

Impact Assessment: Cathedral Primary School, Bristol

1. Section 9 of the Academies Act 2010 (later as amended by the Education Act 2011) places a duty on the Secretary of State to take into account what the impact of establishing the institution would likely be on maintained schools, academies, institutions within the further education sector and alternative provision in the area in which the institution is (or is proposed to be) situated. Any adverse impact will need to be balanced against the benefits of establishing the new school.
2. We have carried out an impact assessment (see the table 1 below) which concludes that the impact of Cathedral Primary School on local schools is minimal. Our analysis is set out in the following context:
 - There is severe basic need in the area with a predicted pupil population increase of 30.7% between 2011/12 and 2016/17.
 - The nearest school, St George Church of England Primary School (0.2 miles from Cathedral Primary School) is a 0.5FE school and is due to close in 2013, because the local authority views its small size as unsustainable. The decision to close the school is unrelated to the proposed free school.
 - The closure of St George CofE Primary School, coupled with severe basic need will mitigate the potential of the free school having a moderate impact on Compass Point South Street School.
 - The oversubscription criteria published by Cathedral Primary School draws in pupils from across Bristol as well as a small number from North Somerset, South Gloucestershire and further afield through the random allocation of pupil places, so the impact on any one school or area will be minimised.
3. Bristol City Council, who enjoy an excellent working relationship with the sponsor, Bristol Cathedral School, wrote to the Department in support of the Cathedral Primary School proposal. The local authority, who predict a shortfall in the area equivalent to 2 forms of entry in the short to medium term, stated that admissions arrangements which give a higher preference to local children would be preferable. However, it recognises and supports the unique offer of the free school. Bristol City Council therefore concludes that Cathedral Primary School would have a minimal impact on local schools.
4. South Gloucestershire Council also wrote to the Department in support of Cathedral Primary School, citing a shortage of primary places across the area as a whole.
5. Our assessment concludes that Cathedral Primary School will have a minimal overall impact on the surrounding schools and that it is appropriate for the Secretary of State to enter into a funding agreement with the trust on the basis that:
 - Cathedral Primary School will be likely to contribute to improved standards in the area.
 - Cathedral Primary School will work towards meeting the need for primary places across the local and wider area.
 - Cathedral Primary School will give parents greater choice and will offer something different to existing schools in the area.

Table 1: Impact Assessment for Cathedral Primary School

School name	Distance from free school (miles)	School type	Capacity	Attainment in 2011/12	Ofsted grade	Impact rating
St George Church of England Primary School	0.2	3-11 age range Voluntary Controlled School Church of England Mixed	102 school places Surplus of school places of 23% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Well below average 60% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Satisfactory	<u>N/A</u> The school is due to close in 2013 – not related to the proposed free school. The decision was taken by Bristol City Council as the 0.5 FE school it does not provide good VfM.
St Michael's on the Mount Church of England Primary School	0.4	4-11 age range Voluntary Controlled School Church of England Mixed	210 school places Surplus of school places of 7% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Well below average 50% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Good	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school
Holy Cross RC Primary School	0.6	4-11 age range Voluntary Aided School Roman Catholic Mixed	180 school places Surplus of school places of 8% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Above average 82% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Good	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school

Southville Primary School	0.6	3-11 age range Community School No faith Mixed	210 school places Surplus of school places of 7% of total school capacity Undersubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Above average 86% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Good	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school
Christ Church Church of England Primary School	0.8	4-11 age range Academy Converter Church of England Mixed	315 school places Surplus of school places of 5% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Above average 84% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Outstanding	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school
St Mary Redcliffe Church of England Primary School	0.8	3-11 age range Voluntary Controlled School Church of England Mixed	358 school places Surplus of school places of 1% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Above average 81% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Good	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school

Ashton Gate Primary School	0.8	3-11 age range Community School No faith Mixed	355 school places Surplus of school places of -19% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Well above average 95% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Outstanding	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school
St Peter and St Paul RC VA Primary School	0.9	4-11 age range Voluntary Aided School Roman Catholic Mixed	204 school places Surplus of school places of -1% of total school capacity Undersubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Well above average 96% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Outstanding	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school
Hotwells Primary School	0.9	3-11 age range Community School No faith Mixed	210 school places Surplus of school places of 0% of total school capacity Oversubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Well above average 93% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Outstanding	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school

Compass Point: South Street School and Children's Centre	0.9	3-11 age range Foundation School No faith Mixed	210 school places Surplus of school places of 11% of total school capacity Undersubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Below average 74% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Good	<u>Minimal</u> This school's weak results, the fact that it has a relatively large surplus and was undersubscribed in 11/12 suggests a moderate impact. However the closure of St George CofE, severe basic need in the area and Cathedral Primary School's admissions arrangements mitigate the impact such that on balance we believe that it will be minimal.. The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school
Hannah More Primary School	0.9	5-11 age range Community School No faith Mixed	254 school places Surplus of school places of -3% of total school capacity Undersubscribed for entry in 2011/12	Average or close to average 79% of pupils achieved the expected level at KS2 in English and maths.	Good	<u>Minimal</u> The Free School is unlikely to affect the long term financial viability of the school