



North Tyneside Council

# Briefing note

**To:** Schools Forum

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## **Title: Pupil Planning and Pupil Numbers**

**Purpose of paper: To clarify the methodology used to project pupil numbers, the accuracy of projections and the resulting pupil population profile**

### **Pupil projections model**

The North Tyneside pupil projection model was developed a number of years ago and is updated each year based on the October school census (this is the census which informs allocations of the DSG) and then a final annual update (used for the SCAP return) will be made based on the January school census. It is the January census update which is used to provide schools with 5 years of projections in their annual school data pack issued in September.

There are a number of assumptions and caveats which should be considered:

- Only for mainstream schools
- Only for Reception upwards (not nursery)
- Projections don't take into account the postcode of birth - though a separate analysis provides trend data of births in a catchment area
- Intake numbers are only capped for those schools who have agreed, and it is only the intake year which is capped
- Implications of housing are not included in the projections and are added separately at a locality level for the purposes of the SCAP return

The starting point each year is birth data for the relevant academic year.

- Using the reception data from the school census the average (3 year) proportion of pupils transferring between births and reception is calculated (this is approx.98%). This then gives us a total Reception cohort (adjusted birth rate) to be divided between all mainstream schools.
- Using data from the past three years (which is weighted – the model allows different weightings to be applied) the proportion who have traditionally attended each school is calculated. These proportions are applied to the Reception cohort (adjusted birth rate) resulting in the projected intake for each school in each of the next 5-10 years.

The model recognises that pupils may leave, or join a school in any year and so a transfer rate between year groups is calculated based on 3 years school census data. As standard, figures are produced which put greatest weight on the most recent years data (twice as much weight given to most recent data compared to the data from two years previously). The weighting allows changes in preference to be incorporated sooner into the model.

Using the projected intakes and the rates of transfer between year groups projections are made at a school level for the next five years for primary schools and ten years for secondary schools. Projections for the next five years are included each year in the school data packs.

The model does not have the capability to automatically restrict intake numbers at the PAN and redistribute an 'excess' pupils. However, where a school has agreed to cap their pupil intake the 'excess' pupils are re-distributed manually based on patterns of second preference.

The model does not include the implications of housing though these can be and are taken into consideration across a locality. This is done for the purposes of the SCAP (School Capacity Survey – submitted to the DfE each summer) following the January update, and is just for those developments where building has commenced.

- Pupil yield is calculated based on a local formula taking into consideration the number of properties, the size of properties being built and the build rate. The formula is summarised as:

3+ bed houses – 3.3 pupils / 100 houses for each mainstream year group (12)  
 <3 bed houses – 1.98 pupils / 100 houses for each mainstream year group (12).

- The resulting figures are then weighted 70% primary aged pupils and 30% secondary aged pupils.

The SCAP (School Capacity Survey) is submitted each summer based on the January update to the pupil projection model. For the purposes of the SCAP the borough is split into eight planning areas; four primary and four secondary. Although they are borough wide provisions, St Thomas More is included in the North East Secondary locality and Kings Priory is included in the South East Primary and South East Secondary localities.

### Accuracy of the model

Comparing the Jan 18 school census with the 2017 projections for the academic year 2017/18 we can consider how well the model is projecting the future pupil populations.

Overall, the model is 99.8% accurate.

Pre-16 there were 125 (0.5%) more pupils than we thought, post-16 there were 73 (4.7%) fewer pupils than we thought.

There were 59 more Reception pupils than the model projected.

There were 41 more Yr7 pupils in the Jan 18 school census than the model projected.

The data suggests that fewer pupils than expected are transferring into school 6<sup>th</sup>-forms. Overall the transfer rate has gone from 49% to 42% over the past three years.

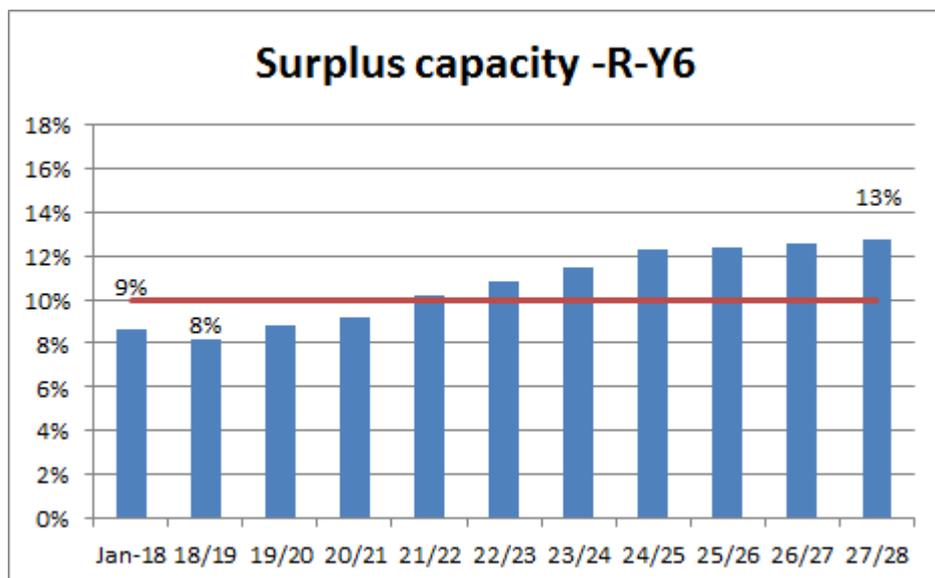
The detail by year group can be seen in the table below:

R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13
59	19	-16	28	-10	-7	12	41	-15	-12	17	10	-63	-10
2.6%	0.8%	0.7%	1.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	1.9%	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.5%	7.7%	1.4%

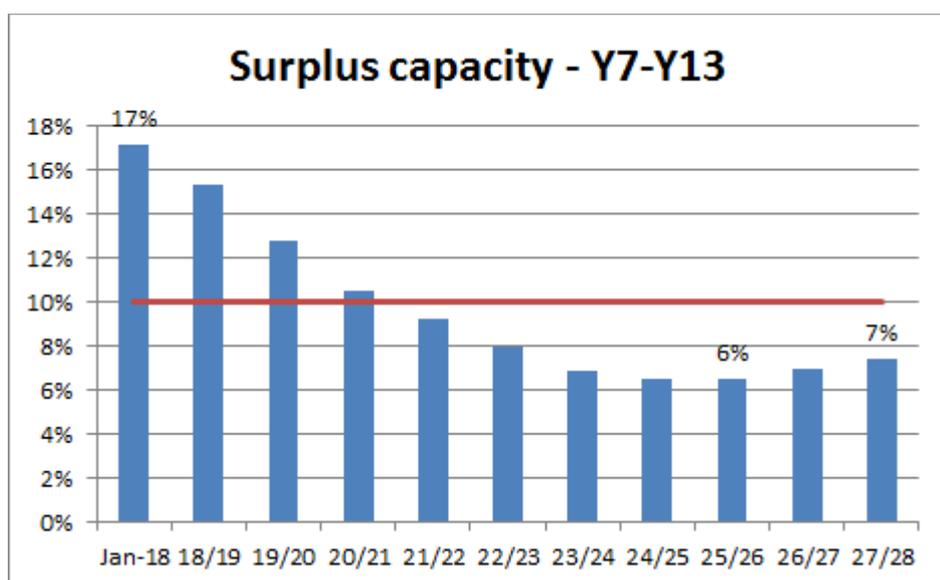
### Surplus capacity

The charts below indicate the expected surplus capacity in our schools over the next 10 years. This is notwithstanding housing developments, particularly the large developments in the Local Plan. **We expect to see an increased pupil population from these developments from 2023/24 onwards.**

Currently there is less than 10% surplus capacity in primary provision, though with a declining birth rate the surplus capacity begins to increase from 2019/20. At the point the surplus capacity reaches 11% we expect to start to see the impact of the Local Plan, thus reducing the surplus.



Projections indicate that by 2021/22 there will be less than 10% surplus capacity in secondary provision. The percentage of surplus continues to fall until 2025/26 when it is projected to be 6%. At the point where surplus capacity is at its lowest we expect to begin to see the impact of the Local Plan, thus reducing the surplus further.



This analysis focuses on the pupil number across the local authority. Finance are currently carrying out work to determine individual schools funding streams.