

## **Annex B: Pimlico Primary impact assessment – Section 9 Academies Act duty**

1. Section 9 of the Academies Act 2010 places a duty upon the Secretary of State to take into account what the impact of establishing the additional provision would be likely to be on maintained schools, Academies, institutions within the further education sector and Alternative Provision in the area in which the additional provision is (or is proposed to be) situated.

### **Background**

2. Pimlico Academy is a successful secondary school and intends to add 4-11 primary provision – Pimlico Primary – on the same site to create an all-through school. The primary is planned to start with an intake of 2 reception classes of 60 pupils in 2013 with a subsequent intake of 60 places per year reaching capacity in 2018 when the primary will have 420 places. The school has put together a detailed travel plan to try to ensure that pupils walk to school and therefore that the impact on neighbours of additional pupils is minimised.

3. The applicant group – Future Academies Trust – are the current sponsors of the secondary Academy. The Academy Trust is an arm of the Future charity whose stated mission is ‘to help young people succeed’. The secondary Academy was graded outstanding by Ofsted in its last inspection.

### **Catchment area, its characteristics and admissions**

4. The school’s admissions policy is fully compliant with the School Admissions Code. Where fewer applications than the published admission number for the relevant year are received, the primary will offer places to all those who have applied. The admissions arrangements will be finally determined after planning permission has been secured.

5. When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with Special Educational Needs where the school is named in the Statement, priority will be given to those children who meet the following criteria:

- a. Looked after children and children who were formerly looked after (previously looked after children who have left care under an adoption order, residency order or special guardianship)
- b. Specific medical needs, social needs and special needs where the application is supported by written specific professional advice as to why the admission to the primary is necessary.
- c. Siblings of students currently attending the Academy who will continue to do so on the date of admission. The term sibling means a full, step, half,

adopted or fostered brother or sister, but not cousins, whose main residence is at the same address. The Academy reserves the right to ask for proof of relationship.

- d. Nearest walking distance to the school – children who live the nearest distance from the school. The distance which determines how close the child lives to the school is the shortest walking distance along public highways and footpaths between the front door to the child's permanent address and the main entrance to the primary school's main building. The child's permanent address is where he or she normally lives and sleeps and goes to school from. Proof of residence can be requested once offers have been made.

If in categories c and d above, more children qualify than there are places available, a tiebreak will be used. Where two children are deemed to live an equal distance from the school priority will be given to the eldest.

6. Pimlico Primary will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

7. The school does not have a self-defined catchment area. As the primary is not opening until September 2013, we do not know from what distance prospective pupils will be travelling. However, we know that of the responses to the consultation, the furthest post codes in which prospective parents live are W9, SW11 and SE17. However, the great majority of interest is from SW1 and it is expected that the catchment area will be very local (majority SW1). We also know that at least 80% of pupils in Westminster LA travel less than a mile, the average distance being 0.7 miles. We have therefore assessed the impact on all primary schools within a 1 mile radius of the proposed Pimlico Primary. We do not consider that schools situated over 1 mile away from the Free School are likely to be significantly impacted by this new provision.

8. In the South Westminster area there is currently approximately a 1form entry deficit of primary places and the Council predicts a continuing demand for places above existing capacity until the end of 2020.

9. The local authority has taken steps to address the need for places and is currently considering the expansion of Churchill Gardens Primary School by one form of entry as well as whether bulge classes are necessary. In two other local schools, St Barnabus and St Peter's Eaton Square, the provision has been extended by half a form of entry.

## Local authority view

10. Westminster Council were invited to provide their views on the Free School proposal and responded fully to the Department. They do not believe there is any need for the Pimlico Primary provision and are concerned it will result in an oversupply of places. This is because they believe it could result in an additional 4 forms of entry as opposed to the additional demand of 1 form of entry. The council is also concerned that the secondary provision which is popular and successful would not be able to expand as there will be no room on site.

## Representations

11. No direct representations other than that from the local authority have been received by the Department but a public consultation has been carried out by the Academy Trust. The consultation ran from **29th March 2012 – 24th May 2012**. The Academy Trust has shared a draft version of the consultation report with the Department. The consultation targeted more than **18,000 stakeholders** – residents, teachers, parents and local community groups (17,000 households and more than 1,000 Pimlico Academy staff and parents and local organisations). The consultation was on the following three areas:

- The proposal to set up a new school and enter into a funding agreement.
- The proposed admissions criteria.
- The specific proposal surrounding the site, proposed design of the school, and number of school places this would offer.

12. People could respond to the consultation in a number of ways:

1. By completing a paper comments card (with a freepost address).
2. By completing the comments form on the Pimlico Academy website.
3. By emailing [pimlicoprimary@pimlicoacademy.org](mailto:pimlicoprimary@pimlicoacademy.org).
4. By calling a dedicated phone line.

13. At all meetings and exhibitions attendees were provided with the consultation materials including a comments card and were asked to respond formally using the comments card/ online/ by email. In the formal consultation two main questions were asked:

1. Do you support our proposal to set up Pimlico Primary? Yes/ No
2. Do you support the revision of Future Academies' funding agreement in order to allow us to open Pimlico Primary as part of Pimlico Academy? Yes/ No

14. Almost 80% of responses to questions 1 and 2 were positive. Concerns raised included the fact that respondents thought the provision is not required; opposition to the use of the site and the fact respondents feel it might be too small; opposition to all-through education and/or the curriculum model; restriction of views for residents and/or

damage to mature trees and loss of facilities to the community, noise and congestion. The Academy Trust has taken these responses on board and where possible will seek to mitigate the impact of the new provision on these areas.

15. *Annex B1 – consultation details* provides an extract from the proposer group’s statement of community involvement showing all stakeholders consulted.

## Impact on other schools

16. We have considered the impact the new provision may have on all schools within a 1 mile radius of the proposed new primary. Below is a discussion of the likely impact on the nearest primary schools to the proposed site.

17. The table shows that the new primary will have a minimal impact on 12 schools and a moderate impact on 7 schools.

School name	Distance from Free School (miles)	Impact rating	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Last Ofsted inspection rating	KS2 English and maths 2011
Churchill Gardens Community Primary School	0.12	<b>Moderate</b>	210	246	Satisfactory	38%
St Gabriel's CofE Primary School	0.26	<b>Moderate</b>	210	207	Satisfactory	66%
Burdett-Coutts and Townshend Foundation CofE Primary School	0.49	<b>Moderate</b>	378	328	Good	73%
St Matthew's School, Westminster	0.69	<b>Moderate</b>	210	150	Good	57%
St Mary's RC Voluntary Aided Primary School	0.87	<b>Moderate</b>	240	155	Satisfactory	59%
St Mark's Church of England Primary School	0.90	<b>Moderate</b>	210	189	Good	79%
Sir James Barrie Primary School	0.97	<b>Moderate</b>	420	325	Satisfactory	63%
Westminster Cathedral RC Primary School	0.22	<b>Minimal</b>	210	206	Good	87%
Millbank Primary School	0.37	<b>Minimal</b>	420	411	Outstanding	86%
St Vincent de Paul RC Primary School	0.54	<b>Minimal</b>	210	209	Good	83%
St Barnabas' CofE Primary School	0.65	<b>Minimal</b>	161	154	Satisfactory	79%
St Peter's Eaton Square CofE Primary School	0.69	<b>Minimal</b>	288	260	Outstanding	91%
Wyvil Primary School and Centre for Children With Speech and Language Impairment	0.70	<b>Minimal</b>	420	429	Good	73%
St George's CofE Primary School	0.79	<b>Minimal</b>	210	199	Outstanding	93%
St Anne's Catholic Primary School	0.79	<b>Minimal</b>	378	374	Good	84%
Herbert Morrison Primary School	0.82	<b>Minimal</b>	202	187	Good	76%
Vauxhall Primary School	0.85	<b>Minimal</b>	210	179	Good	100%
St Stephen's Church of England Primary School	0.87	<b>Minimal</b>	210	195	Good	93%

Holy Trinity CofE Primary School	0.92	Minimal	188	203	Good	81%
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### **Schools where the impact is moderate**

18. The impact of the Free School on seven schools has been assessed as moderate. Five of these have surplus places and two of these plus the two others have low Ofsted inspection grades.

19. Of these schools, four are Church of England schools and one is Roman Catholic.

#### *Churchill Gardens Community Primary School*

20. This school is 0.12 miles from the proposed new provision. It has capacity for 210 pupils but is oversubscribed and had 246 pupils on roll in 2011.

21. The school was graded just satisfactory in its last Ofsted inspection in May 2012. Leadership and management and teaching were both graded satisfactory as well as the overall judgment being satisfactory. Just 38% of pupils achieved level 4 in Key Stage 2 English and maths in 2011 which was well below the LA average of 79% and the national average of 74%. 2009 and 2010 scores were also low with around 50% achieving level 4 in each year. The LA average in 2009 and 2010 was 73% and 77% respectively.

23. As the school is oversubscribed but only rated satisfactory, it is reasonable to assume that parents may be attracted to an alternative option. However, some parents will wish to continue their child's education in a CofE school as opposed to non-faith education. As the school is a faith school and oversubscribed we consider the impact will be moderate.

#### *St Gabriel's CofE Primary School*

22. St Gabriel's is just 0.26 miles away from the proposed Pimlico Primary. 207 pupils were on roll in 2011 out of a potential 210 places. The oversubscription criteria in the admissions policy prioritise attendance at St Gabriel's church and then attendance in other Anglican churches.

23. It was graded just satisfactory in May 2012, having been inspected as outstanding in 2007. 66% of pupils achieved level 4 in Key Stage 2 English and maths in 2011 which was below the LA and national averages. In 2009 79% of pupils achieved level 4 which was higher than the Westminster average of 73%, but in 2010 this was also lower than the LA average in that year of 77% at 67%.

24. As the school appears to have been having difficulties in recent years, as

indicated by the lower Ofsted and Key Stage 2 grades, it is likely that it will be impacted by the new Pimlico Primary. However as a CofE school which actively prioritises the attendance of pupils who attend the church, it is likely that parents will continue to want a faith-based education. We therefore feel there will be an impact on the school but it will be moderate rather than significant.

*Burdett-Coutts and Townshend Foundation CofE Primary School*

25. This primary school is 0.49 miles from the proposed site. There were 328 pupils on roll in 2011 though the school has capacity for 378. The admissions policy oversubscription criteria prioritise pupils who attend one of three specific churches and then a church in general.

26. The school was graded good in its last Ofsted inspection. 73% of pupils achieved level 4 in English and maths at Key Stage 2 which is just below the national average.

27. While the school was slightly under capacity in 2011 and therefore may lose some pupils when Pimlico Primary opens, given the distance and faith character of the school we consider the impact of this to be moderate rather than significant.

*St Matthew's School, Westminster*

28. St Matthew's is a Church of England school which is 0.69 miles away. With capacity for 210 pupils just 150 were on roll in 2011. The oversubscription criteria prioritises pupils from the St Matthews church and then other churches.

29. It was graded good in its last Ofsted inspection in October 2010. Key Stage 2 maths and English scores are below average – 57% in 2011 down from 75%. However that was a jump from 50% in 2009.

30. Again, we consider that it is likely that some pupils may choose Pimlico Primary instead of this school. However, given the distance from Pimlico Primary and the faith character of the school we consider the impact of this to be moderate.

*St Mary's RC Voluntary Aided Primary School*

31. The school is 0.87 miles from Pimlico Primary and has a capacity of 240 but just 155 pupils were on roll in 2011. Pupils attending particular RC churches are prioritised by the oversubscription criteria in the admissions policy.

32. The school is graded satisfactory and the percentage of pupils achieving level 4 in the Key Stage 2 scores in English and maths in 2011 was 59% - below the LA and

national averages. However this was a dip from 78% and 79% in 2009 and 2010.

33. Given that it is a Roman Catholic School, it is reasonable to assume that some parents will prefer a Roman Catholic education than a non-faith education. We do think some pupils may choose Pimlico Primary instead. However, given the distance from the school and the faith character we think the impact of this will be moderate.

#### *St Mark's Church of England Primary School*

34. St Mark's primary is 0.9 miles from the proposed new primary school. 189 pupils were on roll in 2011 out of a possible capacity of 210. The oversubscription criteria in the admissions policy prioritise pupils who attend St Mark's church in Oval.

35. It was graded good in its Ofsted inspection in December 2008. Achievement in KS2 test was just above the LA average – 79% to 78%.

Though it is possible some pupils may attend Pimlico Primary instead, the two schools are actually quite far from each other. This, coupled with the faith character means the impact is likely to be moderate rather than significant.

#### *Sir James Barrie Primary School*

36. The school is 0.97 miles from the primary (and if looking at actual travel distance it is nearer to 1.9miles). Though it has capacity for 420 pupils just 325 were on roll in 2011.

37. The school was graded satisfactory in its last Ofsted inspection. The Key Stage 2 results in 2011 were below the national and Westminster LA averages. 63% of pupils achieved level 4 in 2011. However that was a dip from 84% in 2009 and 70% in 2010.

38. There is potentially some impact on this school. However despite being less than a mile away, it is in a completely different borough across the river and therefore less likely to be significantly impacted upon.

#### **Other Schools where the impact is minimal**

39. Of the 12 other schools within a 1 mile radius, all have been assessed as being minimally affected by the opening of the new primary provision because they are unlikely to lose a significant number of pupils. Only one school was over capacity in 2011 – the Holy Trinity CofE School – but all the others were almost at capacity or not far off. Just one of the schools was graded less than good in its last Ofsted inspection – St Barnabus which was satisfactory in 2011. However the Key Stage 2 results in that

year were above average at 79%.

### **Impact on secondary schools, special schools, alternative provision schools and FE institutions**

40. Pimlico Primary will be a school admitting children of primary age. It will begin with an intake of 2 reception classes and will build up over subsequent years admitting two new Reception classes (60 pupils) each year. It will have no specialist SEN provision but will work to accommodate the needs of pupils where the school is named in their statement of SEN. As such, it is unlikely to have any direct impact on local secondary schools, Special Schools, Alternative Provision and even less likely to impact post-16 and FE institutions.

41. However, the new Pimlico Primary may have an impact on the availability of places at Pimlico Academy. As pupils will transfer directly to the secondary Academy (rather than needing to apply) the number of places at the Academy will be reduced. While the overall number of pupils in the area will not be any different, it may put pressure on other secondary schools or cause other Pimlico Academy feeder primaries to feel this is unfair. The local authority has already written to us about this and also that the new primary will remove the possibility that the secondary could be expanded in the future.

### **Conclusion**

42. The new primary provision will have an impact on some of the schools within a 1 mile radius. This is likely to be greater for the closest schools and those that are struggling or are under capacity, in particular Churchill Gardens and St. Gabriel's. However, both are at capacity or oversubscribed. Though many schools within a 1 mile radius have some spare capacity, we understand that there will be at least an additional form of entry capacity needed from September 2013. It should also be noted that as the school is opening with a 2 form reception intake while some schools may experience a moderate impact their long-term viability should not be affected.

43. A significant proportion of the provision in Westminster is faith-based and there is little choice for parents who wish to choose a non-faith education for their children. Pimlico Academy is graded outstanding and given the track record of the sponsors and head we believe the primary provision should add good places to the area, though the head has no track record in primary.

44. Taking all of the above into account, and considering the potential impact of Pimlico Primary on existing providers, it is officials' view that it would be appropriate for the Secretary of State to enter into the Funding Agreement with the Academy Trust.



