

South West Milton Keynes

Education Statement

Based on the predicted mix and programme, the development is forecast by the County Council to generate 97 school pupils per year of age that will seek a place in a mainstream state funded school. This is subject to review.

This will be met through the provision of land within the development for up to a 3-form entry 630-place primary school and the identification of land within the development sufficient for the provision of 600 secondary school places and reserved as such. This is so that the Decision Maker has the option for provision to be within the development and of an appropriate scale.

Whilst the primary school provision with Early Years Pre-school facilities is self-evident as both necessary and appropriate, the nature of secondary education, in particular in Aylesbury Vale with its bi-partite secondary school organisation (Grammar and Secondary Schools), is a less certain proposition. The proposed development will fund the provision of an appropriate number of additional grammar school places and secondary school places in accordance with the County Council Planning Obligations Policy.

Whether secondary school place provision, if decided to be within the development will be an annex extension to an existing grammar school, an extension to an existing secondary school or a stand alone secondary school is a decision that must be left to the Decision Maker, which depending upon circumstances would be the County Council or the Education Secretary of State.

Whilst a secondary school within the development, whether an annex extension or standalone secondary school (it cannot be a standalone grammar school under existing legislation) will provide for the necessary number of school places, a proportion of the resident secondary school age pupils will either choose to attend a school elsewhere or will be chosen to attend elsewhere and a corresponding number will attend the school from elsewhere in Aylesbury. This is because of the bipartite secondary school system.

The school(s) will be established in time for the appropriate number of pupils (of reception class age for primary and year 7 for secondary) to justify the operating costs for a newly established school in agreement with the County Council.

Discussions have been held with the County Council including potential school layouts access arrangements and how community access to school facilities can be nurtured.