# **DRAFT**

# SCHOOL ORGANISATION PLAN

2020/2024

#### **Foreword**

Welcome to the School Organisation Plan for the period 2020 to 2024. This is a four-year rolling plan that is updated annually. It sets out how East Sussex County Council, in accordance with its statutory duty, seeks to ensure there are sufficient school places to meet demand across the county.

The document contains information on:

- The current pattern of school provision across the county
- Forecasts of future school numbers
- Our plans to meet the need for additional places in areas of growth
- Our plans to address the over-supply of places in areas with falling rolls

The plan builds on our achievements in recent years to create additional capacity in primary, secondary and special schools across East Sussex. In the last ten years over 4,000 new primary, secondary and special school places have been created in the county. It is likely that further capacity will be needed to meet the growing demand for secondary and special school places, but also potentially the need for additional primary school places to serve significant new housing developments, most notably in Hailsham, Bexhill and Uckfield in the years to come.

While there will continue to be areas of growing demand for school places, given the predominantly rural nature of East Sussex, there will be areas with a declining demand. We will work with schools that face challenges associated with falling rolls which can create budget pressures and which challenges school leadership, organisation and long-term viability.

The forecasts and our emerging strategies must be treated with some caution at this stage. Covid-19 has created much uncertainty this year and it may be some time before the impact, direct or indirect, of the virus on future demand for school places is truly known. In addition, Wealden District Council 's decision earlier this year to withdraw its Draft Local Plan and embark on the process of developing a new Local Plan is likely to have significant implications for school provision in parts of the district. While we can be certain it will lead to a greater number of new homes being built in the district in future years, we do not know at this stage how much more and where in the district this might happen. The projections for school planning areas in Wealden District therefore need to be treated with caution until we can model new scenarios based on emerging housing strategies from Wealden District Council. Future iterations of the School Organisation Plan will hopefully provide more clarity on these issues.

We will continue to work with the five local planning authorities, developers, school leaders, governors, academy trusts and the dioceses to ensure there are the right numbers of school places in the right locations at the right time with the aim of delivering a high quality and inclusive education for all pupils in East Sussex.

Councillor Bob Standley Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability

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Stuart Gallimore
Director of Children's Services

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# **CONTENTS**

1.	Introduction	4
2.	Policies and strategies	5
3.	The local perspective	7
4.	Guiding principles to school organisation	13
5.	Eastbourne Borough	18
6.	Hastings Borough	22
<b>7</b> .	Lewes	26
8.	Newhaven	30
9.	Peacehaven	34
10.	Seaford	38
11.	Rural Lewes	41
12.	Bexhill	46
13.	Battle	50
14.	Rye	53
15.	Rural Rother	56
16.	Crowborough	60
17.	Hailsham	64
18.	Heathfield	68
19.	Polegate and Willingdon	71
20.	Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham	74
21.	Uckfield	76
22.	Rural Wealden	79
Δnr	pendix 1. School Planning Areas	83

#### 1. Introduction

East Sussex County Council (the local authority) has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places in the right locations to meet demand. We are responsible for promoting a good supply of strong schools through planning, organising and commissioning places in a way that raises attainment, increases diversity, encourages collaboration between schools and promotes community cohesion. We seek to achieve this in partnership with key stakeholders including headteachers, governors, academy trusts, parents and carers, dioceses, local planning authorities and local communities.

The need for school places fluctuates in response to population changes, new housing developments and government policy and can lead to rising as well as declining pupil numbers. Increases in demand can lead to the establishment of new schools or the expansion of existing schools. Decreases in demand can lead to a reduction in places through changes to admission arrangements or the rationalisation of provision.

The purpose of the School Organisation Plan is to understand the projected demand for school places in the future and to set out where we think we will need to commission additional places or re-organise existing provision. It is a contextual document, providing the framework within which proposals for change may be brought forward. Any reviews of education provision we undertake and any recommendations for school re-organisation (for example opening, closing, federating, amalgamating, enlarging or contracting of schools) will, in part, be based on information contained in the plan.

We endeavour to communicate clearly with schools and local communities about current and predicted place planning pressures in their area, while managing expectations with regard to the certainty of forecasts. This document seeks to provide a comprehensive account of trends in pupil numbers and likely upcoming pressures, drawing on a variety of data sources. However, future pupil numbers, particularly in individual areas of the county and in individual schools, may be affected by unanticipated changes to planned local housing targets, changing migration patterns and swings in parental preference and are not always possible to predict with total accuracy. Therefore, the plan does not conclusively set out all the actions we might take in the future, but rather provides an overview of challenges that may arise during the period of the plan. In general, we will only name particular schools in the plan when there is certainty that a proposal will be implemented or where this is already underway.

The plan focusses exclusively on primary and secondary school places and is one of a number of policies and strategies that relate to education provision in East Sussex. Some of these are set out in Chapter 2.

# 2. Policies and strategies

# 2.1 Admissions and Transport

All schools must have admission arrangements that clearly set out how children will be admitted, including the criteria that will be applied if there are more applications than places at the school. Admission arrangements are determined by admission authorities. East Sussex County Council is the admissions authority for community schools and voluntary controlled church schools. The governing boards of voluntary aided church schools, academy trusts and free schools set the admissions criteria for their individual school(s).

Parents and carers have the right to express a preference for a school, which is not the same as choosing the school where their child will attend. Parents and carers in East Sussex are invited to indicate up to three preferences when applying for a school place for their child.

For September 2020, the local authority was able to offer a place at a preferred school to 97.8% of primary Year R applicants, 99.2% of junior Year 3 applicants and 97.5% of secondary Year 7 applicants.

Apply for a school place

# 2.2 Childcare Sufficiency Assessment

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment is a statutory annual report presented to the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability. It reports on the sufficiency of childcare and the state of the childcare market across East Sussex.

We have a statutory duty to secure sufficient childcare, as far as is reasonably practicable, for working parents, or parents who are studying or training for employment, for children aged 0-14 (or up to 18 for disabled children). We also have a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient early learning places for all eligible two, three and four year-olds. Childcare provision needs to be organised to support parents or carers who are in work or training for work.

Childcare Sufficiency Assessment report

#### 2.3 Excellence for All 2019-2021

The local authority's 'Excellence for All 2019-2021' strategy is built around a shared vision of creating an excellent education system in East Sussex, where no child or educational establishment is left behind, and where all young people are well prepared to make a positive contribution as global citizens and life-long learners.

Since the first *Excellence for All* strategy was published in 2013, East Sussex schools have made progress towards realising the vision outlined in that strategy of delivering a truly world-class and inclusive education for all pupils. During this time, we have witnessed a rapid increase in the number of children and young people in East Sussex accessing high quality education as the percentage of schools and settings judged good or better now exceeds national averages.

Attainment and progress rates continue to rise in many schools and settings and the majority of pupils make an excellent start to their education as performance for the county is above national levels in early years and at Key Stage 1 (KS1).

Excellence for All 2019-21

# 2.4 East Sussex Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy 2019-2021

The East Sussex Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Strategy 2019-2021 sets out the shared aims for children and young people with SEND in East Sussex. It has been developed and will be delivered by partners in Education, Health and Social Care in accordance with The Children and Families Act 2014. The strategy identifies priorities for the next three years as:

- Building capacity for inclusion in schools, settings, colleges and services
- High quality provision, outcomes and aspirations
- Effective planning for transition and journey of a pupil
- Communication and engagement with families and pupils

The strategy will be subject to a continuous review cycle, informed by focus groups, for each of the four priority areas led by partners across the sectors. The Strategy and Governance Group holds responsibility for ensuring the strategy's aims are delivered.

SEND Strategy 2019-21

# 2.5 Post-16 education and training

Local authorities have statutory duties to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in education or training. Specifically, these are:

- To secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people in their area who are over compulsory school age but under 19 or aged 19 to 25 and for whom an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is maintained. This is a duty under the Education Act 1996. To fulfil this, local authorities need to have a strategic overview of the provision available in their area and to identify and resolve gaps in provision.
- To make available to all young people aged 13-19 and those up to 25 with SEND, support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training under Section 68 of ESA 20082
- Tracking young people's participation is a key element of these duties, as is promoting effective participation.

The post-16 offer should meet the requirements of increasing participation, by offering a wide range of options with clear progression routes into further or higher education or employment with training. The post16 offer should also reflect the local skills needs and priority sectors of East Sussex, with a curriculum plan and progression pathways which are influenced by local employers. The growth of the East Sussex economy is a key strategic priority and Skills East Sussex, the strategic board for skills, helps drive this work through a strong partnership of local employers, post16 education, training providers and schools. This includes a focus on securing good quality careers advice through local Careers Hub activities, embedding an Enterprise Advisors Network, the provision of a Work Experience Service and commissioning of a Youth Employability Service for young people who are NEET or at risk of becoming NEET.

Skills East Sussex: Skills-East-Sussex

The Careers Hub – East Sussex <a href="https://careerseastsussex.co.uk/careershub">https://careerseastsussex.co.uk/careershub</a>

The local authority receives no capital funding for Post-16 provision; this is commissioned and funded by the Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA).

# 2.6 National framework

For more information about the national framework within which local authorities must work in relation to education provision and place planning please refer to the Department for Education (DfE) website at: <a href="http://www.gov.uk/schools-colleges">http://www.gov.uk/schools-colleges</a>

# 3. The local perspective

# 3.1 Population

The overall population in East Sussex has grown steadily, rising from 493,000 in 2001 to 557,000 in 2019 (Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS) mid-year population estimates).

Around three quarters of the population live in urban areas (Source: 2011 Census). The main centres of population and employment are concentrated in the southern coastal strip of the county in Eastbourne, Hastings and St Leonard's, Bexhill, Newhaven, Seaford and Lewes.

The picture for East Sussex as a whole is of an ageing county. The proportion of the population aged 65 and over is forecast to rise from 26% in 2018 to 28% in 2024 and 30% by 2030 (Source: ESCC Policy Based Population Projections April 2020).

Births countywide have fallen to 4926 in 2017/18, having peaked at 5503 in 2010/11. The following chart demonstrates this. The forecast for 2018/19 is an estimate based on under one-year olds registered with general practitioners (GPs) as at 31 August 2019.

#### **East Sussex births** 6000 Source: ONS Live Birth Data (up to 2017/18) and GP Registration Data (2018/19) 5406 5329 5000 5280 5181 5149 5190 5191 5074 4925 4926 4820 4000 No. of 3000 births 2000 1000 ■ Number of Births 0 2007/08 2008/09 2009/10 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 2017/18 2018/19 Academic year of birth

## 3.2 School numbers

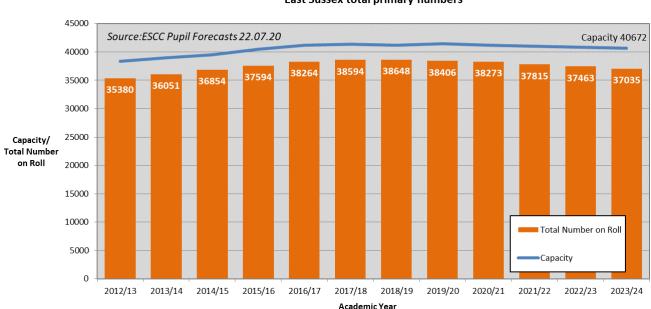
The fall in countywide births is reflected in generally falling Year R intake numbers since 2015/16. Intake numbers are forecast to remain low until at least 2023/24. The local authority's pupil forecasting model is showing numbers recovering beyond this point. However, intake forecasts beyond 2023/24 are based on demographic projections of future births rather than actual live birth or GP registration data and need to be treated with caution. Looking at previous cycles of births and reception intakes, it is very possible that we may not see a recovery in Year R numbers until the second half of the decade.

In areas of the county such as Hailsham and Bexhill, where high volumes of new housing are planned, Year R numbers may well rise sooner than in other parts of East Sussex.

#### 7000 Source: ESCC Pupil Forecasts 22.07.20 **PAN 5813** 6000 5623 5578 5509 5476 5317 5000 5310 5262 5222 5099 5001 4000 PAN/ Yr R Number on Roll 3000 2000 Year R Number on Roll 1000 Year R Published Admission Number 0 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 2017/18 2018/19 2019/20 2020/21 2021/22 2022/23 2023/24 Academic Year

East Sussex total primary Year R numbers

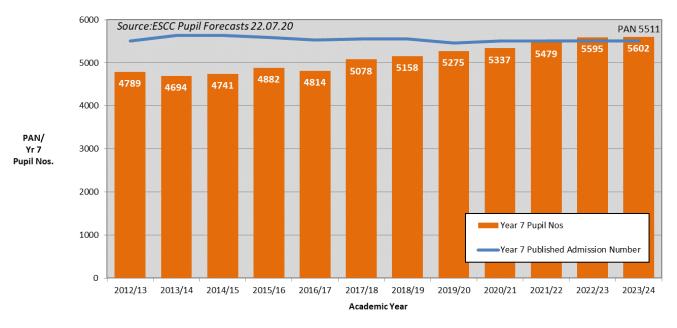
Total numbers on roll in primary schools peaked in 2018/19, and are starting to decline, currently leaving around 7% surplus places overall, although this margin will vary from area to area. 12 primary schools had surpluses of 25% or more in 2019/20.



East Sussex total primary numbers

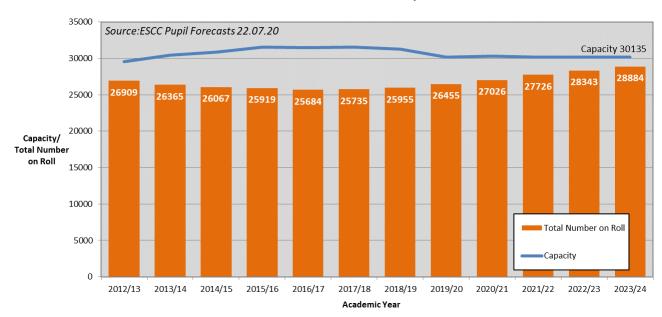
Recent high numbers in primary schools are now being reflected in rising Year 7 secondary school intakes. Year 7 numbers are predicted to peak around 2022/23 or 2023/24, with total numbers on roll in secondary schools likely to peak around 2024/25 or 2025/26.

#### East Sussex secondary Year 7 numbers



As a result of rising numbers, surplus places in secondary schools, currently at 12% countywide, are predicted to fall rapidly, meaning that by the early to middle part of the next decade, compared to currently planned capacities, there will be minimal slack in the system to alleviate the impact of the pressures from rising pupil numbers.

#### East Sussex total secondary numbers



#### 3.3 Cross-border movement

At primary school level (across all year groups) East Sussex imports around 450 children from the neighbouring authorities of Kent, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove and exports approximately 700 children to these same authorities.

At secondary school level (across all year groups) East Sussex imports approximately 700 children from the neighbouring authorities of Kent, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove and exports

approximately 1400 children to these same authorities. Kent Grammar schools represent a particular 'pull factor' for East Sussex children.

#### 3.4 Schools in East Sussex

In East Sussex on 1 September 2020 there were 174 state funded mainstream schools and 13 special schools and Alternative Provision. These range from local authority-maintained schools to academies and free schools. A breakdown of the different types of school is provided in the following table.

School Type	Type of School						
	Community	Voluntary Controlled	Voluntary Aided	Foundation	Academy	Free School	Totals
Infant (5-7)	4	1			2		7
Junior (7-11)	3				3		6
Primary (4-11) *	37	44	21	2	31		135
All-through (4-16)					1		1
All-through (4-18) *					1	1	2
Secondary (11-16)	4		1	1	11		17
Secondary (11-18)	3				3		6
Special and Alternative Provision *	1				10	2	13
Totals	52	45	22	3	62	3	187

<sup>\*</sup> Some schools include nursery provision and therefore have age ranges starting at 2 or 3.

Of the 65 academies and free schools, 59 are part of a multi-academy trust while 6 are stand-alone academies.

13 of the 22 voluntary aided schools in East Sussex are Church of England, one is Church of England/Methodist and eight are Catholic.

There are 13 federations in East Sussex made up of 30 primary schools.

Reflecting that East Sussex is a mix of rural and urban areas, 67 of the 135 primary schools in the county (50%) are classified as rural. Reflecting that East Sussex is a mix of rural and urban areas, 67 of the 135 primary schools in the county (49.6%) are classified as rural. The 13 linked infant and junior schools are all located in urban areas, mainly Eastbourne.

For more information on where schools are located in the county please refer to the <u>admissions</u> <u>booklet</u>.

# 4. Guiding principles to school organisation

## 4.1 Introduction

This chapter sets out the local authority's approach to school organisation to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand and to support school leadership teams and governing boards to provide a high-quality education for all their pupils.

The guiding principles underlying our approach are:

- To ensure that schools are of the right size and in the right location to meet local demand for places.
- To ensure that school provision is sustainable in all parts of the county and is well placed to deliver a high-quality education that meets the needs of their local community and makes best use of public funding.
- Where there is sustained evidence that a school is failing to meet the needs of its local community and/or to deliver improved outcomes and/or is not financially viable, to explore a range of partnership solutions where appropriate e.g. collaborations, federations, amalgamations and multi-academy trusts (MATs) or, finally, to consult on closure.
- To support the federation or amalgamation of linked infant and junior schools. The local authority recognises the benefit of continuous provision from early years to the end of Key Stage 2 (KS2), the benefit this brings to staff and the reduction in vacancies when a headteacher leaves at a time of a national recruitment crisis.
- To ensure any change to school organisation impacts positively on school performance and on the life chances of children; to support governing boards to review, on an annual basis, their organisational and leadership arrangements and to plan for building leadership capacity.
- To develop an approach to school organisation review that enables stakeholders to engage fully and effectively in the process.

# 4.2 School planning areas

The county of East Sussex is divided into five boroughs and districts (local planning authorities). Within these areas there are:

- 18 primary planning areas which closely reflect school admissions areas. There is a planning area for each town in East Sussex. For the purposes of the plan, rural primary schools (which tend to be single school admission areas) have been grouped together under the headings of 'Rural Lewes', 'Rural Rother' and 'Rural Wealden'.
- 17 secondary planning areas which closely reflect school admissions areas. Many secondary school admissions areas relate to a single school. In Eastbourne, where the single school boundaries are complex and overlapping, six secondary schools (including two all-through schools) have been grouped together for school place planning purposes. Three secondary schools make up the Hastings Borough place planning area. The Bexhill planning area contains two schools, one of which (a Catholic Aided school) has a much wider catchment area than the town.

We work closely with the five local planning authorities in the production of their Local Plan documents. This planning process identifies the requirement for additional school places arising from new housing development. It is anticipated that, through the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL), new housing development will contribute a percentage of the funding required to provide additional school places.

# 4.3 Pupil forecasting

In producing forecasts of future demand, we take into account factors such as births, trend data, parental preference, housing growth and existing and planned capacity as well as patterns of inward and outward migration. The forecasts within this document provide a comprehensive

account of predicted future trends in numbers and the areas of the county where pressures on places are most likely to occur. However, pupil forecasting is complex and, as a result, is not an exact science. For example, it is not always possible to predict changes in local demand for school places owing to swings in parental preference, changing migration patterns or revisions to planned local housing targets. In consequence, the forecasts contained in this document are likely to be subject to a margin of error and may be revised in subsequent updates of the plan. Pupil forecasts are updated annually, and exceptions identified in order to manage the risk of under/over-supply of school places.

It is important to note that while the local authority will seek to meet parental preference, our projections are primarily concerned with ensuring we have sufficient places in a given area. It may be the case that some schools in an area that are consistently oversubscribed give the impression that there is a shortage of places when this is not the case overall as other schools in that area have capacity. The principal factor for place planning is the number of places in an area compared to the number of children requiring a place and it is this that the local authority seeks to predict and respond to.

As evidenced in the DfE's 2019 local authority school places scorecard, published in June 2020, our primary pupil forecasts are accurate to +0% one year ahead and +3.9% three years ahead. Our secondary pupil forecasts are accurate to +0.7% one year ahead and +4.3% three years ahead. This is regarded as good performance. While we have a track record of accurate forecasting, derived from sound methodology and our forecasts generally compare well to other local authorities, they are forecasts not guarantees.

# 4.4 Creating new places

When the local authority identifies a shortfall of capacity it will consider providing additional school places, either through the expansion of existing schools or through commissioning new provision. The local authority welcomes proposals from existing schools to expand and from interested parties to establish new provision in areas of pressure.

The local authority will consult with key stakeholders when developing proposals to provide new places. When considering proposals for adding new places to meet demand the local authority will take account of the following principles:

- prioritise the expansion of good and outstanding schools
- consider the pattern of parental preference and local demand for places
- consider the diversity of provision
- consider transport patterns to reduce travel times to schools wherever possible
- · consider safe routes to schools
- where there is demand for both school and early years places, the local authority will consider providing additional accommodation designed to ensure a seamless transition between nursery and Year R
- support new schools (including academies and free schools) where their location will help relieve pressure on places and / or increase parental preference and raise outcomes
- where possible, only enlarge schools where it creates or sustains round forms of entry as the preferred model of organisation
- value for money.

The local authority recognises that at times some of these principles might be incompatible with each other and therefore applied in a priority order appropriate to the context and circumstances.

Whilst it would be desirable for every child to be educated in permanent school buildings, the local authority must be certain there is a long term need before we provide additional permanent school places. This is to ensure we do not add surplus capacity to the system which may then create viability issues in times of low pupil numbers. If the need is considered short term, the

local authority will generally use temporary classrooms which provide a valuable and flexible resource and are an appropriate way of providing school places for a short period of time.

# 4.5 Surplus places

Schools operate most efficiently and effectively when full or nearly full. To this end the local authority seeks to keep the number of surplus places (the number of places in schools that are unfilled) to a minimum. However, it is generally accepted that not all unfilled places in a school are surplus places, but that a small margin of surplus capacity is often allowed to facilitate parental preference, to take account of the fact that schools with available places may not always be in the part of a planning area where the demand is, and to allow for a degree of error in the forecasts.

A school is generally considered to be full when it has less than 5% of its places unfilled. This is in line with the National Audit Office report on Capital Funding for new school places published in 2013, where it states:

"It is considered that on average 5 per cent was the bare minimum needed for authorities to meet their statutory duty with operational flexibility, while enabling parents to have some choice of schools".

In larger towns around one form of entry (30 intake places) is allowed while in other areas around half a form of entry (15 intake places) is allowed although margins vary depending on specific forecasts, capacities and circumstances. This figure is deemed to give the appropriate amount of flexibility in an area and is set against the need to ensure the efficient use of resources. In practice, the number of surplus places planned for in an area will also take account of local circumstances.

# 4.6 School leadership

School leadership teams and governing boards face increasing pressures to maintain the efficient organisation and effective leadership of their schools, particularly of rural primary schools, with regard to:

- recruiting headteachers
- developing alternative models of school leadership
- · creating effective partnerships between schools.

Within this challenging context, building leadership capacity and succession planning is an issue that must be part of any governing board's strategic planning. The local authority works with governing boards to develop strategies to build capacity and to plan well in advance for strong, sustainable future leadership of a school. It is vital that this is approached and managed in a forward thinking and proactive manner and not in response to the resignation or retirement of a headteacher.

The local authority supports governing boards to take a strategic approach to the challenge of developing a model of leadership that will suit their school in the future. This includes exploration of the suitability of executive headteacher arrangements as part of a collaboration, federation or Multi-academy trust (MAT).

Academisation has not progressed as quickly in the primary sector as the local authority had envisaged. In undertaking their due diligence, academy trusts, both local and national, find some small schools to be financially unviable or too isolated to be included in their trust.

Across East Sussex, a range of models of school organisation and leadership and management exist, including co-leadership and executive leadership. 30 schools in East Sussex are part of a collaboration or federation arrangement. Although federations are recognised as a way of enabling smaller schools to work more formally in partnerships to improve the quality of provision, raise standards and share costs, given their size there does need to be a sufficient number of schools involved in such arrangements and significant structural changes made to achieve savings. This

can take some time to realise. A number of existing federations are already facing financial pressures and have had to identify new ways to address these challenges.

# 4.7 School organisation reviews

An increasing number of primary schools are facing financial challenges and schools' budgets are under considerable pressure. The impact of these financial challenges is often more acute in small rural schools due to the characteristics of rural communities; low birth rates and in-area demand for places which can vary noticeably from one year to another. Fluctuating pupil numbers are difficult to manage and can lead to irregular class sizes and inefficient staff to pupil ratios. A number of rural schools have, or are predicted to have, significant surplus places (25% or more). Smaller schools tend to have a higher proportion of their budget allocated to fixed costs than larger schools and, as such, have less flexibility to respond to cost pressures, unexpected events, and deficit recovery.

The DfE intends to implement a National Funding Formula (NFF). In recent years, the local authority has been working towards aligning the East Sussex Funding Formula to that of the NFF and it is now at the stage where it closely mirrors what the NFF will be when it is formally implemented. The expectation is that there will still be some funding protection for schools, which will include a Minimum Funding Guarantee and a lump sum for each school. Nonetheless, it is likely that more small schools will experience increasing financial pressures in the future. All schools need to consider more efficient organisational structures and operations, to secure reductions in overall costs whilst continually improving school performance; this involves reviewing class organisation, leadership, management and staffing structures and partnership options. The DfE published a research report in March 2019 *Running Small Schools Efficiently*. Many of the suggestions in this report are already being implemented and considered by schools in East Sussex. The Church of England Education Office published a report in March 2018 called *Embracing Change: Rural and Small Schools*, which also considers the challenges faced by small rural schools.

The local authority has a duty to consider the organisation of school provision to create a sustainable network of schools in rural areas; rationalisation of provision can benefit other schools by reducing surplus places in an area so that the remaining schools can operate more efficiently with more certainty over their pupil numbers.

To support this, the local authority regularly reviews every primary school's context drawing on a range of information including pupil numbers, finance, pupil performance, leadership arrangements and succession planning. The local authority also conducts regular reviews of specific geographical areas drawing on the same information. The reviews will reach a view about the effectiveness of arrangements for the organisation and management of primary schools across the county and at individual school level. The outcome of the review could lead to the identification of primary schools where support should be provided for governors to explore issues specific to the organisation and leadership challenges in their school.

Key issues that will be considered in relation to individual school's contexts include:

- succession planning where there is a current headteacher vacancy or possible vacancy within the next two years
- year groups with fewer than ten pupils
- classes made up of three or more year groups
- total pupil numbers of fewer than 80 pupils, or a surplus of more than 25% for three or more years
- a declining trend in the level of parental preferences
- a low birth rate and in-area demand for places
- a two-year declining trend of pupil performance, as measured by attainment and progress data
- evidence of financial difficulties being experienced by the school.

In addition to the ongoing review process, there will be times when the local authority wishes to conduct a more detailed review of specific school/s and/or a specific geographical area. This review could be conducted for any school/s in which there is significant change in circumstances at any time of the year that could impact on the efficiency and effectiveness of the school/s. Examples of significant change in circumstances include:

- the position of a headteacher becomes unexpectedly vacant
- a school is placed in an Ofsted category of concern of serious weaknesses or special measures
- a school has remained in an Ofsted category of requires improvement for the last two inspections
- a school becomes eligible for intervention by the local authority
- a school has a pre-existing licensed budget deficit and is unable to create a viable recovery plan
- an organisation wishing to set up an academy or a free school indicates an interest in a specific locality.

The outcomes of the review of schools would be assessed and schools identified for further analysis and discussion with the governing board. Many schools in East Sussex are church schools, being voluntary controlled or voluntary aided, and therefore the Diocese of Chichester and the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton would be fully involved in the whole review process.

The options for consideration would be prepared and considered at a meeting with the governing board/s to explore the key issues and agree a course of further action; a personalised programme of support would be drawn up to take developments forward.

By placing the focus on discussion and planning in a pro-active manner there will be better opportunities to explore and develop a range of options, time to build the capacity required to work differently, time to consult and time to implement change.

Where the result of the review and discussions with a governing board necessitate a solution requiring a formal change of school organisation (for example, amalgamation, federation or closure), the local community would be consulted together with other key stakeholders. Where this is the case, consultation will comply with statutory requirements contained in, but not limited to, the Education and Inspections Act 2006, the School Governance (Federation) Regulations 2007, the Education Act 2011 and the School Organisation Regulations (2013). Legislation in this area is subject to regular review by government.

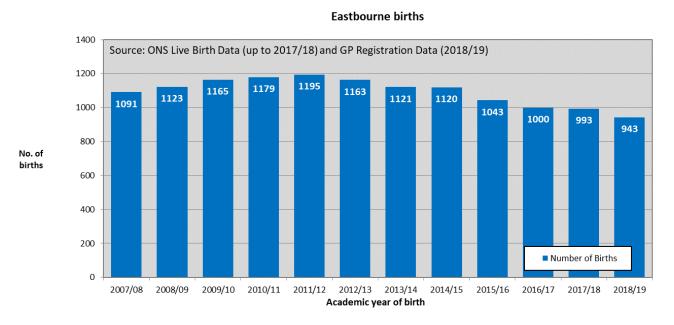
The following chapters describe the current circumstances in each planning area. They set out how we expect pupil numbers to change during the plan period and what action the local authority is planning to take to address any shortfalls or surpluses in capacity or organisational change. The information is subject to revision and review as new data (for example, on live births) becomes available or Borough and District housing targets and trajectories are amended.

# 5. Eastbourne Borough

# 5.1 Schools in Eastbourne Borough

In Eastbourne there are 19 primary schools, two all-through schools (primary and secondary) and four secondary schools. Of the 19 primary schools, six are infant schools and five are junior schools. Four primary schools have nursery provision.

# 5.2 Births in Eastbourne Borough



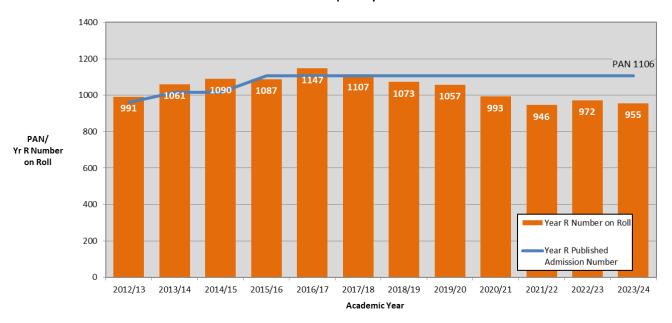
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Eastbourne continue to fall, with the estimated 2018/19 figure of 943 21% lower than in the peak year of 2011/12 (1195).

# 5.3 Housing plans in Eastbourne Borough

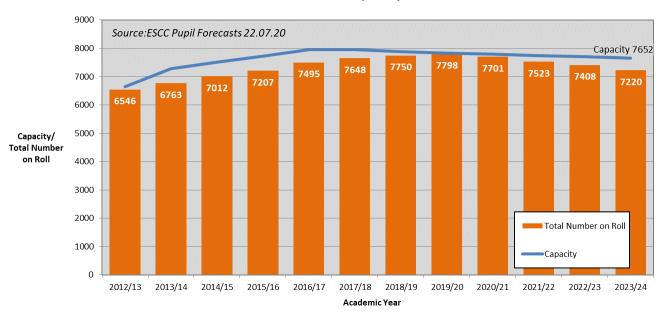
As at January 2020 Eastbourne Borough Council planned for approximately 5000 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2026/27, of which an estimated 2000 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

# 5.4 Primary places in Eastbourne Borough

#### Eastbourne primary Year R numbers



#### Eastbourne total primary numbers



In line with the falling birth rate in Eastbourne, we anticipate Year R numbers in the town to generally fall away at least until the middle of the decade. The Year R intake for 2021/22 could be particularly low. By 2023/24 surplus Year R capacity in the town could reach 13%.

Reflecting the falling Year R intakes, numbers on roll across schools in the town are expected to fall from an expected peak of just under 7800 in 2019/20 to just over 7200 in 2023/24, a fall of approximately 600 (8%). Surplus places overall could reach 5% by the end of the plan period.

We will monitor the surplus capacity in the town closely and, working with schools, take action to reduce it to a more manageable level if appropriate.

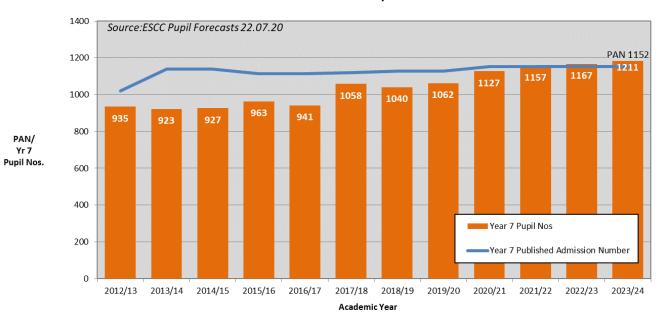
A bulge class is moving from St Andrew's CE Infant School into Year 3 at Tollgate Community Junior School in 2020/21.

Many Eastbourne pupils occupy places in the surrounding schools such as Polegate School, Willingdon Primary School, Hankham Primary School, Pevensey and Westham CE Primary School and Stone Cross School.

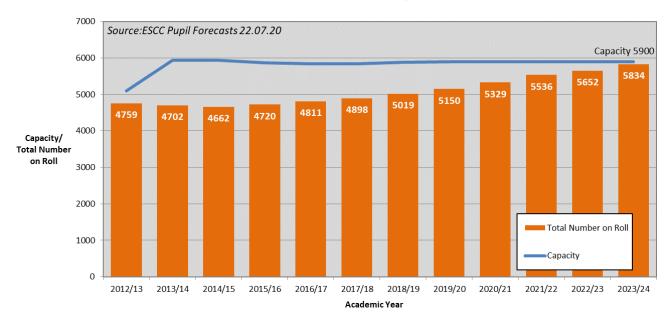
All these schools are full or close to full. High levels of new housing (recent and planned) at Polegate and Stone Cross will put additional pressure on places at these schools. The permanent expansion of Polegate School from two forms of entry to three forms of entry with effect from 2019/20 (chapter 19) should help to alleviate pressures. Nevertheless, rising in-area numbers at Stone Cross and Hankham in particular is likely to result in some demand from Eastbourne children being redirected by the school admissions system into the town.

# 5.5 Secondary places in Eastbourne Borough

#### Eastbourne secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Eastbourne total secondary numbers



Based on the numbers coming through primary schools, intakes into Year 7 are forecast to rise. Numbers are likely to be tight each year until 2026/27, with potential shortfalls against the PAN of 1152 predicted for 2023/24 (up to two forms of entry) and potentially 2021/22, 2022/23 and 2024/25 (up to one form of entry). By the middle of the decade there are likely to be few, if any, spare places in the town.

In line with larger Year 7 intakes, total secondary numbers in schools in the town have been rising and are expected to reach just over 5,800 by the end of the plan period, a rise of approximately 680 or 13% on 2019/20 figures.

We will work closely with all schools in the Eastbourne area to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand and agree strategies for dealing with any shortfalls at the appropriate time as actual demand becomes clearer.

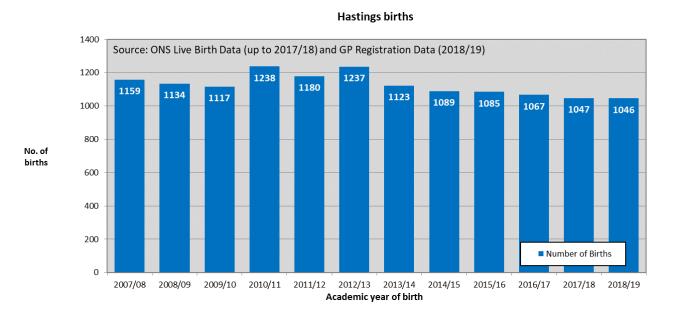
The Eastbourne area sees outflows of catholic pupils to St Richard's Catholic College in Bexhill (see chapter 12) and some inflows from Bexhill and Hailsham (see chapter 17). There are also significant inflows from and outflows to Willingdon Community School. Please refer to chapter 19.

# 6. Hastings Borough

# 6.1 Schools in Hastings Borough

There are 18 primary schools in Hastings and three secondary schools. Of the 18 primary schools, one is an infant school and one is a junior school. Nine of the primary schools have nursery provision. One secondary school has sixth form provision.

# 6.2 Births in Hastings Borough



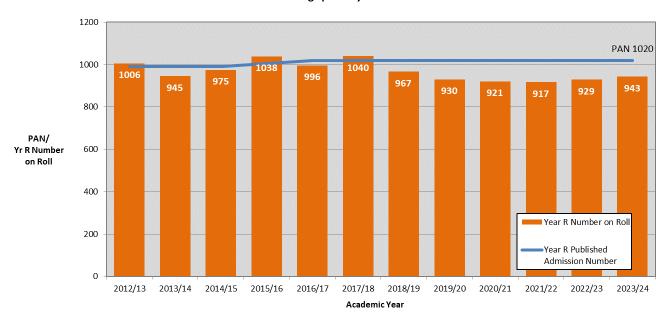
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Hastings have been falling since 2012/13, with the estimated figure for 2018/19 (1046) approximately 190 (15%) lower.

# 6.3 Housing plans in Hastings Borough

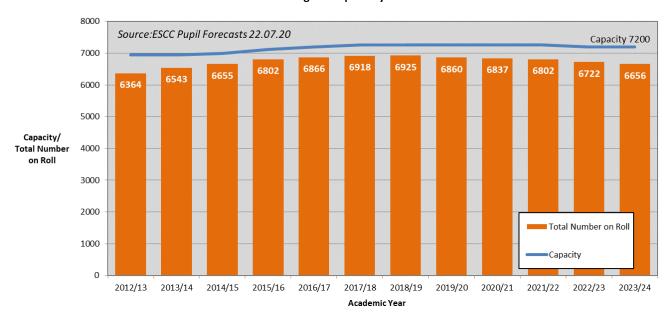
As at January 2020 Hastings Borough Council planned for approximately 3400 to 4000 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2027/28, of which an estimated 2400 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

# 6.4 Primary places in Hastings Borough

#### **Hastings primary Year R numbers**



#### Hastings total primary numbers



Based on live birth and GP registration data, we can be fairly confident that Year R intake numbers in Hastings Borough will remain well below the current PAN over the next four years. By 2023/24 surplus Year R capacity in the town could reach 7%.

Numbers on roll in Hastings primary schools peaked at 6,925 in 2018/19. By the end of the plan period numbers are expected to have fallen by approximately 270, or 4%. Surplus places overall could reach 7% by the end of the plan period.

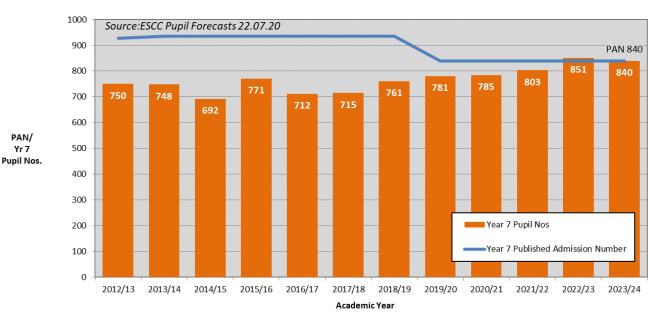
We are monitoring the surplus capacity in the town and are working closely with schools to take action to reduce it to a more manageable level if appropriate.

Many Hastings pupils attend surrounding primary schools including Battle and Langton CE Primary School, Brede Primary School, Crowhurst CE Primary School, Guestling Bradshaw CE Primary School, Icklesham CE Primary School, Netherfield CE Primary School, Sedlescombe CE Primary

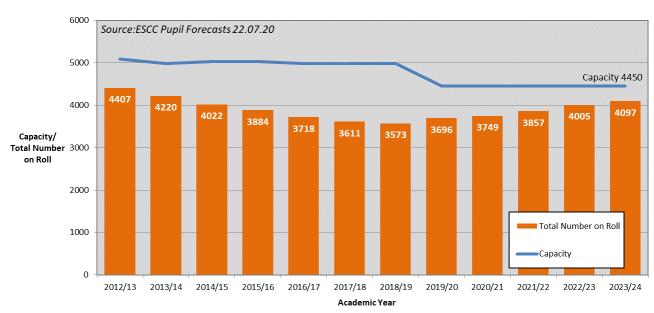
School and Westfield School. Nearly all these schools are full or close to full. However, going forward lower levels of demand from Hastings may see numbers in some of these surrounding schools falling.

# 6.5 Secondary places in Hastings Borough

#### Hastings secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Hastings total secondary numbers



Demand for Year 7 places is rising, linked to higher numbers coming through primary schools. The decision by Bexhill Academy to reduce its PAN from 330 to 300 from 2021/22 (see chapter 12), is likely to lead to significantly fewer children from Hastings gaining admission to the school in certain years, with a knock-on increase in demand for places in Hastings schools.

This, together with merger in 2019 of ARK Helenswood and ARK William Parker academies into ARK Alexandra Academy, which reduced the combined PAN in Hastings schools to 840, is likely to mean that Year 7 numbers will be tight in the period 2022/23 to 2024/25. The combined PAN is

currently only forecast to be exceeded in 2022/23 but it is possible that shortfalls in the region of one form of entry could occur in all three of these years. If so, we will work with the three Hastings schools to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand.

Secondary numbers on roll are expected to rise from a low of 3,573 in 2018/19 to just under 4100 in 2023/24, an increase of approximately 520, or 14%.

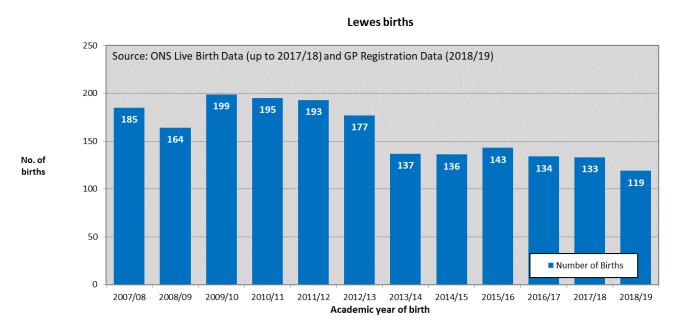
Significant numbers of Hastings pupils seek places in the surrounding schools including: Claverham Community College, Robertsbridge Community College, Rye College, Bexhill Academy and St Richard's Catholic College. The forecasts assume that many Hastings children will continue to take up places in these schools. Should this trend reduce, over the period 2022/23 to 2024/25, shortfalls in relation to the PAN of 840 may be more pronounced than currently predicted.

# 7. Lewes

# 7.1 Schools in Lewes

There are five primary schools in Lewes and one secondary school. Two of the primary schools have nursery provision.

# 7.2 Births in Lewes



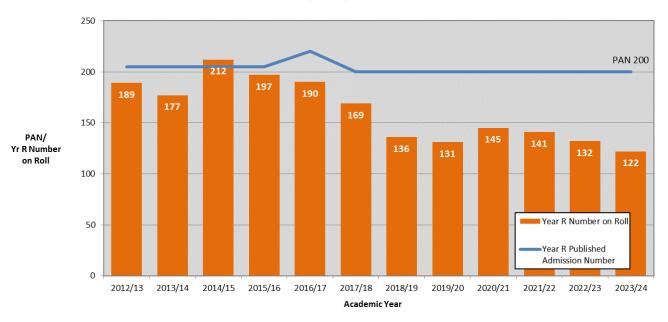
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Lewes have been falling since 2009/10. Since 2013/14 births in the town have been particularly low.

# 7.3 Housing plans in Lewes

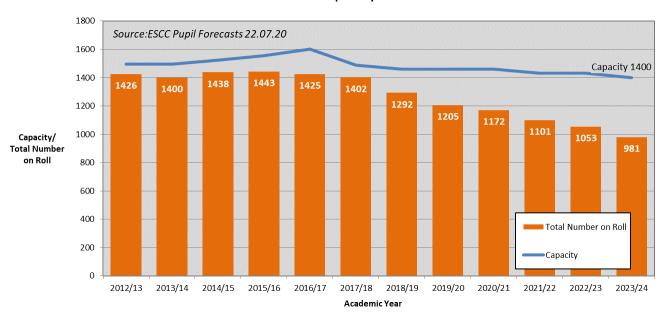
As at February 2020 Lewes District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority planned for approximately 1100 new dwellings in the town over the Lewes District local plan period to 2029/30, of which an estimated 800 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

# 7.4 Primary places in Lewes

#### Lewes primary Year R numbers



#### Lewes total primary numbers



Based on birth and GP registration data, we expect Year R numbers in the town to remain very low until at least 2023/24. This will lead to a rising number of surplus places. Surplus places could reach 30% by 2023/24.

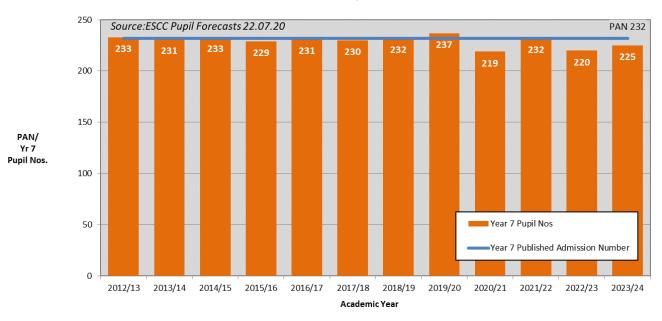
In the longer term, despite 800 new homes being planned for the period to 2029/30, the demographic based projections of future births are indicating there will be sufficient Year R places available to meet demand. However, it is possible that, if there is a general upswing in births from the turn of the decade, the added impact of the new housing could lead to Year R numbers in the town being significantly higher in the latter half of the decade than the 150-160 the forecasting model is currently showing.

The local authority continues to work with local headteachers to manage the declining pupil numbers in the town, which is beginning to impact on individual schools.

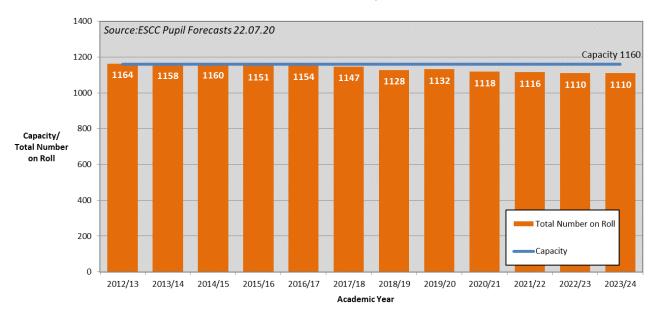
Some children from Lewes take up places in surrounding rural schools, notably Iford and Kingston CE Primary School and Hamsey Community Primary School.

# 7.5 Secondary places in Lewes

#### Lewes secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Lewes total secondary numbers



Academic year 2021/22 is likely to see a high number of Year 7 children living in the area, with around 250 in-area children estimated to require a mainstream state-funded school place. However, the school should be able to keep to its PAN of 232 provided outflows from the area to surrounding schools are maintained and the school admissions system is able to restrict demand from out of area, including allocations to children from Brighton and Hove.

Longer term will see significantly smaller cohorts coming through primary schools in Lewes. There is unlikely to be high enough demand coming out of Brighton and Hove to bridge the gap between

the demand from East Sussex children and Priory's PAN so, in consequence, much lower Year 7 intakes at Priory School are forecast in the middle and latter parts of the decade.

Part of Priory's School's admissions area is a joint admissions area with that of Kings Academy Ringmer. In recent years the school has taken around 50 children from out of area, notably Ringmer, Chailey, Newhaven and Brighton and Hove, while a similar number of in-area children have taken up places at other schools, notably Kings Academy Ringmer, Chailey School and out of county Catholic schools.

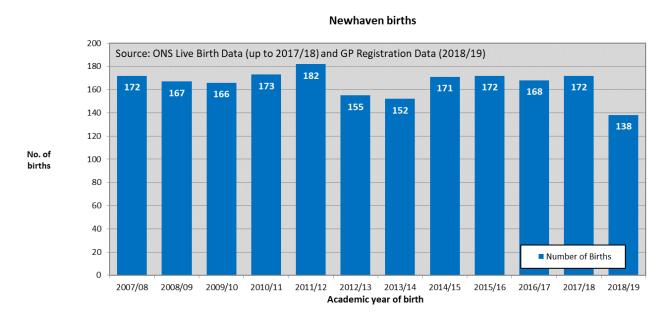
Although the village of Ditchling is in a joint admissions area served by Priory School and Chailey School, traditionally children from that village have attended Downlands Community School in Hassocks, as part of long-standing admissions agreement with West Sussex County Council.

# 8. Newhaven

# 8.1 Schools in Newhaven

There are four primary schools in Newhaven and one secondary school. Three of the four primary schools have nursery provision.

#### 8.2 Births in Newhaven



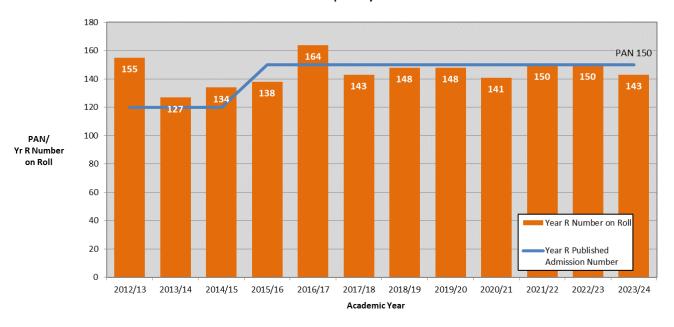
Data from the ONS and GP Registrations shows that, after a period of fairly consistent births year-on-year, estimated births in 2018/19 were much lower than at any time in the last 12 years. At this stage we do not know if this is a blip or the start of a few years of lower births in the town.

# 8.3 Housing plans in Newhaven

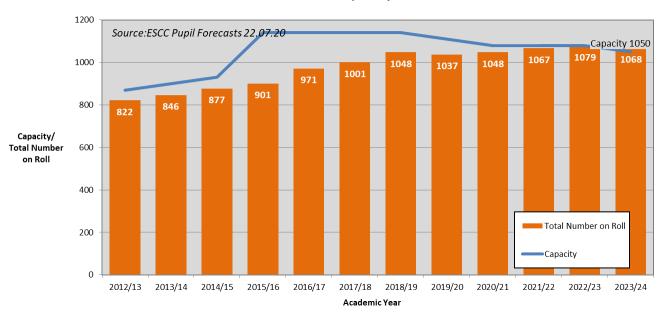
As at February 2020 Lewes District Council planned for approximately 2000 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2029/30, of which an estimated 1700 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

# 8.4 Primary places in Newhaven

#### Newhaven primary Year R numbers



#### Newhaven total primary numbers



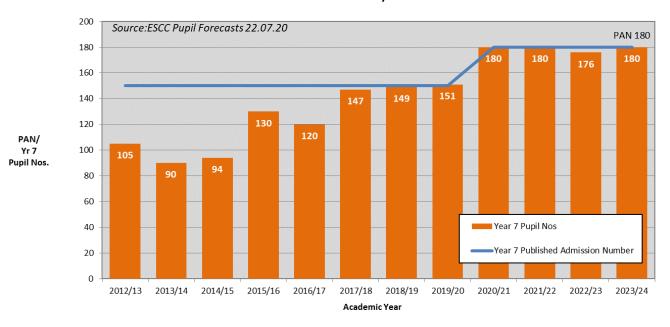
Live birth and GP registration data indicate that numbers of in-area children are likely to be high in 2021/22 and 2022/23. If Year R numbers are to keep to 150, there will need to be relatively high outflows of children to other areas. In some cases, this may entail the school admissions system directing some Newhaven children to surrounding schools.

With 1700 units of new housing planned for the town in the period to 2029/30, a shortfall of up to one form of entry may emerge in the second half of the decade. The local authority will monitor the situation over the coming years and, if necessary, will work with local schools at the appropriate time to agree a strategy for addressing any shortfall.

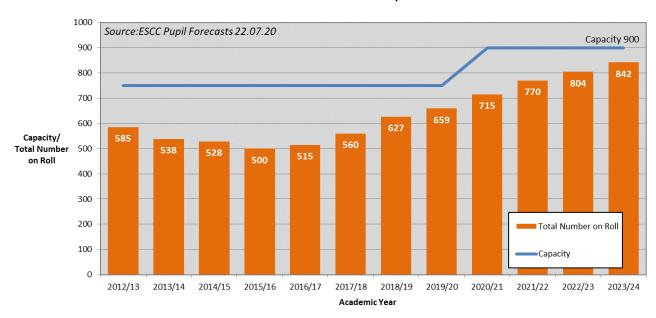
A number of Newhaven pupils attend Iford and Kingston CE Primary School and primary schools in Seaford. If Newhaven schools are to keep to their PAN, it may require the utilisation of spare capacity in Seaford, Iford and Kingston and Peacehaven schools and this may entail, in some cases, the school admissions system directing Newhaven children to these schools.

# 8.5 Secondary places in Newhaven

#### Newhaven secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Newhaven total secondary numbers



Numbers coming through Newhaven primary schools are rising and 1700 units of new housing are planned for Newhaven in the period to 2029/30. Both these factors are reflected in the forecast intakes for 2020/21 onwards and an expansion of Seahaven Academy's PAN to 180 from the same time. The project to expand Seahaven Academy completed in summer 2020 and increased capacity at the school from 750 places to 900 places.

As Seahaven Academy's school admissions area also includes the neighbouring town of Peacehaven (see chapter 9) it is also useful to look at pressures across the two towns. Based on the new combined PAN of 360, the latest forecasts point to an overall shortage of places of one form of entry in 2021/22 and up to two forms of entry in 2023/24. However, numbers are tight, and shortfalls could emerge in any of the years going forward to 2025/26.

Whether shortfalls emerge, and the extent of these shortfalls, will depend on actual levels of outflows from Seahaven Academy to Priory School in Lewes and from Peacehaven to schools in Brighton and Hove, notably Longhill High School.

The local authority will continue to work with Seahaven Academy and Peacehaven Community School to agree further strategies beyond the recent expansion of Seahaven Academy, as required, to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand.

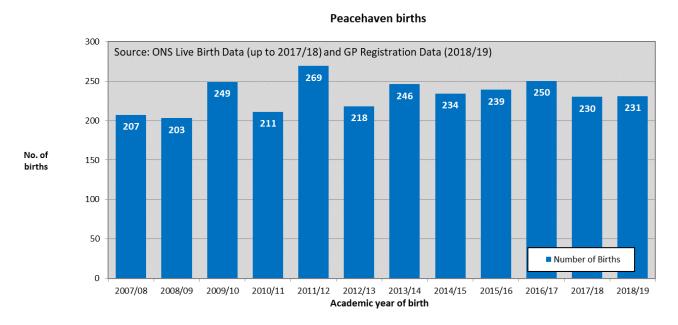
The school currently has a high number of surplus places, but these are forecast to reduce rapidly with the higher Year 7 intakes coming through.

# 9. Peacehaven

# 9.1 Schools in Peacehaven

There are three primary schools in Peacehaven, all of which have nursery provision. There is one secondary school.

# 9.2 Births in Peacehaven



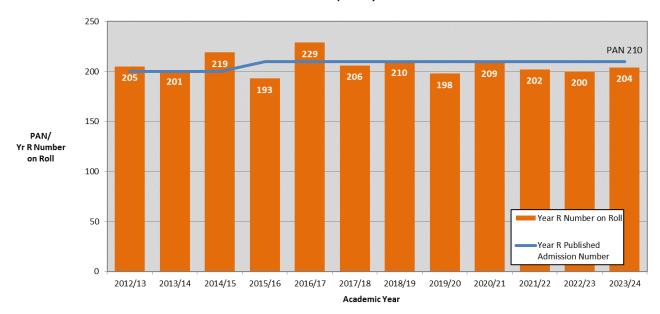
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Peacehaven have been relatively stable over the last five years.

# 9.3 Housing plans in Peacehaven

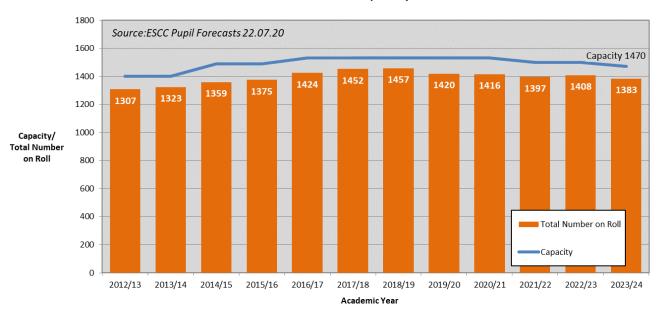
As at February 2020 Lewes District Council planned for approximately 1500 new dwellings in the Peacehaven and Telscombe area over the local plan period to 2029/30, of which an estimated 900 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

# 9.4 Primary places in Peacehaven

#### Peacehaven primary Year R numbers



#### Peacehaven total primary numbers

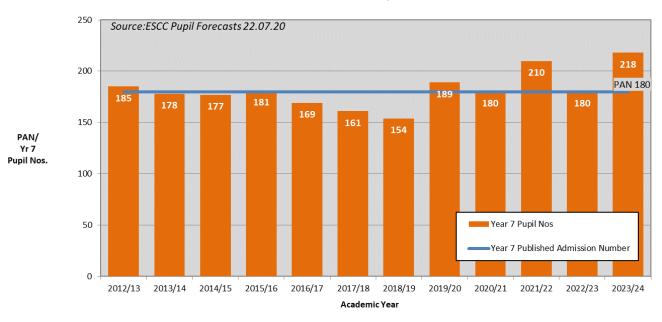


Live birth and GP data and, for the longer term, demographic projections indicate that going forward Year R numbers in Peacehaven should keep within the PAN of 210 for the foreseeable future.

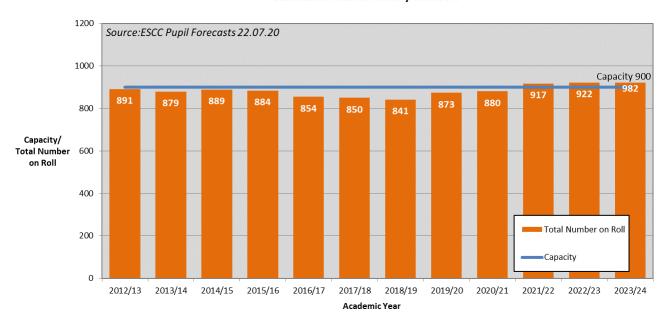
Saltdean Primary School in neighbouring Brighton and Hove is traditionally the school of preference for pupils in the Peacehaven primary school planning area who live in East Saltdean, on the East Sussex side of the border. Traditionally around 20 - 30 East Sussex children per year group obtain a place at Saltdean Primary. In recent years the school expanded by a form of entry, meaning that East Sussex children who require a place at the school generally get in. Additionally, a few Peacehaven area children attend St Margaret's CE Primary School and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School in nearby Rottingdean (again both in Brighton and Hove) and Annecy Catholic Primary School in Seaford.

# 9.5 Secondary places in Peacehaven

#### Peacehaven secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Peacehaven total secondary numbers



Numbers coming through Peacehaven primary schools are rising. In 2019/20 Peacehaven Community School agreed to admit numbers over PAN. The above tables show further shortfalls of Year 7 places emerging at the school in 2021/22 and 2023/24.

As the Seahaven Academy school admissions area also includes the neighbouring town of Peacehaven (see chapter 8) it is also useful to look at pressures across the two towns. Based on the new combined PAN of 360, the latest forecasts point to an overall shortage of places of one form of entry 2021/22 and up to two forms of entry in 2023/24. However, numbers are tight, and shortfalls could emerge in any of the years going forward to 2025/26.

Whether shortfalls emerge, and the extent of these shortfalls, will depend on actual levels of outflows from Seahaven Academy School to Priory School in Lewes and from Peacehaven Community School to schools in Brighton and Hove, notably Longhill High School.

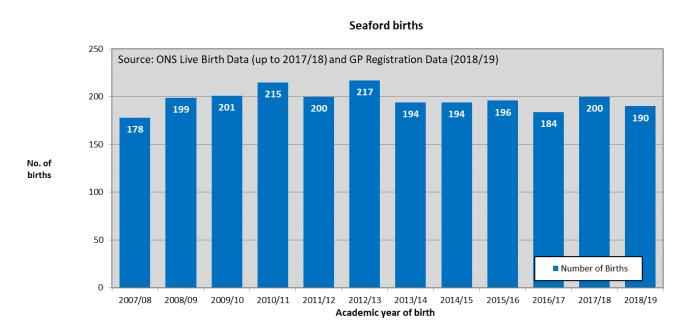
The local authority will continue to work with Seahaven Academy and Peacehaven Community School to agree further strategies beyond the recent expansion of Seahaven Academy, as required, to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand.

# 10. Seaford

# 10.1 Schools in Seaford

There are four primary schools in Seaford and one secondary school with a sixth form.

#### 10.2 Births in Seaford



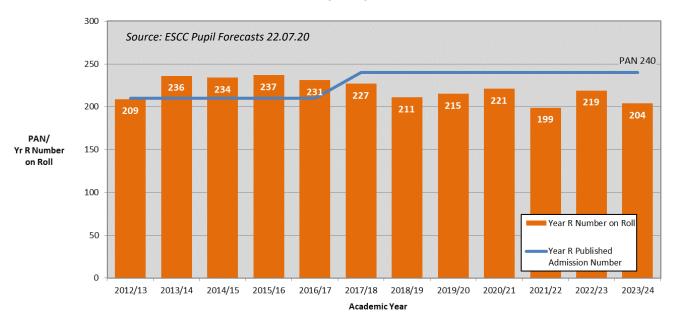
Data from the ONS and GP registration data shows that births in Seaford have largely remained fairly static over the last six years.

# 10.3 Housing plans in Seaford

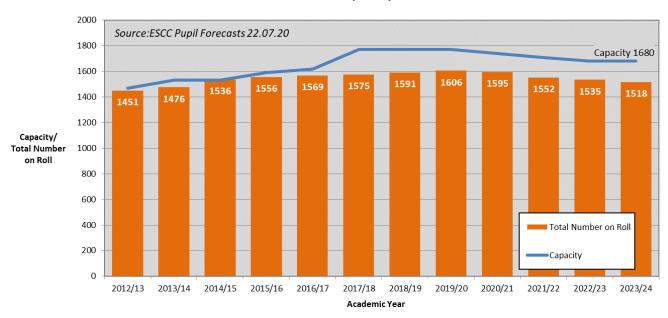
As at February 2020 Lewes District Council planned for approximately 900 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2029/30, of which an estimated 500 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

## 10.4 Primary places in Seaford

### Seaford primary Year R numbers



### Seaford total primary numbers



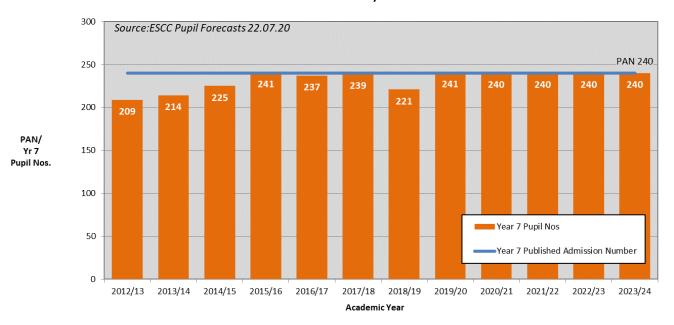
Birth and GP data suggest Year R intake numbers for 2021/22 and 2023/24 may fall below 210. The 2022/23 intake is predicted to be similar to the 2020/21 intake at around 220.

Longer term, despite the relatively modest levels of new housing planned for the town, demographic projections of future births suggest numbers rising to around 230.

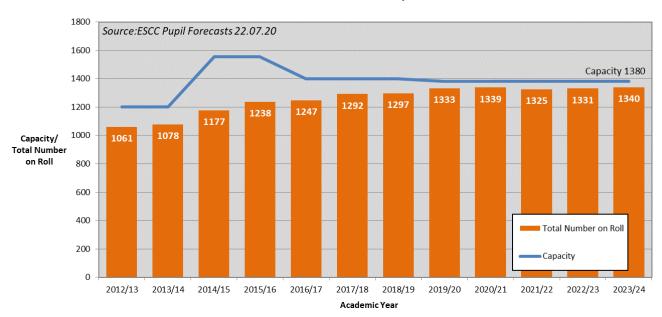
Annecy Catholic Primary School takes a number of its pupils from Newhaven and Peacehaven primary school areas.

## 10.5 Secondary places in Seaford

#### Seaford secondary Year 7 numbers



### Seaford total secondary numbers



In most recent years Seaford Head Academy has taken significant numbers of Year 7 pupils from Newhaven and Peacehaven secondary school planning areas.

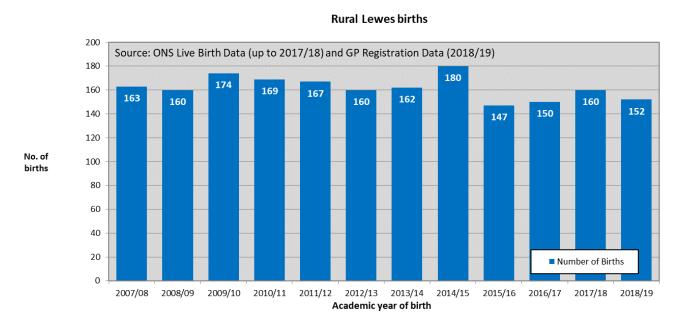
It is currently forecast that future Year 7 intakes to Seaford Head Academy can be kept to its PAN of 240. However, this will require in a number of years the school admissions system redirecting non-priority out of area applicants to Seahaven Academy (Newhaven) and Peacehaven Community School, thereby increasing pupil number pressures in those areas.

## 11. Rural Lewes

### 11.1 Schools in Rural Lewes

There are ten primary schools in Rural Lewes and two secondary schools. Two of the ten primary schools have nursery provision.

### 11.2 Births in Rural Lewes



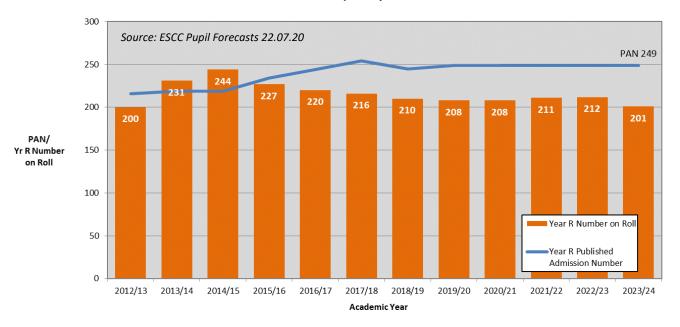
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Rural Lewes have fallen since the peak year of 2014/15, but they remain fairly steady.

## 11.3 Housing plans in Rural Lewes

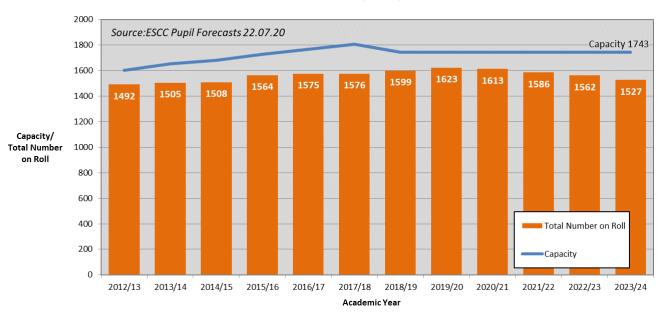
As at February 2020 Lewes District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority planned for approximately 1700 new dwellings across the rural areas of the district over the Lewes District local plan period to 2029/30. Of this, an estimated 900 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period of which approximately 300 are in Ringmer Parish and around 100 each are in Chailey and Wivelsfield Parishes.

## 11.4 Primary places in Rural Lewes

#### Rural Lewes primary Year R numbers



#### Rural Lewes total primary numbers



Intake numbers in individual rural schools can fluctuate significantly from year to year and normally schools can organise to accommodate these temporary bulges.

Despite its expansion to one form of entry in 2017/18, Wivelsfield Primary School is already full, and recent and planned new housing at Wivelsfield Green and either side of the East Sussex / West Sussex border in Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill is likely to place additional pressure on places at the school going forward. However, owing to in-area pressures, few West Sussex children are likely to gain admission to Wivelsfield Primary School.

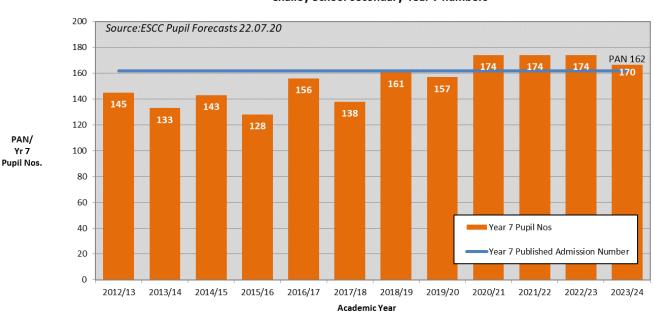
Even with the school admissions restricting inflows of pupils from out of area it will be a challenge to keep the school within PAN over the next few years. In 2022/23, a shortfall of places may be unavoidable.

A substantial amount of the recent and planned housing development in Wivelsfield Parish is on the fringes of Burgess Hill and Haywards Heath. Many of the children living in these developments are expected to seek admission to West Sussex schools and this will be necessary if Wivelsfield Primary School is to keep to its PAN. The local authority is in regular contact with West Sussex County Council about its plans for education provision on the West Sussex side of the border and understands a new primary school is proposed on the edge of Haywards Heath from September 2023 to meet the expected demand for places.

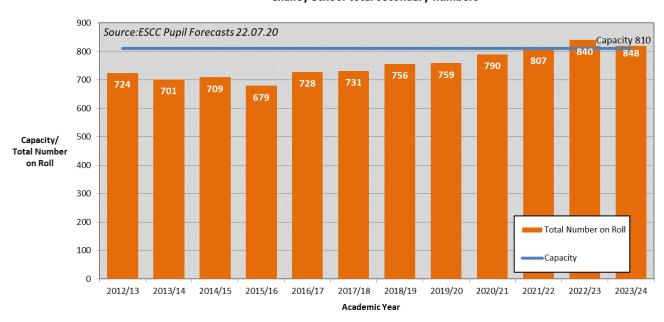
From 2020/21 to 2022/23 there are predicted to be close to 30 children requiring mainstream state-funded school places, living in the Chailey St Peters CE Primary School area. However, if normal patterns of inflows and outflows are maintained, the school should be able to keep to its PAN of 20.

## 11.5 Secondary places in Rural Lewes (Chailey School)

### **Chailey School secondary Year 7 numbers**



### **Chailey School total secondary numbers**



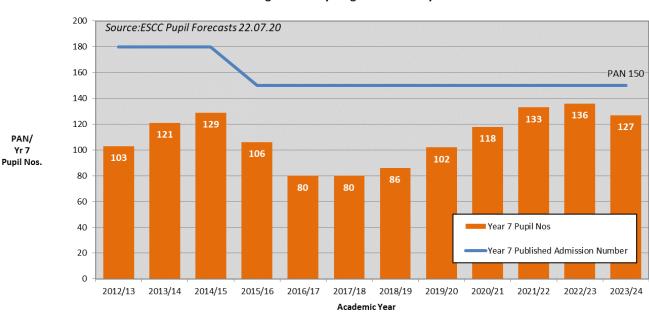
Chailey School is admitting up to 174 Year 7 pupils in 2020/21 and is expected to do so again in future years where there is demand.

Linked to new housing development in Haywards Heath and Burgess Hill, West Sussex County Council reports increasing pressure on Year 7 places on its side of the border. As a result, it is likely that demand for places at Chailey School from the West Sussex side of the border will increase. The school admissions system, by pushing out of area demand back to other schools, means that Year 7 numbers should keep within a maximum of 174 going forward.

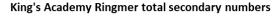
Chailey School forms part of the government's Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP2) in East Sussex which will see part of school premises rebuilt or refurbished. There is no requirement to physically expand the school as part of the project.

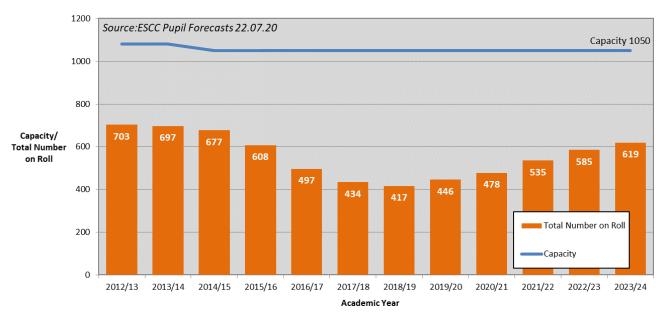
Although the village of Ditchling is in a Priory School / Chailey School joint admissions area, traditionally children from that village have attended Downlands Community School in Hassocks, as part of long-standing admissions agreement with West Sussex County Council.

## 11.6 Secondary places in Rural Lewes (Kings Academy Ringmer)



King's Academy Ringmer secondary Year 7 numbers





With the exception of the joint school admissions area with Priory School, the secondary school planning area for Kings Academy Ringmer does not include a town. Traditionally the school has relied on attracting significant numbers of applicants from other areas, notably Priory School and Hailsham Community College. The low in-area student population has made it particularly challenging for the school to achieve adequate numbers.

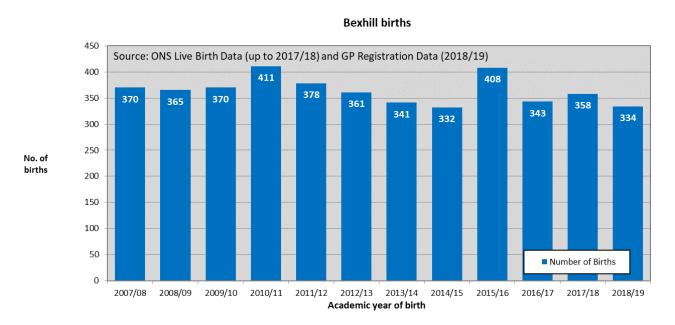
The school suffered a decline in popularity in recent years, which saw intakes fall and surplus places increase. However, Year 7 intakes in the last couple of years suggest the start of a recovery in pupil numbers, leading to a reduction in the number of surplus places. If pupil numbers do not recover as assumed, future intakes could be lower than those shown and could have a knock-on impact on other schools, Hailsham Community College in particular.

## 12. Bexhill

### 12.1 Schools in Bexhill

There are eight primary schools in Bexhill and two secondary schools. Two of the primary schools have nursery provision.

### 12.2 Births in Bexhill



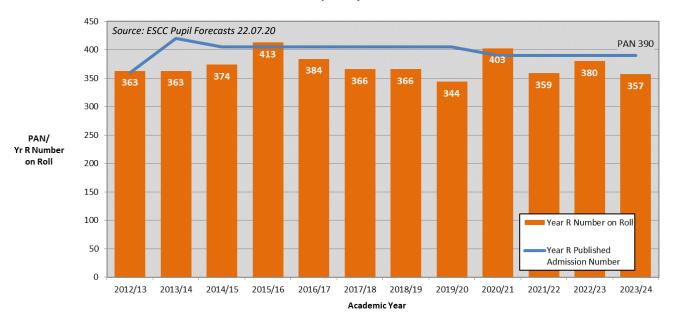
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Bexhill have fluctuated in recent years without showing any real trend.

## 12.3 Housing plans in Bexhill

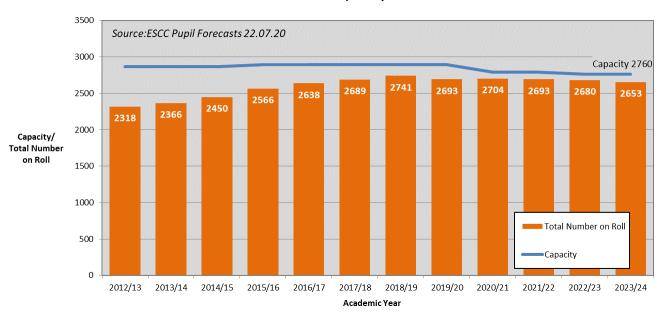
As at January 2020 Rother District Council planned for approximately 3400 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2027/28, of which an estimated 2500 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

## 12.4 Primary places in Bexhill

#### Bexhill primary Year R numbers



#### Bexhill total primary numbers



Based on high births and GP registrations, Year R numbers in schools in Bexhill in 2020/21 could potentially top 400. The PAN at Glenleigh Park Primary Academy reduced from 75 to 60 with effect from 2020/21 meaning a reduction in the formal PAN for the town from 405 to 390. However, the academy has agreed to admit over its new PAN in 2020/21 as a result of the higher pupil numbers in the town.

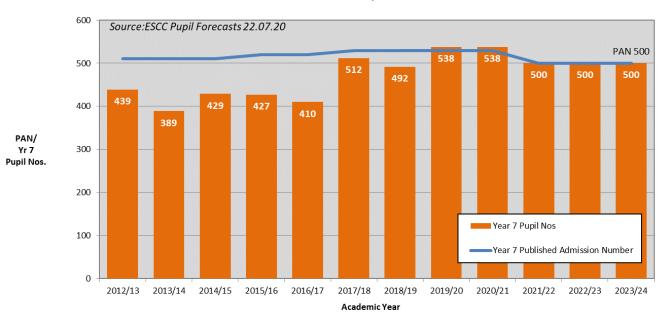
Lower numbers of births and GP registrations should mean that the revised PAN of 390 for the town should not be exceeded in the period 2021/22 to 2023/24.

As a result of new housing development in the town, shortfalls of around one form of entry at Year R are forecast to arise around the middle or latter part of the decade. The local authority has an option agreement on land for a new school within the development site in the north east of Bexhill and will bring forward proposals to create provision to serve the development at the appropriate time. To a large extent the timing of this will be dependent upon when the school site is transferred by the developer to the local authority.

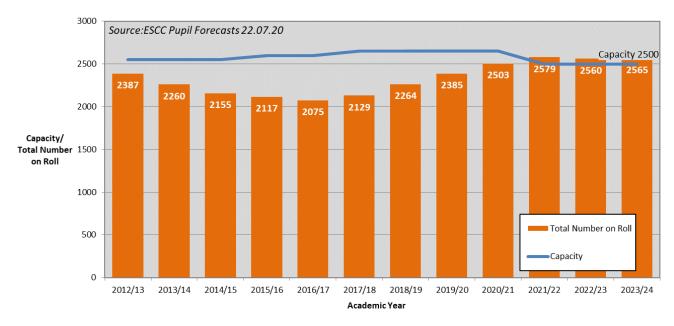
A number of pupils from Bexhill attend Catsfield CE Primary School and Ninfield CE Primary School and both schools are at, or close to, capacity.

## 12.5 Secondary places in Bexhill

### **Bexhill secondary Year 7 numbers**



### Bexhill total secondary numbers



St Richard's Catholic College has a formal PAN of 200 and capacity of 1000. It has often been the case in recent years that, following admissions appeals, St Richard's has taken around 210 pupils. The school takes significant numbers of pupils from Hastings and Eastbourne.

Bexhill High Academy is reducing its PAN from 330 to 300 from the 2021/22 academic year. Year 7 intakes for the school are forecast to be high in the coming years. As well as numbers coming through Year 6 of Bexhill primary schools being up, demand for places from pupils living in Hastings Borough has also risen in recent years, although Year 7 numbers in Hastings Borough currently remain well below PAN.

It is forecast that Bexhill High Academy will be full to its Year 7 PAN for most of the coming decade. While the school admissions system is likely to redirect excess demand back to Hastings Borough, it is possible that in some years the reduced PAN of 300 might be slightly exceeded.

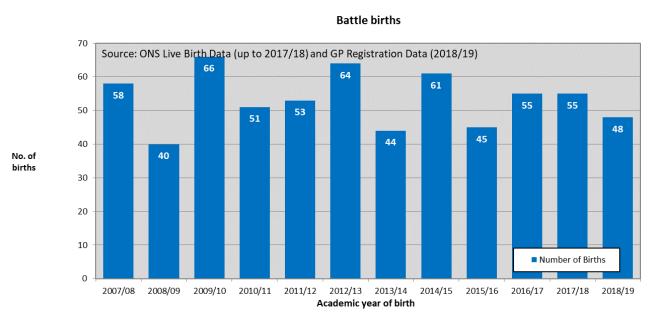
In the second half of the decade and into the next decade, partly linked to the volume of new housing in the town, there may be years where there is pressure on places in the town. If this is the case, the local authority will work with Bexhill High Academy and St Richard's Catholic College to address any shortfalls in provision.

## 13. Battle

### 13.1 Schools in Battle

There is one primary school in Battle and one secondary school.

### 13.2 Births in Battle



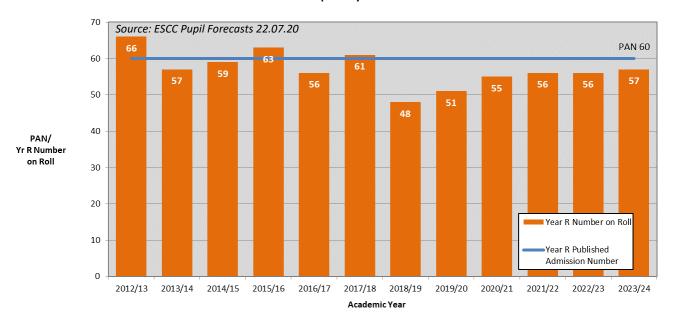
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Battle continue to fluctuate year-on-year.

## 13.3 Housing plans in Battle

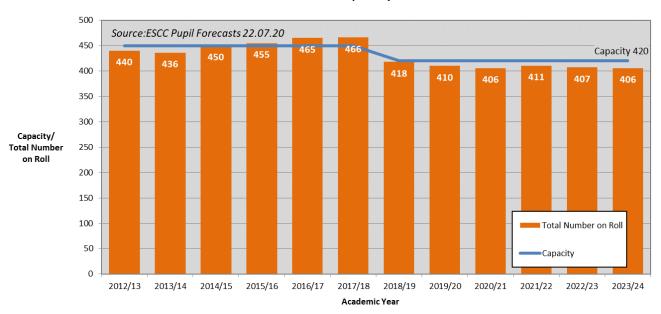
As at January 2020 Rother District Council planned for approximately 500 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2027/28, nearly all of which remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

## 13.4 Primary places in Battle

### **Battle primary Year R numbers**



### **Battle total primary numbers**



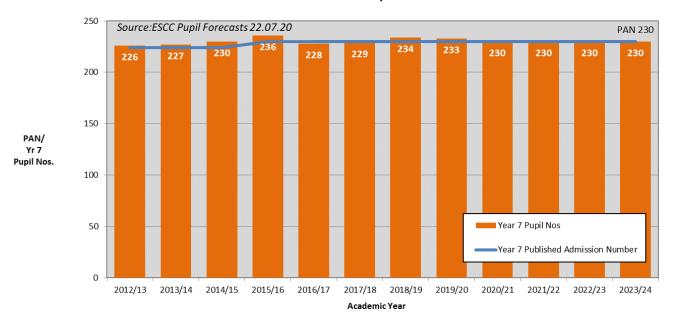
Based on births, GP registration data and demographic projections of future births, from 2021/22 onwards the number of children living in the area and requiring a mainstream school place is projected to slightly exceed 60 in a number of years.

However, normal outflows of children to surrounding schools, the workings of the school admissions system in restricting inflows of children where necessary, and potentially lower numbers of children coming out of Hastings Borough, mean that Battle and Langton CE Primary School is likely to keep to its PAN in the coming years.

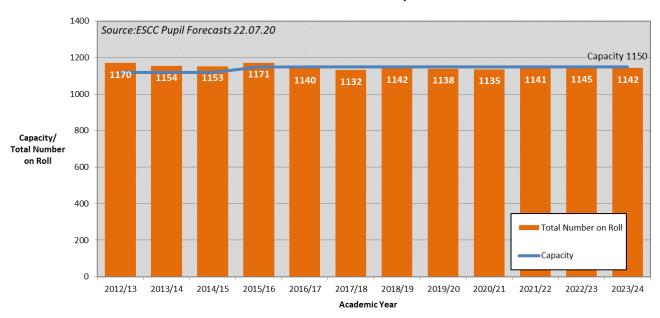
The school takes significant numbers of pupils from Hastings Borough.

## 13.5 Secondary places in Battle

### **Battle secondary Year 7 numbers**



### Battle total secondary numbers



Claverham Community College takes significant numbers of pupils from Hastings and Bexhill. The school has sufficient capacity to meet in-area demand, and provided it continues to be popular with out of area children it is likely to continue to be full.

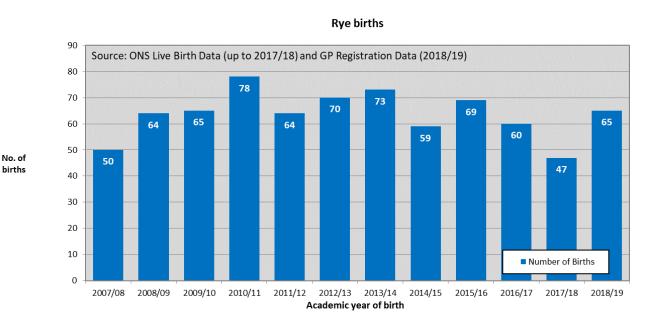
The school forms part of the government's Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP2) in East Sussex which will see part of school premises rebuilt or refurbished. There is no requirement to expand the school as part of the project.

# 14. Rye

## 14.1 Schools in Rye

There is one primary school in Rye which includes nursery provision, and one secondary school.

## 14.2 Births in Rye



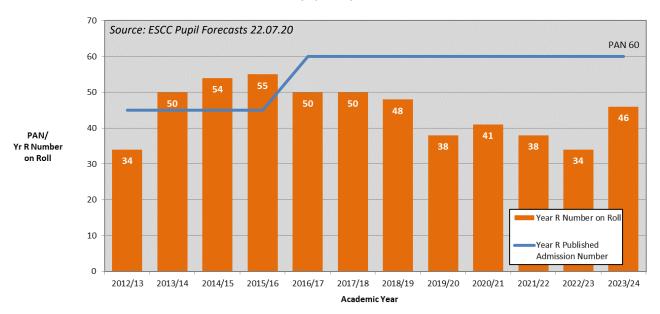
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Rye tend to fluctuate from year to year.

## 14.3 Housing plans in Rye

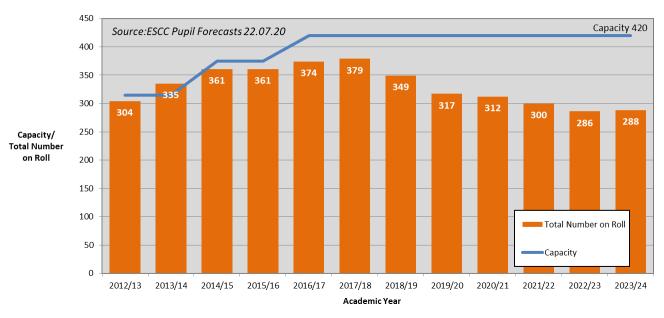
As at January 2020 Rother District Council planned for approximately 400 new dwellings in the town over the local plan period to 2027/28, of which an estimated 200 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period.

## 14.4 Primary places in Rye

#### Rye primary Year R numbers



### Rye total primary numbers

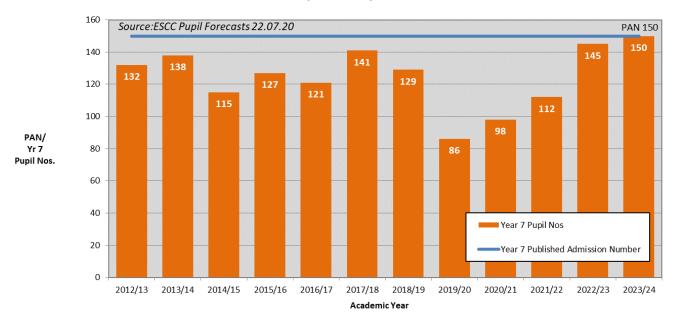


For the foreseeable future, intake numbers at Rye Community Primary School are likely to be well within the PAN of 60. If intake numbers turn out to be as low as forecast, then by 2022/23 or 2023/24 surplus places could exceed 30%.

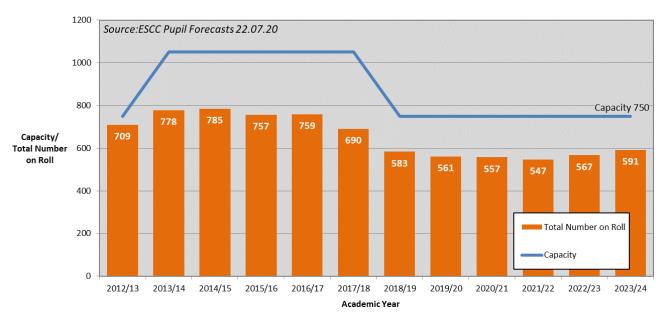
There is movement of pupils between Rye and the surrounding schools, notably St Thomas' CE Primary School Winchelsea, Peasmarsh CE Primary School and St Michael's CE Primary School Playden. If pupil numbers at Rye Community Primary School begin to recover in the coming years, this could impact on pupil numbers at some of the surrounding schools, which rely on families living in Rye choosing them to remain viable.

## 14.5 Secondary places in Rye

### Rye secondary Year 7 numbers



### Rye total secondary numbers



Rye College experienced a very sharp and unanticipated downturn in its popularity in the 2019/20 admissions round. The school saw lower numbers coming in from Hastings Borough and Kent and much larger outflows to Homewood School in Kent. Year 7 numbers in 2019/20 were only 86 and the 2020/21 intake may also be under 100.

It is assumed that the school will make a gradual recovery, aided by the potential for rising demand from Hastings Borough. Year 7 numbers are forecast to reach the PAN of 150 by 2023/24.

## 15. Rural Rother

### 15.1 Schools in Rural Rother

There are 22 primary schools in Rural Rother and one secondary school. One primary school has nursery provision.

### 15.2 Births in Rural Rother

#### **Rural Rother births** 350 Source: ONS Live Birth Data (up to 2017/18) and GP Registration Data (2018/19) 300 250 261 256 240 239 238 233 200 No. of births 150 100 50 ■ Number of Births 0 2007/08 2008/09 2009/10 2010/11 2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17 2017/18 2018/19 Academic year of birth

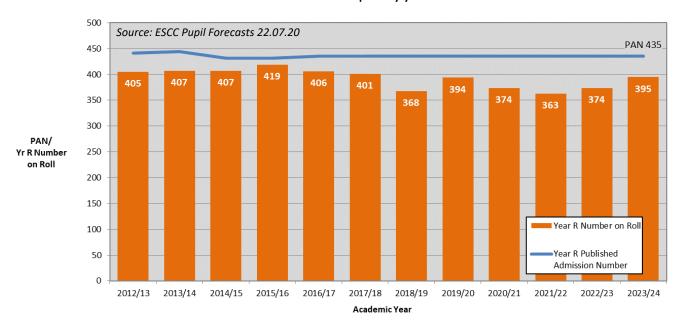
Data from the ONS and GP registrations shows that births in Rural Rother have increased in the last two years after being fairly consistent previously.

## 15.3 Housing plans in Rural Rother

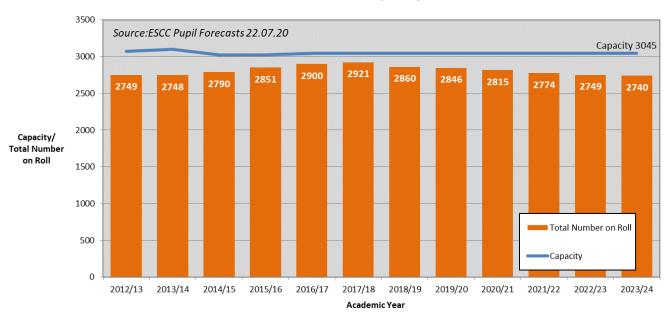
As at January 2020 Rother District Council planned for approximately 2000 new dwellings over the local plan period to 2027/28, of which an estimated 1200 remain to be built between 2020/21 and the end of the local plan period. Approximately 200 of these are in Robertsbridge, 100 in Ticehurst and 100 in Westfield Parish.

## 15.4 Primary places in Rural Rother

#### Rural Rother primary year R numbers



### **Rural Rother total primary numbers**



Intake numbers in individual rural schools can fluctuate significantly from year to year and normally schools can organise to accommodate these temporary bulges.

All schools in the remaining areas of Rother District are forecast to be able to keep to their PAN for the foreseeable future. However, there are certain schools where in some years the position could be tight:

The Salehurst CE Primary School area has 42 GP registered 0-year olds as at August 2019, which could put pressure on places for 2023/24. However, a similar situation arose with the 2019/20 intake, and the school was able to keep to its PAN of 30.

The Staplecross area had 16 under 1-year olds registered with GPs as at August 2019. Staplecross Methodist Primary School should just about be able to keep within the PAN of 15 for 2023/24 but will require the school admissions system restricting inflows of children from other areas.

The Northiam CE Primary School area had 22 under 1-year olds registered with GPs as at August 2019. However, if the school admissions system restricts inflows, and outflows to surrounding schools remain at their 2020/21 levels, 2023/24 intake numbers may be kept within the PAN of 15.

Falling outflows from Hastings Borough, as a result of lower numbers there, may result in some surrounding schools not filling as they normally do.

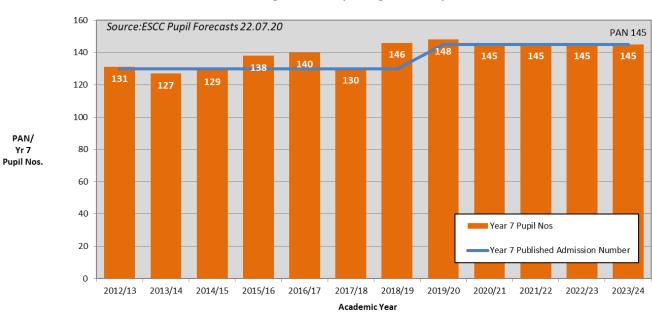
Continued significant net outflows of children to surrounding schools, notably Stonegate CE Primary School, could see Year R numbers at Ticehurst and Flimwell CE Primary School, with a PAN of 30, consistently being in the region of 15 over the coming years.

The following primary schools all take significant numbers of children from Hastings: Brede Primary School, Crowhurst CE Primary School, Guestling Bradshaw CE Primary School, Icklesham CE Primary School, Netherfield CE Primary School, Sedlescombe CE Primary School and Westfield School.

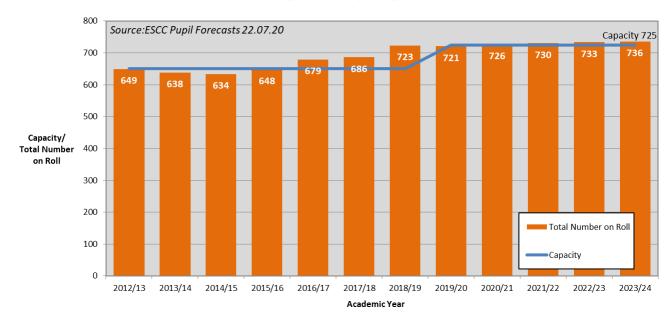
Catsfield CE Primary School takes a significant number of pupils from Bexhill.

## 15.5 Secondary places in Rural Rother (Robertsbridge Community College)

### Robertsbridge Community College secondary Year 7 numbers



### Robertsbridge Community College total secondary numbers



Robertsbridge Community College increased its PAN from 130 to 145 with effect from 2019/20. It is predicted that going forward there will be sufficient in-area demand coupled with demand from other areas to fill Year 7 to its new PAN in most years.

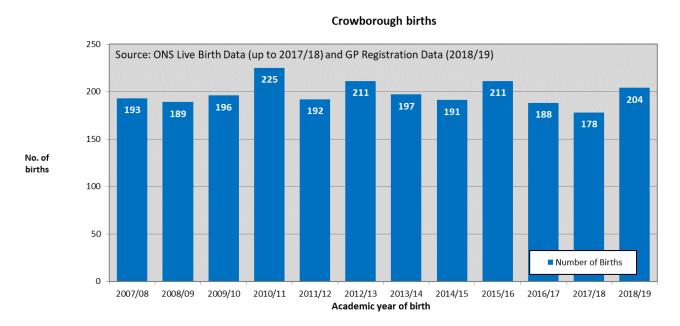
The school relies heavily on inflows of pupils from Hastings Borough. The high numbers forecast assume the school will continue to prove popular with pupils from out of area. Should that not be the case, future intake numbers at Robertsbridge Community College could be significantly lower than those forecast.

# 16. Crowborough

## 16.1 Schools in Crowborough

There are five primary schools in Crowborough and one secondary school. One primary school has nursery provision. The secondary school has a sixth form.

### 16.2 Births in Crowborough



Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births in Crowborough have fluctuated year-onyear without showing any real trend.

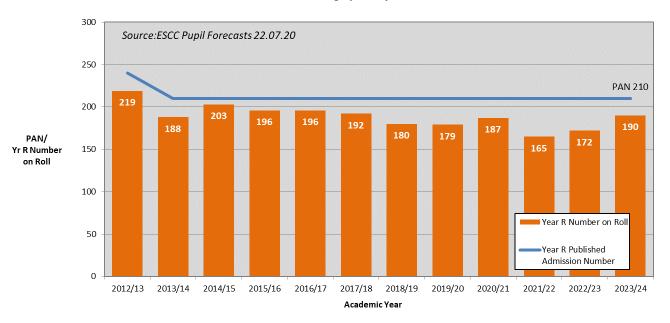
## 16.3 Housing plans in Crowborough

On 19th February 2020 Wealden District Council (WDC) took the decision to withdraw its Local Plan after the Planning Inspector found that the plan could not proceed in its current form. Wealden District Council has subsequently embarked on the process of developing a new Local Plan.

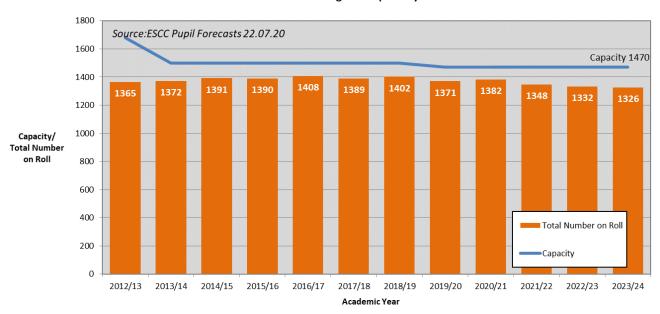
This will inevitably lead to a period of uncertainty while Wealden District Council reviews its position and begins to form an opinion on the likely quantum and location of future housing development it must plan for in the district. What is almost certain is that this will lead to a greater number of new homes being built in the district in future years. What is less certain at this stage is how much more and where in the district this might happen. Therefore, future projections for school planning areas in Wealden District need to be treated with extreme caution, particularly forecasts beyond the immediate School Organisation Plan timescale to 2023/24, as it is levels of housing development in the medium to longer term that are most uncertain.

## 16.4 Primary places in Crowborough

### **Crowborough primary Year R numbers**



### Crowborough total primary numbers

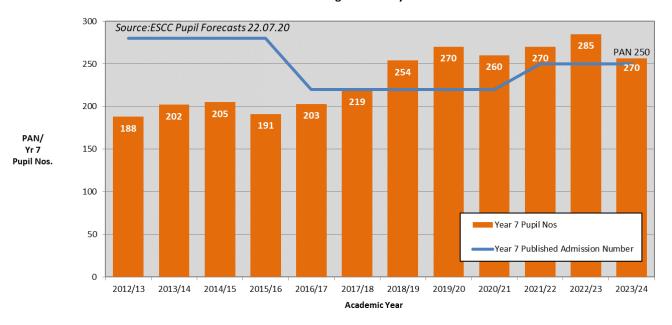


Based on birth and GP registration data, for the foreseeable future, Year R numbers in Crowborough should stay comfortably within PAN, with the intakes for 2021/22 and 2022/23 potentially being quite low.

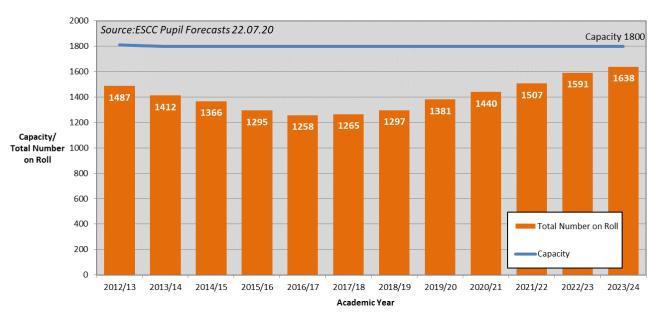
A number of pupils from Crowborough currently attend surrounding schools, most notably Rotherfield Primary School.

### 16.5 Secondary places in Crowborough

#### Crowborough secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Crowborough total secondary numbers



Pupil numbers at Beacon Academy are difficult to forecast given the considerable amount of crossborder movement to Kent (with the added complication of its Grammar School system) and West Sussex. Kent and West Sussex County Councils both report rising pressures on places on their side of the border, in Tunbridge Wells and (to a lesser degree) East Grinstead respectively.

Consequently, Year 7 numbers at Beacon are forecast to be high in most of the coming years to 2025/26 and possibly some years beyond. How high will depend on the ability of the school admissions system to redirect out of area applicants to other schools. In recent years this has proved difficult because unsuccessful Beacon area applicants to Kent Grammar schools have not always expressed a preference for an East Sussex school, meaning that applicants from Kent have taken preference over them and that the admissions system has not always been able to push excess demand from Kent back over the border.

Kent County Council has indicated that Year 7 numbers on its side of the border may not peak until 2023/24. At the same time, it is planning further secondary places in the Tunbridge Wells area to help alleviate these pressures.

The local authority has been working closely with Beacon Academy on the issue of in-area demand for places linked to its PAN. As a result, the academy will increase its PAN from 220 to 250 in 2021/22. However, there may be several years when the academy will need to exceed its revised PAN to accommodate the demand for places.

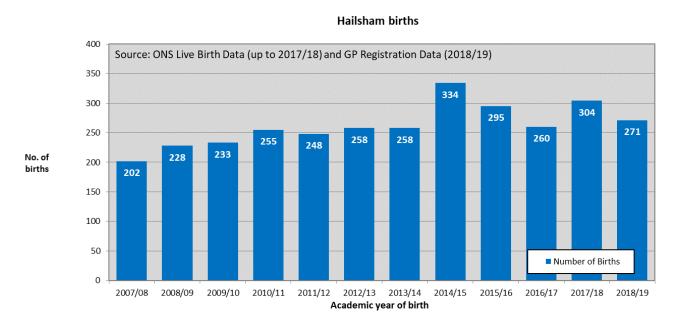
Many children from the village of Forest Row traditionally receive offers of places at Sackville School in East Grinstead, West Sussex. Rising pressure for places at Sackville and/or high numbers of students coming through Year 6 at Forest Row CE Primary School could mean more unsuccessful Sackville applicants requiring a place at Beacon Academy or at Chailey School. However, numbers coming through Forest Row CE Primary are declining with most of the cohorts leaving Year 6 in future predicted to be under 30.

### 17. Hailsham

### 17.1 Schools in Hailsham

There are six primary schools in Hailsham and one all through school (primary and secondary). Three primary schools have nursery provision and the secondary school has a sixth form.

### 17.2 Births in Hailsham



Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births in Hailsham rose significantly in 2014/15. Although numbers since then have been lower, there is a general upward trajectory of births linked to recent housebuilding in the town.

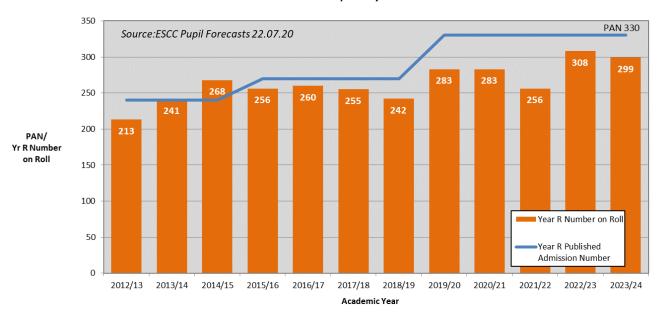
### 17.3 Housing plans in Hailsham

On 19th February 2020 Wealden District Council took the decision to withdraw its Local Plan after the Planning Inspector found that the plan could not proceed in its current form. Wealden District Council has subsequently embarked on the process of developing a new Local Plan.

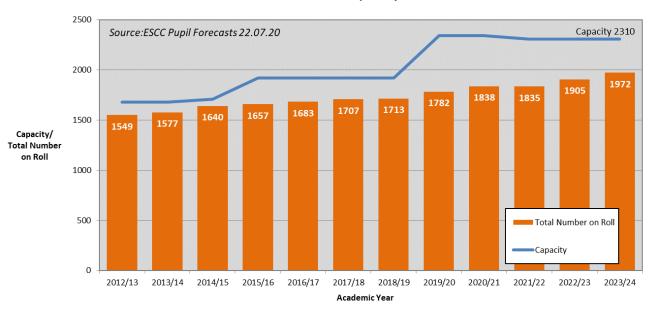
This will inevitably lead to a period of uncertainty while Wealden District Council reviews its position and begins to form an opinion on the likely quantum and location of future housing development it must plan for in the district. What is almost certain is that this will lead to a greater number of new homes being built in the district in future years. What is less certain at this stage is how much more and where in the district this might happen. Therefore, future projections for school planning areas in Wealden District need to be treated with extreme caution, particularly forecasts beyond the immediate School Organisation Plan timescale to 2023/24, as it is levels of housing development in the medium to longer term that are most uncertain.

### 17.4 Primary places in Hailsham

#### Hailsham primary Year R numbers



#### Hailsham total primary numbers



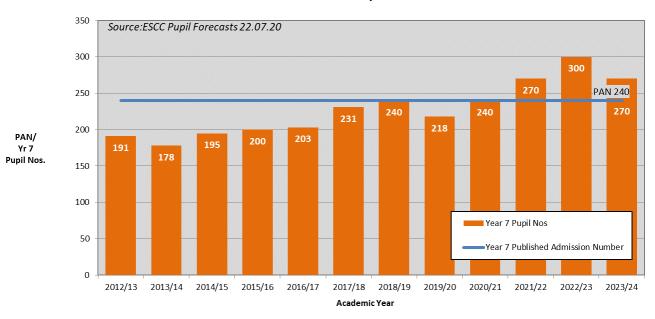
Based on birth and GP registration data, 2021/22 is likely to see a low intake year, with numbers at or below 260. The following two years are forecast to see intakes around 300.

Longer term, the large volumes of new housing planned for the town are likely to require further capacity, over and above the 330 Year R places currently available. Given the current uncertainty around Wealden District Council's housing plans, it is difficult to be exact about the extent of the need for further school places and when that need will arise.

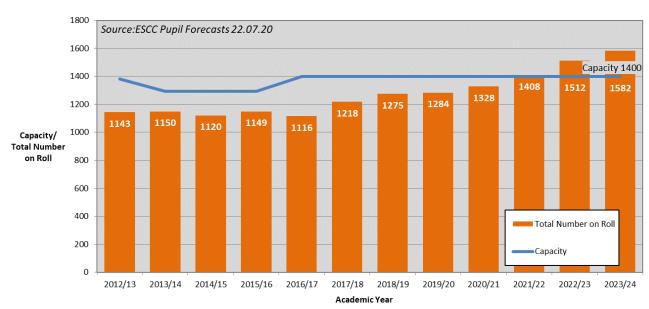
Recent years have seen significant outflows of pupils to surrounding rural schools, notably Herstmonceux CE Primary School, Park Mead Primary School, Chiddingly Primary School and the Heathfield primary schools. The opening of the new Hailsham Community College Primary Academy in September 2019 in the north of the town near much of the new housing, is expected to reduce outflows in the future. In 2015/16 and 2017/18 over 70 Year R children from Hailsham attended schools in the surrounding area. Based on school admissions data, the outflow for 2020/21 is likely to be in the region of 45-50.

## 17.5 Secondary places in Hailsham

#### Hailsham secondary Year 7 numbers



#### Hailsham total secondary numbers



As a result of rising numbers coming through primary schools and additional pupils generated by the substantial volume of new housing being built in the town, Hailsham Community College is likely to experience significant pressures on places in the coming years. Shortfalls against the current Year 7 PAN of 240 are predicted. A shortfall of one form of entry is forecast for 2021/22, followed by shortfalls of two forms of entry for 2022/23 and one form of entry for 2023/24.

The exact magnitude of the above forecast shortfalls will be heavily dependent on future patterns of parental preference as well as how quickly the new housing is built out and occupied.

Shortfalls are also likely in the second half of the decade, although it is difficult to be precise about the extent of these shortfalls given the current uncertainty over Wealden District Council's housing plans.

With higher numbers moving up through the school, Hailsham Community College may also experience growing pressure on its sixth form capacity.

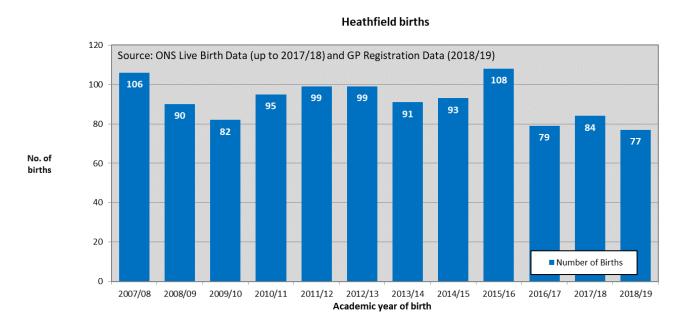
To address the predicted demand for places at the school, the local authority is working with Hailsham Community College to enlarge the premises by 2022/23, subject to planning permission being granted.

### 18. Heathfield

### 18.1 Schools in Heathfield

There are three primary schools in Heathfield and one secondary school. One primary school has nursery provision. The secondary school has a sixth form.

### 18.2 Births in Heathfield



Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births in Heathfield have fallen in the last three years after a peak of 108 in 2015/16.

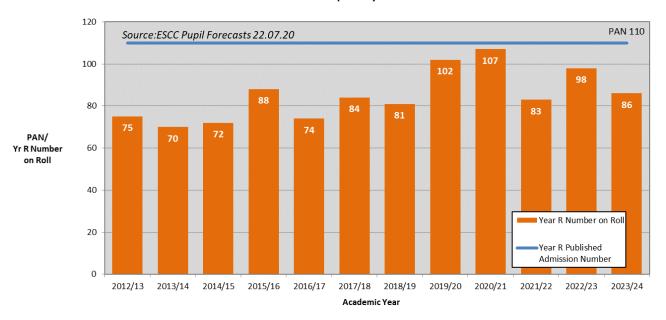
### 18.3 Housing plans in Heathfield

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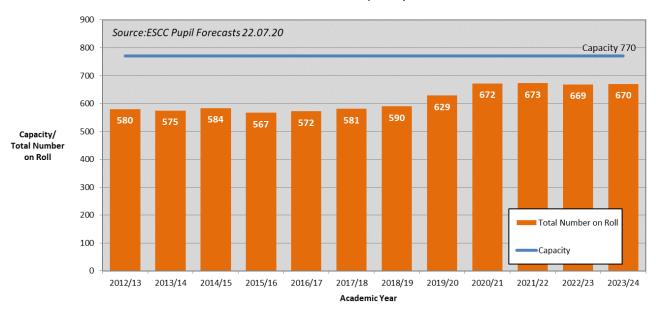
This will inevitably lead to a period of uncertainty while Wealden District Council reviews its position and begins to form an opinion on the likely quantum and location of future housing development it must plan for in the district. What is almost certain is that this will lead to a greater number of new homes being built in the district in future years. What is less certain at this stage is how much more and where in the district this might happen. Therefore, future projections for school planning areas in Wealden District need to be treated with extreme caution, particularly forecasts beyond the immediate School Organisation Plan timescale to 2023/24, as it is levels of housing development in the medium to longer term that are most uncertain.

## 18.4 Primary places in Heathfield

#### Heathfield primary Year R numbers



#### Heathfield total primary numbers

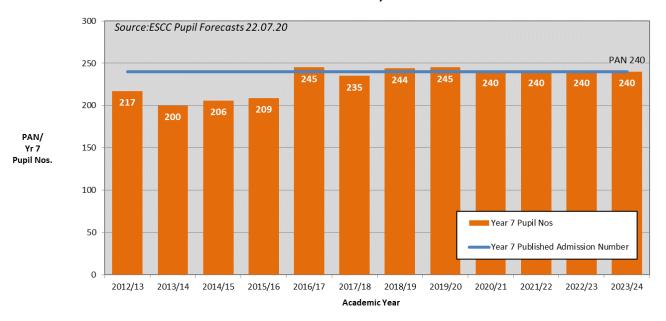


Live birth and GP registration data indicate there will be sufficient Year R places in the town to meet demand for the foreseeable future. This includes additional numbers arising from the incorporation of Broad Oak children into the school admissions area, following the closure of nearby Broad Oak Community Primary School on 31 August 2020, and potential additional inflows into the town arising from the new housing related pressures at Maynards Green Community Primary School (see chapter 22 for both).

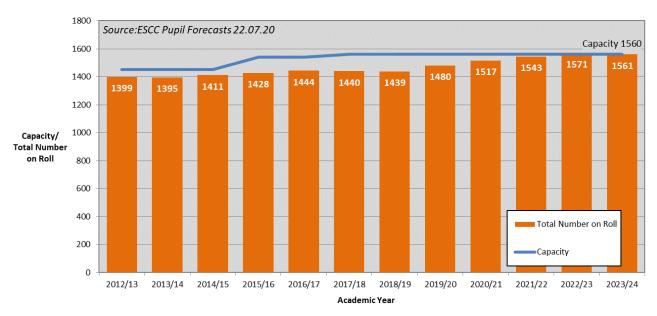
There is movement of pupils between Heathfield and the surrounding schools, notably Maynard's Green Community Primary School and Punnetts Town Community Primary School. Recent years have seen increased inflows from the Hailsham area, but we expect that to reduce in future years (see chapter 17).

## 18.5 Secondary places in Heathfield

### Heathfield secondary Year 7 numbers



### Heathfield total secondary numbers



With inflows of pupils from surrounding areas, most notably Hailsham, it is forecast that for the foreseeable future the school will fill to its PAN of 240.

The potential for the school admissions system to redirect out of area applicants back to Hailsham and other areas means that Heathfield Community College is unlikely to be over-subscribed.

# 19. Polegate and Willingdon

## 19.1 Schools in Polegate and Willingdon

There are two primary schools in Polegate and Willingdon and one secondary school. One primary school has nursery provision.

## 19.2 Births in Polegate and Willingdon

No. of

### Polegate and Willingdon births 180 Source: ONS Live Birth Data (up to 2017/18) and GP Registration Data (2018/19) 160 155 154 140 142 120 123 118 114 100 108 80 60 40 20 ■ Number of Births 0

2012/13 2013/14

Academic year of birth

2014/15

2015/16

2016/17

2017/18

Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births in Polegate and Willingdon have been generally higher in the last four years in line with recent house building in the area.

2011/12

### 19.3 Housing plans in Polegate and Willingdon

2009/10

2010/11

2007/08

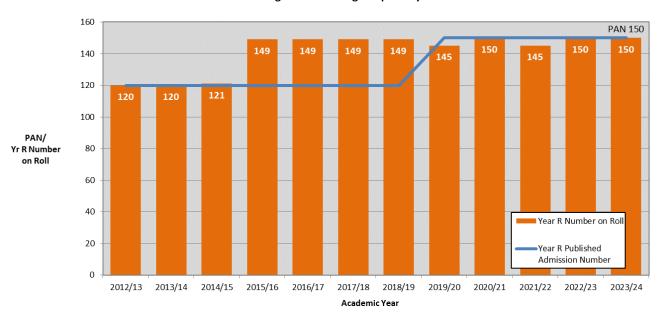
2008/09

On 19th February 2020 Wealden District Council took the decision to withdraw its Local Plan after the Planning Inspector found that the plan could not proceed in its current form. Wealden District Council has subsequently embarked on the process of developing a new Local Plan.

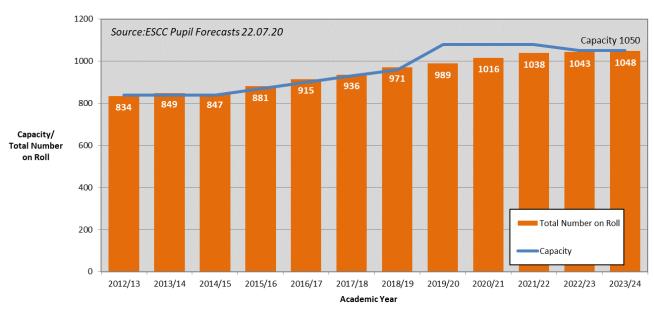
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## 19.4 Primary places in Polegate and Willingdon

### Polegate and Willingdon primary Year R numbers



#### Polegate and Willingdon total primary numbers



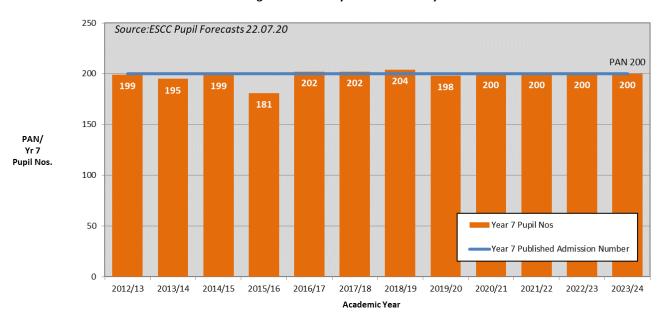
In the last five years high in-area numbers of reception aged children linked to recent housing development has resulted in Year R totals at or around 150. Birth and GP registration data points to similar Year R numbers going forward to 2023/24.

Beyond this, housing development in the area is likely to see schools remaining full, and if, as a result of Wealden District Council's development of a new Local Plan, housing completions turn out higher than previously envisaged, it is possible that a shortfall of up to one form of entry could arise towards the end of the decade.

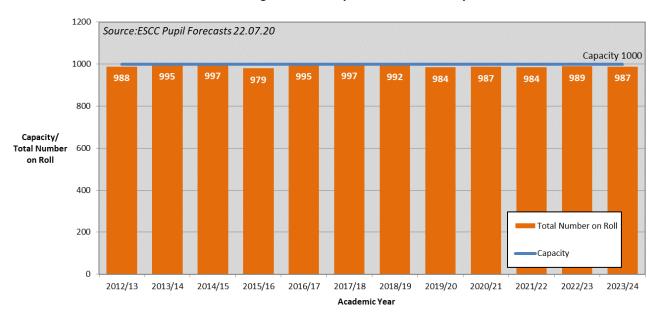
There are significant flows of children to and from Polegate School and Willingdon Primary School and schools in Eastbourne.

## 19.5 Secondary places in Polegate and Willingdon

### Willingdon Community School secondary Year 7 numbers



### Willingdon Community School total secondary numbers



Linked to new housing in the area and numbers coming through primary schools, the number of children specifically from the Willingdon Community School place planning area requiring a mainstream state-funded school place is likely to regularly exceed 250. Typically, over 50 children from the area take up places in Eastbourne secondary schools. The Willingdon school admissions area has a number of shared areas with The Causeway School and The Eastbourne Academy.

For some years the current 200 Year 7 places at Willingdon Community School, are likely to be sufficient to meet the demand from Willingdon area children who wish to go there. This is unlikely to always be the case, particularly in 2023/24 and 2025/26, and increasingly in the latter half of the decade. The local authority will work closely with the school to ensure there are sufficient places to meet demand in the local community.

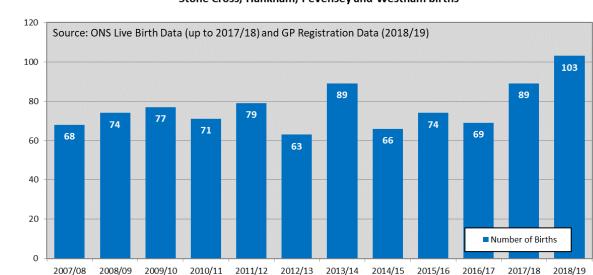
# 20. Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham

## 20.1 Schools in Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham

There are three primary schools in Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham.

## 20.2 Births in Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham

No. of



Academic year of birth

Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham births

Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births in Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham tend to fluctuate year-on-year, although numbers in the last two years have been much higher, possibly linked to the volume of new housing in the area.

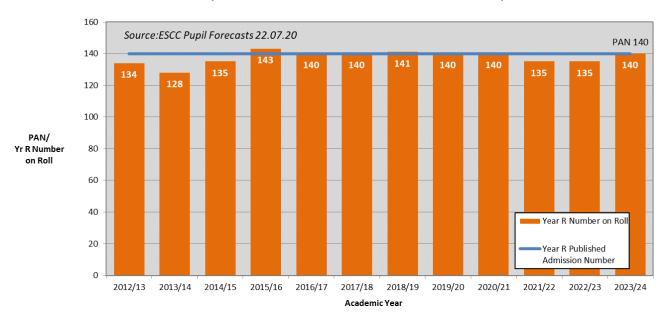
## 20.3 Housing plans in Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham

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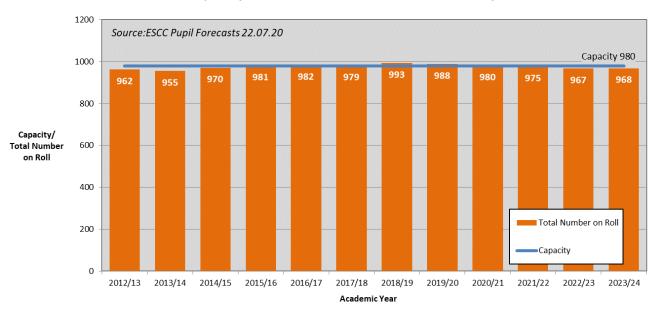
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### 20.4 Primary places in Stone Cross, Hankham, Pevensey and Westham

#### Primary Year R numbers in Stone Cross, Hankham and Pevensey and Westham



Total primary numbers in Stone Cross, Hankham and Pevensey and Westham



Since 2016/17 around 500 new homes have been built in the area, and more are planned. The concentration of new housing in a relatively small area is leading to rapidly rising numbers of Year R children living in the area.

Stone Cross School, Hankham Primary School and nearby Pevensey and Westham CE Primary School are already full. However, all three schools take significant numbers of children from Eastbourne Borough and the school admissions system should be able to redirect some of this demand back to Eastbourne, where future intake numbers are predicted to decline as a result of falling births. Therefore, provided historical outflow levels to other schools are also maintained, there should be enough capacity in the three schools to meet demand from the local community.

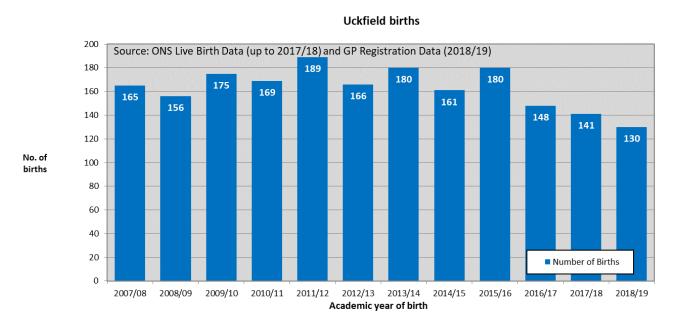
**Back to contents** 

#### 21. Uckfield

#### 21.1 Schools in Uckfield

There are five primary schools in Uckfield and one secondary school. One primary school has nursery provision and the secondary school has a sixth form.

#### 21.2 Births in Uckfield



Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births have fallen significantly in the last three years.

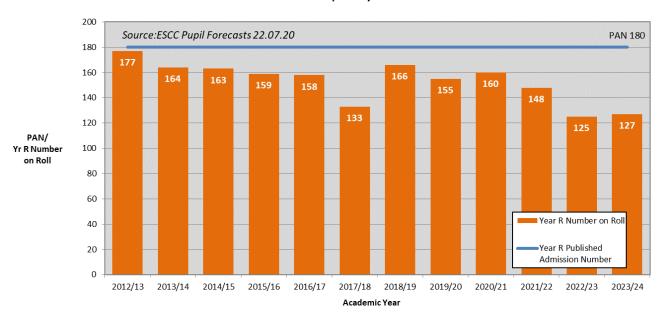
#### 21.3 Housing plans in Uckfield

On 19th February 2020 Wealden District Council took the decision to withdraw its Local Plan after the Planning Inspector found that the plan could not proceed in its current form. Wealden District Council has subsequently embarked on the process of developing a new Local Plan.

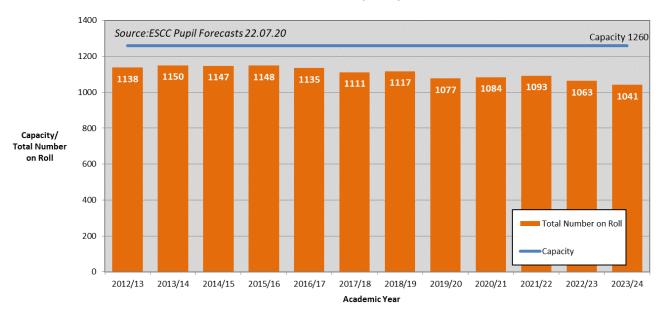
This will inevitably lead to a period of uncertainty while Wealden District Council reviews its position and begins to form an opinion on the likely quantum and location of future housing development it must plan for in the district. What is almost certain is that this will lead to a greater number of new homes being built in the district in future years. What is less certain at this stage is how much more and where in the district this might happen. Therefore, future projections for school planning areas in Wealden District need to be treated with extreme caution, particularly forecasts beyond the immediate School Organisation Plan timescale to 2023/24, as it is levels of housing development in the medium to longer term that are most uncertain.

### 21.4 Primary places in Uckfield

#### **Uckfield primary Year R numbers**



#### Uckfield total primary numbers



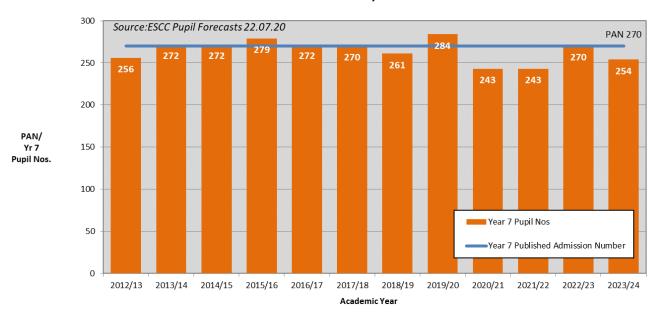
Live birth and GP registration data are currently not suggesting any shortfalls of places for the foreseeable future. Academic years 2022/23 and 2023/24 could see particularly low intakes in Year R.

However, 1,000 new homes are planned at Ridgewood Farm, and additional places may be required locally to serve the site. The local authority has an option agreement on land for a new school within the development site and will bring forward proposals to create provision to serve the site at the appropriate time. To a large extent the timing of this will be dependent upon when the developer transfers the school site to the local authority.

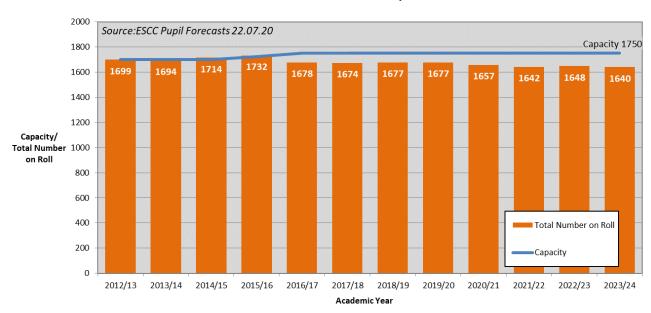
A number of Uckfield pupils attend surrounding schools, notably Bonners CE Primary School, Buxted CE Primary School, Framfield CE Primary School and Little Horsted CE Primary School.

### 21.5 Secondary places in Uckfield

#### Uckfield secondary Year 7 numbers



#### **Uckfield total secondary numbers**



In some of the coming years, in-area numbers are lower than they have been recently. Uckfield College traditionally takes children from Chailey, Ringmer, Crowborough and Heathfield. Conversely, pupils from Uckfield access schools in these areas as well as St Paul's Catholic College in West Sussex. Actual numbers each year will therefore largely depend on the movement of pupils between the areas and it is possible that, in some years at least, Year 7 numbers could be significantly below the school's PAN of 270.

Uckfield College forms part of the government's Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP2) in East Sussex which will see large parts of the existing premises re-built. There is no requirement to expand the school as part of the project.

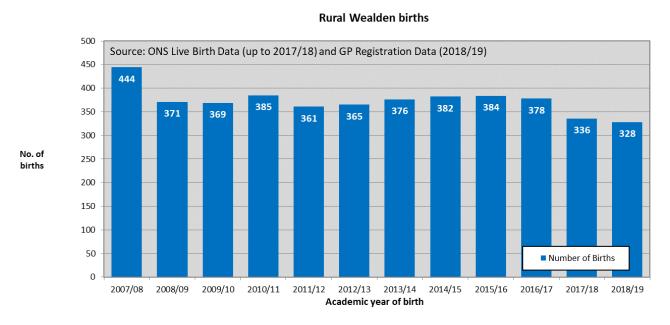
**Back to contents** 

#### 22. Rural Wealden

#### 22.1 Schools in Rural Wealden

There are 32 primary schools in Rural Wealden and one secondary school. Three primary schools have nursery provision and the secondary school has a sixth form.

#### 22.2 Births in rural Wealden



Data from the ONS and GP registrations show that births in rural Wealden have been fairly steady since 2008/09 but have fallen in the last two years.

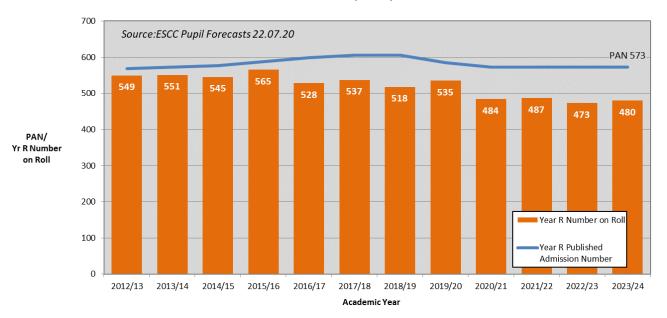
#### 22.3 Housing plans in rural Wealden

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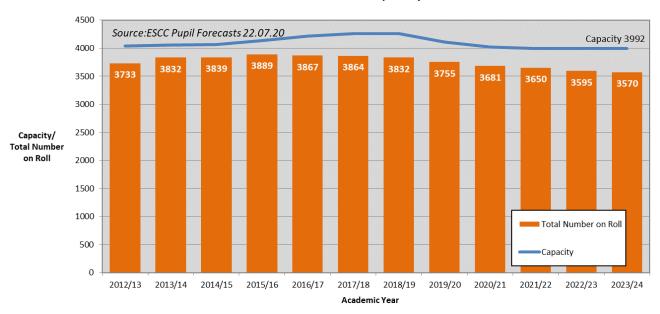
This will inevitably lead to a period of uncertainty while Wealden District Council reviews its position and begins to form an opinion on the likely quantum and location of future housing development it must plan for in the district. What is almost certain is that this will lead to a greater number of new homes being built in the district in future years. What is less certain at this stage is how much more and where in the district this might happen. Therefore, future projections for school planning areas in Wealden District need to be treated with extreme caution, particularly forecasts beyond the immediate School Organisation Plan timescale to 2023/24, as it is levels of housing development in the medium to longer term that are most uncertain.

### 22.4 Primary places in rural Wealden

#### Rural Wealden primary Year R numbers



#### Rural Wealden total primary numbers



Intake numbers in individual rural schools can fluctuate significantly from year to year and normally schools can organise to accommodate these temporary bulges.

Lower numbers coming out of some of the big towns may mean that some rural schools that have habitually filled to their PAN in the past may not do so in some of the coming years.

Linked to new housing, in-area numbers requiring a mainstream state funded school place are forecast be over 30 in the Maynards Green Community Primary School area in the coming years and potentially around 40 in 2022/23. However, as long as recent outflow patterns to other schools are maintained and the school admissions system pushes back some demand to Heathfield, we do not anticipate the Year R PAN of 30 normally being exceeded in the short to medium term. In the second half of the decade new housing development could potentially lead to small but ongoing shortfalls of places.

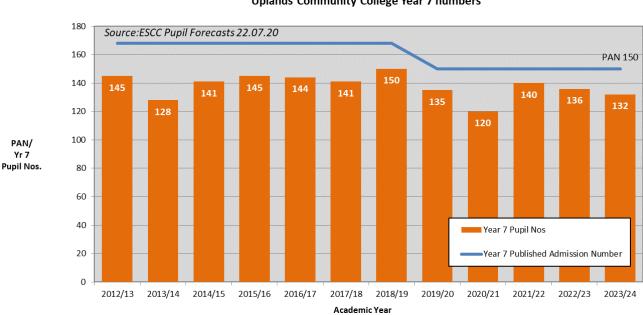
Birth and GP registration data point to high in-area numbers requiring mainstream state funded school places in the Bonners CE Primary School area in both 2021/22 and 2022/23, but if typical

outflows to other areas are maintained and the school admissions system restricts inflows, the school may be able to keep to its PAN of 15 in both years.

Birth and GP registration data point to East Hoathly CE Primary School having potentially high inarea numbers in 2021/22 and 2022/23. The school may have to rely on the school admissions system restricting inflows to enable it to keep its intake numbers to the PAN of 15.

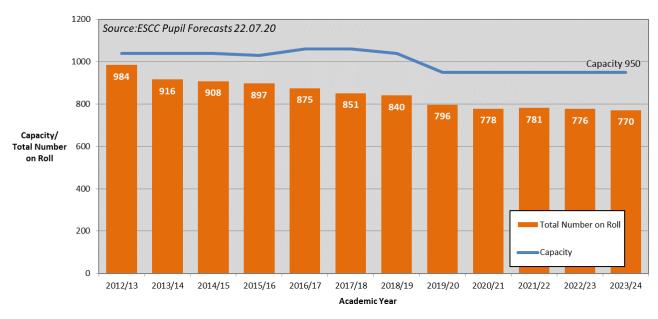
Following a period of statutory consultation, it was determined on 9 March 2020 that Broad Oak Community Primary School should close with effect from 31 August 2020. This difficult decision was taken based on low pupil numbers at the school, its financial viability, pupil outcomes and the number of surplus places in the wider Heathfield area. As a result of the closure, the Broad Oak admissions area will be incorporated into the Heathfield schools admissions area, giving Broad Oak children ongoing access to a local school.

#### 22.5 Secondary places in rural Wealden (Uplands Community College)



**Uplands Community College Year 7 numbers** 





It is difficult to be precise regarding the forecast for Uplands Community College because numbers requiring a maintained state funded place are to some extent determined by the demand for and supply of Grammar school places in Kent. Pressures on the Kent side of the border are reportedly lower than those affecting Beacon Academy (chapter 16), nevertheless, the issue reported in relation to Beacon of East Sussex applicants failing to give their local school as a 'fall back' preference is also potentially relevant here.

The Uplands Community College intake for 2020/21 may reach 120. Going forward, numbers of in-area pupils coming through primary schools are at broadly similar levels to 2020/21, and provided there are no unanticipated pressures, either direct or knock-on from Beacon Academy or from the Kent side of the border, intake numbers are forecast to remain well within the PAN of 150.

However, as always, actual numbers will be determined to a large extent by parental preference and factors beyond Uplands Community College's admissions area borders including the Robertsbridge and Heathfield school planning areas.

The school forms part of the government's Priority Schools Building Programme (PSBP2) in East Sussex which will see part of the school's accommodation refurbished / replaced with new buildings.

**Back to contents** 

# **Appendix 1: School Planning Areas**

# **Primary schools**

School name	Type	Age	Status as at
	7100	range	1 September 2020
Eastbourne Borough			
Bourne Primary School	Primary	3-11	Community
Heron Park Primary Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
Langney Primary School	Primary	3-11	Academy
Motcombe Community School	Infant	4-7	Community
Oakwood Primary Academy	Primary	3-11	Academy
Ocklynge Junior School	Junior	7-11	Academy
Parkland Infant School	Infant	4-7	Academy
Parkland Junior School	Junior	7-11	Academy
Pashley Down Infant School	Infant	4-7	Community
Roselands Infant School	Infant	4-7	Community
Shinewater Primary School	Primary	3-11	Academy
St Andrew's Church of England Infant School	Infant	4-7	Voluntary Controlled
St John's Meads Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
St Thomas a Becket Catholic Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Stafford Junior School	Junior	7-11	Community
The Haven Voluntary Aided CE/Methodist Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Tollgate Community Junior School	Junior	7-11	Community
West Rise Community Infant School	Infant	4-7	Community
West Rise Junior School	Junior	7-11	Community
			·
Hastings Borough			
All Saints Church of England Junior School	Junior	7-11	Academy
ARK Blacklands Primary Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
ARK Castledown Primary School	Primary	2-11	Academy
ARK Little Ridge Primary Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
Christ Church CE Primary & Nursery Academy	Primary	2-11	Academy
Churchwood Primary Academy	Primary	2-11	Academy
Dudley Infant Academy	Infant	4-7	Academy
Hollington Primary Academy	Primary	2-11	Academy
Ore Village Primary Academy	Primary	3-11	Academy
Robsack Wood Primary Academy	Primary	3-11	Academy
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Sandown Primary School	Primary	2-11	Community
Silverdale Primary Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
St Leonards Church of England Primary Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
St Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
St Paul's Church of England Primary School	Primary	2-11	Academy
The Baird Primary Academy	Primary	3-11	Academy
West St Leonards Primary Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
Lewes			
St Pancras Catholic Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
South Malling Church of England Primary School	Primary	3-11	Voluntary Controlled
Southover Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Wallands Community Primary School	Primary	3-11	Community
Western Road Community Primary School	Primary	4-11	Foundation

Breakwater Academy Denton Community Primary School Primary Peacehaven Heights Primary School Primary Primar	School name	Type	Age	Status as at
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School name	Туре	Age	Status as at
		range	1 September 2020
Icklesham Church of England Primary School	Primary	2-11	Voluntary Controlled
Netherfield Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Northiam Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Peasmarsh Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Salehurst Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Sedlescombe Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
St Michael's Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
St Thomas' Church of England Aided Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Staplecross Methodist Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Stonegate Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Ticehurst and Flimwell Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Westfield School	Primary	4-11	Community
	_		
Crowborough			
Ashdown Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Jarvis Brook Primary School	Primary	2-11	Academy
Sir Henry Fermor Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Academy
St John's Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
St Marys Catholic Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Hailsham			
Burfield Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
Grovelands Community Primary School	Primary	2-11	Foundation
Hawkes Farm Primary School	Primary	4-11	Academy
Hellingly Community Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Phoenix Academy	Primary	3-11	Academy
White House Academy	Primary	4-11	Academy
TTIME Floude / leadenly	1 milary		rioddoniy
Heathfield			
All Saints' and St Richard's Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Cross in Hand Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Parkside Community Primary School	Primary	2-11	Community
Tantolae Community Finnary Conton	i iiiiaiy		Community
Polegate / Willingdon			
Polegate School	Primary	2-11	Community
Willingdon Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
The state of the s			- Community
Uckfield			
Harlands Primary School	Primary	2-11	Community
Holy Cross Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Manor Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Rocks Park Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
St Philip's Catholic Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
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Rural Wealden			
Alfriston School	Primary	4-11	Community
Blackboys Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Bonners Church of England Primary School	Primary	2-11	Voluntary Controlled
Buxted Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Chiddingly Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Danehill Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
East Hoathly Church of England Primary School	Primary	2-11	Voluntary Controlled
Five Ashes Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Fletching Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Forest Row Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Framfield Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Frant Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled

School name	Туре	Age range	Status as at 1 September 2020
Groombridge St Thomas' Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Hankham Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Herstmonceux Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
High Hurstwood Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Laughton Community Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Little Horsted Church of England Primary School	Primary	3-11	Voluntary Aided
Mark Cross Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
Mayfield Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Maynards Green Community Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Ninfield Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Nutley Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Park Mead Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Pevensey and Westham Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Controlled
Punnetts Town Community Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Rotherfield Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
St Mark's Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
St Mary the Virgin Church of England Primary School	Primary	4-11	Voluntary Aided
St Michael's Primary School	Primary	4-11	Community
Stone Cross School	Primary	4-11	Community
Wadhurst Church of England Primary School	Primary	3-11	Voluntary Controlled

# All-through schools

School name	Туре	Age range	Status as at 1 September 2020
The Cavendish School, Eastbourne	All through	2-16	Academy
Gildredge House, Eastbourne	All through	4-18	Free School
Hailsham Community College	All through	2-18	Academy

# **Secondary schools**

School name	Туре	Age	Status as at
	- "	range	1 September 2020
Eastbourne Borough			
Causeway School	Secondary	11-16	Academy
Ratton School	Secondary	11-16	Academy
St Catherine's College	Secondary	11-16	Academy
The Eastbourne Academy	Secondary	11-16	Academy
Hastings Borough			
ARK Alexandra Academy	Secondary	11-18	Academy
The Hastings Academy	Secondary	11-16	Academy
The St Leonards Academy	Secondary	11-16	Academy
Lewes			
Priory School	Secondary	11-16	Foundation
Newhaven			
Seahaven Academy	Secondary	11-16	Academy
Peacehaven			
Peacehaven Community School	Secondary	11-16	Academy
Seaford			
Seaford Head School	Secondary	11-18	Academy
Rural Lewes			
Chailey School	Secondary	11-16	Community
Kings Academy Ringmer	Secondary	11-16	Academy

Bexhill			
Bexhill Academy	Secondary	11-16	Academy
St Richard's Catholic College	Secondary	11-16	Voluntary Aided
Rye			
Rye College	Secondary	11-16	Academy
Battle			
Claverham Community College	Secondary	11-16	Community
Rural Rother			
Robertsbridge Community College	Secondary	11-16	Community
Crowborough			
Beacon Academy	Secondary	11-18	Academy
Heathfield			
Heathfield Community College	Secondary	11-18	Community
Polegate / Willingdon			
Willingdon Community School	Secondary	11-16	Community
Holdina			
Uckfield		44.40	
Uckfield Community Technology College	Secondary	11-18	Community
Rural Wealden			
Uplands Community College	Secondary	11-18	Community

# Special schools and alternative provision

School name	Туре	Age	Status as at
		range	1 September 2020
Bexhill			
Glyne Gap School	Special	2-19	Academy
The Workplace	Alternative Provision	11-16	Academy
Crowborough			
Grove Park School	Special	4-19	Community
Eastbourne Borough			
College Central	Alternative Provision	4-16	Academy
Hazel Court School	Special	11-19	Academy
The Lindfield School	Special	11-16	Academy
The South Downs School	Special	4-11	Academy
Hailsham			
The Ropemakers Academy	Special	4-16	Academy
Hastings Borough			
New Horizons School	Special	7-16	Academy
Torfield School	Special	4-11	Academy
Saxon Mount School	Special	11-16	Academy
Seaford			
Cuckmere House School	Special	6-16	Academy
Rural Wealden			
St Mary's School, Horam	Special	9-16	Academy