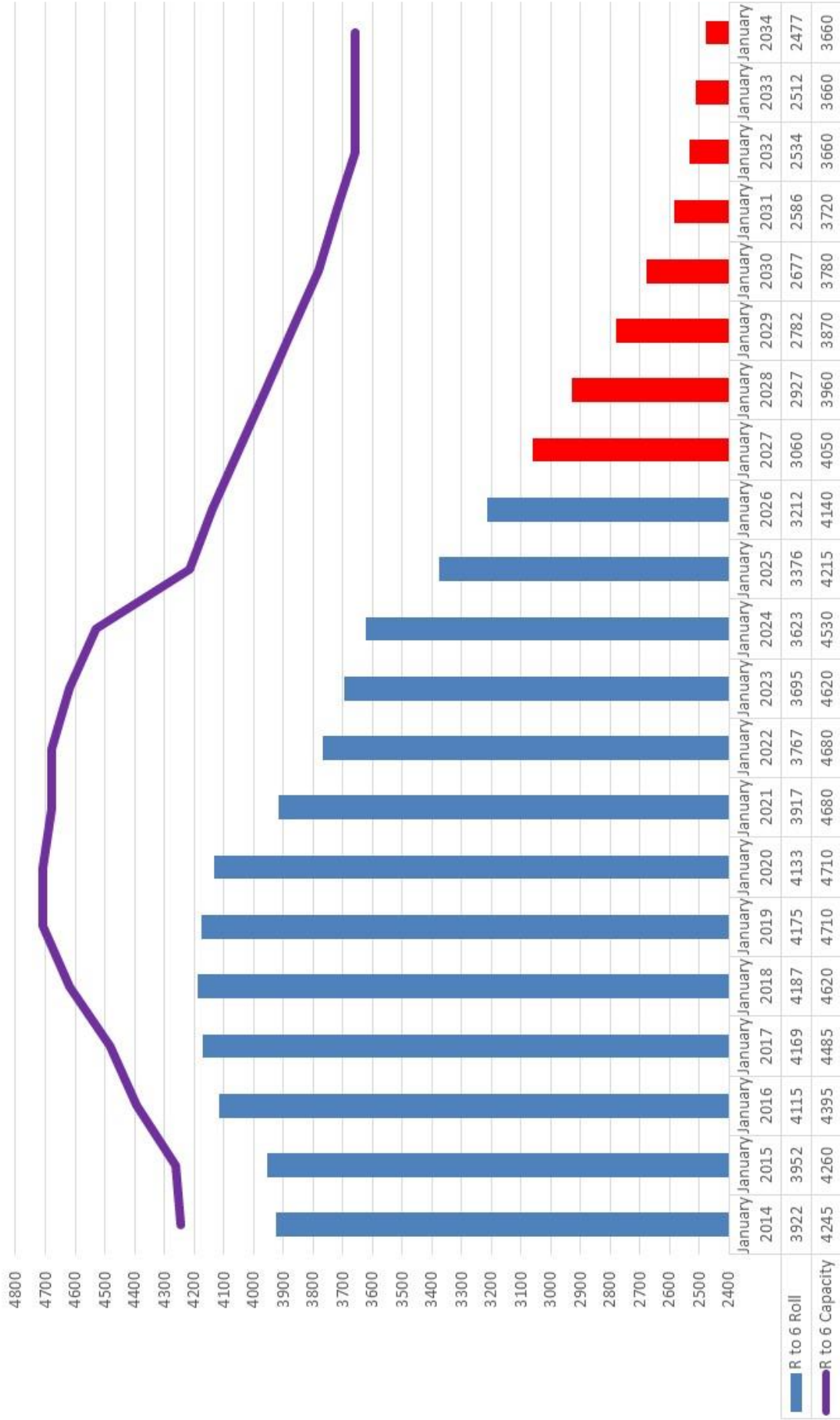
Pupil intake by area

- Around **48%** of pupils in this planning area come from outside the planning area, mainly from within Southwark (this is the highest percentage in Southwark). Around **11%** of the PA4 roll (455 pupils) come from outside Southwark, **7%** from Lambeth and **1%** each from Lewisham and Croydon
- Crawford (**24%**), Bessemer Grange (**22%**), St Joseph's Junior (**19%**), and St Joseph's Infants (**16%**) take a higher-than-average percentage of outborough pupils – mainly from Lambeth
- Conversely, around **25%** of PA4 resident children attending state schools attend a school mainly from within another Southwark planning area. Goose Green and St Anthony's RC Primary in PA5 both take around a quarter of its pupils from PA4
- Of schools in PA4 taking pupils from other planning areas, the Belham Primary Free School accommodates **80%** of its pupils from outside PA4, as do John Ruskin Primary (**74%**), Oliver Goldsmith (**67%**), St George's CE (**55%**), and Bessemer Grange (**53%**)

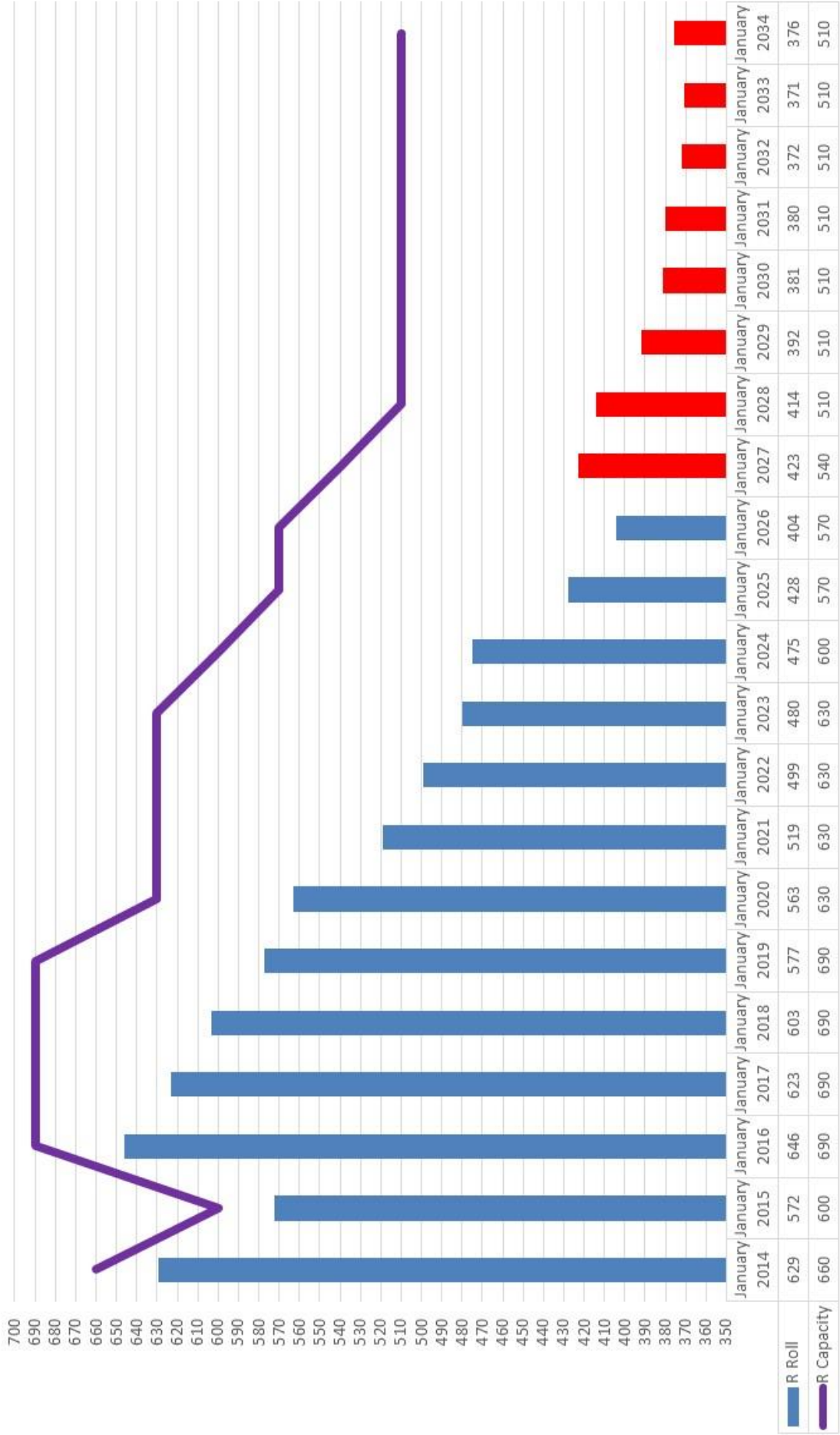
PA4 Pupil Origins



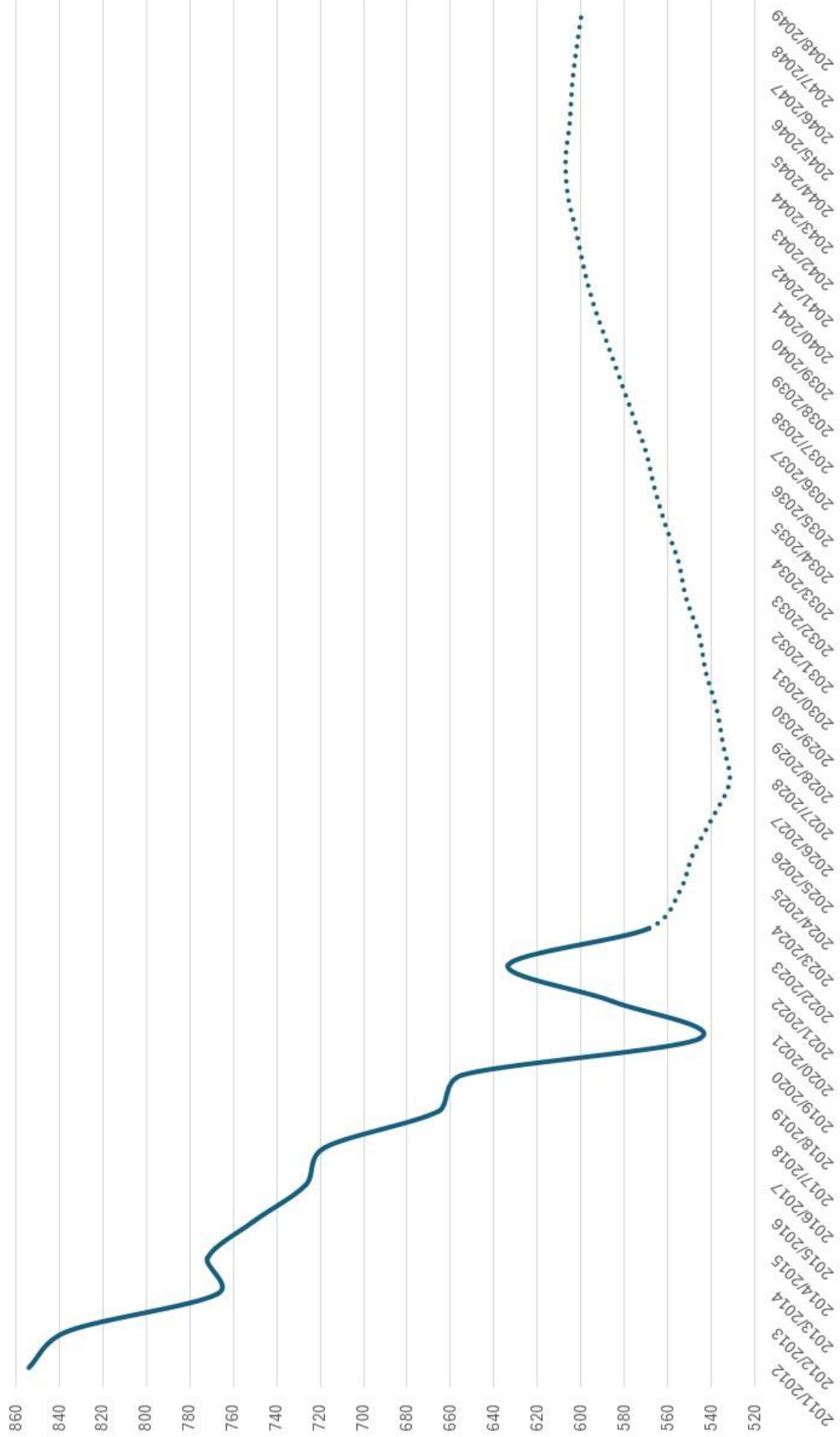
Planning Area 4 - Year R to 6 Capacity, , Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-33)



Planning Area 4 - Year R Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-33)



PA4 Births



PLANNING AREA 5

DULWICH

Dulwich Hamlet Junior School
Dulwich Wood Primary School
Dulwich Village CE Infants School
Goodrich Primary School
Goose Green Primary School
Harris Primary Free School East Dulwich
Heber Primary School
Judith Kerr Primary Free School
St Anthony's RC Primary School

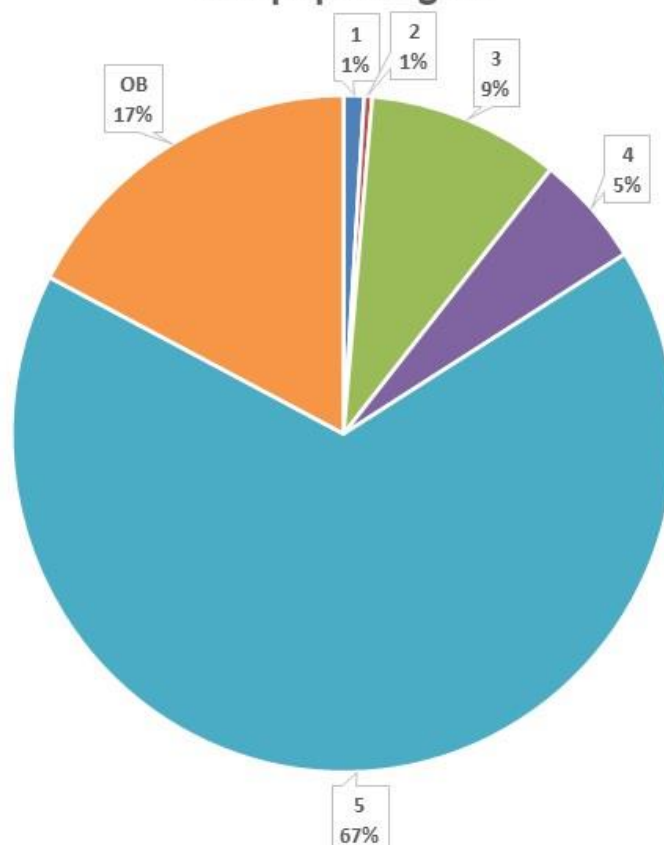
PA5 – Dulwich						
Wards	• Dulwich Hill, Dulwich Village, Dulwich Wood, Goose Green (<i>part</i>)					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Dulwich Hamlet Juniors	90*	ACAD	Heber	60	COMM
	Goose Green	60	ACAD	Judith Kerr Free	56	FREE
	St Anthony's RC	60	ACAD	Harris Free East Dulwich	60	FREE
	Goodrich	60	COMM	Dulwich Village Infants CE	90	VA CE
	Dulwich Wood Primary	60	COMM	* PAN for Y3		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 primary schools: 3 Community, 3 Academies (including 1 RC Academy, and 1 Junior Academy), 2 Free Schools, 1 VA CE Infant • 1 x 1.8FE school, 5 x 2FE schools, 1 x 3FE Infants, 1 x 3FE Junior • PA5 takes around 17% of all Southwark primary pupils and 19% of reception pupils • PA5 provides around 16% of all Southwark primary places and 16% of reception places 					
Capacity Changes since the last report	• As at September 2024 – 506 reception places, 3,722 Year R to 6 places					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births in the planning area decreased -42% from 2011/12-2022/23 and are projected to decrease further by -8% from 2022/23-2031/32. Conversely, pupil numbers <i>increased</i> by +23% from 2012-23, and reception numbers by +18% • In the wards that make up this planning area, Dulwich Hill's births have decreased by -50% from 2011/12-2022/3, and are forecast to reduce a further -9% from 2023-31; Dulwich Village – a -42% decrease and a further -10% decrease; Dulwich Wood a -42% decrease 2012-22, and a further -2% decrease; Goose Green, a -33% decrease, and a further -8% decrease • In this locality birth figures are <i>not</i> a reliable indicator of demand, and the percentage of Dulwich resident parents attending Dulwich schools is reducing; schools recruit from further afield on an annual basis, both from inside and outside Southwark • In the last 3 years, the percentage of PA5 residents attending PA5 schools has fallen from 79% to 67% (-12%) 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are presently 76 spare reception places (3FE) across PA5, 15% of all reception places, and 532 YR to 6 vacancies (14%). 76 reception vacancies are also projected for 2026/27 (15%) and 520 whole school vacancies (14%) • By 2033, we project 55 vacancies at reception (11%) and 521 YR-6 vacancies (14%) 					
GLA Projections 2025	• There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2034 at reception and across all year groups. Projections show that reception demand has peaked and will fall by 12 pupils (-3%) by 2034. Capacity at reception fell by 30 places by 2026 onwards (6% less), and whilst Years R to 6 demand will fall by around 83 pupils (3% less) over the same time period, R to 6 capacity will fall by 54 (1% less), if no further actions are taken					
Keeping Education Actions	Reduction of PAN at Goodrich Primary from 90 to 60, reducing 210 places over time.					
Pupil intake by area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PA5 is a net importer of pupils, gaining around 600 pupils across all age groups • Around 33% of pupils in this planning area come from outside the planning area - PA3 (9%) and PA4 (5%). This also includes 17% outborough (the 					

PA5 – Dulwich

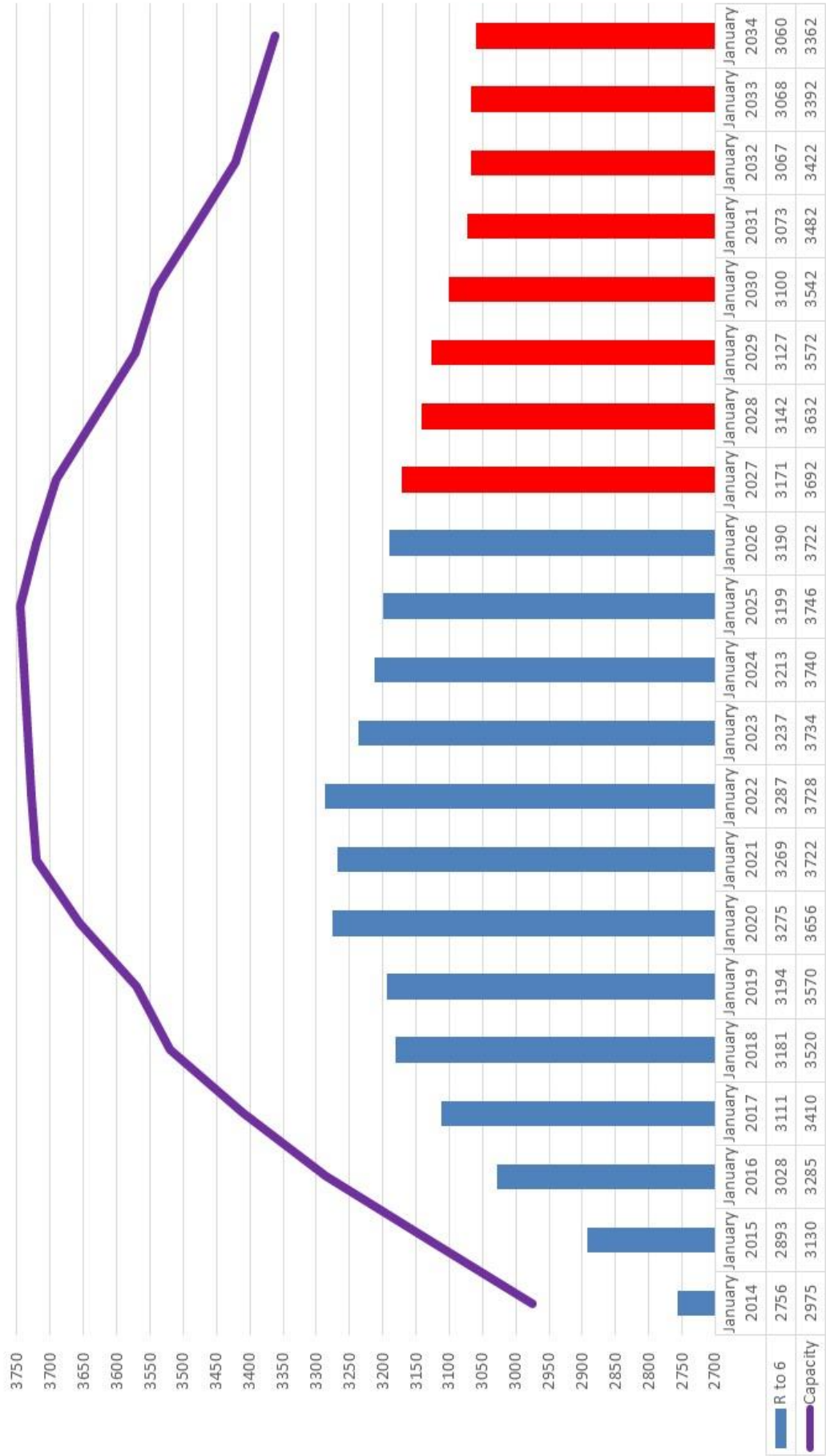
highest percentage for a planning area – Lambeth (**10%**), Lewisham (**5%**), and **1%** each for Bromley and Croydon

- Goose Green (**63%**), St Anthony's RC (**53%**), Judith Kerr (**52%**), , Dulwich Wood (**31%**) take a significant percentage of pupils from outside Southwark (*mainly Lewisham and Lambeth*)
- Conversely The Grove Primary (ex-Dog Kennel Hill) (**39%**) and Bessemer Grange Primary (**31%**) both in PA4 have a significant intake of pupils from PA5
- Schools in the Dulwich planning area remain popular with applicants from adjoining planning areas and other LAs – this is evidenced by the drop in births outlined above, but an increase in demand for reception places.
- There is a risk that provision of additional capacity in this area could be abstractive of other planning areas and schools from neighbouring boroughs, rather than meet demand from local residents – indeed, it may actually reduce the percentage of local children attending schools in Dulwich instead
- The net percentage inflow of Southwark children from other planning areas is (**+13%**)
- Around **19%** of PA5 resident children attend state primary schools attend a school in another Southwark planning area PAs 3 and 4, or a school outside Southwark
- There is a concentration of private schools in this locality in Southwark. Of the pupils attending private primary schools in Southwark, **95%** of these attended schools situated in PA5. But only a small percentage are believed to be Southwark residents

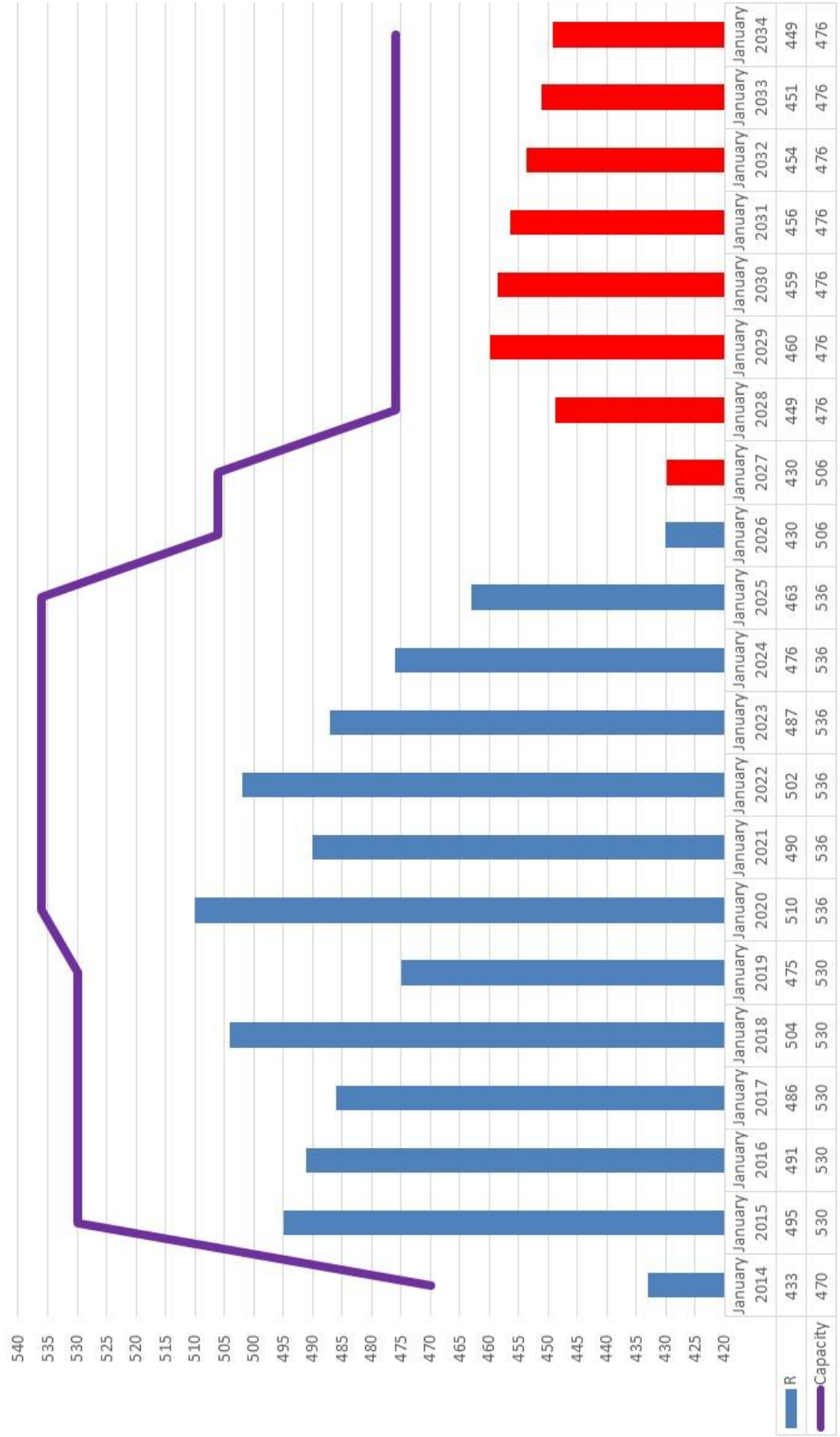
PA5 pupil origins



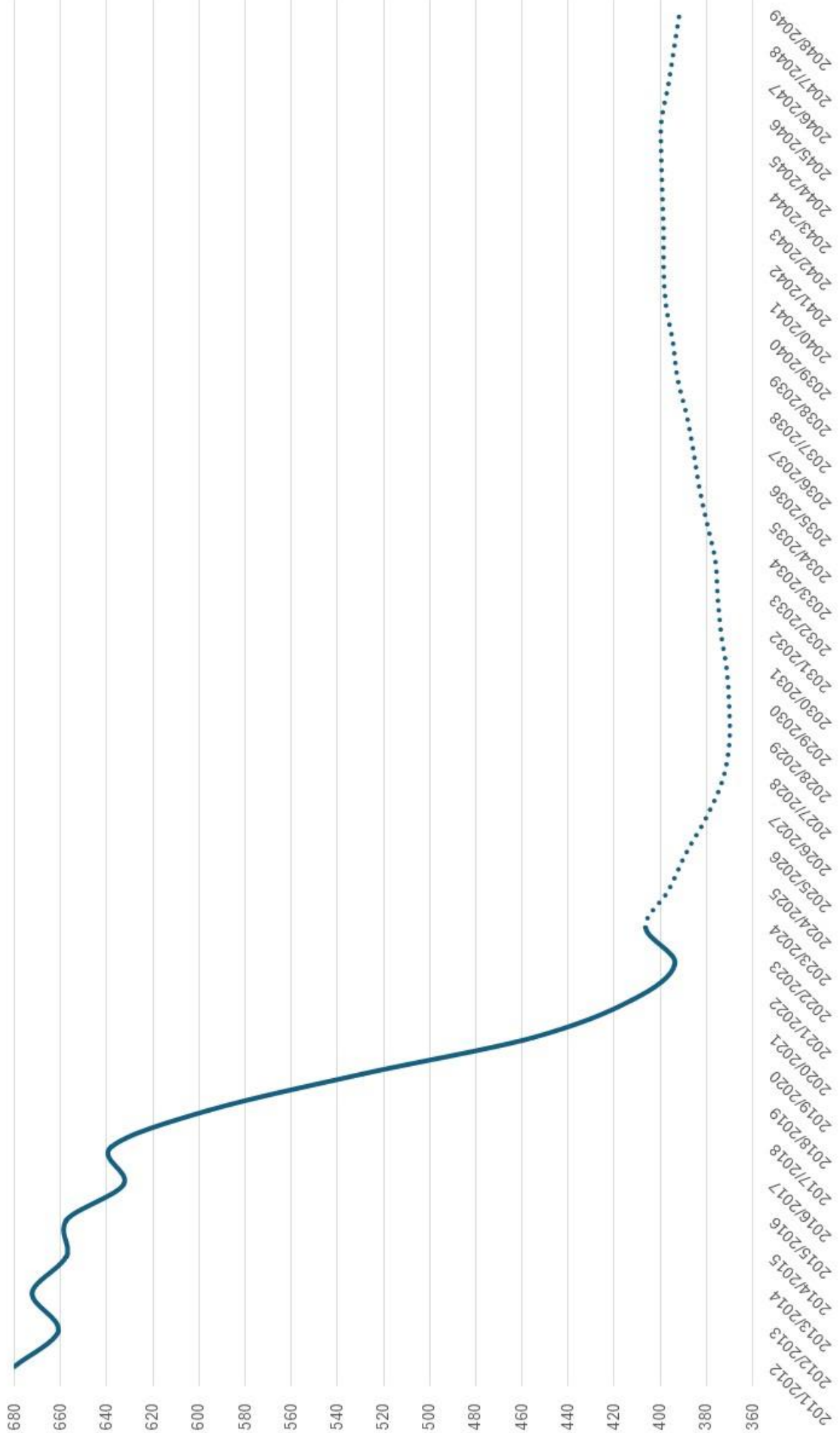
Planning Area 5 - Year R to 6 Capacity (*purple*), Rolls - (*blue*) (2014-26) and Projections (*red*) (2027-33)



Planning Area 5 - Year R Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2014-26) and Projections (red) (2027-34) against capacity (purple)



PA5 Births

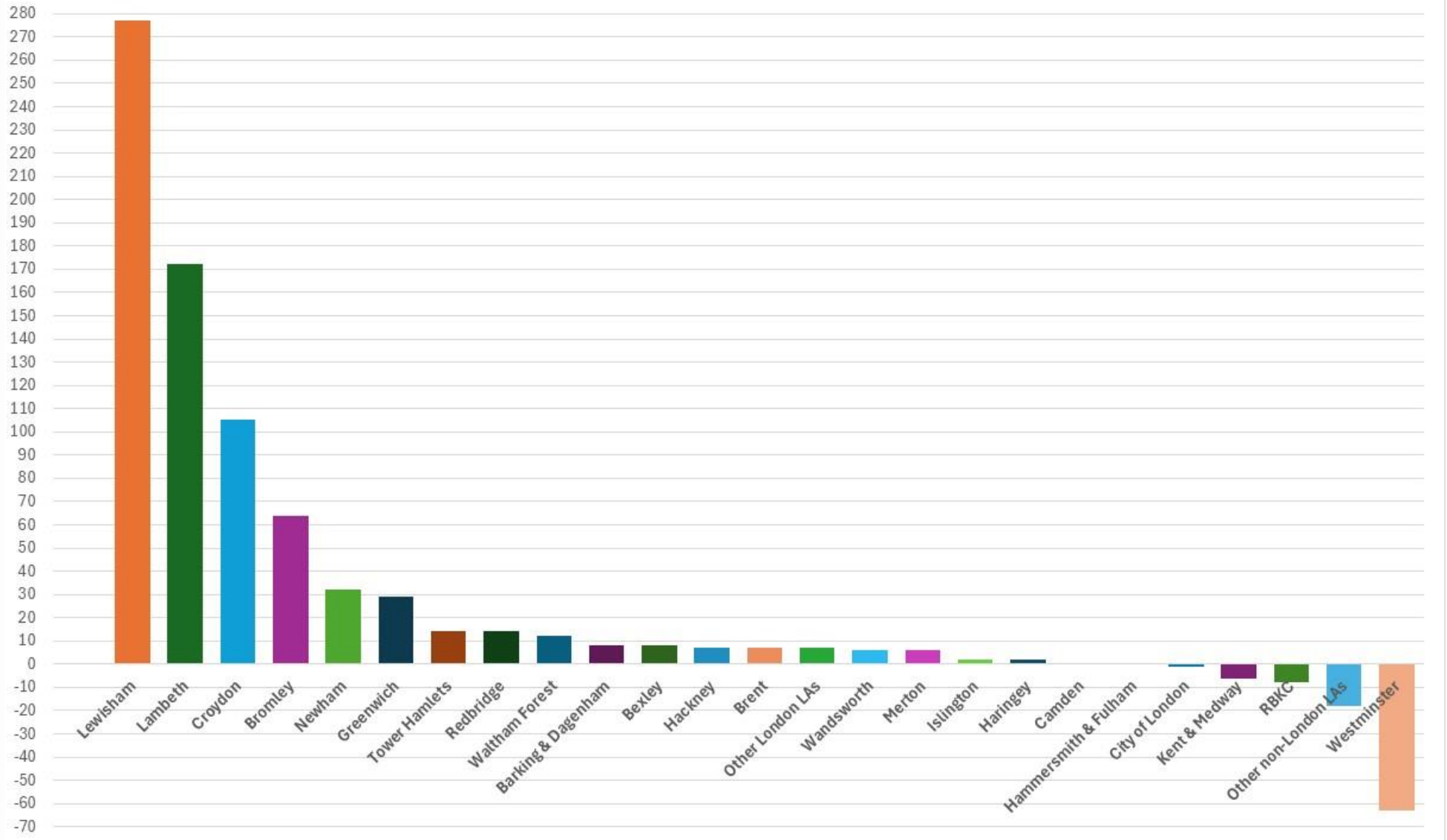


Section 9 – Primary Cross Border flows into and out of Southwark – 2024-25 (latest figures)

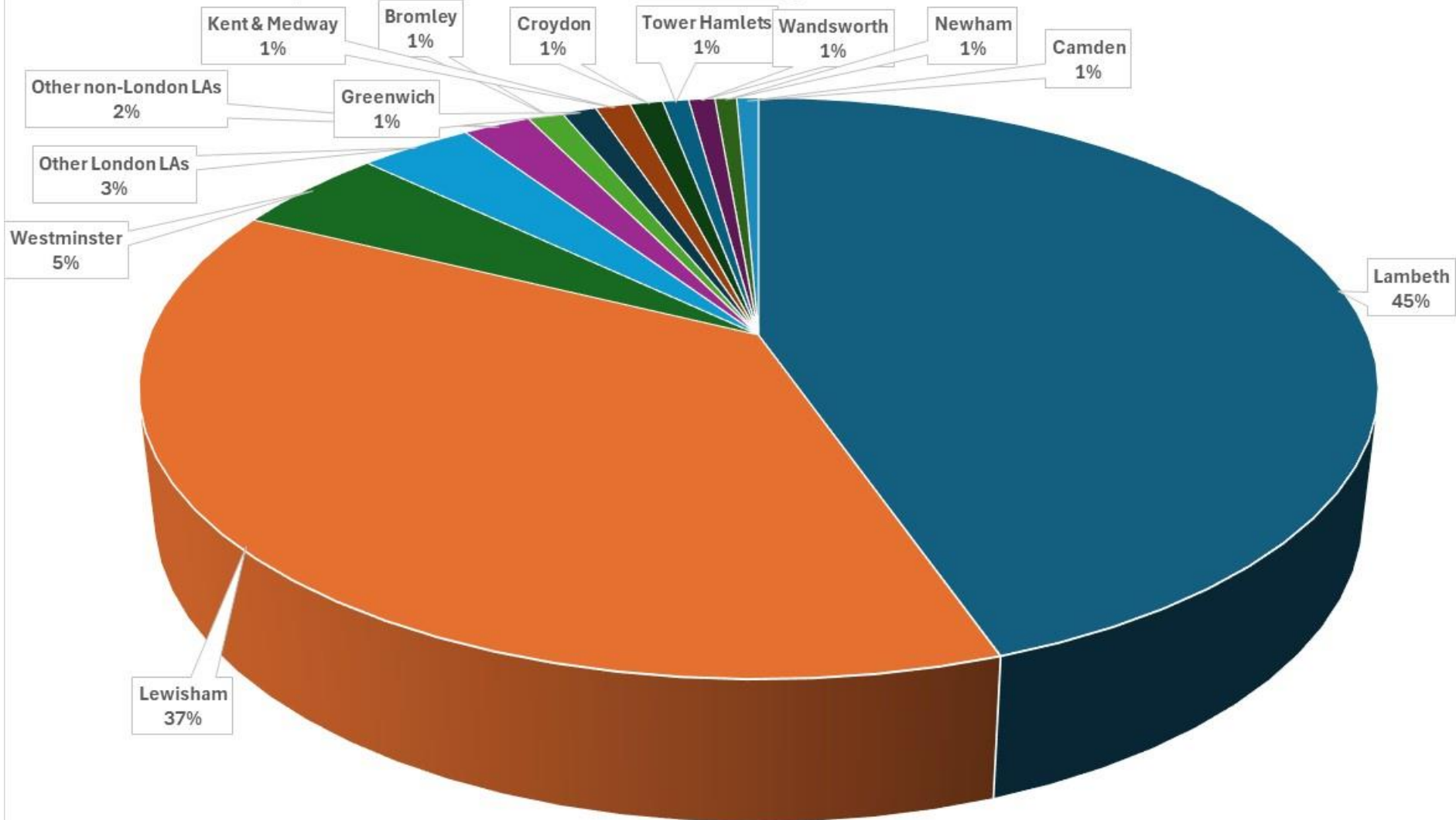
Pupils in Southwark attending primary schools in other LAs/pupils from other LAs attending Southwark schools

LA	Pupils from Southwark attending other LA's schools	Percentage of Southwark Out borough pupils	Pupils from other LAs attending Southwark Schools	Percentage Out borough pupils in Southwark	Net +/- flow
Lambeth	659	45%	831	39%	+172
Lewisham	555	38%	832	39%	+277
Westminster	71	5%	8	0.4%	-63
Greenwich	16	1%	45	2%	+29
Croydon	15	1%	120	6%	+105
Bromley	16	1%	80	4%	+64
Wandsworth	12	1%	18	1%	+6
Camden	10	1%	10	0.5%	0
RBKC	9	1%	1	0.05%	-8
Islington	4	0.3%	6	0.3%	+2
Hackney	2	0.1%	9	0.4%	+7
Hammersmith & Fulham	2	0.1%	2	0.1%	0
Barking & Dagenham	1	0.1%	9	0.4%	+8
Haringey	6	0.4%	8	0.4%	+2
Brent	2	0.1%	9	0.4%	+7
City of London	4	0.3%	3	0.1%	-1
Tower Hamlets	12	1%	26	1%	+14
Newham	10	1%	42	2%	+32
Bexley	8	1%	16	1%	+8
Redbridge	4	0.3%	18	1%	+14
Waltham Forest	0	0.0%	12	1%	+12
Merton	3	0.2%	9	0.4%	+6
Other London LAs	7	0.5%	14	1%	+7
Kent & Medway	16	1%	10	0.5%	-6
Other non-London LAs	31	2%	13	1%	-18
All Cross borough	1,478	100%	2,128	100%	+650

Primary Net +/- flow 2024/25

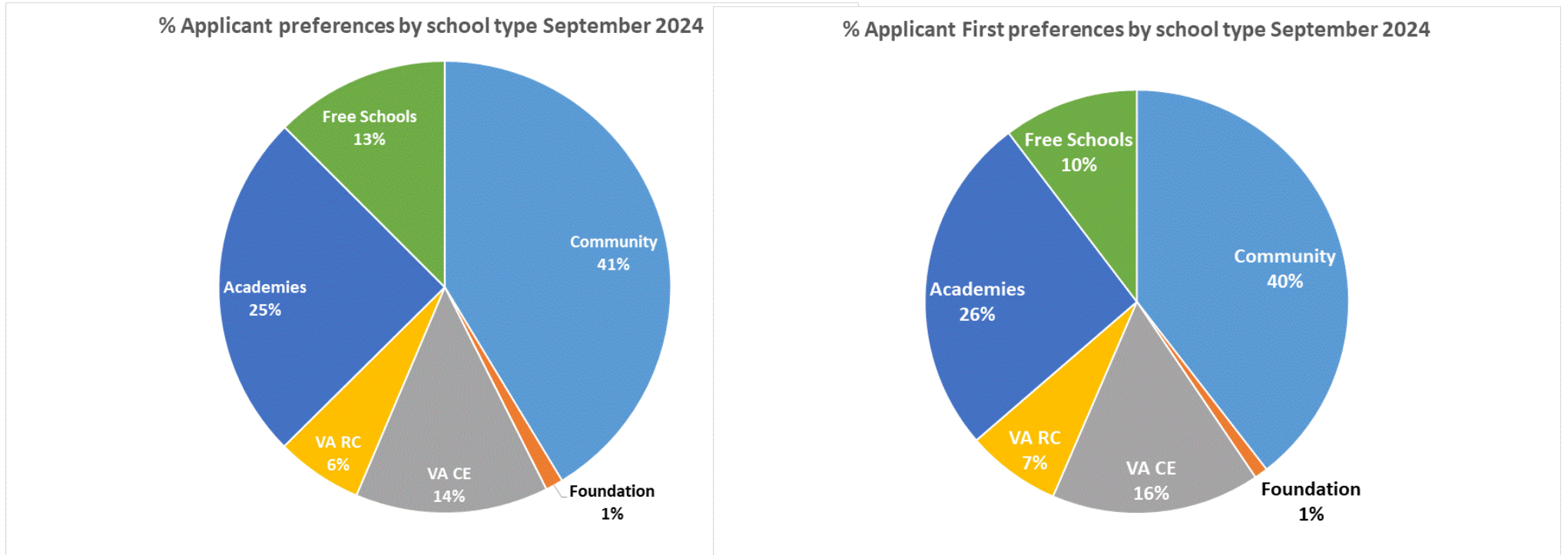


Pupils from Southwark attending other LA's schools 2024/25



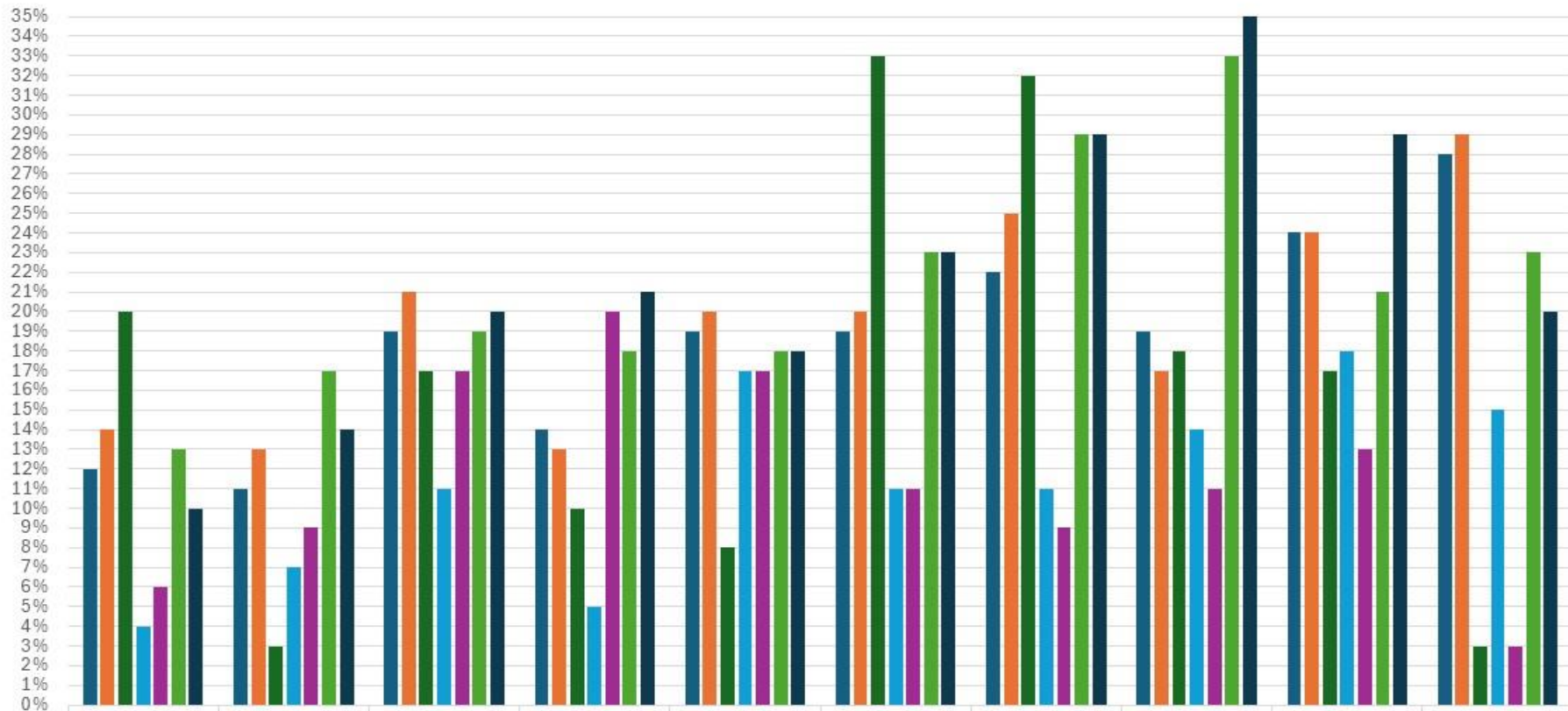
Section 10 – Preferences by Sector for Primary Reception Places

Table 16 – Preference per Primary place by school type



SECTION 11a – Primary vacancies by school type – at reception

Vacancy Rates by School Type 2016/17 to 2025/26

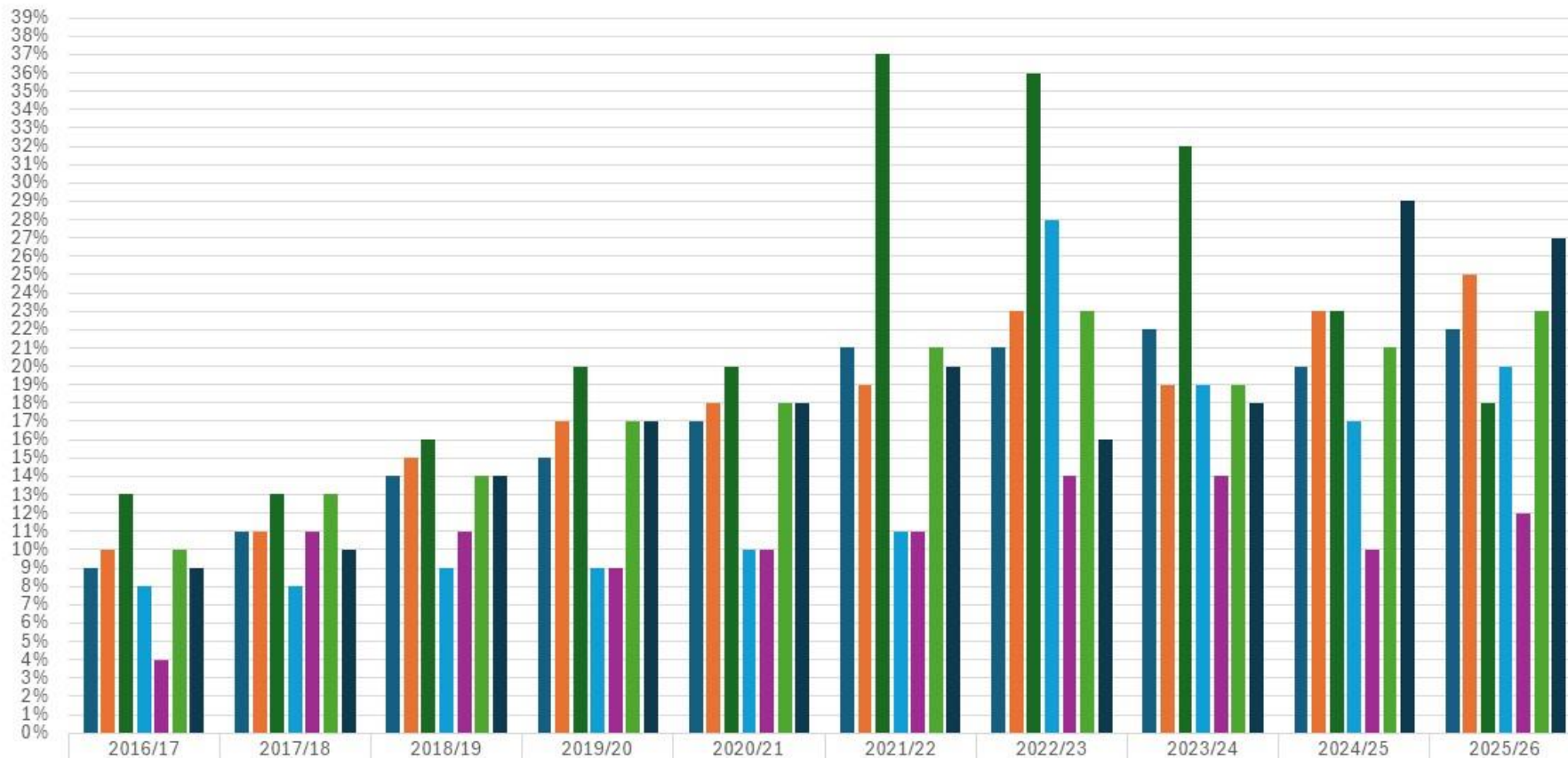


	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
All schools	12%	11%	19%	14%	19%	19%	22%	19%	24%	28%
Community	14%	13%	21%	13%	20%	20%	25%	17%	24%	29%
Foundation	20%	3%	17%	10%	8%	33%	32%	18%	17%	3%
Academies	4%	7%	11%	5%	17%	11%	11%	14%	18%	15%
Free Schools	6%	9%	17%	20%	17%	11%	9%	11%	13%	3%
VARC	13%	17%	19%	18%	18%	23%	29%	33%	21%	23%
VACE	10%	14%	20%	21%	18%	23%	29%	35%	29%	20%

SECTION 11b – OVERALL VACANCY RATES BY TYPE OF PRIMARY SCHOOL – WHOLE SCHOOL VACANCIES

Table 18 Percentage vacancy levels by school type – whole school (Years R to 6)

R-6 Vacancy Rates by School Type 2016/17 to 2025/26



	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
All schools	9%	11%	14%	15%	17%	21%	21%	22%	20%	22%
Community	10%	11%	15%	17%	18%	19%	23%	19%	23%	25%
Foundation	13%	13%	16%	20%	20%	37%	36%	32%	23%	18%
Academies	8%	8%	9%	9%	10%	11%	28%	19%	17%	20%
Free Schools	4%	11%	11%	9%	10%	11%	14%	14%	10%	12%
VARC	10%	13%	14%	17%	18%	21%	23%	19%	21%	23%
VACE	9%	10%	14%	17%	18%	20%	16%	18%	29%	27%

SECTION 12 – AGREED PAN REDUCTIONS AND CLOSURES FROM SEPTEMBER 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 2026

Table 19 School PAN reductions by school, by planning area – PANs reduced from September 2019 unless otherwise noted

PA	Primary School	Previous PAN	Agreed PAN	Reduction
1	St George's Cathedral RC	60	30	-30
	Cobourg	60 30x	30 0x (closed)	-60 x
	Charlotte Sharman	60 30Δ	30 0Δ(closed)	-60Δ
	English Martyrs RC	60◇	30◇	-30◇
	Keyworth	90 60	60 30	-30 -30
	Townsend x	30 x	0 x (closed)	-30
	St John's Walworth ‡	30 ‡	0 ‡ (closed)	-30 ‡
	Robert Browning	60	30	-30
PA1 Total				-330 (11FE)
2	Phoenix*	120*	90*	-30*
	Ilderton◇	90 60◇	60 30◇	-30 -30◇
	Grange ★	60 ★	30 ★	-30 ★
	PA2 Total			
3	St Francis RC	60 ★	30 ★	-30 ★
	Hollydale	45	30	-15
	Bellenden	60	30	-30
	Camelot (now Bird-in-Bush)	75	60	-15
	Ivydale	120 90 ★	90 60 ★	-30 -30 ★
	Harris Primary Free Peckham	60	30	-30
		30x	0x (closed)	-30x
	Harris Peckham Park †	60 †	30 †	-30 †
	St Mary Magdalene CE	30Δ	0Δ (closed)	-30Δ
St Francesca Cabrini RC † x	30x	0x (closed)	-30x	
	60 †	30 †	-30 †	
PA3 Total				-330 (11FE)
4	Bessemer Grange	90 ★	60 ★	-30 ★
	Brunswick Park	75	60	-15
	Comber Grove	45	30	-15
		30Ω	0Ω	-30Ω
	Grove Primary (ex-Dog Kennel Hill)◇	60♣	30♣	-30♣
		30♣	60♣	+30♣
	Crawford	90	60	-30
60 ★		30 ★	-30 ★	
PA4 Total				-150 (5FE)

PA	Primary School	Previous PAN	Agreed PAN	Reduction
5	Goodrich	90 ★	60 ★	-30 ★
	PA5 Total	90	60	-30 (1FE)
Total agreed		1,410 (47FE)	810 (27FE)	-960 (32FE)

*PAN reduction agreed from September 2020 onwards †PAN reduction agreed from September 2021 onwards

¶ PAN reduction agreed from September 2022 onwards ★PAN reduction agreed from September 2025 onwards

‡ Closure of school agreed from September 2021 & School closed in September 2023 Ω School closed in September 2024

Δ School closed in September 2025 ♣PAN reduction agreed from September 2023 onwards, then reversed from September 2025 by MAT ◇PAN reduction agreed from September 2023 onwards

SECTION 13

SECONDARY SUMMARY

List of schools

Map of schools

Narrative

Rolls and Projections for YR and YR to 6

Preferences

Cross Border flows

PLANNING AREA 6

SECONDARY

ARK All Saints Academy

*ARK Globe Academy (**Secondary**)*

ARK Walworth Academy

Bacon's College

Charter Bermondsey

Charter School East Dulwich

Charter School North Dulwich

City of London Academy Southwark

Haberbdashers' Aske's Borough Academy

Harris Academy Bermondsey

Harris Academy Peckham

Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich

Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich

Kingsdale Foundation School

Notre Dame Roman Catholic Girls' School

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Secondary

St Michael's Catholic College

St Saviour's and St Olave's C of E School

South Bank University Academy

The St Thomas the Apostle College

Section 13b Map of Secondary Schools in Southwark

Map of secondary schools in Southwark

Key

- Academies
- Church of England
- Catholic
- Free school academy

The schools

- 1 ARK All Saints Academy
- 2 ARK Globe Academy
- 3 Bacon's College
- 4 The Charter School Bermondsey (formerly Compass School Southwark)
- 5 Haberdashers' Aske's Borough Academy
- 6 Harris Academy Bermondsey
- 7 Harris Academy Peckham
- 8 Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich
- 9 Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich
- 10 Kingsdale Foundation School
- 11 Notre Dame RC Girls' School
- 12 Sacred Heart Catholic School
- 13 South Bank University Academy
- 14 St Michael's Catholic College
- 15 St Saviour's and St Olave's School
- 16 St Thomas the Apostle College
- 17 The Charter School East Dulwich
- 18 The Charter School (North Dulwich)
- 19 The City of London Academy (Southwark)
- 20 Walworth Academy

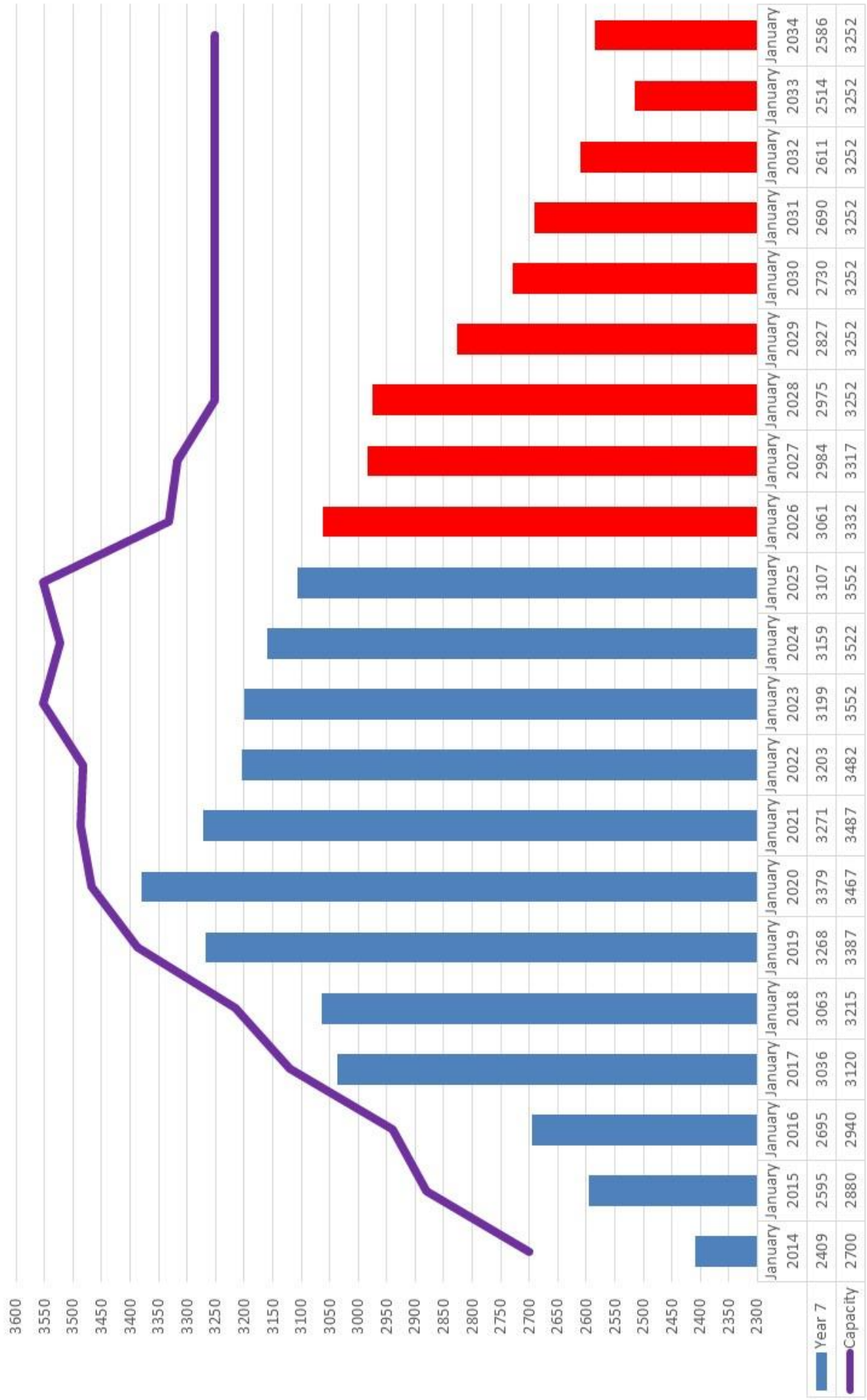


PA6 – Southwark Secondary Schools

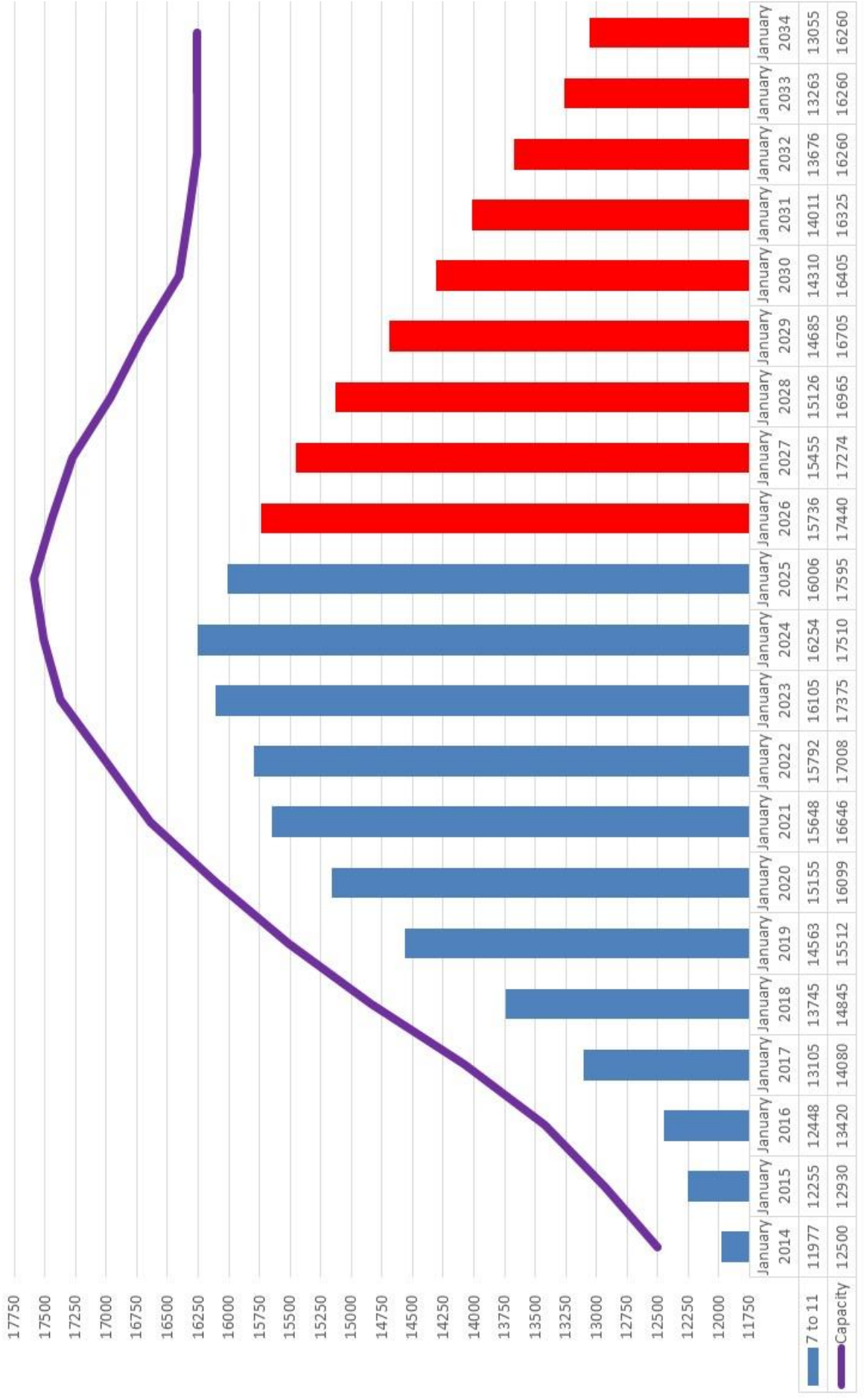
Wards	Camberwell Green, Chaucer, Rotherhithe, Champion Hill, South Bermondsey, North Bermondsey, Rye Lane, Dulwich Hill, Peckham Rye, Dulwich Wood, St George's, Chaucer, Nunhead & Queen's Road, Faraday, Goose Green, Borough & Bankside					
Provision	School	PAN	Type	School	PAN	Type
	ARK All Saints	120	ACAD	Charter North Dulwich	192	ACAD
	Harris Boys' ED	150	ACAD	City of London Academy	240	ACAD
	Harris Bermondsey	180	ACAD	Kingsdale Foundation	420	ACAD
	St Michael's College	150	ACAD	Notre Dame RC Girls'	124	ACAD
	Harris Peckham	120	ACAD	Charter East Dulwich	240	FREE
	Harris Girls' ED	150	ACAD	Haberbdashers' Borough	180	FREE
	Sacred Heart RC	120	ACAD	South Bank Academy	0	FREE
	ARK Globe Academy	180	ACAD	Charter Bermondsey	120	FREE
	ARK Walworth	180	ACAD	The St Thomas the Apostle	152	VARC
Bacon's College	195	ACAD	St Saviour's & St Olaves	124	VACE	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>20 secondary schools:</u> 1 x VA CE, 1 x VA RC, 4 x Free Schools, 14 x Academies (including 1 x "All Through" 4-18 Academy, 3 x RC Academies) • 3 x 4FE, 3 x 4.1FE, 4 x 5FE, 1 x 5.1FE, 6 x 6FE, 1 x 6.4FE, 1 x 8FE, 1 x 14FE 						
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As at September 2024 – 3,527 Y7 places, 17,570 Year 7 to 11 places 					
GLA Projections 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until at least 2034 • The GLA project 2,984 Y7 pupils for 2026/2027 (77 less than this year (3FE – -3%), and 281 less Y7-11 pupils (-2% less). This would leave 333 Y7 places (11%), and 1,819 Y7-11 (12%) places vacant in 2026/7 • There will be 666 surplus Y7 places in September 2034, based on expected demand (21%), in line with decreased primary rolls. • Years 7-11 vacancies are projected to be 3,205 in 2034 – 20% of places • Longer term projections show that Y7 pupil numbers will begin to (slowly) increase again from 2035 onwards, matching a slow projected increase in primary numbers in some localities from 2027/28. Whole school secondary numbers are not expected to recover before 2038/39, and perhaps not even then. 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No substantive changes for secondary are noted and capacity is not projected to be exceeded by demand for the foreseeable future • South Bank University Academy has ceased taking Y7s from September 2025 onwards, transforming itself to a sixth form college by September 2029 • ARK Globe and St Saviour's & St Olaves are both consulting on a PAN reduction of 1FE 					
Y6 figures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y6 pupil figures in Southwark increased by +26% from 2012-19 (685 pupils), but fell from 2019-25 by 198 pupils (-6%), and are projected to reduce further by 974 pupils (-33%) by 2034 • However, using previous and projected Y6 figures as a proxy for future secondary demand is questionable, as there is a considerable influx of non-Southwark pupils in Y7 (ca 30% against an estimated 11% outborough cohort of Y6 pupils) 					
Y7 vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2025/26, there were 271 spare Y7 places (9FE) across the secondary estate - 8% of all Y7 places - within accepted guidelines for vacancy levels 					
Y7-11 vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2025/26, across all secondary schools, there were 1,704 empty places from years 7 to 11 – 10% of Southwark's secondary capacity – within accepted guidelines for vacancies 					
Pupil intake by area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Southwark is a net importer of secondary pupils, taking around 30% of rolls across all age groups; Kingsdale (76%), St Michael's College (40%), and Harris Boys ED (39%) all take a significant percentage of pupils from outside Southwark. • There are 4,200 secondary pupils in Southwark from outborough addresses, equivalent to 4 x 6FE secondaries; 88% of these pupils come from four councils (<i>Lambeth, Lewisham, Croydon and Bromley</i>), totaling 3,725 pupils 					

- | | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The <u>net</u> percentage inflow of Southwark children to and from other local authority areas is +10%, as Southwark exports 20% of secondary age pupils to other councils (<i>mainly Lambeth, Lewisham and Westminster</i>) |
|--|--|

Secondary Y7 Rolls, Projections and Capacity, 2014-34

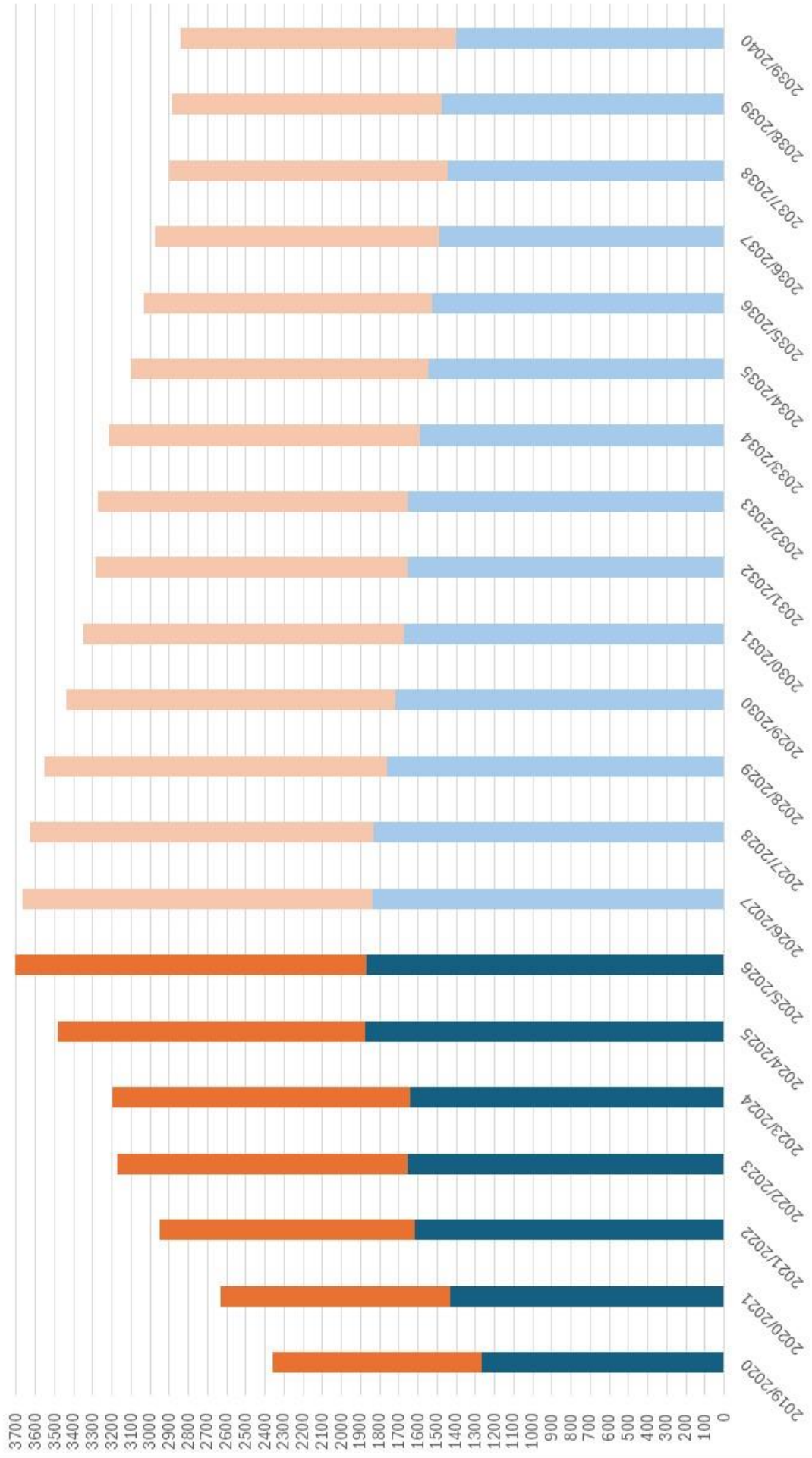


Secondary Y7-11 Rolls, Projections and Capacity, 2014-34

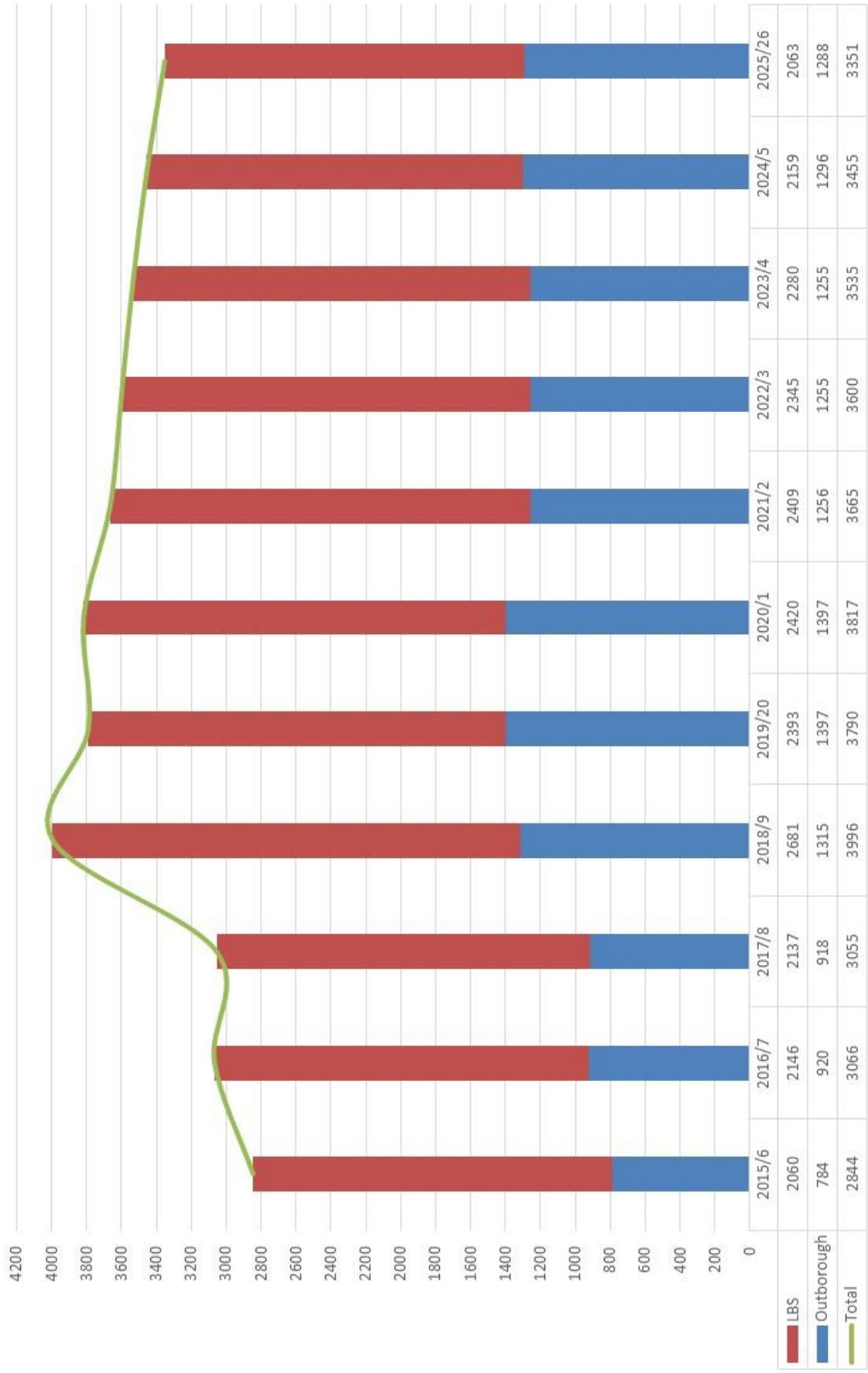


Y12 and Y13 in Southwark Secondaries 2019-2026 (actual)

2027-2039 (estimated)



Secondary Applications 2015-25



SECTION 14– SECONDARY SCHOOLS BY WARD, SEPTEMBER 2025, and PAN (Y7, 2024-2025)

Secondary School	Type	PAN	Council Ward
ARK All Saints Academy ♦	Academy (CE)	120 ♦	Camberwell Green
ARK Globe Academy (<i>Secondary</i>)	Academy	180	Chaucer
Bacon's College ♦	Academy (CE)	195 ♦	Rotherhithe
Charter School (North Dulwich)	Academy	192	Champion Hill
City of London Academy (COLA) Southwark	Academy	240	South Bermondsey
Charter Bermondsey (<i>ex-Compass School</i>)	Free School	110	North Bermondsey
Harris Academy Bermondsey	Academy	180	South Bermondsey
Harris Academy Peckham	Academy	120	Rye Lane
Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich	Academy	150	Dulwich Hill
Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich	Academy	150	Peckham Rye
Kingsdale Foundation School	Academy	420	Dulwich Wood
Notre Dame Roman Catholic Girls' School ♣	Academy (RC)	124 ♣	St George's
Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Secondary ♣	Academy (RC)	120 ♣	Camberwell Green
St Michael's Catholic College ♣	Academy (RC)	150 ♣	North Bermondsey
St Saviour's and St Olave's C of E School	VA CE	124	Chaucer
The St Thomas the Apostle College	VA RC	152	Nunhead & Queen's Road
ARK Walworth Academy	Academy	180	Faraday
South Bank University Academy*	Free School*	0*	Faraday
Charter School East Dulwich	Free School	240	Goose Green
Haberbdashers' Aske's Borough Academy	Free School	180	Borough & Bankside
Southwark Total		3,376	
Academies	Academy	2,570	76% of Secondary Y7 places
Free Schools	Free School	530	16% of Secondary Y7 places
VA CE	VA CE	124	4% of Secondary Y7 places
VA CE & Academy (CE)	VA CE & Academy CE	459	14% of Secondary Y7 Places
VA RC	VA RC	152	5% of Secondary Y7 places
VA RC & Academy (RC)	VA RC & Academy (RC)	546	16% of Secondary Y7 places
Southwark Total		3,376	

*South Bank University Academy ceased admitting Y7s in September 2025, and will continue to do so for the next 4 years, becoming a Sixth form college only from September 2029 onwards

♦ Bacons College and ARK All Saints both have a Christian (C of E) foundation, but do **not** admit on a religious basis

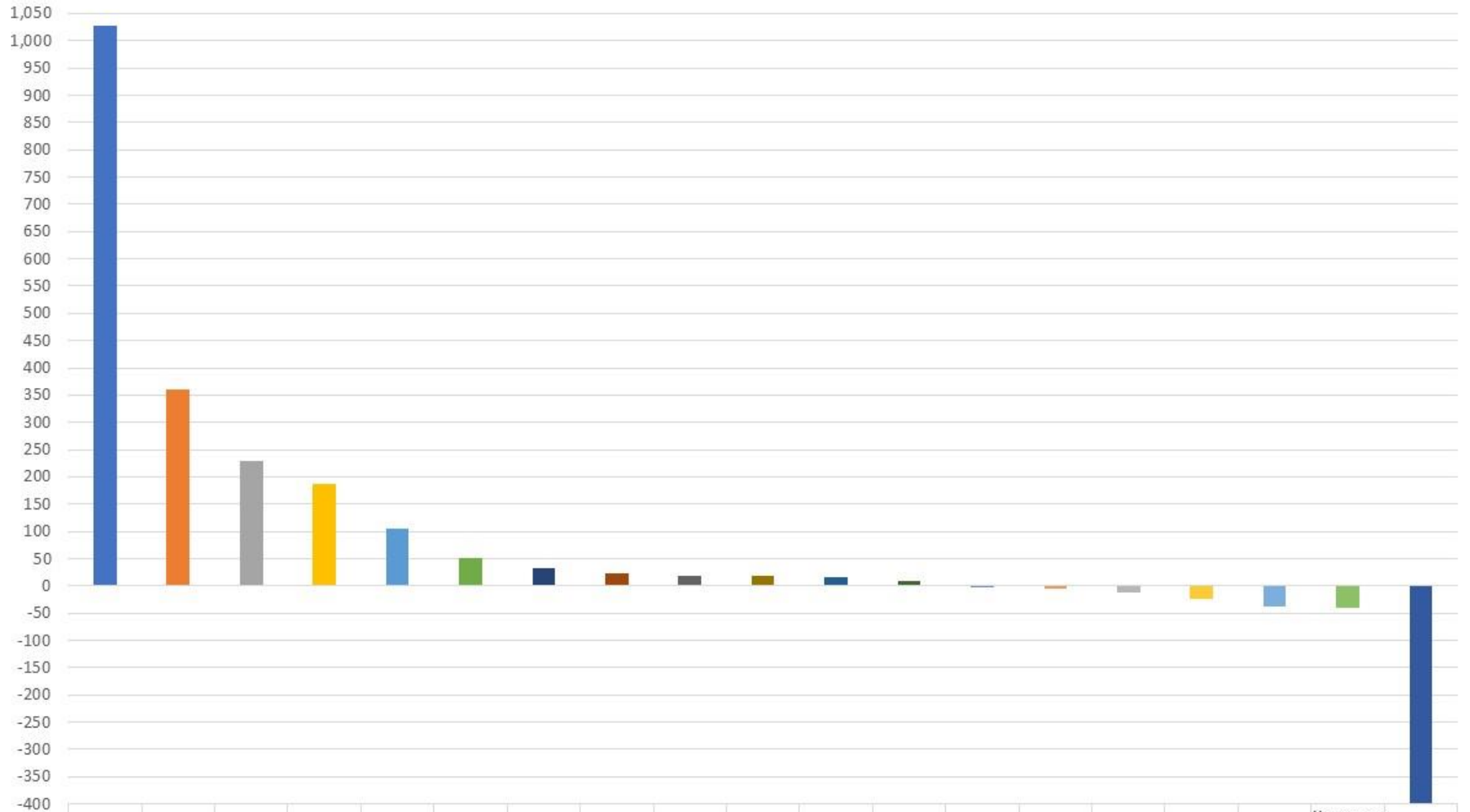
♣Notre Dame Roman Catholic Girls' School, Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Secondary and St Michael's Catholic College are all academies with a Roman Catholic Foundation, and admit on a religious basis

SECTION 15 – SECONDARY (7-11) Cross border flows to and from Southwark – 2024/25

Table 20 7-11 Pupils attending secondary schools in other LAs/pupils from other LAs attending Southwark schools

LA	Pupils from Southwark attending other LA's schools	Percentage of Southwark Out borough pupils	Pupils from other LAs attending Southwark Schools	Percentage Out borough pupils in Southwark	+/- flow
Lambeth	1,010	42%	1,480	35%	+360
Lewisham	544	22%	1,806	40%	+1,028
Westminster	394	16%	14	0.3%	-443
Croydon	94	4%	348	9%	+230
Greenwich	44	2%	113	2%	+19
Wandsworth	46	2%	40	1%	+16
Hammersmith & Fulham	44	2%	1	0.05%	-40
Kensington & Chelsea	35	1%	1	0.02%	-38
Bromley	35	1%	254	5%	+186
Sutton	29	1%	5	0.1%	-24
Tower Hamlets	30	1%	200	3%	+106
Merton	11	0.5%	28	1%	+19
Bexley	18	1%	29	0.3%	-4
Camden	9	0.4%	16	0.3%	-3
Newham	9	0.4%	64	1%	+32
City of London	0	0%	12	0.2%	+9
Redbridge	2	0.1%	21	0.5%	+19
Hackney	4	0.2%	12	0.2%	+8
Islington	11	0.4%	14	0.3%	+3
Kent & Medway	27	1%	14	0.3%	-11
Other London LAs	28	1%	83	2%	+51
Other non-London LAs	20	1%	31	1%	+23
All cross borough	2,427	100%	4,216	100%	+1,468

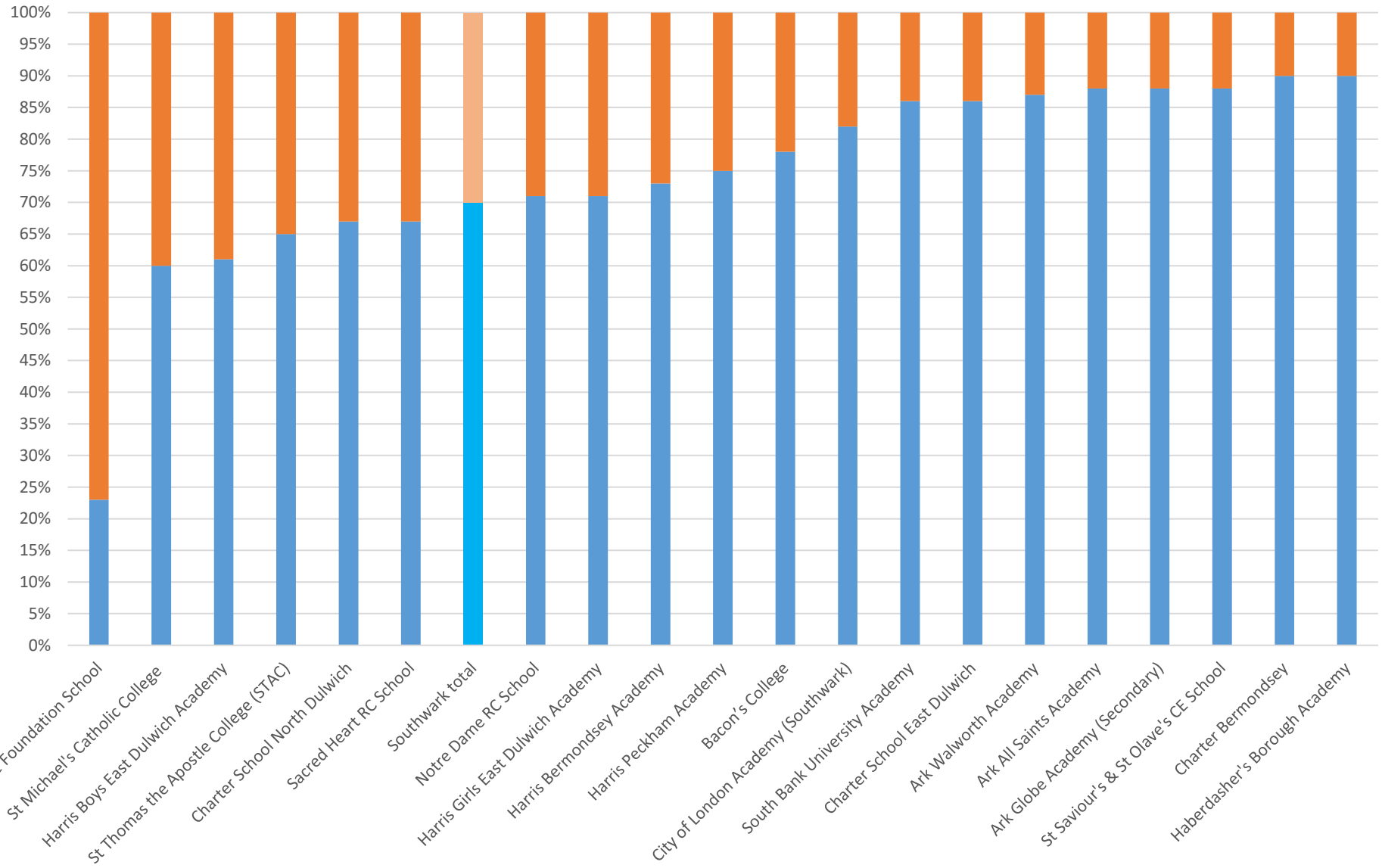
Secondary Net Cross Border Flow 2024/25



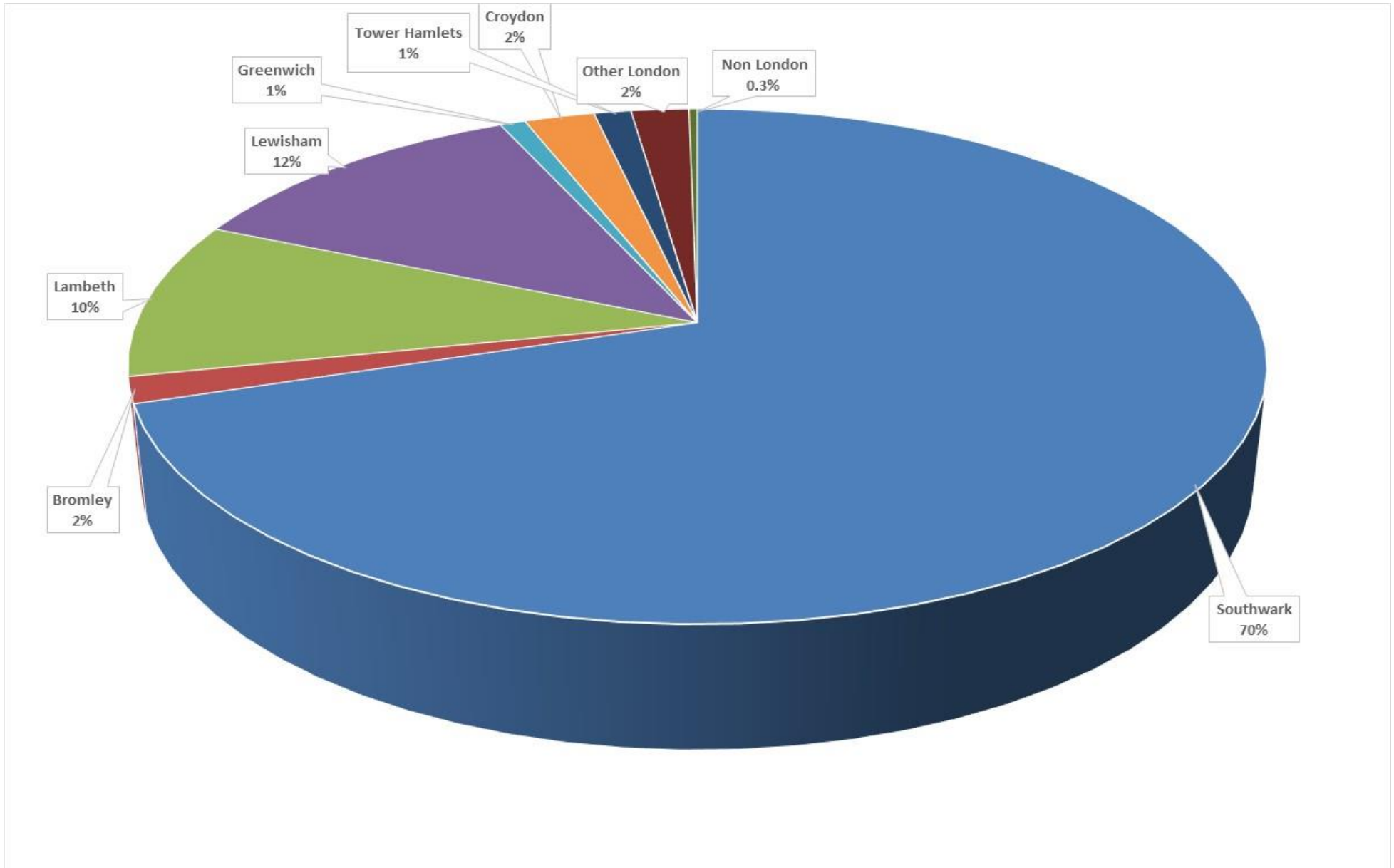
Section 16 – Breakdown of Secondary school rolls by school and borough (Southwark(LBS)/Non-Southwark (Outborough (OB)) 2024/25

School	% LBS	% OB	Main Outborough %	Other Outborough (OB) LAs at or above 1%
St Thomas the Apostle College (STAC)	65%	35%	Lewisham (24%)	Lambeth (3%), Bromley (1%), Greenwich (1%), Croydon (1%), Bexley (1%), Kent (1%)
Notre Dame RC School	71%	29%	Lambeth (13%)	Lewisham (7%), Croydon (4%), Greenwich (1%), Bromley (1%), Westminster (1%), Wandsworth (1%), Newham (1%), Merton (1%)
Ark Walworth Academy	87%	13%	Lewisham (5%)	Lambeth (2%), Bromley (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%), Croydon (1%)
Ark All Saints Academy	88%	12%	Lambeth (8%)	Croydon (1%), Lewisham (1%)
Ark Globe Academy (Secondary)	88%	12%	Lewisham (6%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%)
Bacon's College	78%	22%	Lewisham (18%)	Greenwich (1%), Lambeth (1%)
City of London Academy (Southwark)	82%	18%	Lewisham (9%)	Barking & Dagenham (1%), Lambeth (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%), Croydon (1%), City of London (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Charter Bermondsey	90%	10%	Lewisham (8%)	Greenwich (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Haberdasher's Borough Academy	90%	10%	Lambeth (8%)	Lewisham (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Harris Bermondsey Academy	73%	27%	Lewisham (19%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (2%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Harris Peckham Academy	75%	25%	Lewisham (10%)	Lambeth (5%), Greenwich (2%), Newham (2%), Croydon (2%), Bromley (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Harris Boys East Dulwich Academy	61%	39%	Lewisham (29%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (2%), Croydon (2%), Bromley (1%), Bexley (1%), Newham (1%), Wandsworth (1%)
Harris Girls East Dulwich Academy	71%	29%	Lewisham (21%)	Lambeth (5%), Croydon (1%), Greenwich (1%)
Kingsdale Foundation School	23%	77%	Lambeth (31%)	Lewisham (23%), Croydon (11%), Bromley (10%), Greenwich (1%), Wandsworth (1%)
St Saviour's & St Olave's CE School	88%	12%	Lewisham (5%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (1%), Redbridge (1%)
South Bank University Academy	86%	14%	Lambeth (6%)	Lewisham (2%), Croydon (2%), Bromley (1%), Greenwich (1%), Redbridge (1%)
St Michael's Catholic College	60%	40%	Tower Hamlets (19%)	Lewisham (9%), Lambeth (4%), Islington (1%), Camden (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%)
Charter School North Dulwich	67%	33%	Lambeth (26%)	Lewisham (5%), Croydon (1%)
Sacred Heart RC School	67%	33%	Lambeth (21%)	Lewisham (6%), Croydon (2%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%)
Charter School East Dulwich	86%	14%	Lambeth (7%)	Lewisham (5%), Croydon (1%)
Southwark total	70%	30%	Lewisham (12%)	Lambeth (10%), Bromley (2%), Croydon (2%), Greenwich (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)

Secondary Percentage Southwark (blue)/Non-Southwark (red) 2025



PERCENTAGE OF SECONDARY PUPILS BY LA - 2025



SECTION 17 – ACADEMY SCHOOLS BY SPONSOR

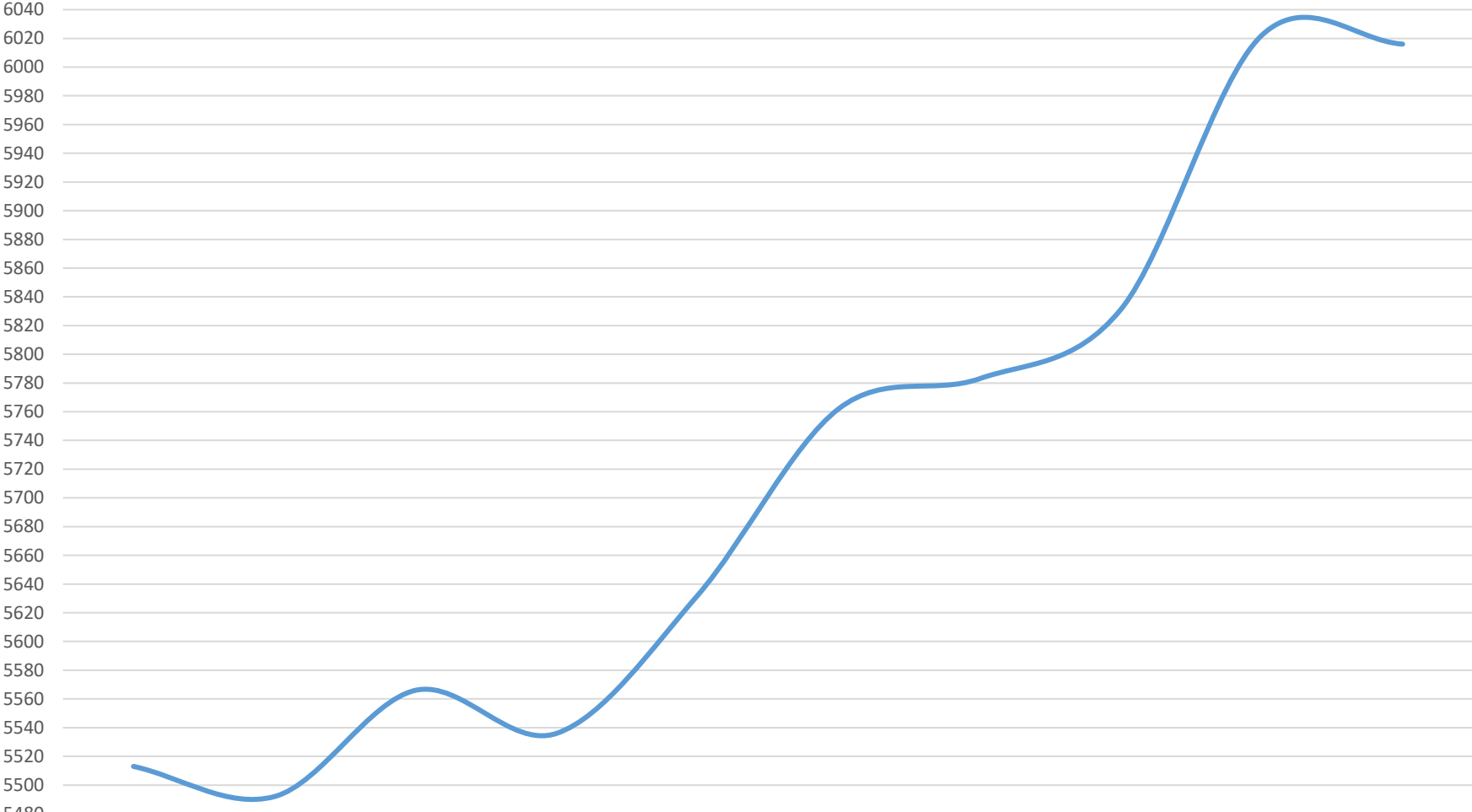
Table 22 Academies and Free Schools in Southwark and their sponsors (*these MATs have schools in other LAs)

Sponsor/Number of Academies (39)	Primary & All through (18)	Secondary & all through (18)	Special (3)
ARK (3)*		ARK All Saints Academy ARK Walworth Academy	
	ARK Globe School (4-19)		
Harris Federation (6)*	Harris Peckham Park Harris Primary Free East Dulwich	Harris Bermondsey Harris East Dulwich Girls Harris East Dulwich Boys Harris Peckham	
Charter Educational Trust (7)*	Charles Dickens Primary Lyndhurst Primary The Belham Primary Dulwich Hamlet Junior	Charter North Dulwich Charter East Dulwich Charter Bermondsey	
Spa Educational Trust (3)			
The Kingsdale Foundation (1)		Kingsdale Foundation	
City of London Academies Trust (3)*	Redriff Primary Galleywall Primary	City of London Academy (COLA) Southwark	
Nexus Educational Trust* (5) (NEST)	Goose Green Primary John Donne Primary John Keats Free Rotherhithe Primary Grove Primary		
STEP Academy Trust (1)*	Angel Oak Academy		
St Thomas Aquinas C of E Trust (1)*	St Paul's Walworth C of E		
Lift Trust (1)*			Newlands Academy
Anthem Schools Trust (1)*	Judith Kerr Primary		
United Learning Trust (1)*		Bacon's College	
Sacred Heart Catholic Trust (1)*		Sacred Heart Catholic School	
St Benedict RC Academy Trust (3)*	St Anthony's RC St Joseph's RC Gomm Road	St Michaels College	
St Oscar Romero RC Academies Trust (2)*	St Joseph George Row	Notre Dame Girls	
Haberdasher's Trust (1)*		Haberdashers' Borough	
South Bank Academies (1)*		South Bank University Academy	

◊ Post compulsory age, not counted in total

Section 18 – Private School rolls 2015/6-2024/25

Private School Pupils 2015/16 to 2024/25



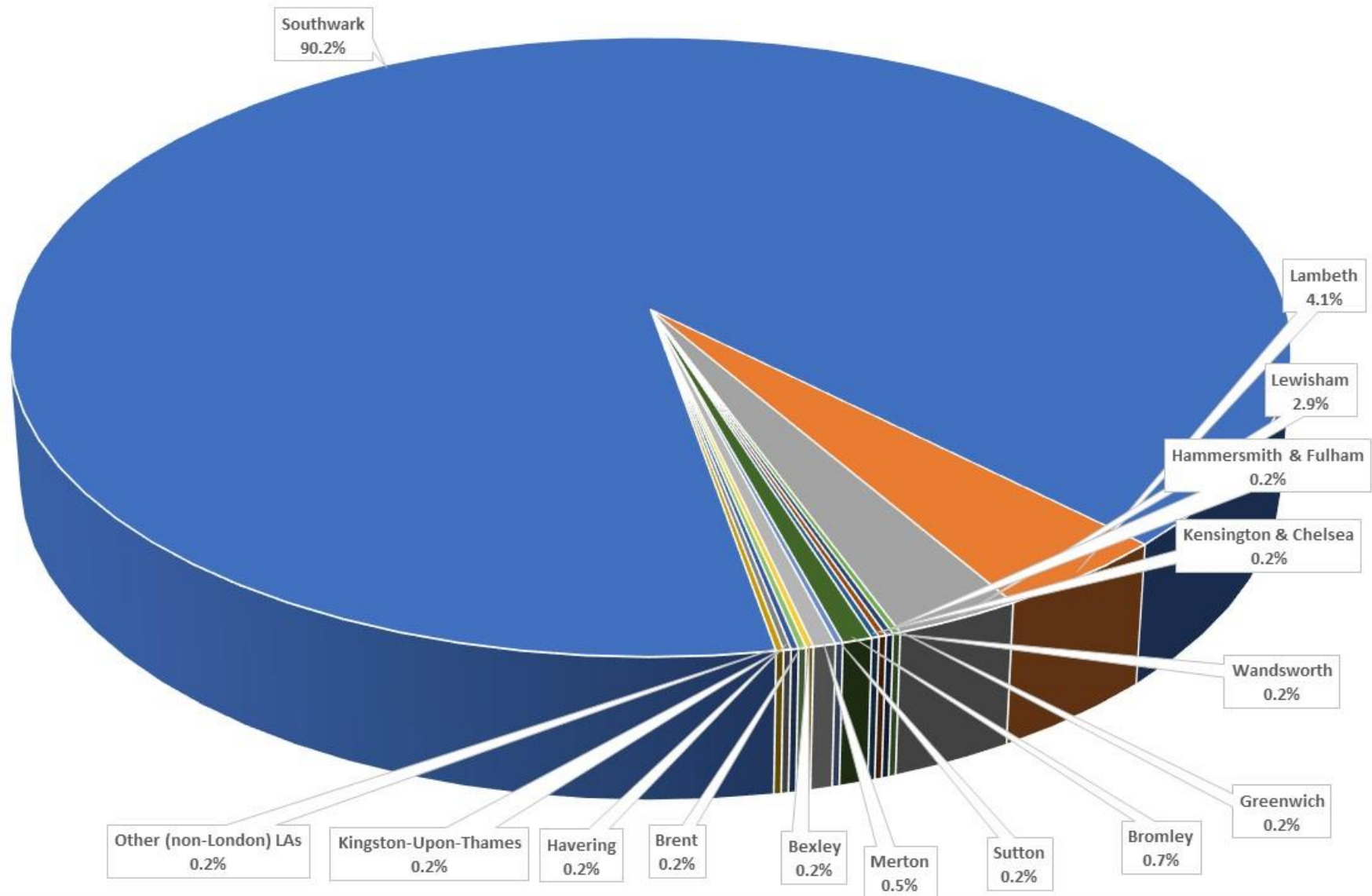
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Pupils	5513	5492	5566	5536	5632	5762	5783	5831	6022	6016

SECTION 19 – SPECIAL (4-16) Cross border flows to and from Southwark – 2023/24

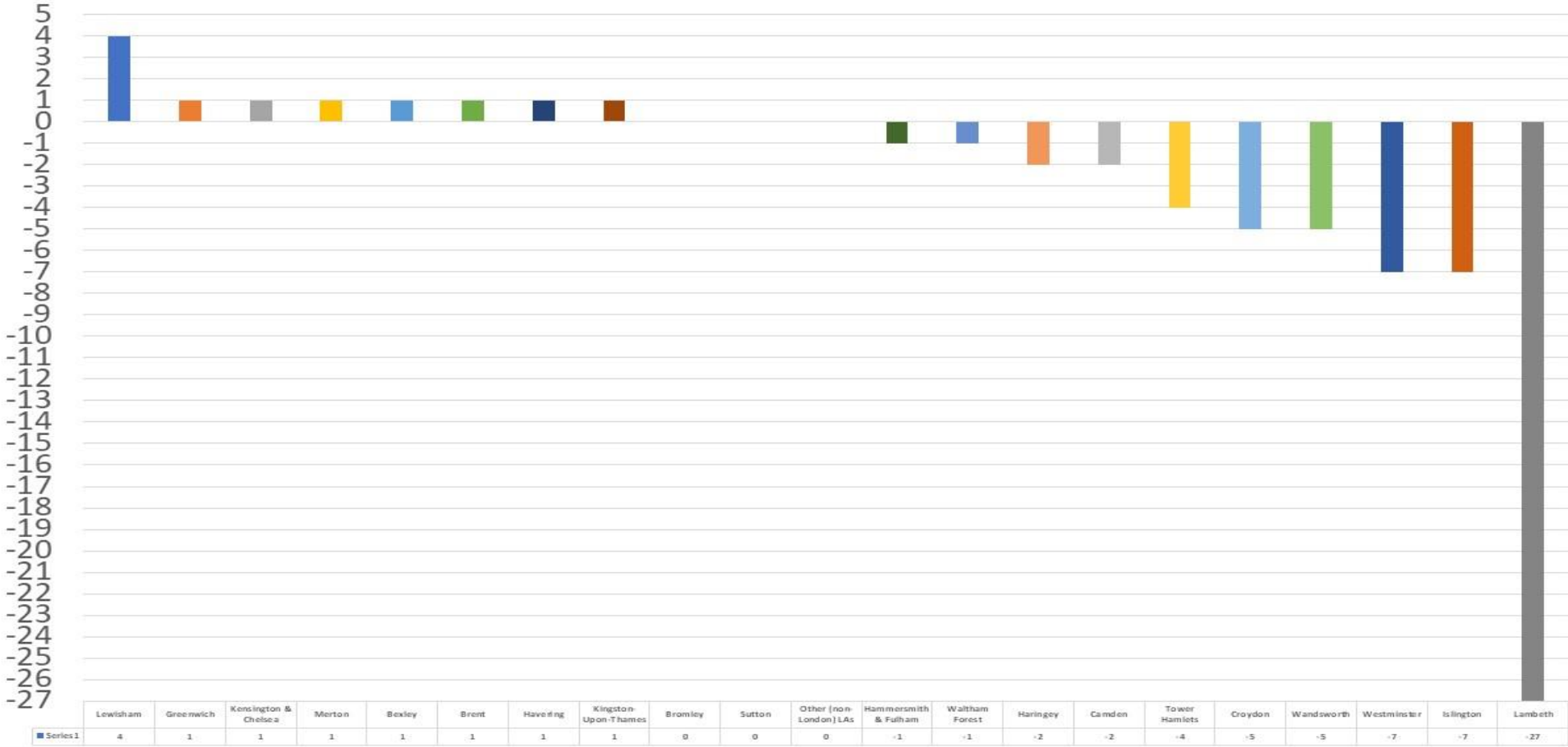
Table 24 7-11 Pupils attending special schools in other LAs/pupils from other LAs attending Southwark schools

LA	Pupils from Southwark attending other LA's schools	Percentage of Southwark Out borough pupils	Pupils from other LAs attending Southwark Schools	Percentage Out borough pupils in Southwark	+/- flow
Lambeth	51	47%	24	36%	-27
Lewisham	13	12%	17	26%	+4
Westminster	7	6%	0	0%	-7
Croydon	5	5%	0	0%	-5
Greenwich	0	0%	1	2%	+1
Wandsworth	6	6%	1	2%	-5
Hammersmith & Fulham	2	2%	1	2%	-1
Haringey	2	2%	0	0%	-2
Islington	7	6%	0	0%	-7
Kensington & Chelsea	0	0%	1	2%	+1
Bromley	4	4%	4	6%	0
Sutton	1	1%	1	2%	0
Tower Hamlets	4	4%	0	0%	-4
Merton	2	2%	3	5%	+1
Bexley	0	0%	1	2%	+1
Camden	2	2%	0	0%	-2
City of London	0	0%	9	14%	-9
Brent	0	0%	1	2%	+1
Havering	0	0%	1	2%	+1
Waltham Forest	1	1%	0	0%	-1
Kingston-Upon-Thames	0	0%	1	2%	+1
Other (non-London) LAs	1	1%	1	2%	0
All cross borough	108	100%	66	100%	-42

Southwark Special School Population 2023/24



Special School Cross Border Flows



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