

## **Langley Sustainable Urban Extension (SUE) and Peddimore Draft SPDs – Education FAQ**

### **Will Langley SUE have new schools?**

The draft SPD sets out that the development will need three primary schools, a secondary school and special education needs provision – see the Activity section of the Langley SUE draft SPD.

### **How has the requirement for school places been calculated?**

The City Council is required to provide a robust calculation upon which to understand future requirements for places at schools. The formula applies a standard number of pupils per dwelling to estimate the number of generated by each type of homes on a development.

At this stage, informed assumptions have been applied about the types of dwelling that could come forward within the Langley SUE, and this has led to the following pupil numbers being anticipated from the development when it has been fully completed and occupied:

<b>Bedrooms</b>	<b>No of Dwellings</b>	<b>Pupils per Dwelling</b>	<b>Year Groups</b>	<b>Total Number of Pupils</b>
<b>1</b>	300 x	0 x	12 =	0
<b>2</b>	900 x	0.03 x	12 =	324
<b>3</b>	2,400 x	0.042 x	12 =	1,210
<b>4 or more</b>	2,400 x	0.06 x	12 =	1,728
	<b>6,000</b>			<b>3,262</b>

The scale of the Langley SUE equates to an additional 3,262 pupils (272 per year group), which is a requirement for nine forms of entry (or nine classes per year group). Based on this, the development needs to provide for:

- Three Primary Schools, each with three forms of entry
- One Secondary School, with nine forms of entry

These figures will be updated once there are further details from the developers on the types and number of homes expected on Langley SUE through the planning application process.

### **What happens if there are more pupils on the development?**

The City Council already continually reviews the need for school places across the City to ensure it meets its statutory requirements. For Langley SUE, the draft SPD is requiring the developer to future proof school sites to accommodate the potential for further expansion should the need arise.

### **What role will existing local schools have?**

The availability of school places is assessed by the City Council when considering the additional requirements from development. Sutton Coldfield schools are already very popular with families, and as there is already pressure for these places, the City Council do not anticipate that existing schools will have a significant role in addressing the requirements from Langley SUE.

Any spare capacity in existing schools will be fully utilised, however this is very limited. Where there are opportunities to expand existing schools we will do so particularly to support the first years of the development and before the new schools are open. Academy trusts and schools have an opportunity to bid for a free school.

### **What happens with children in an older (non-intake) year group?**

Places in the majority of year groups are already full in most of the existing schools, however if there are opportunities to expand schools we will do so. This may mean that places will be offered at schools that are not necessarily local. Any new schools are likely to undertake a phased growth and fill from the first year group. The decision about the opening of classes will ultimately be down to the free school sponsor and the City Council would seek to work closely with the sponsor to support the opening of places in the best way possible.

### **How will special education needs provision be provided in the development?**

In Birmingham, 16.7% of pupils have special educational needs, which is higher than the national average of 14.4%. Birmingham also has higher than national average levels of pupils who require SEN support in school and pupils who have an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

For the whole of Langley SUE, we estimate that when the development is fully occupied this would equate to approx. 78 pupils requiring special needs education and approx. 33 of which will require a place in a special school as part of their Education Health and Care Plan. [Birmingham's SEND Inclusion Strategy](#) was approved in December 2017 which seeks to improve access to the right provision.

The draft SPD requires special school education provision to be addressed as part of the development, and this can include provision within the primary and secondary schools on the site. The figures will be updated once there are further details from the developers on the number of homes expected on Langley SUE through the planning application process.

### **When will the schools be provided?**

The phasing of new schools will need to be linked to the delivery of new homes, and a delivery strategy will be required from the developers for this (See Delivery section of the Langley SUE draft SPD). The City Council has carried out research on other urban extensions to provide benchmarking for the appropriate points at which school places will need to be provided.

Based on the research undertaken so far, the current estimates are:

- Primary schools – one form of entry provided before 200 homes are occupied. A further form of entry will then be required for approx. every 600-700 homes.
- Secondary school – three forms of entry provided before 1,800 homes are occupied. A further three forms of entry will then be required once 3,800 homes are occupied, and then again at the occupation of 5,900 homes.

These thresholds and the delivery approach will be further refined with the developers, City Council and school sponsors. It will seek to ensure that the new provision coming forward is as near to the need as possible in order to support local families and meet the City Council's statutory duty. Options to phase the delivery of schools will be explored between the City Council and the school provider to ensure that the required forms of entry are opened as soon as they are needed by the residents on the development.

The City Council expects that all new school provision will be in line with the Department for Education [building bulletin guidelines](#).

**Will the City Council run the schools?**

No. All new schools must be opened as free schools under the [free school presumption](#) process.

**What about other education provision, such as nursery and Post-16 places?**

Early year's provision can be delivered by the public sector, private sector, voluntary organisations and independent providers. This provision could be located within the primary schools, or within the District Centre and Community Hubs on the development. An assessment of the current provision will determine whether additional places are needed.

Post-16 provision can include a number of routes, including full-time education (e.g. at a school or college); an apprenticeship or traineeship; part-time education or training combined with employment/self-employment/volunteering. An assessment of the current routes available will determine whether additional places are needed.