

**Warwickshire County Council  
Education Services**

**Annual Education Sufficiency Update**

**Ages 0-25**

**November 2023**

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# 1. Executive Summary

This annual sufficiency update provides information about the early years, childcare and education provided to Warwickshire children and young people aged 0-25. The five constituent Districts and Boroughs of Warwickshire are addressed individually, with a summary of the county provided in this Executive Summary.

## **Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-14yrs & 0-18yrs with SEND)**

Across the county as a whole, there is sufficient capacity to provide early years and childcare places to all that require it. Provision is a mixture of childminders, nurseries, and out of school clubs and holiday clubs. The demand for early years and childcare provision is expected to increase due to the county seeing significant growth due to housing development alongside recent Government initiatives to increase the funded entitlements from April 2024. The impact of these and other factors will be monitored.

The county has fourteen Children & Family Centres, with at least one in every District/Borough offering flexible support for families with young people aged 0-19yrs (or 25yrs for young people with additional needs).

Almost everywhere in the county is within 3.5km of one or more service. Those regions that are more than 3.5km from services are small in number and size, and are typically located in rural areas or near the county border.

There are childcare services offering funded places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds in every area in the county. Of the total number of funded places offered, around 85% are currently occupied for each year group. Around 43% of schools offer 'wraparound care' (before and after school). Of the total number of these places, 83% are currently occupied.

Around half of the county's childcare services operate all year round or during the school holidays.

Of the county's childcare services that have undergone a full Early Years inspection from Ofsted, 94% received either "Good" or "Outstanding" judgements at their most recent inspection.

Over 70% of childcare services can fully support the needs of at least one category of Special Educational Need / Disability (SEND), with this being fairly consistent across the county.

As a whole the sector is experiencing ongoing staff recruitment and retention pressures which is impacting settings ability to offer all places, this is reflective of a for the early years sector

Warwickshire has worked closely over the last year to engage and work with refugee, migrant and asylum seeker families who are supported to find places to meet their needs.

Bespoke support continues to be offered to families that require support to find places by the Family Information Service who work with Early Years teams to monitor localised place pressures where identified. For children with SEND there is also the SEND Childcare co-ordinator to support individual families.

Ongoing development of provision continues to be managed proactively by working with the Private, Voluntary and Independent sector alongside school partners. This is managed via countywide rolling approach to place creation supporting new developments via a number of ways.

- New School Developments – include premises for early years provision
- Collaboration with schools to support development of direct delivered early years and childcare places along with expansion of existing services to increase places
- Use of developer funding to support place expansion where available for identified areas
- Proactive recruitment campaign to encourage new childminder registrations, including promotion of government start up grants
- Business support and advice to all sectors and signposting to gap areas

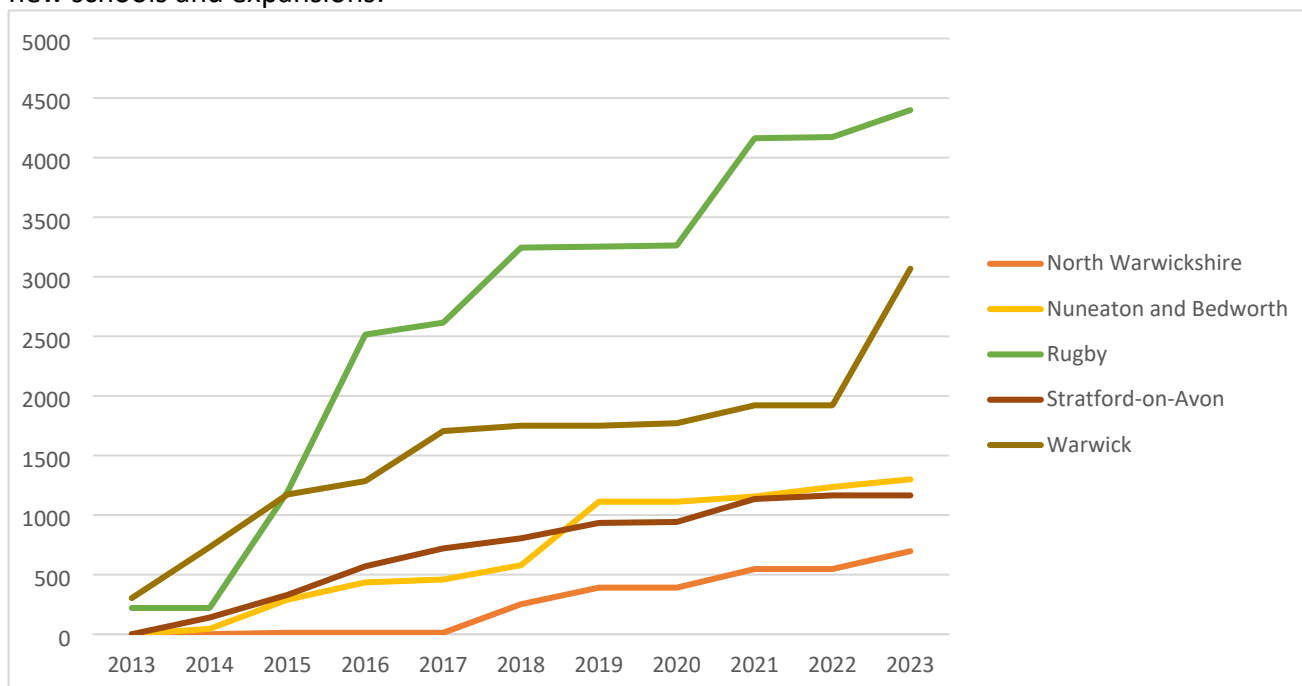
Warwickshire meets place needs for early years children with SEND via all delivery partners, with an additional allocation of those accredited as WincKs settings via the county accreditation process (Warwickshire Inclusion Kitemarking Scheme, which recognises excellence in early years SEND provision). However, across the county pressure for Early Years places for children with SEND is increasing and is a focus under the SEND and inclusion change programme.

## Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age

Warwickshire is experiencing a period of significant growth, with large scale housing development across the county contributing to an additional 20,000 Primary and Secondary pupil spaces over the last 15 years with a further 10,000 additional Primary and Secondary pupil spaces currently anticipated over the next 15 years, assuming all strategic housing is delivered

To accommodate this growth, as well as numerous school expansions across the county, 11 new schools have opened in Warwickshire since 2010, comprising six Primary, two Secondary, one all-through and three special schools. Maps of housing development and new schools/expansions are provided as an Appendix.

In the last 10 years, **WCC has delivered over 10,000 new permanent school places** through these new schools and expansions:



Of these new places, 54% are Primary, 39% Secondary and 7% at Specialist settings.

During the next fifteen-year period we currently **expect to deliver at least another seven new schools, as well as several expansion projects** for both mainstream and specialist settings. Longer term if all proposed housing development across the county builds out as suggested this figure could rise to as many as 24 new schools to meet the need for school places the new housing will bring.

### Primary

Warwickshire as a whole is forecast to have a 1% decrease in total Primary pupils between 2023 and 2027, when only currently approved housing is taken into account. An underlying reduction in population from NHS data (of around -10%) is largely offset by the impact of new housing across the county. This offset is not universal across the county, North Warwickshire does not have the same levels of new or approved housing development as other areas and is forecast to have a reduction in Primary cohorts of around -5% over the forecast period.

The County as a whole has slight deficit forecast (-1% increasing to -4%) of school places at Year 6 from 2023 onwards, and in Year 4 and Year 5 from 2025. This pressure on places in Key Stage 2 is mostly in Rugby and Warwick District as new families are expected to move into those areas during the school year

21 Primary planning areas are operating with significant (>15%) surplus places and are forecast for this to continue. As Central Government funding for schools is based on the number of pupils on roll this typically causes financial strain for schools in those areas. The majority of these are government designated rural schools and/or in receipt of sparsity funding and are limited in the organisational options to respond to the reduction in local populations.

Warwickshire has recently welcomed children and young people as part of Government initiatives to support asylum seekers, refugees and other migrants from countries including Afghanistan, Ukraine, Hong Kong and Syria. All school-age children are offered school places under the same process as existing Warwickshire residents. These additional pupils were not specifically planned for due the nature of such initiatives resulting in a sudden influx of families and have increased pupil numbers during the school year in certain areas of the county.

Warwickshire shares a boundary with nine other local authorities and there is significant cross-border movement of pupils to attend schools. At Primary phase, approximately the same number of Warwickshire pupils attend schools out of the county as “out of county” pupils access Warwickshire schools.

## **Secondary**

Warwickshire as a whole is forecast to have a 7% increase in total Secondary pupils between 2023 and 2029, when only currently approved housing is taken into account. An underlying reduction in population from NHS data (of around -9%) is more than offset by the impact of new housing across the county. This growth is not universal across the county, with North Warwickshire forecasting very little growth and other areas forecasting between 8% and 15% over the forecast period.

All areas of the county are experiencing pressure on Secondary school places in some year groups, as a combined result of larger resident cohorts moving through these year groups and new housing development in the county bringing new families during the school year.

In addition to new schools opening and permanent expansion of existing schools as detailed later in this document, to meet the increasing need for places during the school year Secondary schools will be required to take a small number of pupils over capacity in most year groups and most areas by the end of 2023. The local authority is working with Secondary schools to support with the introduction of temporary expansions/additional places and Fair Access Protocol will continue to be used as appropriate.

Warwickshire shares a boundary with nine other local authorities and there is significant cross-border movement of pupils to attend schools. At Secondary phase, over 2000 more “out of county” pupils access Warwickshire schools than Warwickshire pupils attend schools over the border. This constitutes around 6% of Warwickshire’s Secondary school places and are predominantly allocated places as part of the Year 7 allocation process, which increases the pressure on Secondary schools particularly when new families move into Warwickshire later during the school year

North Warwickshire and Stratford District are most affected by ‘out of county’ pupils, with around 1500 of the pupils in schools in each of those areas travelling from a different local authority.

**Summary of cross-border movement (Primary and Secondary) 2022:**

Other LA	No. of Warks pupils at schools outside Warks	No. of non-Warks pupils at Warks schools	Net movement into Warks schools
Worcestershire	212	1818	1606
Solihull	525	1270	745
Coventry	1507	1217	-290
Staffordshire	245	811	566
West Northamptonshire	159	671	512
Leicestershire	446	418	-28
Oxfordshire	148	281	133
Birmingham	313	226	-87
Gloucestershire	397	95	-302
<b>Total</b>	<b>3952</b>	<b>6807</b>	<b>2855</b>

Longer-term, beyond the current forecast period of seven years to 2029, the reducing birth numbers that are now being experienced at early Primary phase could result in a reduction in Secondary cohorts in areas where this is not offset by the impact of housing.

**Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

In September 2022 there were 3544 children and young people of compulsory school age with Education Health Care Plans (EHCPs) resident in Warwickshire, this is approximately 4% of the total population of that age, which is the same as the national average.

Around half of pupils with an EHCP attend mainstream schools, with the majority of the rest attending LA maintained/academy special schools. A small minority (8%) attend Independent Special Schools and 3% currently attend Specialist Resourced Provision. In total, 1852 Warwickshire pupils attended a specialist (non-mainstream) setting. An additional 175 pupils from outside Warwickshire took up places at Warwickshire specialist settings.

In September 2022 Warwickshire had 1603 places at state-maintained settings (R-Y11), of which 92% were at special schools. There is currently insufficient capacity in Warwickshire state-maintained specialist provision to accommodate demand. Independent Special Schools and settings outside of Warwickshire are also used to provide pupils with appropriate schooling.

The trend in Warwickshire is for increased demand for specialist education provision. The number of EHCPs in Warwickshire has increased annually by 9% for the past 5 years, which is in line with national growth.

Warwickshire is a ‘net importer’ of SEND pupils. Approximately 70 pupils resident in Warwickshire access specialist provision outside the county, and approximately 175 pupils from outside of Warwickshire access specialist places located in Warwickshire.

Overall, at Primary phase demand is less and Specialist Resourced Provisions in Primary schools help to meet need across the county.

Demand for specialist places is generally greater at the Secondary phase and all areas of the county would benefit from additional specialist provision. North Rugby, Stratford and Warwick districts/boroughs are a priority for additional Secondary specialist provision. The Council plans to expand resourced provision in the area. Provision in special schools is being expanded in line with population growth in the Warwick and Nuneaton areas. A 'deep dive' review is taking place, as part of the Delivering Better Value Programme, which will lead to recommendations on whether any further special school provision should also be commissioned.

## **Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education**

The Post 16 sector within the county comprises three Further Education (FE) Colleges and one Sixth Form College, along with 31 school Sixth Forms (including specialist (SEND) provision). There are also a number of independent training providers (who mainly deliver apprenticeships) based within Warwickshire.

These providers all enrol students from across and outside the county. Often students will choose to travel outside of their district/borough to attend settings.

In 2023/24 there is a total of 13,632 funded Post 16 places in Warwickshire. There has been an increase in ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency) funded places in the Sixth Form College, an increase of 22 places since 2022/23.

In comparison there has been a decline in the number of funded places in Warwickshire's FE Colleges and school Sixth Forms (decrease of 214 places in school Sixth Forms and a decrease of 104 places in FE Colleges; since 2022/23). Despite a decrease in ESFA funded Post 16 places in Warwickshire FE colleges, they still account for 47.1% of the funded places in 2023/24.

Based on the forecast for the Post 16 cohort for 2023/24 and 2024/25 there is a sufficient number of places for Post 16 students. Forecasts indicate that there will be an increase in the total number of Post 16 pupils in Warwickshire from 2023 onwards. Where the cohort forecast exceeds the current number of ESFA funded Post 16 places Warwickshire County Council will work alongside schools, colleges and partners to ensure the demand is met.

The funding of new post-16 places rests with the ESFA. Where there is a gap in provision, the EFSA will either consider requests from existing providers that are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted or will seek new provision from independent learning providers (ILPs). The EFSA apply standard criteria to ensure that gaps are well evidenced prior to securing additional places and will only seek to fund new provision where it adds value and is a high-quality addition to the existing offer for young people.

As academies, the King Edward Sixth Form College and school sixth forms are required to submit a business case to the Education Funding Skills Association, via the Regional Schools Commissioner, if their numbers are to grow by 50 or more students.



Post 16 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are accommodated in mainstream schools and colleges as well as in specialist settings across the county. Colleges can support students that have an EHCP up to the age of 25.

## 2. Introduction and explanatory notes

This annual sufficiency update is published to provide the current context for the delivery of the Warwickshire County Council (WCC) Education Sufficiency Strategy 2018 – 2023 (Sufficiency Strategy). The Sufficiency Strategy is published online here: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolandlearningstrategies> and provides further details regarding the Local Authority's statutory responsibilities, pupil forecast methodology, key strategic priorities, and funding arrangements.

This update also supports the [Warwickshire SEND and Inclusion Strategy](https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1090-221) <https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1090-221>.

### Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-18)

Local authorities are required by legislation under the Childcare Act 2006 to:

- a. secure sufficient childcare, so 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)
- b. secure sufficient free early years provision for eligible young children
- c. assess the sufficiency of the childcare in their area and report annually (amended by The Children and Families Act 2014).

As part of the evaluation of Early Years and Childcare sufficiency in the county, characteristics are monitored at county, district/borough and ESEC Planning area level. A map showing Planning area boundaries can be viewed at <https://data.warwickshire.gov.uk/esec-planning-area-boundaries/>

Provision is evaluated for:

- Variety - the mixture of childminders, nurseries, out of school and holiday clubs providing early years and childcare services locally
- Availability – unfilled spaces currently available to parents
- Workforce – sufficiency of staff, issues with recruitment
- Quality – quality of provision as rated by OFSTED
- Capacity – ability of providers to increase the number of places offered
- Premises – opportunity available in existing facilities to increase the number of places offered
- Expertise – qualifications held by members of staff working directly with children
- Affordability – average hourly cost of a childcare place compared with wider West Midlands averages. Includes assessment of parental awareness of the Tax-Free Childcare scheme
- Proximity – county-wide assessment for areas that are over 3.5km from a childcare provider
- Take up of government-funded places – assessment of where funded places are offered, and the sufficiency of these places
- Childcare for school-age children – number of providers and available places at existing providers
- Holiday care – operation of childcare services during school holidays as well as formal schemes

- Areas of deprivation – specific focus on the 30% most disadvantaged areas nationally to assess availability of childcare
- SEND – assessment of availability of providers that can support children with one or more type of Special Educational Need/Disability in terms of (i) physical access and space, (ii) resources and specialist equipment, (iii) staffing levels and (iv) staff skills and experience.

The evaluation of these characteristics is primarily based on data collected in the Childcare Sufficiency survey. This survey is completed annually by Warwickshire’s childcare providers. Feedback from families has also been collected via the 2023 Parent / Carer Early Years & Childcare survey which saw 187 responses.

A forecast of the demand for places in forthcoming years in each Planning Area is presented in the appendices. The forecast is based on the current occupancy of places (as reported by Warwickshire’s childcare providers in the annual Childcare Sufficiency survey) and the future change in the numbers of children aged 0-14yrs and 15-18yrs with SEND in the corresponding district/borough (as projected by the Office for National Statistics).

A directory of registered childcare providers in Warwickshire is available online here: <https://admissions.warwickshire.gov.uk/synergy/childcareprovidersearch.aspx>

## **Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age**

WCC produces forecasts of school pupil numbers on an annual basis, using the latest available data.

WCC’s forecasts (along with all local authorities) are assessed for accuracy by the DfE annually. For 2022/23 forecasts were within the DfE’s acceptable margins of error at up to +3% for Primary and up to +5% for Secondary. This slight overestimation allows for a conservative margin of error in planning for required school places.

For the purposes of forecasting and planning school places, the county is divided into ‘planning areas’. Planning areas are geographical areas that contain at least one school, but typically several schools that can reasonably be considered to be options for the children that live in the planning area to attend based on historical attendance trends. Maps of all Warwickshire’s planning areas and schools are provided as an Appendix.

The latest pupil forecasts are also provided as an Appendix. Forecasts include the expected impact of new housing as well as typical patterns of pupils attending schools from different areas including outside of Warwickshire. WCC Education Services works collaboratively with the five District and Borough planning authorities and the progress of proposed and approved housing development across the county is continually monitored.

Primary schools admit new pupils annually at Reception (Year R) (except for Junior Schools which admit pupils at Year 3) and Secondary schools at Year 7. Admissions outside the annual intake rounds for Year R, Year 3 and Year 7 are referred to as “in-year” applications.

Particular attention is paid to Reception forecasts, as legislation does not allow class sizes to exceed 30 pupils in Years R to 2 (‘Key Stage 1’ or ‘Infant’), unless in excepted circumstances. Similar

guidelines do not apply to older pupil cohorts, so although Secondary schools generally organise for class sizes of 30, they have greater flexibility to admit pupils above this number where required. In the same way, there is the potential for Primary year groups from Year 3 and up ('Key Stage 2', or 'Juniors') to take a small number of additional pupils over the assumed 30 class size if necessary.

Additional school places are usually provided by expansions or new schools, in multiples of 30. This is so that schools can operate and staff full classes, allowing financial sustainability. A class of 30 is referred to as a 'Form of Entry' (FE) and schools can be referred to by their size in forms of entry, eg. The Griffin School has opened in 2023 as 1FE, it will have an intake of 30 at Reception and a total final capacity of 210.

Pupil forecasts include capacity from future new school places to be provided (from 2024 onwards) through approved expansions of existing schools or the opening of new schools.

The day to day organisation of classes within each school is the responsibility of that school's leadership and while academies are also responsible for setting the admission number for their school (PAN), we expect all schools to be mindful of the expected and current school place pressures and work collaboratively with Education Services to meet the need for places in their local area.

## **Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education**

WCC has a duty to ensure sufficiency of Post 16 provision across the County. This includes securing sufficient suitable education and training provision for 16 to 18 year olds, and for young people aged 19 to 25 with special educational needs and disabilities for whom an EHCP is maintained.

This sufficiency update contains an assessment of the post 16 education available in Warwickshire.

## **Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (Age 0-25)**

WCC's responsibility for education includes specialist provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). While the majority of pupils with SEND are most appropriately educated in mainstream settings, where this is not the case education can be provided in Special Schools, or Specialist Resource Provisions and Specialist Partnerships attached to mainstream schools.

The Warwickshire SEND & Inclusion Strategy 2019-2023 outlines the response to the challenge of specialist provision and includes for:

- Increased support for mainstream schools to enable inclusion of more pupils with EHCPs
- Expansion of existing special schools and Specialist Resourced Provisions where appropriate
- Establishment of more Specialist Resourced Provisions.

Details of all Warwickshire's specialist settings is available online here:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/send-admissions-specialist-settings>

## 3. North Warwickshire

### **Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-14yrs & 0-18yrs with SEND)**

In North Warwickshire, there is sufficient capacity to provide early years and childcare places to all that require it. The demand for early years and childcare provision is expected to remain stable over coming years.

Childcare services in the district typically have at least 5% of their total places still available. Kingsbury and Mancetter have less surplus capacity than average and are 97% and 99% occupied.

Of the total number of funded places offered, 85% are currently occupied for each year group. The Coleshill and Polesworth Planning areas are approaching full capacity. However, places remain available in adjacent areas.

Of the total number of child-care places offered to school age children (4-14) at out of school provision in the county, 78% are currently occupied.

Around 60% of North Warwickshire's childcare services operate all year round or during the school holidays. Formal holiday schemes are known to run in three of the district's five Planning areas. The Planning areas lacking holiday schemes are Kingsbury and Polesworth. Of the total number of places offered at known formal holiday schemes, 80% are usually occupied.

Over 70% of childcare services can fully support the needs of at least one category of SEND, which is approximately consistent with the rest of the county.

Several school-delivered nursery provisions in North Warwickshire have seen remodelling of services to achieve creation of additional 30 hour places for 3 and 4 year olds of working parents.

### **Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age**

#### **North Warwickshire - Primary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

Apart from low-level pressure in Baddesley Grendon, there is no significant pressure forecast for Primary school places across North Warwickshire planning areas.

Several planning areas in North Warwickshire are operating with relatively low pupil numbers, which typically present a financial challenge for schools:

- Arley
- Coleshill
- Kingsbury
- North Polesworth
- Atherstone

Arley, Coleshill and Kingsbury are all 'designated rural school areas' (for which there is a DfE presumption against closure). All except Atherstone include schools that are in receipt of government 'sparsity funding' which recognises the limit of organisational options to respond to the reduction in local populations.

Schools in Kingsbury and North Polesworth have applied to the DfE for approval to reduce their admission capacities from 2024.

### **North Warwickshire - Secondary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

Atherstone planning area is forecasting slight pressure in all year groups, most notably for Year 7 in 2024. Otherwise, while schools in the area are at capacity, there is not forecast to be a significant deficit of places. The Queen Elizabeth Academy has expanded from 2023 by an additional 150 places. Options for further future expansion of the Queen Elizabeth Academy to accommodate demand from strategic housing are being explored.

The Polesworth School admits a significant proportion of pupils (approx. 25%) from over the county border with Staffordshire. Admissions arrangements are such that the number of places allocated to pupils living outside Warwickshire would reduce, should demand from Warwickshire pupils increase. Feasibility assessment regarding potential expansion of The Polesworth School is being undertaken, such that an increase in pupil numbers due to new housing can be mitigated when this development occurs.

The Coleshill School admits a significant proportion of pupils (approx. 46%) from over the county border with Solihull (approx. 18% of resident pupils conversely attend schools in Solihull). Kingsbury School admits a significant proportion of pupils (approx. 34%) from over the county border with Staffordshire. Admissions arrangements are such that the number of places allocated to pupils living outside Warwickshire would reduce, should demand from Warwickshire pupils increase.

Working with all Secondary schools in the area, options for the provision of additional places in all year groups through permanent and temporary expansion are being considered.

### **North Warwickshire – Specialist Places**

North Warwickshire contains one special school and two Specialist Resourced Provisions (Primary), as well as two independent special schools. These are generally sufficient to meet the needs of the area when taken as a whole, however, many places are used to meet demand from elsewhere in and outside of the County.

Options for additional specialist resourced provision in the area are being explored.

The Coleshill School has a partnership with Woodlands School (a special school), that provides specialist places for secondary pupils with an EHCP.

Atherstone has a higher incidence of pupils taking up a specialist place, at 3.3% of population, than the average for Warwickshire of 2.1%.

## **Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education**

North Warwickshire contains two Secondary schools with sixth forms, The Coleshill School offers 190 places (180 pupils attended in 2022/23) and The Polesworth School offers 300 places (244 pupils attended in 2022/23).

Post-16 students from North Warwickshire access places at colleges and schools across (and outside) the county. Details of Warwickshire's colleges are provided as an Appendix.

Due to the nature of students travelling across county it is not possible to break down further the funded student numbers by Districts and Boroughs.

Post-16 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are accommodated in mainstream schools and colleges as well as in specialist settings across the county. North Warwickshire contains Woodlands, a special school that accommodates pupils to the age of 19.

## 4. Nuneaton & Bedworth

### **Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-14yrs & 0-18yrs with SEND)**

In Nuneaton & Bedworth, there is sufficient capacity to provide early years and childcare places to all that require it. The demand for early years and childcare provision is expected to increase slightly over coming years.

Five out of the 10 Planning areas in the borough have one or more types of childcare service where occupancy of total places exceeds 95%, indicating that those service types are at, or are approaching, full capacity. This is most acute in the Abbey, Bulkington and Camp Hill areas.

Of the total number of funded places offered, 85% are currently occupied for each year group. The Abbey, Bedworth South West, Camp Hill, and Park Lane Planning areas are approaching full capacity for 2-year places and Park Lane Planning area is also approaching full capacity for 3-4-year places. However, places remain available in adjacent areas.

Of the total number of child-care places offered to school age children (4-14) at out of school provision in the county, 79% are currently occupied.

Around 55% of Nuneaton & Bedworth's childcare services operate all year round or during the school holidays. Formal holiday schemes are known to run in five of the district's 10 Planning areas. The Planning areas lacking holiday schemes are Abbey, Bedworth Heath, Bulkington, Park Lane and Riversley Park. Of the total number of places offered at known formal holiday schemes, 92% are usually occupied.

Over 70% of childcare services can fully support the needs of at least one category of SEND, which is approximately consistent with the rest of the county.

New nursery provision will be included within new school developments planned for the forthcoming years to assist with place expansion including at the new Callendar Farm development.

The Bulkington and Wolvey area has seen the development of new provision creating new places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds along with proposed expansion of existing provision to create additional 2 year old places.

### **Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age**

#### **Nuneaton & Bedworth – Primary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

Nuneaton North East and Nuneaton South East are both forecasting a deficit of places across all year groups due to new housing development. This is largely offset by surplus capacity in other planning areas in the District.



Lower Farm Academy opened as a new free school in 2018 with a final capacity of 420, the school is opening classes gradually and in 2023 has an operating capacity of 270. Further new Primary provision, including up to three additional new schools, will be delivered in Nuneaton in future years to align with new housing development being delivered. This includes a new 2FE primary school on the Callendar Farm development in the North East Nuneaton planning area, with an estimated delivery date of September 2026.

Options for Key Stage 2 temporary classes will be explored with local schools to meet demand in the next two years in higher year groups.

Wolvey & Bulkington planning area is also forecasting pressure in Key Stage 2 year groups from 2025. This is offset by surplus capacity in other planning areas in the District.

Bedworth South West planning area is operating with relatively low pupil numbers, which typically present a financial challenge for schools. Pressure from elsewhere in the area will help to mitigate this surplus capacity. Approximately 18% of pupils in Bedworth South West attend schools over the border in Coventry.

### **Nuneaton & Bedworth – Secondary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

Bedworth is forecast to be full to capacity for several years. This includes a small number of pupils that attend from outside the county, in Coventry.

Nuneaton is forecasting some pressure on places until the new Higham Lane North Academy opens in 2025. Higham Lane North Academy will open as a new free school in 2025 with a final capacity of 900, and an initial intake of 120 at Year 7 only.

Temporary classes in existing schools in the planning area will be implemented if required prior to the opening of the new school.

### **Nuneaton & Bedworth – Specialist Places**

Nuneaton & Bedworth contains five special schools and three Specialist Resourced Provisions (Primary), as well as four independent special schools.

These are generally sufficient to meet the current needs of the area when taken as a whole, however, many places are used to meet demand from elsewhere in and outside of the County. Forecasts indicate a need for additional Secondary specialist places in coming years. Options for additional specialist resourced provision in the area are being explored.

Nuneaton & Bedworth has a higher incidence of pupils taking up a specialist place, at 3% of population, than the average for Warwickshire of 2.1%.

From 2023, Oak Wood Primary School and Oak Wood Secondary School have expanded by an additional 20 places at each setting.

Exhall Grange School has expanded from 2023 by an additional 15 places.

New Specialist Resourced Provisions has been opened from 2023 at Abbey Infant School and Goodyers End Primary School. Specialist Resourced Provisions will be considered for future new Primary schools in Nuneaton.

## Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education

North Warwickshire and South Leicestershire College (NWSLC) is a large general further education college. The college operates over six campuses based within Warwickshire and Leicestershire, one of which is in Nuneaton.

King Edward VI Sixth Form College is also based in Nuneaton.

Students enrolled in these colleges will often be from across the county. The campus in which a student attends will not always be the one that is in their resident district/borough. There may be students attending from all five Districts and Boroughs across Warwickshire.

The total numbers of students accommodated, including those with SEND, are detailed as an Appendix.

Due to the nature of students travelling across county it is not possible to break down further the funded student numbers by Districts and Boroughs.

### School Sixth Forms:

	Capacity 2022/23	Pupils 2022/23
Ash Green School	200	117
Nicholas Chamberlaine School	93	113
Etone College	250	116
Higham Lane School	200	185
St Thomas More Catholic School and Sixth Form College	250	211

Post-16 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are accommodated in mainstream schools and colleges as well as in specialist settings across the county. Nuneaton & Bedworth contains four special schools that accommodates pupils to the age of 19.

## 5. Rugby/East Warwickshire

### **Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-14yrs & 0-18yrs with SEND)**

In Rugby/East Warwickshire, there is sufficient capacity to provide early years and childcare places to all that require it. The demand for early years and childcare provision is expected to increase slightly in coming years.

Six out of the nine Planning areas in the borough have one childcare service type where more than 95% of the total places they provide are currently occupied, namely: Boughton, Hillmorton, Claremont, Dunchurch and Long Lawford areas. However, more places are available in adjacent areas of the borough.

Of the total number of funded places offered, around 86% are currently occupied for each year group. The Hillmorton, Boughton and Claremont Planning areas are approaching full capacity. However, places remain available in adjacent areas.

Of the total number of child-care places offered to school age children (4-14) at out of school provision in the county, 82% are currently occupied.

Around 50% of Rugby's childcare services operate all year round or during the school holidays. Formal holiday schemes are known to run in seven of the district's nine Planning areas. The Planning areas lacking holiday schemes are Wolston and Wolvey. Of the total number of places offered at known formal holiday schemes, 92% are usually occupied.

Over 70% of childcare services can fully support the needs of at least one category of SEND, which is approximately consistent with the rest of the county.

The area has seen the recent opening of new nursery provision at The Griffin Primary School which sees an offer of places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds.

### **Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age**

#### **Rugby/East Warwickshire – Primary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

There is pressure on places, particularly in Key Stage 2 in the east of Rugby District, as a result of families moving into new housing developments in the Rugby North Central planning area. This planning area includes the Mast Site (Houlton) housing development of 6000 new homes and will eventually include 3 new Primary schools. The first of these, St Gabriel's C of E Academy, opened in 2018 with a final capacity of 420 (and the scope to increase to 630), the school is opening classes gradually and in 2023 has an operating capacity of 330.

Eastlands Primary School has admitted a temporary class of 30 at Year 5 for 2023, moving through to Year 6 in 2024 to help alleviate in-year pressure.

Further options for Key Stage 2 temporary classes will be explored with local schools to meet demand in the next two years in higher year groups.

The Griffin Primary School has opened from 2023 with a final capacity of 210 to meet demand as a result of significant new housing in the Rugby North planning area. The school is opening classes gradually and in 2023 will have an operating capacity of 30.

Several planning areas in the more rural areas of Rugby borough are operating with relatively low pupil numbers, which typically present a financial challenge for schools:

- Dunchurch
- Rugby Rural
- The Revel
- Rugby South Central

Dunchurch, Rugby Rural and The Revel are all 'designated rural school areas' (for which there is a DfE presumption against closure). Dunchurch and Rugby Rural include schools that are in receipt of government 'sparsity funding' which recognises the limit of organisational options to respond to the reduction in local populations.

### **Rugby/East Warwickshire – Secondary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

There is a deficit of places in most year groups for 2023 and 2024. From 2025 pressure continues to increase, with all year groups forecasting deficits (<-7%) for the borough as a whole.

Rugby North planning area is currently expecting an ongoing deficit for year 7 entry of less than 30 places per year. Beyond the current forecast period further proposed housing development in the Rugby North area could increase this year 7 entry deficit to less than 45 places per year. To mitigate this shortfall feasibility work is being undertaken towards the permanent expansion of The Avon Valley School.

Rugby South is forecasting fluctuating pressure on places for year 7 entry along with continued pressure across all year groups due to the potential impact of new families moving into the area as housing developments build out.

To mitigate this pressure Houlton School opened in 2021 with a current final capacity of 900, the school is opening year groups gradually and in 2023 has an operating capacity of 540. Working with all Secondary schools in the area options for the provision of additional places in all year groups through permanent and temporary expansion are being considered.

Of the eight Secondary schools in Rugby District, two are grammar schools and a third operates a selective class. As such, the places at these schools are not necessarily available to all local pupils

and attract pupils from outside of the area. WCC will work with those schools to increase the accessibility of grammar schools to local pupils where possible.

Longer term a new secondary school, providing a minimum of 900 additional places, is proposed as part of the South West Rugby Strategic housing development. This new school is expected to meet the long term need for secondary school places in Rugby and will be required to open towards the end of the current forecast period should all proposed strategic housing build out as proposed.

### **Rugby/East Warwickshire – Specialist Places**

Rugby/East Warwickshire contains two special schools, four Specialist Resourced Provisions (Primary), one Specialist Resourced Provision (Secondary) as well as two independent special schools.

These are generally sufficient to meet the needs of the area at Primary phase when taken as a whole, however, many places are used to meet demand from elsewhere in and outside of the County. There is a need for additional specialist provision at Secondary phase in Rugby, particularly in the North of the Borough – options are being explored.

Rugby has a higher incidence of pupils taking up a specialist place, at 4.7% of population, than the average for Warwickshire of 2.1%.

From 2023, new Specialist Resourced Provision has opened at St Matthew's Bloxam CofE Primary School and St Andrew's Benn CofE (Voluntary Aided) Primary School.

### **Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education**

Warwickshire College Group (WCG) is a large general further education college. WCG operates from six sites across Warwickshire and Worcestershire, one of which is in Rugby. Students enrolled will often be from across the county. The campus in which a student attends will not always be the one that is in their resident district/borough. There may be students attending from all five Districts and Boroughs across Warwickshire.

Rugby College has a Specialist Partnership with Brooke School, the Junction, which offers post-16 college education to pupils with an EHCP.

The total numbers of students accommodated, including those with SEND, are detailed as an Appendix.

Due to the nature of students travelling across county it is not possible to break down further the funded student numbers by Districts and Boroughs.

School Sixth forms:

	Capacity 2022/23	Pupils 2022/23
Ashlawn School	400	388
Bilton School	200	107
Lawrence Sheriff School*	400	389

Rugby Free Secondary School	420	136
Rugby High School*	300	294

\*grammar schools, selective entry

Post-16 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are accommodated in mainstream schools and colleges as well as in specialist settings across the county. Rugby contains two special schools that accommodates pupils to the age of 19 as does as a Specialist Resourced Provision operating at Rugby Free Secondary School.

## 6. Warwick/Central Warwickshire

### **Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-14yrs & 0-18yrs with SEND)**

In Warwick District/Central Warwickshire, there is sufficient capacity to provide early years and childcare places to all that require it. The demand for early years and childcare provision is expected to increase in coming years.

All but one of the Planning areas in the area have one or more childcare service type where more than 95% of the total places they provide are currently occupied. This is most acute in Kingsway, Kenilworth, Westgate and Whitnash planning areas. There are places available in St John's planning area and in the neighbouring Stratford District.

Of the total number of funded places offered, around 85% are currently occupied for each year group. Kingsway and Sydenham Planning areas are approaching full capacity for 2 year olds and 3-4 year olds respectively. However, places remain available in adjacent areas.

Warwickshire is currently undertaking a marketing campaign and follow on support for interested parties to increase the numbers of childminders operating across the county to develop place availability including in rural areas.

New school provision in the area due to open in September 2024 will see additional early year places offered responding to the increase demand in the area, this will be followed by additional nursery places being developed at the new Myton Gardens School due to open in 2025 / 26.

Targeted use of specific allocations of developer funding is being utilised in designated areas to assist place expansion.

Of the total number of child-care places offered to school age children (4-14) at out of school provision in the county, 86% are currently occupied.

Around 55% of Warwick/Central Warwickshire's childcare services operate all year round or during the school holidays. Formal holiday schemes are known to run in seven of the district's nine Planning areas. The Planning areas lacking holiday schemes are St. John's and Warwick. Of the total number of places offered at known formal holiday schemes, 82% are usually occupied.

68% of childcare services can fully support the needs of at least one category of SEND, which is slightly lower than the rest of the county.

School led expansion plans are being reviewed within the Kenilworth area to expand the provision of early years places in the coming year.

New early years provision will open on the site of the new Oakley Grove School in 2024 followed by additional nursery provision at Myton Gardens School in 2025. This sits alongside developer created provision in the area directly managed and contracted out to private sector parties.

Targeted use of developer funding has been allocated, as per specifications, to support increased place offer in the Radford Semele area with additional projects currently being work on in other outlying areas of Leamington Spa.

Relocation of a former school located nursery provision into a standalone premises in the Whitnash area has created opportunities for place development and growth as the service embeds.

New build premises being created as part of school site redevelopment in the Kingsway area will provide longevity and security of places going forwards.

## **Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age**

### **Warwick/Central Warwickshire – Primary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

There is pressure on places in Key Stage 2 in Warwick District, largely as a result of families moving into new housing developments in the Kenilworth and South of Leamington planning areas.

Expansion of an existing school, St John’s Primary School, in Kenilworth by 1FE is proposed to mitigate pressure in the town as a result of the build out of strategic housing allocations in the town. New Primary provision is planned as part of the large scale housing in Kenilworth, however, the trigger point for this new provision is likely to be towards the end of the forecast period.

There is some pressure on places in the South of Leamington planning area due to significant new housing, currently relieved by the opening of three new schools and two temporary classes – as well as capacity in neighbouring planning areas:

- Heathcote Primary School opened in 2017 with a final capacity of 420, the school is opening classes gradually and in 2023 has an operating capacity of 360.
- Oakley Grove School will open its Primary phase in 2024 with a final capacity of 420, and an initial intake of 30 at Reception only.
- Myton Gardens is planned to open in 2025 with a final capacity of 420, and an initial intake of 30 at Reception only.
- A fourth new 2FE Primary school is proposed as part of The Asps housing development, to open as needed in response to increased demand from the new housing.
- Temporary classes of 30 pupils at Reception have opened at both Bishops Tachbrook Primary School and Briar Hill Infant School in 2023, moving through subsequent year groups each year.
- Options for Key Stage 2 temporary classes will be explored with local schools to meet demand in the next two years in higher year groups.

Napton and Radford Semele are also experiencing some pressure for places, which will be mitigated by surplus capacity in neighbouring planning areas as required.



Warwick Rural and North Leamington planning areas are operating with relatively low pupil numbers, which typically present a financial challenge for schools. Warwick Rural is a 'designated rural school area' (for which there is a DfE presumption against closure). Surplus capacity in North Leamington is expected to be used to help meet demand from other planning areas in the area.

### **Warwick/Central Warwickshire – Secondary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

Kenilworth planning area is forecasting a significant deficit of places in some year groups. Kenilworth School has expanded into a new school site from 2023 by an additional 150 places. Final built capacity of the new site will allow for further expansion as required in future years.

Southam is forecasting pressure on places for several years, which include pupils from outside the county. These are at low numbers of pupils during the forecast period and will be monitored. It is expected that the low level of pressure for places will be accommodated at existing schools. Options to expand Southam College will be explored if future forecasts justify.

Southam College admits around 5% of pupils from over the county border with West Northamptonshire. Admissions arrangements are such that the number of places allocated to pupils living outside Warwickshire would reduce, should demand from Warwickshire pupils increase.

The new Oakley School in Warwick opened its Secondary phase in 2023 with an initial intake of 180 at Year 7 only. The new school will open an additional year group each academic year and will mitigate the need for additional Secondary school places in the area due to new housing. Pressure on places in higher year groups in the short-term will be mitigated by existing schools, including temporary expansions as required.

### **Warwick/Central Warwickshire – Specialist Places**

Warwick/Central Warwickshire contains one special school, one Specialist Resourced Provision (Primary) and one Specialist Resourced Provision (Secondary), as well as three independent special schools.

These are generally sufficient to meet the needs of the area at Primary phase when taken as a whole, however, many places are used to meet demand from elsewhere in and outside of the County. There is a need for additional specialist provision at Secondary phase across Warwick/Central Warwickshire – including Kenilworth and Southam.

Options for additional specialist resourced provision in the area are being explored.

Warwick/Central Warwickshire has a lower incidence of pupils taking up a specialist place, at 1% of population, than the average for Warwickshire of 2.1%.

From 2023, Evergreen School (a special school) has expanded by an additional 50 places. From 2024, a new Primary Specialist Resourced Provision will be open at St John's Primary School in Kenilworth.

From 2024, the new all-through school at Warwick, Oakley School will provide Specialist Resourced Provisions at both Primary and Secondary phases. Myton Gardens Primary School is planned to open in 2025/2026 and will also offer Specialist Resourced Provision.

The TalentOn Academy Alternative Provision Free School is due to open with a capacity of 60 from 2025/26.

## Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education

Warwickshire College Group (WCG) is a large general further education college. WCG operates from six sites across Warwickshire and Worcestershire, of which one is in Leamington Spa and another in Warwick. Students enrolled will often be from across the county. The campus in which a student attends will not always be the one that is in their resident district/borough. There may be students attending from all five Districts and Boroughs across Warwickshire.

The total numbers of students accommodated, including those with SEND, are detailed as an Appendix. Due to the nature of students travelling across county it is not possible to break down further the funded student numbers by Districts and Boroughs.

School Sixth Forms:

	Capacity 2022/23:	Pupils 2022/23:
Kenilworth School	440	450
Southam College	300	321
King Edward VI School	390	344
Stratford Girls' Grammar School	250	222
Stratford Upon Avon School	300	223
Campion School	100	121
Myton School	395	391
North Leamington School	300	224
Trinity Catholic School	120	56
Aylesford School Warwick	250	117

Post-16 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are accommodated in mainstream schools and colleges as well as in specialist settings across the county. Warwick District contains a special school that accommodates pupils to the age of 19 as does as a Specialist Resourced Provision operating at Trinity Catholic School.

WCC is working with WCG to explore options for enhancing specialist post 16 provision.



## 7. Stratford/South Warwickshire

### **Age 0-4 – Early Years and Childcare (0-14yrs & 0-18yrs with SEND)**

In Stratford/South Warwickshire, there is sufficient capacity to provide early years and childcare places to all that require it. The demand for early years and childcare provision is expected to increase in coming years.

The district has three Children & Family Centres.

Childcare services in the district typically have at least 5% of their total places still available. Studley, Stratford and Shipston planning areas are experiencing some pressure on places.

Of the total number of funded places offered, around 83% are currently occupied for each year group.

Warwickshire is currently undertaking a marketing campaign and follow on support for interested parties to increase the numbers of childminders operating across the county to develop place availability including in rural areas.

Future planning for school locations is including the needs for early years places within the developments.

Of the total number of child-care places offered to school age children (4-14) at out of school provision in the county, 83% are currently occupied.

Around 48% of Stratford/South Warwickshire's childcare services operate all year round or during the school holidays. Formal holiday schemes are known to run in all eight of the district's nine Planning areas. Of the total number of places offered at known formal holiday schemes, 87% are usually occupied.

70% of childcare services can fully support the needs of at least one category of SEND, which is consistent with the rest of the county.

Allocation of site specific developer funding allocations has been used to support place expansion on two school sites in the Stratford Upon Avon town area along with current plans for development of places via the same route in the Bidford upon Avon area.

The proposed expansion and relocation of Lighthorne Heath Primary School will see the inclusion of increased nursery provision places in response to the demand from housing which will meet need alongside any additional private developed services.

Shotton area is currently under review with potential longer term plans for increased provision once proposals have been reviewed.

## **Age 4-16 – Compulsory School Age**

### **Stratford/South Warwickshire – Primary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

There is some pressure on places in the Kineton Primary planning area due to significant new housing, currently relieved by capacity in neighbouring planning areas. Expansion and relocation of Lighthorne Heath Primary school is planned for delivery in line with new housing development. This will involve increase expansion to two forms of entry (420 places) from Autumn 2025 to allow growth in line with build out and occupation of houses from the Upper Lighthorne housing development.

There is some pressure on places in the Quinton Primary planning area due to significant new housing, currently relieved by capacity in neighbouring planning areas. Tudor Grange Academy Meon Vale opened as a new school in 2019 with a final capacity of 420 to meet demand as a result of significant new housing in the planning area. The school is opening classes gradually and in 2023 has an operating capacity of 150. This school will expand to 2FE from 2024, in response to this demand.

Compton and Brailes and Welford on Avon planning areas are forecasting some pressure, this will be mitigated by neighbouring planning areas as required.

Several planning areas in the more rural areas of Stratford district are operating with relatively low pupil numbers, which typically present a financial challenge for schools:

- Stratford Rural
- Alcester
- Claverdon
- Ettington
- The Dassett
- Henley
- Shipston
- Compton and Brailes
- Tysoe

Stratford Rural, Alcester, Claverdon, Ettington and The Dassett are all 'designated rural school areas' (for which there is a DfE presumption against closure). All except Claverdon and Ettington include schools that are in receipt of government 'sparsity funding' which recognises the limit of organisational options to respond to the reduction in local populations.

Schools in Henley and The Dassett have applied to the DfE for approval to reduce their admission capacities from 2024.

## **Stratford/South Warwickshire – Secondary**

See Appendix 4 for forecasts for all planning areas.

Kineton is forecasting pressure on places for several years. These are at low numbers of pupils during the forecast period and will be monitored. Kineton High School admits a significant proportion of pupils (approx. 18%) from over the county border with Oxfordshire. Admissions arrangements are such that the number of places allocated to pupils living outside Warwickshire would reduce, should demand from Warwickshire pupils increase. Kineton High School will undergo expansion in line with housing development when required.

There are plans for new Secondary provision as part of large-scale development within this planning area, beyond the timeframe of these forecasts.

Stratford is forecasting pressure on places for several years. Stratford upon Avon School will expand from 2024 by an additional 150 places. Due to this expansion, pressure is at low numbers of pupils during the forecast period and will continue to be monitored.

Alcester and Studley is forecast to be full to capacity for several years. Studley High School and St Benedict's Catholic High School admit a significant proportion of pupils from over the county border with Worcestershire. Admissions arrangements are such that the number of places allocated to pupils living outside Warwickshire would reduce, should demand from Warwickshire pupils increase. Worcestershire is planning to open a new Secondary school in the vicinity in 2025 which may free up some demand in the planning area to Warwickshire resident pupils.

Shipston High School will expand from 2024 by an additional 150 places, providing increased capacity for the area.

Henley is forecast to be full to capacity for several years. This includes around 25% pupils that attend from outside the county border, in Worcestershire and Solihull. Admissions arrangements are such that the number of places allocated to pupils living outside Warwickshire would reduce, should demand from Warwickshire pupils increase.

Of the 10 Secondary schools in Stratford area, three are grammar school. As such, the places at these schools are not necessarily available to all local pupils and attract pupils from outside of the area. WCC will work with schools to improve the accessibility of grammar schools to local pupils where possible.

## **Stratford/South Warwickshire – Specialist Places**

Stratford/South Warwickshire contains two special schools and three Specialist Resourced Provisions (Primary), as well as one independent special school.

There is a need for additional specialist provision at Primary and Secondary phases across Stratford/South Warwickshire with the exception of Stratford Town. Options for this will be explored.

Stratford/South Warwickshire has a lower incidence of pupils taking up a specialist place, at 1.3% of population, than the average for Warwickshire of 2.1%.

## Age 16-25 – Post-16 Education

Stratford Upon Avon College (part of Solihull College & University Centre) is situated in Stratford, however the duty of sufficiency lies with Solihull Local Authority. The ESFA funded Post 16 places (Appendix) does not include Stratford Upon Avon College.

Warwickshire College Group (WCG) is a large general further education college. WCG operates from six sites across Warwickshire and Worcestershire, of which one is in Moreton Morrell. Students enrolled will often be from across the county. The campus in which a student attends will not always be the one that is in their resident district/borough. There may be students attending from all five Districts and Boroughs across Warwickshire.

The total numbers of students accommodated, including those with SEND, are detailed as an Appendix. Due to the nature of students travelling across county it is not possible to break down further the funded student numbers by Districts and Boroughs.

School Sixth Forms:

	Capacity 2022/23:	Pupils 2022/23:
Alcester Grammar School	540	548
St Benedict's Catholic High School	200	88
Kineton High School	190	134

Post-16 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) are accommodated in mainstream schools and colleges as well as in specialist settings across the county. Stratford District contains two special schools that accommodates pupils to the age of 19.