

## **Modelling on the removal of use of nearest school**

### **Hurst Park Primary School - Elmbridge**

1. Modelling for Hurst Park Primary School based on the last four intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:
  - In 2021, there would have been no impact on the intake and the same children would have been admitted
  - In 2020, three children in Hurst Park would have been displaced in favour of three children who had Chandlers Field Primary School as nearer
  - In 2019, two children in Hurst Park would have been displaced in favour of three children who had Chandlers Field Primary School as nearer
  - In 2018, three children in Hurst Park/West Molesey would have been displaced in favour of three children who had Chandlers Field Primary School as nearer
2. In each of these years, the children who would have been displaced would have been able to secure a place at Chandlers Field Primary School, their next nearest school.
3. Pupil forecasts for the area indicate a similar level of pupil numbers in 2023 when compared to 2021, leading the local authority to conclude that the pattern of admission in 2023 is likely to be the same as in 2021 (although this is also dependent on preference patterns remaining the same).
4. As such, there would likely be no or minimal impact on the intake in 2023 if the criterion for nearest school was removed. Thereafter, forecasts indicate that pupil numbers will fall in Molesey West and the surplus of places will increase, further negating the need to prioritise children on the basis of nearest school as any children who might be displaced would still be likely to secure a place at Chandlers Field Primary School.

### **Langshott Primary – Reigate & Banstead**

5. Modelling for Langshott Primary School based on the last three intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:
  - In 2021, four children would have been displaced if nearest school had not used, but each of these would have gained a place at Horley Infant School, their second nearest school
  - In 2020, nine children would have been displaced if nearest school had not been used, but each of these would have been eligible for a place at Burstow Primary School
  - In 2019, seven children would have been displaced if nearest school had not been used but each of these would have been eligible for a place at Horley Infant School
6. It is apparent that, from the intakes for the past three years, any children who would have been displaced had 'nearest school' not been used would have been eligible for an alternative school. It is also possible that the opening of Westvale Park Primary

School and its participation in the coordinated admissions process in 2021 has lowered the impact on admission in this year, as parents alter their preferences across the area, and that this pattern may continue in the future.

7. Pupil forecasts across the area indicate a small surplus of places and so the removal of 'nearest school' should not affect the local authority's ability to offer a school place, albeit it may alter the school offered for a small number of children.

### **Meath Green Infant School - Reigate & Banstead**

8. Modelling for Meath Green Infant School based on the last three intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:
  - In 2021, there would have been no impact on the intake had 'nearest school' not been used (likely due to the opening of Westvale Park Primary School and its participation in the coordinated admissions process in 2021)
  - In 2020, six children would have been displaced if 'nearest school' had not been used but each of these addresses now has Westvale Park Primary School as their nearest school, so the pattern of admission for the area will have changed as a result of this new school
  - In 2019, eleven children would have been displaced if 'nearest school' had not been used but all but one of these now has Westvale Park Primary School as their nearest school, so the pattern of admission for the area will have changed as a result of this new school
9. It is apparent that the pattern of admission for this area has changed due to the opening of Westvale Park Primary School and that there is likely to be minimal impact on the intake to Meath Green Infant School if 'nearest school' is removed.

### **Tillingbourne Junior School**

10. Modelling for Tillingbourne Junior School based on the last three intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:
  - In 2021, the school was undersubscribed and so the intake would have been the same had 'nearest school' not been used
  - In 2020, five children living in Gomshall/Shere would have been displaced in favour of five children who lived in Farncombe
  - In 2019, eight children living in Gomshall/Shere would have been displaced in favour of five children who lived in Farncombe/Godalming
11. Due to the potential impact on children in Gomshall and Shere, modelling was also done on the 2017 and 2018 intakes, as follows:
  - In 2018, the school offered to all applicants and so the intake would have been the same had 'nearest school' not been used
  - In 2017, one child living in Gomshall would have been displaced in favour of 1 child who live in Farncombe

12. In each of the years where children living in Gomshall/Shere would have been displaced, they would have been able to secure a place at Surrey Hills CofE Primary School. Shere CofE Infant has also been named as a feeder school to Holy Trinity CofE Junior School since 2018 and children who had this school as their nearest CofE school would also have been able to access a place there.
13. Year 3 forecasts for Tillingbourne Valley and Godalming indicate a fall in pupil numbers in 2022, levelling out subsequently for 3 to 4 years.
14. The Headteacher and Governing Body are not in support of this proposal as they are concerned at maintaining pupil numbers. However, with a projected deficit of Year 3 places across Tillingbourne Valley of 0.5 FTE until 2026/27 it is unlikely the school will face a shortage of pupils. The school also wishes to continue to serve Gomshall and Shere which are very much part of the established school community. However, with projected forecasts for Godalming showing a surplus of Year 3 places for the foreseeable future, the local authority does not anticipate that children from Godalming will displace children from Gomshall and Shere and that the pattern of admission is likely to remain similar to that for 2021.

#### **Wallace Fields Junior School – Epsom & Ewell**

15. Modelling for Wallace Fields Junior School based on the last three intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after children attending the feeder school, there would have been no impact on the intake and no children would have been displaced.

#### **Walton on the Hill Primary School – Reigate & Banstead**

16. Modelling for Walton on the Hill Primary School based on the last four intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:
  - In 2021, there would have been no impact on the intake and the same children would have been admitted
  - In 2020, two children would have been displaced if nearest school had not been used
  - In 2019, one child would have been displaced if nearest school had not been used
  - In 2018, there would have been no impact on the intake and the same children would have been admitted
17. Whilst the number of children affected is not significant in any year, Governors at the school are mindful of the geography of the area and the potential impact on the intake if 'nearest school' is removed and applications from the neighbouring village of Tadworth increase. Some children living in Tadworth live closer to the school than some children living in Walton on the Hill and so, if priority on the basis of 'nearest school' was removed, these children would displace children living in Walton on the Hill if no alternative proposal was put forward to protect their priority.
18. Given the location and oversubscription of other local schools it is also likely that, if children in Walton on the Hill were displaced by children in Tadworth, they would not be able to access another local school.

19. A catchment would serve the same purpose as priority on the basis of 'nearest school' whilst ensuring that parents could easily understand its boundaries and whether or not they fall within or outside the catchment.

### **Southfield Park Primary School**

20. Southfield Park Primary School currently operates a catchment area and priority for children who have the school as their nearest school is only given once all children within the catchment have been offered a place.

21. Modelling for Southfield Park Primary School based on the last three intakes would indicate that, if the criteria of 'catchment' **and** 'nearest school' were removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:

- In 2021, three children **from within the catchment area** would have been displaced in favour of 3 children who lived closer
- In 2020, there would have been no impact
- In 2019, eight children would have been displaced (5 nearest school and 3 catchment) in favour of 8 children who lived closer

22. Modelling for the school for the last three intakes had only the criterion of 'nearest school' been removed and, after catchment, priority had been based on straight line distance instead of nearest school:

- In 2021, there would have been no impact
- In 2020, there would have been no impact
- In 2019, six children would have been displaced in favour of 6 children who lived closer. The 6 children who would have gained a place lived closer to Epsom Primary although one had Southfield Park as nearest by road. The 6 children who would have been displaced all had Southfield Park as their nearest school and would have been offered either Epsom Primary or Danetree Primary schools

### **Stamford Green Primary School**

23. Modelling for Stamford Green Primary School based on the last three intakes would indicate that, if the criterion of 'nearest school' was removed and priority had been based on straight line distance after siblings, the impact on the intake would have been as follows:

- In 2021, 6 children would have been displaced if nearest school had not used, in favour of 11 children who lived nearer
- In 2020, 12 children would have been displaced if nearest school had not been used, in favour of 11 children who lived nearer
- In 2019, 11 children would have been displaced if nearest school had not been used, in favour of 11 children who lived nearer