

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

Monday 7 July 2025

7.00 pm

Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Membership

Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)
Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Councillor Mohamed Deen
Councillor Margy Newens
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Youcef Hassaine
Martin Brecknell (Co-opted Member)
Alie Kallon (Co-opted Member)
Mannah Kargbo (Co-opted Member)

Reserves

Councillor Joseph Vambe
Councillor Maggie Browning
Councillor Sunny Lambe
Councillor Jason Ochere
Councillor Sam Foster
Councillor Victor Chamberlain
Councillor Adam Hood

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Access to information

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Contact

Amit Alva on email: amit.alva@southwark.gov.uk

Members of the committee are summoned to attend this meeting

Althea Loderick

Chief Executive

Date: 27 June 2025



Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

Monday 7 July 2025
7.00 pm
Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

Order of Business

Item No.	Title	Page No.
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PART A OPEN BUSINESS

1. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

In special circumstances, an item of business may be added to an agenda within five clear working days of the meeting.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS.

Members to declare any interests and dispensations in respect of any item of business to be considered at this meeting.

4. MINUTES

1 - 17

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 18 November 2024, 4 February 2025 and 8 April 2025.

5. PUPIL PLACE PLANNING IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND ITS IMPACT ON SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS

18 - 133

Pupil Place Planning in Primary Schools and its impact on Secondary School admissions under the Keeping Education Strong (KES) Strategy.

6. TRADERS FROM EAST STREET MARKET

To hear the traders' views on any improvements that have been made and/or in progress and any areas of concern/issues that the council could help with.

7. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMMES 2025-26

134 - 139

To consider and proposes topics for the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission to review in 2025-26

The following items were proposed by members of the Southwark Council as items for scrutiny to review, these items were mentioned at the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) at the 23 June 2025 meeting.

Furthermore, these items have been identified as potential items for the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission to consider for its Work Programme 2025-26. (Subject to discussions)

- Refresh of Procurement Framework to support Southwark 2030 and approval of new Social Value Framework
- Send and school leavers
- Management of commercial leases including rent, repairs and marketing.
- Impact of removal of short-stay parking on small businesses, markets and town centres.
- Review of the council's community wealth building work including local procurement.
- Youth Parliament

DISCUSSION OF ANY OTHER OPEN ITEMS AS NOTIFIED AT THE START OF THE MEETING.

Date: 27 June 2025



Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission held on Monday 18 November 2024 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)
Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice-Chair)
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Martin Brecknell (Co-opted Member)
Jonathan Clay (Co-opted Member)
Councillor Sunny Lambe (Reserve Member)

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Jasmine Ali

OFFICER SUPPORT: Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Youcef Hassaine and was substituted by Councillor Sunny Lambe (reserve).

Apologies for absence were also received from Councillor Sunil Chopra and Councillor Jon Hartley and Marcin Jagodzinski (Co-opted Member).

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no items of business which the Chair deemed urgent.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS.

There were no disclosures of interests and dispensations

4. MINUTES

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2024 were approved as a correct record.

5. INTERVIEWING RETIRED HEADTEACHER (SEND) AND SEND TRIBUNAL MEDIATOR.

The commission first heard from Fran Goggins retired Headteacher working with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) on the following points.

- Personal experience of SEND processes and appeals with her grandson (Frank); many Early Learning and Child Care (ELC) schools in Southwark unable to meet needs such as behavioural issues, social communication and Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); eventually a 7 Form entry school in Southwark agreed to admit Frank, however on meeting with the Special Education Needs Co-Ordinator, it was concluded that even this school would not be suitable, this led to an appeals process.
- Appeals process for EHCP had very slow responses, parents not privy to schools' responses for declining the placement offer, reasons given for declining from schools were arbitrary such as SEND facilities located on second floor of the school. Liaise with legal team at Southwark two weeks prior to EHCP appeal hearing and Frank was placed in an out of borough school that met his needs. Time taken off work from transportation to school causing further expenses.
- 14 other children from Southwark with ASD (Highest needs level) go to this out borough SEND school. Southwark needs specifically a SEND school instead of bearing costs for children to go out of Southwark. Parents forum highlighted that many children with SEND in Southwark are not in school.

The commission then asked questions on the following themes

- Suitability of another SEND placement offer; Complexities of the EHCP process for parents.
- Legal process within Southwark Council on EHCPs'; SEND recommendation

Fran explained to the commission that in the case of her grandson with ASD, the other placement offer was to put him in a school where certain behavioural policies put him at risk of being excluded. He would have to ask for help to go to another room if he was overwhelmed, children with ASD have social communication issues. Parents and families are often from different cultures and not been in the country for long, in these situations acknowledgment of child's needs is often not recognised. Furthermore, the complexities of long application forms and requirements for EHCPs' causes delays in children getting help.

Fran informed the commission that staff from Southwark's legal team were very supportive and helpful. However the transition from the case being transferred from the EHCP co-ordinator to the legal team was very quick, this was very intimidating and daunting for the parents. Furthermore, as a SEND recommendation, the commission heard that information on EHCP are often years out of date and the reasoning given for unsuitability at certain schools were not satisfactory. There is a need to oversee the responses from parents during such processes and consultations. Ideally, the EHCP funding should be used to build schools catering to special needs within Southwark, rather than out of borough placements.

The commission then heard from Catrina Ogilvy, Children's Occupational Therapist (OT) (SEND) on the following topics of discussion.

- Southwark Council website on EHCP and SEND provisions, difficulties in SEND across London Boroughs; Tribunals and SEND; EHC Plans issues within 20-week deadline are often not fit for purpose; therapy and speech and language support often not provided in plans, which is a detriment to the SEND Childs development.
- 20-week statutory deadline being met, still leaves the child 1-2 years behind in receiving SEND support; Schools often tell parents that they need a diagnosis before they could apply for an EHCP which is incorrect; Schools lacking funding to undertake EHCP needs assessments leading to children being on waiting lists.
- Provisions in proposed EHCP plans often misrepresented and vague with regards to length and number of sessions, term time periods of coverage etc. Annual review of EHCP plans is often difficult, wherein provisions need to be readdressed and increased.
- In Southwark SEND tribunal cases, there is hostility towards parents from the opposing (council) appointed legal counsel and solicitors, approach has been confrontational and adversarial rather than assessing the child needs objectively. This leads to failing trust between families and Local Authority, not just in Southwark but also nationally.
- Particularly this academic year schools have fed back that they are unable to provide SEND support in majority of the cases, and the OT recommendations have not been accepted.

The commission then asked questions around the following points of discussion

- SEND system fit for purpose
- Tribunal costs, Nursey and SEND Inclusion Funding (SENDIF), Occupation Therapist (OT) Funding
- Families raising concerns about SEND support

The commission heard form Catrina that the current SEND system is not fit for purpose especially in the areas of Early Years Health Services and funding issues, other factors are prevailing issues such as cost of living crisis.

The commission learnt from Catrina there are two costs involved in the tribunal process, firstly the cost associated with support the child is currently receiving which might not be fit for purpose and secondly the legal costs associated with tribunals. In addition, much wider costs include parents having to take time off work to care for their children and mental health impacts on parents due to tribunal processes.

Children going from nursery to schools often are not handed over, Nursery SEND provision details, and the schools would immediately put the child on a reduced timetable, in order carry out assessments and have provisions in place. Even though, the child would get an EHCP plan in 20 weeks the whole process in schools could take up to 18 months.

Catrina explained to the commission that families are raising concerns on SEND provisions and funding, in some cases Local Authorities (LA) are in discussions with schools to provide some funding, however there is no improvement in SEND support.

The commission heard from Fran that it's very difficult to get SENDIF funding for Early Years Help and it's even more difficult to obtain OT funding. Senior Leadership and Staff in schools need to take account of the training of Teaching Assistants (TA) who are not qualified to undertake the instructions provided by speech and language therapists.

The commission then asked further questions on the following themes

- Sources of funding for SEND (EHCP) in schools and academies
- Specialist SEND settings in mainstream schools

Catrina informed the commission that LAs' are responsible for all the funding provided in an EHCP, but this varies in how it is provided amongst different schools, academies and this also varies amongst different boroughs. In some cases, EHCP funding is provided directly to the schools by the LAs' and in other cases the funding is provided through the LA commissioning OTs' directly, this creates confusion and debate over how funding for EHCP should be commissioned.

On specialist SEND settings in mainstream schools, the commission learned from Catrina that resolving SEND provision issues would not only be resolved by having more SEND schools, additional SEND resource provision in mainstream schools with specialist settings also needs to be considered. Some schools are using their empty classrooms to provide additional resource provisions for SEND children, this results in more of an exclusion of the SEND child rather than inclusion and does not fulfil the requirements of a specialist setting. SEND children need access to therapy rooms, sensory rooms, messy playrooms and outdoor play areas.

The Chair addressed the commission the need for the Southwark Council to clarify the process for EHCP funding and SEND provisions across the borough.

6. INCLUSIONS IN SCHOOLS

The commission then heard from Sarah Beard, Executive Headteacher GEM Federation of Schools (primary school) and Michael Baxter, Principal, City of London Academy on school inclusions from a SEND perspective covering the following points

- SENDIF (SEND Inclusion Funding) (Early Years Intervention) information not being passed on to schools; preparation by schools for SEND children; reluctance of schools for SEND children; SEND funding varying from lowest band of £4k a year and an additional £10k from Southwark, insufficient for providing SEND; Lowest qualified staff such as TAs' given the most vulnerable children.
- Recommendations for LA: Clear communication with schools around SENDIF and this information and evidence being used for EHCP applications, Funding for training and support in SEND for staff which currently leaves the schools needing another £20k and moving away from one-to-one sessions which creates dependency.
- Issues with inclusions in Schools other than SEND factors, Southwark Association of Secondary Headteachers (SASH) meetings, Mobile Phone Policies in secondary schools in Southwark.
- More SEND provisions in secondary schools challenging, repurposing buildings of closed schools either for alternative SEND provisions or setting up SEND schools; factors behind secondary school children who end up in prison are mainly due to suspensions, suspensions need to be part of the inclusion policy and should be used with efficacy and proportionately.
- Suspensions mainly on: Fireworks on parents, teachers and other students, possessing zombie knives, consistently defying instructions causing disturbance, preventing other children from receiving a good education; Southwark secondary schools performing much better in results and inclusions when compared to other boroughs.
- Factors leading to increased SEND demand in the borough: fewer SEND placements in primary and pre-primary schools, Health settings and support (SEND) in early years children (0-18 months), screen time for toddlers and correlation with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

The commission then asked questions on the following themes

- Successfully turning around persistent absences
- Suspensions and exclusions; tracking the consequent placement and the child's progress
- Threshold for a permanent exclusion with regards to a managed move to another school or placement

Sarah explained to the commission that GEM federation of schools strictly adhere

to the persistent absence policies, any families of children that have less than 90% attendance. Senior leadership at GEM have meetings with parents on establishing whether its special needs or non-special needs causing the absence of children in schools. Absence in schools makes it difficult for schools to gather evidence for SEND. The trigger for legal action against parents from LAs' considers a six-week attendance improvement period and often parents ensure that their children attend in that period to avoid legal action. However, the attendance drops after this period which resets the process for handling absences to step 1, leading to very little improvement in attendance over the school year, in some cases 39% to a mere 41% improvement in attendance.

Michael informed the commission that some families with children having low attendance are difficult to get in contact with, the Department for Education has given LAs' the authority to fine parents. For schools, strictly following absence policies is key to reducing persistent absences, however it's also important to ascertain whether a school caters to the child's needs.

The commission learnt from Sarah that there is a need for a set of recommendations and/or guidance for schools to consider when developing absence strategies and handling persistent absences, especially for newly appointed head teachers and newly formed schools.

Michael explained to the commission that every child that has been suspended or excluded, is tracked and their progress is monitored. The parents of the child that is about to be permanently excluded has a period of 15 days to opt for a managed move instead of a permanent exclusion, in most of these cases the parents of the children believe that their child can change their behaviour and don't opt for a managed move to another school. Furthermore, the schools do the paperwork for a permanent exclusion during the 15 days but stop short of convening a governance panel for a permanent exclusion and additionally arrange a managed move; at the end of the 15-day period the parents then usually agree to a managed move. Children that could be potentially permanently excluded are considered for placements in other schools and academies, children involved in gangs and drugs are placed in apprenticeship academies.

Micheal informed the commission that a child involved in firing fireworks at parents and/or other children and/or possessing zombie knives is a major red flag and leads to a permanent exclusion. Children with behavioural issues are given second & third chances and a lot of support to avoid a permanent exclusion.

The commission then received a report and presentation from Councillor Jasmine Ali Cabinet member for Children Education and Refugees on inclusions in schools, supported by Marsha Douglass, Senior Education Psychologist and Shane Steere-Jones, Service Manager, Family Early Help, covering the following topics

- Absenteeism and exclusion; current state, 31% of looked after children have below 90 % attendance attributed to post pandemic school refusal, new care placements and or medical absences and fixed term inclusions

- Trends in persistent absences; school exclusions in Southwark lower than pre pandemic levels, decrease in SEND pupils since last year; impact of exclusions and mitigating actions such as inclusion charter and strategies for improvement
- Working with SASH, Call to action: multi-faceted approach, focus on well-being and exams, faster access to data, revolutionising the SEND system. More clinical support through Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS)
- Data trends in Southwark on exclusions lower than national average, DfE changing statutory guidance for improving attendance in schools; Southwark's framework implemented to improve inclusion. Inclusion handbook, discussions with schools for attendance plan in place for absentee children.
- Working collaboratively with social care for mental health needs, factors contributing to high levels of anxiety, supporting children by working with Early Intervention team, Cross partnership working trending in the right direction by not working in Silos

The commission then asked questions on the following points

- Inclusion Charter and Sure Start centres
- Tackling increasing waiting lists for CAMHS for ADHD, ASD and neurodiversity
- Diversity of need within children in the same school year not being met by schools leading to absence of children and parents being fined as a result

Cllr Ali explained to the commission that like Sure Start centres the council has continuously funded and run Children's centres, in addition adolescent centres have also been setup. The Integrated Care Board (ICB) in Southwark has brought together Health and Social Care working.

Marsha informed the commission that training and upskilling school staff in SEND needs is core to providing Ad hoc support to children and young people without having to wait for a medical diagnosis. Schools are working in challenging environments to provide SEND mental Health Services without having sufficient resources.

The commission heard from Shane that the DfE guidance for school absence is 10 sessions within a 10 - week rolling period and this amounts to 5 school days, the initial approach is to provide guidance and support to parents and children. Schools and educational professionals are required carry out certain statutory guidance in the absences handbook before they could request penalty notices to be issue to parents.

7. UPDATE ON EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE PLAN (EHCP)

The commission then received an update from Alasdair Smith, Director of Children, Families and Adult Services, Rebecca Davies, Head of Service for SEND and Emma Pale, Principal Educational Psychologist on EHCP covering the following themes

- National Audit Office report on the SEND system, ISOS report commissioned by the Association of Directors for Children's Services and County Councils; More provision being delivered for SEND in schools, plans for more provisions in schools for SEND; Early Help and SENDIF Funding.
- Key areas of recommendation in published update within this agenda: needs led system not diagnosis led system, two-step test – establishing whether the child has special needs and secondly whether it's in line with the child needing an EHCP plan, guidance handbook provided to schools for this graduated approach. 90% of EHCP needs assessments have been completed
- Issues around delayed EHCP for more than 20 weeks due to capacity within professional groups and availability of provision and identifying the named placement. Assessment of the impact of summer holidays on young people in the educational setting.
- Increased demand for SEND assessments affects EHCP timelines, four doctoral training programs for education psychologists, one of these programs to be stopped due to redistribution and will lead to 16 less Educational Psychologists in Southwark.
- EHCP timeliness is only one part of the Educational Psychologist roles, in addition they also provide early intervention services. Southwark has 17% successful EHCP Appeals when compared to the national average of 1.7%. EHCP Appeals are conceded in mutual agreements with families. EHCP appeals legal team and solicitor team is planned to come inhouse within Southwark Council to provide better support and build trust with parents.

The commission then asked questions on the following themes

- No of EHCP appeals refused
- Legal and Solicitors, EHCP tribunal and mediation team in house within Southwark, its functioning and cost effectiveness
- 14 SEND children in out of borough placements

Rebecca agreed to get back to the commission on EHCP appeal refusal numbers. Alasdair and Rebecca explained to the commission that bringing the tribunal and mediation team in-house would mean that Senior Leadership would be a part of the panel, and it would involve more mediation and appeals being conceded as a result, the focus is bringing change in the working culture when dealing with EHCP appeals. Furthermore, the costs would not reduce by bringing the tribunal and

mediation team in-house but would provide better mediation and experience for families with regards to building trust.

On out of borough placements (report pg.11) the commission heard that £19.7 million of the budget is in the overall high needs category, 977 students are in out of borough placements matched this is due to factor such as children living close to Southwark border areas and their needs are better matched to the out of borough schools, in addition parental preference is also considered. Focus on delivering quality outcomes for children is the main aim.

8. PROPOSED WORK PROGRAMME 2024-2025

The commission noted the work programme.

Meeting ended at 9:45 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED:



Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission held on Tuesday 4 February 2025 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)
Councillor Jon Hartley
Councillor Youcef Hassaine
Councillor Irina Von Wiese

**OTHER MEMBERS
PRESENT:**

**OFFICER
SUPPORT:** Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Rachel Bentley, Cllr Sunil Chopra, Jonathan Clay (Co-opted Member) and Martin Brecknell (Co-opted Member)

Apologies for absence were also received from Cllr Renata Hamvas who was away on Council Business.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no items of business which the Chair deemed urgent.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS.

There were no disclosures of interests and dispensations.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 18 November 2024 are to follow

5. WORKING LINKS BETWEEN EDUCATION AND HEALTH - SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND)

The commission first received a report from Russell Jones, Assistant Director – (Dual Role) Integrated Commissioning Southwark Council and South-East London, Integrated Care Board (SEL ICB) on Working links between Education and Health - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) on the following points

- Start well agenda on children and young people; increase in SEND and EHCP; Support through General Practitioners (GPs'), schools and targeted Send services.
- Stakeholders- Evelina, NHS Guys and St Thomas Children's Arm, South London and Maudsley Mental Health Services and Finesse youth provision; Community Paediatric services, School of Nursing (complex needs), Language Therapy, Occupational therapy, Physiotherapy, continuing Health Care and Mental Health Services.
- Strengths- delivering support in special school settings, medical and support planning, timely support and intervention, training offer in education settings; the Integrated Care Board (ICB) and the council commitment in supporting various health and mental health services for children and young people.
- Nest and the school's engagement team, mental health in schools' team, physiotherapy in specialist and mainstream schools, transition clinics work from children's services into adult services, SEND panel and Continuing Health Care Plan and committed and skilled Health Workforce.
- Areas of improvement- waiting times in mental health services, timeliness of input in EHCP plans, transition challenges, health and care workforce capacity, governance arrangements for SEND are in transition (Strategic Partnership Board).
- ICB serves across six boroughs in London and have a SEND forum to share best practices across the boroughs.

The commission then asked questions on the following topics

- Early Diagnosis and waiting times from diagnosis to first therapy session; Transition clinics when children turn 18 and considered adults; Anorexia and depression clinics access in the borough.
- Examples of good practices shared; Assessments in the areas of neurodivergence; Importance of Early Intervention in Health, day today to issues in SEND.
- Other factors in EHCPs' process like quality of provision rather than timeliness.

Russell explained to the commission that there are different ways of getting support and avenues. The average waiting times and information on transition clinics will be reported back to the commission separately. 'SLaM' mental health services provided by the NHS provides support for children and young people with eating disorders.

The commission learnt from Russell that the ICB formed was a result cost reduction of management through integration, appointment of a joint Strategic Board. Diagnosis and SEND support models from areas such as Plymouth and Portsmouth have been shared across the boroughs. On neurodiversity assessments, neurodevelopment pathway delays extend wider than Southwark and are incredibly complex. The demands for ADHD and Autism diagnosis are increasing across the borough and nationally.

Russell informed the commission that more investments in Speech and Language Therapy are being considered for early interventions. Strategic Partnership and its leaders looking at data across the boroughs on trends in day-to-day issues in SEND. On EHCP, timeliness is a priority, but quality and accurate provision of services is crucial in SEND.

6. EHCP ASSESSMENT PROCESSES - CHAIR'S FEEDBACK

The Chair informed the commission on the feedback (presentation attached) from meeting with officers on the EHCP process

- Length and complexity of the EHCP forms, statutory timelines and pressure on Local Authorities
- EHCP process review; Increase in need of SEND listed in presentation; Decision making panels; Age Stats.
- Needs based assessments, timeliness, lack of flexibility in process for LAs', parental requests at 60%.
- EHCP timelines affected by school holidays, Southwark's' reporting of data to Department for Education (DfE)
- Limited exceptions for EHCP timeliness.

The commission then discussed the following themes

- Lot of SEND issues nationally, Strategic Board and operational structures
- Measuring impacts and outcomes on families
- Recommendations – Southwark's' Capital strategy for children with SEND, satellite provision in SEND, Speech and Language Therapy in schools, bringing EHCP process into the council's digital strategy, grow and amplify Southwark's SEND parent-carer community voices and Government Lobbying on the inclusion charter.
- Mandatory periodic health check for infants and young children- Early Intervention
- Improving communication to schools on EHCPs'

7. CABINET RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS - EDUCATION AND LOCAL ECONOMY 2023-24

The commission noted the Cabinet Responses to scrutiny recommendations from 2023-2024.

8. WORK PROGRAMME 2024 - 2025

The commission noted the work programme for 2024-2025.

Meeting ended at 8:40 pm

CHAIR:

DATED:



Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission held on Tuesday 8 April 2025 at 7.00 pm at Ground Floor Meeting Room G02A - 160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH

PRESENT: Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)
Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice- Chair)
Councillor Renata Hamvas
Councillor Youcef Hassaine
Councillor Irina Von Wiese
Martin Brecknell (Co-Opted Member)
Jonathan Clay (Co-Opted Member)

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor John Batteson

OFFICER SUPPORT: Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Renata Hamvas.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIR DEEMS URGENT

There were no items of business which the Chair deemed urgent.

3. DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS.

There were no disclosures of interest and dispensations.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 4 February 2025 are to follow.

5. YOUTH EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT

The commission received a report from Councillor John Batteson, Cabinet Member for Climate Emergency, Jobs and Business and Nick Wolff, Employment and Skills Manager on the following topics

- Strong and Fair Economy, Southwark 2030, Local Economy, Youth Services, Care-Leavers, Creating opportunities such as internships and apprenticeships
- Working with partners across Southwark, opportunities for young people with SEND, better signposting for young people for jobs, Youth parliament, e-newsletters, Tik-Tok and Instagram
- Southwark Skills partnership and skills delivery plan, Council team's role in delivering jobs services, Southwark Works, specialist support, Southwark Youth New Deal.
- Bringing together all skills services providers, awareness amongst young people and have access to pathways, communication strategy, one- hub, youth news bulletins.

The commission then asked questions on the following points

- Consultation with young people on jobs
- Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) to measure success of these initiatives
- Government Policies- Right to work
- Connect to work program for young people with SEND
- Unpaid internships and council's role to discourage it
- Refugees and Asylum Seekers – access to training schemes

The commission then asked further questions on the following themes

- Challenges in advertising jobs for young people
- Prioritising work experience and internships opportunities
- SEND needs in young people and jobs
- Adult unemployment and economic crisis
- Collaboration across the 32 London Boroughs
- Support employers in hiring young adults with neurodiversity and SEND needs
- Impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) on jobs

6. EAST STREET TRADERS

The commission then received a report from the East Street Market renovation project team on the following topics

- High Street Funding, engagement with traders, research on history of local area, strategies for improvement, clear strong brand for east street
- Securing additional funding, electric power for market, meeting for changes in the market, East Street Community, parking issues.
- Blockage of roads, access to market, ineffective market management, one point of contact needed, incentive for bringing more footfall in market
- Separate areas for food stall sitting area, business hub and community area for IT facilities, bringing together shop owners and street traders, upskilling and collaboration.
- Attracting new young traders, new broadband for market, apps for delivery services, compelling vision for East Street Market, aim for destination market
- Report driven by thriving high streets and its funding, project management of deliverables, further Community Infrastructure Levy funding for East Street
- Professional and unified market, health and safety issues, waste management issues, lighting and wi-fi, nursery parks within the strategy, solar panels, power for permanent barrows, recycling waste management like cardboard compactors.
- Refrigeration, murals, workspace for young entrepreneurs, artists and traders, structure for governance and market management, budgetary considerations and feasibility studies.

The commission then asked questions on the following points

- Volunteer led market project team – 1200 unpaid hours
- Parking analysis and increase in footfall
- Delivering to homes
- Night markets over summer months
- Parking machines and 2-hour parking for market
- Long term vision for East Street; issues with changing the character of the market due to food hubs
- Supporting traders in pricing within the strategy
- East street market vision- leading independent sustainable market in London.

The commission noted the recommendations in the report.

7. SOUTHWARK SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (SSCP)

The commission then received a report from Alasdair Smith, Director, Children & Families on Southwark Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) covering the following topics

- Safeguarding Children 2023 statutory guidance, role of Police Health Service and Council, Structure of partnership- sub groups, Quality and

effectiveness, Local Children Safeguarding, Learning Network and Multi Agency Child Exploitation network (MACE)

- Major Changes- Children's well-being and schools bill in parliament, scrutiny of safe-guarding work, core child protection activity, reduction of children in child protection plan
- High level of agency workers, Health, Social Care and Police's role, serious youth violence, SSCP a self-critical system, internal home environment and external factors in community
- Neglect strategy- multi agency response to neglect due to pandemic and cost of living crisis, helping families get help earlier, child safeguarding reviews
- Government push for change in responding to families, multiagency service teams joint working, arrangements for targeted early help, online harm.

The commission then asked questions on the following points

- Priorities as the Chair of SSCP - transformation and additional roles
- Recent report on abuse and neglect in nursery settings and child minders
- Regular inspections of child minders and nurseries, mental, physical and psychological abuse

8. DRAFT SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS AND REPORT

The commission discussed recommendations and agreed to re-order the sequence to bring similar topics together especially recommendation 8 and 11.

The commission also discussed making recommendations more specific and to combine some of the recommendations to make it more succinct.

9. WORK PROGRAMME 2024-25

The commission noted the work programme for the 2024-25 year.

The commission proposed discussing impact of school closures, impact on mainstream schools with SEND and the increase in the number of special schools in the upcoming council year 2025-26.

Meeting ended at 9:04 pm

CHAIR:

DATED:

Meeting Name:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission
Date:	7 th July 2025
Report title:	Pupil Place Planning in Primary Schools and its impact on Secondary School admissions under the Keeping Education Strong (KES) Strategy
Chair:	Councillor Cassandra Brown
Ward(s) or groups affected:	All
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	None

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. A report has been requested from the Commission explaining the effects on secondary rolls of an existing and forecast reduction in primary pupil numbers, together with the complexities of the impact on rolls of an influx of pupils in secondary schools coming from primary schools in Southwark and neighbouring boroughs.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. There are 20 secondary schools in Southwark, 18 of these have academy status funded directly by the DfE, and 2 are voluntary aided schools, which are mainly funded via the council.
3. A reduction in secondary numbers overall has been evident for the last 2 years and is being forecast going forward across the capital, and was, for the first time in decades, also noted across England and Wales in the Spring 2025 Census. This was in part due to the reduction in pupil numbers transferring from primary but involved a number of other factors as well.
4. There has been a significant decrease in primary rolls since 2016 (see tables 1 and 2), including a substantial drop in applicants and reception pupils since then, and since January 2024, a reduction in primary numbers overall. Primary rolls have decreased since peaking in 2016/17 by 4,142 – the equivalent on 10 x 2FE primary schools – or a reduction of 18%.
5. Logic would dictate that this will feed through to secondary numbers over time, but the situation and dynamics of secondary enrolment numbers is good deal more complex than at first examination.
6. Secondary numbers (Y7-11) overall are still 27% above the level they were at in 2015/6 but have fallen in the last year. Year 7 numbers began to fall in 2019/20 (see table 3)
7. Table 3 illustrates the times at which both began to fall – 2019/20 for Y7 and 2023/24 for Y7-Y11
8. Pupil roll projections show that both phases will continue to see a reduction in headcount until at least the end of the decade.

9. Pupil roll projections for Southwark are provided by the Great London Authority (GLA) considering a variety of factors, including births, migration, and previous enrolment patterns. GLA projections for secondary and primary show a downward trend in both cases (See table 4 and 5)
10. Year 6 figures (see table 10) also show a downward trend, numbers peaked in 2019/20, and capacity in 2023/24, and are projected to fall by over 800 pupils (27% less) by September 2032. Y7 pupil numbers peaked the following year in 2020/21.
11. Overall, primary (YR-Y6) numbers peaked in 2016/17 and are projected to continue to fall – by around another 3,680 pupils (19%) by 2032/33.
12. Whilst Y7 numbers increased from 2015/6 to 2023/4 by 412 pupils (+14FE) - a +15% increase, this masks the fact that Y7 numbers increased from 2016 to 2020 by 784 pupils (+30%) but have fallen by 272 Y7s (-8%) from 2020-25 (9FE) and are projected to continue to fall until at least 2031/32 and rise slowly thereafter.
13. Y7-11 numbers have increased by 3,386 since 2016 (+27%), but the rate of increase began to fall in 2020, and Y7-11 numbers overall have now decreased from 2023 to 2025 by 327 pupils - 2% and are projected to fall further by 1,471 pupils (9%) by 2032/33.
14. Ordinarily, the lower number of pupils coming up from primary would seem to indicate secondary numbers have plateaued and are now beginning to fall, but the number of Y7s is not solely dependent on the number of Y6s coming up through Southwark primary schools. It is perhaps worth noting that, whilst approximately 9% of primary pupils in Southwark come from an address outside the council area, this number rises to around 30% for secondary, meaning there are considerably more outborough pupils in the secondary phase than primary.
15. To an extent, this has masked the drop in number of (Southwark) secondary pupils coming from Southwark primaries into Southwark secondaries – as more places become available due to the drop in “home” pupils and applicants, these places are filled by pupils from outside the council area. The increasing popularity of our secondary schools - all but one of which are Ofsted "good" or "outstanding" rated, *may* explain this level of out borough demand. The percentage of outborough pupils varies from school to school, with this ranging from 10% to 76%. Secondary school expansions broadly kept pace with the previous pupil increase in the secondary phase but may leave us with excess capacity in the longer term as rolls fall.

Table 1 Primary rolls and Capacity 2015/6-2024/5

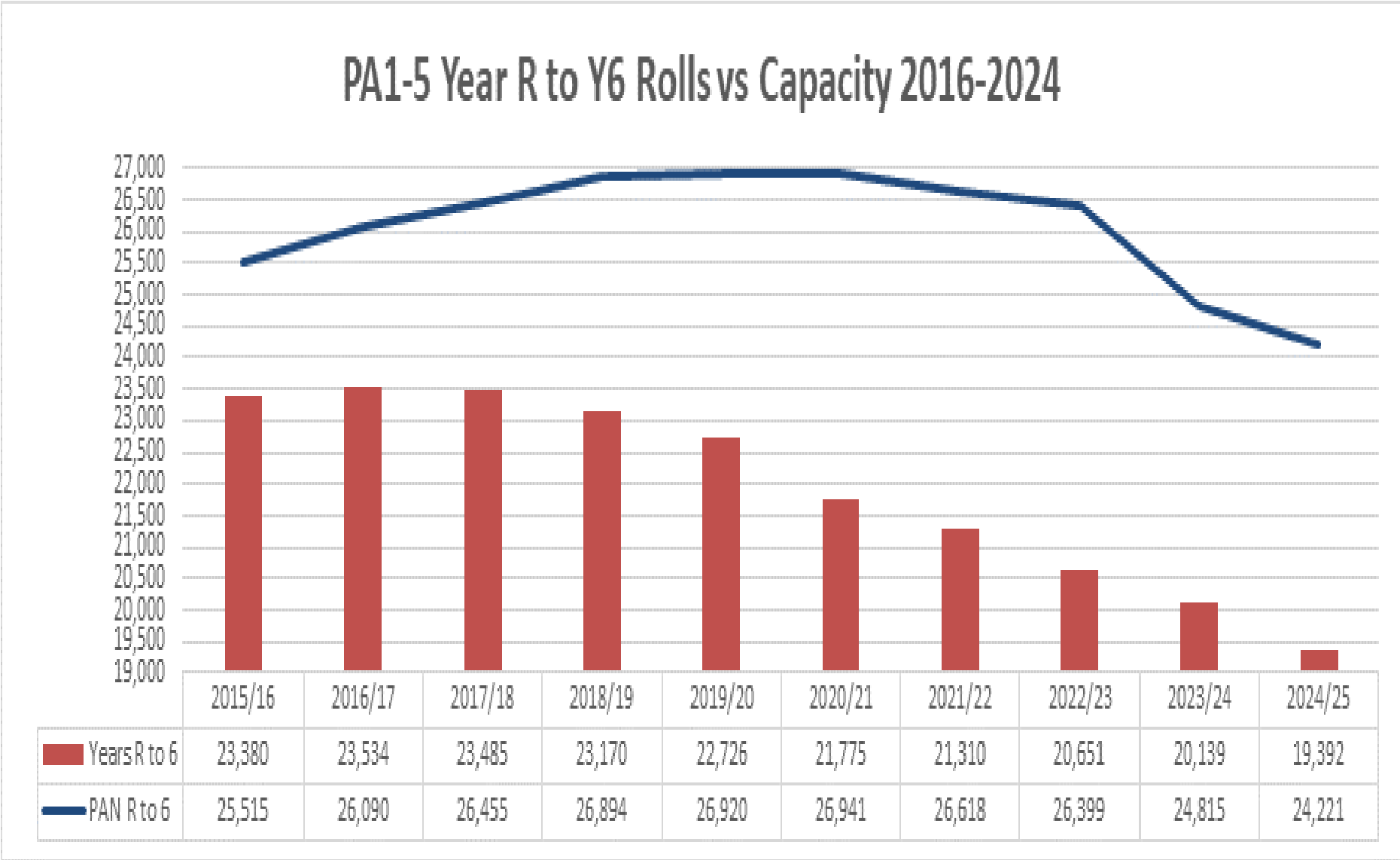


Table 2 Primary Rolls and Projections 2014-33

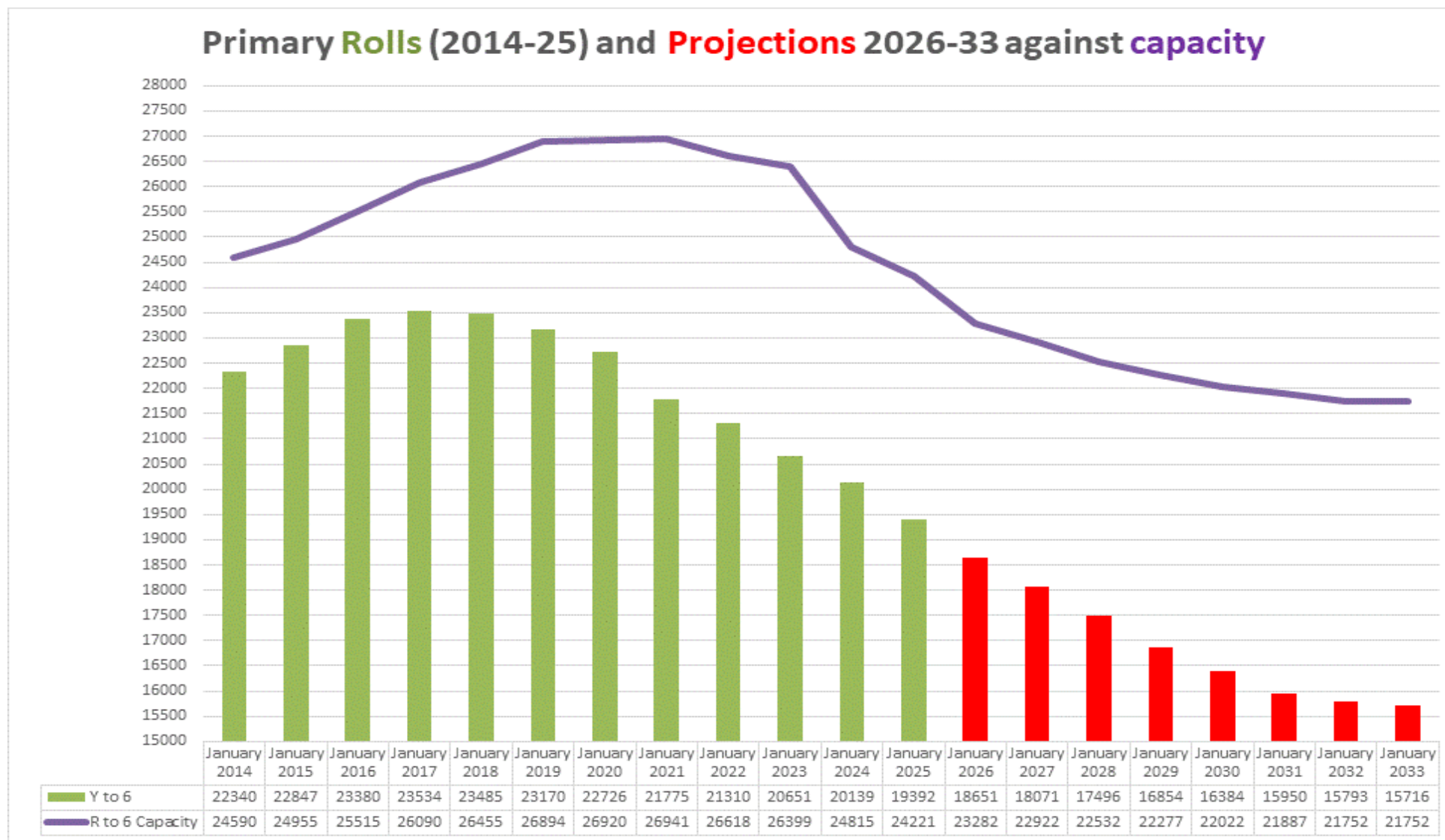


Table 3 Secondary rolls 2016-25 – Y7 and Y7-Y11

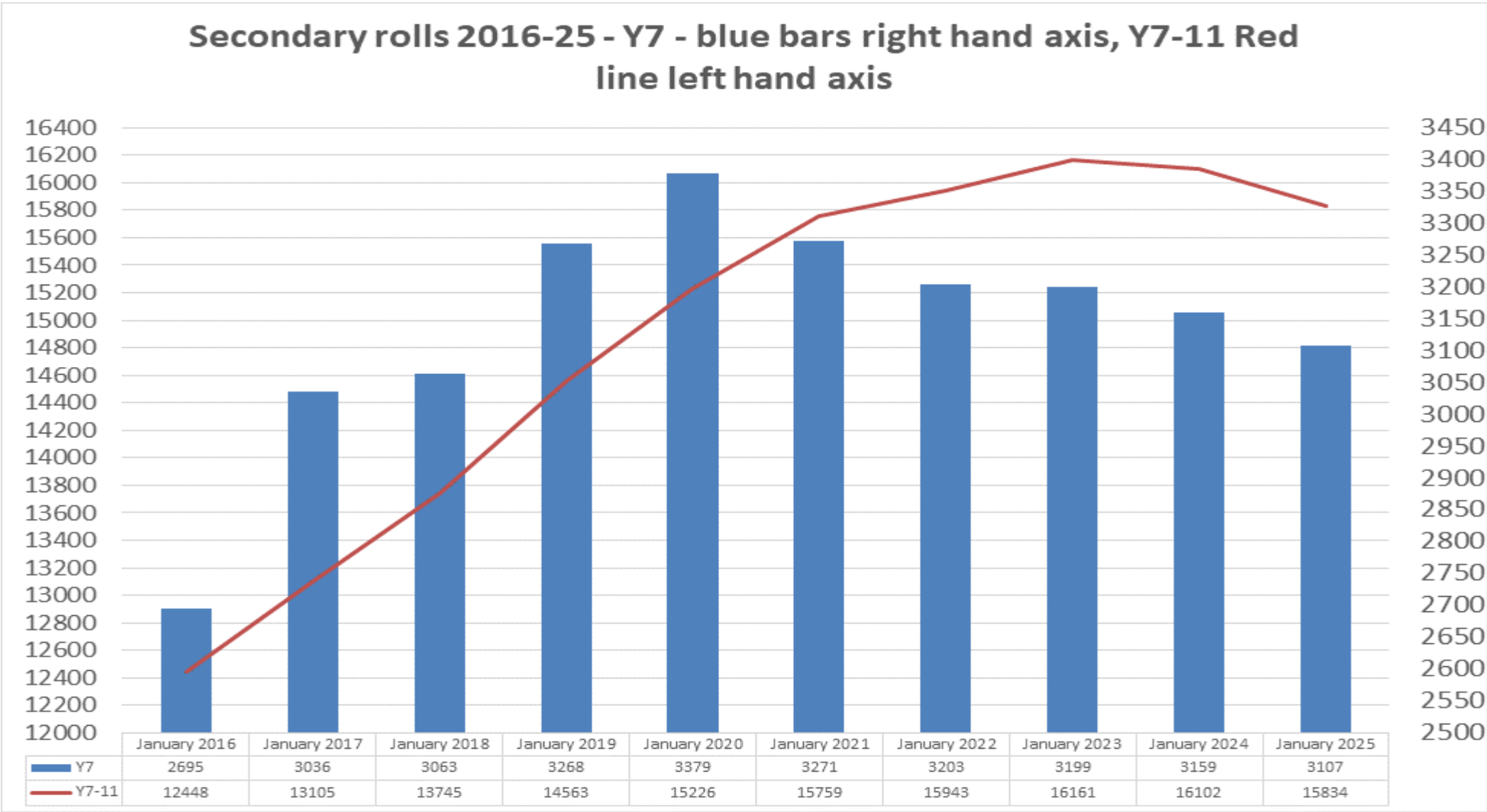


Table 4 Secondary Y7 rolls, capacity and projections 2014-34

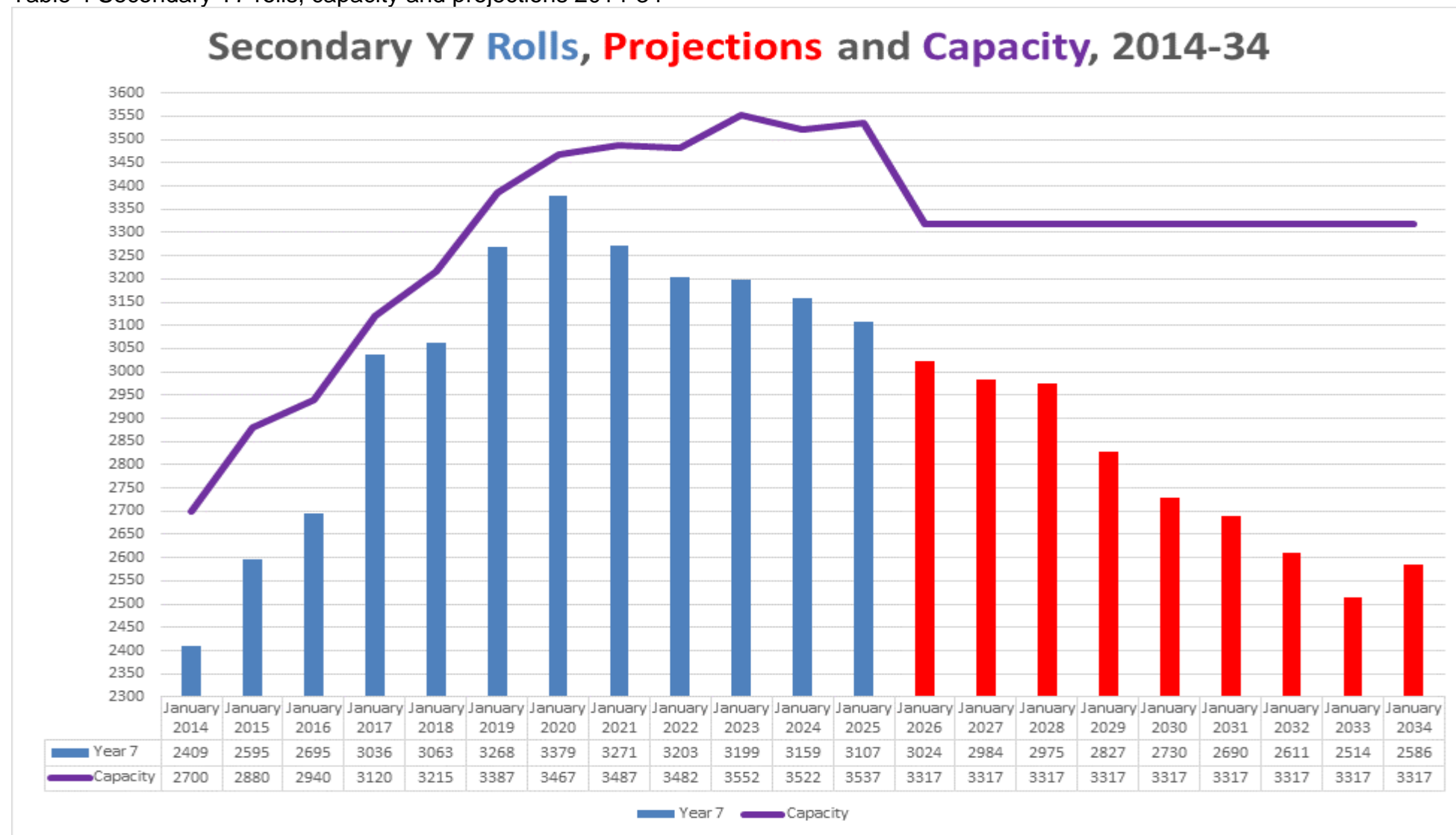
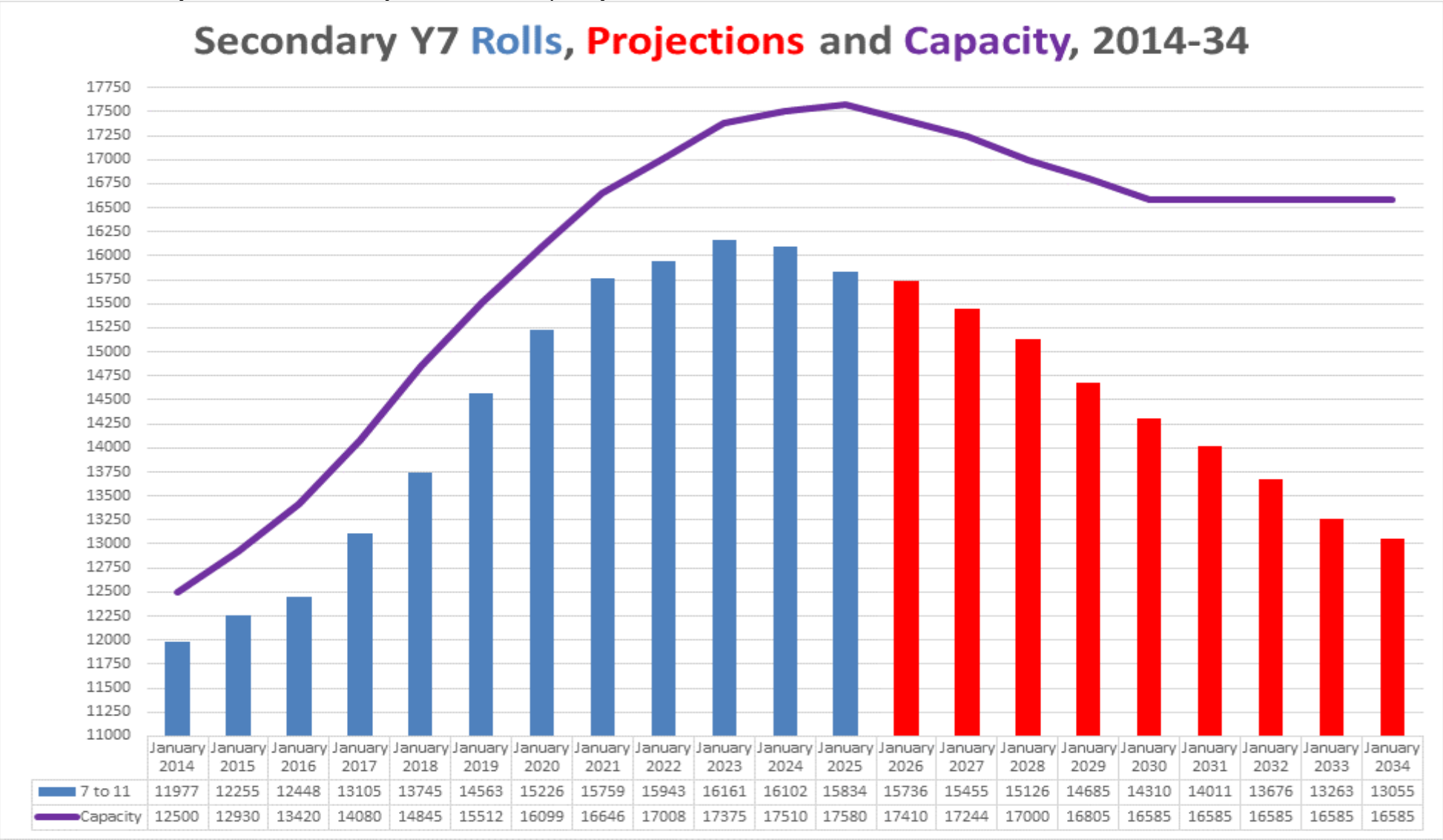


Table 5 Secondary Y7-Y11 Rolls, Projections and Capacity - 2014-2034 Y7-Y11



16. Overall, pupil numbers projected into the future show primary and secondary numbers continue to decline. Projections beyond 5 to 10 years do need to be treated with a degree of caution.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

17. There are a number of drivers that influence the connection(s) between primary and secondary numbers, as well as mitigating against such a connection. These include

- *the fall and rise in primary school pupils, particularly Y6 pupils who will proceed to Y7 the following year*
- *what percentage of Southwark pupils go outside the borough for secondary education (or to the private sector)*
- *what number of pupils come into Southwark from outside the borough for secondary education*
- *what percentage of applicants come from Southwark and what percentage of outborough applicants*
- *Net migration away or into Southwark for pupils of secondary school (or pre-secondary school) age*

Numbers of Year 6s in Southwark primary schools

18. As outlined in paragraphs 6 and 10, the correlation between pupils leaving year 6 and arriving in Y7 is complicated by a number of other factors outlined in paragraph 16. That said, the fall in secondary numbers seems to reflect – at least in part – a reduction in Y6 numbers

19. Outside of the capital transfer of year 6 to year 7 is frequently very close to 100%, given the frequent lack of choice in more rural areas. With numerous schools (and indeed types of schools) – the London and Southwark pupil population are considerably more mobile – aided by the “Greenwich Judgement” that disallows admissions authorities from favouring pupils from one council area over another. This is particularly true of secondary education where pupils will often travel some distance to attend a secondary school.

20. In essence, this means there can be a net flow away from or to a council area, meaning the link between Y6s presently in Southwark primaries and those who attend a Southwark secondary is less solid.

21. Notwithstanding this, one can look to the Y6 pupil total and foresee – albeit in part – the prospective number of Y7s. Tables 8 and 9 gives a historic record of the number of Y6s and then the same cohort (colour coded) Y7s in subsequent years. Individual pupils cannot presently be tracked, so we cannot say exactly what percentage of Y6s transfer, but year group totals give a guide to the “transfer rates”, which have increased from around 100% in 2017/18 to 105% last year

Table 8 Y6 and Y7 Cohorts2017-24

Year	Y6	Y7	Y6->Y7%
2017/18	3,063	3,036	
2018/19	3,029	3,063	100%
2019/20	3,194	3,268	108%
2020/21	3,336	3,379	106%
2021/22	3,186	3,271	98%
2022/23	3,144	3,203	101%
2023/24	3,065	3,241	103%
2024/25	2,976	3,230	105%

Table 9 Y6 to Y7 Transition 2017-24

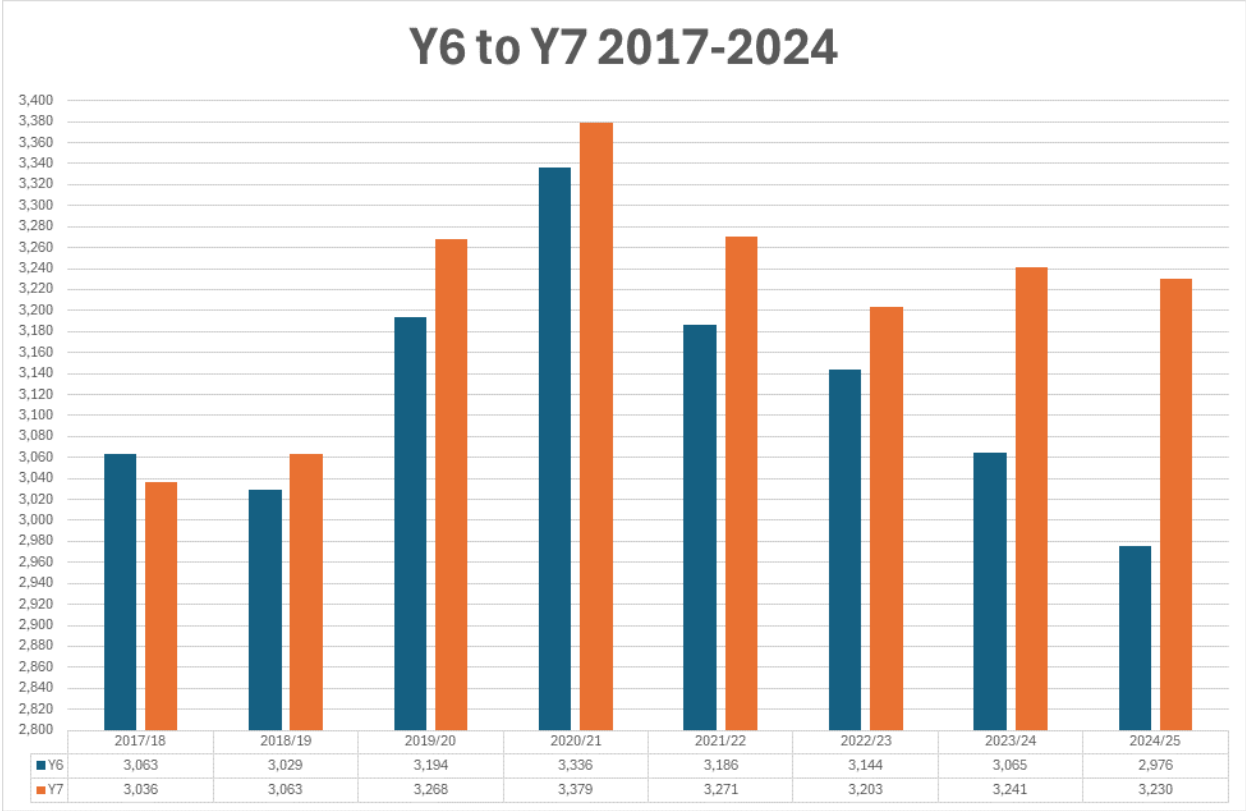
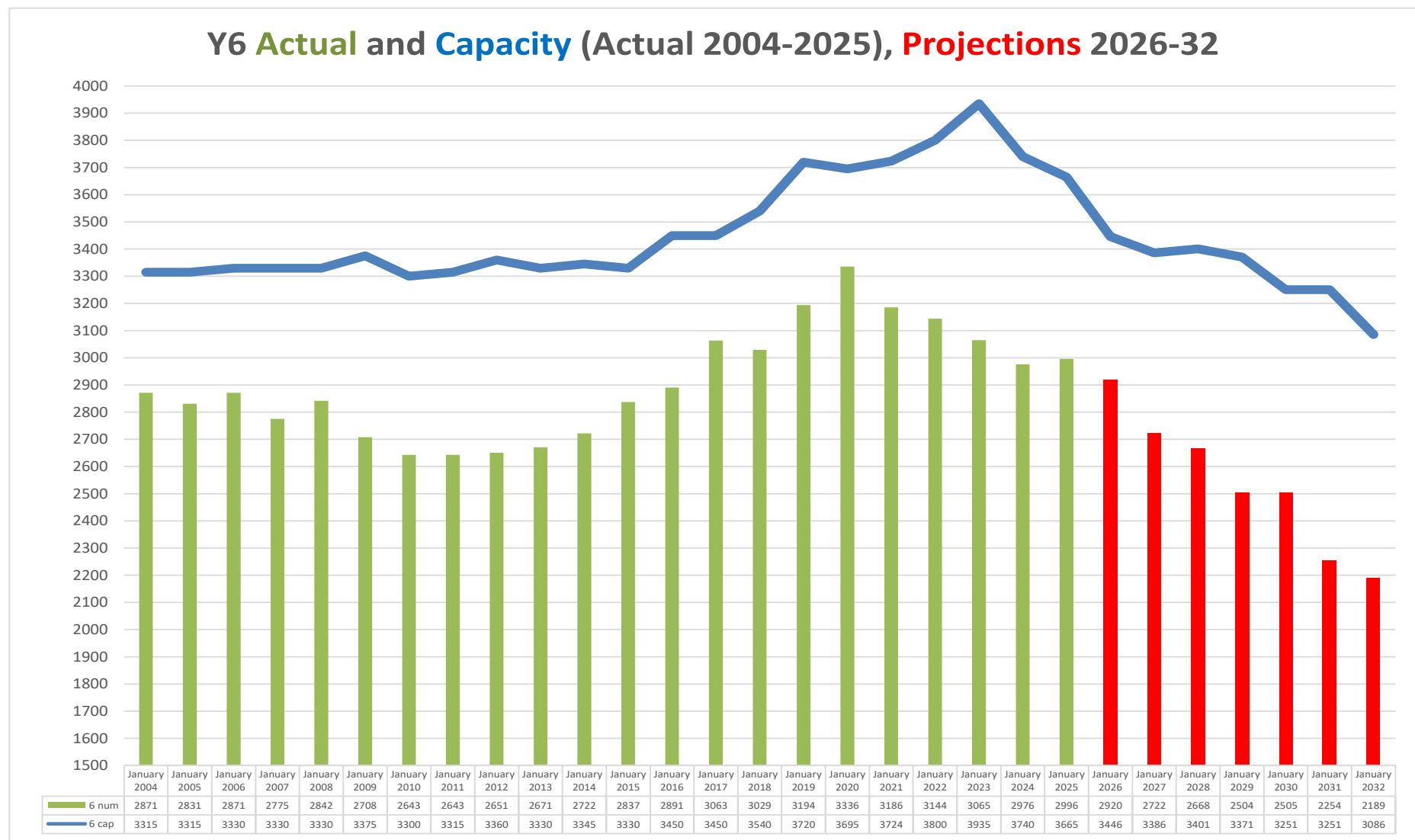


Table 10 Y6 rolls and projections 2014-2033



Cross border flows

22. Pupils who are resident out of borough attending a Southwark secondary school, total 4,500 (30%), and around 2,500 Southwark residents of secondary school age attend state funded secondary schools out of borough. This is a net gain of around 2,000 (+12%) of pupils. The latter figures have risen substantially in recent years - out borough pupils attending Southwark schools have increased from 21% to 30% since 2015/16. This means that the net flow has increased from +1% (into Southwark) in 2015-16 to a net gain of +12% in 2024.
23. Southwark itself exports secondary age pupils mainly to schools in Lewisham, Lambeth and Westminster, and imports pupils from Lambeth, Lewisham, Croydon, Bromley and Tower Hamlets.
24. The increasing popularity of our secondary schools - all but one of which are Ofsted "good" or "outstanding" rated, *may* explain this level of out borough demand.
25. This presents challenges in planning secondary places, as most models of pupil place planning assume a "steady state" of circumstances, whereas Southwark secondary schools' draw in pupils from further afield each year, meaning there is less connection with Y6 pupils in Southwark and indeed any population increase or decrease.

Numbers of applicants to Southwark Secondary schools

Table 11 Y7 Applicants Southwark/Outborough

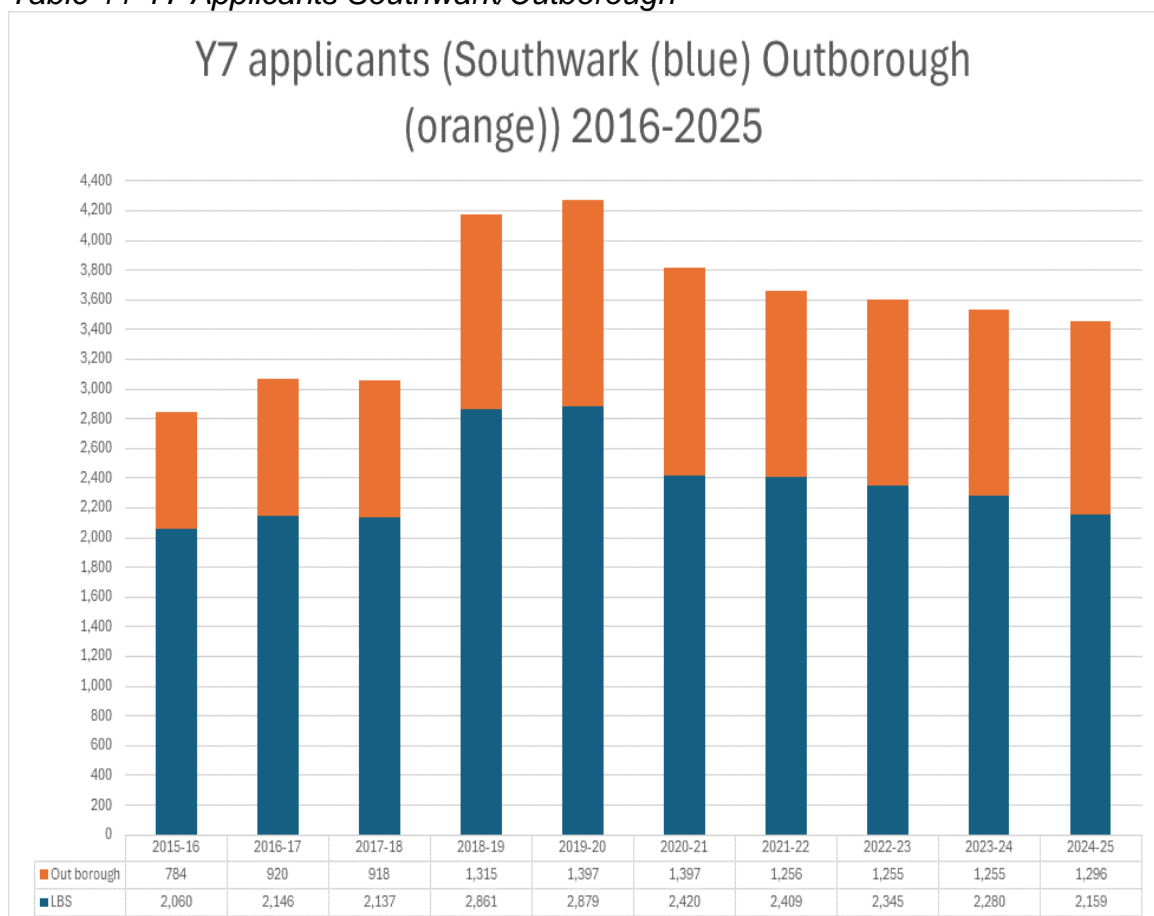


Table 12 – Y7 Percentage Applications 2016-25 (Southwark and out borough)

Year	LBS	Out borough
2015-16	72%	28%
2016-17	70%	30%
2017-18	70%	30%
2018-19	64%	36%
2019-20	63%	37%
2020-21	63%	37%
2021-22	66%	34%
2022-23	65%	35%
2023-24	64%	36%
2024-25	62%	38%

26. Further evidence of “cross border flows” and the relative popularity of Southwark secondaries can be seen in tables 11 and 12 above. In 2015/16, the percentage of Southwark applicants to Southwark secondaries stood at 72% of all applications received, with applicants from other boroughs totalling 28%. As the number of Southwark applications from Southwark parents and carers fell from 2018/19 onwards, the percentage of outborough applicants rose, and the percentage of outborough applicants now stands at 36%. The number of Southwark applicants has fallen by 702 (25%) since 2018/19, whereas the number of outborough applicants has fallen by only 101 (7%) over the same time period.
27. GLA forecasts for the secondary phase (taking account of new provision) predict that demand peaked in Y7 in 2020/21 and Years 7-11 in 2023/24, and will then ease off thereafter, with around 593 less Y7 pupils (-18%) in 2032/3 than in 2024/25, and 2,571 less Y7-11 pupils (-17%) over the same time period.
28. *Capacity* in Y7 over the same timescale will ease by around 220 places (-6%) and Y7-11 capacity will only drop by 995 (-6%), which may exacerbate overcapacity. Y7 vacancies are presently around 430 (15FE) - 12%, having risen from around 245 (9FE)- 6% in 2016, but are projected to reach 803 (28FE) by 2032/33 (26%) if no further action is taken, presumably as a consequence of the drop in primary numbers feeding through, and additional provision still coming in stream.

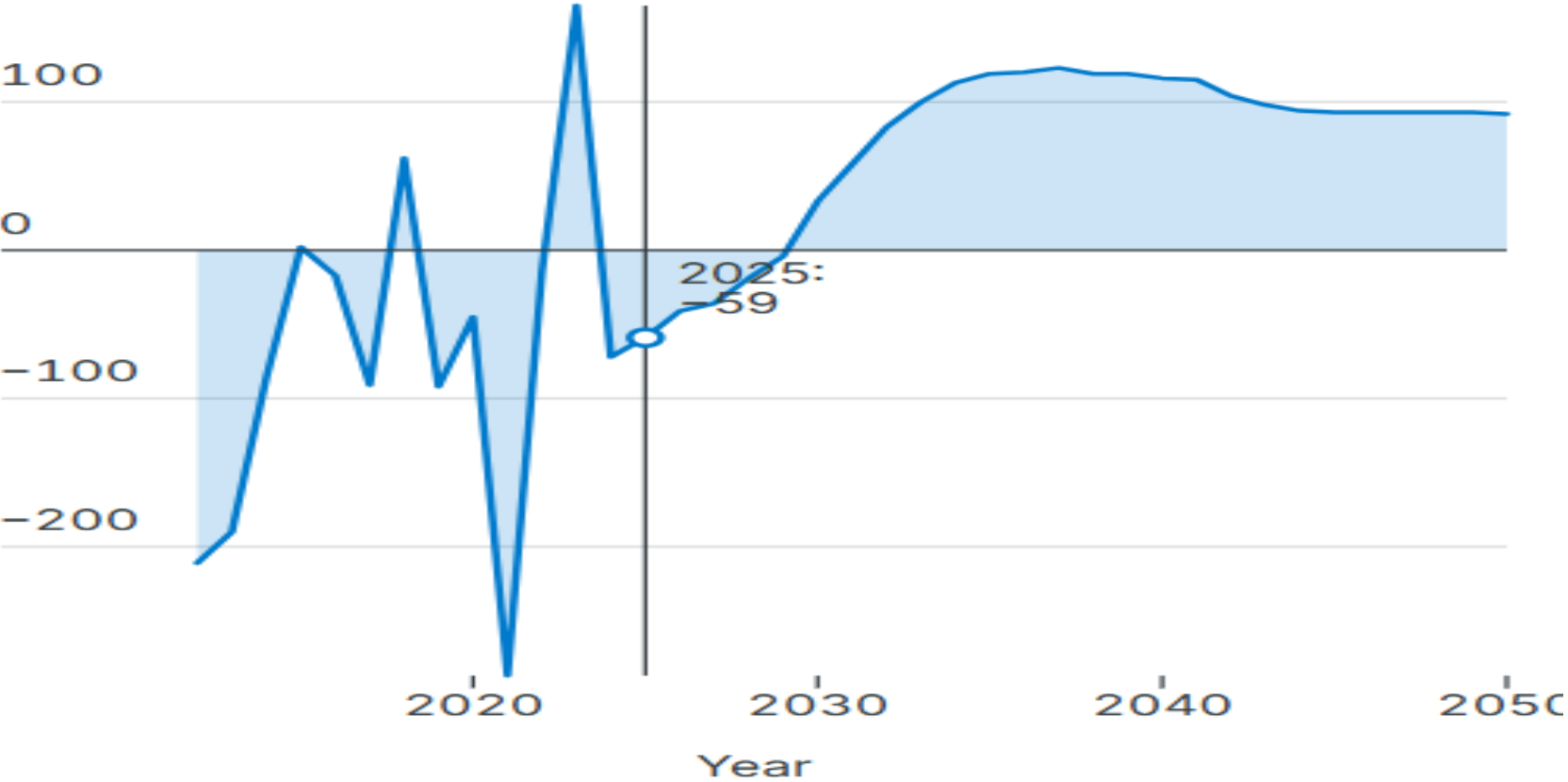
Net migration and population changes

29. GLA population (rather than pupil) projections show a net outflow (i.e. in migration set against outmigration) of around minus 60 secondary age pupils in 2025 – see table 13. This is expected to ease towards the end of the decade and reach a net influx of around 100 secondary age pupils by 2040, in part driven by developments at Canada Water and the Old Kent Road.
30. GLA population projections for single years of age show that the number of 11-year-olds resident in Southwark are projected to reduce by 650 residents until 2039/40, and the secondary 11-16 cohort by 4,583 residents (27% less) by 2042/43 - see table 14

Table 13 Net Migration Southwark

Net Flow by Year (2025)

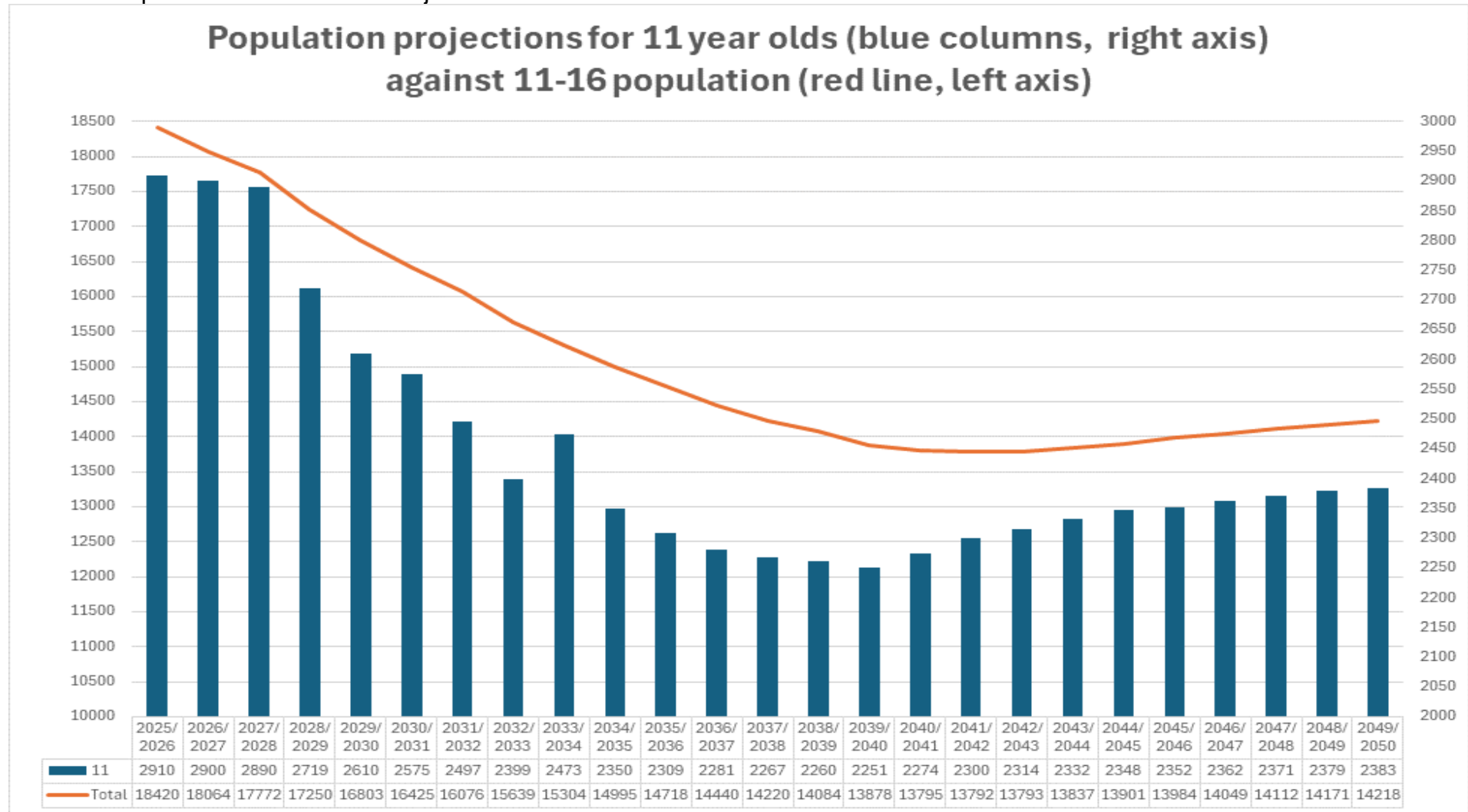
5 Year (2022-based) Projection, Southwark -
Borough Total, All Persons aged 11 to 16



CONCLUSIONS

31. The repercussions of the existing reduction in numbers have already been noted in Southwark and further abroad.
32. It seems therefore likely that reduction in secondary capacity is inevitable, and that Dioceses and Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) sponsors may decide to shrink, merge or close schools to make most effective use of resources, where the majority of funding derives from pupil numbers.
33. South Bank University Academy has applied to the Regional Schools Director to close Y7 entry for 2025/26 and has stated that it aims to gradually evolve to become a sixth form college as successive year groups leave the school. Harris Peckham Academy has reduced its intake from 180 to 120 for this academic year. Other schools have noted a reduction in individual applications and enrolment.
34. It should be noted that ALL Southwark secondary schools are “own admissions” authorities, meaning that admissions to Y7 are co-ordinated, but not determined by the local authority.
35. Additionally, the local authority does not approve or decide the admissions procedures and priorities for individual secondary schools, nor is the council’s agreement sought or required when these are changed. Academy schools are able to expand at will, even when this could potentially be deleterious towards neighbouring schools or other authorities’ schools.
36. Legislation presently under consideration by the government proposes to give a slightly enhanced role for the council in terms of admissions direction and consultation and will allow councils to set up their own schools once again, but it is not expected that academies’ autonomy in admissions will be changed. It seems fairly unlikely there will be a need for a new Southwark secondary in any case, run by any sponsor in the short to medium term.
37. The council has maintained a dialogue with all active MATs in Southwark and the respective diocesan authorities, and will continue to do so, going forward, offering advice and assistance to schools contemplating the changes outlined above. It is hoped that we can maintain a coherent and co-ordinated approach that allows for a sustainable estate of secondary schools going into the next decade that is fit for purpose and continues to deliver the high quality of education presently on offer.
38. This may unfortunately involve the merger or closure of individual secondary schools, as provision is projected to exceed supply by some margin. Who and where these schools are is a matter for discussion and debate with academy sponsors, the diocesan authorities in conjunction with the local authority. In the case of academies, the council would not be directly involved in decisions about closing or reducing the size of schools, though would be a consultee in this case.

Table 14 Population 11 and 11-16 Projected



BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
"Managing Falling School Rolls in London" – London Councils, January 2024	Education, 4 th Floor, Children's and Adults' Services, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ric Euteneuer 07925 637558
https://www.londoncouncils.gov.uk/test-newsroom/2024/managing-falling-school-rolls-london		
'Keeping Education Strong: Strategy for future proofing primary schools and protecting the quality of education in Southwark', December 2022	Education, 4 th Floor, Children's and Adults' Services, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ric Euteneuer 07925 637558
https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s113486/Report_Keeping Education Strong - Strategy for future proofing primary schools and protecting the quality of education in southwark.pdf		
Appendix 6 – Pupil Place Planning Annexe to "Admission arrangements for Community Primary Schools – September 2026", February 2025	Education, 4 th Floor, Children's and Adults' Services, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ric Euteneuer 07925 637558
https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/documents/s124537/Appendix%206%20Pupil%20Place%20Planning%20Annexe.pdf		
Education Act 1996, Section 14, HMSO, 1996	Education, 4 th Floor, Children's and Adults' Services, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ric Euteneuer 07925 637558
https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1996/56/section/14		
Dedicated Schools Grant 2024-25 Schools Funding Formula, December 2023	Education, 4 th Floor, Children's and Adults' Services, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ric Euteneuer 07925 637558
https://www.southwark.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-10/item_7_-_dedicated_schools_grant_2024-25_schools_funding_formula_14_december_2023_2.pdf		
Education and Inspections Act 2006 HMSO 2006	Education, 4 th Floor, Children's and Adults' Services, 160 Tooley Street, London, SE1 2QH	Ric Euteneuer 07925 637558
https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/40/contents		

APPENDICES

1. Appendix 6 of the Pupil Place Planning Report submitted to Cabinet.
2. List of Secondary schools in Southwark

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Alasdair Smith, Director of Children’s Services		
Report Author	Ric Euteneuer, Planning & Strategy Officer (School Places)		
Version	Final		
Key Decision?	Yes		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS/DIRECTORATES			
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included	
Assistant Chief Executive – Governance and Assurance	No	No	
Strategic Director of Finance & Governance	No	No	
Cabinet Member	No	No	
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team		27 th June 2025	

APPENDIX 2 – LIST OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN SOUTHWARK BY WARD

Secondary School	Type	PAN	Council Ward
ARK Globe Academy	Academy	180	Chaucer
Notre Dame Roman Catholic Girls' School	Academy (RC)	120	St George's
St Saviour's and St Olave's C of E School	VA CE	120	Chaucer
ARK Walworth Academy	Academy	180	Faraday
South Bank University Academy	Free School	120*	Faraday
Haberbdashers' Borough Academy	Free School	180	Borough & Bankside
Bacon's College	Academy	180	Rotherhithe
City of London Academy (Southwark)	Academy	240	South Bermondsey
Charter Bermondsey	Free School	100	North Bermondsey
Harris Academy Bermondsey	Academy	180	South Bermondsey
St Michael's Catholic College	Academy (RC)	150	North Bermondsey
Harris Academy Peckham	Academy	120	Rye Lane
Harris Girls' Academy East Dulwich	Academy	150	Peckham Rye
The St Thomas the Apostle College	VA RC	152	Nunhead & Queen's Road
ARK All Saints Academy	Academy	120	Camberwell Green
The Charter School North Dulwich	Academy	192	Champion Hill
Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Secondary	Academy (RC)	120	Camberwell Green
Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich	Academy	150	Dulwich Hill
Kingsdale Foundation School	Academy	420	Dulwich Wood
Charter School East Dulwich	Free School	240	Goose Green

* Have applied to the Regional Schools Commissioner to not admit a Y7 cohort in 2025/26

APPENDIX 6 – PUPIL PLACE PLANNING 2024/25

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

Executive summary

1. Southwark Council's duty under the [Education Act 1996](#) (as amended by the [Education and Inspections Act 2006](#)) is 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 2024-25 are as follows.
 - Southwark has more than sufficient pupil places to meet existing demand in both primary and secondary phases of education in Southwark. The authority was able to offer a primary and/or secondary school place for the 2024-2025 academic year, to all on-time Southwark applicants at the normal points of entry and 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 will continue to fall. From September 2015 to the present time (September 2024 for rolls, December 2023 for births)
 - *The number of primary pupils overall has fallen by 17%*
 - *The number of reception pupils has fallen by 30%*
 - *The number of births has fallen by 29%*
 - *The number of reception applications has fallen by 32%*
 - There are areas of Southwark where a steeper decline in primary demand has been observed - PA1 "Borough & Bankside" and PA3 "Peckham and Nunhead" localities have seen a drop at reception of **45%** and **38%** respectively over the same time period, and PA1 a **33%** drop in primary numbers (years R to 6) overall.
 - Southwark has been taking decisive action to reduce surplus capacity with a [Keeping Education Strong strategy agreed in December 2002](#). Six schools have closed since 2021 and there have been reductions in the Published Admissions Number at 18 further schools since 2019. This has taken out 720 places but further action is likely to be required as numbers continue to fall.
 - In respect of secondary school places there has been an overall increase in demand and provision since 2016, but the reduction in primary numbers is now beginning to feed through to secondary schools:
 - *The number of Y7-11 pupils overall has increased by **+29%** since 2015/6, but has fallen by **-1%** since 2023-24*
 - *The number of Y7 pupils has increased by **+15%** since 2015/16, but has actually fallen by **-8%** since 2019-20*

- *The number of Y7-11 places meanwhile has also increased by +31% since 2016 (+9% since 2020/20), and the number of Y7 places has increased by +20% (by +9% since 2019/20) over the same time period*
- Southwark is anticipating that secondary demand overall (Y7-11) has plateau'd in the last academic year (2023-24) and will decrease slowly thereafter. Therefore, 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 seeing losses of up to **40%** of Y7-11 pupil numbers
- 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 authority 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

1. [Southwark's Pupil Place Planning update was last reported to Cabinet in October 2023.](#)
The annual update describes the demand for primary and secondary school places in the council area and details any steps being taken to manage that demand. School place planning for primary schools is undertaken using five "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.
2. [The legal requirements](#) 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". This requires Southwark to ensure projected demand is met with sufficient supply, and to determine whether an increase or decrease in demand is 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.

3. Methods to track and monitor primary demand include:
- *examining prior trends in pupil numbers at reception and Year R to 6 totals (paras 5 to 10);*
 - *projections provided by external bodies for school places and births – in our case, the Greater London Authority (GLA) (paras 15 to 17);*
 - *looking at the numbers of historical applications made (paras 33 to 34);*
 - *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 (Statistical Annex Section 9)*

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR FUTURE ACTION

Approach to primary and secondary pupil place planning

4. Southwark's pupil place planning figures are predominantly, based on GLA projections, commissioned by the council annually. The GLA calculate 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**. 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

5. The trend of falling rolls continues apace and shows no sign of abating yet. 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 2024, there were 3,341 available primary reception places in Southwark, and 24,221 year R to 6 primary places;*
 - b. *The take up of primary reception places shows a vacancy rate in September 2024 of 829 places, equivalent to 26 forms of entry (25% overall)*
 - c. *This vacancy figure was 781 (22% - 26FE) in September 2023, so there are around 48 more vacancies (2FE) than this time last year – the result of a further fall in rolls*
 - d. *There are 4,805 vacancies (20%) in YR to Y6, around 155 more than in 2023-24 (5 classes)*

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

Table 1: Primary rolls September 2015-24 (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	2,512	-274	-10%	19,416	-608	-3%
2015-24	-1,067	-30%		-3,958	-17%	

(Source: Pupils Censuses 2016-24)

- Southwark has seen a substantial reduction since 2015-16 in primary reception and whole school rolls. Reception rolls have fallen by 1,067 pupils – 36 forms of entry (36FE) – **30%** less overall – in the 9 years since September 2015 – this is an average annual loss of 119 reception pupils (4FE) overall.
- Whole school (years R to 6) rolls have decreased by 3,956 pupils over the same period – equivalent to 133 classes or **17%** less overall. This averages a loss of 440 pupils per annum – the equivalent of just over a 2FE school a year.
- 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 2024 and outlined in **Statistical Annex Section 8** support this scenario.
- 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 2024

Category	PA1	PA2	PA3	PA4	PA5	LBS
YR Roll 2024-5	449	740	436	430	457	2,512
PAN Total 2024-5	675	960	600	570	536	3,341
YR Vacancies	226	220	164	140	79	829
Percentage	33%	23%	27%	25%	15%	25%

Table 2b Year R-6 Roll, Capacity, Vacancies September 2024

Category	PA1	PA2	PA3	PA4	PA5	LBS
YR-6 Roll 2024-5	3,840	5,628	3,337	3,443	3,228	19,416
PAN Total 2024-5	4,965	6,900	4,395	4,215	3,746	24,221
YR-6 Vacancies	1,125	1,272	1,058	772	518	4,805
Percentage	23%	18%	24%	18%	14%	20%

- [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.

11. Drivers for the reduction in population outlined above include:

- a. [The number of children being born in Southwark](#) has reduced by nearly 1,800 since 2010 – equivalent to 60 classes of children.
- b. [Migration from Southwark](#): net outmigration from Southwark of primary aged children (4-11) in 2022 was estimated by the GLA to be around 240 children, 320 for 2023 and 450 for 2024, with further net outmigration projected for the foreseeable future
- c. Brexit: [Net migration from EU countries is now in decline across London and Southwark](#)
- d. Housing costs: [Southwark average sold property prices have reached over £721k this year](#), and [average private rents are £2,200 per month](#) - 51% more than in 2016 – unaffordable to many families.
- e. Welfare reforms: The introduction of Universal Credit (UC), the low level of the “[Local Housing Allowance](#)”, and the effects of the bedroom tax have effectively made inner London unaffordable to many families.
- f. Covid 19: There is [some evidence](#) that the pandemic led to more families relocating outside of London.

Actions taken to address falling rolls

12. Southwark has been taking decisive action to reduce surplus capacity including agreeing a Keeping Education Strong strategy agreed in December 2002. Six schools have closed since 2021 and there have been reductions in the Published Admissions Number at 18 further schools since 2019.

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
Total			-720

13. These changes have taken out 720 surplus places, but further action is likely to be required as numbers continue to fall.
14. 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. A Pupil Places Planning event bringing together LA and MAT representatives was held in July 2024 to share information and perspectives on the issues we are jointly facing.

Primary roll projections from September 2024 to 2031

15. It is projected by the GLA that reception rolls will fall by a further 73 pupils (3FE – -3%) by the end of the decade. The effects of the reductions outlined will be monitored for their effectiveness, before considering whether 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.
16. We anticipate that 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.
17. 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 free schools and academies on place planning

18. The [Academies Act 2010](#) and [related guidance](#) requires local authorities to facilitate academies or free schools, rather than providing new schools themselves. An LA can reduce or propose to close (LA-funded) provision, but this could be negated by an academy opening, or expanding, or an LA-funded school academizing to avoid closure.
19. This makes long term planning challenging. [The Regional Schools' Director \(RSD\)](#) consults with (but does not require the approval of) the council when academies or free schools are proposed. Academies are able to increase their PAN by simply by placing a notice on their website and notifying the council. These schools are not required to undergo statutory processes to expand or to seek the council's approval.
20. This has happened in the case of [Dog Kennel Hill Primary School, where the LA reduced the PAN](#) when the school was a community school from 60 to 30, and [the MAT has reversed the PAN reduction](#), despite the reception intake for 2024/25 being some way under 30 pupils. This said, the council has engaged meaningfully with the DfE, the Regional Schools Director (RSD) and MATs across the authority area.
21. In July 2024, the LA invited all MAT chains to a (well-attended) seminar to discuss forward planning and the role the LA could play in ensuring academies were appraised of the most up to date information.

22. in more recent years the liaison has meant that schools have not opened where there is no evidence of need, and that some academy schools have reduced PANs where there is evidence of declining demand. 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

23. Consideration also needs 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.
24. 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

25. **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.
26. **Planning Area 1 (Borough, Bankside & Walworth)** has seen a steep drop in Year R since 2016 – 362 pupils (12FE) – (-45% less), and 1,866 pupils overall (-33% less). Reception capacity in this area has only reduced by 225 places (8FE) since September 2016 (-25%) and overall capacity by 1,335 places (-21%), therefore the gap between demand and supply has widened. This is one of the planning areas with the highest level of reception (33%) and overall vacancies (23%) in Southwark, as cuts to capacity have 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 2029 onwards in Year R and September 2032 across all year groups.
27. **Planning Area 2 (Bermondsey & Rotherhithe)** has seen a small fall in capacity and pupil numbers since 2016 – capacity at reception has fallen by 30 (3%) and across all year groups by 855 (14%). Pupil numbers at reception have fallen by 198 (21%) but saw a small upswing in reception demand for September 2023, relating to the closure of 2 schools in adjacent PA1. Numbers across all year groups have fallen by 82 (1%) since 2016 and are projected to fall then begin to slowly recover from September 2028 onwards at reception, and September 2032 across all year groups – a considerable amount of overcapacity (23% for reception and 18% Years R to 6) remains and requires attention.

28. **Planning Area 3 (Peckham & Nunhead)** remains an area of concern, with vacancies around **27%** at reception and **24%** across all year groups. Reception numbers in PA3 have fallen by 263 pupils since 2016 (**38%**), whereas capacity has only fallen by 150 (**20%**), exacerbating overcapacity at this level. Overall capacity has fallen by 1,095 (**20%**), whereas overall pupil numbers have fallen by 1,495 (**31%**). Pupil numbers are projected to continue to fall and to begin to slowly recover at reception from September 2028 onwards and from September 2032 onwards across all year groups.
29. **Planning Area 4 (Camberwell)** has in more recent years become an area of concern with overcapacity exceeding **25%** at reception and **18%** in years R to 6 this year. Reception numbers have fallen by 216 pupils (**33%**) since 2016 and by 672 (**16%**) across all year groups, whereas capacity at reception has fallen by only 120 (**17%**), exacerbating overcapacity in this cohort. Across all year groups, capacity has only fallen by 180 (**4%**), presenting a similar problem. Actions proposed in KES may mitigate against this, and numbers are projected to begin to slowly recover at reception from September 2028 onwards and from September 2035 onwards across all year groups.
30. **Planning Area 5 (Dulwich)** is the area least affected by falling rolls. Reception numbers have decreased by 34 (**-7%**), but R to 6 numbers have increased by 200 (**+7%**). Reception capacity has increased by 6 (**1%**), and capacity overall by 461 places (**+14%**). However, some additional capacity provided in this area has been abstractive of other Southwark planning areas (particularly Peckham and Camberwell), as well as from Lewisham, Lambeth and Croydon. Reception and total numbers are projected to remain at a similar level or fall slightly in the foreseeable future.

Primary reception place applications and preferences

31. Another method of tracking demand for primary places outside of population-led projections is to look at trends in the levels of applications for reception places. The level of applications for primary 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.
32. In 2024, 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 2015-24 (Southwark & out borough)

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%
2015-24	-1,137(-35%)	-14 (-5%)	-1,151		-32%

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 2022, 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 substantial – 2023 saw the lowest level of births in Southwark since 1986 – 39 years ago. If births are to be used as an indicator of primary numbers, then the trend would seem to indicate a continued reduction in overall demand.

Table 6 Births in Southwark 2012-22

Year	Births	+/-	+/-%	Year	Births	+/-	+/-%
2012	5,030			2018	4,181	-200	-5%
2013	4,706	-324	-6%	2019	4,027	-154	-4%
2014	4,647	-59	-1%	2020	3,557	-470	-12%
2015	4,587	-60	-1%	2021	3,525	-32	-1%
2016	4,503	-84	-2%	2022	3,393	-132	-4%
2017	4,381	-122	-3%	2023	3,265	-128	-4%
				2012-23	-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 a degree of 'cross border traffic' of pupils' resident in one borough attending schools in another. Pupil Projections broadly assume that there remains a similar level of cross border flows in and out of Southwark from neighbouring authorities from year to year, which was true until recently

38. A variety of factors mean we now see more out borough pupils in Southwark than previously. 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 to attend schools in other areas).
39. 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”, and just Lewisham and Lambeth more than 78%.
40. In 2023-24 ([the latest available DfE figures](#)), 1,708 (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 2,459 (12%) non-Southwark pupils from 36 LAs outside Southwark – the equivalent of six 2FE schools’ worth of pupils were educated in Southwark. This is a “net gain” of around 751 pupils (+4%), or just under 2 x 2FE schools.
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 +4% in this year, perhaps connected to more than 90% of our primaries being Ofsted-graded “Good” or “Outstanding”.
42. In planning area terms, PA3 sees a net loss (to Lewisham), and PA2 a net gain (mainly from Lewisham and Lambeth). The reduction in net gain would seem to indicate that the projections of falling rolls in Southwark will continue, and not be mitigated by cuts in other LA’s provision driving pupils to attend Southwark schools.
43. With 12% 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.

Private primary schooling and Elective Home Education (EHE)

44. 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.
45. Whilst the number of primary age home-educated children increased to around 160 pupils in 2023-24, this amounts to less than 0.9% of all primary pupils in Southwark and has remained constant since 2022/23.
46. 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%) but the same as the inner London average (also 0.9%)
47. Similarly, the percentage of privately educated primary pupils (8%) in Southwark in January 2022 at the seven registered private schools with primary provision has not altered significantly in recent years, although this has increased slightly from around 7% five years ago

48. This is more a product of the shrinking school pupil numbers in the state sector, rather than the popularity of the private sector. The percentage of pupils at independent school who are Southwark residents is relatively low – **4%** - and lower than the UK average of **7%**.
49. 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 (198)
5	Dulwich College	2-19 (Mixed)	1,950 (1,899)
5	Dulwich Prep	2-14 (Boys)	999 (809)
5	Herne Hill School	2-7 (Mixed)	430 (323)
5	James Allen's Girls'	4-18 (Girls)	1,240 (1,203)
5	Alleyn's School	4-18 (Girls)	1,450 (1,427)

KEY FACTORS AFFECTING SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Headline figures for secondary

50. In September 2024 there are presently 3,537 secondary places available in 20 state-funded mainstream secondaries in Southwark at Year 7. From Years 7-11, there are 17,580 available places – 21,465 if you also include years 12 and 13. As of September 2024, there are presently 3,109 pupils in Year 7, and 15,949 Year 7-11 pupils (19,220 including sixth form pupils). This leaves 428 – 15FE (**12%**) vacancies in Y7, 1,631 (**9%**) Y7-11 vacancies, and 401 (**10%**) sixth form vacancies.
51. The Y7-11 and Y12-13 vacancy levels are within generally 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.
52. 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 last year (2023-24), as the main works at the permanent site have completed.
53. 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 125 post-16 places) and will have provided 900 additional secondary places (years 7-11) at the start of this academic year.

54. By January 2026, this additional capacity increase will have added an additional 527 Y7 places (**+18%**) and 4,140 secondary places (**+31%**) from January 2016 as detailed in **Statistical Annex Section 14**.
55. 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 2030. This remains the case in 2024/5.
56. 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 below:
- *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.*
57. This year's enrolment and the latest GLA (2024) projections show that secondary demand will have peaked in September 2024 and 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.
58. Indeed, two of the twenty schools in the secondary sector are actively investigating PAN reductions going forward.
59. 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

60. Southwark has seen an overall **+15%** net increase in numbers of Year 7 pupils between 2016 and 2024 and **+29%** increase in secondary pupil numbers overall (Years 7 to 11). However, Year 7 numbers have *fallen* since 2019-20 by 270 places (**-8%**) and overall Y7-11 fell slightly this year (by 235 pupils - **1%**) for the first time in 9 years. Evidence therefore seems to point to secondary rolls having plateaued already at Y7 and across all year groups in 2023-24.
61. By 2031 Year 7 numbers are projected to have fallen further by around 558 pupils (19FE) (**-18%**), and Years 7-11 by 1,038 places (35 classes **-7%**), equivalent to the roll of an 7FE secondary school.
62. As regards sixth form students with Southwark's schools, a considerable increase of **+66%** has occurred since 2016 – over 1,200 additional pupils are now in state funded secondary school sixth forms. This is projected to continue and peak in 2025-26 and then decrease slowly, to around 3,100 by the end of the decade, Table 9 below illustrates the growth over the last 9 years of around an additional 1,385 sixth form students.

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	+638	+5%
2017-18	3,063	+27	+1%	13,739	+653	+5%
2018-19	3,268	+205	+7%	14,461	+722	+5%
2019-20	3,379	+111	+3%	15,226	+765	+5%
2020-21	3,271	-108	-3%	15,677	+451	+3%
2021-22	3,203	-68	-2%	15,861	+184	+1%
2022-23	3,241	+38	+1%	16,146	+285	+2%
2023-24	3,218	-23	-1%	16,327	+181	+1%
2024-25	3,109	-109	-3%	16,092	-235	-1%
2015-2024	+414	+15%		+3,644	+29%	

Table 9 – Sixth form rolls 2015-2024

Year	Y12-13	+/-	%	Year	Y12-13	+/-	%
2015-16	2,099						
2016-17	2,352	+253	+12%	2021-22	2,856	+273	+11%
2017-18	2,415	+63	+3%	2022-23	2,970	+114	+4%
2018-19	2,419	+4	+0.2%	2023-24	3,071	+101	+3%
2019-20	2,346	-73	-3%	2024-25	3,484	+413	+13%
2020-21	2,583	+236	+10%	2015-24	+1,385	+66%	

Secondary place applications and preferences

63. Whilst Y7 application numbers have increased by around a net 611 (+21%) since 2015-16, this hides a fall of around 280 applications since 2020-2021(-10%)
64. The number of out borough applicants for secondary places has increased considerably – a net increase of +65% since 2015-16, with an +5% net increase in Southwark applicants over the same time period. Out borough applicants fell from 2019-23 but increased from 2023-2024 onwards – Southwark applicants since 2019-20 (-21%). The proportion of out borough applicants has risen from 28% in 2015-16 to 38% this year (albeit masking a rise and fall).

Table 10 – Y7 Applications 2015-24 (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%
2015-25	+99 (+5%)	+512 (+65%)	+611		+21%

65. There was a total of 12,138 preferences expressed by all applicants for the 3,522 secondary Y7 places in the 2024 admissions round. This equates to around 3.5 preferences per place (3.5 last year as well). Of the preferences expressed, 4,384 (36%) came from outside Southwark – some way above the prevalence of outborough pupils in the borough (27%). The relative popularity of Southwark secondary schools, all of whom are graded Ofsted “Good” or “Outstanding” could go some way to explaining this.

66. Preliminary application figures for September 2025 Y7 entry show a total of 134 less applications (**4%** less than last year) overall, the fifth consecutive annual fall, and around 500 less applications than in 2020/21 (**13%** fewer).
67. If we look at preferences per place for just Southwark applicants, this equates to 7,754 preferences, or **2.1** preferences per secondary Y7 place (2.3 last year). However, the figures above are skewed by the 2,880 (**24%**) 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* (**74%**) from outside Southwark. Kingsdale also recruits most of its pupils (**76%**) from outside Southwark. Five of the 20 secondary schools receive above the average number of applicants.
68. 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 **54%** of all Y7 applications for September 2025, despite only offering **32%** of Y7 places.

Secondary cross authority flows

69. Around 2,748 of Southwark residents of secondary school age attend state funded secondary schools out of borough, across 28 different councils.
70. Pupils resident out of borough attending a Southwark school, total 4,216 (**27%**), a net gain of around 1,468 (**+12%**) of pupils. The latter figures have risen in recent years – out borough pupils attending Southwark schools have increased from 23% to 27% since 2015/16. This means that the net flow has increased from +1% (into Southwark) in 2015/16 to a net gain of +12% in 2024/5.
71. 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. The link between the numbers of pupils in year 6 and year 7. 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.
72. The popularity of our secondary schools – all of which 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 twenty secondary schools 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. 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

73. Consideration needs to 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.

74. Should additional secondary need materialise, the council will consider schemes for schools that are located close to the areas of demand.

Secondary Elective Home Education (EHE) and private schooling

75. 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 190 pupils in 2023-24, and privately educated pupil numbers have also increased.
76. The latter (EHE) amounts to around 1.0% 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.
77. 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 7%. Private school pupils make up around 22% of the 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	Vacs
Alleyn's School	Mixed	4 to 18	1,427	1,475	48 (3%)
Arco Academy	Mixed	11 to 16	16	60	44 (73%)
Cavendish School	Mixed	11 to 16	38	42	4 (10%)
Dulwich College	Mixed	0 to 19	1,899	1,950	51 (3%)
Dulwich Prep	Mixed	2 to 16	809	999	199 (12%)
James Allen's Girls	Girls	4 to 18	1,203	1,240	37 (3%)
PhoenixPlace	Girls	11 to 16	25	36	11 (31%)
Bridge SEN	Mixed	14 to 25	12	35	23 (66%)
The Autism Project (CareTrade)	Mixed	18 to 25	12	40	28 (70%)
Treasure House CIC	Mixed	14 to 19	15	18	1 (7%)
Total Fee-paying Private			5,338	5,664	326 (6%)
Total Other Independents			118	231	113 (49%)
Total Independent Schools			5,456	5,895	439 (7%)

The introduction of VAT on private schooling

78. The government [has signalled its intention to introduce VAT on private school fees](#), and there has been a debate as to what will be the effect on private pupil numbers, and whether there exists sufficient capacity in the Southwark school's system to absorb a proportion of those pupils into mainstream state schools, were parents/carers to abandon selective private education for their children, or for private schools to close. A small proportion of the roll of the four private secondaries are estimated to Southwark residents – perhaps 450 pupils.

79. Given the fact that despite rising fees, the headcount of private schools has (since 2016) increased by 428 (+8%) – see **Statistical Annex Section 18** – and that a considerable amount of spare capacity already exists in the primary (4,800 places) and secondary sector (1,600 Year 7-11 places), it is felt unlikely that, even were some establishments to close, or a proportion of pupils to move to the state sector that there would be undue pressure on primary or secondary school places in Southwark.

Secondary expansions and closures in adjacent boroughs

80. 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)

81. 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 schools.
82. 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:
- a. *There has been an average overestimation of primary reception projections since 2016-17, of +3.7%, over a period from 2015/6 to 2024/5;*
 - b. *Overall, for YR-Y6, demand was overestimated by +4.2% averaged over a period from 2015/6 to 2024/5;*
 - c. *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 caused people to relocate outside Southwark; therefore, the demand for primary reception places are less than previously anticipated and projected by the GLA;*
 - d. *The figure for Year 7 projections at secondary level has been overestimated by around -2.6% on average since 2016, and underestimated by -1.5% 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*
 - e. *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*
 - f. *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.*
83. 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)

84. 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 2024. There have been annual increases ranging from 2.5% between 2020 and 2019 but an average annual increase of almost 10%.
85. During and following the global pandemic, Southwark has experienced a sharp increase in demand for EHC needs assessments and this growth has not yet slowed. The latest figures from the 2024 Pupil Census show that the percentage of children in Southwark with an Education and Healthcare Plan (EHCP – formerly ‘a Statement’), at **5.1%** and with “SEND Support” status standing at **15.0%**. These are slightly higher than the London average (**4.1%** and **11.7%** respectively) and England (**4.0%** and **12.6%**) average. This also varies by sector (Primary **4.0%** EHCP, **16.6%** SEND Support, Secondary **2.9%** and **13.1%**, and Special, **99.9%** and **0.1%**). This equates to around 8,530 children with special needs in Southwark – **21%** of all pupils. The number of children with the most complex needs (the 2,176 pupils with EHCPs), has been increasing. This is particularly true at primary age and the need for specialist provision at an early stage is therefore greater. There are approximately 3,585 children in primary school with SEND compared to almost 2,565 children in secondary schools and post-16 combined.
86. 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

87. 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. Some pupils with EHCPs who attend mainstream primary schools move on to secondary special schools in or out of Southwark.
88. 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 in September 2024. A new reception class has been developed for up to 10 children at The Grove Nursery School which feeds into the new special free school.

89. 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 phased admissions having commenced in September 2023.
90. There is a particular need for more places with for children with complex needs and ASD. Specialist provision in Southwark is full, as can be seen in table 10 below. It is also the council's intention is to provide more specially resourced provision in mainstream schools to enable children with additional needs to access (where appropriate) the mainstream curriculum, and to educate more children in borough rather than to transport them to schools elsewhere.
91. 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.
92. 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.
93. [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".
94. As can be seen in table 13, some special schools in the authority area take above the formal capacity outlined, and projects to augment provision 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. 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

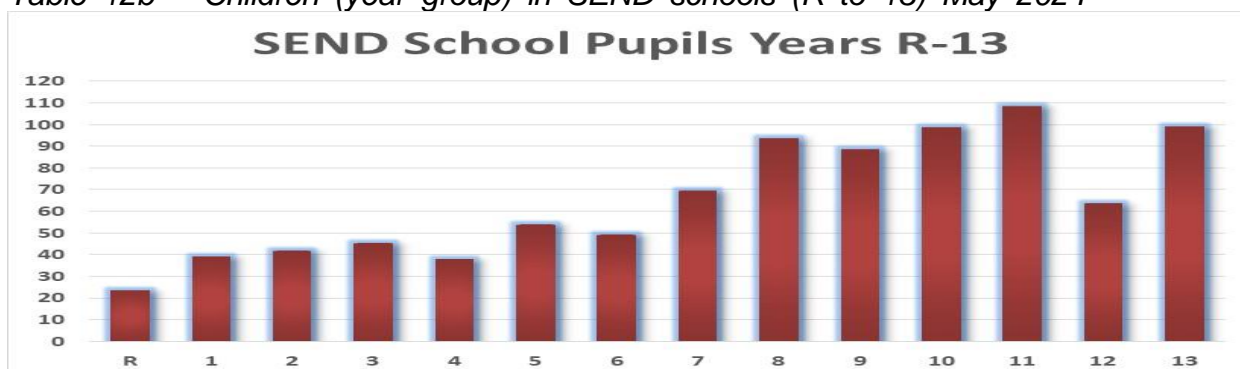


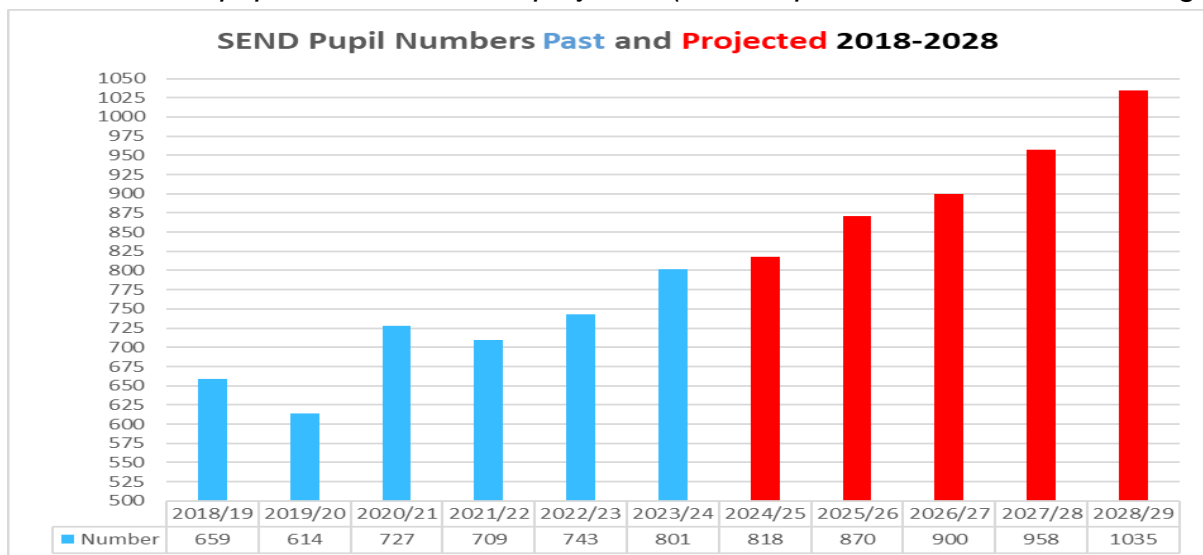
Table 13 Existing Special/non-mainstream schools in Southwark – roll and capacities

School	Specialism, school type (age range)	Roll (2024)	Capacity (2024)
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) (KS3: Peckham, KS4: London Bridge)	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 Primary	Relocation to former site Bellenden Primary School site	58	Gateway 2 approved – completes September 2025
Charter School East Dulwich	ASD resource base as part of new build	20	Work underway – completes December 2024

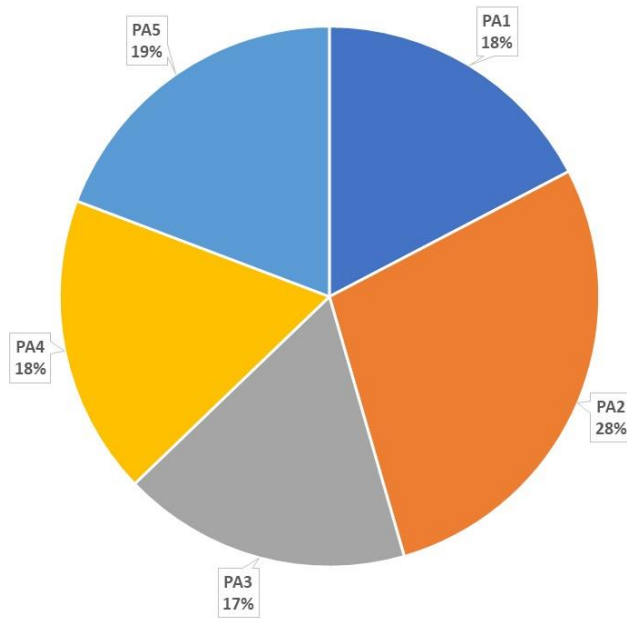
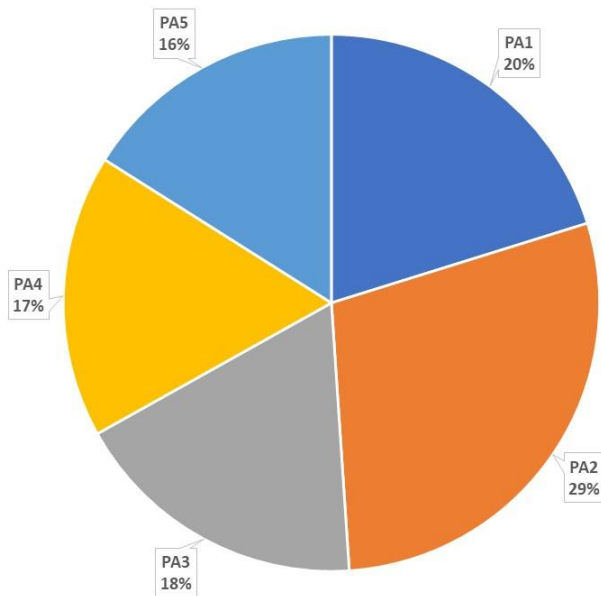
Table 15 SEND pupil totals – historical/projected (less hospital schools and Park College)

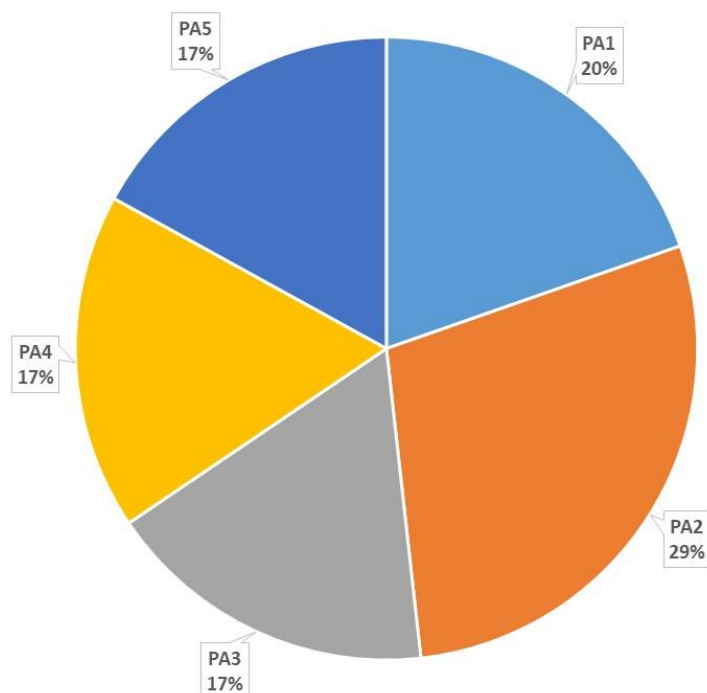
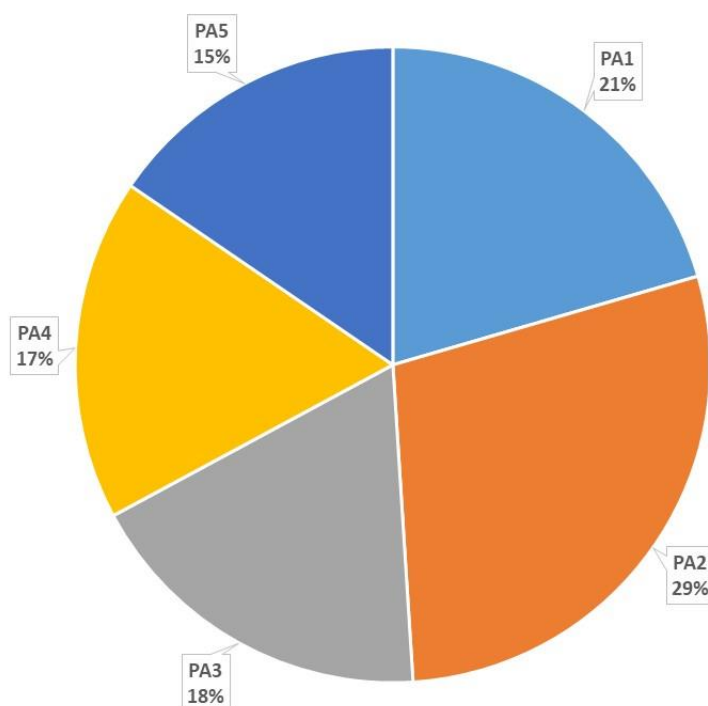


95. Southwark is developing capital plans to expand SEND provision with in Southwark, including additional Resource Bases places and sixth form provision.

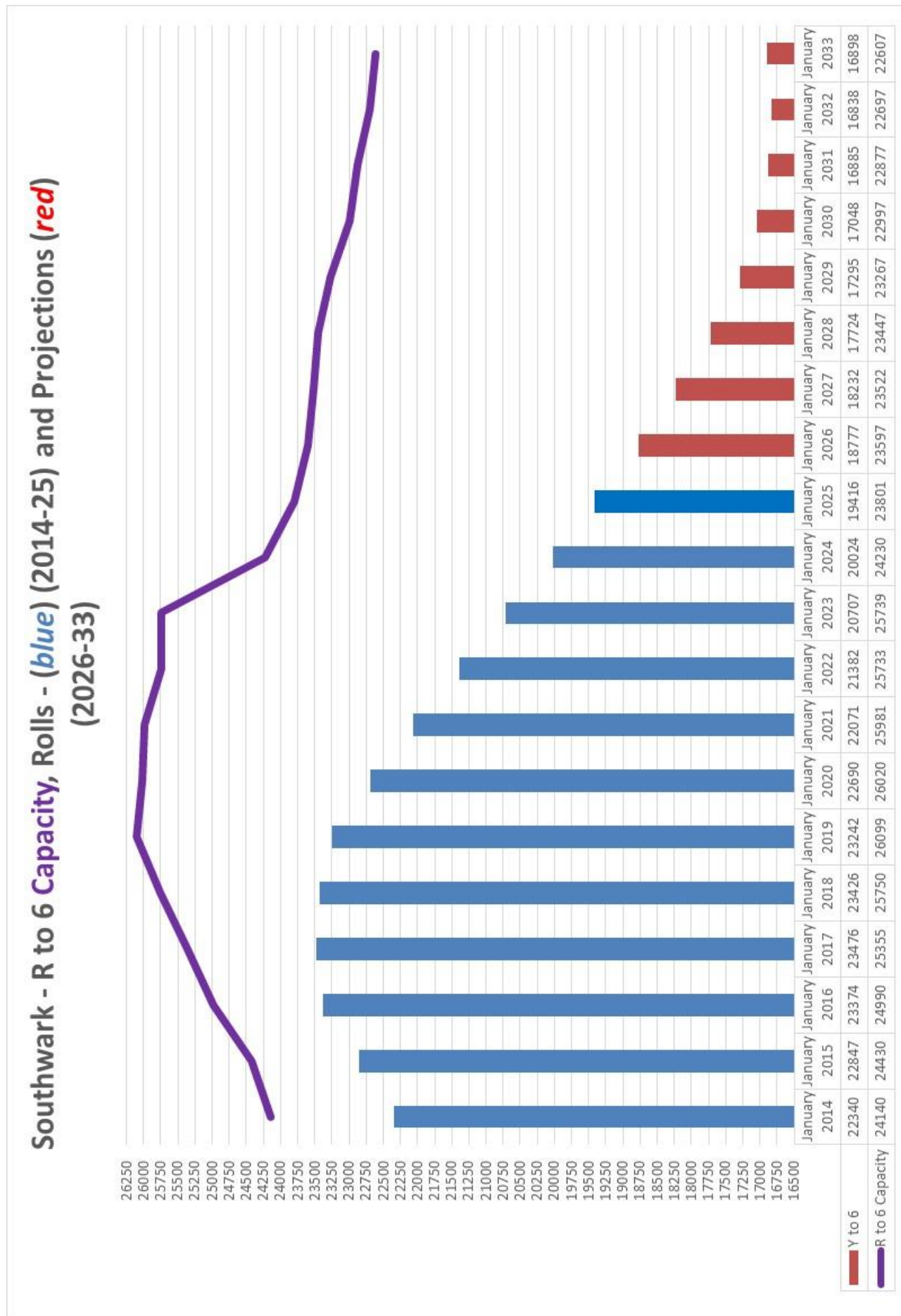
PLACE PLANNING STATISTICAL ANNEX

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 2016-31
Section 2b	Primary rolls and projections – Years R 2016-31
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 (2012-21) projected (2022-31)
Section 7a	Primary reception Applications 2015-16 to 2024-25
Section 7b:	Primary Applicant Preferences 2015-16 to 2024-25
Section 7c	Primary Applicant Preferences 2015-16 to 2024-25 (Stack)
Section 7d	Primary pupil % by LA in Southwark schools
Section 8	Planning Area Summaries PA1 to PA5
Section 9	Primary Cross Border flows into and out of Southwark
Section 10a	Preferences by Sector for Primary Reception Places
Section 10b	Primary Preference per place by School type
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 2019-23
Section 13	Secondary Summary
Section 14	Secondary Schools by ward and PAN – 2023-2024
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 2016-24

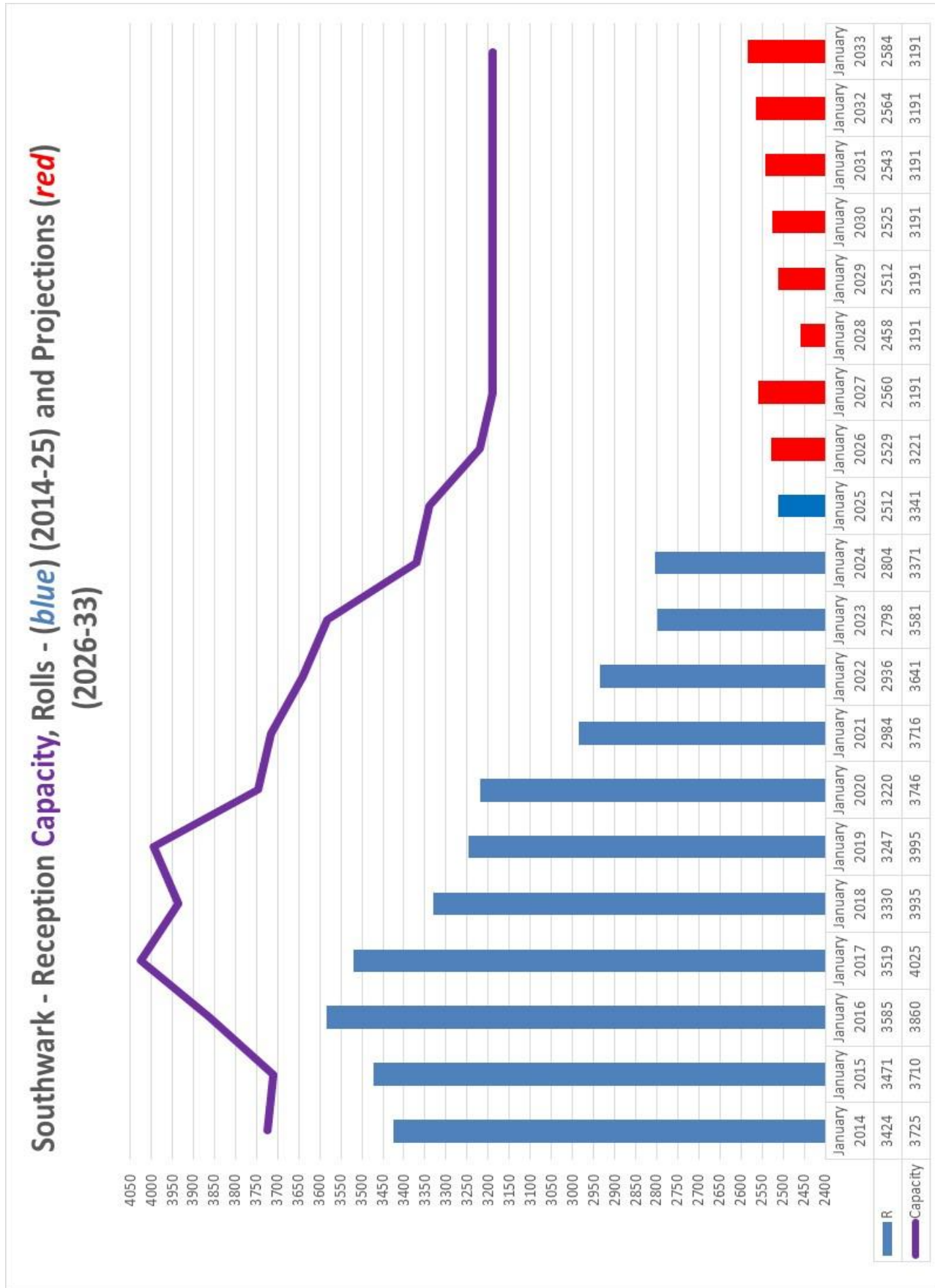
SECTION 1a Percentage primary reception pupils and places by Planning Area**Reception Roll by PA - September 2024****Reception Places by PA - September 2024**

SECTION 1b Primary pupils and places by Planning Area Years R to 6**Pupils by Planning Area - September 2024****Places by Planning Area - September 2024**

Section 2a Primary rolls and projections – Years R to 6 2014-31

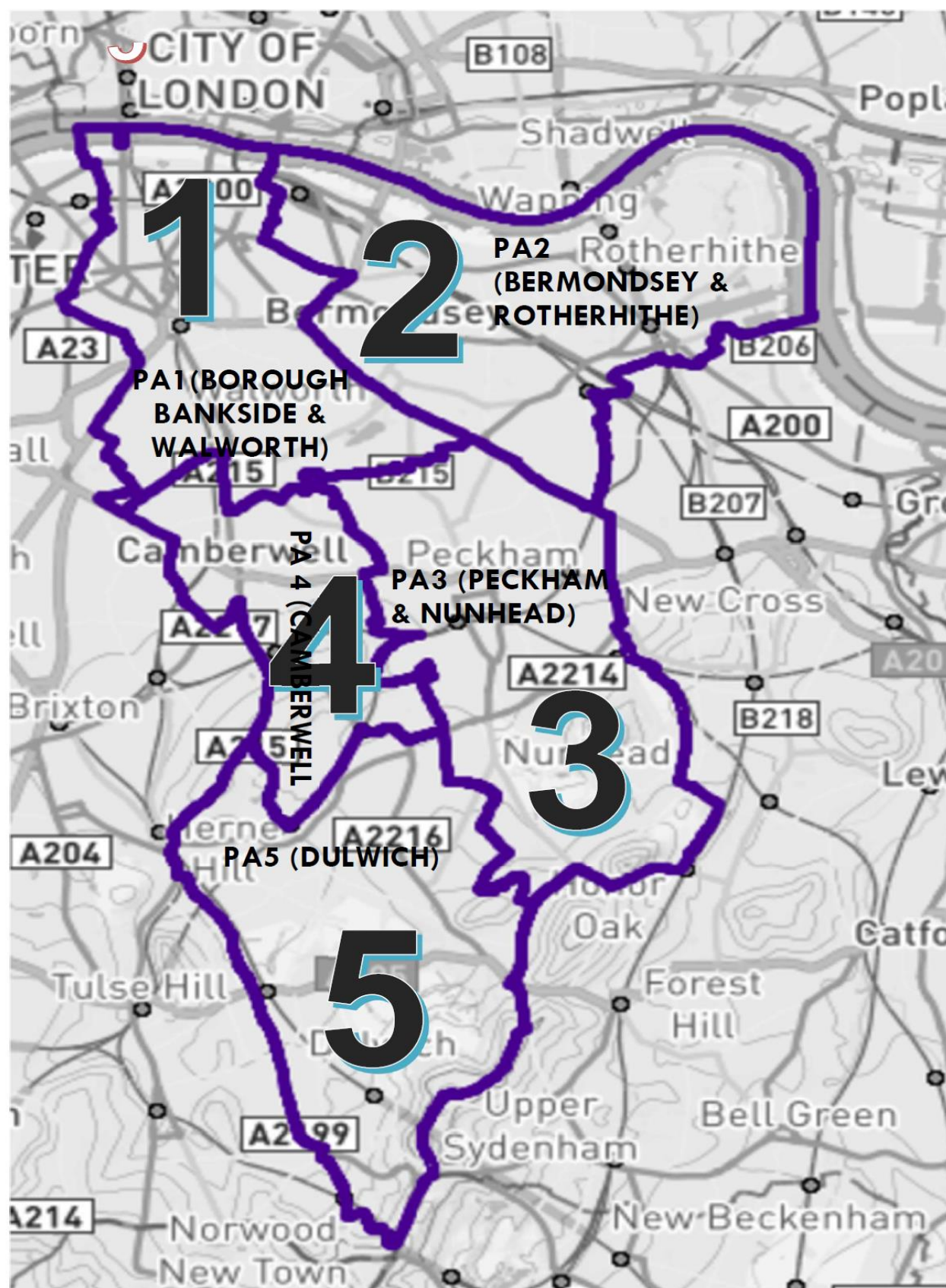


Section 2b Primary Reception Roll and projections – 2014-31



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 Beilenden 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 Wydale 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 Snowfields 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

Voluntary aided schools

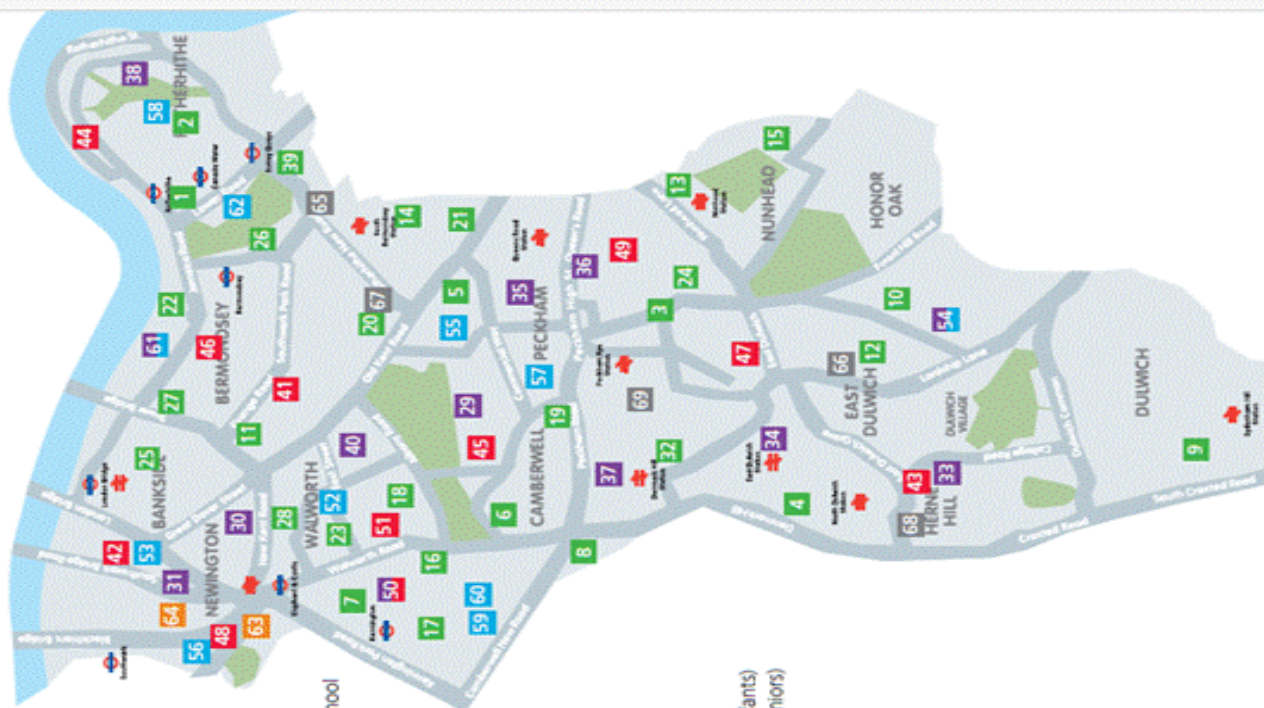
- 38 Redriff Primary
- 39 Rotherhithe Primary School
- 40 Surrey Square Primary School
- 41 Boucher Church of England Primary School
- 42 The Cathedral School of St Saviour and St Mary Overie
- 43 Dulwich Village C of E Infants' School
- 44 Peter Hills with St Mary's and St Paul's C of E Primary School
- 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 Mary Magdalene C of E Primary School
- 50 St Paul's C of E Primary School
- 51 St Peter's Walworth C of E Primary School
- 52 English Martyrs' Catholic Primary School
- 53 Saint Joseph's Catholic Primary School, The Borough
- 54 St Anthony's Catholic Primary School
- 55 St Francis Catholic Primary School
- 56 St George's Cathedral Catholic Primary School
- 57 St James the Great Catholic Primary School
- 58 St John's Catholic Primary School
- 59 St Joseph's Camberwell Catholic Schools' Federation (Infants)
- 60 St Joseph's Camberwell Catholic Schools' Federation (Juniors)
- 61 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, George Row
- 62 St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gomm Road

Foundation schools

- 63 Charlotte Sharnan Primary School
- 64 Friars Primary Foundation School

Free schools

- 65 Galleywall Primary City of London Academy
- 66 Harris Primary Academy East Dulwich
- 67 John Keats Primary School
- 68 Judith Kerr Free School
- 69 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		45	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	VA RC	St George's
St Jude's CE		30	VA CE	St George's
Charlotte Sharman		30	Foundation	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	VA 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

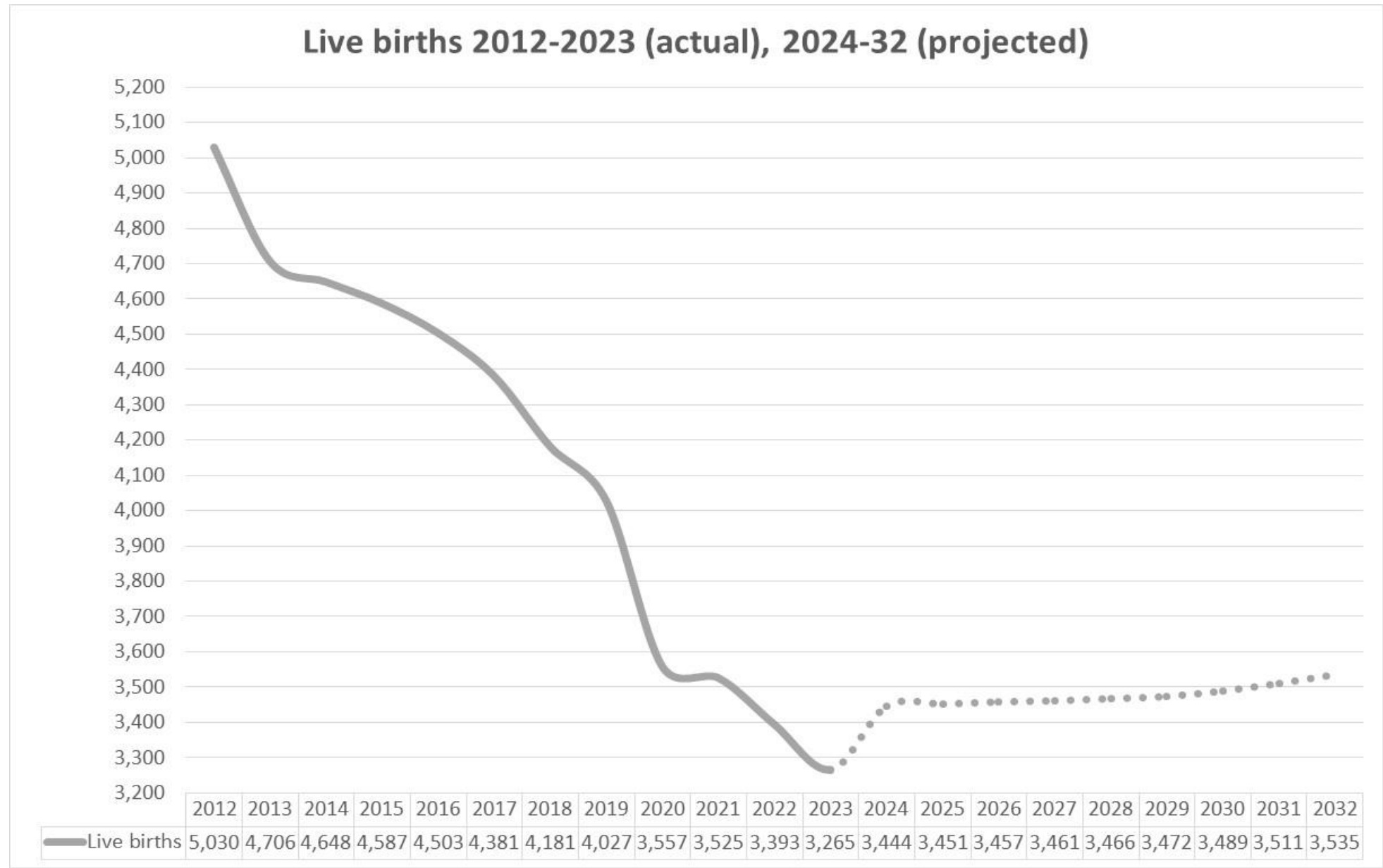
Primary School	PA	PAN	Type	Ward
St John's & St Clements CE	3	60	VA CE	Goose Green
Hollydale		30	Community	Nunhead & Queen's Rd
John Donne		60	Academy	Nunhead & Queen's Rd
Bird-in-Bush (ex-Camelot)		60	Community	Old Kent Road
St Francis RC		60	VA RC	Old Kent Road
Angel Oak		60	Academy	Peckham
Harris Academy Peckham Park		30	Academy	Peckham
St James The Great RC		30	VA RC	Peckham
St Mary Magdalene CE		30	VA CE	Rye Lane
Rye Oak		60	Community	Rye Lane
Bellenden		30	Community	Rye Lane
Ivydale		90	Community	Peckham Rye
Lyndhurst	4	60	Academy	St Giles
Oliver Goldsmith		60	Community	St Giles
St Georges CE		30	VA CE	St Giles
Dog Kennel Hill		30	Academy	Champion Hill
Bessemer Grange		90	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		90	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		3,341		

SECTION 5 - WARDS AND SCHOOLS

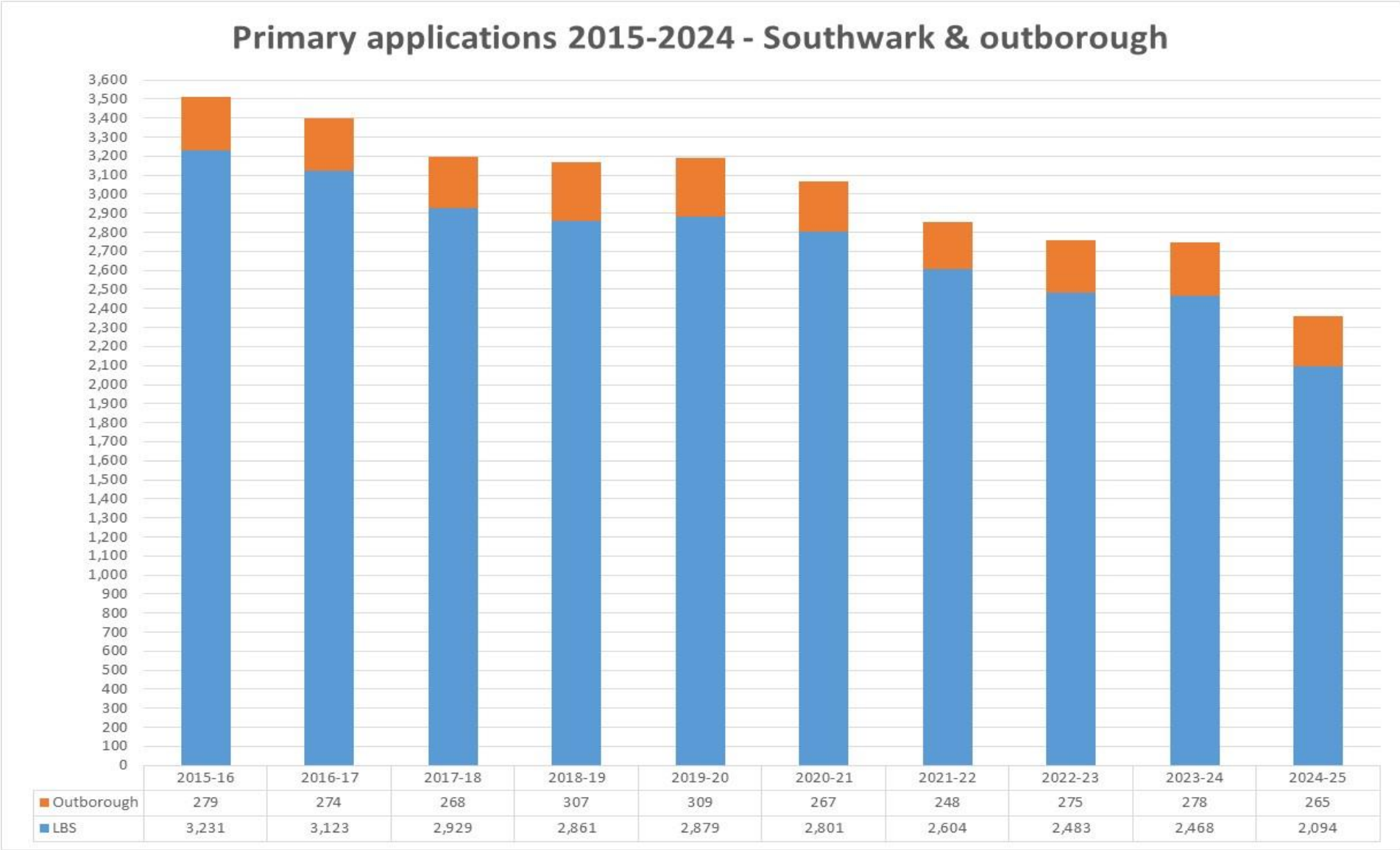
Red = Academies/Free Schools, Blue = VA Schools, Orange = Foundation schools, Black = Community Schools

Borough & Bankside	Charles Dickens, St Joseph's Borough RC, Cathedral School CE, Friars	Haberbdashers' Aske's Borough
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)	
Dulwich Hill	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	Charter Bermondsey, St Michael's RC Catholic College
North Bermondsey	Riverside, Southwark Park, St James CE, St Joseph's RC George Row	
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 (formerly Camelot), 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, St Mary Magdalene CE, Rye Oak, The Belham School	Harris Peckham Academy
South Bermondsey	Boutcher CE, Galleywall	City of London Academy Southwark, Harris Bermondsey
St George's	St Georges Cathedral RC, St Jude's CE, Charlotte Sharman	Notre Dame RC
St Giles	Lyndhurst, Oliver Goldsmith, St George's CE	No secondaries
Surrey Docks	Peter Hills CE, Redriff, St Johns RC	

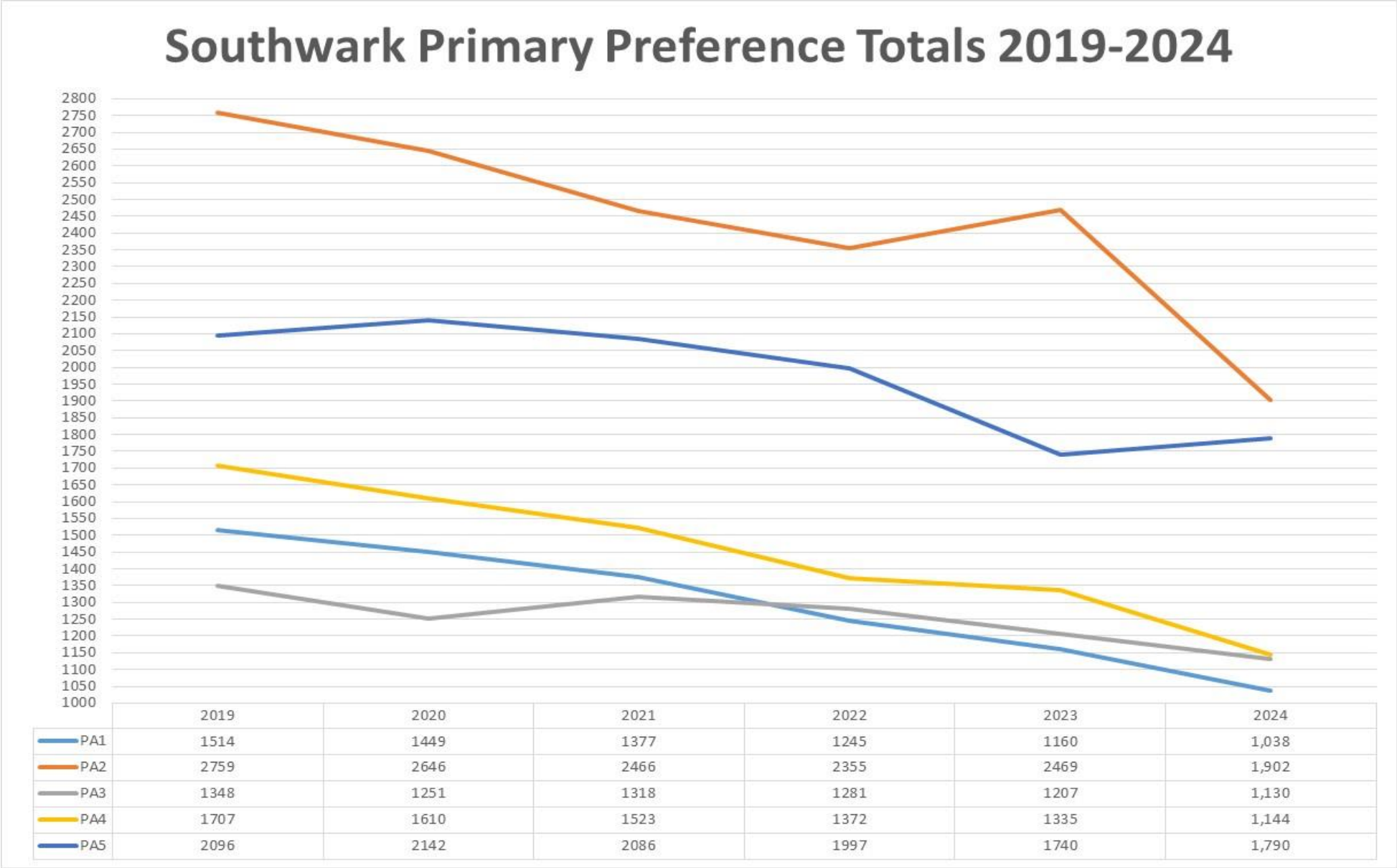
SECTION 6 – Births by calendar year in Southwark
ble 16: Births in Southwark (actuals 2012-2022, projections 2022-2031 – dotted line)/



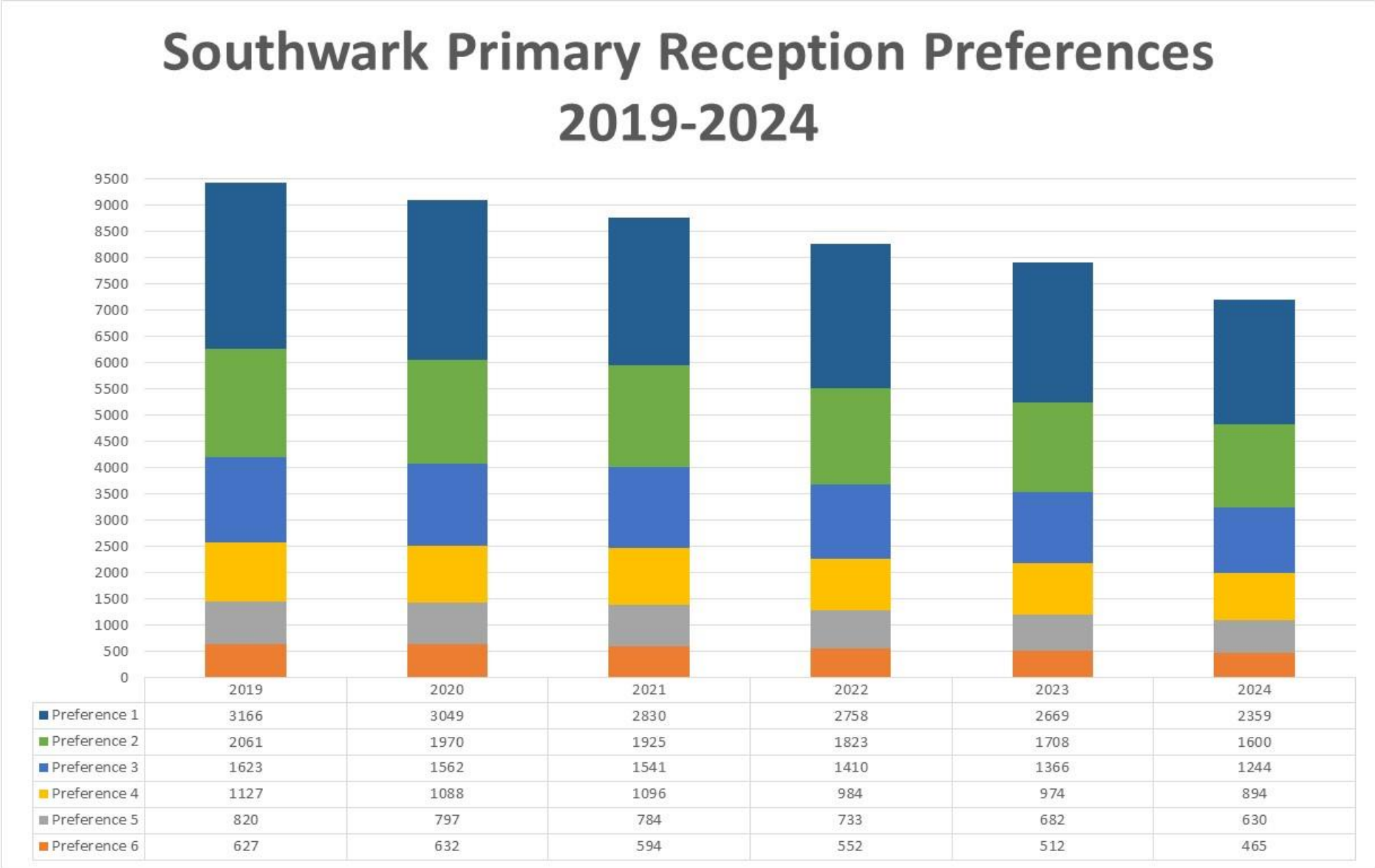
SECTION 7a: PRIMARY RECEPTION APPLICATIONS 2015-16 TO 2024-25



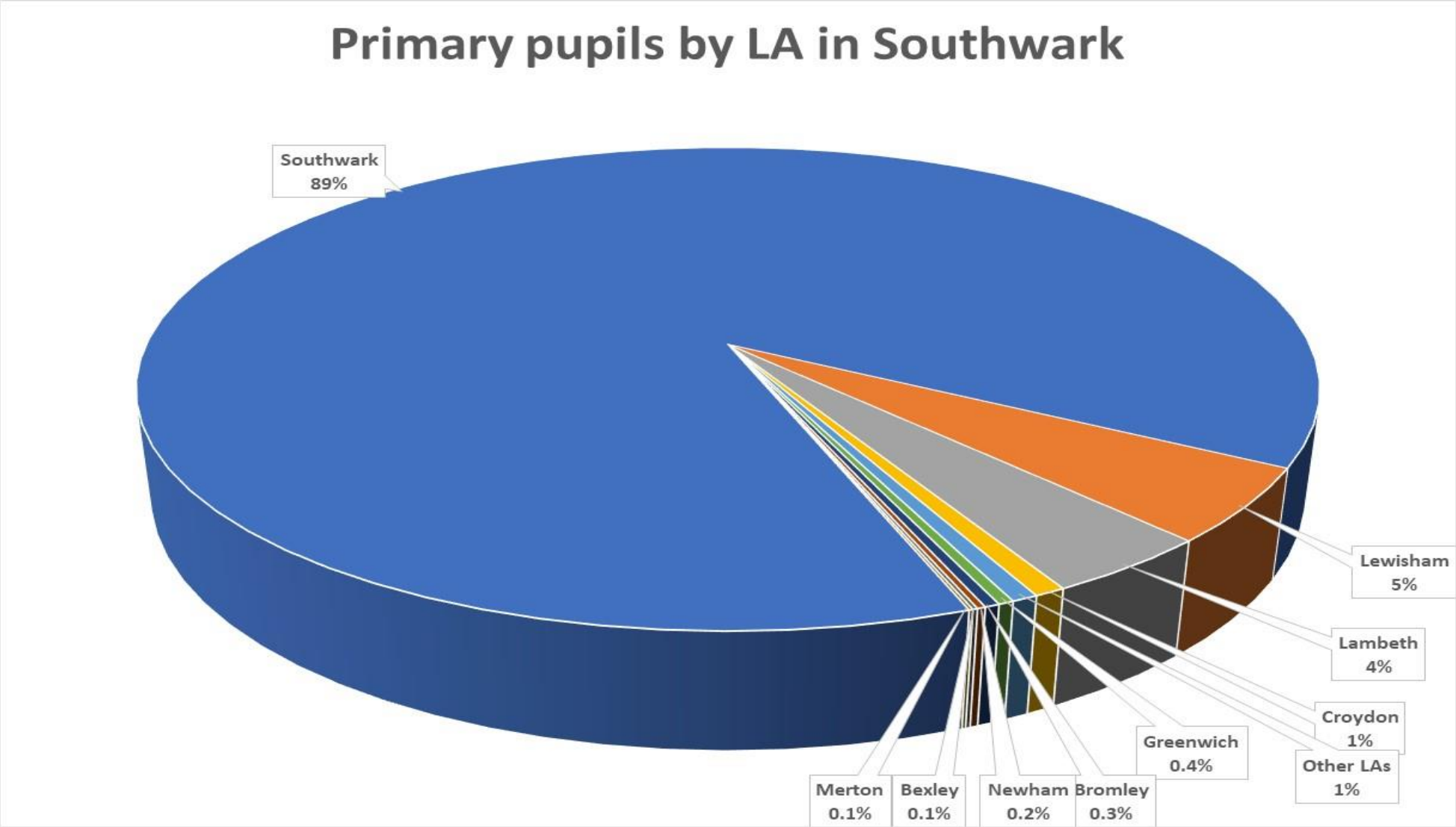
SECTION 7b: TOTAL PRIMARY APPLICANT PREFERENCES 2019-20 TO 2024-25 BY PLANNING AREA



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



Section 7d Primary pupils by LA in Southwark schools



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

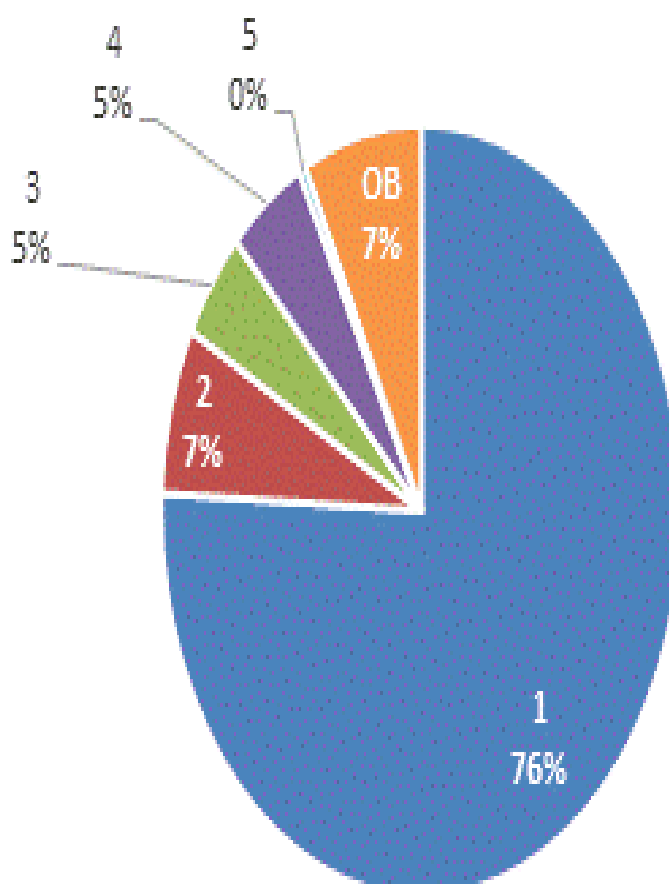
*ARK Globe Academy (**Primary**)*
Cathedral Primary School CE
Charles Dickens Primary School
Charlotte Sharman Primary School
Crampton Primary School
Friars Primary School
English Martyrs RC Primary School
Keyworth Primary School
Michael Faraday Primary School
Robert Browning Primary School
St Georges 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	Victory	30	COMM
	Charles Dickens	60	ACAD	Charlotte Sharman	30	FOUND
	Surrey Square	60	ACAD	Friars	30	FOUND
	St Paul's CE	45	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
	Robert Browning	30	COMM			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 Primary Schools: 5 Academies (including 1 CE and 1 RC Academy), 5 Community, 2 Foundation, 3 VA CE schools and 2 VA RC schools 11 x 1FE schools, 1 x 1.5FE school, 5 x 2FE schools PA1 takes around 20% of all Southwark pupils (18% of reception pupils) PA1 provides around 20% of all Southwark primary places (21% of reception places) 						
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2024 – there are 675 reception places, and 4,965 Years R to 6 places 					
Application trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2019, the number of overall preferences for primary reception places in the planning area have fallen by 31%. First preferences have fallen by 30%, and 1st to 3rd preferences by 29% 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cobourg Primary School reduced its PAN from 60 to 30 with effect from September 2022, and then merged with Camelot School (PA3) to form Bird In Bush Primary School in September 2023. English Martyrs RC formally reduced their PAN to 30 in 2022/23 					
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 +11% (+1% per annum) At ward level, births in Borough & Bankside ward grew by +1% from 2012-22, and are forecast to grow by +16% by 2031 – however, this is only an increase of 14 births; Chaucer fell by -25%, and is projected to fall a further -9%, Faraday, a -51% drop followed by a further -6% drop; Newington, -30% then -13%; North Walworth -32% then a +52% rise, St George's --33% then ++41% rise 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are 226 spare reception places (8FE) across PA1 – 34% of all reception places – 68 more numerically than last year (+10%) In 2019, reception places were reduced by 135 (4.5FE) through PAN reductions to more closely match demand. However, this has essentially just kept pace with the reduction in rolls The GLA project 193 reception vacancies (6FE) in January 2026 (29%), with slowly increasing vacancy levels thereafter, culminating in 205 vacancies in January 2031 (30%) if no further action to reduce capacity is taken There are 1,147 empty places from years R to 6 – 23% across PA1's primary capacity. Without further actions in place, this is projected to increase steadily to around 1,591 (34%) in January 2031, if no further action to reduce capacity is taken 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions/ Proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cobourg Primary – Amalgamation/closure (a net reduction of 30 reception and 390 primary places (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>)) Closure of Townsend Primary (net reduction of 30 reception and 210 primary places (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>)) St Paul's CE Primary Academy reduction of PAN from 45 to 30 (net reduction of 15 reception and 105 primary places) – under consultation Merger of Charlotte Sharman and St Jude's – rejected Overall proposed/implemented reduction of 105 reception and 1,095 primary places (if all implemented) 					

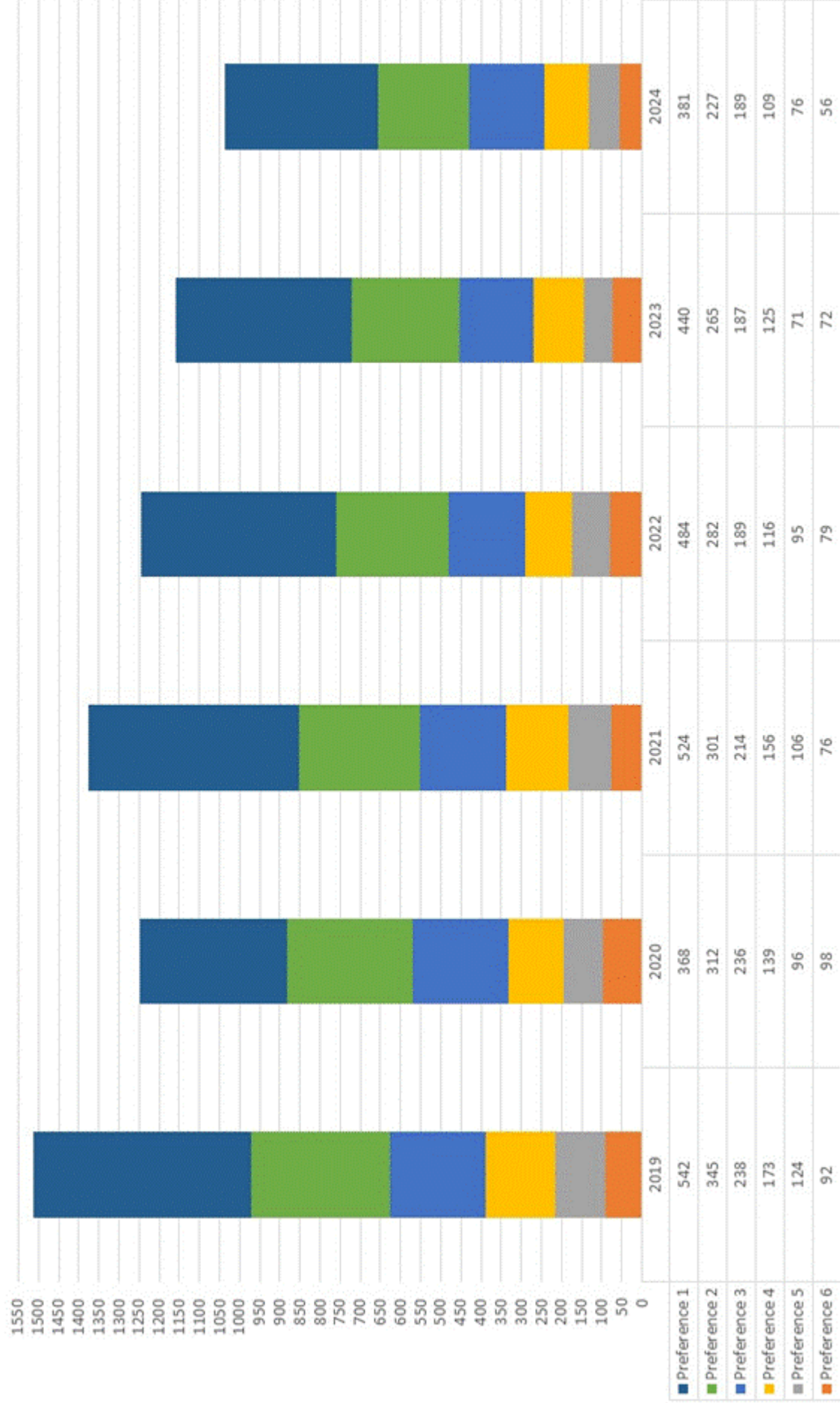
PA1– Borough, Bankside & Walworth

GLA Projections 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2031 at reception and across all year groups. The GLA project that reception rolls will reduce by a further 42 pupils (1.5FE - 8%), and that YR to Y6 by 654 pupils (17%) by then (equivalent to 3 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 Primary (25%), St Jude's CE (25%), Charlotte Sharman (17%), and Keyworth (11%) take a significant proportion of pupils from outside Southwark (<i>mainly Lambeth</i>) • St George's Cathedral (43%), St Joseph's Borough (39%), Surrey Square (31%) all take a significant proportion (more than 30%) of their pupils from outside PA1. Conversely, John Ruskin in PA4 (61%), Phoenix (37%), Grange (36%) and Snowfields (32%) all in PA2 take a high percentage of its pupils from PA1. • 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 315 pupils (7%) come from outside Southwark (<i>from Lambeth (4%), Croydon (0.3%) and Lewisham (1%)</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

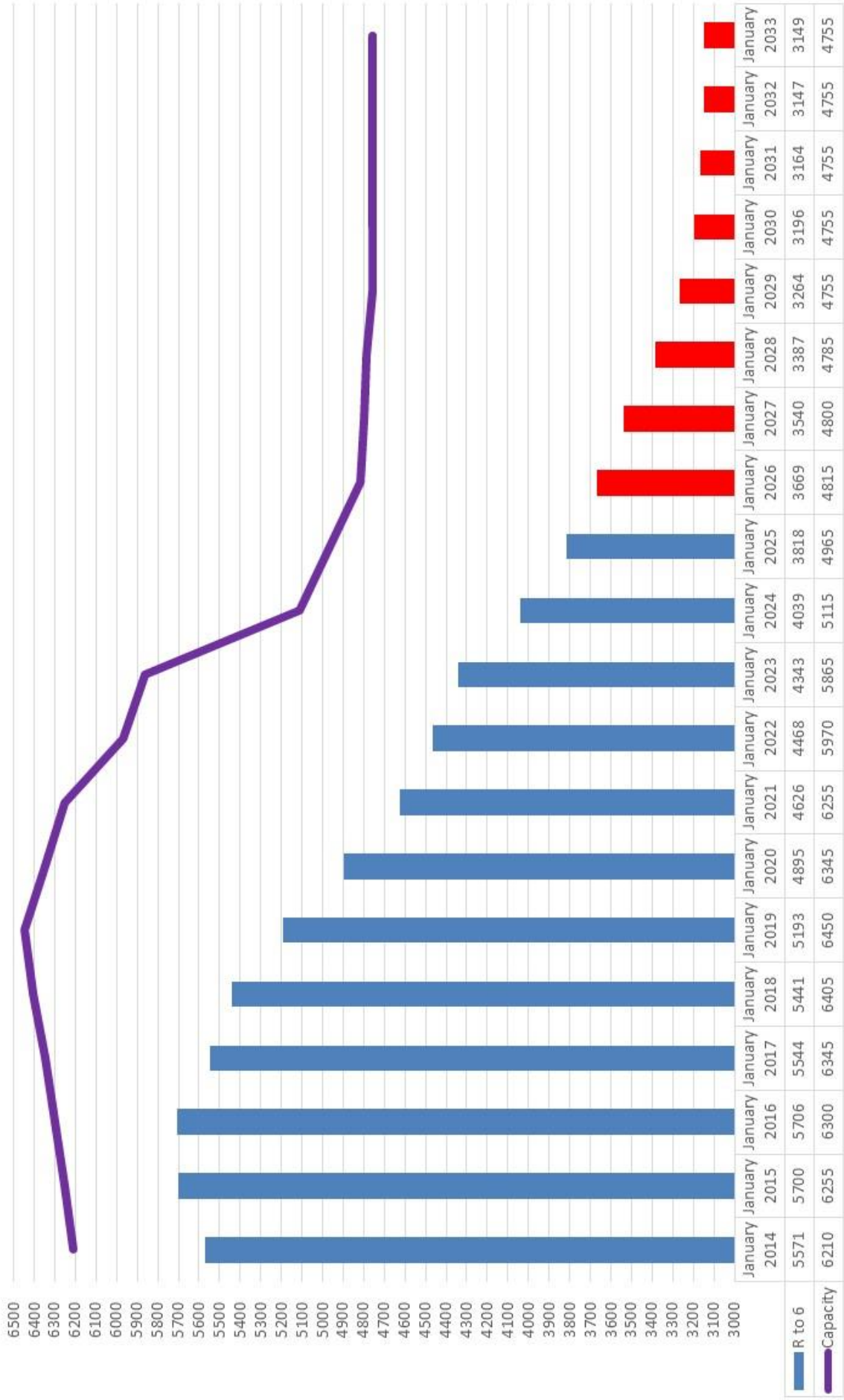
PA1 pupil origins



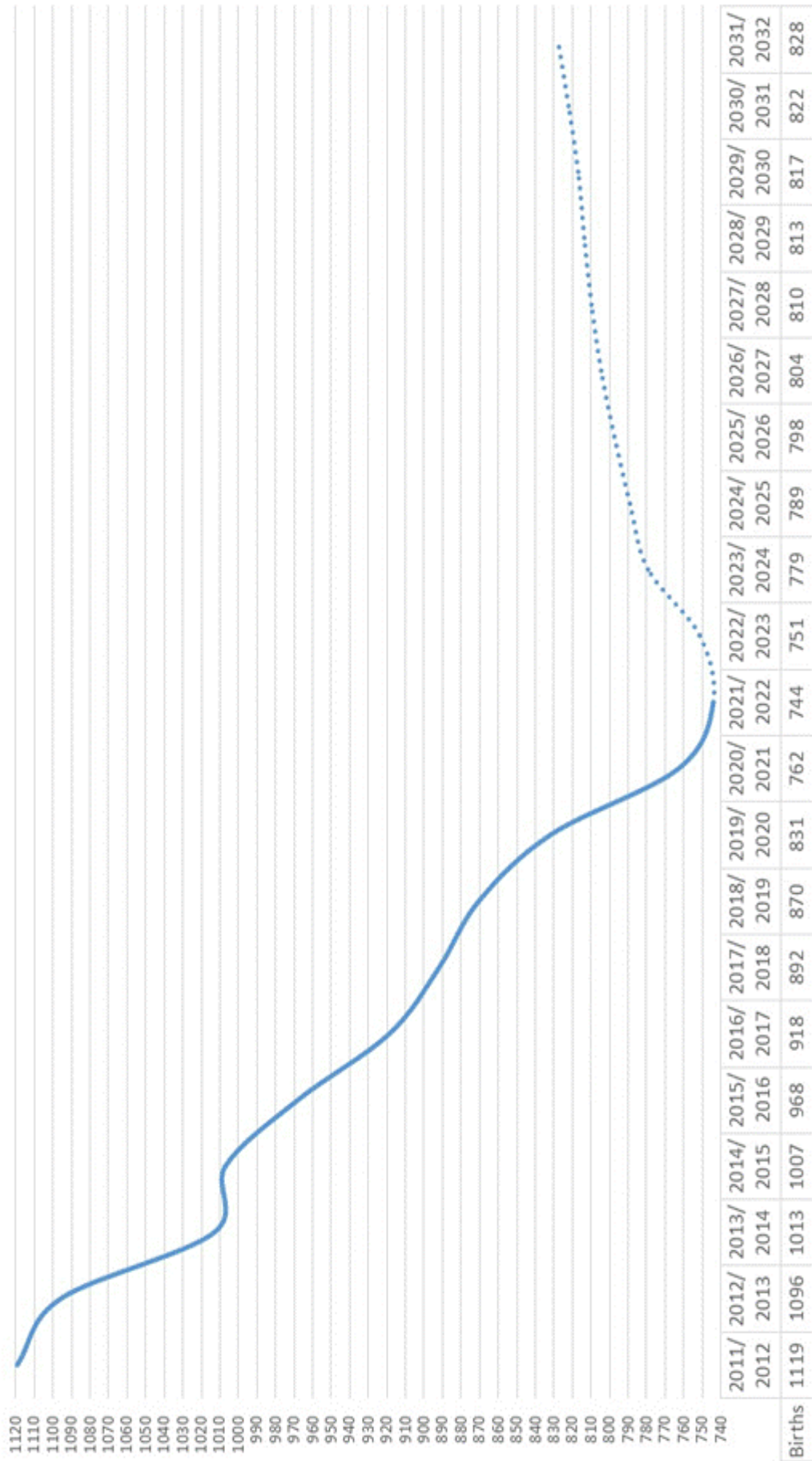
Primary preference Data PA1 2019-2024



Planning Area 1 - Year R to 6 Capacity, Rolls - (*blue*) (2014-25) and Projections
(*red*) (2026-33)



PA1 Births 2011-2031



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

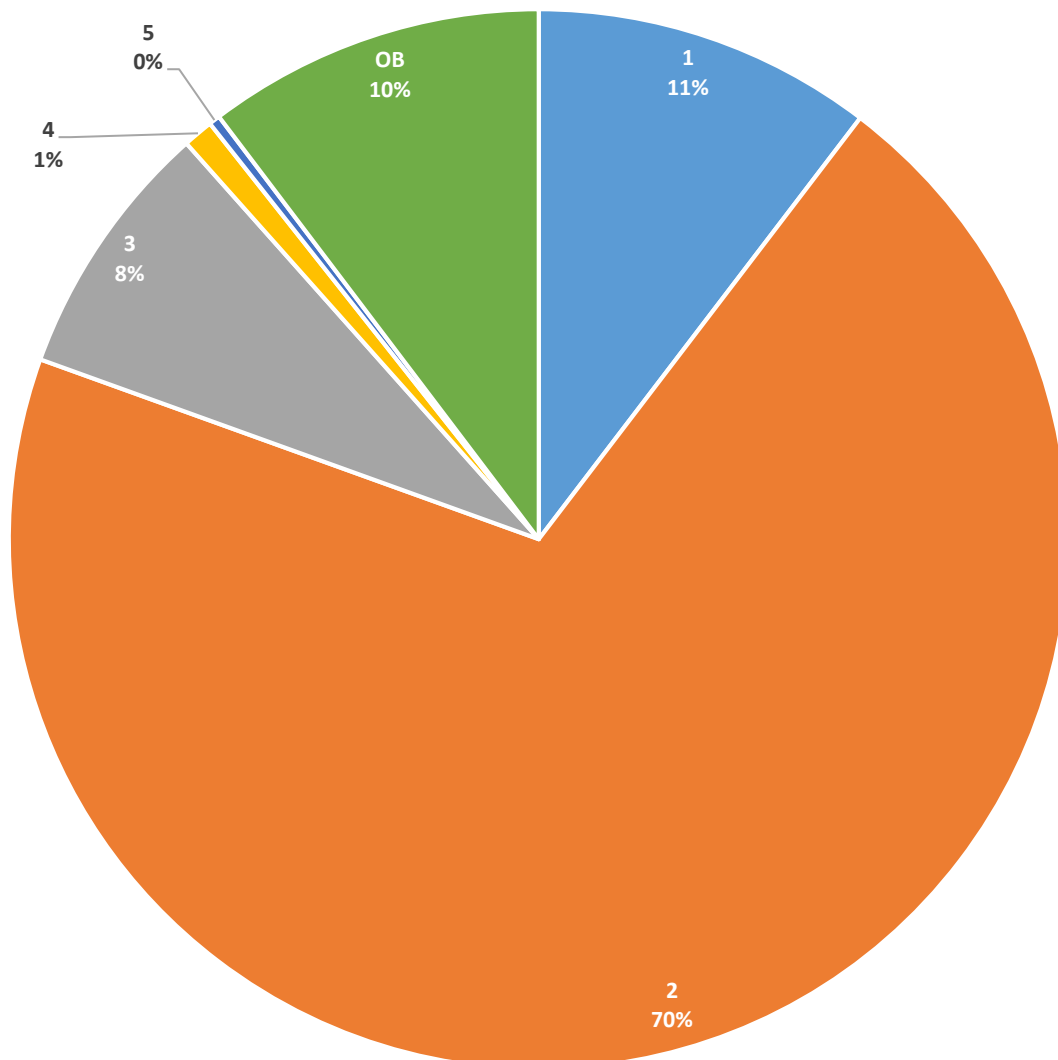
PA2 – Bermondsey & Rotherhithe						
Wards covered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Bridge & West Bermondsey, North Bermondsey, Old Kent Road (part), Rotherhithe, South Bermondsey, Surrey Docks 					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Redriff	60	ACAD	Southwark Park	60	COMM
	St Joseph's RC*	45	ACAD	Tower Bridge	30	COMM
	Rotherhithe	60	ACAD	Riverside	45	COMM
	Albion	60	COMM	Galleywall	60	FREE
	Alfred Salter	60	COMM	John Keats Primary	60	FREE
	Grange	60	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 Joseph's (Gomm Rd)	30	VA RC
	Snowsfields	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, 3 Academies (including 1 x VARC Academy), 2 Free Schools, 3 VA CE, 2 VA RC 8 x 1FE schools, 2 x 1.5FE school, 9 x 2FE schools, 1x 3FE school PA2 takes around 29% of all Southwark primary pupils (<i>the highest in Southwark</i>) (28% of reception pupils) (<i>also the highest in Southwark</i>) PA2 provides around 29% of all Southwark primary places (29% of reception places) 					
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2024 – 960 reception places. 6,900 Years R to 6 places 					
GLA Projections 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The GLA project there will be 190 reception vacancies in January 2026 (20%), and 1,376 R to 6 vacancies (20%). There is projected to be sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2031 at reception and across all year groups. Projections state reception demand will increase by 28 places (1FE) (+4%), but R to 6 demand will fall by 550 pupils (-10%) There will be 162 (6FE) surplus reception places in September 2031, based on GLA projections (17%), and 1,462 YR to 6 vacancies (22%) 					
Application Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2019, the number of applications for primary reception places in the planning area have fallen by 31%. First preferences have fallen by 35%, and 1st to 3rd preferences by 33%. 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ilderton Primary School has formally reduced its PAN from 60 to 30 in September 2023 St Joseph RC Primary (George Row) has academised – but no change to PAN 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in PA2 from 2012-2022 have fallen by -23%. From 2023 to 2031, births are projected to increase by +6% (+0.7% pa) In the London Bridge & West Bermondsey ward, births fell by -19% from 2012 to 2021 and are projected to fall a further -10% by 2031; North Bermondsey -46% and then +2%; Old Kent Road -50% and +53%; Rotherhithe -22% and -5%, South Bermondsey -32% and -2%; Surrey Docks +2% and +1% 					
Reception/ whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are presently around 221 spare reception places (8FE) across PA2 – 23% of all PA2 reception places - this is projected to decrease to 192 (7FE) by September 2031 (20%) There are presently around 1,276 vacancies in PA2 across Years R to 6 (19%). By 2031, this will have increased to 1,642 (24%) 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions/ Proposals	<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) agreed at Cabinet February 2024 for 2025/6 intake (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>) 					

PA2 – Bermondsey & Rotherhithe

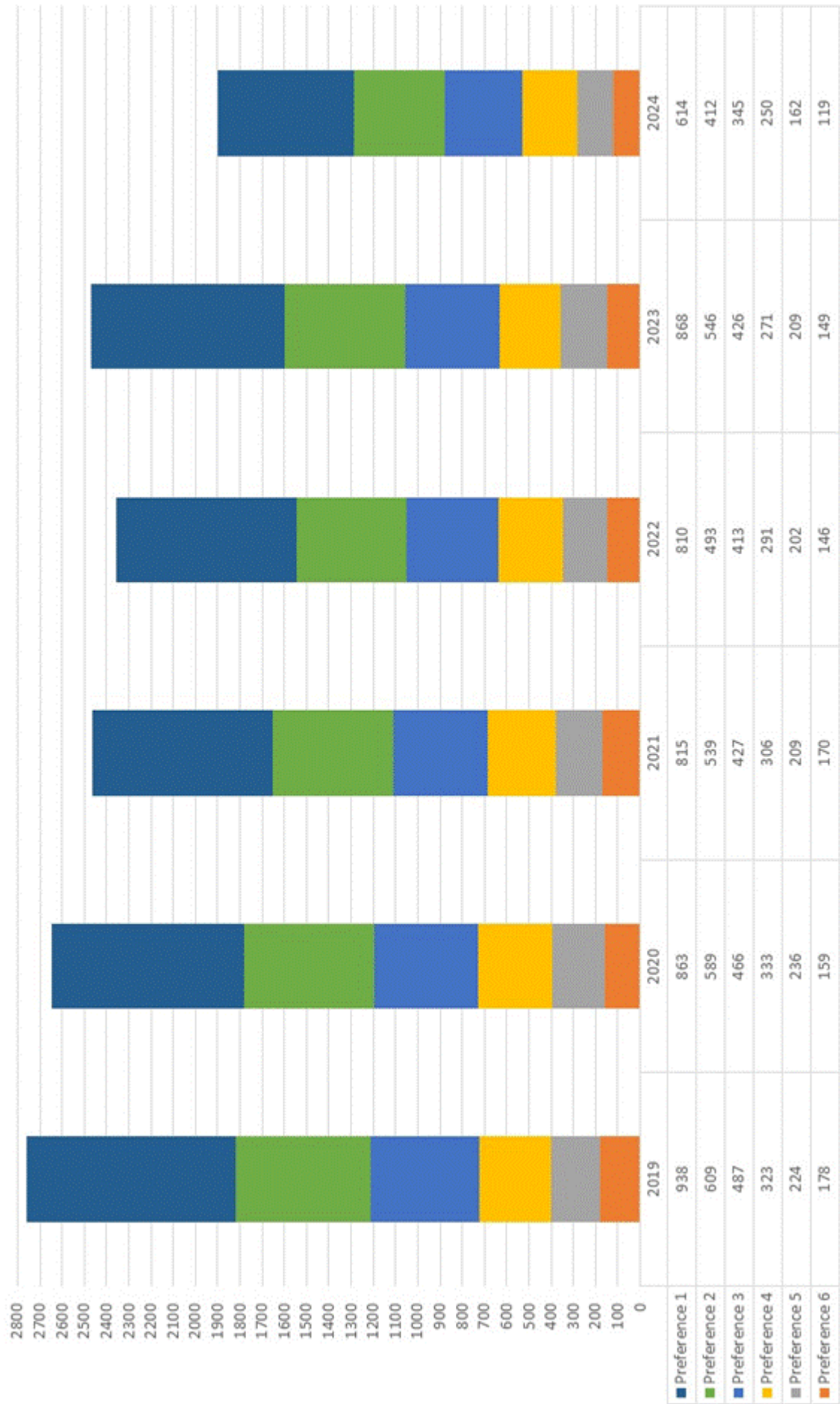
Pupil intake by area

- PA2 is a net exporter of pupils, losing around 800 pupils across all age groups (**-20%**)
- Ilderton (**36%**), Rotherhithe (**28%**), St Joseph's Gomm Road RC (**28%**), St John's RC (22%, and Pilgrim's Way (**20%**) take a significant proportion of their intake from outside Southwark (*mainly Lewisham*)
- 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
- Around **30%** of pupils attending schools in this planning area come from outside the planning area mainly from PA3 (**8%**) and PA1 (**11%**), with around 635 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*)

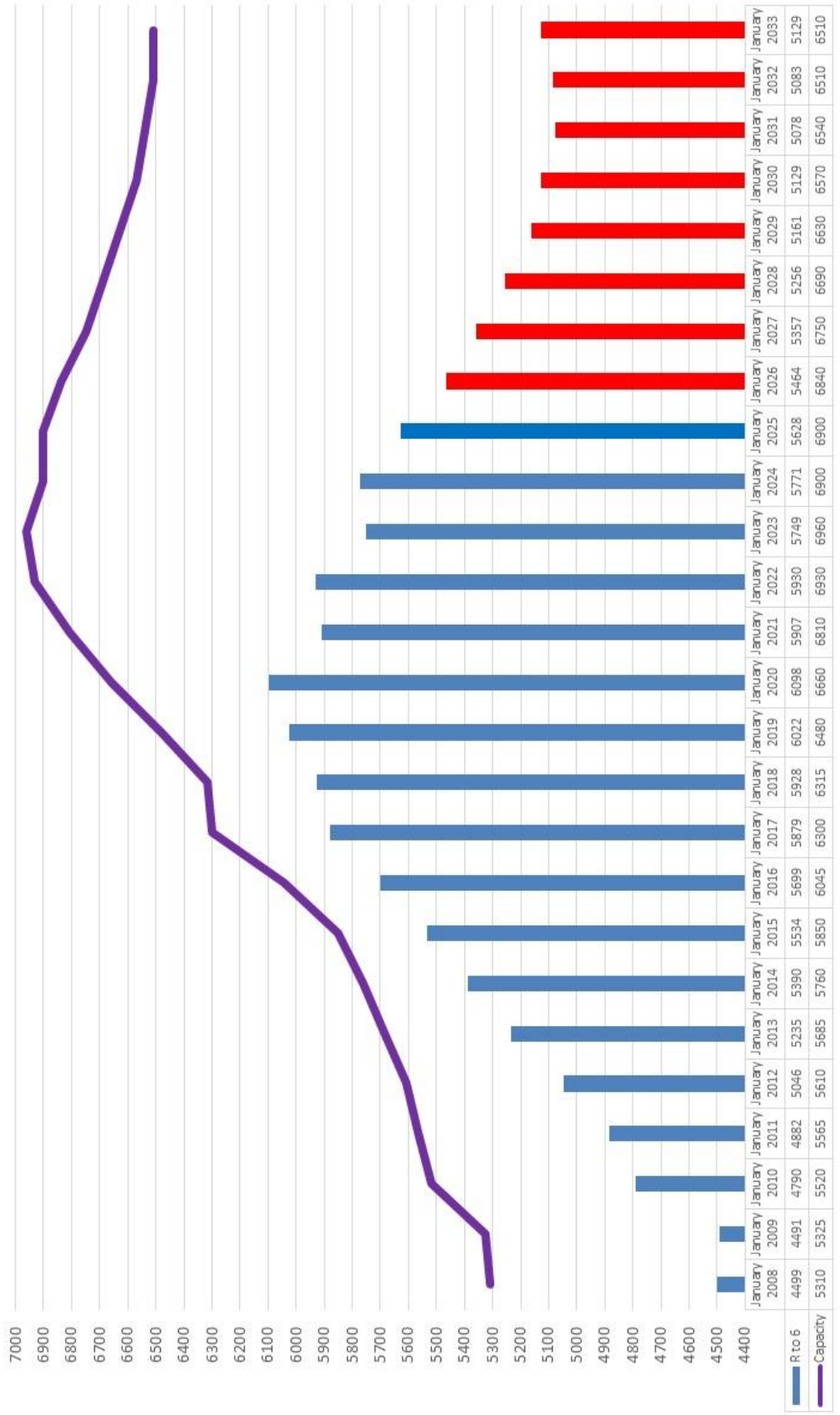
PA2 Schools pupil origin



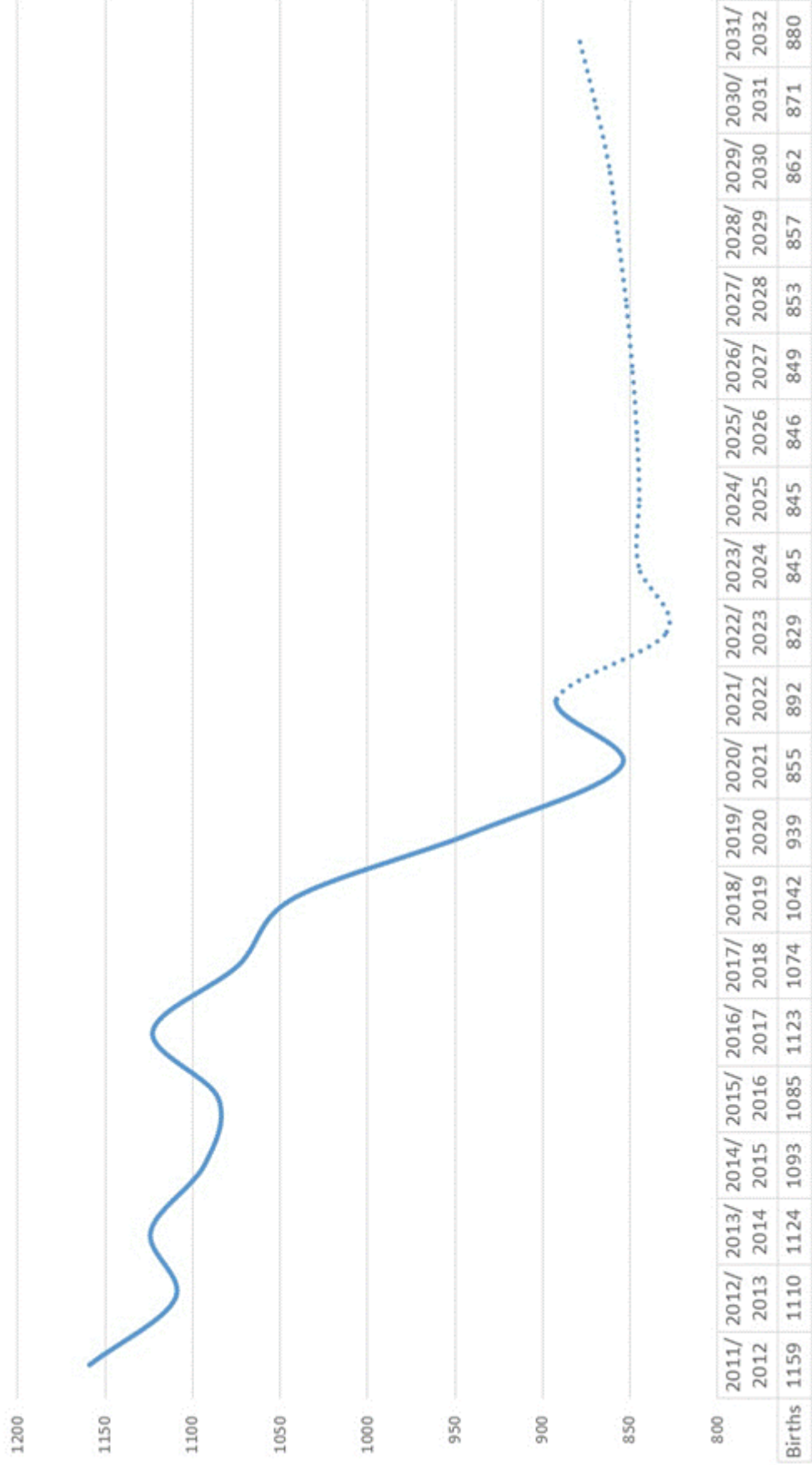
Primary preference Data PA2 2019-2024



Planning Area 2 - Year R to 6 Capacity, Rolls - (*blue*) (2008-25) and Projections (*red*) (2026-33)



PA2 Births 2011-2031



PLANNING AREA 3

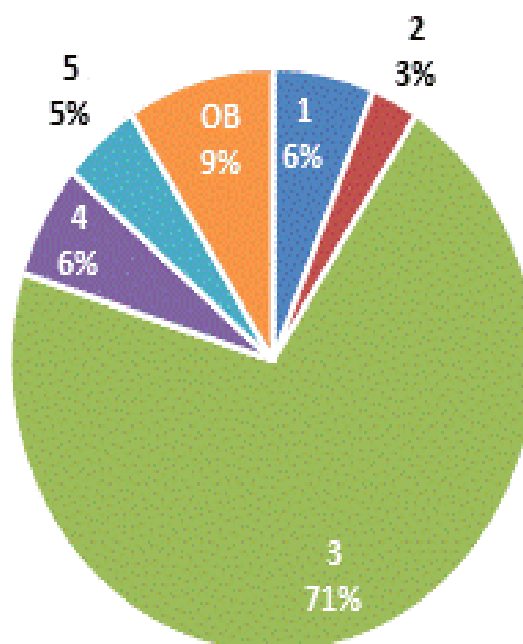
PECKHAM & NUNHEAD

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
St Mary Magdalene 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	90	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 Mary Magdalene CE	30	VA CE
	Bird-in-Bush	60	COMM	St Francis RC	30	VA RC
	Hollydale	30	COMM	St James The Great RC	30	VA RC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12 primary schools: 5 Community, 3 Academies, 2 VA CE, 2 VA RC 6 x 1FE schools, 5 x 2FE schools, 1 x 3FE school PA3 takes around 18% of all Southwark primary pupils (17% of reception pupils) PA3 provides around 18% of all Southwark primary places (18% of reception places) 						
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2024 – 600 reception places, 4,395 Year R to 6 places 					
Application Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2019, the number of applications for primary reception places in the planning area have fallen by 20%. First preferences have fallen by 21%, and 1st to 3rd preferences by 23%. 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harris Primary Free School Peckham merged with Harris Peckham Park (net reduction of 30 Year R and 390 Year R to 6 places) Camelot Primary School merged with Cobourg (PA1) on the Camelot site, and renamed Bird-in-Bush Primary – no net reduction in PA3 places resulted from this merger 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in the PA decreased from 2012-2022 by -33%, and are projected to slowly increase from 2023 to 2031 by +2% (+0.3% per annum) In the Peckham ward, births decreased by -46% from 2012 to 2022, and are projected to fall by a further -3% by 2031; in Peckham Rye ward, the drop was -36%, to be followed by a further drop of -3%; in Rye Lane ward, the figures were -36% and then an increase of +16%. In Old Kent Road ward, the figures were -50% and +53%. In Goose Green ward, the figures were -32% and +0.3% 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In September 2024, there are presently 164 spare reception places (6FE) across PA3 - 27% of all reception places, and 1,058 Year R to 6 vacancies (24%). The GLA project 115 Year R vacancies in January 2026 (21%) as a result of capacity reduction, and 1,093 YR to Y6 vacancies (26%) The GLA also project 111 (4FE) reception vacancies in September 2031 (21%), and 1,045 YR to Y6 vacancies (27%) at the same time, if no further work is undertaken to reduce capacity 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions/Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> St Francesca Cabrini RC Primary – proposed closure in September 2023 - (a net reduction of 30 reception places and 390 primary places) (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>) St Francis RC Primary PAN Reduction 2FE to 1FE (net reduction of 30 reception places and 210 primary places) agreed by FGB in January 2024, implementing in 2025/26 (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>) 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) (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>) Overall reductions of 90 reception and 990 primary places so far St Mary Magdalene CE Primary –proposed closure - (net reduction of 30 reception places and 210 primary places) has not yet been implemented but will be consulted on in 2024/25 					

PA3 – Peckham & Nunhead	
Keeping Education Strong Actions/Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of PAN at Ivydale from 90 to 60 and relocation to one site also under consultation, Rye Oak Primary PAN Reduction 2FE to 1.5FE proposed (<i>under consideration</i>)
GLA Projections 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2031 at reception and across all year groups. GLA projections show that reception demand will fall by 39 places (2FE) (-8%), and R to 6 demand will fall by 544 pupils – equivalent to a 2.5FE primary (-16%)
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 29% of pupils in this planning area come from outside the planning area. Conversely, around 41% of PA3 resident children attending state schools attend a school in another Southwark planning area, or a school outside Southwark – about equally divided between the two. 340 pupils in PA3 (9%) come from outside Southwark – 5% from Lewisham, and 1% each from Croydon and Bromley St John's & St Clements CE takes 45% of pupils from outside PA3 (mainly PAs 4 and 5), St James the Great RC (43%), Bellenden (35%) and St Francis RC (34%) take pupils from outside their planning area, in most cases mainly from PA4 (Camberwell) Hollydale (15%), St John's & St Clements CE (13%), Bellenden (12%), and St Francis RC (12%) all take higher than average outborough rolls Conversely, Pilgrims Way (57%) and John Keats Free (37%) in PA2, the Belham Primary Free School (68%), St George's CE Primary (26%) and Oliver Goldsmith (49%) all in PA4 take a substantial number of their pupils from PA3.

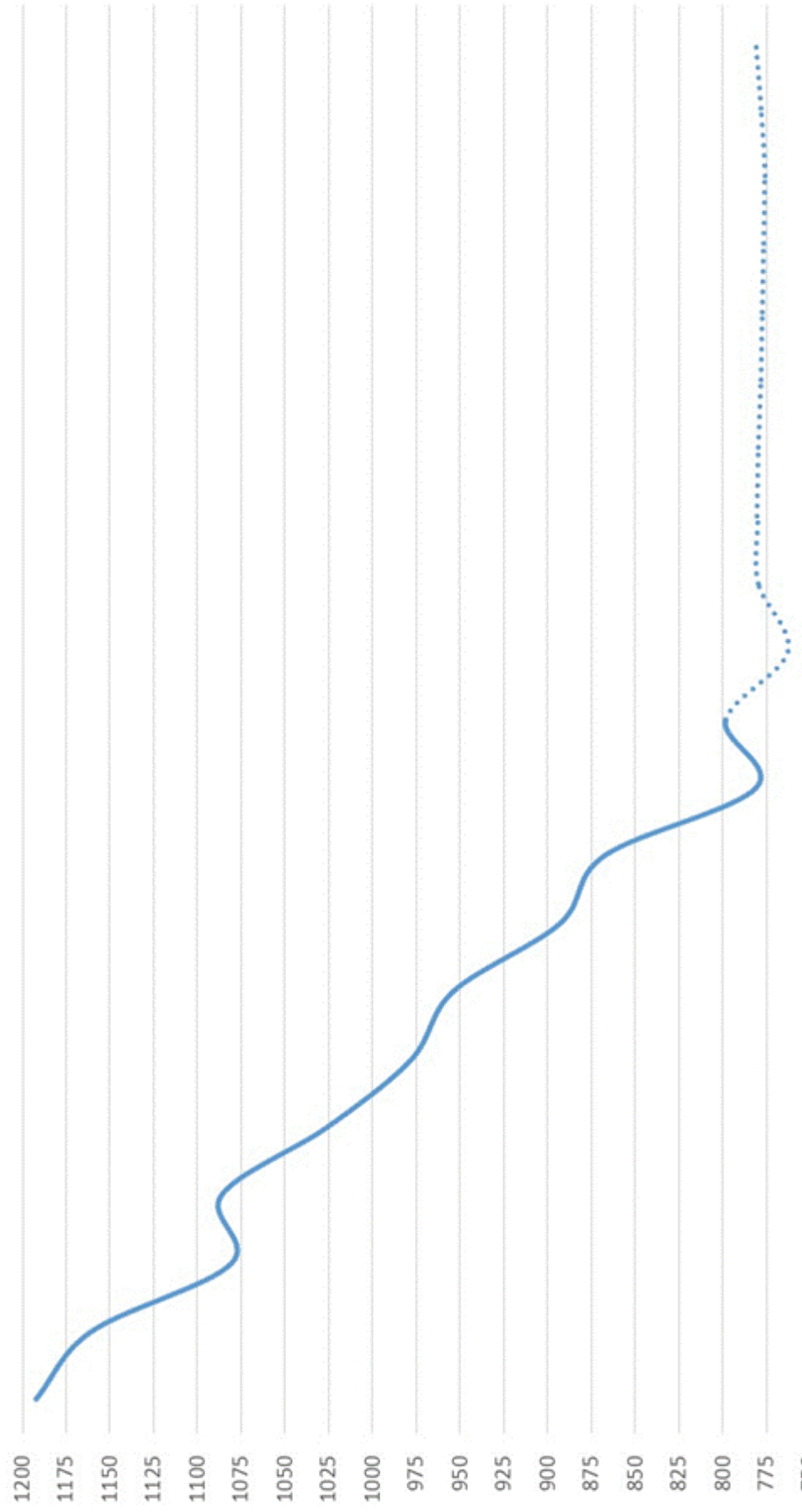
PA3 Schools Pupil Origins



PA3 Primary Preferences 2019-24



PA3 Births 2011-2031



PLANNING AREA 4

CAMBERWELL

Bessemer Grange Primary School
Brunswick Park Primary School
Crawford Primary School
Dog Kennel Hill Primary School
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

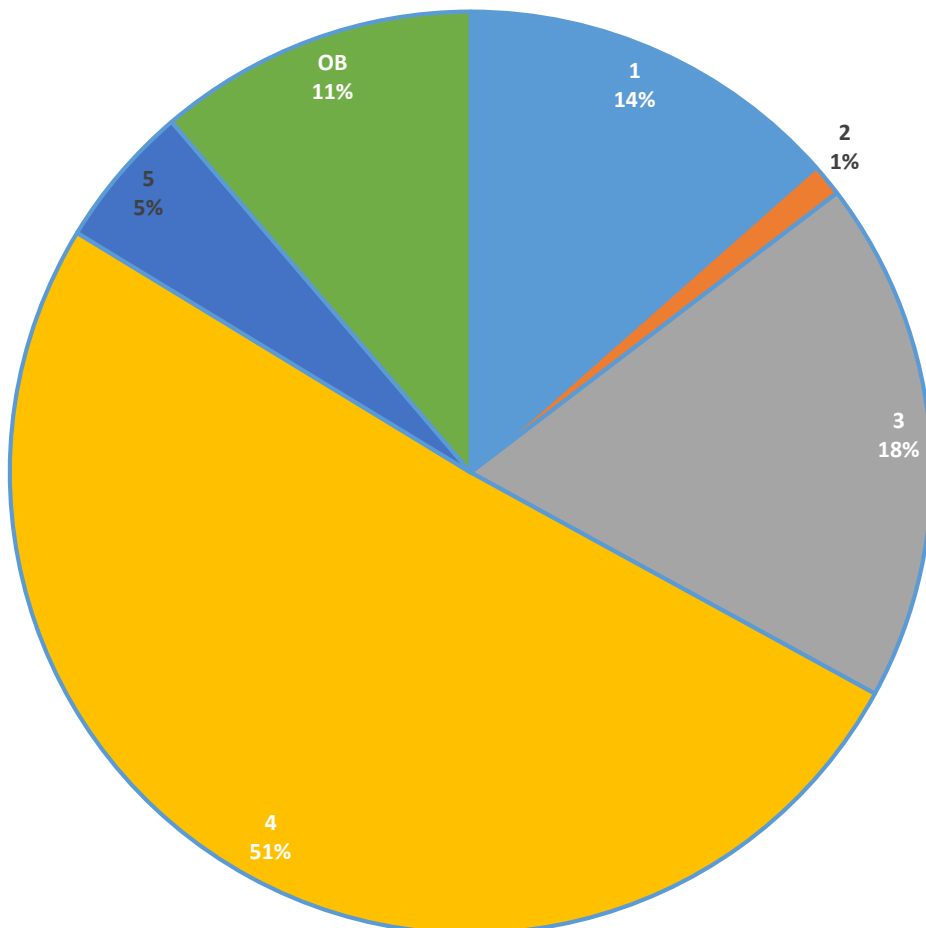
PA4 – Camberwell						
Wards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camberwell Green, Champion Hill, Rye Lane (<i>part</i>), St Giles 					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Lyndhurst	60	ACAD	John Ruskin	60	COMM
	Dog Kennel Hill	60	ACAD	Oliver Goldsmith	60	COMM
	Bessemer Grange	90	COMM	Belham	60	FREE
	Brunswick Park	60	COMM	St Georges CE	30	VA CE
	Crawford	60	COMM	St Joseph's Infants RC	60	VA RC
				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, 9 x 2FE schools, 1 x 3FE school PA4 takes around 17% of all Southwark primary pupils (17% reception pupils) PA4 provides around 18% of all Southwark primary places (17% of reception places) 					
Capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As at September 2024 – there were 570 reception places, and 4,215 Year R to 6 places 					
Application Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Since 2019, the number of preferences expressed for primary reception places in the planning area have fallen by 603 (35%). First preferences have fallen by 252 (41%), and 1st to 3rd preferences by 431 (34%) 					
Changes since the last report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comber Grove Primary closed in September 2024 Bessemer Grange will reduce its PAN from 90 to 60 in September 2025 					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Births in the area have decreased -34% from 2012 to 2022. From 2023 to 2031, births are projected to increase by +3% (+0.3% per annum) In the wards that make up the planning area, Camberwell Green births reduced by -27% from 2012-22, but are projected to increase by +4% from 2023-31. Champion Hill ward reduced by -41% from 2012-22 and is projected to increase by +6% by 2031. St Giles ward births decreased by -40% from 2012 to 2022 and will decrease further by -4% from 2023 to 2031. in Rye Lane ward, the figures were a -36% drop and then an increase of +16% by 2031 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are presently around 140 (5FE) spare places (25%) at reception this year, with a gradual projected decrease of demand thereafter. Whole school vacancy levels equate to 772 (18%). For January 2026, the GLA project 110 reception vacancies (20%), and 837 YR-6 vacancies (20%) In January 2031, the GLA also project 118 vacancies (4FE)(22%) and 1,010 YR to Y6 (27%) if no further action is taken Year R capacity is scheduled to reduce by 30 (1FE) to 540 if no further action is taken - R to 6 capacity will reduce by 405 (10%) places by 2031 					
Keeping Education Strong Actions/ Proposals	<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) agreed by Cabinet implementing in 2025/26 (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>) Comber Grove Primary – closure (net reduction of 30 and primary roll by 240) was agreed by Cabinet in July 2024 for September 2024 (<i>this has already been undertaken</i>) PAN reduction at Crawford Primary school from 60 to 30 in 2026/27 under consultation (Net reduction of reception by 30 and primary roll by 210) Overall reduction of 60 reception and 450 primary places so far 					
GLA Projections 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2031 at reception and Years R to 6. GLA projections show that reception demand will fall by 2 pupils (1FE) (-0.2%), and capacity will remain the same, and R to 6 demand will fall by 528 pupils (-16%) 					

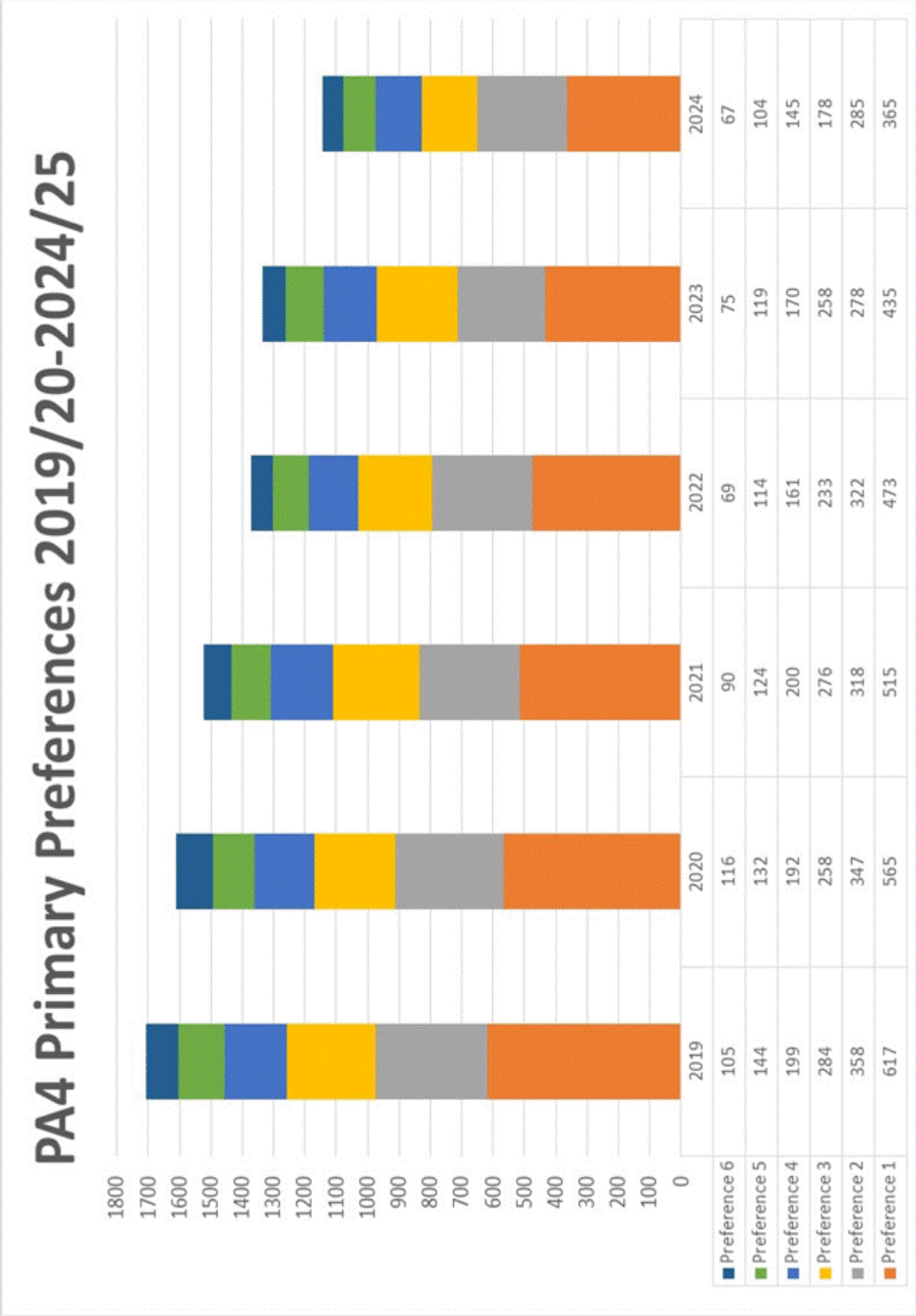
PA4 – Camberwell

Pupil intake by area

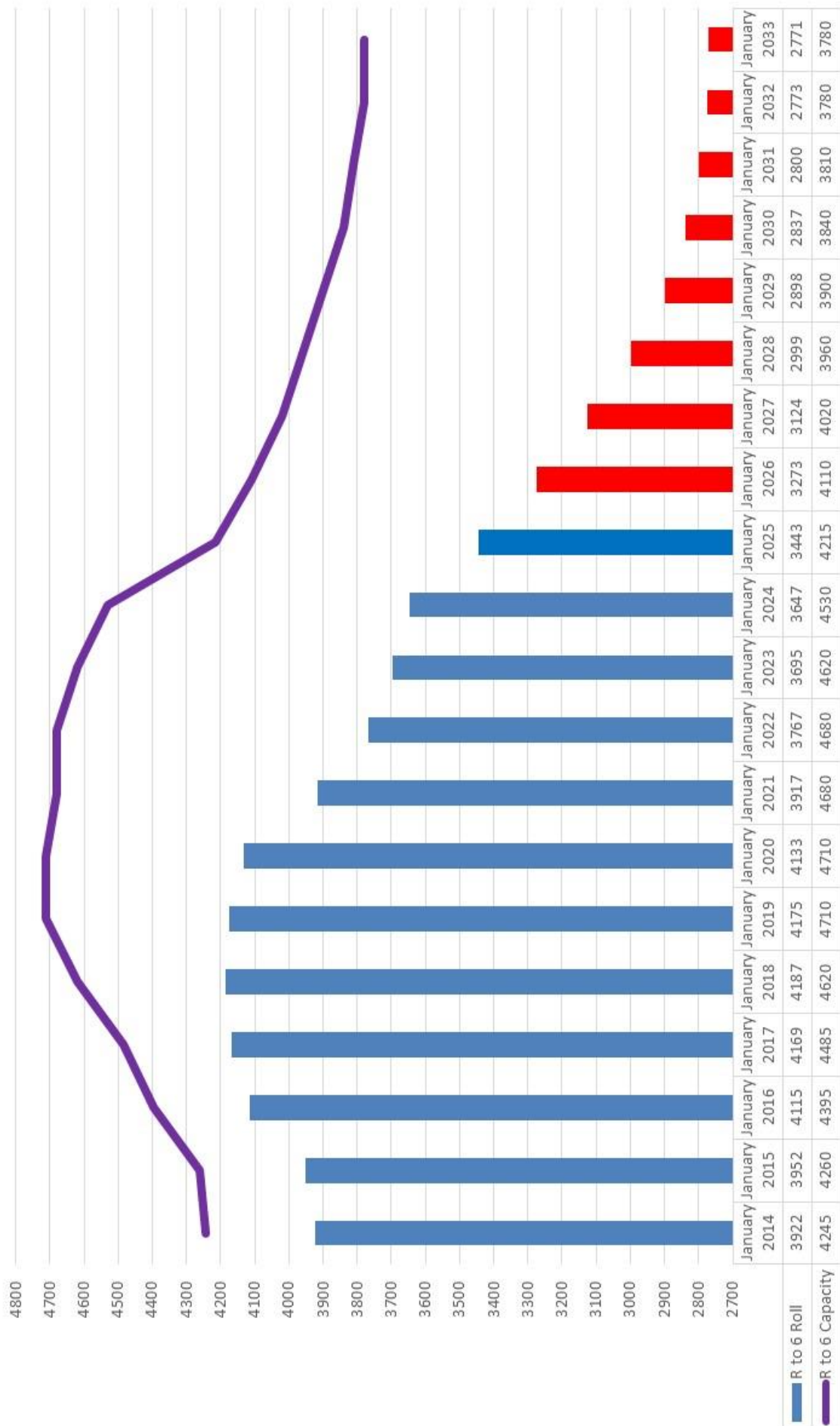
- PA4 is a net importer of pupils, gaining around 195 pupils across all age groups, the equivalent of just under a one-form entry primary.
- Around **49%** of pupils in this planning area come from outside the planning area, mainly from within Southwark (this is the highest percentage in Southwark). Around **11%** of the PA4 roll 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 **79%** of its pupils from outside PA4, as do John Ruskin Primary (**76%**), St George's CE (**54%**) and Oliver Goldsmith primaries (**66%**)

PA4 Schools Pupil Origins



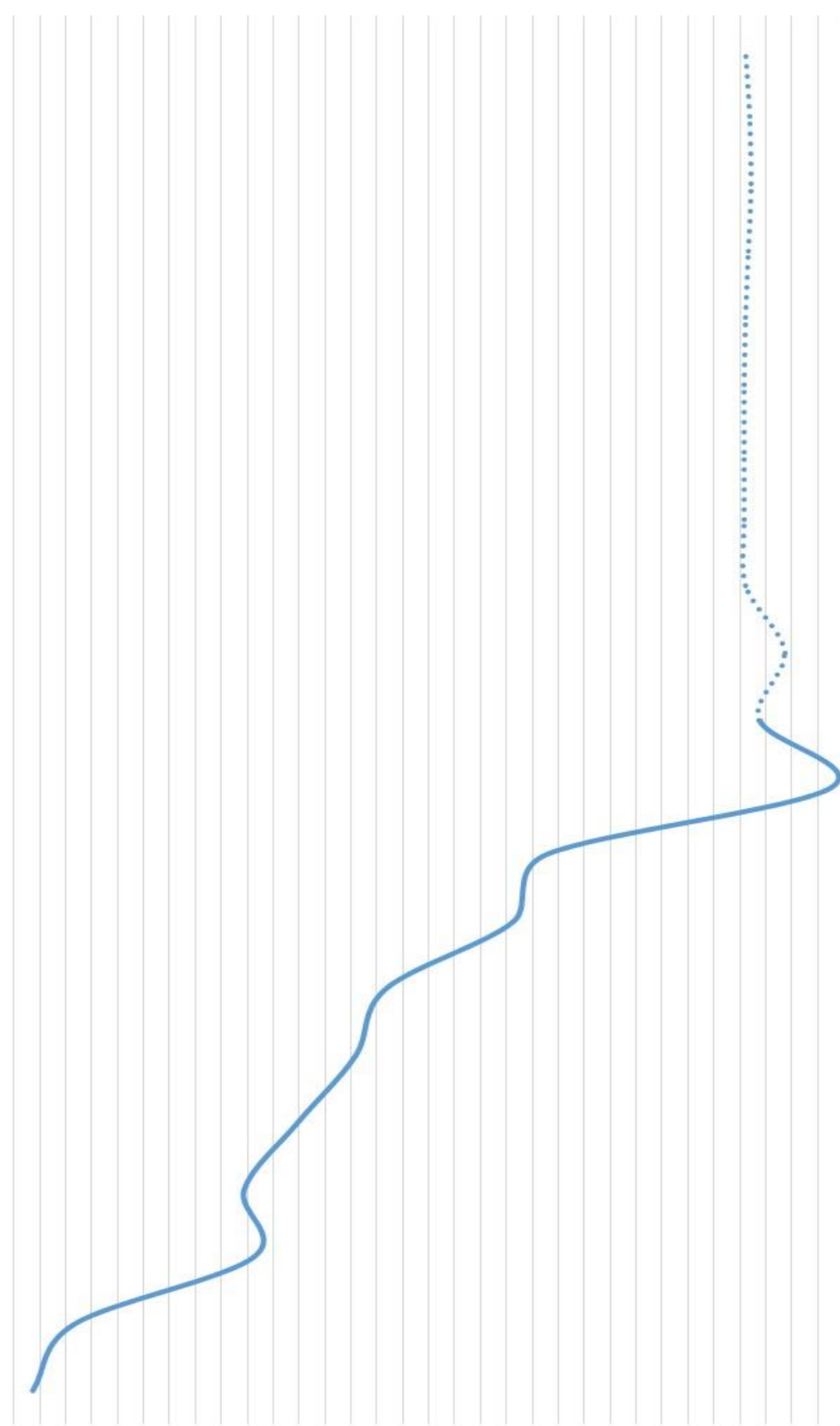


Planning Area 4 - Year R to 6 Capacity, Rolls - (blue) (2014-25) and Projections
(red) (2026-33)



PA4 Births 2011-2031

860
850
840
830
820
810
800
790
780
770
760
750
740
730
720
710
700
690
680
670
660
650
640
630
620
610
600
590
580
570
560
550
540
530



	2011/20	2012/20	2013/20	2014/20	2015/20	2016/20	2017/20	2018/20	2019/20	2020/20	2021/20	2022/20	2023/20	2024/20	2025/20	2026/20	2027/20	2028/20	2029/20	2030/20	2031/20
Births	853	836	767	771	751	728	716	667	655	545	572	563	578	578	579	578	578	577	576	576	578

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

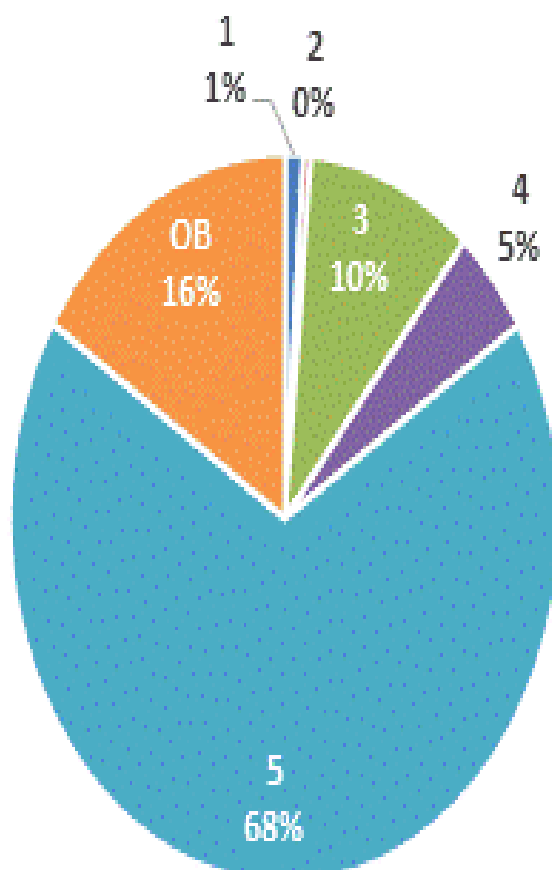
PA5 – Dulwich						
Wards	• Dulwich Hill, Dulwich Village, Dulwich Wood, Goose Green (<i>part</i>)					
Schools	Primary	PAN	Type	Primary	PAN	Type
	Dulwich Hamlet Juniors	90	ACAD	Heber	60	COMM
	Goose Green	60	ACAD	Judith Kerr Free	56	FREE
	St Anthony's RC	60	ACAD	Harris Free East Dulwich	60	FREE
	Goodrich	90	COMM	Dulwich Village Infants CE	90	VA CE
	Dulwich Wood Primary	60	COMM			
	<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, 4 x 2FE schools, 1 x 3FE school, 1 x 3FE Infants, 1 x 3FE Junior • PA5 takes around 17% of all Southwark primary pupils (19% of reception pupils) • PA5 provides around 15% of all Southwark primary places (16% of reception places) 					
Capacity	• As at September 2024 – 536 reception places, 3,746 Year R to 6 places					
Application Trends	• Since 2019, the number of preferences for primary reception applications in the planning area have fallen by 306 (15%). First preferences have fallen by 64 (11%), and 1 st to 3 rd preferences by 217 (15%)					
Changes since the last report	• No substantive changes to the provision or projections for PA5 (Dulwich) are noted. St Anthony's RC Primary has academised					
Births	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Births in the planning area decreased -38% from 2012-22, and are projected to increase by +0.4% from 2023-31. 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 -37% from 2012-22, and are forecast to reduce a further -2% from 2023-31; Dulwich Village – a -42% decrease 2012-22, and a +2% increase 2021-31; Dulwich Wood a -42% decrease 2012-22, and a further -2% decrease from 2023-31; Goose Green, a -32% decrease 2012-22, and a +0.3% increase from 2023-31 • 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 					
Reception and whole school vacancies – existing and projected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are presently around 79 spare reception places (3FE) across PA5, 14% of all reception places, and 531 YR to 6 vacancies (15%). 84 reception vacancies are projected for January 2026 (16%) and 548 whole school vacancies (15%) • By 2031, the GLA project 52 vacancies at reception (10%) and 524 YR-6 vacancies (15%) 					
GLA Projections 2024	• There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until 2031 at reception and across all year groups. Projections show that reception demand has peaked and will fall by 3 pupils (1%) by the end of the decade. Capacity at reception will fall by 30 places by 2026 onwards (6% less), and whilst Years R to 6 demand will fall by around 167 pupils (6% less), R to 6 capacity will fall by 174 (5% less), if no further actions are taken					
Keeping Education Proposals	• The KES proposals for PA5 were that Goose Green Primary School be requested to reduce their PAN from 60 to 30, due to historically low take up. The MAT (Nexus) decided not to action this recommendation.					
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 • Judith Kerr (42%), Dulwich Wood (31%), Dulwich Village Infants CE (20%), St Anthony's RC (18%), and Dulwich Hamlet Juniors (17%) take a significant percentage of pupils from outside Southwark (<i>mainly Lewisham and Lambeth</i>) 					

PA5 – Dulwich

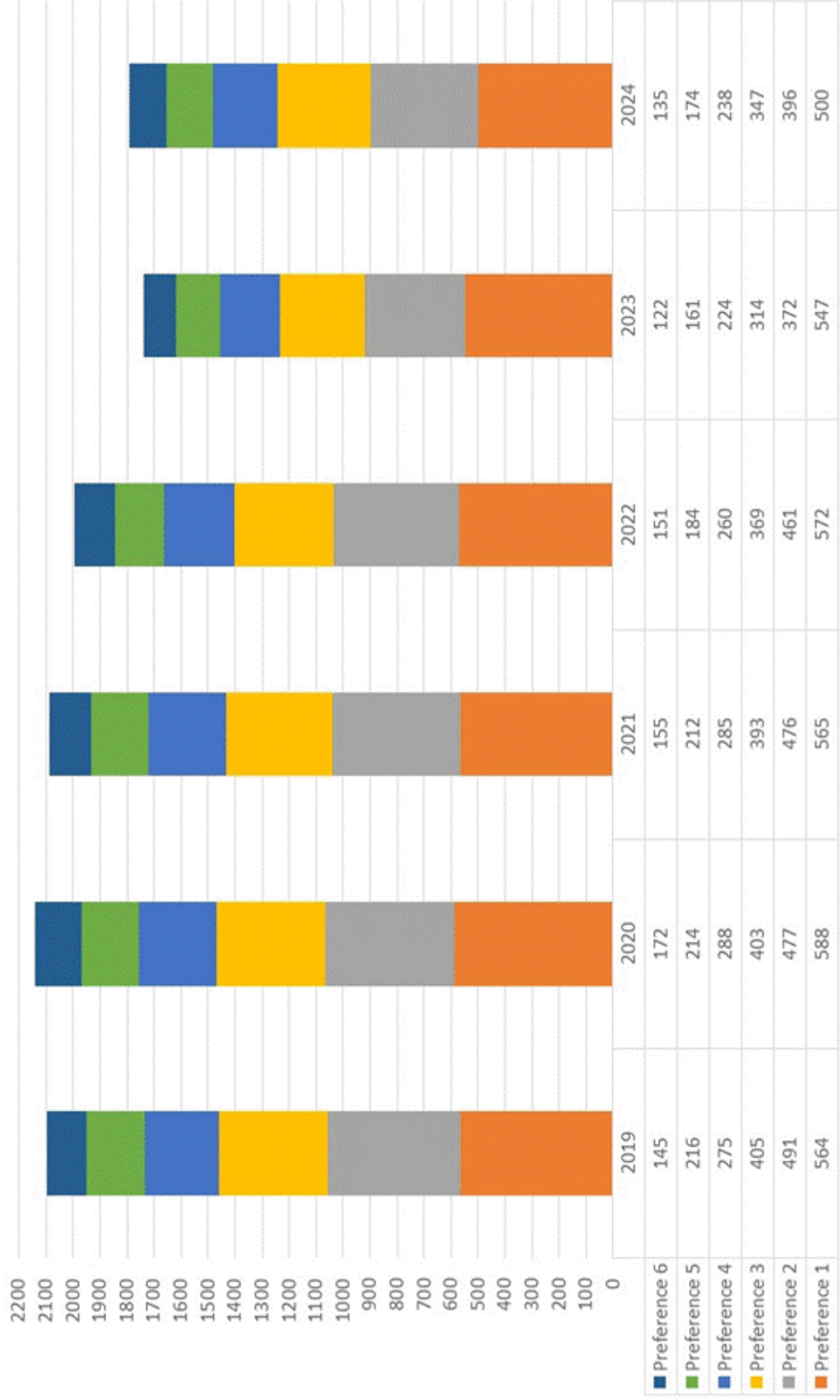
Pupil intake by area (continued)

- Conversely, Bessemer Grange Primary (**31%**) and Dog Kennel Hill (**38%**) 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
- Around **33%** of pupils in this planning area come from outside the planning area - PA3 (**9%**) and PA4 (**7%**). This also includes **16%** outborough (the highest PA – Lambeth (**9%**), Lambeth (**4%**), and **1%** each for Bromley and Croydon
- The net percentage inflow of Southwark children from other planning areas is **(+13%)**
- Conversely, 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, **92%** of these were attending schools situated in PA5. But only a small percentage are Southwark residents

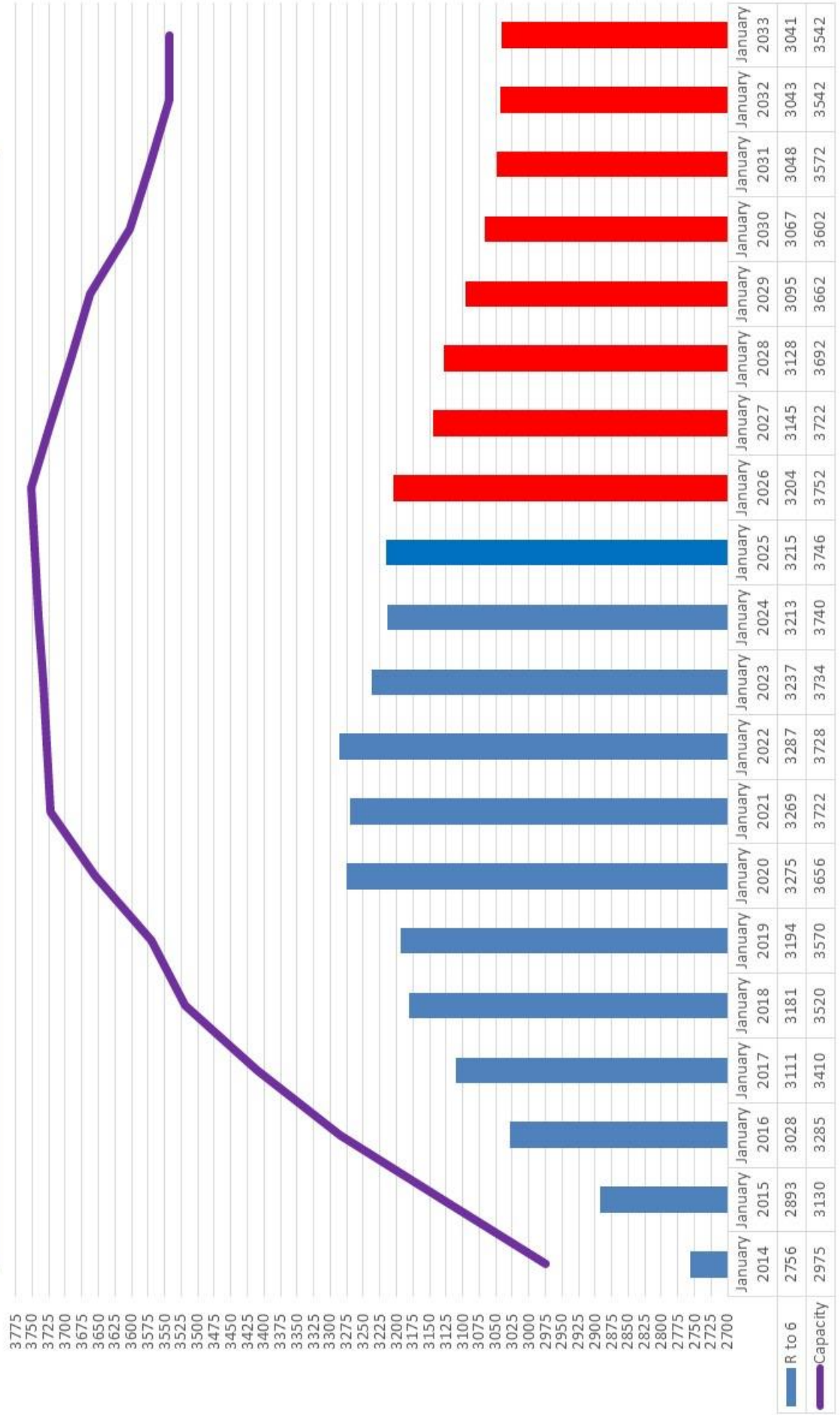
PA5 Schools - pupil origins



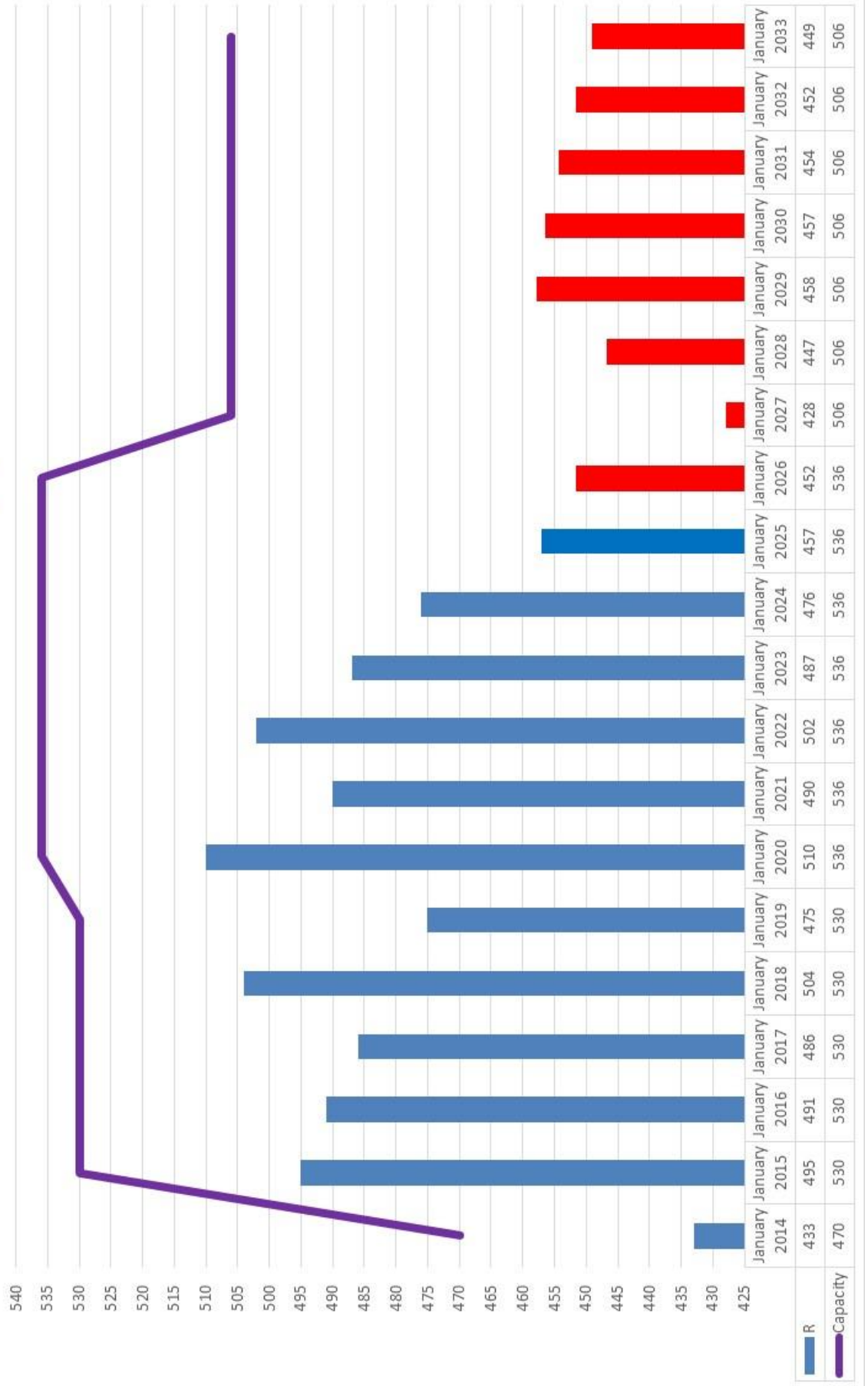
PA5 Primary Preferences 2019/20-2024/5



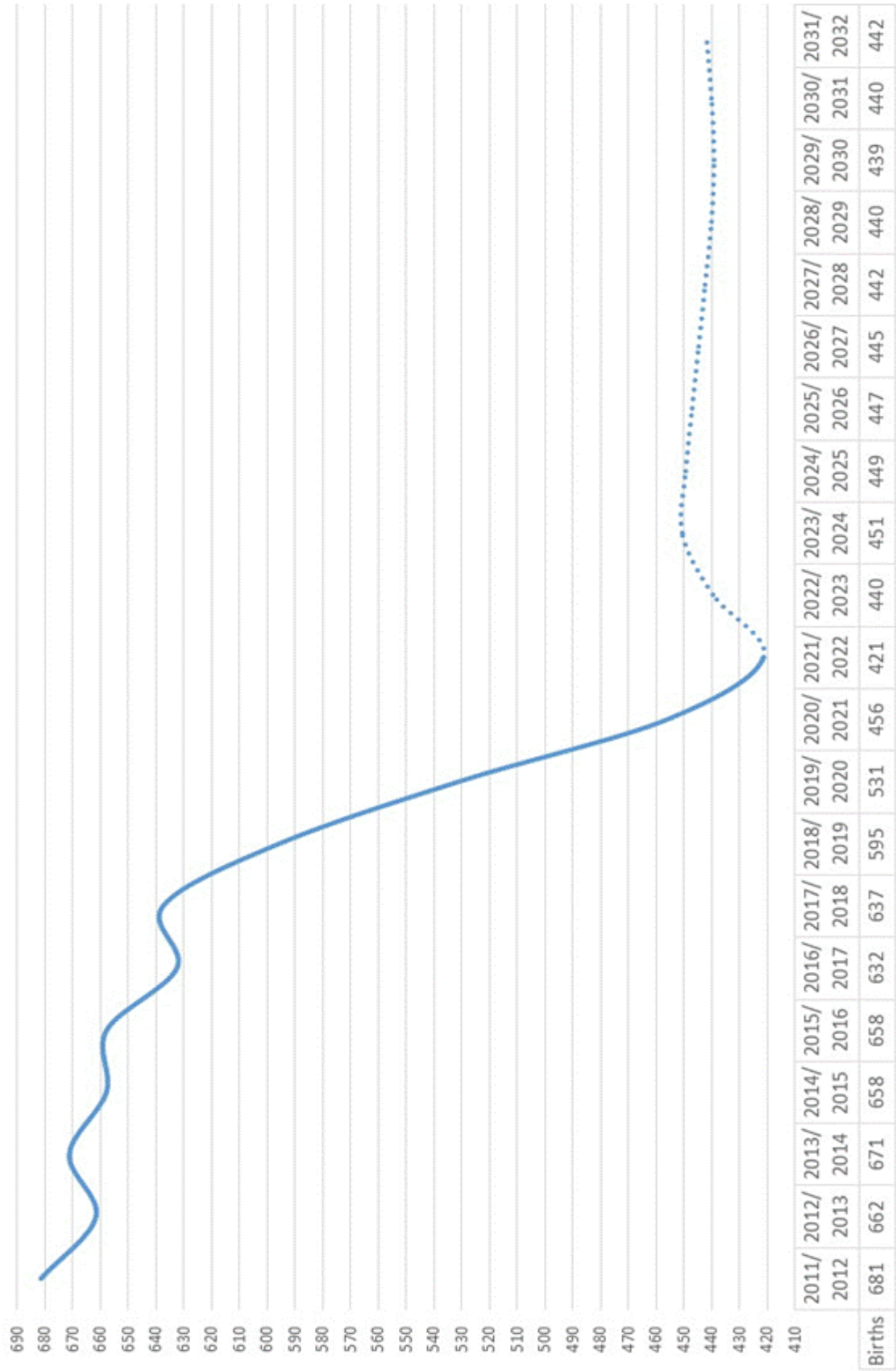
Planning Area 5 - Year R to 6 Capacity (*purple*), Rolls - (*blue*) (2014-25) and Projections (*red*) (2026-31)



Planning Area 5 - Year R Capacity, Rolls - (*blue*) (2014-25) and Projections
(*red*) (2026-33) against capacity (*purple*)



PA5 Births 2011-2031

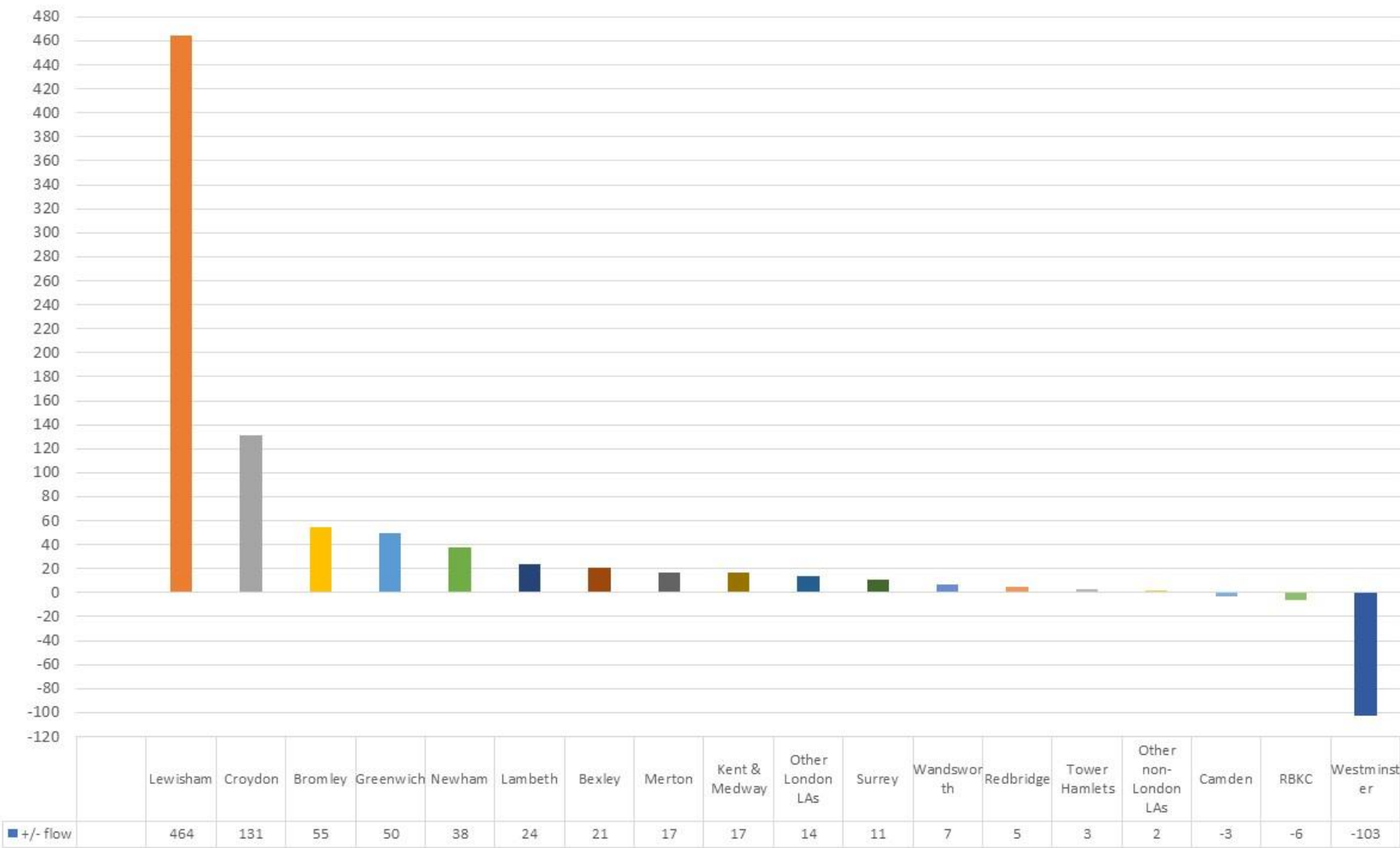


Section 9 – Primary Cross Border flows into and out of Southwark – 2023-24 (latest figures)

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	837	49%	861	35%	+24
Lewisham	605	35%	1,069	43%	+464
Westminster	108	6%	5	0.2%	-103
Greenwich	28	2%	78	3%	+50
Croydon	26	2%	157	6%	131
Bromley	20	1%	75	3%	+55
Wandsworth	15	1%	22	1%	+7
Camden	7	0.4%	4	0.2%	-3
RBKC	7	0.4%	1	0.04%	-6
Tower Hamlets	12	1%	15	1%	+3
Newham	4	0.2%	42	2%	+38
Bexley	4	0.2%	25	1%	+21
Redbridge	1	0.1%	6	0.2%	+5
Merton	3	0.2%	20	1%	+17
Other London LAs	29	2%	43	2%	+14
Kent & Medway	2	0.1%	19	1%	+17
Other non-London LAs	2	0.1%	4	0.2%	+2
Surrey	2	0.1%	13	1%	+11
All Cross borough	1,708	100%	2,459	100%	+751

Primary Cross Border Flows 2023-24



Section 10 – Preferences by Sector for Primary Reception Places

Table 16 – Preference per Primary place by school type

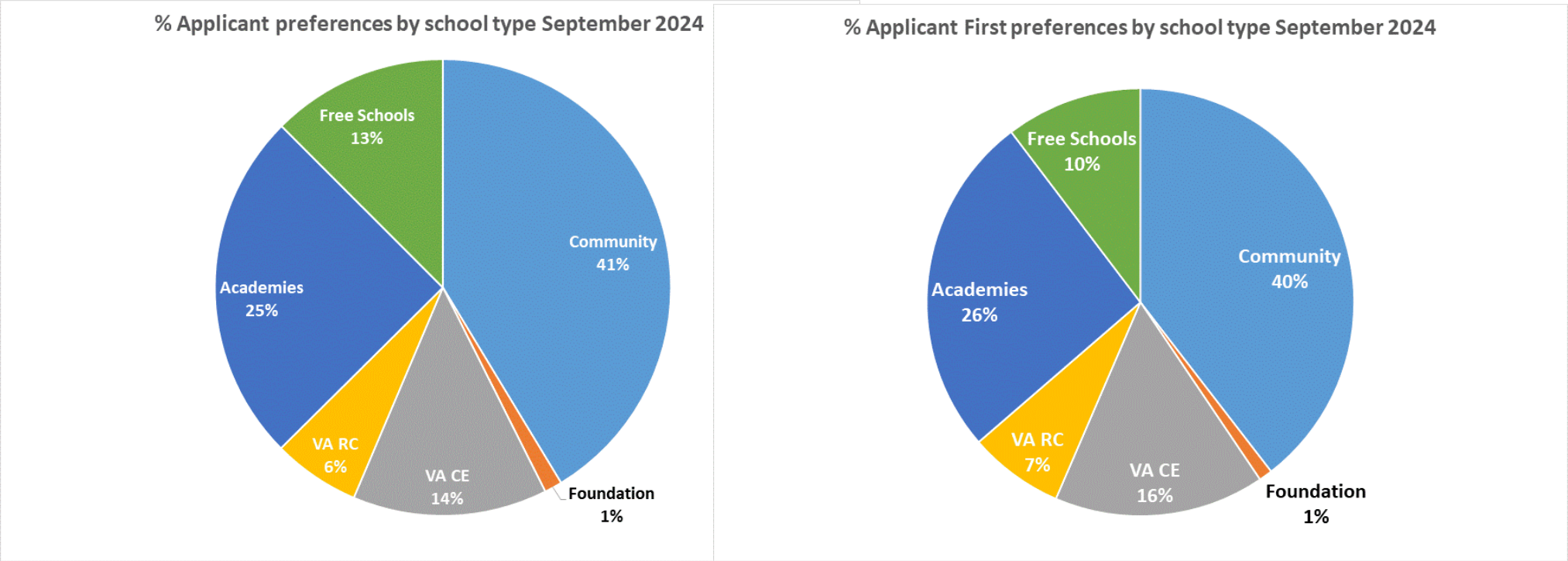
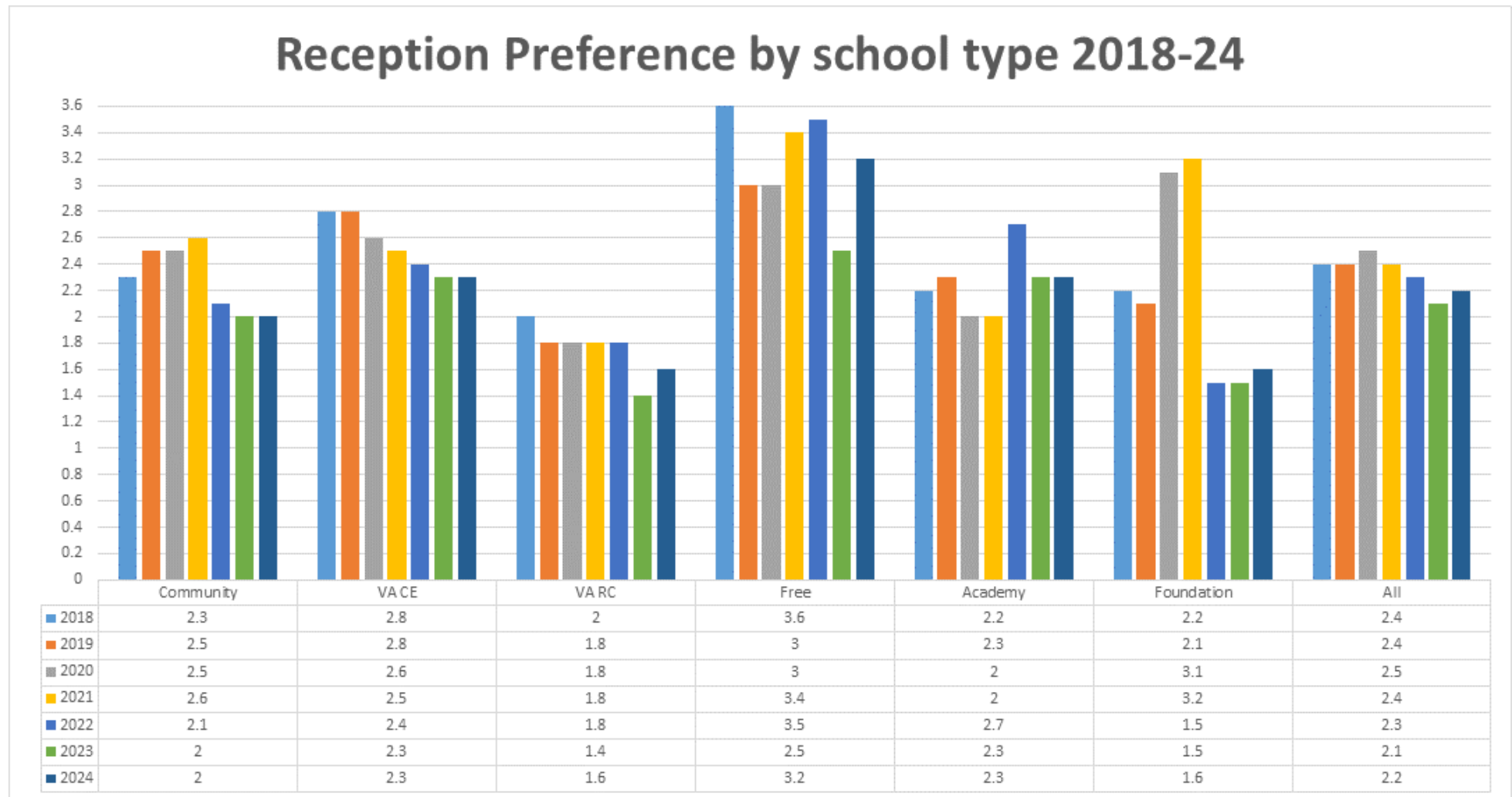
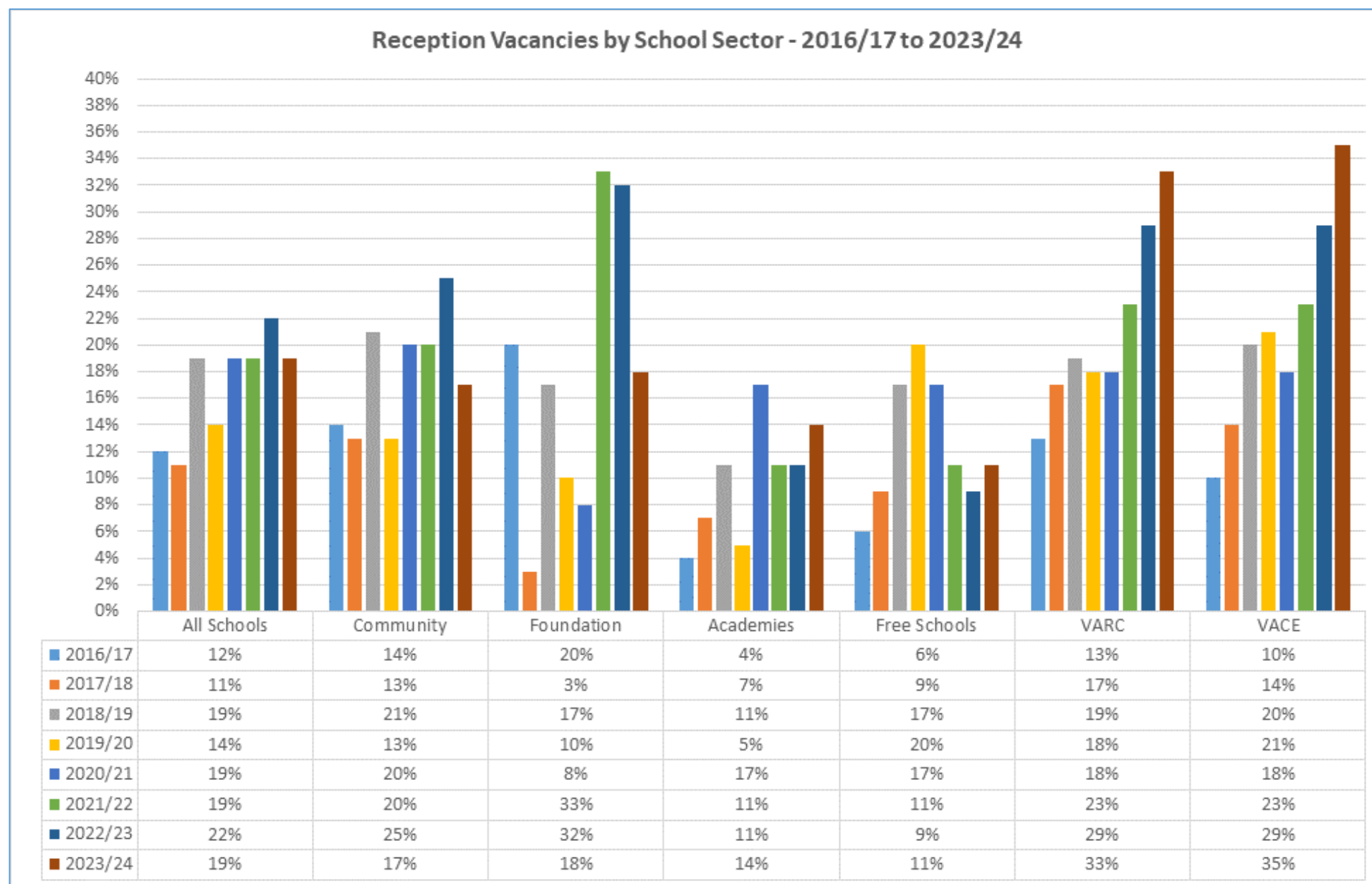


Table 17 – Preference per Primary place by school type

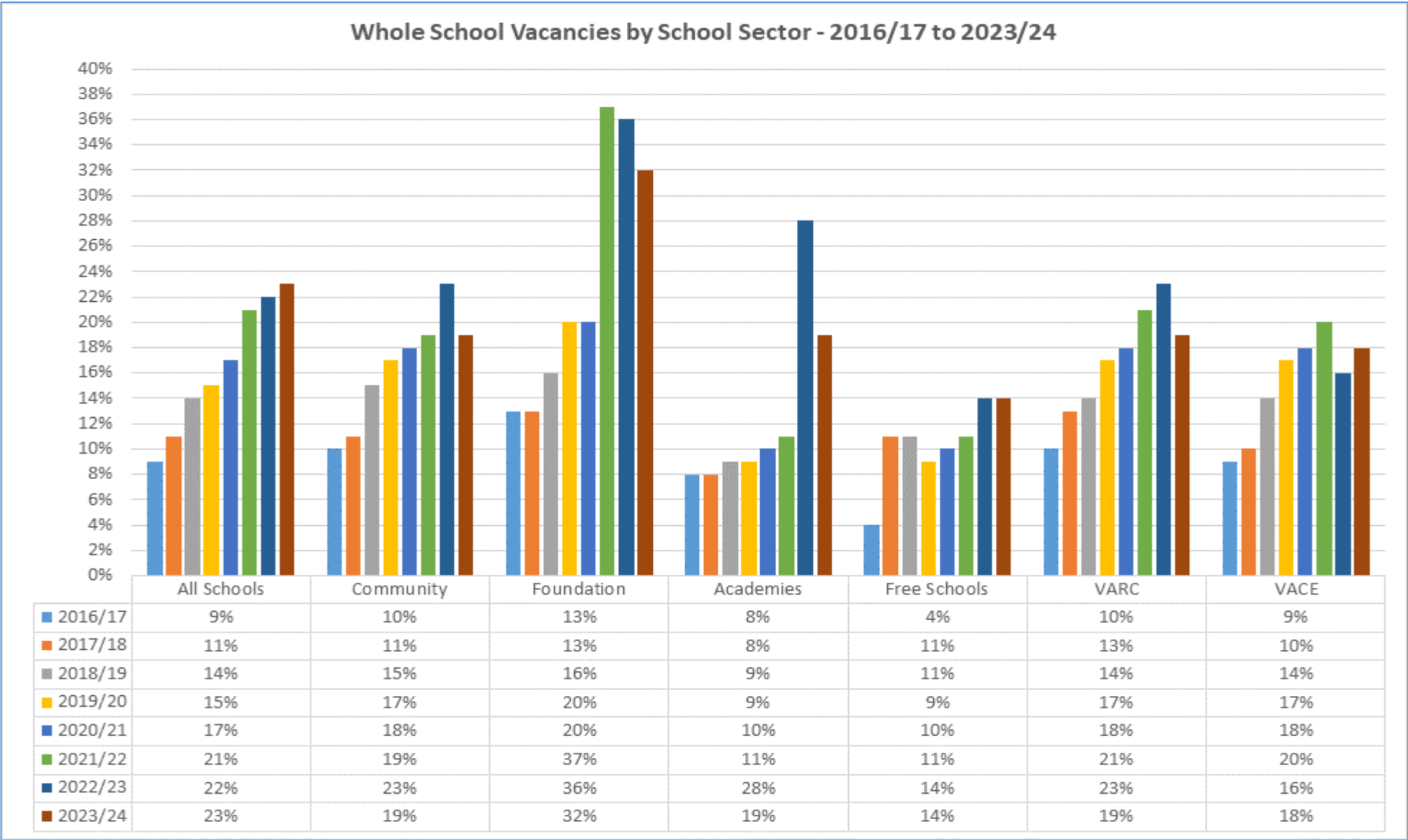


SECTION 11a – Primary vacancies by school type – at reception



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)



SECTION 12 – AGREED PAN REDUCTIONS AND CLOSURES FROM SEPTEMBER 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 2025

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¶	30¶	-30¶
	Charlotte Sharman	30	0 (closed)	-30
	English Martyrs RC	60	30	-30
	Keyworth	60	30	-30
	Townsend	90	60	-30
	St John's Walworth†	30	0 (closed)	-30
	Robert Browning	30	0 (closed)	-30
2	Phoenix*	120*	90*	-30*
	Ilderton	60	30	-30
	Grange	60	30	-30
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	-30
		90	60	-30
	Harris Primary Free Peckham	60¶	30¶	-30
		30	0 (closed)	-30
	Harris Peckham Park†	60†	30†	-30†
	St Francesca Cabrini RC†	30*	0* (closed)	-30
4		60†	30†	-30†
	Bessemer Grange	90	60	-30
	Brunswick Park	75	60	-15
	Comber Grove	45	30	-15
		30	0	-30
	Dog Kennel Hill	60	30	-30
		30	60	+30
	Crawford	90	60	-30
		60	30	-30
Total agreed		1,410 (47FE)	810 (27FE)	-600 (20FE)

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

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

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

♣ 1 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

Map of secondary schools in Southwark

Key

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

The schools

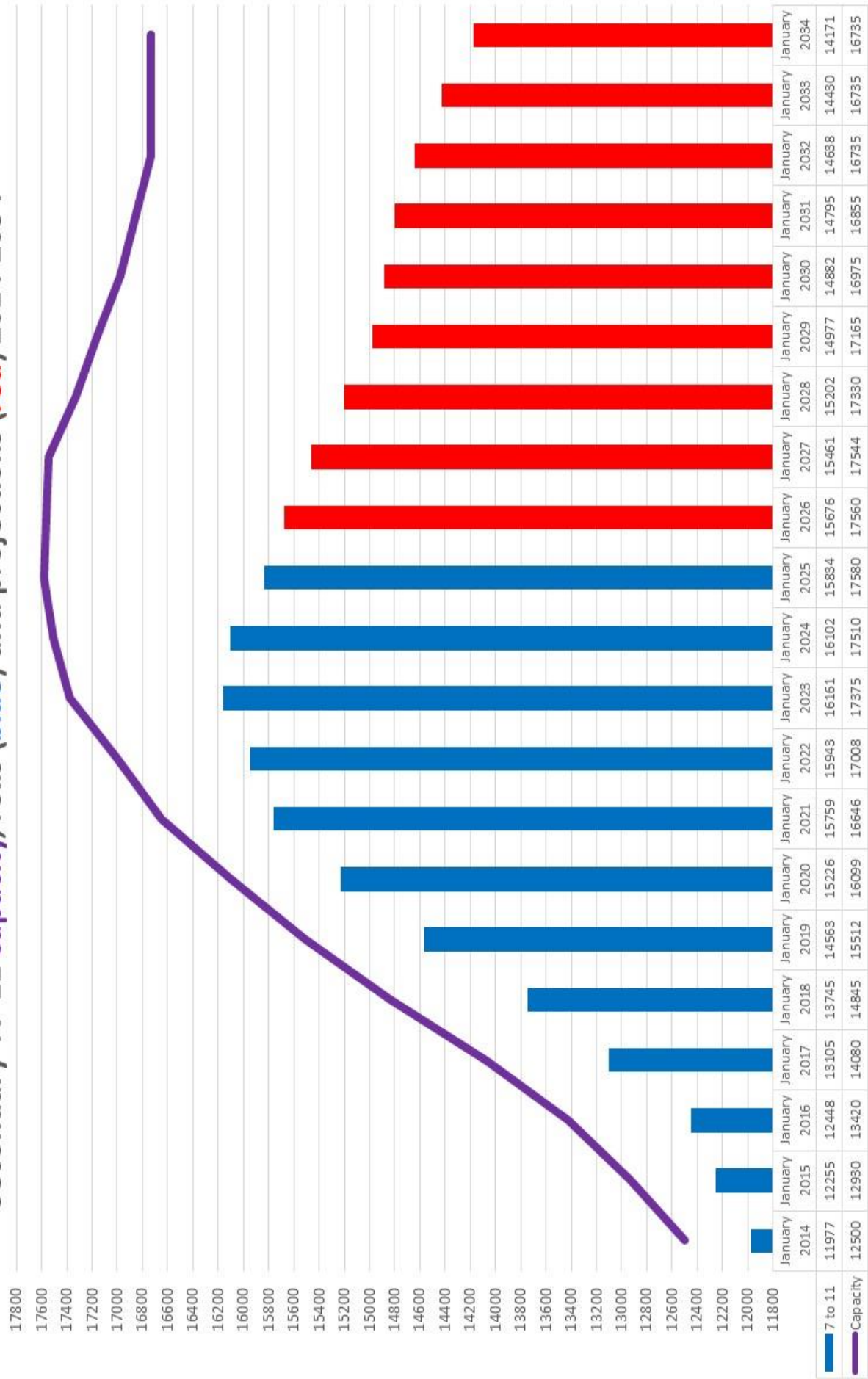
- 1 ARK All Saints Academy
- 2 ARK Globe Academy
- 3 Bacon's College
- 4 The Charter School Bermondsey (formerly Compass School Southwark)
- 5 Haberdashers' Aske's Borough Academy
- 6 Harris Academy Bermondsey
- 7 Harris Academy Peckham
- 8 Harris Boys' Academy East Dulwich
- 9 Harris Girls' Academy 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

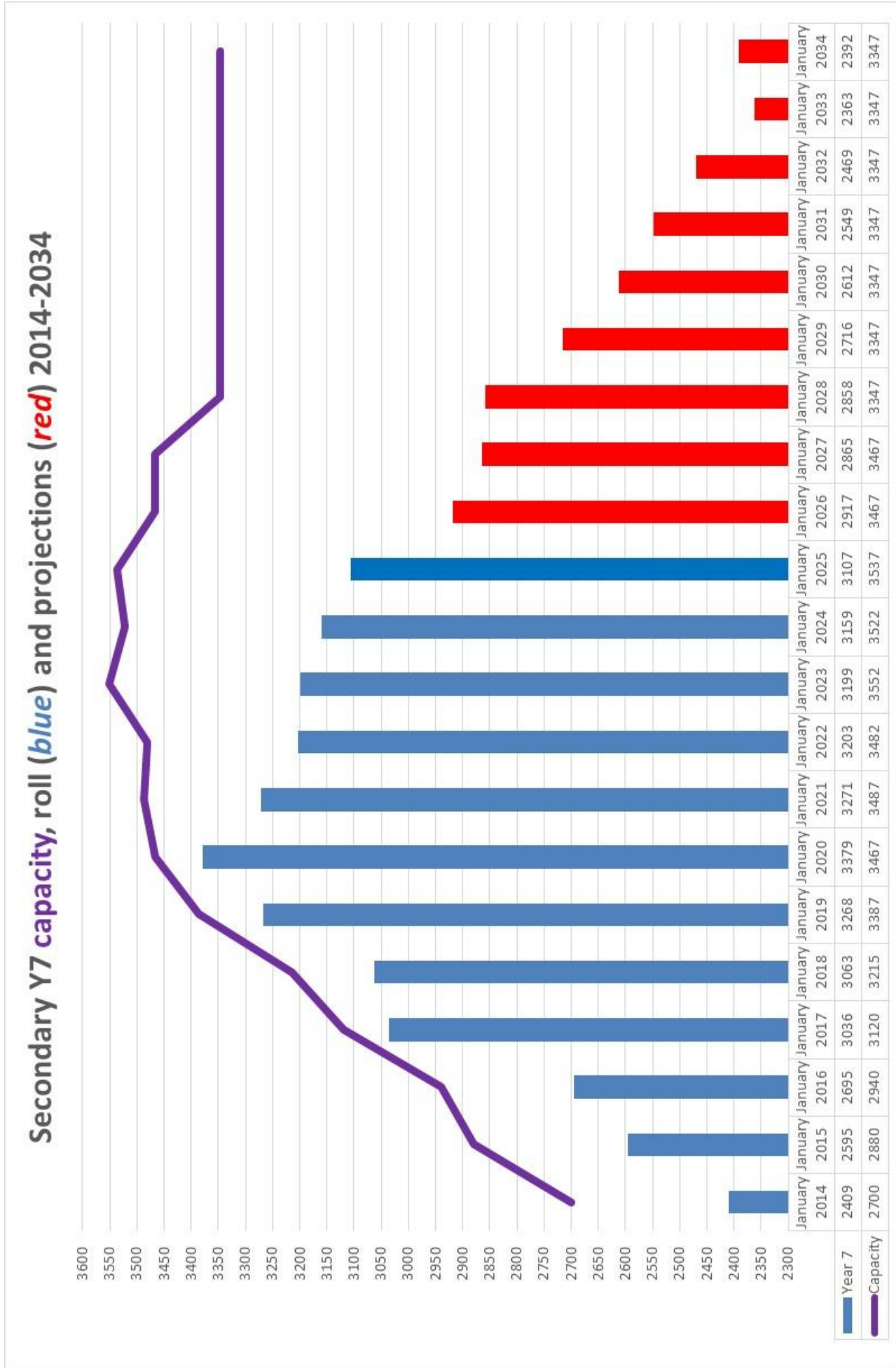


PA6 – Southwark Secondary Schools

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	150	FREE
	ARK Globe Academy	180	ACAD	Charter Bermondsey	120	FREE
	ARK Walworth	180	ACAD	The St Thomas the Apostle	152	VARC
	Bacon's College	180	ACAD	St Saviour's & St Olave's	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 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is sufficient capacity to meet demand up until at least 2031 • The GLA project 2,917 Y7 pupils for January 2026 (190 less than this year (7FE – 6%), and 158 less Y7-11 pupils (1% less). This would leave 550 Y7 places (16%), and 1,884 Y7-11 (11%) places vacant in January 2026 • There will be 798 surplus Y7 places in September 2031, based on expected demand (24%), in line with decreased primary rolls. • Years 7-11 vacancies are projected to 2,060 in 2031 (from 1,746 this year) – 12% of places (from 10% this year) • Longer term projections show that Y7 pupil numbers will begin to (slowly) increase again from 2034/35 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 					
Y6 figures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y6 pupil figures in Southwark increased by +26% from 2012-19 (685 pupils), but have fallen from 2019-24 by 409 pupils (-12%) and are projected to reduce further by 612 pupils (-21%) by 2031 • Using previous and projected Y6 figures as a proxy for future demand is questionable, as there is a considerable influx of non-Southwark pupils in Y7 (ca 30% against an estimated 8% for primary pupils), and the proportion of non-Southwark secondary pupils increases annually 					
Y7 vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2024/25, there were 430 spare Y7 places (15FE) across the secondary estate - 12% of all Y7 places - above accepted guidelines for vacancy levels 					
Y7-11 vacancies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2024/25, across all secondary schools, there were 1,746 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 and Harris Boys ED both take a significant percentage of pupils from outside Southwark. • 4,200 secondary pupils in Southwark are outborough based • 88% of these pupils come from four councils (<i>Lambeth, Lewisham, Croydon and Bromley</i>), totaling 3,725 pupils • 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>) 					

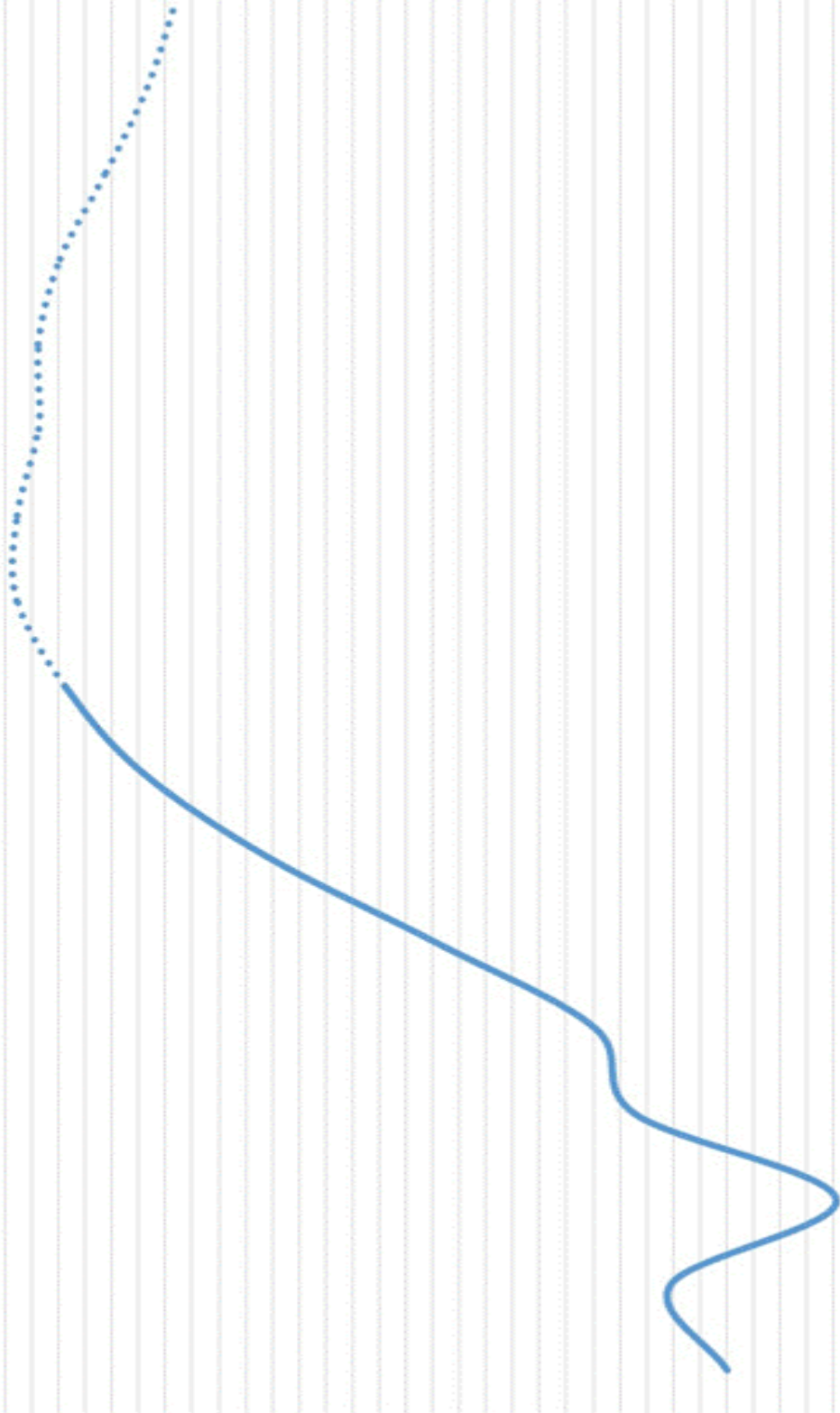
Secondary Y7-11 capacity, rolls (blue) and projections (red) 2014-2034





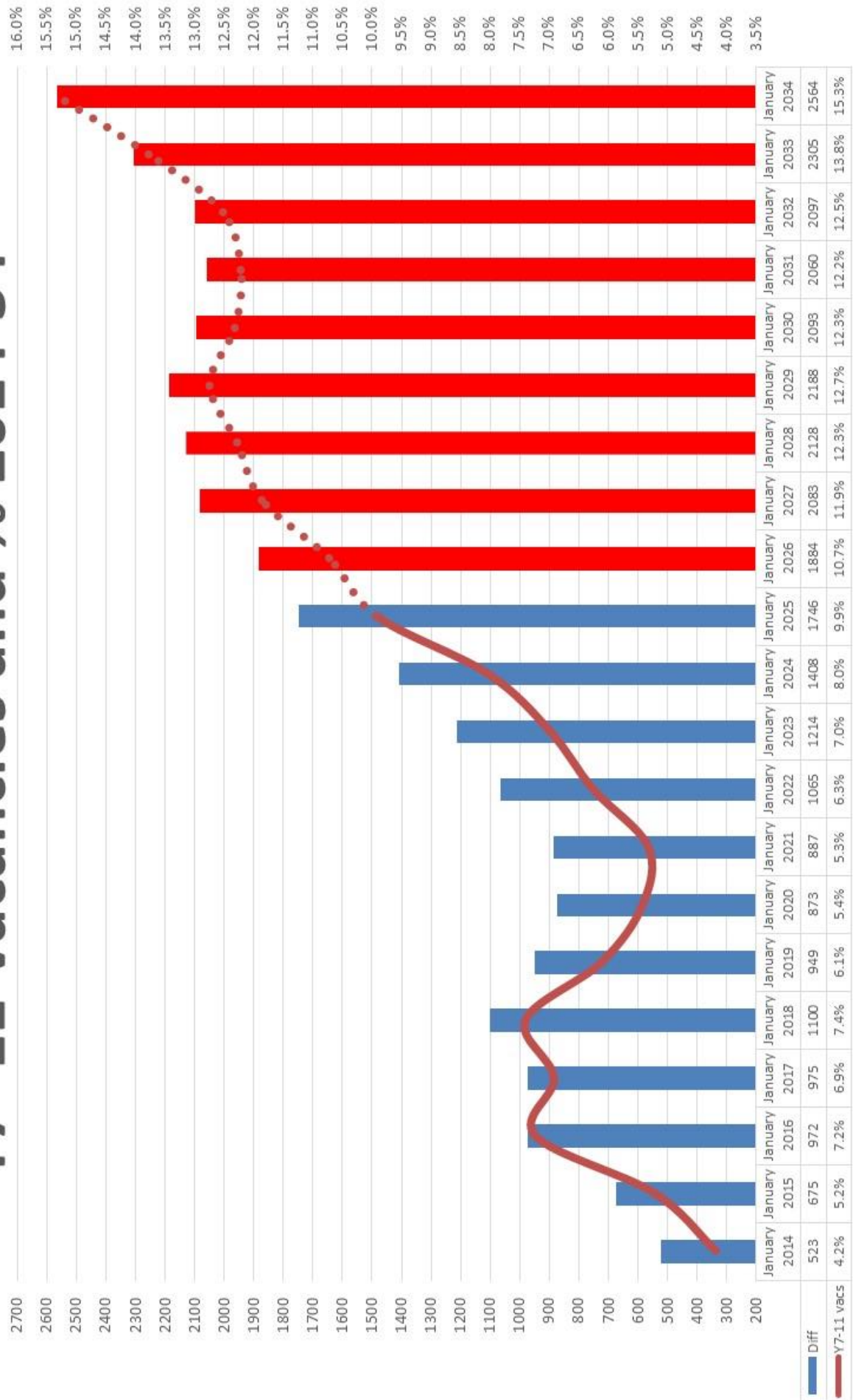
Y12/Y13 rolls - Actual 2015-23, Projected 2024-31

3,450
3,400
3,350
3,300
3,250
3,200
3,150
3,100
3,050
3,000
2,950
2,900
2,850
2,800
2,750
2,700
2,650
2,600
2,550
2,500
2,450
2,400
2,350
2,300
2,250
2,200
2,150
2,100
2,050
2,000
1,950
1,900
1,850
1,800

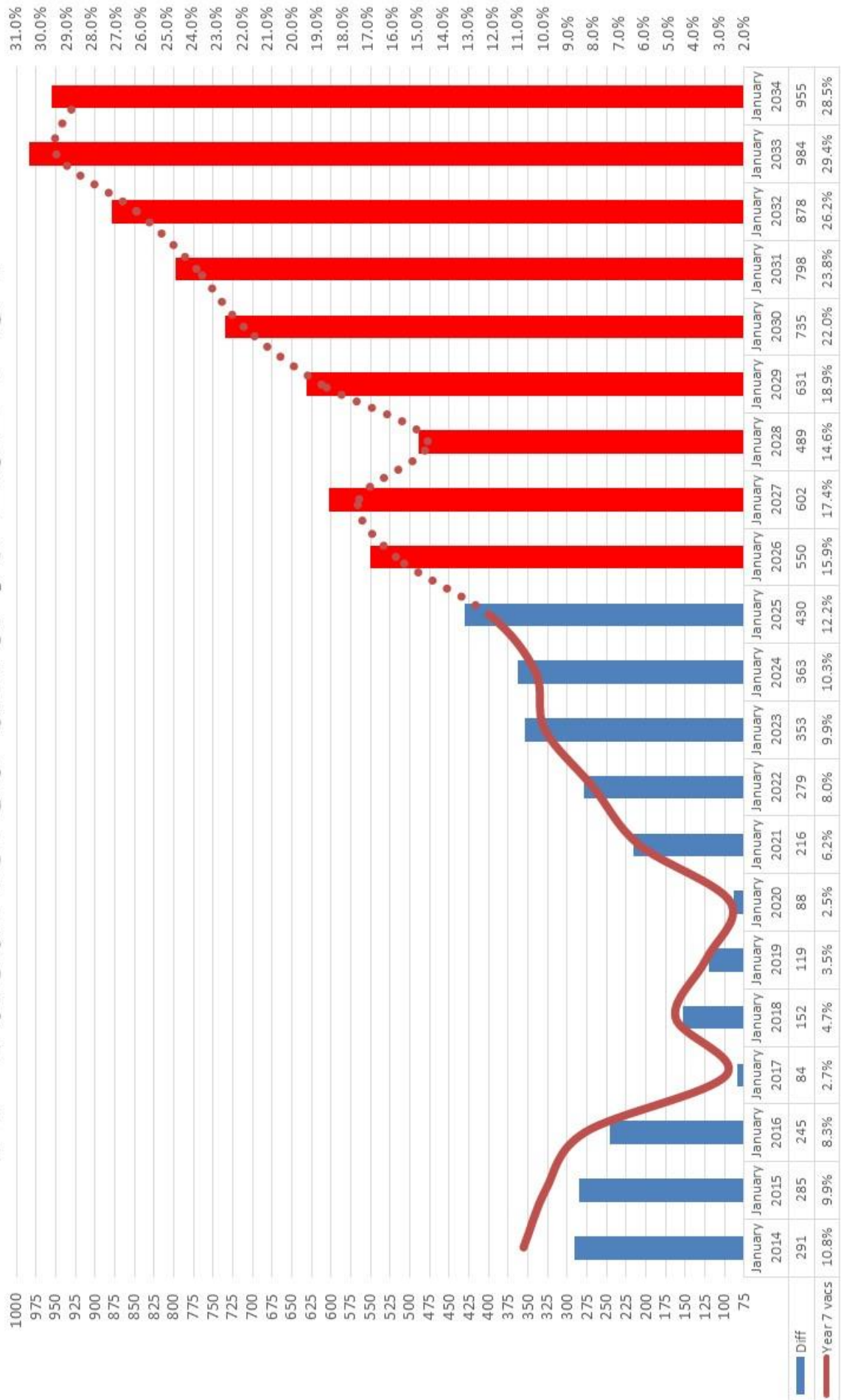


Series1

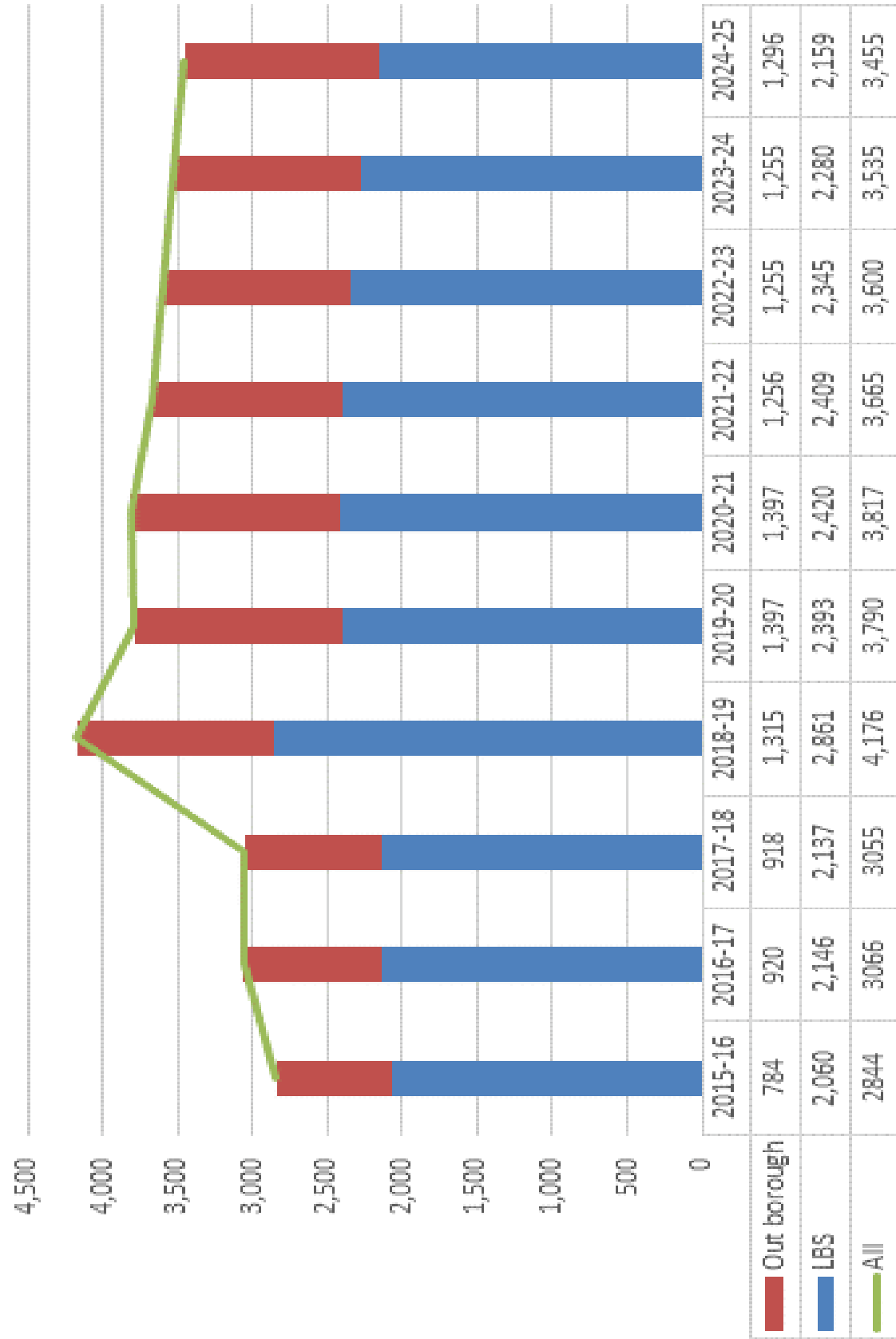
Y7 -11 Vacancies and % 2014-34



Y7 Vacancies and % 2014-34



Secondary Applications 2015/16 to 2024/25



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

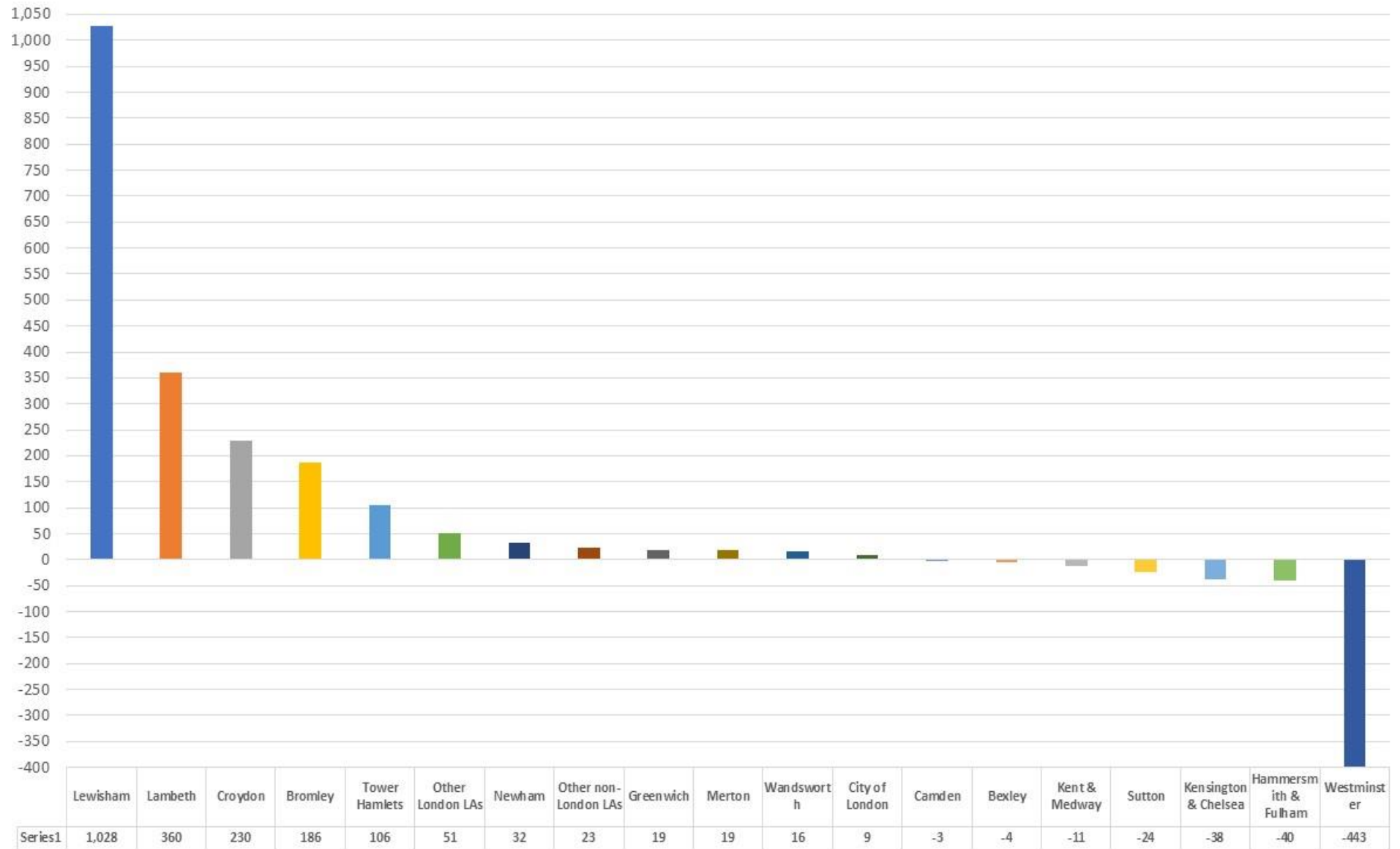
Secondary School	Type	PAN	Council Ward
ARK All Saints Academy	Academy (CE)	120	Camberwell Green
ARK Globe Academy (<i>Secondary</i>)	Academy	180	Chaucer
Bacon's College	Academy (CE)	185	Rotherhithe
Charter School (North Dulwich)	Academy	192	Champion Hill
City of London Academy (COLA) Southwark	Academy	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	150	Faraday
Charter School East Dulwich	Free School	240	Goose Green
Haberbdashers' Aske's Borough Academy	Free School	180	Borough & Bankside
Southwark Total		3,537	
Academies	Academy	2,706	77% of Secondary Y7 places
Free Schools	Free School	540	15% of Secondary Y7 places
VA CE	VA CE	124	4% of Secondary Y7 places
VA RC	VA RC	152	4% of Secondary Y7 places
Southwark Total		3,537	

SECTION 15 – SECONDARY (7-11) Cross border flows to and from Southwark – 2023/24

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	1,095	40%	1,455	35%	+360
Lewisham	662	24%	1,690	40%	+1,028
Westminster	455	17%	12	0.3%	-443
Croydon	131	5%	361	9%	+230
Greenwich	75	3%	94	2%	+19
Wandsworth	43	2%	59	1%	+16
Hammersmith & Fulham	42	2%	2	0.05%	-40
Kensington & Chelsea	39	1%	1	0.02%	-38
Bromley	32	1%	218	5%	+186
Sutton	29	1%	5	0.1%	-24
Tower Hamlets	24	1%	130	3%	+106
Merton	21	1%	40	1%	+19
Bexley	18	1%	14	0.3%	-4
Camden	14	1%	11	0.3%	-3
Newham	4	0.1%	36	1%	+32
City of London	0	0%	9	0.2%	+9
Kent & Medway	25	1%	14	0.3%	-11
Other London LAs	32	1%	83	2%	+51
Other non-London LAs	8	0.3%	31	1%	+23
All cross borough	2,748	100%	4,216	100%	+1,468

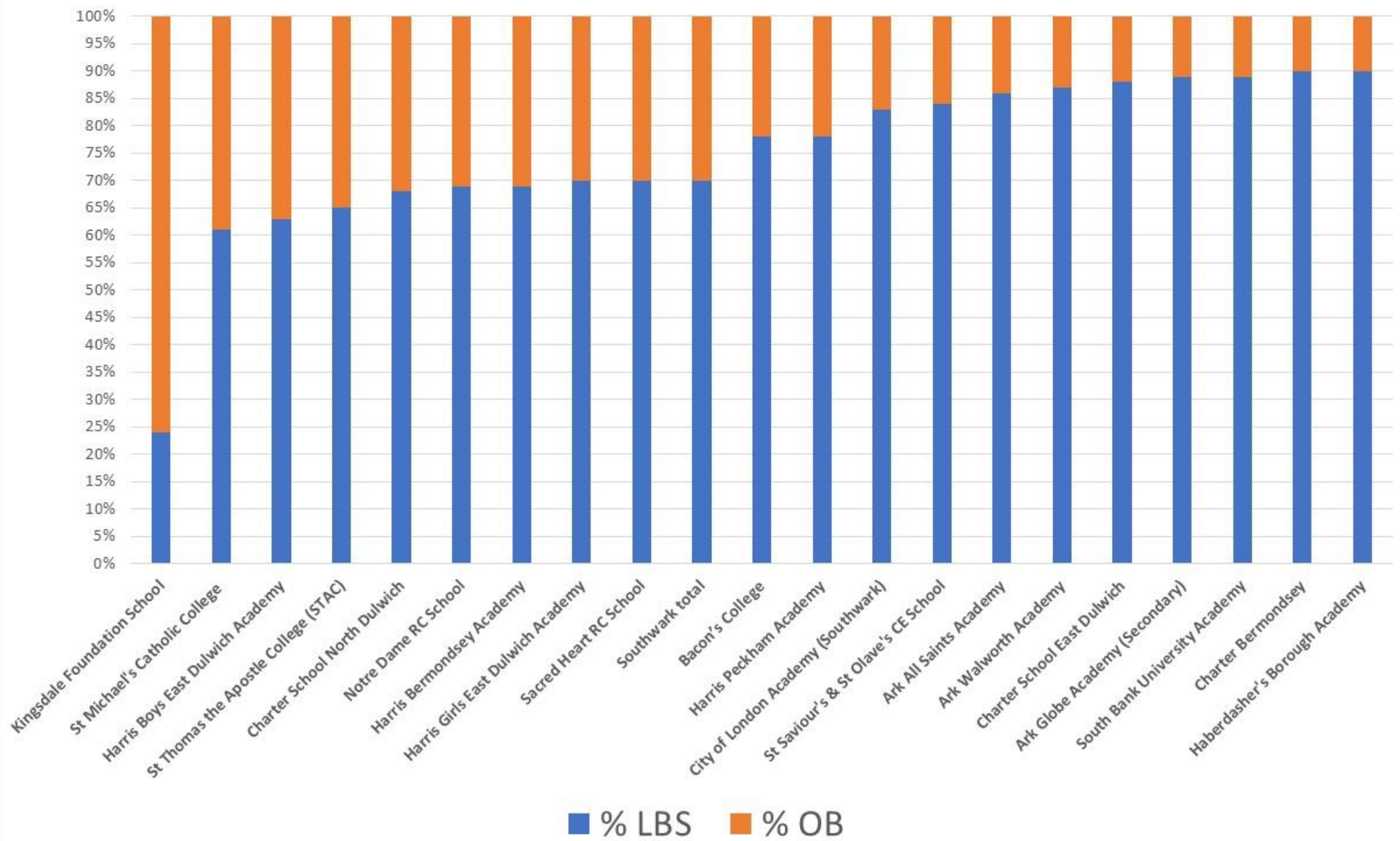
Secondary Cross Border Flows 2023/24



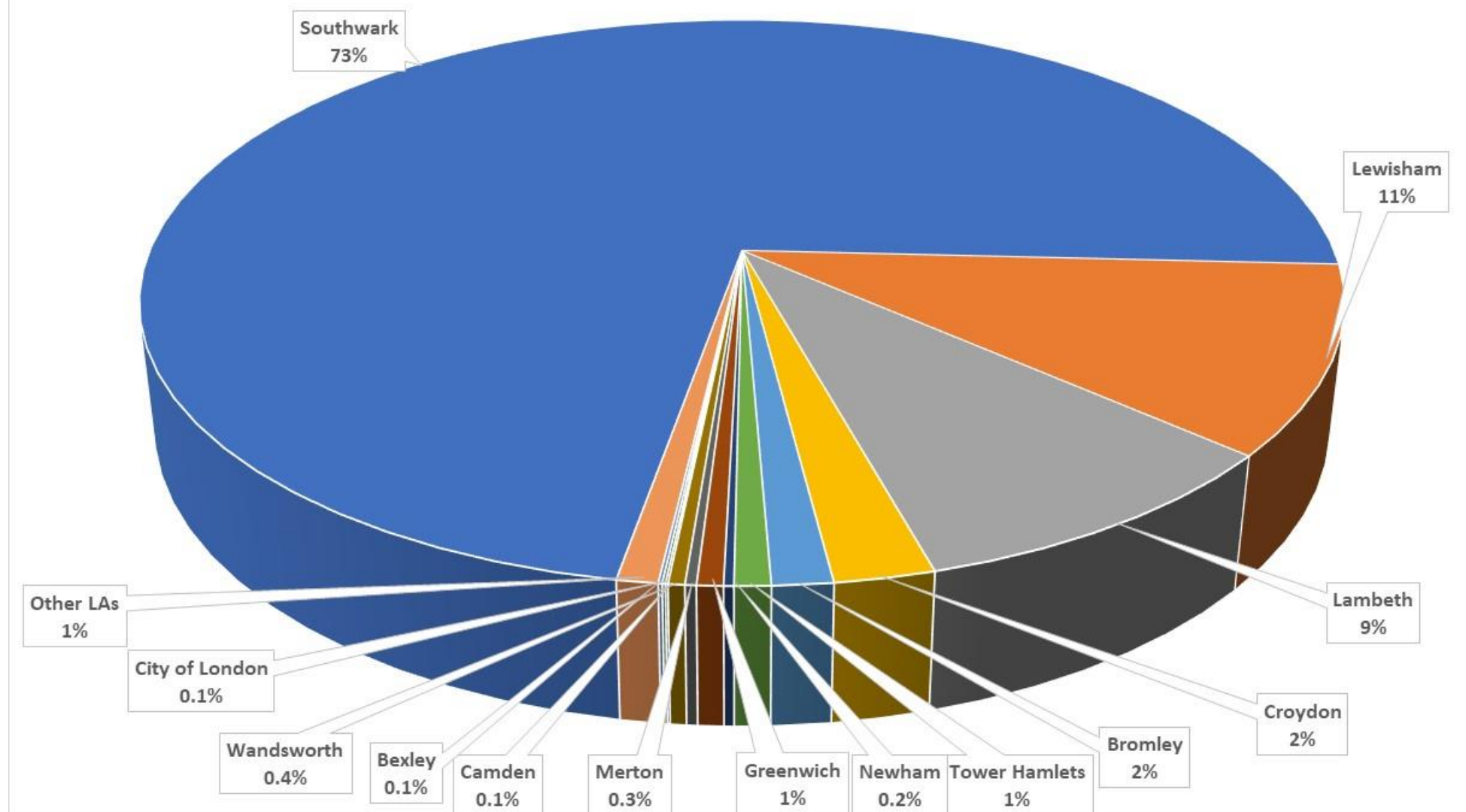
Section 16 – Breakdown of Secondary school rolls by school and borough (Southwark(LBS)/Non-Southwark (Outborough (OB)) 2023/24

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	69%	31%	Lambeth (13%)	Lewisham (7%), Croydon (4%), Greenwich (1%), Westminster (1%), Wandsworth (1%) Islington (1%)
Ark Walworth Academy	87%	13%	Lewisham (5%)	Lambeth (2%), Bromley (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%), Croydon (1%)
Ark All Saints Academy	86%	14%	Lambeth (10%)	Croydon (1%), Lewisham (1%)
Ark Globe Academy (Secondary)	89%	11%	Lewisham (5%)	Lambeth (2%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%)
Bacon's College	78%	22%	Lewisham (19%)	Greenwich (1%)
City of London Academy (Southwark)	83%	17%	Lewisham (8%)	Barking & Dagenham (1%), Lambeth (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%), Croydon (1%), City (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
Charter Bermondsey	90%	10%	Lewisham (6%)	Greenwich (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%), Bromley (1%)
Haberdasher's Borough Academy	90%	10%	Lambeth (8%)	No others 1% or more
Harris Bermondsey Academy	69%	31%	Lewisham (19%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (2%)
Harris Peckham Academy	78%	22%	Lewisham (8%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (2%), Newham (2%), Croydon (1%)
Harris Boys East Dulwich Academy	63%	37%	Lewisham (28%)	Lambeth (3%), Greenwich (2%), Croydon (1%), Bromley (1%), Bexley (1%), Newham (1%)
Harris Girls East Dulwich Academy	70%	30%	Lewisham (20%)	Lambeth (5%), Croydon (1%), Greenwich (1%), Bromley (1%)
Kingsdale Foundation School	24%	76%	Lambeth (31%)	Lewisham (22%), Croydon (12%), Bromley (9%), Greenwich (1%), Wandsworth (1%)
St Saviour's & St Olave's CE School	84%	16%	Lewisham (6%)	Lambeth (5%), Croydon (1%), Greenwich (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)
South Bank University Academy	89%	11%	Lambeth (6%)	Lewisham (3%), Croydon (1%)
St Michael's Catholic College	61%	39%	Tower Hamlets (18%)	Lewisham (8%), Lambeth (4%), Islington (1%), Camden (1%), Bexley (1%), Greenwich (1%), Newham (1%)
Charter School North Dulwich	68%	32%	Lambeth (25%)	Lewisham (4%), Croydon (1%), Bromley (1%)
Sacred Heart RC School	70%	30%	Lambeth (22%)	Lewisham (4%), Croydon (2%), Greenwich (1%), Bromley (1%)
Charter School East Dulwich	88%	12%	Lambeth (5%), Lewisham (5%)	Croydon (1%)
Southwark total	70%	30%	Lewisham (12%) Lambeth (10%)	Bromley (2%), Croydon (2%), Greenwich (1%), Tower Hamlets (1%)

Percentage Outborough (Orange)/Southwark(Blue) Secondary pupils by School 2023/24



Southwark Secondary pupils by LA 2023/24



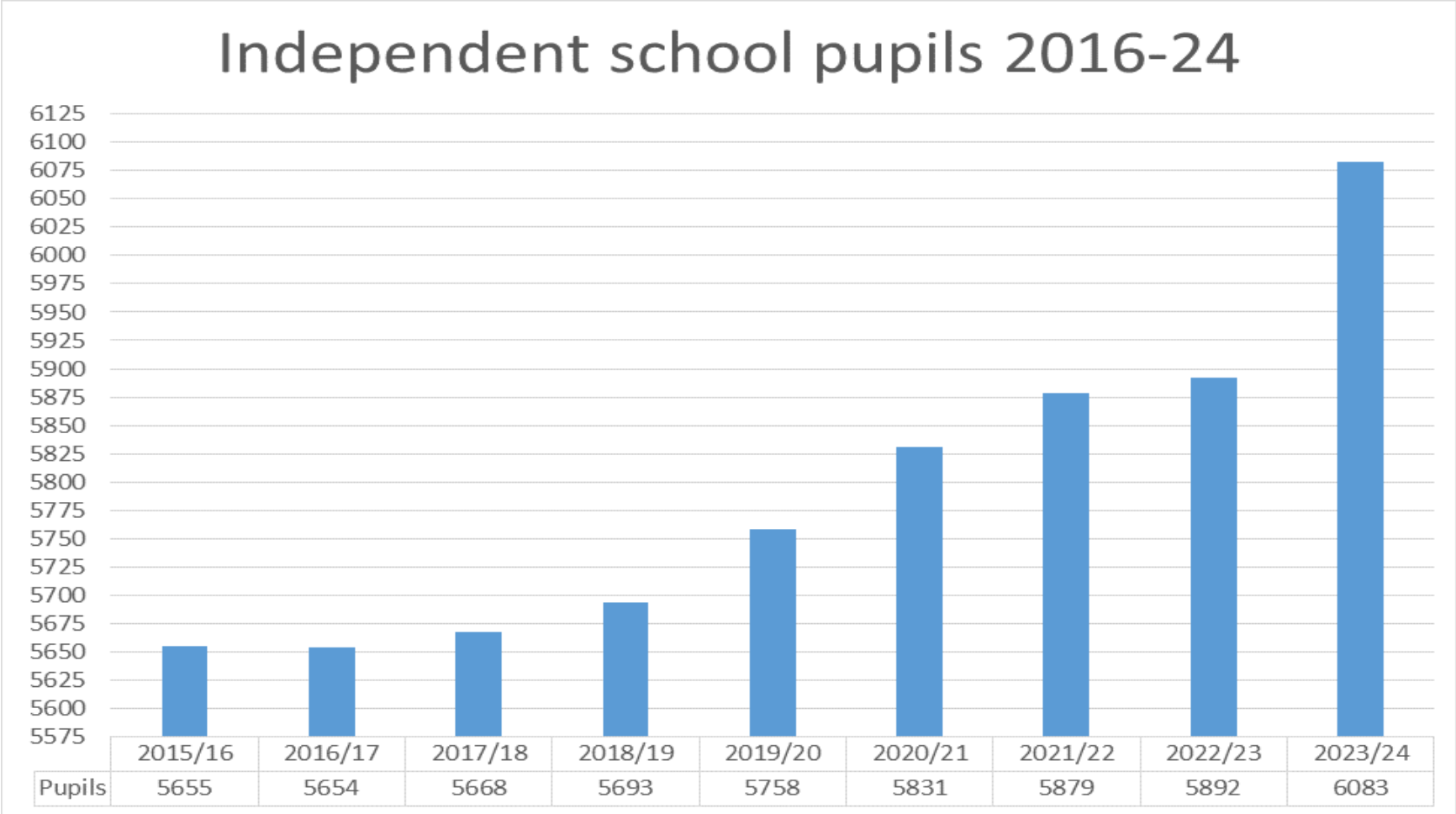
SECTION 17 – ACADEMY SCHOOLS BY SPONSOR

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 (<i>ex-Compass</i>)	
Spa Educational Trust (3)			Spa Bermondsey Spa Camberwell <i>Park College</i> ◇
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 Dog Kennel Hill 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 (2)*	St Anthony's RC	St Michaels College	
St Oscar Romero RC Academies Trust (2)*	St Joseph George Row	Notre Dame Girls	
Haberdasher's Aske's Trust (1)*		Haberdashers' Aske's Borough	
South Bank Academies (1)*		South Bank University Academy	

◇ Post compulsory age, not counted in total

Section 18 – Independent School rolls 2016-24

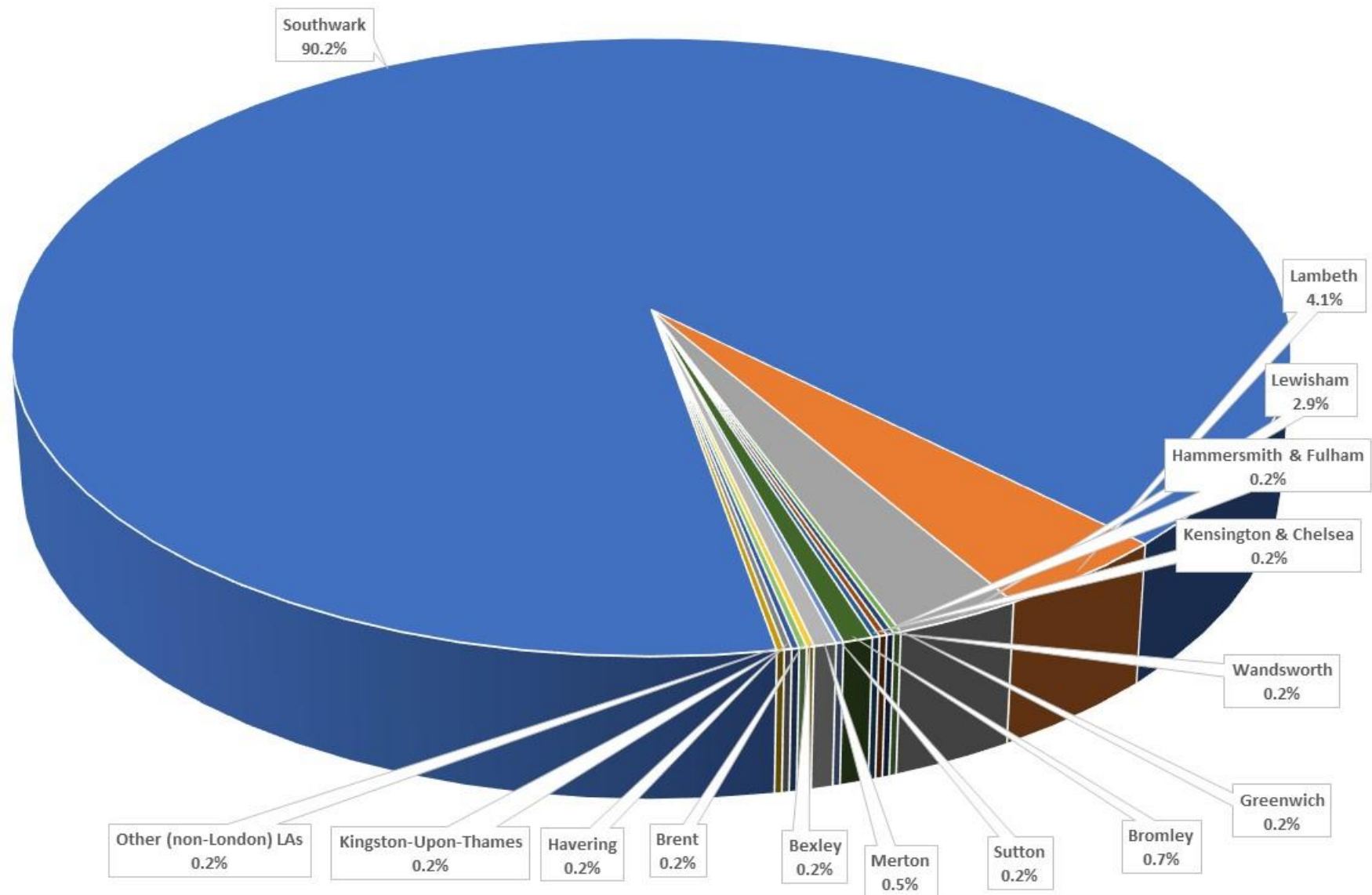


SECTION 19 – SPECIAL (4-16) Cross border flows to and from Southwark – 2023/24

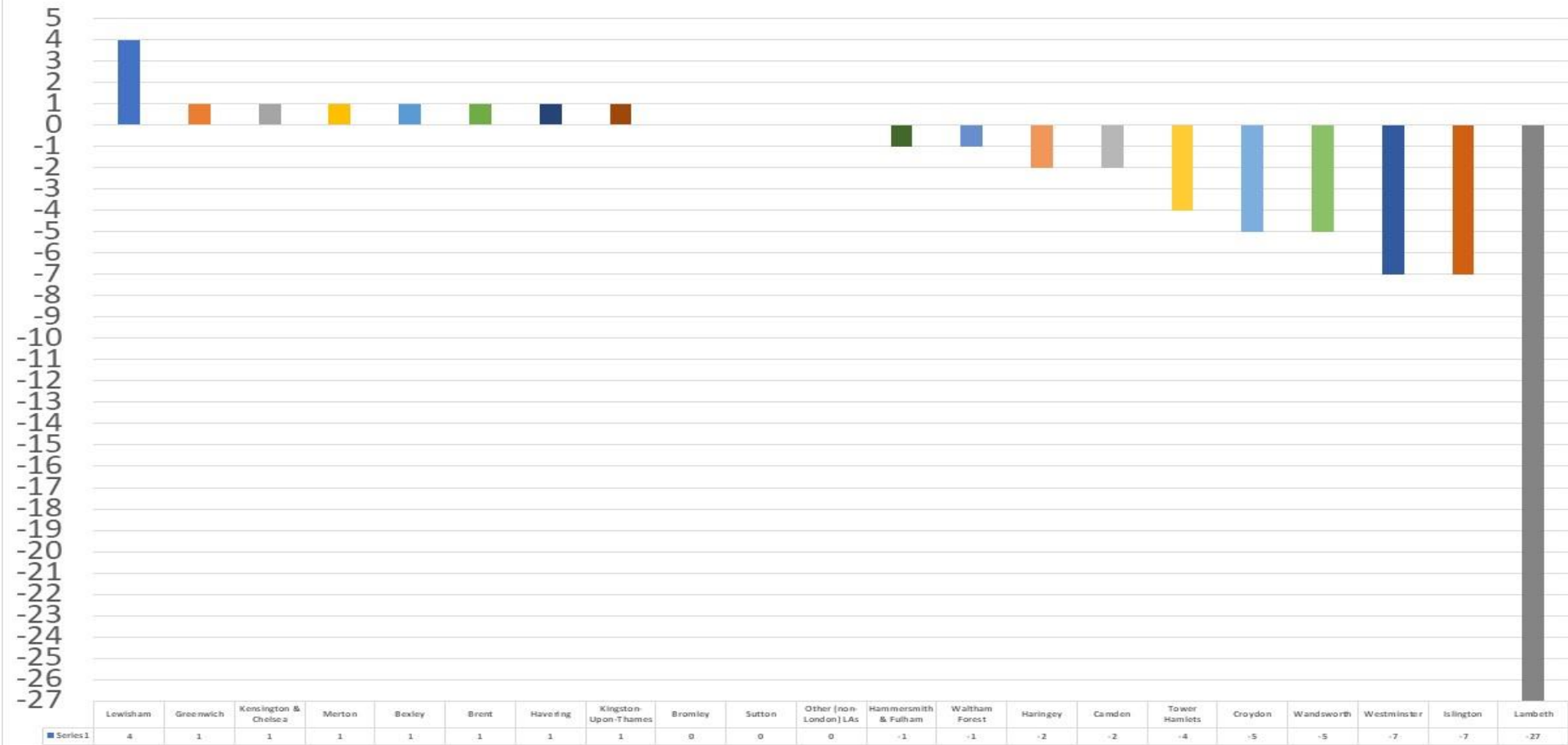
Table 24 7-11 Pupils attending special schools in other LAs/pupils from other LAs attending Southwark schools

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



Meeting Name:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission
Date:	7 July 2025
Report title:	Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission Work Programme 2025-26
Ward(s) or groups affected:	N/a
Classification:	Open
Reason for lateness (if applicable):	N/a
From:	Scrutiny Officer

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the education and local economy scrutiny commission note the work programme as at 7 July 2025 attached as Appendix 1.
2. That the education and local economy scrutiny commission consider the addition of new items or allocation of previously identified items to specific meeting dates of the commission.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. The general terms of reference of the scrutiny commissions are set out in the council's constitution (overview and scrutiny procedure rules - paragraph 5). The constitution states that:

Within their terms of reference, all scrutiny committees/commissions will:

- a) review and scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the council's functions
- b) review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the cabinet and council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time in areas covered by its terms of reference

- c) review and scrutinise the performance of the council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas
 - d) question members of the cabinet and officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects and about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area
 - e) assist council assembly and the cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues
 - f) make reports and recommendations to the cabinet and or council assembly arising from the outcome of the scrutiny process
 - g) consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants
 - h) liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working
 - i) review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the scrutiny committee and local people about their activities and performance
 - j) conduct research and consultation on the analysis of policy issues and possible options
 - k) question and gather evidence from any other person (with their consent)
 - l) consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the scrutiny process and in the development of policy options
 - m) conclude inquiries promptly and normally within six months
4. The work programme document lists those items which have been or are to be considered in line with the commission's terms of reference.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

5. Set out in Appendix 1 (Work Programme) are the issues the education and local economy scrutiny commission is due to consider in 2025-26.

6. The work programme is a standing item on the education and local economy scrutiny commission agenda and enables the commission to consider, monitor and plan issues for consideration at each meeting.
7. The commission has within in its remit the cabinet portfolio elements listed below:

Children, Education & Refugees (Councillor Jasmine Ali, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member)

- **Early years and childcare** – including children and family centres, early years education, childminders and nurseries
- **Schools** – including school standards, inclusion, places and admissions; special education needs; free healthy school and nursery meals and fruit; healthy schools and Southwark's Let's Go Zero schools network
- **Further, higher and adult education** – including English for speakers of other languages (ESOL), adult literacy and numeracy; and scholarships
- **Children's social care** – including children in care and care leavers, fostering and adoption, support for children with disabilities and their families; and child safeguarding
- **Family support** – including parenting programmes, the council's sure-start for teenagers service and support for families who are providing unpaid care for a child with a disability or health condition, including respite care
- **Youth offending services.**

Cabinet Member for Jobs, Skills & Business (Councillor John Batteson)

- **Increasing employment** - support to find a job or start a new carer; careers advice and work experience; paid internships; supporting young people and care leavers' into employment, education and training; relationship with Jobcentre Plus; supporting businesses to engage with schools and colleges (including the Education Business Alliance)
- **Vocational Skills** - including apprenticeships, vocational training and skills centres
- **Businesses support** - for local businesses, cooperatives, social enterprises and entrepreneurs; increasing procurement from local businesses; and relationships with local business groups and Business Improvement Districts.
- **High streets** – including town centre action plans, Thriving Highstreets Fund, markets
- **Commercial property** – management, leasing and rent setting of the council's retail and commercial units, office accommodation and related property

- **Industrial strategy** - growing industries that generate good jobs and wider value for our community, including green industries, life sciences and creative and cultural industries
- **Living Wage** - promoting the London Living Wage employers
- **Workers' rights** - promoting good employment practices and equality and diversity at work and trade union membership.

Deputy Cabinet Member for Young People (Councillor Portia Mwangangye)

- Increasing the voice and influence of young people
- Southwark Youth Parliament
- The council's in-house and commissioned youth services
- Positive Futures Fund
- Southwark Young Advisors.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission agenda and minutes	Southwark Council Website	Amit Alva Amit.alva@southwark.gov.uk
Link: https://moderngov.southwark.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=550&Year=0		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	Work Programme 2025-26

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer
Report Author	Amit Alva, Scrutiny Officer
Version	Final
Dated	27 June 2025
Key Decision?	No
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER	

Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments Included
Director of Law and Governance	No	No
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	No	No
Cabinet Member	No	No
Date final report sent to Scrutiny Team		27 June 2025

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission Work Programme – 2025/26

Meeting	Agenda items	Comment
7 July 2025	Pupil Place Planning in Primary Schools and its impact on Secondary School admissions under the Keeping Education Strong (KES) Strategy.	To get an update from the officers on Pupil Place Planning in primary schools and also review the Pupil Place Planning Annexe 2024-25 - Submitted to Cabinet in February 2025 (Appendix 6)
	Traders from East Street Market	To hear the traders' views on any improvements that have been made and/or in progress and any areas of concern/issues that the council could help with.
Upcoming Meetings 6 October 2025 3 December 2025 2 February 2026 4 March 2026		

Education and Local Economy Scrutiny Commission

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2025-26

AGENDA DISTRIBUTION LIST (OPEN)

NOTE: Original held by Scrutiny Team; all amendments/queries to Amit Alva Tel: 020 7525 0496

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Councillor Cassandra Brown (Chair)		Sarauniya Shehu- Cabinet Office Manager	
Councillor Rachel Bentley (Vice-Chair)		Liam Reid- Cabinet Advisor	
Councillor Mohamed Deen			
Councillor Irina Von Wiese			
Councillor Margy Newens			
Councillor Youcef Hassaine			
Councillor Jon Hartley			
Education Representatives			
Martin Brecknell			
Alie Kallon			
Mannah Kargbo			
Reserves Members			
Councillor Joseph Vambe			
Councillor Maggie Browning			
Councillor Sunny Lambe			
Councillor Jason Ochere			
Councillor Sam Foster			
Councillor Victor Chamberlain			
Councillor Adam Hood			
		Dated: June 2025	