

**School Places and impact of housing developments on education**

**Introduction**

Sefton Council has a statutory duty to ensure there are enough school places to accommodate the young people who reside in the borough and to ensure these places are of good quality with enough capacity to promote parental choice and diversity. There has been a significant change in legislation around the role of Local Authorities becoming commissioners of school places rather than providers. This was further supported by the Academies Act 2010 and the Education Act 2011.

While maintained schools continue to be managed by Local Authorities, the responsibilities of academies and free schools are monitored by the Department for Education through the Regional Schools' Commissioner. The duty of the Local Authority is to ensure adequate provision of school places; however, this applies across all types of school.

**Factors affecting the demand for pupil places**

Monitoring school places is a continual and complex process and one which can be affected by many factors from trends in the birth rate, the number of people moving into and out of a Local Authority area and the number of people choosing mainstream or independent schools. International migration of people moving to and from the UK can also be a factor that increases or decreases demand. Housing developments can also contribute to the demand for school places.

**Births in Sefton**

Table 1: Live Births by area (academic year)

Birth Year	Entry Year	Sefton	Bootle	Litherland	Crosby	Formby	Maghull & Aintree	Southport
2009/10	2014/15	2855	675	340	453	170	278	942
2010/11	2015/16	2833	679	334	454	164	285	917
2011/12	2016/17	2799	678	327	451	147	294	903
2012/13	2017/18	2820	689	326	463	145	305	893
2013/14	2018/19	2811	683	342	471	144	294	878
2014/15	2019/20	2755	701	337	411	153	297	856
2015/16	2020/21	2803	728	342	475	131	310	817
2016/17	2021/22	2732	730	320	423	118	293	848
2017/18	2022/23	2625	666	304	422	150	282	801
2018/19	2023/24	2632	723	301	416	147	323	722

Source: ONS

At the time of writing the birth figures for 2019/20 were not yet available.

There tends to be a south-north population movement within Sefton and as a result there tend to be more surplus places in Bootle and Litherland with fewer in Crosby and Formby as demand for places in the north tends to be much higher as parents aspire to send their children to schools in these areas.

Pupil turnover in the south of the Borough also tends to be higher. If we compare the births for an area with the corresponding Reception intake we find that there is a drop in Bootle and Litherland whereas more pupils are admitted to Reception than were born in Crosby, Formby and Maghull. In the last couple of years the Reception intake in Southport has also been lower than the birth figure but this changed again in 2020/21 when more pupils were admitted to Reception than were born in the relevant year.

### **Housing developments in Sefton**

Data on housing developments is provided by Sefton's Planning Department from Sefton's Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). This includes developments in the Local Plan.

Anticipated school places arising from new developments are calculated on the following basis:

17.5 primary school pupils per 100 homes which gives a primary pupil yield factor of 0.175

10.5 secondary school pupils per 100 homes which gives a secondary pupil yield factor of 0.105

Local differences in housing size or type are averaged out and accounted for in this figure.

Based on Sefton's SHLAA 2019, which were the latest figures available, a total of 9,748 houses are to be built in Sefton between 2019/20 and 2033/34. 3,494 of those properties had planning permission. In addition, there were 615 conversions with planning permission.

This would indicate that the estimated pupil yield for Sefton from the newbuild developments would be 1,706 primary pupils and 1,024 secondary pupils over that period.

The SHLAA 2019 indicates that the following housing developments would take place between 1999/20 and 2033/34 in each area. The following table gives an indication of the possible pupil yield **across all year groups** from these houses.

Table 2: Estimated pupil yield from housing developments in Sefton by area

Bootle & Litherland	<b>Housing with PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary	<b>Housing without PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary
1999/20	<b>140</b>	25	15	<b>0</b>	0	0
2020/21	<b>216</b>	38	23	<b>0</b>	0	0
2021/22	<b>34</b>	6	4	<b>0</b>	0	0
2022/23	<b>5</b>	1	1	<b>89</b>	16	13
2023/24	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>72</b>	13	11
2024/25	<b>80</b>	14	8	<b>127</b>	22	19
2025/26	<b>79</b>	14	8	<b>128</b>	22	19
2026/27	<b>79</b>	14	8	<b>127</b>	22	19
2027/28	<b>79</b>	14	8	<b>103</b>	18	15
2028/29	<b>67</b>	12	7	<b>90</b>	16	14
2029/30	<b>30</b>	5	3	<b>22</b>	4	3
2030/31	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>22</b>	4	3
2031/32	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>22</b>	4	3
2032/33	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>22</b>	4	3
2033/34	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>22</b>	4	3

Crosby	<b>Housing with PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary	<b>Housing without PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary
1999/20	<b>149</b>	26	16	<b>0</b>	0	0
2020/21	<b>174</b>	30	18	<b>25</b>	4	3
2021/22	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>35</b>	6	4
2022/23	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>49</b>	9	5
2023/24	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>105</b>	18	11
2024/25	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>165</b>	29	17
2025/26	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>127</b>	22	13
2026/27	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>96</b>	17	10
2027/28	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>94</b>	16	10
2028/29	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>92</b>	16	10
2029/30	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>35</b>	6	4
2030/31	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>35</b>	6	4
2031/32	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>23</b>	4	2
2032/33	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0
2033/34	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0

Formby	<b>Housing with PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary	<b>Housing without PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary
1999/20	<b>76</b>	13	8	<b>0</b>	0	0
2020/21	<b>122</b>	21	13	<b>3</b>	1	0
2021/22	<b>116</b>	20	12	<b>30</b>	5	3
2022/23	<b>95</b>	17	10	<b>72</b>	13	8
2023/24	<b>70</b>	12	7	<b>135</b>	24	14
2024/25	<b>71</b>	12	7	<b>54</b>	9	6
2025/26	<b>26</b>	5	3	<b>55</b>	10	6
2026/27	<b>2</b>	0	0	<b>53</b>	9	6
2027/28	<b>2</b>	0	0	<b>55</b>	10	6
2028/29	<b>1</b>	0	0	<b>55</b>	10	6
2029/30	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>26</b>	5	3
2030/31	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0
2031/32	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0
2032/33	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0
2033/34	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>0</b>	0	0

Maghull & Aintree	<b>Housing with PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary	<b>Housing without PP</b>	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary
1999/20	<b>149</b>	26	16	<b>0</b>	0	0
2020/21	<b>210</b>	37	22	<b>10</b>	2	1
2021/22	<b>184</b>	32	19	<b>48</b>	8	5
2022/23	<b>103</b>	18	11	<b>203</b>	36	21
2023/24	<b>86</b>	15	9	<b>203</b>	36	21
2024/25	<b>2</b>	0	0	<b>232</b>	41	24
2025/26	<b>3</b>	0	0	<b>192</b>	34	20
2026/27	<b>2</b>	0	0	<b>192</b>	34	20
2027/28	<b>3</b>	0	0	<b>192</b>	34	20
2028/29	<b>2</b>	0	0	<b>191</b>	33	20
2029/30	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>163</b>	29	17
2030/31	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>163</b>	29	17
2031/32	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>145</b>	25	15
2032/33	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>125</b>	22	13
2033/34	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>125</b>	22	13

Southport	Housing with PP	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary	Housing without PP	Estimated total pupil yield primary	Estimated total pupil yield secondary
1999/20	<b>324</b>	57	34	<b>0</b>	0	0
2020/21	<b>453</b>	79	48	<b>34</b>	6	4
2021/22	<b>171</b>	30	18	<b>90</b>	16	9
2022/23	<b>169</b>	30	18	<b>95</b>	17	10
2023/24	<b>158</b>	28	17	<b>165</b>	29	17
2024/25	<b>97</b>	17	10	<b>252</b>	44	26
2025/26	<b>97</b>	17	10	<b>244</b>	43	26
2026/27	<b>97</b>	17	10	<b>151</b>	26	16
2027/28	<b>68</b>	12	7	<b>127</b>	22	13
2028/29	<b>29</b>	5	3	<b>127</b>	22	13
2029/30	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>120</b>	21	2
2030/31	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>118</b>	21	2
2031/32	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>85</b>	15	2
2032/33	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>85</b>	15	2
2033/34	<b>0</b>	0	0	<b>85</b>	15	2

## Pupil Projections by Planning Area

The following pupil projections were submitted to the Department for Education (DFE) as part of the recent SCAP 2021 return. Schools are grouped into planning areas and there are five primary planning areas and five secondary which are based on geographical and ward boundaries. Projections are produced for five years ahead for primary schools and seven years ahead for secondary schools. Additional pupil yield has been added to allow for the housing developments with planning permission in each area but not all developments can be included as the DFE requires that only those developments in the Council's 5-year housing land supply with planning permission should be included. The housing yield has been based on the figures provided by Sefton's Planning Department from the 2019 SHLAA as detailed above which was the most recent one available.

The Total Published Admission Number (PAN) is calculated using the published admission number for each year group in each school. This may vary from year group to year group depending on changes made in previous years. Future changes to PANs are included where these are known in advance. Total published admission numbers may vary from the net capacity of a school which is based on the teaching accommodation (or the funding agreement for an academy). A published admission number can be set higher than that indicated by the net capacity.

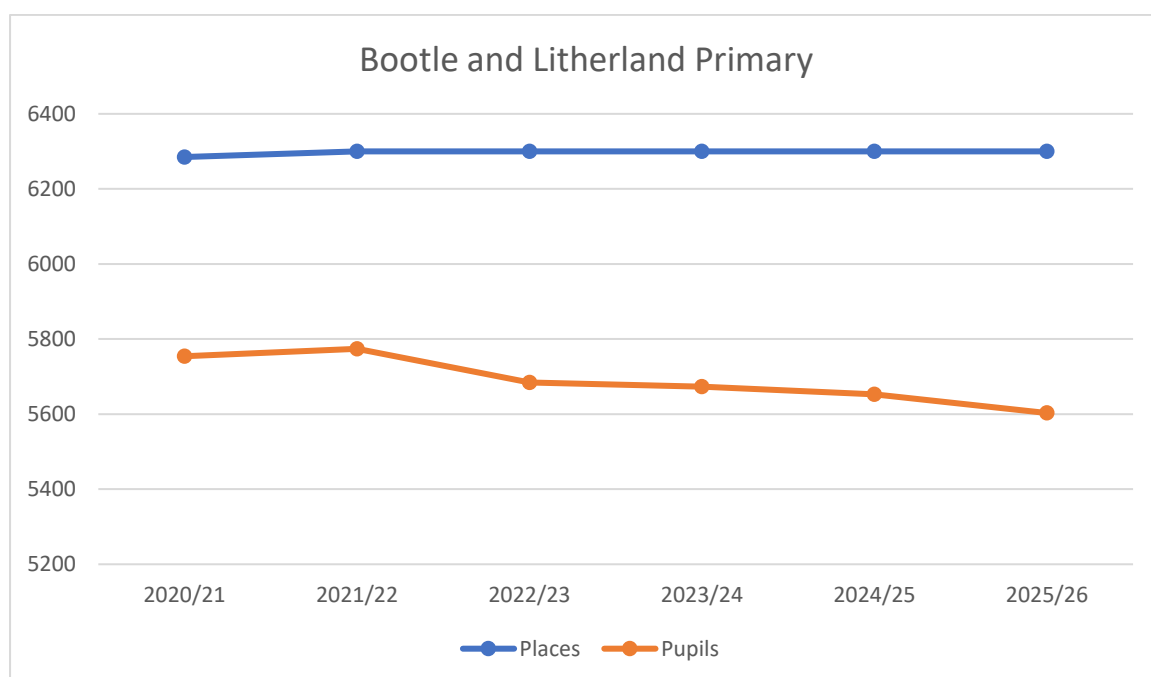
Some of the secondary academy schools in Sefton have started to cap or reduce their intake numbers in Year 8 to 11 as they are unable to admit further pupils after the entry year due to their internal school organisational arrangements. This makes planning future places very difficult as the situation may change on a yearly basis. Sixth Form numbers are not included in the secondary figures as there are no

planned admission numbers for Years 12 and 13. The graphs compare the total number of pupils with the total number of places but do not show where there may be a need for additional places or empty places in a particular year group.

Table 3: Bootle & Litherland Primary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
2020/2021*	6285	847	805	842	824	806	829	801	5754
2021/2022	6300	829	845	797	839	821	800	844	5774
2022/2023	6300	773	826	835	792	834	813	813	5684
2023/2024	6300	816	770	816	830	788	826	827	5673
2024/2025	6300	807	815	763	814	828	783	843	5653
2025/2026	6300	807	804	806	760	810	821	796	5603

\*Actual

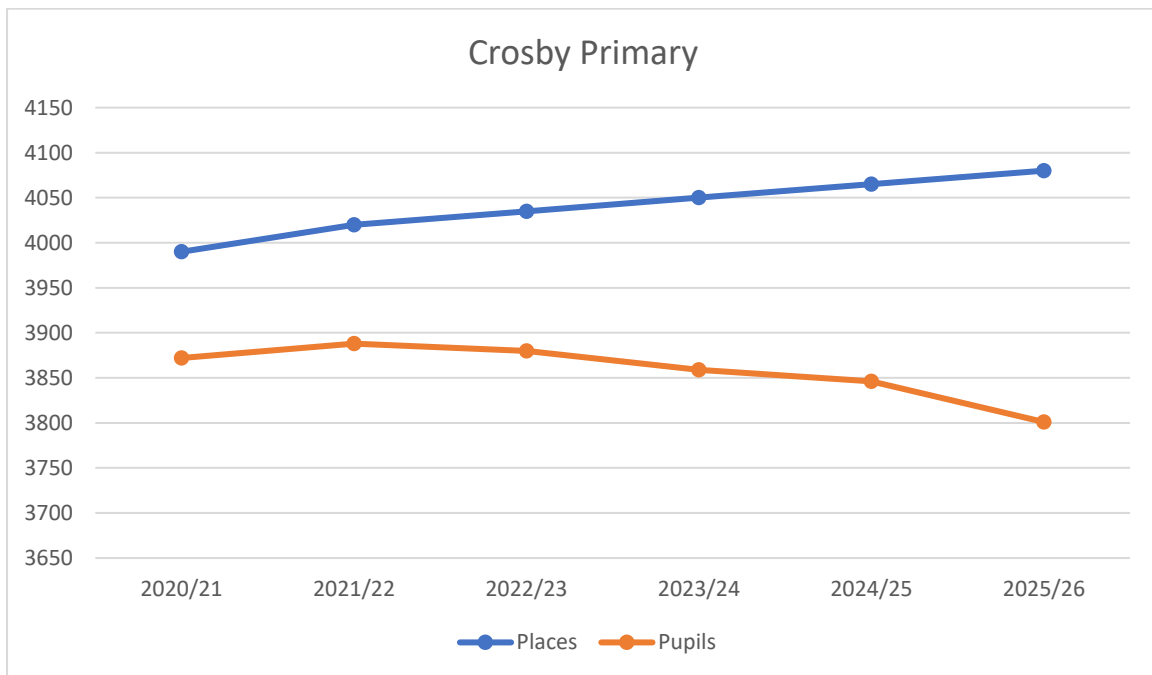


Births in this area have remained relatively stable over the last few years. They reduced in 2017/18 but increased again slightly in 2018/19. Overall intakes into Reception have also remained stable. Most of the schools in this planning area have surplus places. Pupil projections for this area indicate that pupil numbers will gradually decrease over the five-year period.

Table 4: Crosby Primary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
2020/2021*	3990	593	530	576	544	546	543	540	3872
2021/2022	4020	552	596	533	576	543	547	542	3888
2022/2023	4035	529	555	599	533	575	543	545	3880
2023/2024	4050	521	532	558	600	532	575	542	3859
2024/2025	4065	525	524	535	558	598	532	574	3846
2025/2026	4080	525	528	527	535	557	599	531	3801

\*Actual

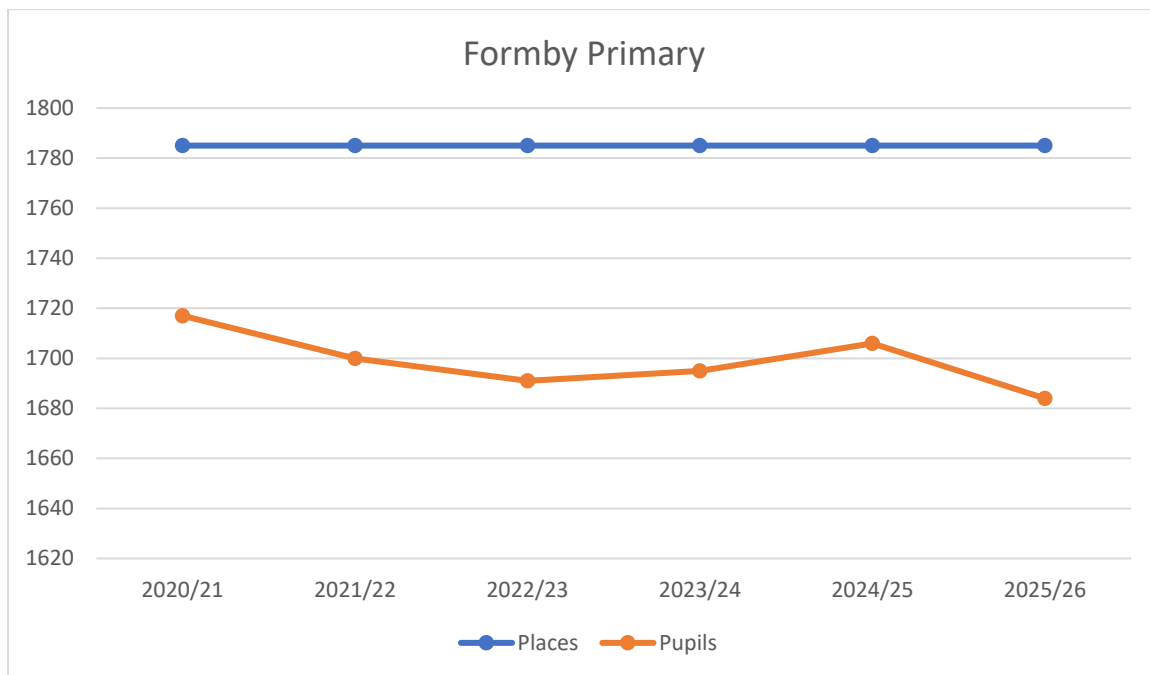


Births in the area continued to rise until 2014/15 when they dropped but rose again the following year. They have dropped again slightly in 2016/17 and following years. Pupil projections indicate that pupil numbers will start to reduce after 2021/22. However, there are more housing developments planned which have not been included in the forecasts at this stage. Pupil places have risen year by year since September 2015 due to the additional places added in the Catholic sector at Great Crosby Catholic Primary.

Table 5: Formby Primary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
2020/2021*	1785	200	250	248	230	245	270	274	1717
2021/2022	1785	204	209	259	256	239	256	277	1700
2022/2023	1785	236	209	213	264	262	247	259	1691
2023/2024	1785	231	243	214	217	270	270	250	1695
2024/2025	1785	225	238	249	218	223	279	275	1706
2025/2026	1785	224	230	242	253	223	229	282	1684

\*Actual



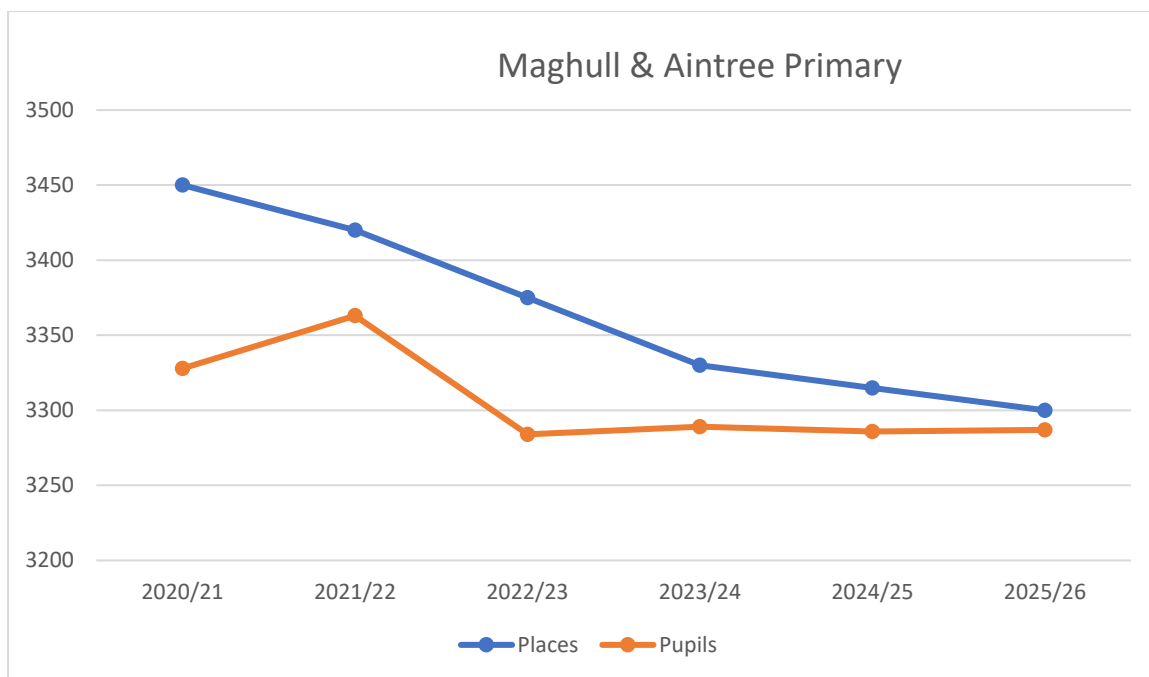
In Formby, there tends to be a shortage of places in specific year groups (Years 4, 5 and 6) rather than overall and this reflects the tendency for parents to move into the area when their children are older and creates problems for the schools in organising their classes. Births in this area have been reducing since 2007/08 and intakes into Reception have reduced overall since 2015. The births in 2017/18 have shown a slight increase and have remained at a similar level in 2018/19 but are still not at the same level they were in 2007/08. These trends are causing the pupil projections to start to reduce over the next five years even though additional pupil yield has been added for proposed housing developments with planning permission in the area.



Table 6: Maghull & Aintree Primary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
2020/2021*	3450	481	452	473	467	499	498	458	3328
2021/2022	3420	457	492	458	483	471	498	505	3363
2022/2023	3375	438	460	489	459	478	462	498	3284
2023/2024	3330	500	442	459	493	457	472	464	3289
2024/2025	3315	469	504	440	462	490	450	472	3286
2025/2026	3300	469	474	504	444	460	484	451	3287

\*Actual



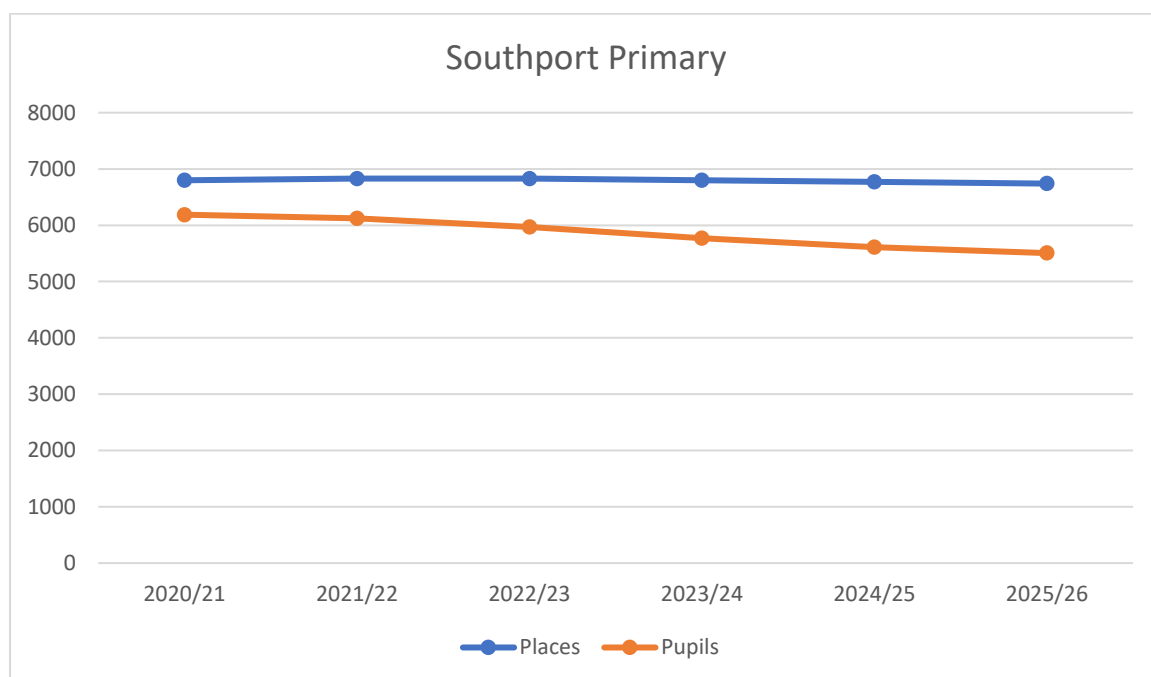
Birth rates have tended to remain stable in the past but have risen in 2018/19. Maghull is also subject to pupil migration from other local authority areas. Intakes to Reception have also increased overall since 2015. Schools in this area are popular and some are oversubscribed. However, the total PAN for the area is reducing year by year as two of the schools have reduced their PAN. Lydiate Primary has reduced by 5 places to 45 from 2014/15 onwards and has requested to reduce to 30 from September 2022 due to reduced demand for places. St Andrew's CE Primary Academy reduced by 1 FE (30 places) from 2017/18 onwards and this change is

working through the year groups. Places do not include the proposed expansion of Summerhill Primary by 1FE (30 places per year group) as the final project is subject to further consultation and has not yet been approved. The project will be funded using contributions from the housing developer.

Table 7: Southport Primary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
2020/21*	6800	806	841	864	906	905	936	930	6188
2021/22	6830	840	810	844	868	911	905	942	6120
2022/23	6830	794	840	809	844	869	907	907	5969
2023/24	6800	716	794	838	808	844	864	908	5773
2024/25	6770	760	714	791	837	808	839	864	5613
2025/26	6740	760	760	713	791	838	804	840	5506

\*Actual

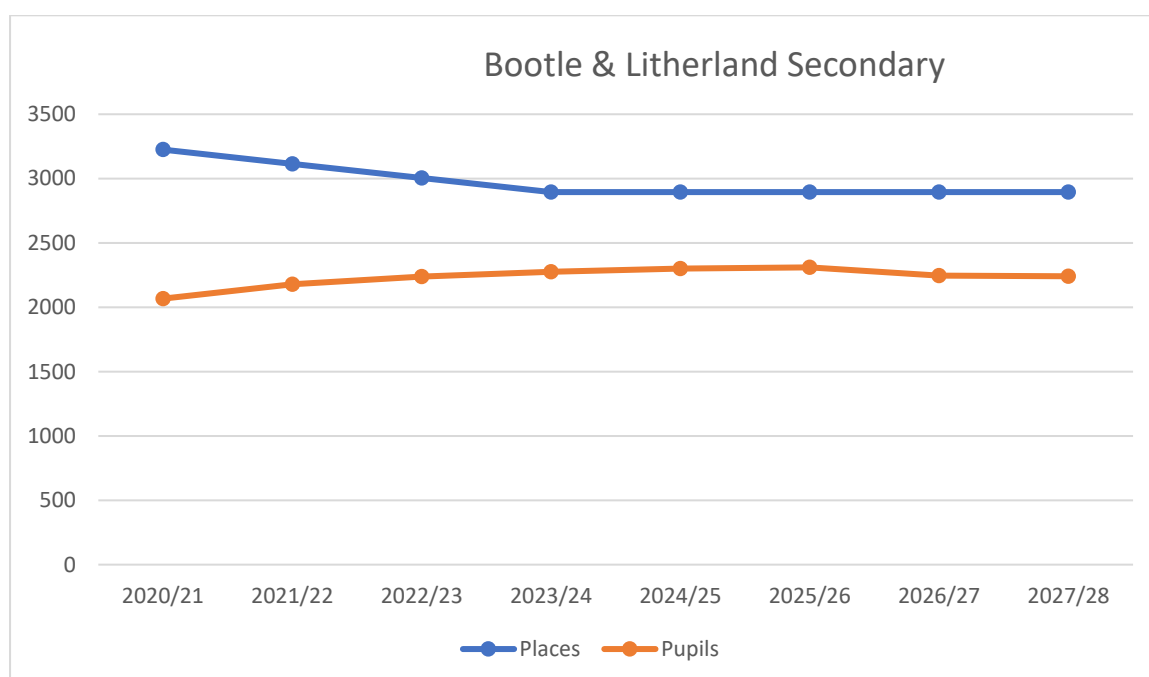


Birth rates for this area have been reducing since 2009/10. They rose again slightly in 2017/18 but have dropped since then. Overall intakes into Reception have also reduced since 2015. This trend has resulted in a reduction in the pupil projections. Additional pupil yield has been added to the projections to allow for housing developments with planning permission in the area. Pupil places continue to rise due to additional places being added in central Southport from 2016/17 onwards. This will stabilise by 2022/23 after which the number of places begin to reduce.

Table 8: Bootle & Litherland Secondary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total
2020/21*	3225	442	436	410	394	385	2067
2021/22	3115	492	451	441	401	393	2178
2022/23	3005	453	501	455	430	398	2238
2023/24	2895	437	462	506	444	428	2277
2024/25	2895	446	447	468	496	443	2300
2025/26	2895	455	454	452	457	493	2310
2026/27	2895	430	463	459	441	454	2247
2027/28	2895	450	437	468	447	438	2241

\*Actual

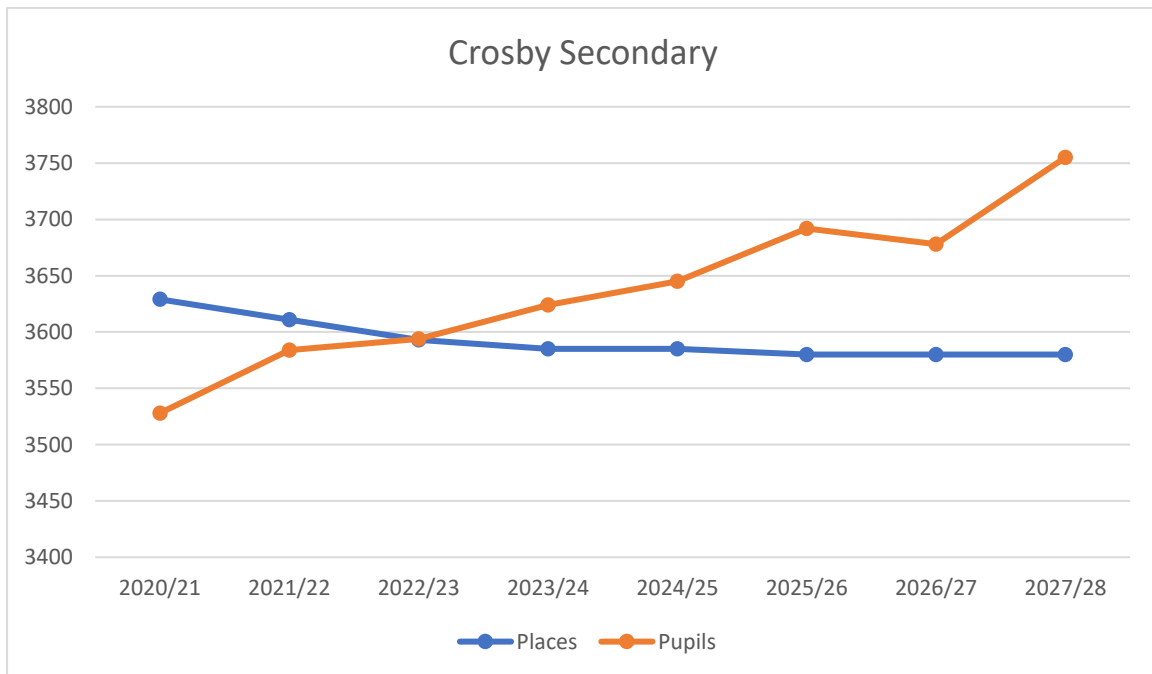


Pupil projections indicate that numbers will start to increase from 2020/21 onwards as larger numbers move through from the primary sector. Additional pupil yield has been added to the projections to allow for housing developments with planning permission in the area. The number of places in the area is likely to reduce as Savio Salesian College is converted to an academy and changes are also being made at Litherland High School as they propose to move Litherland Moss into their school building.

Table 9: Crosby Secondary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total
2020/21*	3629	754	722	710	699	643	3528
2021/22	3611	753	743	713	683	692	3584
2022/23	3593	756	742	734	686	676	3594
2023/24	3585	760	745	733	706	679	3624
2024/25	3585	756	749	736	705	699	3645
2025/26	3580	801	745	740	708	698	3692
2026/27	3580	741	789	736	712	701	3678
2027/28	3580	833	730	779	708	705	3755

\*Actual

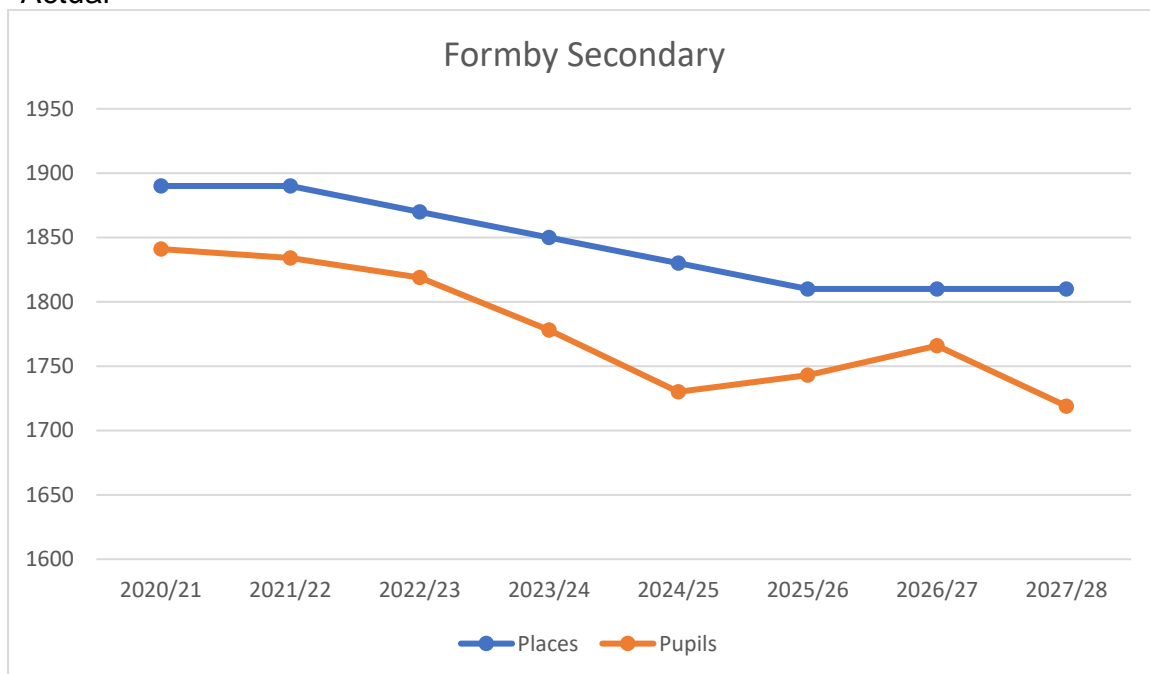


Pupil projections continue to rise based on the pupil numbers in the primary sector in this area and have exceeded the total PAN in some years. This is also partly due to intake numbers being capped by the two academies in the area which makes planning school places very difficult. The total capacity for secondary schools in this area is 4,442 based on teaching accommodation and funding agreements so there is currently sufficient capacity available which may not always match the number of places based on PANs. Additional pupil yield has been added to the projections to allow for housing developments with planning permission in the area.

**Table 10: Formby Secondary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)**

Year	Total PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total
2020/21*	1890	346	381	379	375	360	1841
2021/22	1890	349	350	380	380	374	1834
2022/23	1870	368	350	346	378	377	1819
2023/24	1850	344	369	346	344	375	1778
2024/25	1830	332	345	366	345	342	1730
2025/26	1810	365	332	341	364	342	1743
2026/27	1810	373	365	329	339	360	1766
2027/28	1810	319	374	362	328	337	1719

\*Actual

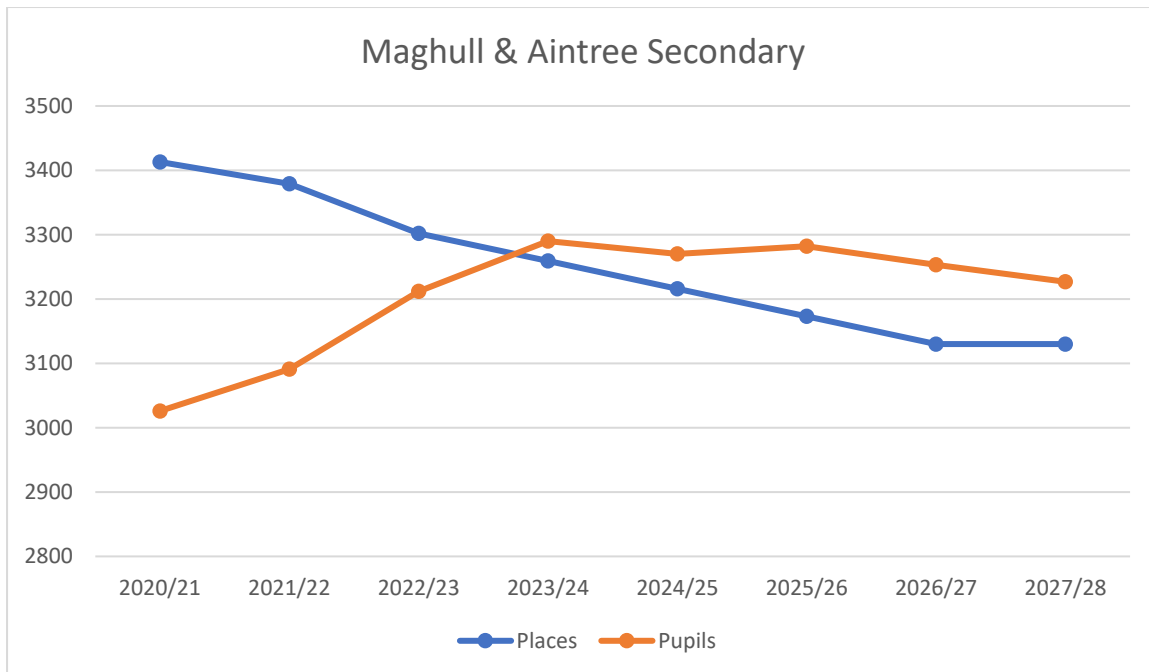


Pupil places are continuing to grow until 2021/22 due to changes in the school admission numbers while pupil projections remain stable but are then declining from 2022/23 onwards based on the current numbers of pupils in the primary sector in Formby. However, as the schools in this area are popular it is likely that places would be filled by pupils from outside the area although this is difficult to quantify. Additional pupil yield has been added to the projections to allow for housing developments with planning permission in the area.

Table 11: Maghull & Aintree Secondary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total
2020/21*	3413	637	649	602	549	589	3026
2021/22	3379	654	640	649	593	554	3091
2022/23	3302	698	651	635	634	593	3212
2023/24	3259	688	697	648	622	636	3290
2024/25	3216	639	685	692	633	622	3270
2025/26	3173	650	638	682	677	634	3282
2026/27	3130	622	649	635	668	679	3253
2027/28	3130	668	621	646	622	670	3227

\*Actual

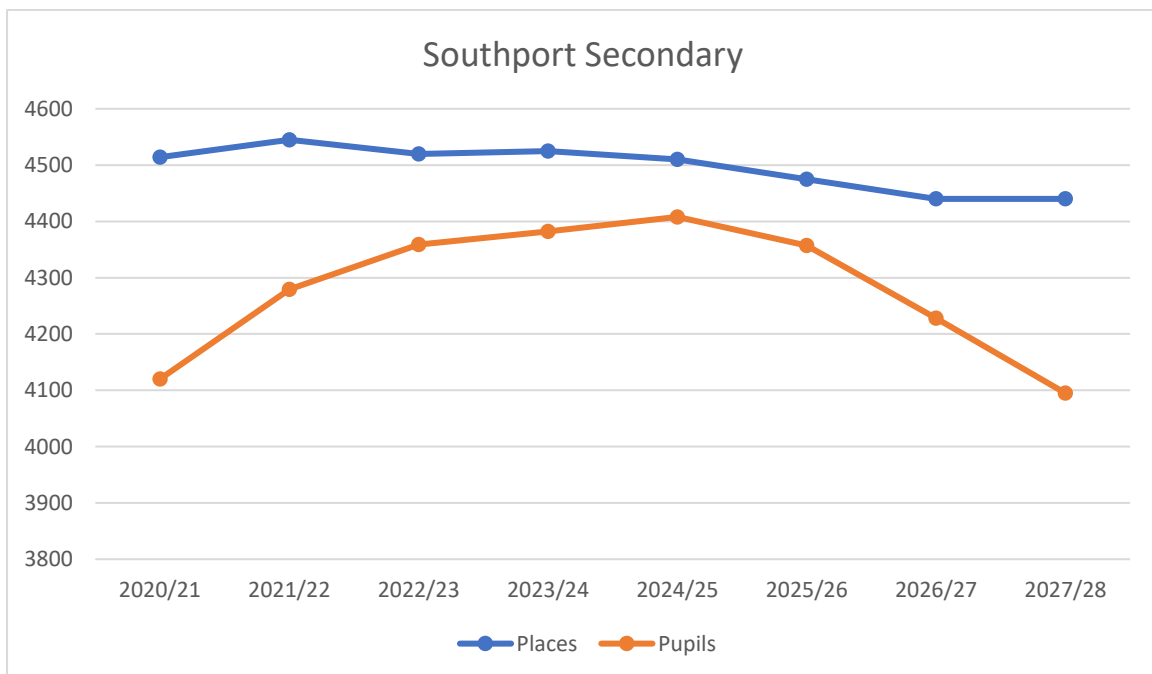


Pupil projections in this area are increasing based on the pupils currently in the primary sector and changes in the pattern of admissions. The number of places is decreasing based on changes which one of the schools has made to their planned admission number. The capacity of secondary schools in this area based on teaching accommodation and funding agreements is 3,485 so the capacity for the increasing numbers is currently in place but there would need to be adjustments made to admission numbers to accommodate additional pupils. Additional pupil yield has been added to the projections to allow for housing developments with planning permission in the area.

Table 12: Southport Secondary (including pupil yield from housing developments with planning permission)

Year	Total PAN	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total
2020/21*	4514	869	826	837	814	774	4120
2021/22	4545	926	870	832	837	813	4279
2022/23	4520	897	927	873	829	833	4359
2023/24	4525	863	894	930	870	824	4382
2024/25	4510	863	860	896	925	864	4408
2025/26	4475	821	861	863	892	920	4357
2026/27	4440	798	819	864	859	888	4228
2027/28	4440	764	795	821	860	854	4095

\*Actual



The increase in pupil numbers has slowed down but numbers are still increasing over the period up to 2024/25. Additional pupil yield has been included in the projections to allow for housing developments with planning permission in the area. Meols Cop High is oversubscribed and has pupils in excess of capacity. The other schools in the area have some level of surplus places although the total number has decreased in 2020/21.

### Conclusion

As we have already noted, monitoring pupil places is a complex process with many factors to consider.

We have also observed that where families with children moved in to newbuild properties which were completed in recent years many of those children were already attending local schools in Sefton and did not change school following the move. New housing may not always have as much initial impact as people expect and may not always bring new pupils into the area. However, this may vary depending on the location.

The housing figures included above are estimates which may change over time as it is difficult to predict when homes will be completed particularly when they do not have planning permission. It is also difficult to determine how much impact the COVID 19 pandemic has had on the rate of housebuilding in Sefton but it must have affected this to some extent particularly as there has been a shortage of building materials and workers may have been ill or isolating. We are waiting for revised estimates to be provided and will continue to monitor the situation.