

## Maidstone West Planning Group – Statement of KCC Education

The latest forecasts for the Maidstone West planning group are predicated on a total capacity of 460 Reception Year places from 2016-17 to 2019-20. This total capacity assumes that all schools within the planning group will offer the same number of places as for 2015-16 admissions. This includes Jubilee Primary (Free) School for which 60 Reception Year places were available in 2015-16.

The table below provides the revised forecasts produced by KCC Education in Spring/Summer 2015. Assuming the total capacity of Reception Year places is maintained at 2015-16 levels, the forecasts indicate a shortfall of 5 places in 2016-17. From 2017-18 to 2019-20 a surplus of between 20 and 26 places is forecast in each year. The small deficit of places in 2016-17 would need to be managed by working with the schools within the planning group to accommodate the additional pupils, however it is anticipated that there would not be a need for any expansion or capital scheme if places are maintained at this level.

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN/ capacity
Maidstone West	430	20	24	-5	24	26	20	460

In the event of a reduction in places available at any school within the Maidstone West planning group, there would be a corresponding reduction in total capacity of places available. It is anticipated that a reduction in the number of places by 1 form of entry (30 Reception Year places) would result in a significant deficit of 35 places in 2016-17 and deficits of between 4 and 10 places in 2017-18 to 2019-20. The table below exemplifies the impact of a reduction in capacity within the Maidstone West planning group.

Planning Group	2014-15 PAN / capacity	2014-15 (A)	2015-16 (F)	2016-17 (F)	2017-18 (F)	2018-19 (F)	2019-20 (F)	2019-20 PAN/ capacity
Maidstone West	430	20	24	-35	-6	-4	-10	430

The anticipated deficit of places arising from reduced overall capacity in 2016-17 would necessitate the commissioning of additional places within the planning group. It is likely that this could only be accommodated through a capital scheme to increase the capacity at an existing school within the planning group, possibly as a 'bulge year' in the first instance. In the medium term a reduction in the capacity of places within the planning group may require the County Council to expedite the intention for a new primary school at Hermitage Lane.