

Primary School Places

The County Council has processed more than 21,000 applications (21,288) for children to start school in reception year (Year R) and to move from infant to their first year of junior education (Year 3). Just over 98 per cent (98.31 per cent) of parents have been offered a reception year place for their child in one of their three preferred choice schools, with more than 93 per cent (93.25 per cent) allocated a place at their first choice of school.



Of pupils transferring from infant school to junior school (Year 3), more than 99 per cent (99.31 per cent) received a place at one of their three choices, and just over 98 per cent (98.02 per cent) obtained a place at their first choice of school. For the cases where parents have not secured a place at a school of their choice, the County Council has advised them, in their notification, about the right to appeal and the arrangements for their preferred school's waiting list.

Places often become available after the offer day and before September for a variety of reasons, including families moving house or out of the area, or parents choosing to decline the place originally allocated for their child after having secured a place at another school. More information about the admissions process, including how to make an appeal, is available online at www.hants.gov.uk/admissions

Holiday Activities & Food [HAF]

Total funding worth approximately £10m will be allocated to the County Council by the Department for Education to continue running the scheme, which offers healthy food and enriching activities to eligible children during the school holidays – a time when some families struggle with the extra costs, such as food and childcare. In Hampshire, there are over 33,000 children who are potentially eligible for free HAF places.

The HAF programme will continue to make free places available to eligible children for the equivalent of at least four hours a day, four days a week and for six weeks a year. This covers four weeks in the summer and a week's worth of provision in each of the Easter and Christmas holidays. Organisations will also be able to offer additional places to fee paying families. Families wanting to find out what is on offer locally should search the Family Information and Services Hub - <http://fish.hants.gov.uk/kb5/hampshire/directory/home.page>

Green Initiatives

The County Council is leading on a range of initiatives to help reduce our carbon emissions and prepare for the impact of climate change. Initiatives to date:

- We are upgrading our street lights to LED
- have piloted on street EV charging in Winchester
- will plant one million trees by 2050
- launched the parish pollinator project
- installed £26m of solar panels, boiler and window upgrades on our schools
- partnered with Community Energy South to support local renewable energy projects

If you would like to get more involved or learn more about Hampshire's Climate Change initiatives join the Greening Campaign <http://www.greening-campaign.org/> The campaign helps communities to reduce their carbon footprint by taking simple actions at a household level, such as reducing energy and water use.

£0.25 million Investment Fund for Community Energy Projects

An investment fund, to support community run renewable energy projects in Hampshire is to be established by the County Council. The 'Revolving Community Energy Fund' will invest up to £25,000 for any individual community project being launched in Hampshire as part of the Community Energy Pathways project. The aim of the fund is to stimulate significant community investment in renewable energy across Hampshire. Investment in a share offer will enable a community to operate a renewable

energy scheme and earn income. Once a scheme is operational, it should then attract additional shareholders and/or secure borrowing against the assets of the existing scheme, enabling it to be extended to a wider community base.

Any profits that result from community schemes will go back into the Revolving Community Energy Fund (RCEF) for investment in other community schemes, making it a sustainable funding mechanism for the long-term. The RCEF will build on the work of the Community Energy Pathways programme, being delivered by Community Energy South, to establish a thriving Community Energy (CE) network across Hampshire, with communities setting up local energy projects that are funded by the community for the benefit of the community.

Residents seeking further information on the RCE Fund, should email: climatechange@hants.gov.uk The Revolving Community Energy Fund decision report can be found online: <https://democracy.hants.gov.uk/documents/s94750/Report.pdf>

Decarbonisation Programme

Did you know that Hampshire County Council has a decarbonisation programme for schools totalling £32.5 million? This includes –

Window replacement	83 projects
Oil/Gas burners	18 “
Heating controls	91 “
Solar PV	254 “
Wall cavity insulation	34 “

Reduced Emissions

CO2 emissions from County Council operations reported in 2020/21 were reduced to down to 72,394 tonnes compared with 75,868 tonnes the previous year, which delivered on the County Council's 74,700 tonne target ahead of the 2025 target date.

Pack a Picnic

Events are taking place across Hampshire as part of The Big Lunch Jubilee celebrations. There will be music, entertainment, fun activities for children, and on Saturday 4th June Staunton Country Park will also be live-screening the national event – the Platinum Party at the Palace. More information can be found about these events and other Jubilee celebrations across Hampshire, on the County Council's dedicated Queen's Platinum Jubilee webpage - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/platinumjubilee>

Over 65 year olds in the Winchester District

- The number of older people has increased as each decade passed, as has the proportion of the population occupying the older age groups
 - The number of people aged 65 and over grew by 4,430 between 1981 - 2001
 - The number has grown by a further 3,380 between 2001 and 2011
- Over the entire period the number of people aged 65 years and over has increased by approximately half
- The proportion of the population aged 65 and over has increased from 15.8% in 1981 to 18.7% in 2011

Estimated population of Hampshire, excluding Portsmouth and Southampton is 1,389,200

Housing Affordability

Hampshire is currently less affordable than England as whole, with the average house price in Hampshire being 9.25 times the average Hampshire salary in 2018, compared with 7.05 times the average salary for England overall. The data comes from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2011 Cens

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