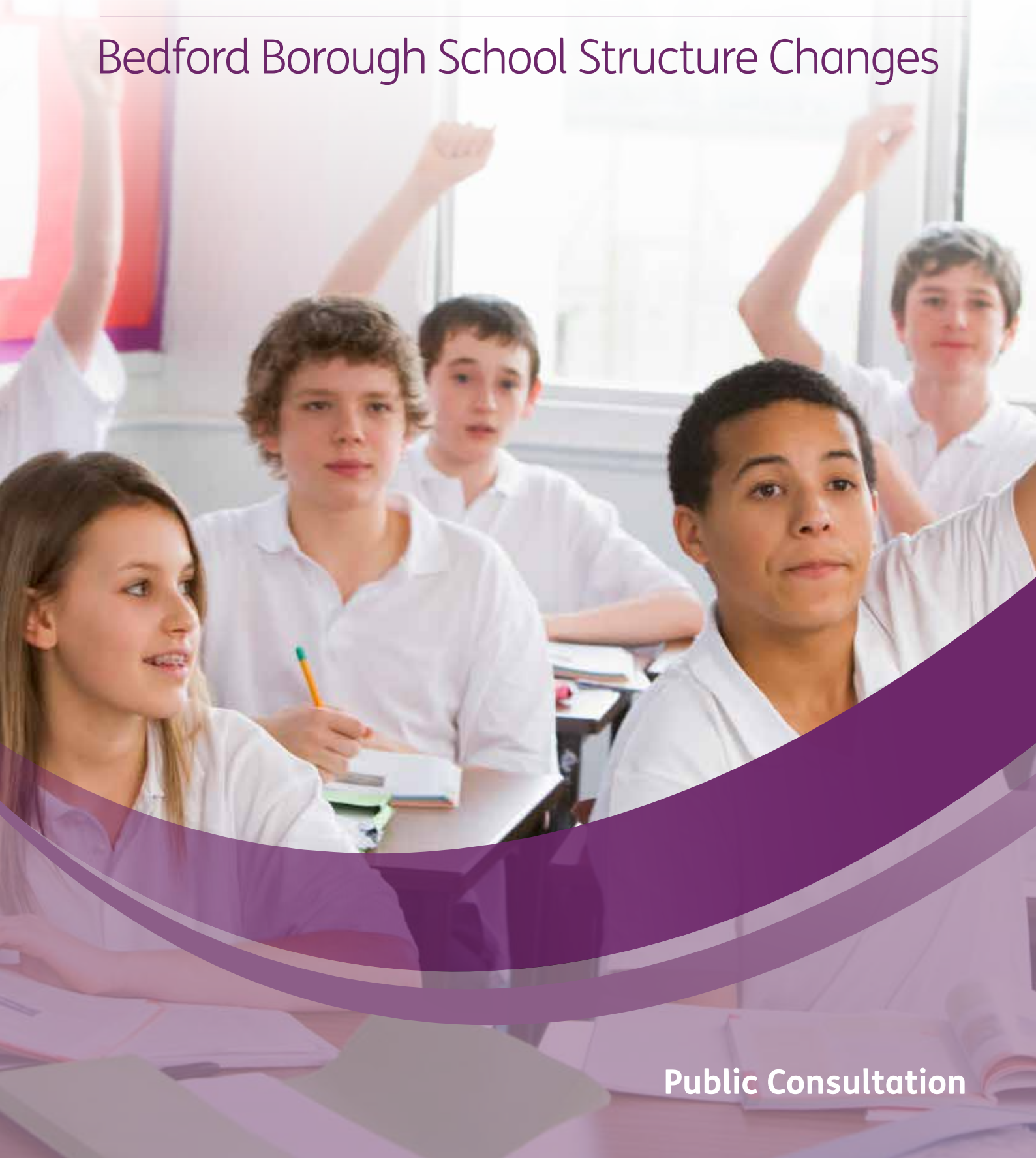




BEDFORD
BOROUGH COUNCIL

School structural consultation

Bedford Borough School Structure Changes



Public Consultation

Foreword

On Friday 3 July 2015, we announced that we would work alongside schools in Bedford Borough to design and deliver a transition from a three-tier education system (with lower, middle and upper schools) to a two-tier system (with primary and secondary schools).

We have been working alongside head teachers and governors to ensure that these changes to schools are as coordinated and coherent as possible and, at the same time, are able to offer future certainty to parents, carers and guardians.

Having spoken to many parents in the Borough, our priority is for every school in the Borough to be good or outstanding and to ensure that parents, carers and guardians are able to clearly understand the route their child, or children could take through the education system.

We feel it is important that as schools are finalising their school-specific proposals and consulting on them accordingly with their communities, Bedford Borough Council provides an overview of the strategic plans for the Borough as a whole.

Within this document you will find an overview of each school and the proposals they are consulting on, together with a link to where you can find their consultation documents. The document also provides an overview of the proposed transition options for children and young people as we move towards a two-tier system.

We really want to hear your views before we decide whether to take on this big change in schools structures in Bedford Borough. More than 90% of our schools are independently rated as good or outstanding according to the school inspector Ofsted, putting us at the top of local authorities in the Eastern Region, and we want to continue to enable children and young people in Bedford Borough to access the best opportunities in life and the best start in life.

We hope you find the information in the document helpful and that you are able to take the time to provide your views on the proposals.



Cllr Henry Vann
Education Portfolio Holder



Mayor Dave Hodgson
Mayor of Bedford Borough

Summary

In this consultation on the future organisation of schools in Bedford Borough, we are proposing - in general - that:

- Lower schools become primary schools for pupils aged 4-11 years
- Upper schools become secondary schools for pupils aged 11-18 years
- Middle schools either become primary schools, secondary schools or work with the local lower school to offer a single primary school option for that community.
- It is proposed that in July 2019 both Year 7 and Year 8 pupils from middle schools converting to primary schools, transfer to secondary school in Year 8 and Year 9 respectively.

The significant exceptions to the above proposed changes are the Wootton school cluster (Wootton Lower School, Broadmead Lower School, Marston Vale Middle School and Wootton Upper School), who have opted to remain within a three-tier education system given their links to Central Bedfordshire schools who also remain within a 3 tier system. If the proposal is agreed, it is also intended that the change would take place over a two year period from September 2017 to September 2019.

- This consultation concerns Bedford Borough Council's consultation on structural change in Bedford Borough. You can find out how to respond to this consultation on the next page. If you have comments on the Borough's proposals you should respond to this consultation.
- Your response to this consultation will inform the council's Executive in their decision making on whether to pursue structural change within Bedford Borough. This meeting is currently scheduled for 20th January 2016.
- The Borough Council's proposal is also reliant on individual schools' decisions and separate consultations on individual schools' decisions are being carried out by schools individually. Links to these other consultations can be found on pages 12 to 15. If you have comments on individual schools' proposals you should respond to the school's consultation.

Please note: This consultation concerns proposed structural changes to schools within Bedford Borough, it does not concern school building and classroom building projects. If the consultation proposals are agreed, we will work with schools and invest in local schools - through the Bedford Borough School Capital Programme - to support them as they make this transition.

Consultation

What are schools consulting on?

Each school is required to consult on their own age range or admissions changes. The Governing Bodies of each school will take responses to their consultation into consideration before reaching a decision. LA will be consulting on admission changes to community schools.

What is Bedford Borough Council consulting on?

In this consultation we are seeking views on the Council's approach on either moving to the proposed two tier system of primary and secondary schools or retaining the predominantly current three tier structure of lower, middle and upper schools. Responses to this consultation will be delivered to the Executive Committee in order for them to reach a decision on the proposal.

Who is being consulted?

We want to hear from as many people as possible. Your views will help inform the decision on the future of education in Bedford Borough for the current and future generations of young people. We are specifically consulting the following groups, and would encourage anyone interested to read through this proposal document and give us your views:

- Parents of every registered pupil at a school in Bedford Borough
- Parents of potential pupils in Bedford Borough and in Early Years provision
- Staff who work at the schools in Bedford Borough
- Adjoining Local Authorities
- Our local communities
- Schools within Bedford Borough
- Parish Councils
- The Church of England and Roman Catholic Dioceses
- Anyone else who has an interest in the proposal

How are we consulting?

You can respond to the consultation and find out more in the following ways:

Online: www.bedford.gov.uk/2tier (Budget Proposals)

By post: Consulting Bedford, 6th Floor Borough Hall, Cauldwell Street, Bedford, MK42 9AP

By email: consultingbedford@bedford.gov.uk **By phone:** 01234 276884

In person: Documents and response forms will be available at any Bedford Borough library, Borough Hall reception area and the Customer Service Centre. They are also available on request. The consultation runs until 18th December 2015. Comments received will be published.

What happens next?

Once the decisions have been made stakeholders and consultees will be contacted with an update on the plans. The website will also be updated as the project moves forward. The results will be considered at an executive meeting on 20th January 2016 along with the capital expenditure for schools for the coming year.

Overview

In this section, we have set out in colour charts what the proposed structure will look like across each cluster of local schools. At the bottom of this section we also list schools not currently proposing to change their structure.

Wilstead/Wixams (Note: Lakeview is already a Primary School)



*There is a need for a secondary school within the Wixams development; Bedford Technical Academy is currently awaiting Secretary of State approval to become a secondary school.

East West Bedford



*Some discussions are ongoing, but there is an in principle agreement for the community to be served by the two schools working together to deliver one school on one site.

Kempston

Primary	Balliol	Bedford Road	Camestone	Kempston Rural
	Springfield			
Secondary	* Hastingsbury/Robert Bruce		* Daubeney	

*Discussions ongoing with the Challenger Trust.

North Bedfordshire

Primary	Carlton	Christopher Reeves	Bromham
	John Gibbard	Kymbrook	Oakley
	Ursula Taylor	St. Lawrence	* Riseley / Margaret Beaufort
	Eileen Wade	Turvey	* Harrold Lower/ Harrold Priory
	Milton Ernest	Pinchmill	Thurleigh
Secondary	Sharnbrook	Lincroft	

* Some discussions are ongoing, but there is an in principle agreement for the community to be served by the two schools working together to deliver one school on one site.

Schools already two-tier or not currently proposing to change their age range:

South Bedford

Caudwell (Primary) Cotton End (Primary) Elstow (Primary) King's Oak (Primary)	Shackleton (Primary) Shortstown (Primary) Bedford Academy (Secondary) Bedford Free School (Secondary)
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Stewartby/Wootton

Broadmead (Lower) Wootton (Lower)	Marston Vale (Middle) Wootton (Upper)
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East West Bedford

Great Denham (Primary) Queens Park (Primary) Putnoe (Primary)	Livingstone (Primary) St John Rigby (Primary)
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Wixams

Lakeview (Primary)

How each year group would transition

This section gives you an overview of the proposed journey children in different year groups will take through school if these changes go ahead. For each type of school, we have set out the year groups, and the expected journeys children and young people will make as school structures change.

Pupils in Years 7 to 13 in the following schools will not need to transfer school.

Mark Rutherford (Secondary/Upper)

Sharnbrook (Upper)

Biddenham (Secondary/Upper)

Hastingsbury (Upper)

St Thomas More

Schools becoming Primary Schools:

Balliol	Riseley/Margaret Beaufort*
Bedford Road	Roxton VA
Brickhill	Scott/Beauchamp*
Bromham	Springfield
Camestone	St. James' VA
Carlton	St. Joseph's/St. Gregory's
Castle	St. Lawrence
Christopher Reeves	The Hills Academy
Cople	Thurleigh
Edith Cavell	Turvey
Eileen Wade	Ursula Taylor
Goldington Green Academy	Wilden VA
Great Barford/Alban*	Willington
Harrold/Harrold Priory*	Wilstead
Hazeldene	
John Gibbard	
Kempston Rural	
Kymbrook	
Milton Ernest	
Oakley	
Pinchmill	
Priory	
Ravensden VA	
Renhold VC	

*Some discussions are ongoing, but there is an in principle agreement for the community to be served by the two schools working together to deliver one school on one site.

School Year Group as at Nov 2015	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022
<u>Year R</u> Stay in same school then transfer at the end of Year 6 into secondary school	Year 1 at Lower which converts to Primary	Year 2 at Primary	Year 3 at Primary	Year 4 at Primary	Year 5 at Primary	Year 6 at Primary	Year 7 at Secondary
<u>Year 1</u> Stay in same school then transfer at the end of Year 6 into secondary school	Year 2 at Lower which converts to Primary	Year 3 at Primary	Year 4 at Primary	Year 5 at Primary	Year 6 at Primary	Year 7 at Secondary	Year 8 at Secondary
<u>Year 2</u> Stay in same school then transfer at the end of Year 6 into secondary school	Year 3 at Lower which converts to Primary	Year 4 at Primary	Year 5 at Primary	Year 6 at Primary	Year 7 at Secondary	Year 8 at Secondary	Year 9 at Secondary
<u>Year 3</u> Stay in same school then transfer at the end of Year 6 into secondary school	Year 4 at Lower which converts to Primary	Year 5 at Primary	Year 6 at Primary	Year 7 at Secondary	Year 8 at Secondary	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary
<u>Year 4</u> Transfer into Year 5 at middle school. Then transfer at the end of Year 7 into secondary school	Year 5 at Middle	Year 6 at Middle	Year 7 at Middle then transfer to secondary	Year 8 at Secondary - stay in middle school if converts to secondary	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary

Middle Schools becoming Primary schools:

Alban/Great Barford*	Harrold Priory/Harrold*
Beauchamp/Scott*	St Gregory's Middle
Margaret Beaufort/Riseley*	Westfield Middle

*Some discussions are ongoing, but there is an in principle agreement for the community to be served by the two schools working together to deliver one school on one site.

What year group is a child in? (School Year Group as at Nov 2015)	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022
<u>Year 4</u> Transfer into Year 5 at middle school. Then transfer at the end of Year 7 into secondary school	Year 5 at Middle	Year 6 at Middle	Year 7 at Middle then transfer to secondary	Year 8 at secondary	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary
<u>Year 5</u> Stay in middle school until the end of year 8 then transfer into Secondary School	Year 6 at Middle	Year 7 at Middle	Year 8 at Middle	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary	
<u>Year 6</u> Stay in middle school until the end of year 8 then transfer into Secondary School	Year 7 at Middle	Year 8 at Middle	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary		
<u>Year 7</u> Stay in middle school until the end of year 8 then transfer into Secondary School	Year 8 at Middle	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary			
<u>Year 8</u> Year 8 transition as normal to an upper school	Year 9 at Upper / Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary				

Middle Schools becoming Secondary Schools:

If a middle school becomes a secondary school, or merges with an existing secondary school, then pupils in year 7 and year 8 will remain in the same school as it becomes secondary.

Goldington Academy* Newnham Middle	Robert Bruce Academy (merged with Hastingsbury) Lincroft Academy
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*Goldington Academy are currently also proposing a year 5 point of entry, that goes beyond the proposals set out by Bedford Borough Council in this consultation.

What year group is a child in? (School Year Group as at Nov 2015)	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	Sept 2021	Sept 2022
<u>Year 4</u> Transfer into year 5 at middle school, remaining in the school as it converts into a secondary school	Year 5 at middle which is converting to a secondary school	Year 6 at the middle school as it converts to a secondary school	Year 7 at secondary	Year 8 at secondary school	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary
<u>Year 5</u> Stay in current school remaining in the school as it converts into a secondary school	Year 6 at middle which is converting to a secondary school	Year 7 at secondary as it converts	Year 8 at Secondary	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary	
<u>Year 6</u> Stay in current school remaining in the school as it converts into a secondary school	Year 7 at Middle which is converting to a secondary school	Year 8 at secondary as it converts	Year 9 at Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary		
<u>Year 7</u> Stay in current school remaining in the school as it converts into a secondary school	Year 8 at Middle which is converting to a secondary school	Year 9 at secondary as it converts	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary			
<u>Year 8</u> Stay in current school	Year 9 at Upper / Secondary	Year 10 at Secondary	Year 11 at Secondary				

Overview of proposed changes

East West Bedford

Primary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Date of Change	
Castle	Lower	90	Primary	90	2017	http://castlelowerschool.co.uk/federation/
Cople	Lower	15	Primary	30	2017	http://www.coplelower.ik.org/home.ikml
Willington	Lower	15	Primary	30	2017	http://www.willingtonlowerschool.org.uk/
Goldington Green Academy	Lower	90	Primary	90	2017	http://www.goldingtongreenacademy.co.uk/
Great Barford	Lower	30	Primary	30	2017	http://www.greatbarford.beds.sch.uk/website
Hazeldene	Lower	60	Primary	60	2017	http://www.hazeldeneschool.co.uk/documents/Federation/Federation.html
Putnoe Academy	Primary	90	Primary	90	N/A	N/A
Ravensden VA	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.ravensden.beds.sch.uk/
Renhold VC	Lower	30	Primary	30	2017	http://www.renhold.beds.sch.uk/
Roxton VA	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.roxton.beds.sch.uk/
The Hills Academy	Lower	60	Primary	60	2017	http://www.thehillslowerschool.co.uk/
Wilden VA	Lower	12	Primary	12	2017	http://www.wilden.beds.sch.uk/
Alban Academy	Middle	140	Primary - Year 8	30	2017	http://www.albanacademy.org/
Brickhill	Lower	60	Primary	30	2017	http://www.brickhilllowerschool.co.uk/
Edith Cavell	Lower	45	Primary	45	2017	http://www.edithcavell.ik.org/
Great Denham	Primary	60	Primary	90	N/A	N/A
Livingstone	Primary	60	Primary	60	N/A	N/A
North of Bromham Road	Primary	60	Primary	60	N/A	New school due to open in Sept 2017
Priory	Lower	26	Primary	26	2017	http://www.priorylower.co.uk/
Queens Park Academy	Primary	60	Primary	60	N/A	N/A
Scott / Beauchamp	Lower / Middle	60 / 120	To be confirmed	90	2017	http://www.scott.beds.sch.uk/ http://www.beauchampschool.co.uk/
St James' VA	Lower	25	Primary	25	2017	http://www.stjamesvalower.org.uk/
Westfield	Middle	100	Primary	30	N/A	http://westfieldschool.net/
St. Joseph's / St Gregory's	Lower/ Middle	75/90	Primary	75	2017	http://www.st-gregorys.beds.sch.uk/ www.st-josephs.beds.sch.uk
St John Rigby Academy	Primary	60	Primary	60	N/A	N/A

Secondary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Date of Change	
Goldington Academy	Middle	175	Year 5 -Secondary	Year 5 - 60, Year 7 - 60	2017	http://www.goldingtonacademy.org.uk/Change-Consultation
Newnham	Middle	150	Secondary	150	2017	http://www.newnham-middle.org.uk/News/Federation/
Mark Rutherford	Upper	Year 7 - 80 Year 9 - 230	Secondary	200	2017	http://www.markrutherford.beds.sch.uk/
Biddenham	Upper	Year 7 - 60 Year 9 - 240	Secondary	200	2017	http://www.biddenham.beds.sch.uk/
St Thomas More	Upper	Year 7 - 75 Year 9 - 200	Secondary	200	2017	http://www.st-thomasmore.org.uk/

Kempston

Primary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Date of Change	
Balliol	Lower	52	Primary	52	2017	http://www.balliolschool.co.uk/
Bedford Road	Lower	60	Primary	60	2017	http://bedfordroadlower.org.uk/
Camestone	Lower	60	Primary	60	2017	http://camestoneschool.co.uk/
Kempston Rural	Lower	60	Primary	60	2017	http://www.kempstonrural.beds.sch.uk/
Springfield	Lower	72	Primary	72	2017	http://www.springfieldlower.org.uk/

Secondary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Date of Change	
Daubeney Academy	Middle	120	Secondary	120	2018	http://www.daubeneyacademy.co.uk/
Robert Bruce/ Hastings-bury	Middle/ Upper	160/240	Secondary	240	2017	http://www.hastingsbury.beds.sch.uk/page/default.asp?title=Home&pid=1 http://www.robertbruce.beds.sch.uk/

North Bedfordshire

Primary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Date of Change	
Bromham	Lower	60	Primary	60	2017	http://www.bromham.beds.sch.uk/
Oakley	Lower	40	Primary	45	2017	http://www.oakleylowerschool.co.uk/
Ursula Taylor	Lower	54	Primary	54	2017	http://ursulataylor.eschools.co.uk/website
Carlton	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.carltonvclower.ik.org/
Christopher Reeves	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.christopher-reeves-school.co.uk/
Eileen Wade	Lower	10	Primary	10	2017	http://www.eileenwadelower.ik.org/
Harrold/ Harrold Priory	Lower/ Middle	24/90	One Primary on one site	30	2017	http://www.harroldpriory.co.uk/ http://harroldlowerschool.co.uk/
John Gibbard	Lower	28	Primary	28	2017	https://nbscloud.lppplus.net/website/JohnGibbard/Pages/home.aspx
Kymbrook	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.kymbrooklowerschool.co.uk/
Milton Ernest	Lower	12	Primary	12	2017	http://www.miltonernestschool.ik.org/
Pinchmill	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.pinchmill.beds.sch.uk/
Riseley/ Margaret Beaufort	Lower / Middle	28/90	One Primary on one site	28	2017	http://www.riseleylower.ik.org/ http://www.margaretbeaufort.org.uk/
St Lawrence	Lower	25	Primary	30	2017	http://www.st-lawrenceschool.co.uk/
Thurleigh	Lower	15	Primary	15	2017	http://www.thurleighlowerschool.co.uk/
Turvey	Lower	24	Primary	24	2017	http://www.turveylower.co.uk/

Secondary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Date of Change	
Lincroft	Middle	210	Secondary	210	2017	http://www.lincroftschool.co.uk/
Sharnbrook	Upper	400	Secondary	270	2017	http://www.sharnbrook.beds.sch.uk/

Wilstead / Wixams

Primary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	Admission Number	Type	Admission Number	Phase of Change	
Lakeview	Primary	60	Primary	60	N/A	N/A
Wilstead	Lower	30	Primary	30	2017	http://www.wilsteadlower.beds.sch.uk/
Broadmead	Lower	29	Lower	29	N/A	N/A
Wootton Lower	Lower	60	Lower	60	N/A	N/A

Secondary

School	Current		Proposals			Link to Consultation
	Type	PAN	Type	PAN	Phase of Change	
Marston Vale	Middle	150	Middle	150	N/A	N/A
Wootton Upper	Upper	297	Upper	297	N/A	N/A
Wixams Secondary	Secondary	100	Secondary	100	N/A	N/A

Finding out more

If you would like further copies, a large-print copy or information about us and our services, please telephone or write to us at our address below.

Për Informacion

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Informacja

برای اطلاع

Za Informacije

Per Informazione

তথ্যের জন্য



School Organisation Review

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www.bedford.gov.uk/2tier