

EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 13 MARCH 2017
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACADEMIES PROGRAMME
END OF YEAR REPORT – 2016

Report by the Director of Children's Services

Introduction

1. During 2016 the Council continued to implement its policy on academies through an Academies Programme Project as part of its overarching Education Strategy.
2. There was considerable change in the legislative framework and national education policy agenda. With the enactment of the Education and Adoption Act in April 2016 the powers of the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to intervene in academies and maintained schools were increased. The RSC is also now required by law to issue an Academy Order to any school that is judged by Ofsted to require special measures and to expedite its conversion to academy status as soon as possible. A new White Paper 'Education for All' was published in April, initially proposing compulsory academisation of all schools by 2020 and further removal of local authority responsibilities for school improvement. The paper was amended to remove the compulsory academisation element but post Brexit, and the appointment of a new administration, a Bill still has not been introduced to parliament. A new Green Paper 'Schools that work for everyone' has been consulted upon indicating a shift in national education policy priorities. The Government is still committed to the academies programme.
3. In October 2015 the Council updated its policy position regarding the above programme. It recognised that the Council has a strong track record of supporting schools to become academies. To avoid the risks associated with fragmentation and isolation, particularly of small rural primary schools, it was proposed that the Council adopt a more assertive policy of actively encouraging the incorporation of the remaining maintained schools into sustainable formal collaborative groupings, primarily through the Multi Academy Trust model but also through the extension of the 'collaborative company' model and the pooling of more resources and responsibilities.
4. The Council agreed the following recommendations.
 1. To adopt the principles set out below.
 - a) No school 'left behind' by virtue of ethos or size.
 - b) Consideration of geographical proximity of schools.
 - c) Recognition of active formal partnership links.

- d) Robust consideration of potential of Multi Academy Trusts to promote good and better standards of education and effective working with the Council in carrying out its statutory duties such as place planning.
 - e) Recognition that a strategic plan for school groupings is required to maintain standards and accountability amongst education providers in the county.
 - f) Recognition that too many different trust arrangements will potentially dilute the local effectiveness of schools and adversely affect the Council in fulfilling its statutory duties, for example, to provide sufficient good quality pupil places.
 - g) Seek dialogue about expansion opportunities in the county sought by trusts located in the county.
 - h) Engage with academies in all phases that meet the criteria to be approved as a sponsor with a view to encouraging them to seek such status and offer local solutions in education provision.
 - i) Work with RSC to hold non performing trusts to account.
 - j) Work with RSC to promote expansion of good performing trusts in county.
 - k) Free School bids from suitable approved sponsors to be encouraged in areas where no basic need solutions are available from current resources and to promote diversity of choice for parents throughout the county.
 - l) Recognition of the formal position of the three Dioceses represented in Oxfordshire schools regarding consent for those schools to convert to academy status.
 - m) Engagement at county level about appropriate academy solutions for C of E schools with ODST. (Schools are currently advised to pursue individual solutions direct with the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education).
2. To adopt a more assertive policy in identifying appropriate sponsors for schools required to convert to academy status.
 3. To promote appropriate groupings to form new Multi Academy Trusts and encourage the growth of existing Multi Academy Trusts based in the county.
 4. To further develop and promote the collaborative company model, both to incorporate more schools in these and to extend the scope of resources and responsibility.
 5. To use collaborative companies as a 'stepping stone' to the formulation of Multi Academy Trusts.
5. The full report to Cabinet is available at the link below.
http://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/documents/s31331/CA_OCT2015R15%20Strategic%20Groupings%20of%20Academies%202015-20.doc.pdf
 6. Officers continue to develop relationships with existing and emerging trusts and collaborative companies in the County with a view to influencing the pattern of provision. In addition schools continue to request and receive individual visits and information related to their specific situation.
 7. Late in 2016 a new post of Cabinet Member for Education was created. There has followed recognition of calls for more support for maintained schools and a desire to introduce a proactive partnership approach to working with both

maintained schools and academies. Actions and outcomes related to this approach are likely to be apparent in 2017.

Background

8. Academies are publicly-funded independent schools. Between 2001 and 2010, there was only one kind of Academy. This was usually a secondary school that had been closed by the Local Authority and re-opened as a new legal entity, often in response to low attainment figures and judgements made by Ofsted. In Oxfordshire, three academies of this kind were established (North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury, Oxford Academy and Oxford Spires Academy).
9. Academies under the post 2010 legislation are subject to different conversion processes and requirements.
10. **Sponsored** academies **can be obliged** to become academies by the Department for Education (DfE) as a result of low standards of attainment.
11. **Converter** academies **choose** to become an academy themselves but have to be approved for conversion by DfE if they satisfy tests regarding standards and sustainability. The decision to apply for conversion rests with the Governors of the school. Converting schools can still seek a sponsor if they feel this will add value to the education of pupils.
12. **New Academies** can be set up through different routes which involve **bidding processes** and include secondary schools, primary schools, special schools, university technical colleges (UTCs), studio schools, free schools, 16-19 provision and alternative provision. Following the 2015 election pledge to create 500 Free schools in the next electoral term, statutory guidance was amended and reissued.

Content

13. The report identifies and analyses trends in this programme during 2016, and indicates changes from those noted in 2015, under the following headings.
 1. National and Local Statistics
 2. Conversion Numerical Data
 3. Trends in Conversions
 4. Local Collaborative Companies
 5. Sponsorship
 6. Cost of Conversions
 7. New Academies
 8. Regional Schools Commissioner
 9. Conclusion

Executive Summary

- 1) As last year most converters in 2016 were primary schools. The trend is set to continue. Four secondary schools have decided to convert to academy status during 2017.
- 2) There were 108¹ academies including Free Schools and Studio Schools in Oxfordshire at 31st December 2016. Four of them converted in 2016.
- 3) Fifty five per cent of the total Oxfordshire pupil population are now educated in academies.
- 4) There remain marked differences in volume of academy conversions between locality areas.
- 5) Conversions to academy status significantly fewer at an average rate of less than 0.5 per month in 2016.
- 6) Most schools continue to convert as part of groups or with the intention of setting up a group in a Multi Academy Trust (MAT). This trend is expected to continue.
- 7) Church of England schools now have a number of options for joining a MAT in the county. Catholic schools in Oxfordshire may still only convert to academy status with other catholic schools.
- 8) Local collaborative companies can be used to promote, build on and formalise existing partnership arrangements for shared support and services between schools. Such a company model can stand on its own or continue to be used as a stepping stone for schools in considering whether and how such an academy partnership may be appropriate to them. No additional companies were formed in 2016.
- 9) In 2016 one primary school with standards issues converted to academy status. The sponsor was the approved sponsor for a new school to be opened locally in 2017. Three further Academy Orders were issued to schools with standards issues as judged by Ofsted Under the terms of the new Education and Adoption Act. Building maintenance issues have become major factors in the delay in converting these schools to academy status.
- 10) Powers of the RSC to intervene in maintained schools have increased significantly. RSCs have a legal obligation to issue an Academy Order in response to Ofsted judging a school to require special measures.
- 11) The pool of sponsors available to support under performing schools in Oxfordshire increased in 2016. The need to identify more sponsors is a challenge nationally. However, the supply of sponsors in Oxfordshire is good

¹ This figure includes new schools.

and officers have intimated to the RSC that there is potential from within trusts operating in the county to meet the need to support schools with standards issues.

- 12) A managed system continues to ensure schools convert with all business issues relating to the Council set out in transfer documentation. A further budget pressure has been identified to meet the costs of the academies programme in 2017/18. The cost per conversion to the Council remains approximately £12,000.
- 13) As part of the programme to meet savings required across Council services a one off contribution to the costs of the Council per conversion has been levied on converting schools since 1st April 2016. This is set at £6,000 per school and is met from the DfE grant to them to meet costs of the conversion process.
- 14) As schools convert to academy status the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation will continue to reduce as funding for academies is passed to the Education Funding Agency to administer. As DSG reduces the overall funds from which to meet expenditure on existing schools is reduced. Previous potential to save reserves and use for the benefit of all maintained schools is limited still further.
- 15) The authority must provide revenue funding to new academies in the pre-opening stage and during the period of time it takes for the school to be open in all year groups. This will be a significant amount as new academies open. A Growth Fund to meet this expenditure was created and had funded one new school in 2016. There will be more schools opening in 2017 and 2018.
- 16) The Council will always be consulted on any proposal from an external bidder to set up a new academy in Oxfordshire as the responsible body for strategic pupil place planning. It may choose to work actively with proposers if the places are required and offer a cost effective approach to meeting basic need and increased diversity of choice in the area.
- 17) All new provision schools are now designated as Free schools and may be provided either through the Local Authority presumption route or through a biannual bidding round whereby sponsors can make direct bids to open new schools to Secretary of State.
- 18) The creation of a new Cabinet Member for Education and aspiration to support maintained schools better and also to develop a good partnership approach to working with maintained schools and academies may impact on conversion trends in 2017.

1. National and Local Statistics – Maintained schools converting to academy status

14. At December 2016, 5,905 English schools had become academies of which 4,116 are converters and 1,739 are sponsored. The table below sets out trends in academy conversion nationally and locally during 2016.²

National

| Date | Secondary | Primary | Special |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|--|
| November 2012 | 55% | <5% | >5% |
| November 2013 | 55% | 9% | No national % available. 112 Special /PRUs |
| October 2014 ² | 64% | 17% | No national % available. |
| October 2015 | 65% ² | 18% ² | No national % available |
| December 2016 | 68% | 21% | No national % available |

Oxfordshire

| Date | Secondary | Primary | Special |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 February 2013 | 20 (59%) | 7(1 sponsored) (3%) | 4 (33%) |
| 1 December 2013 | 21 (62%) | 32 (6 sponsored) (14%) | 4 (33%) |
| December 2014 | 25 (74%) ³ | 46 (8 sponsored 20%) ³ | 4 (33%) ³ |
| December 2015 | 28 (82%) ³ | 61 (9 sponsored 26%) ³ | 5 (38%) ³ |
| December 2016 | 28 (82%) | 65 (10 sponsored 28%) | 5 (38%) |

² Source: Nicky Morgan's speech to education and business leaders about government reforms dated Feb 2016 <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/a-world-class-education-system-for-every-child>
 Secondaries include 'all through' schools and 'middle schools deemed secondary'. Primary schools include 'middle schools deemed primary'.
 2016 figures taken from DfE Open academies and academy projects in development 2016.

³ These are conversions only and the number does not include new schools.

15. The greatest volume of conversions in Oxfordshire continues to be in the primary sector and the local conversion rate is higher than the national rate. Primary schools are encouraged by DfE and the Council to convert in groups for the purposes of sustainability and stability.

2. Conversions - Numerical Data (Oxfordshire)

| |
|---|
| a. Number of academy converters |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 94 since start of academies programme in 2007. • 4 took place between January and December 2016. • The rate at which schools have converted to academy status has slowed considerably in 2016. However, significantly more Academy Orders have already been issued for execution in 2017. |
| b. Conversions by Phase and Type |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2012 – there were 21 conversions in total. 14 secondary, 6 primary and 1 special schools. • In 2013 – there were 31 conversions in total. 2 secondary, 26 primary, 3 special schools. • In 2014 – there were 18 conversions 4 secondary, 14 primary and no special schools. Four of the primary schools converted as sponsored academies brokered by the DfE. • In 2015 – there were 19 conversions, 3 secondary, 15 primary and 1 special school. One secondary school converted as a sponsored academy brokered by the DfE, with all others converting on a voluntary basis. • In 2016 – there were 4 conversions, all primary schools. One primary school converted as a sponsored academy brokered by the DfE, with the other three converting on a voluntary basis. |
| c. Conversions as a percentage of school estate |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At 1st December 2016, 28 (82%) secondary schools,³ • 65 (28%) primaries,³ • And 5 (38%) special schools in the county are now academies.³ <p>There remain marked differences in volume of academy conversions between locality areas. The only locality areas with significant numbers of primary academies are those with multiple academy trusts (MATs) based on a geographical area. In 2016 no new MATs were formed but one MAT merged to form a larger entity with two secondary schools.</p> <p>At Appendix 1 is a breakdown of conversions data for Oxfordshire. At Appendix 2 is a breakdown of conversions data by locality.</p> |

³ These are conversions only and the number does not include new schools.

At Appendix 3 is an update of individual schools that have, or are considering conversion to academy status at December 2016.

d. Numbers of pupils in academies

- By 1 December 2016 there were 43,630 (53%) pupils of statutory age in open academies. When Foundation Stage and post 16 pupils are also included this increases to 50,160 (55%) of all pupils in Oxfordshire.
- A further 4,011 pupils of all ages are currently on the roll of schools where an Academy Order has been issued by the Secretary of State. This represents an additional 4% of pupils on roll.
- All schools with an Academy Order have an agreed conversion date in 2017 and once converted to academy status 59% of pupils in the county will be taught in academies.
- The secondary school sector represents the majority of pupils in academies to date. 89% of all secondary aged pupils attend an academy as last year but a further 6% of pupils are on roll in secondary schools with Academy orders and due to convert to academy status in early 2017.

e. Forecast Number of Converter Academies

- The current rate of conversion to academy status is an average of less than 0.5 conversions per month which is significantly lower than previous years. However, there are 20 conversions already in progress for completion in 2017.
- At present a further 4 secondary and 16 primary schools have indicated a likely intention to convert to academy status in 2016.
- A number of schools are in informal discussions about forming new, or joining existing trusts. Factors affecting how quickly these discussions translate into conversion to academy status are set out below.
 - i. Consolidation of services received for school improvement and back room functions through the Integrated Business Centre managed by Hampshire County Council.
 - ii. Perceived view of Council support for maintained schools.
 - iii. Change in Government policy away from compulsory requirement for all schools to become academies by 2020.
 - iv. Major curriculum changes continue to be introduced in 2016.
 - v. Impact of RSC powers of intervention in maintained schools effective from April 2016.
 - vi. RSC encouragement to MATs to grow to sustainable size as set out in 'Good practice guidance and expectations for growth' published by DfE in December 2016.
- Academies are now formally represented on the various bodies that represent schools, for example, Schools Forum.

3. Trends in conversion

| |
|--|
| a. Phase |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no secondary school conversions in 2016. A further 4 secondary schools have applied for an Academy Order to convert to academy status in 2017. This would take the total of secondary conversions to 94%. • All conversions came from the primary phase and the percentage of academies rose in this sector from 11% in 2013 to 20% at the end of 2014 to 25% in 2015 and 28% in 2016. • The percentage of special school converters remained at 38% in 2016. |
| b. Groups. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All schools converting in 2016 joined established MATs in the county and one of them was a sponsored conversion. • There are 23 MATs with more than one school operating in the county. • Seventeen of the MATs are formed by groups of Oxfordshire schools (i.e. where the schools did not join a pre-existing external academy trust), and 6 which have joined a national academy chain/external sponsor. (See section 5 – Sponsorship, below for further information). • The trend of schools joining MATs is expected to continue. MATs begin to consolidate by joining together. Wheatley Park School joined River Learning Trust last year and another Oxfordshire academy requiring a sponsor is also shortly to join this Trust. • Single Academy Trusts are being encouraged to consider forming new or joining existing groups. • Trusts which originate outside the county are forming Oxfordshire 'hubs'. |
| c. Faith Schools and Academies |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education formed a MAT in 2012, the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST). Fourteen Oxfordshire schools have joined ODST and more intend to join the trust in 2017. Church of England (controlled and aided) schools require the consent of their Diocesan Board of Education to convert to academy status. Such consent will not be given to join external academy chains, for example AAT and CfBT, but may be given for 'locally grown' trusts. • In 2014 approval was granted for the first voluntary aided school to join a local MAT based in Eynsham and another local MAT with an aided school, The Warriner School MAT, was approved in 2015. Other schools are now in discussion with ODBE about similar groups in other parts of the county. ODST continues to grow and encourage the formation of regional hubs within the Diocesan area. |

- There remain two Catholic MACs in the county with 10 member academies – the Dominic Barberi MAC (7 schools), and the Pope Francis MAC (3 schools). Both form part of the governance structure set out by the Birmingham Catholic Archdiocese MAT. In operational terms a MAC operates in exactly the same way as a MAT. Catholic schools may only convert as part of a catholic academy trust.
- There are two catholic primary schools in the county which fall under the auspices of the Portsmouth Catholic Diocese and cannot join with either community schools or Catholic schools from the Birmingham Catholic Archdiocese as different articles of association apply to each.

4. Local Collaborative Companies

a. Alternatives or steps towards academy status

- A Collaborative Company is an option open to schools to formalise arrangements for collaboration between local groups of schools. The council has published guidance to enable a group of schools to set up a company if they wish to do so.
- No such companies were in existence in 2013. In addition to the 4 companies established in 2014 the following were established in 2015. The Warriner partnership, Abingdon and West Oxford. No further new companies were formed in 2016.

Local collaborative companies can be used to promote, build on and formalise existing partnership arrangements for shared support and services between schools. Such a company model can stand on its own or be used as a stepping stone for schools in considering whether and how such an academy partnership may be appropriate to them.

5. Sponsorship

a. Sponsors

- There were twelve sponsor trusts responsible for schools in the County at the end of 2014 with a further sponsor trust added to this number in 2015. By the end of December 2016 there were 21 approved sponsor trusts responsible for Oxfordshire schools.
- Between them these trusts manage 80 Oxfordshire academies of which 14 were in need of a sponsor to convert. Other schools run by the sponsor trusts in Oxfordshire were voluntary converters and Free Schools.
- There are currently twelve 'locally grown' academy trusts/individual academies, which are DfE approved sponsors. These are Activate Learning, Bartholomew School, Blackbird Academy trust, Cheney School,

Didcot Academy of Schools, Oxford Diocese, Faringdon Academy of Schools, Gillots School, Northern House, Pope Francis MAC, Dominic Barberi MAC, River Learning Trust, Vale Academy Trust.

- More academy trusts are expected to apply for sponsor status in 2017.
- As yet no Oxfordshire trusts have lost sponsor status when standards are not maintained in their schools. They are however not approved to add more schools to their trust and will need RSC approval to do so.

b. Underperforming Schools

- Practice has been that *once schools are judged to require 'special measures' a package* of local support to effect rapid change in school improvement and management structure is put in place. Previously many schools have been supported to be judged as 'good' by Ofsted during this phase and some are then at liberty to convert to academy status with or without a sponsor should they so choose. This does pose the question about what a sponsor would necessarily add to the school if appointed at this stage. In practice the order of events and outcomes are very variable.
- In April 2016 the Education and Adoption Act 2016 was enacted. The DfE also published revised statutory guidance 'Schools Causing Concern: Intervening in failing, underperforming and coasting schools' at the same time with provisions which came into force at the same time as the Act. Key outcomes from Act and new statutory guidance are set out below.
- Schools are eligible for intervention if found to be 'coasting'.
- RSCs now have powers to issue any school with a performance, standards or safety notice. Local Authorities (LAs) also have this power for maintained schools but the powers of the RSC now take precedence.
- Governors of maintained schools eligible for intervention are now obliged to cooperate with the RSC, another school or school improvement agencies as directed.
- The RSC can now direct the size and membership of Interim Executive Boards (IEB) in schools identified as eligible for intervention. The RSC will also determine terms of appointment and termination of appointments.
- LAs must liaise with the RSC in schools eligible for intervention before ordering Governors to commence school improvement activities and are required to inform him/her before suspending a delegated budget. LAs cannot suspend the budget of a maintained school under an IEB set up by the RSC.
- RSCs must inform LAs if intervening in a maintained school and RSC plans will take precedence over any LA plans.
- The RSC must issue Academy Orders for maintained schools rated inadequate by Ofsted. S/he must also take action if an academy is rated inadequate by Ofsted.
- There is no requirement for a consultation on becoming an academy or sponsor if the school is community school. There is a requirement for RSCs to hold a consultation with key stakeholders in Foundation, trust and religious schools.
- LAs and Governors of maintained schools are obliged to facilitate forced

conversions.

- Academies found to be failing or coasting are also subject to scrutiny by the RSC in the same way as maintained schools. All funding agreements will be updated to give consistent rights to terminate by to the RSC if the academy is failing or coasting.
- In seeking new sponsors for religious schools there must be consultation with the responsible faith body.
- Three Academy Orders were issued under the terms of the new Act in May 2016 but both schools have still not converted at the end of 2016 and a mixture of LA led and LA/proposed sponsor led IEBs are in place.
- Schools identified as being of concern by the Council continue to be offered support to raise standards.
- The most significant barrier to conversion to academy status of a school requiring special measures is building related issues. The RSC has as yet not addressed this matter and it will continue to be a barrier in 2017.
- Only one school converted to academy status as a result of having been judged to require special measures by Ofsted.

The pool of sponsors available to support under performing schools in Oxfordshire increased in 2016. Oxfordshire is fortunate to have a good supply and range of sponsor options in the county. However, existing approved sponsors have to demonstrate the capacity to support expansion before approval will be granted for additional schools to join. This continues to reflect both the rapid expansion of the academies programme and the need to maintain existing standards in currently good provision.

c. Strategy to increase pool of sponsors locally.

- As the supply of good sponsors within the county has improved, largely due to 'locally grown' providers acquiring sponsor status and growing in size, the Council has taken the stance that there are sufficient good Trusts in the county at present to cope with demand for intervention for schools in difficulties. It remains the decision of the RSC which Trust is appointed to support individual schools in difficulties.
- In 2016 one external sponsor was identified to run an additional new school in the county – see section 7 below. Some of these external sponsors identified over the last two years are acting as sponsors for converter schools and are encouraging other existing schools to join their Trusts in 2017.

6. Cost of conversions

a. Total cost for the year.

- At the commencement of the academies programme in the county in 2012/13 a sum of £600,000 was identified to promote the policy of the Council in this regard. A small team was set up to introduce a managed system of conversions and to highlight policies and changes in role of the authority associated with this programme and the mixed economy of schools which would exist. In 2012/13 additional funds were identified from CEF budget to increase the budget to £900,000. In 2014/15 additional funds were again identified to support the programme at a cost of £600k. In 2015/16 the programme has been funded from approximately £400,000 earmarked reserves. In 2016/17 the programme continues to be funded from reserves. From 1st April approximately 50% of costs are charged directly to schools voluntarily converting to academy status.
- A managed system continues to ensure schools convert with all business issues with regard to the Council set out clearly in transfer documentation. Policies have been approved and followed which seek to minimise the Council's exposure to financial risk or ongoing commitments in relation to these converter schools.
- The key items of expenditure remain central co-ordination and management of this system, costs associated with land transfer documentation and transfer of commercial interests including staff and resources.
- It has been recognised that this represents essential work which must be undertaken by the Council.
- As schools convert to academy status the Council's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation continues to reduce as funding for academies is passed to the Education Funding Agency to administer.
- The impact of this is that as the DSG reduces the overall funds from which to meet expenditure on existing schools is reduced. The authority is also required to provide revenue support funding to new academies both in the pre-opening stage and during the period of time it takes for the school to be open in all year groups. This can be up to 7 years for primary schools. This will be a significant amount as new academies open from September 2016 onwards. A Growth Fund has been created to ensure this is funded.
- Revenue funding for opening new schools is set by each Council independently and there is considerable variation in rates paid.
- Free schools and Studio schools are generally funded using the Council's formula model but it does not receive any DSG for these pupils.
- In addition to DSG the Council receives an annual Education Support Grant

(ESG) from central government on a per pupil basis. The grant is split into sections, some of which are allocated for retained duties which cut across all maintained schools and academies, and some which are allocated per pupil in locally maintained schools only. The larger per pupil sum is represented by the latter and is reduced pro rata at the point in time each school converts to academy status. There is an impact on local contracts which cannot be reduced on the same pro rata basis within the same period. Examples of services funded from this grant are Education welfare services, school improvement, asset management, therapies and other health related services, central support services.

- As schools convert to academy status with a sponsor brokered by the DfE any deficit at the point of conversion cannot be met from DSG but has to be met from the Council core funding or from other council resources and is therefore a direct cost on Council tax payers.
- As the (in the main larger and more sustainable) schools convert to academy status the authority also loses access to their considerable financial balances which in the past it has been able to use, within the provisions of the Council's Scheme for Financing Schools, provide security for short term revenue deficits and loans to schools from time to time.
- As financial reserves and grants reduce it will be increasingly difficult for the authority to address unforeseen issues in the way it has previously.
- Whilst there is no direct financial advantage to individual schools of conversion to academy status the value for money and availability of Council services for buyback by maintained schools may reduce providing a driver for consideration of academy status.
- In 2016 the Government commenced consultation on a new national funding formula which will give less local influence on funding factors for schools. The formula will be the same for academies and maintained schools.

b. Cost per conversion (average) for the year.

- Cost per conversion is approximately £12,000. This includes professional advice to set out policies affecting the transfer of land and business to new companies which is applicable to all conversions.
- The council receives no funding for this work but has a statutory duty to comply with Academies legislation in this respect.
- Secondary, individual primary and special schools continue to be given a grant of £25,000 to meet professional costs incurred by the conversion process. Other grants previously available in 2016 have been withdrawn with the change in national emphasis from compulsory academisation to acceptance of a mixed economy and a drive to grow MATs at a rate that sustains good education standards.

- DfE has confirmed that some local authorities have sought to recoup some of these costs from converting schools to be paid from the one off grant for conversion costs granted by DfE.
- As part of the programme to meet savings required across Council services a one off contribution to the costs of the Council per conversion has been levied on converting schools since 1st April 2016. This is set at £6,000 per school and is payable on issue of Academy Order for voluntary converter schools only.

7. New Academies

a. New academies which opened in 2016.

- GEMS Primary Academy, Didcot opened in September 2016.
- This is a two forms of entry primary school with nursery to serve part of the Great Western Park development in Didcot/Harwell. Demand for places from the development has been greater than expected and the school has opened in Nursery, Reception, year 1 and year 2.
- Bicester Technology Studio School opened in September 2016.
- This is a 300 place 14-19 vocational school collocated with The Bicester School which is run by the same sponsor.

b. New academies post 2016

- New academies for which bids are made directly to SoS do not necessarily fit with the county strategy for provision of places. The Council will always be consulted on any proposal as the responsible body for provision of sufficient pupil places and may choose to work with proposers if the places meet the requirements set out in the Pupil Place Plan and offer a cost effective approach to meeting basic need or increasing diversity of choice in the area. The decision to approve the bids however rests with SoS and, whether supported by the Council or not, will have a knock-on effect on capital, revenue and standards that the council will have no direct control over.
- A summary of new academies to be provided and for which sponsors have been sought is set out below.

| School | Reason for new provision | Date of opening |
|--|--|-----------------|
| Longford Park Banbury Primary School, to be sponsored by GLF | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2017 |
| Aureus Secondary school | Basic need generated by | September 2017 |

| | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| (11-16), Great Western Park, Didcot to be sponsored by GLF | housing development. | |
| NW Bicester Primary school to be sponsored by White Horse Federation | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2018 |
| The Swan School to be sponsored by River Learning Trust | Free school bid to meet Basic Need | September 2018 |
| Chalkhill Primary School , Great Western Park, Didcot to be sponsored by GLF | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2018 |
| Barton West Primary school, to be sponsored by Cheney Academy Trust | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2019 |
| SW Bicester Secondary School, to be sponsored by The White Horse Federation | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2019 |

There are more new schools identified to meet housing growth but not as far advanced in planning terms.

- All new provision schools are now designated as Free schools and may be provided either through the Local Authority presumption route or through a biannual bidding round whereby sponsors can make direct bids to open new schools to Secretary of State.
- Bids for new schools in Oxfordshire were submitted in October 2016 for Wave 12 Free schools. Three proposals were taken forward to the post interview stage. All of them are consistent with council education priorities. Outcomes are expected in 2017.

c. Costs Associated with provision of new schools

- The Council will incur some costs for all new schools it seeks to provide. These will include revenue costs associated with start-up funding for a new school and capital funding for the site and buildings.
- The Council will incur revenue costs for all new academies where it has an interest in the land and buildings on which the new academy is to be based.
- Staff resources are required to manage the programme of provision of new academies from identification of sponsors to occupation of the academy by all year groups.

8. Regional Schools Commissioners

a. Background.

- Oxfordshire is located in North West London and South Central region and the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) for this region is Martin Post, former headmaster of Watford Grammar School for Boys. Five outstanding Head teachers were appointed to act as his Board and the roles were effective from August 2014. Appointments were made for a period of 3 years. An additional post of Deputy RSC was created in 2016 and this is held by Dame Kate Detheridge.
- The RSCs responsibilities include:
 - i. Monitoring performance and intervening to secure improvement in underperforming academies, including directing them to commission school improvement services and using formal interventions in the most severe cases.
 - ii. Taking decisions on the creation of new academies in their area by approving applications from maintained schools wishing to convert to academy status.
 - iii. Supporting the national schools commissioner to ensure that the sponsor market meets local need - including by authorising applications to become an academy sponsor, monitoring the performance of existing sponsors and de-authorising them where necessary, recommending suitable sponsors to ministers for maintained schools that have been selected to become academies and encouraging new sponsors.
- The Council has established a good working relationship with our RSC to allow the council to carry out its statutory duties with regard to academies in a co-ordinated manner. The RSC meets regularly with senior officers to discuss schools and academies. He also attends Education Scrutiny Committee as appropriate to discuss education provision matters in academies in the county.
- As documented above the powers of the RSC increased significantly in 2016 and the direction of travel is clearly towards the role being expanded further.

9. Conclusions

- I. All schools that converted to academy status in 2016 did so as members of groups.
- II. The number of schools converting to academy status is significantly lower. The increase in applications seen later in 2016 is seen mainly as a reaction to the national education policy and perceived position of the Council.
- III. Under performing schools have been identified, early support is put in place and schools have completed conversions as sponsored academies. The Council seeks to be proactive with Governing Bodies in promoting suitable sponsors to the RSC.

- IV. New academies and free schools continue to be set up in the county in response to demographic need and parental demand. Procedures are in place to set up new academies as required by the county or to engage in positive dialogue with sponsors applying to open schools in the area through DfE bidding annual processes.
- V. Resources will continue to be required to manage this process.
- VI. Over half the pupils in publicly funded education in Oxfordshire are taught in academies.
- VII. The value for money and availability of Council services for buyback by maintained schools may reduce providing a driver for their consideration of converting to academy status.
- VIII. Additional powers of the RSC through legislation will impact on the future role of the Council and services to be provided.
- IX. To achieve the above programme considerably more resources may be required in the short term for the Council to comply with its obligations in respect of converting academies.
- X. The creation of a new Cabinet Member for Education and aspiration to support maintained schools better and also to develop a good partnership approach to working with maintained schools and academies may impact on conversion trends in 2017.

LUCY BUTLER

Director for Children's Services

Contact Officer: Allyson Milward, Academies team

February 2017

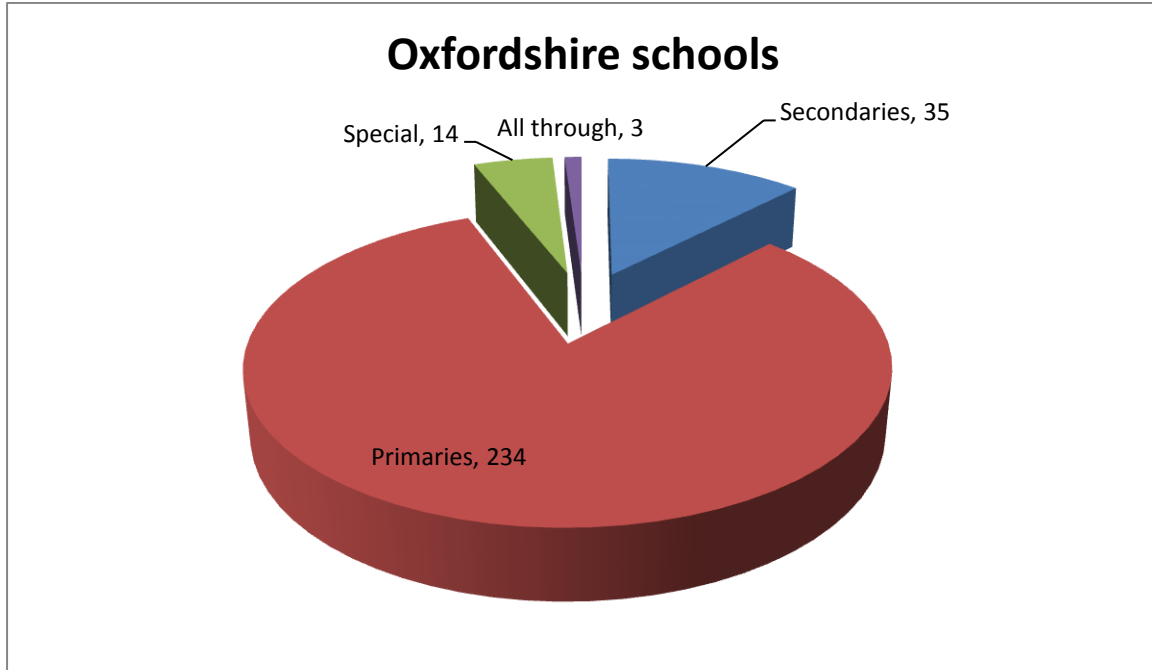
For regular updates please visit our intranet site at

<http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/node/112>

Appendix 1 – Oxfordshire overall academy data – as of December 2016

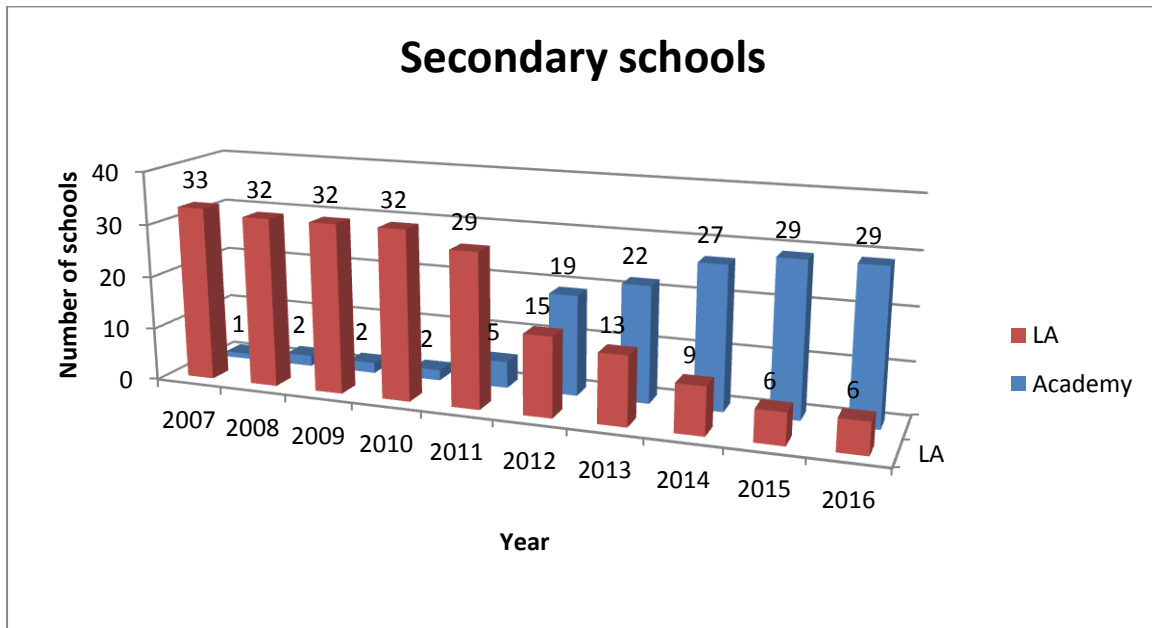
Breakdown of all schools in Oxfordshire:

(School figures include the new, free and studio schools but not foundation stage settings and PRUs.)

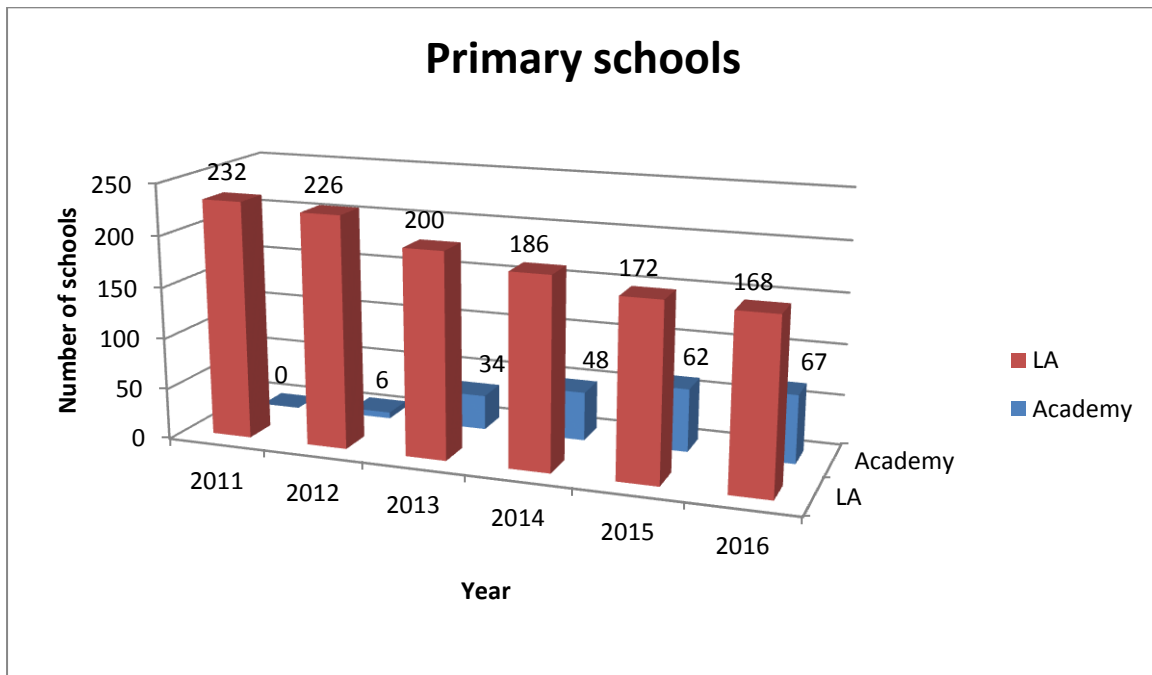


These figures show the numbers of academies and maintained schools as of December 2016.

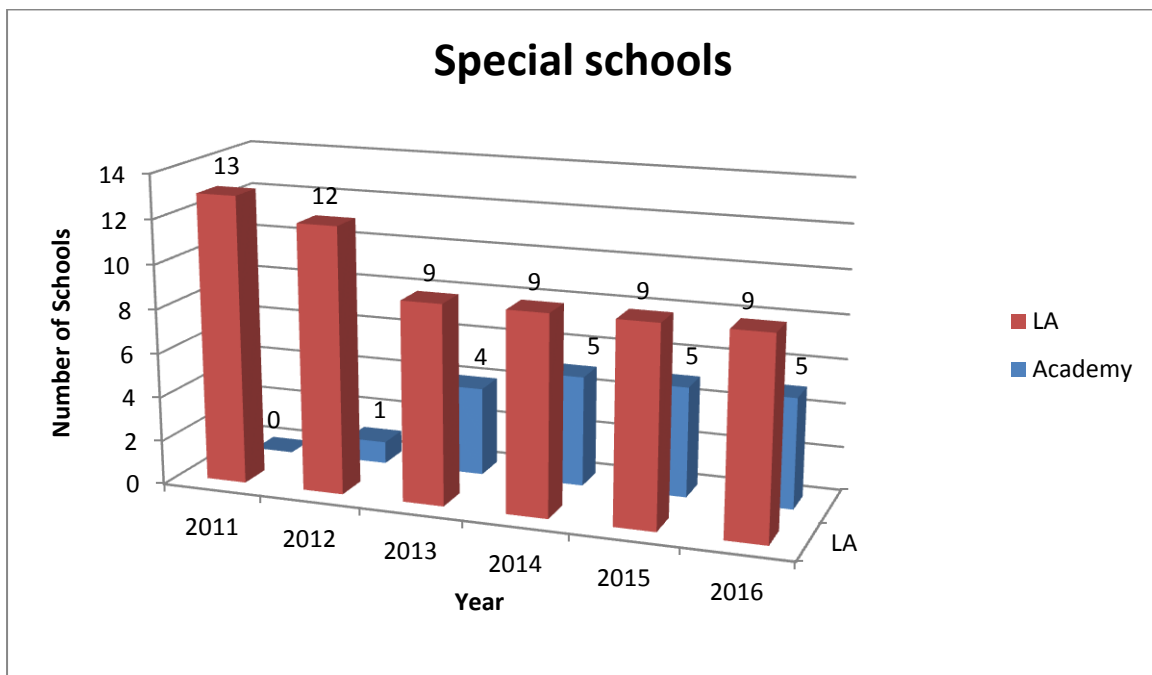
Secondary school Academy status 2011 – 2016:
 (School figures include the new, free and studio schools but not foundation stage settings and PRUs. Europa, Heyford Park and St Gregory's are now counted as all through schools so are no longer included in the secondary figures as they were in previous years.)



Primary school Academy status 2011 – 2016:
 (School figures include the new and free schools but not foundation stage settings.)



Special school Academy status 2011 – 2016:
 (School figures include new schools but not PRUs. NB the PRU converted this year.)

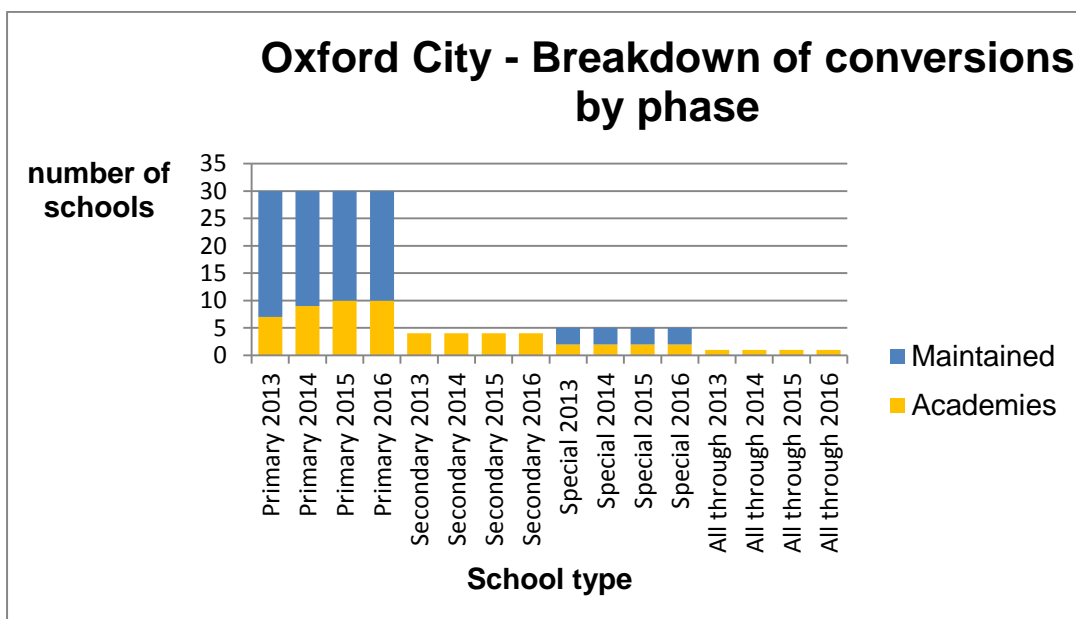
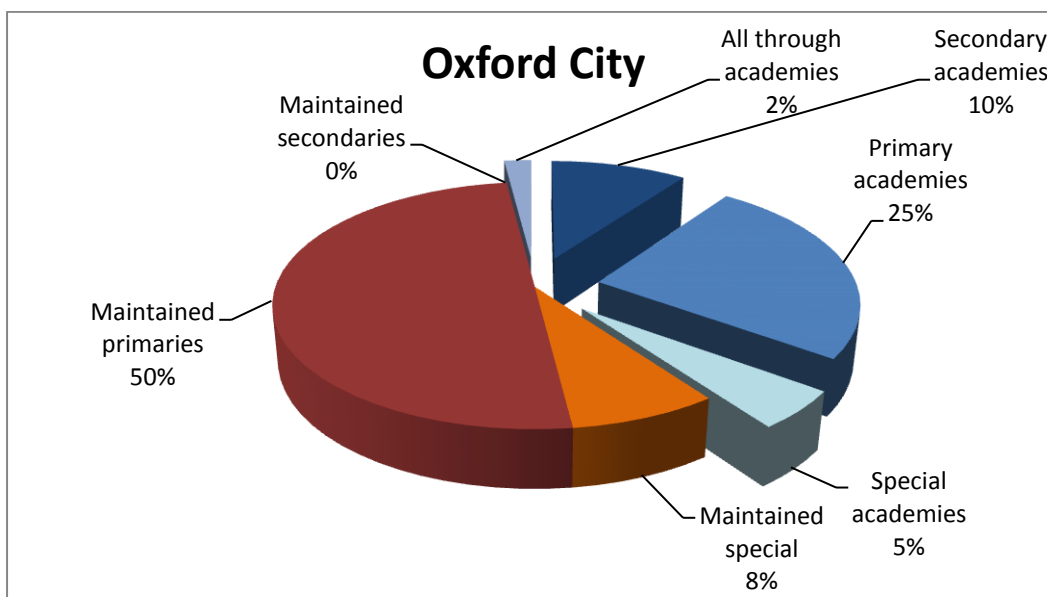


All three of all through schools in Oxfordshire are academies.

Appendix 2 - Locality conversion data – as of December 2016

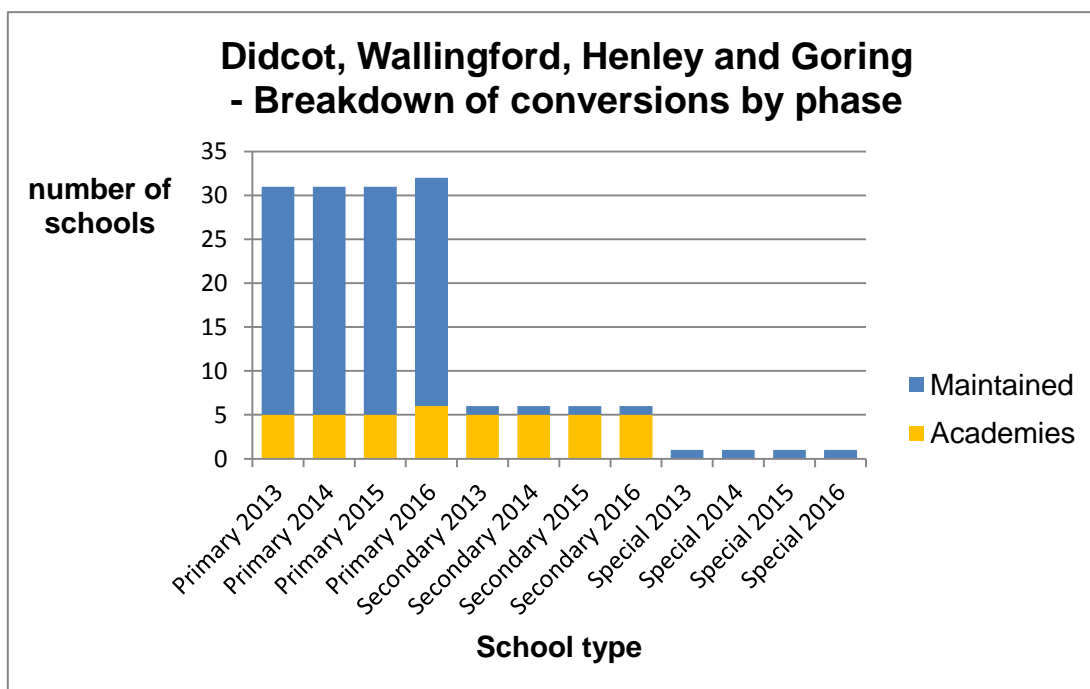
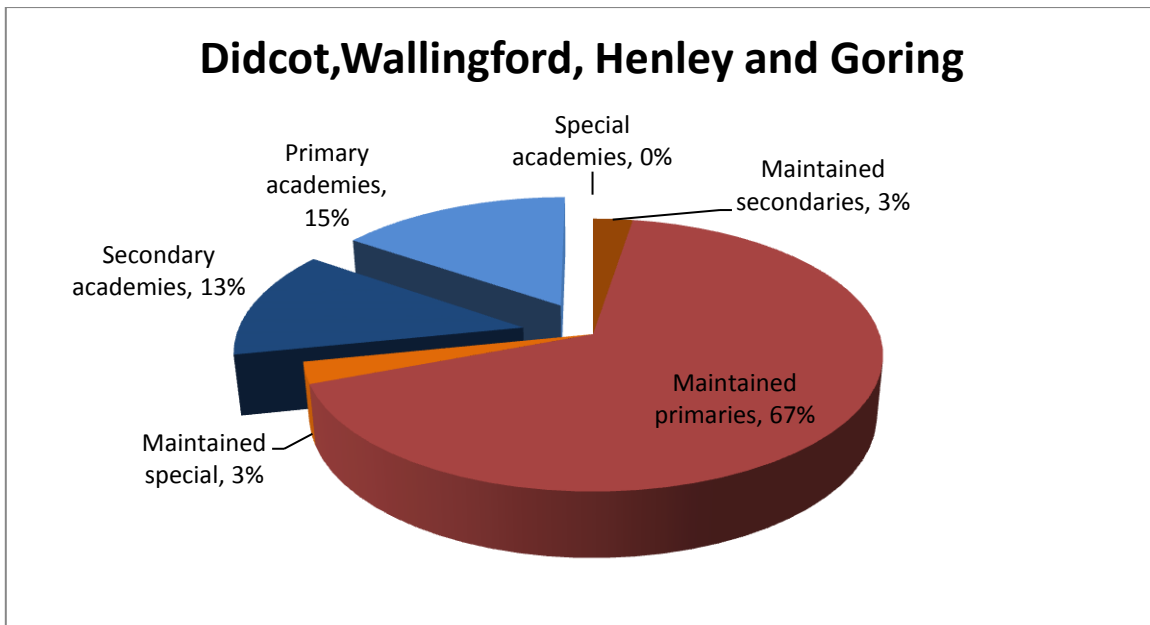
Oxford City

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------------|---------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 30 | 20 (excl. 4 nurseries) | 10 (10) |
| Secondary | 4 | 0 | 44 (44) |
| Special | 5 | 3 | 2 (2) |
| All through | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 40 | 23 | 17 (17) |



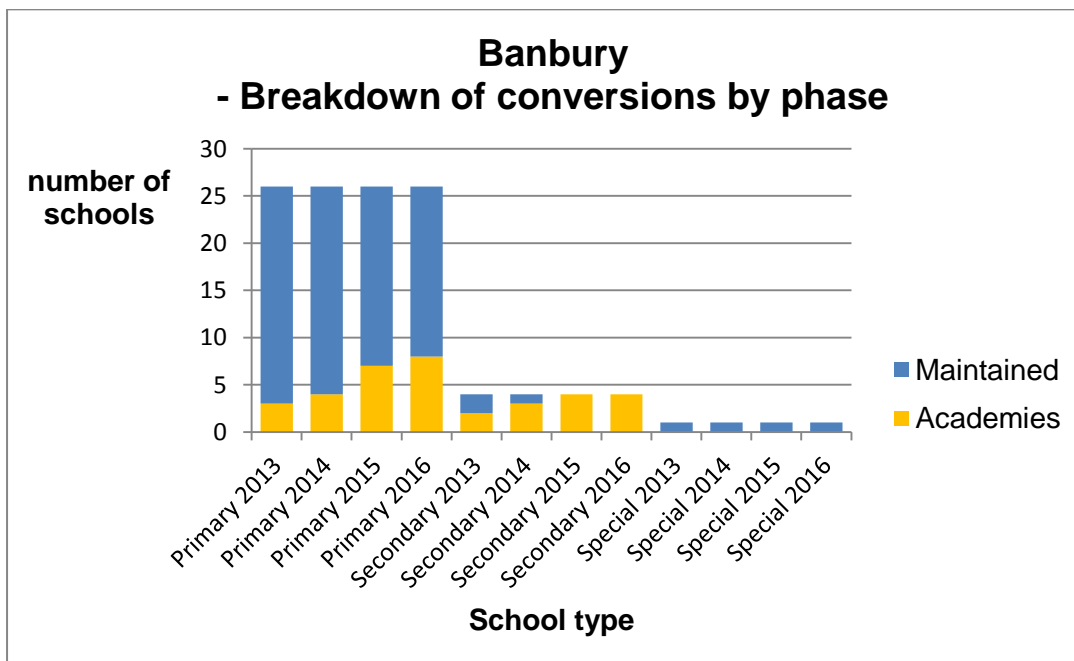
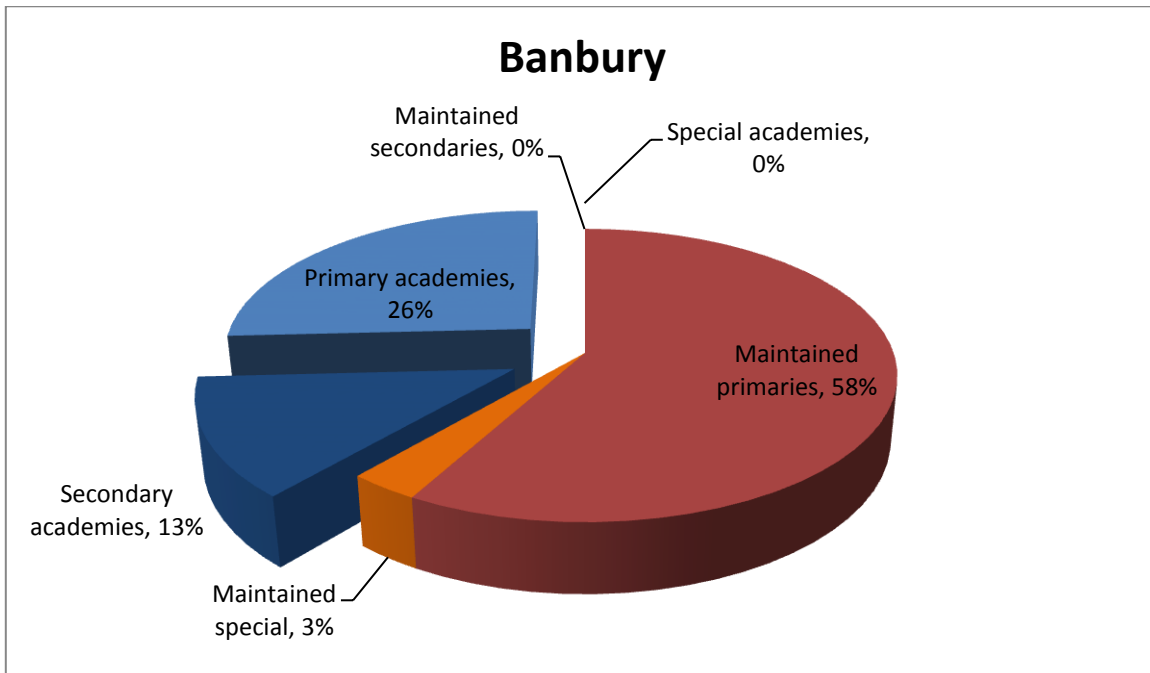
Didcot, Wallingford, Henley and Goring

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 32 | 26 (excl.1 nursery) | 6 (5) (5) |
| Secondary | 6 | 1 | 5 (5) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 39 | 28 | 10 (10) |



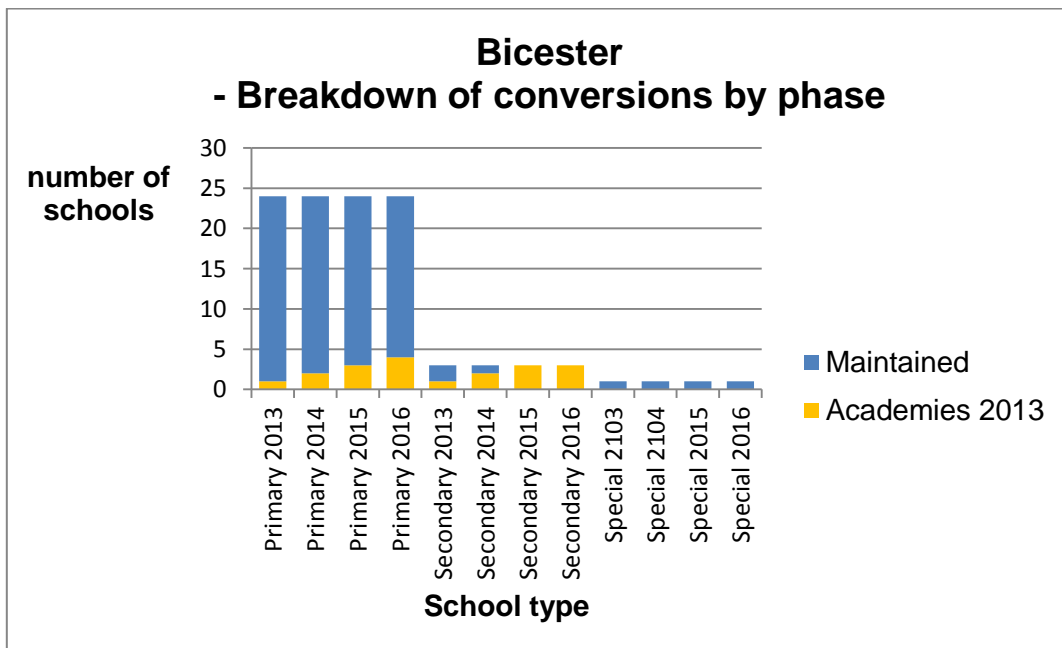
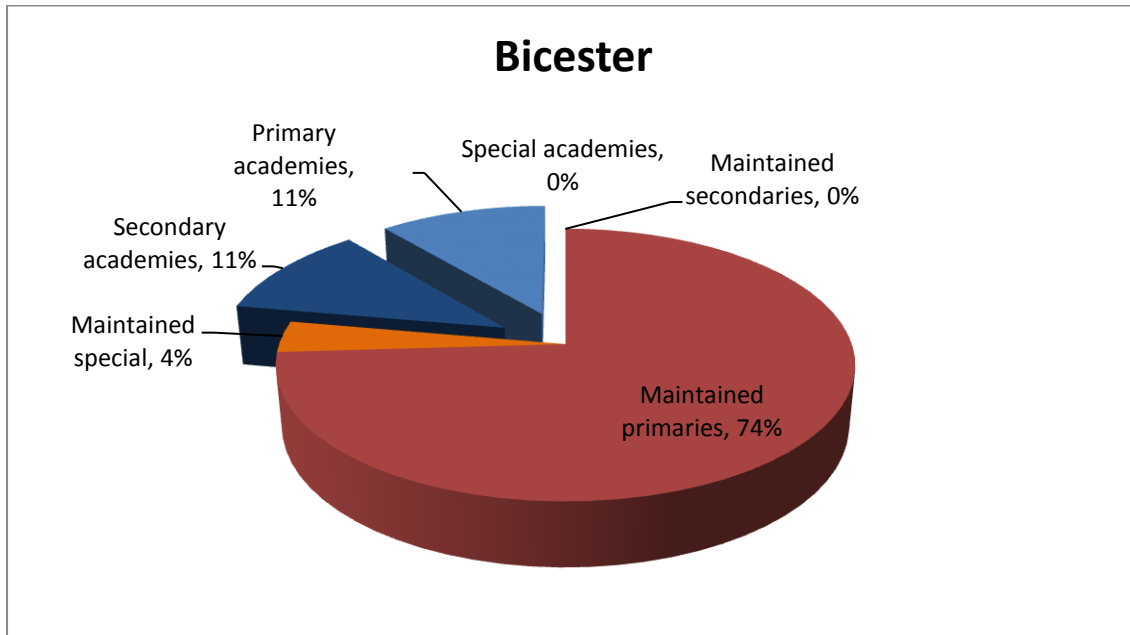
Banbury (Inc. Warriner)

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 26 | 18 | 8 (7) |
| Secondary | 4 | 0 | 4 (4) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 31 | 19 | 8 (7) |



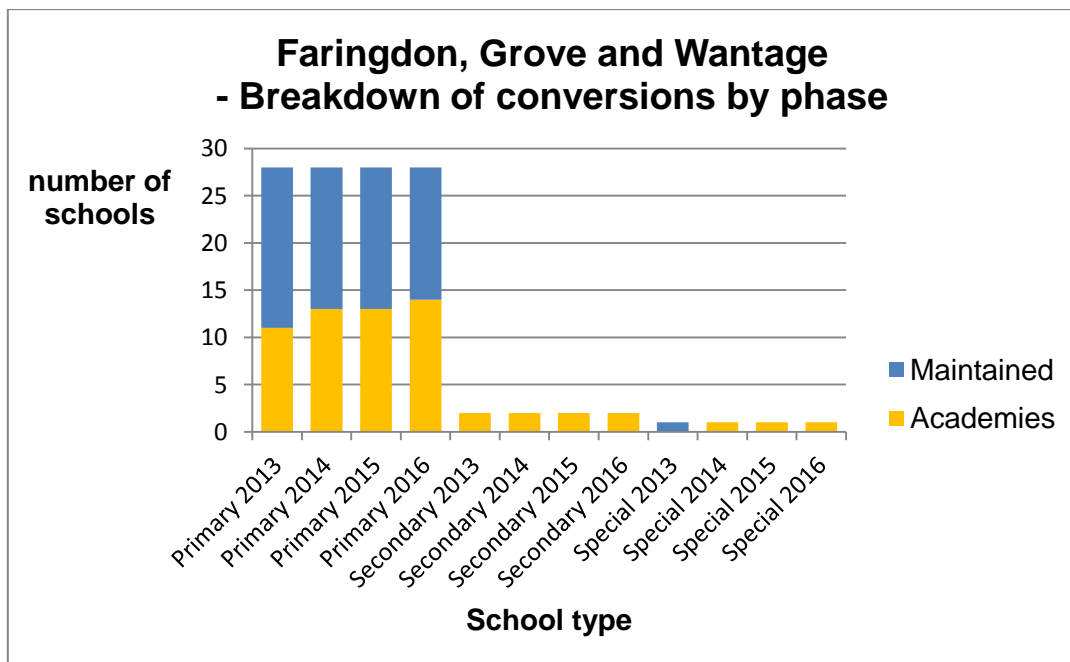
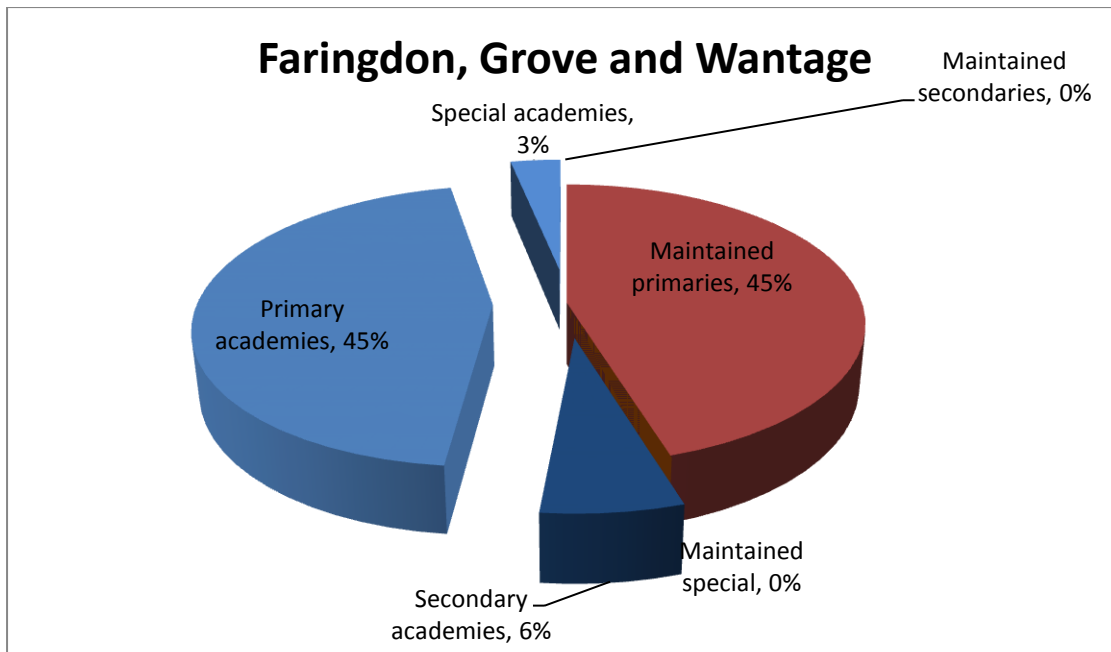
Bicester

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 23 | 20 (excl. 3 nursery) | 3 (2) |
| Secondary | 3 | 0 | 3 (3) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 27 | 21 | 5(4) |



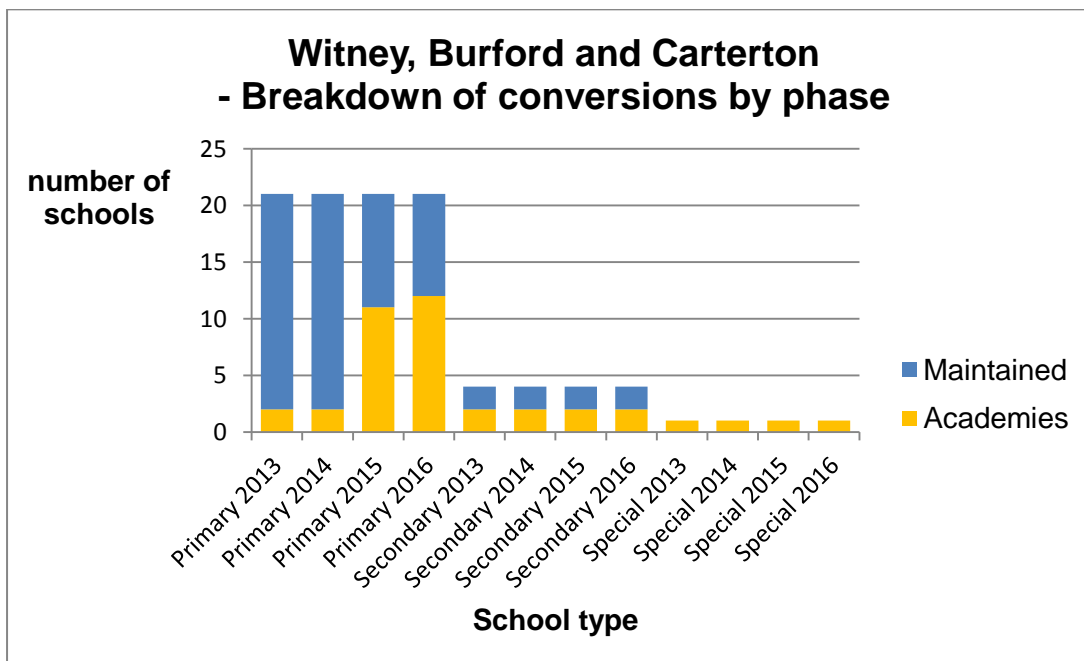
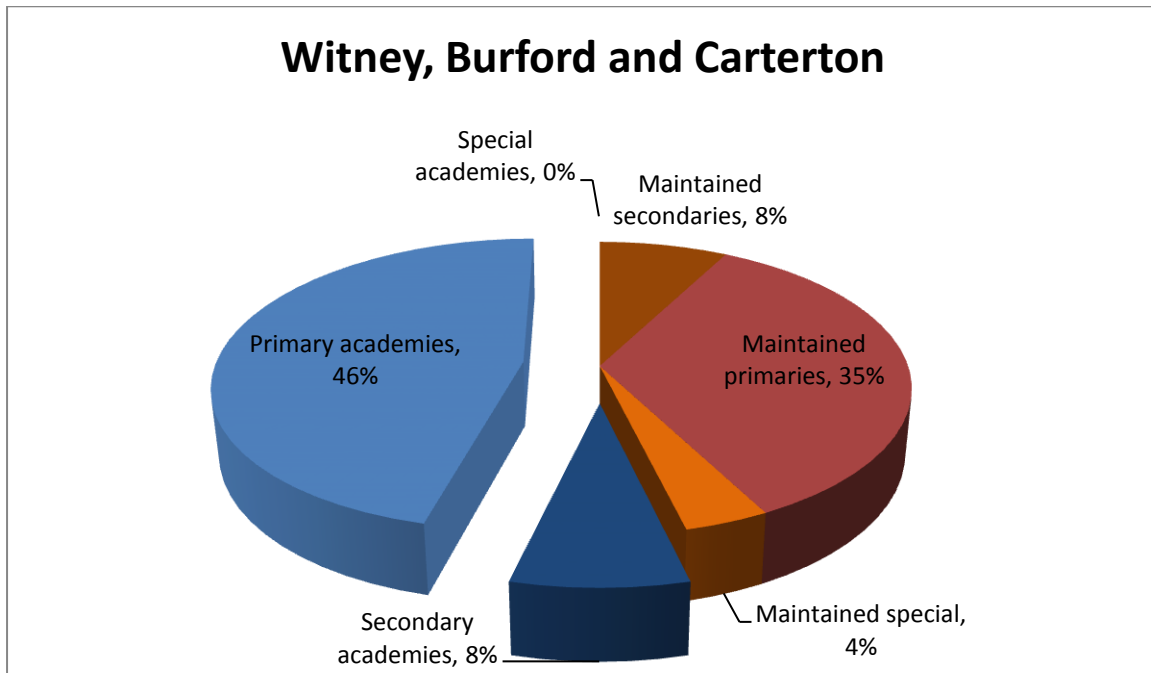
Faringdon, Grove and Wantage

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 28 | 14 | 14 (13) |
| Secondary | 2 | 0 | 2 (2) |
| Special | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 31 | 14 | 17 (16) |



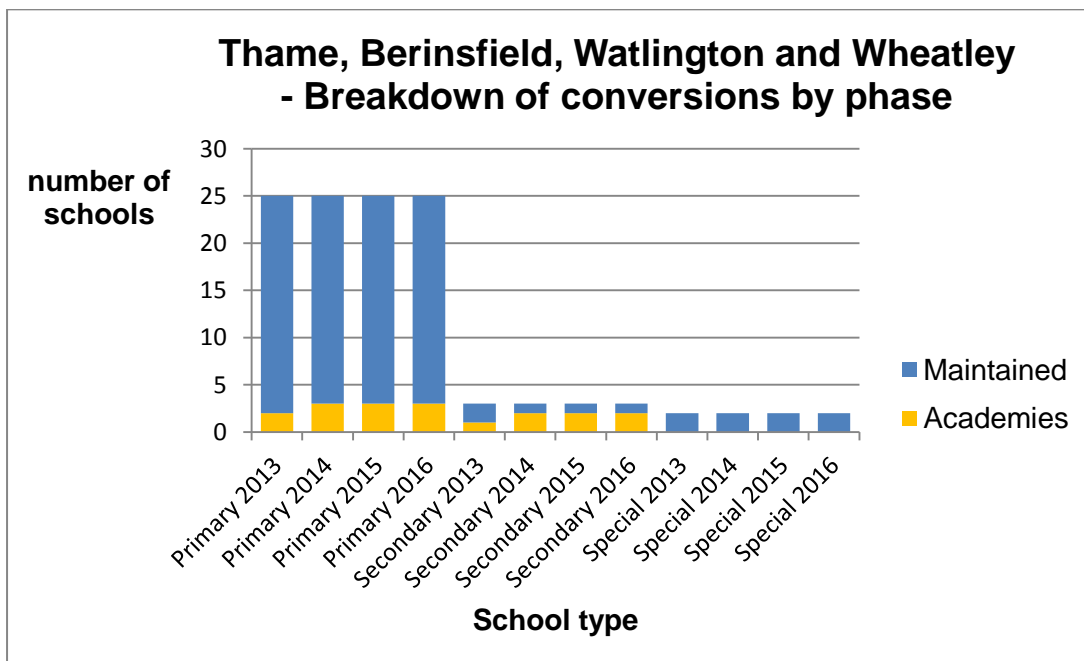
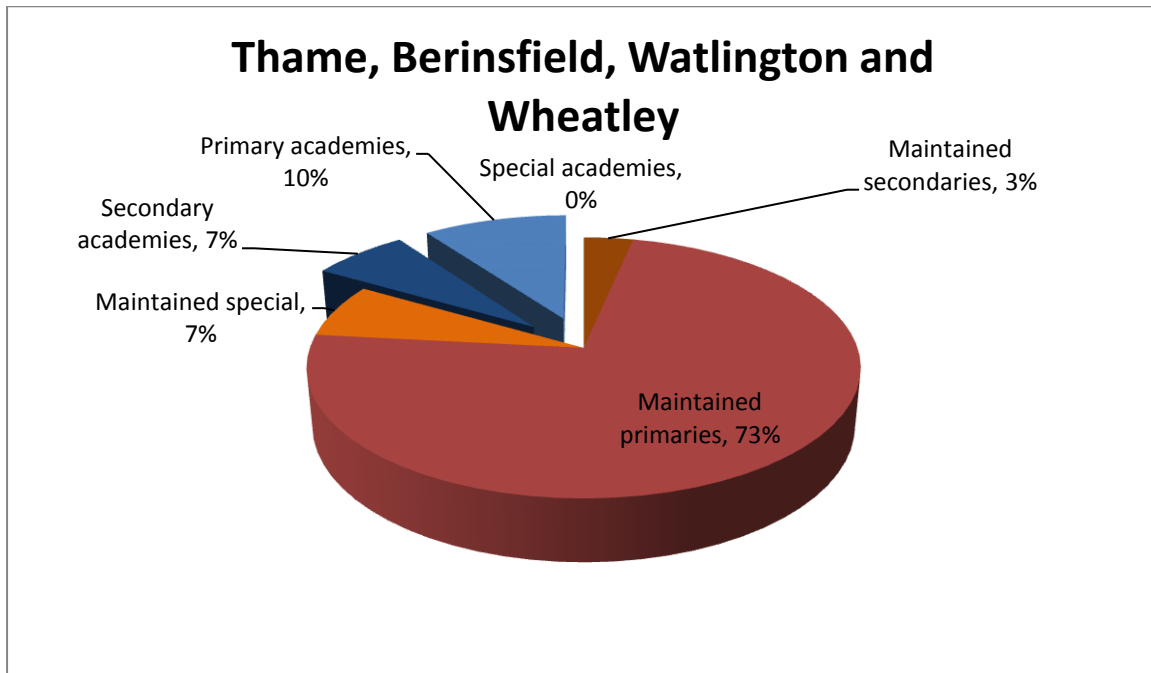
Witney, Burford and Carterton

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 21 | 9 | 12 (11) |
| Secondary | 4 | 2 | 2 (2) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 26 | 12 | 14 (13) |



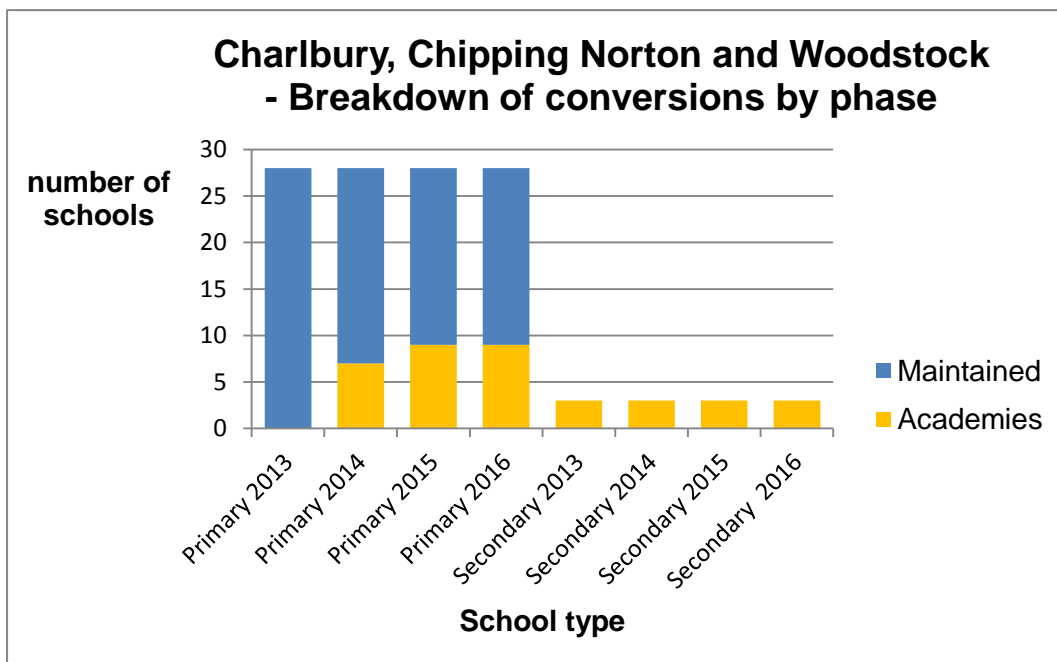
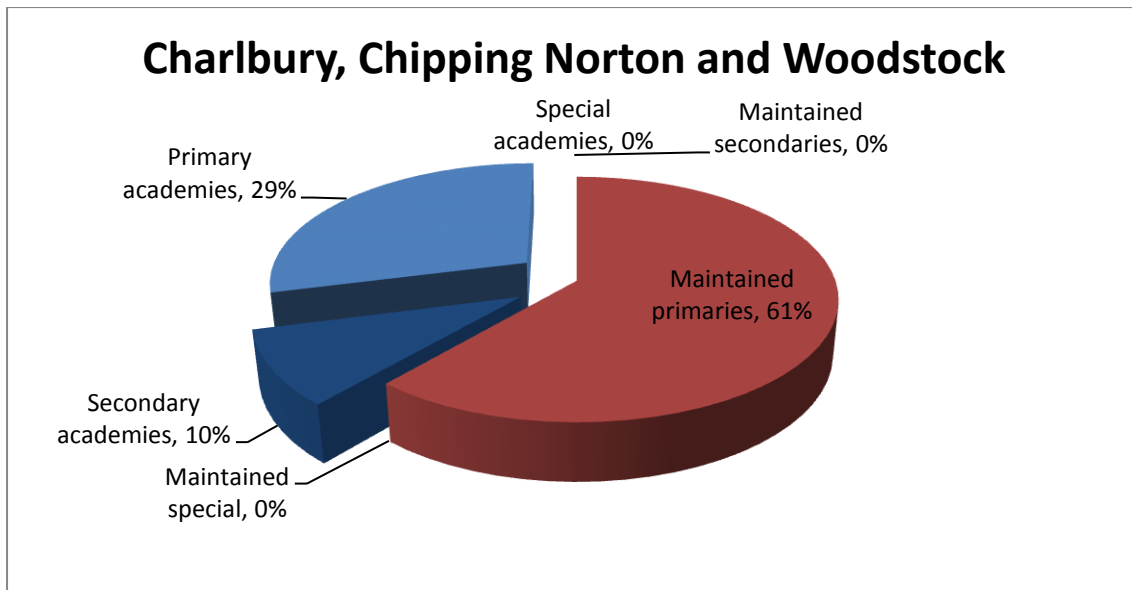
Thame, Berinsfield, Watlington and Wheatley

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 25 | 22 (excl. 2 nursery) | 3 (3) |
| Secondary | 3 | 1 | 2 (2) |
| Special | 2 | 2 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 30 | 25 | 5 (5) |



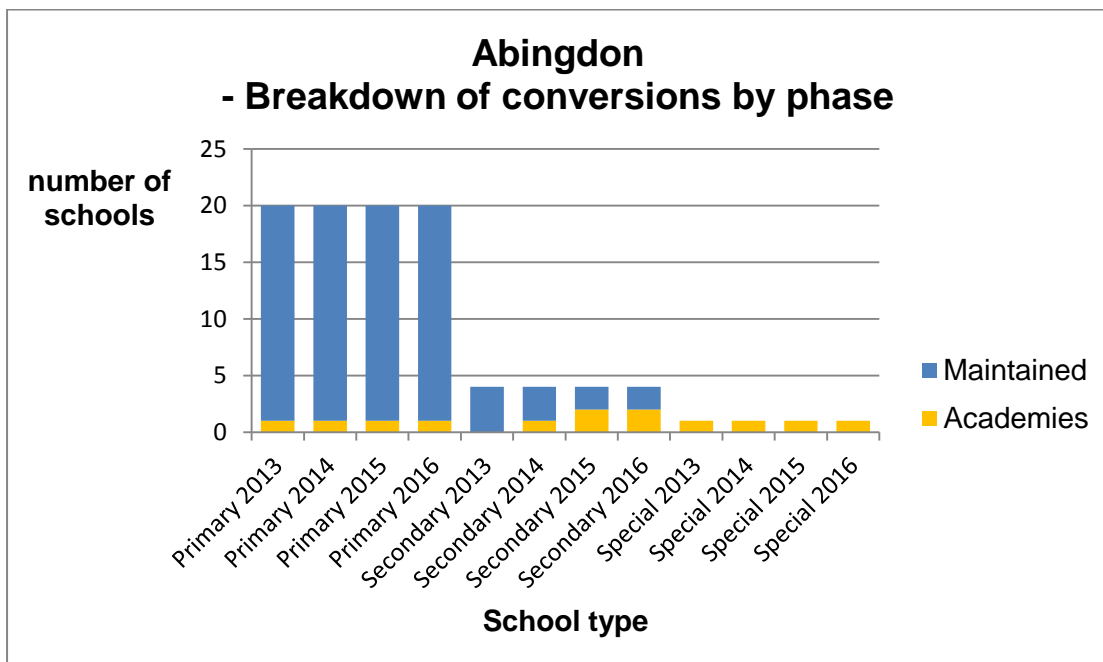
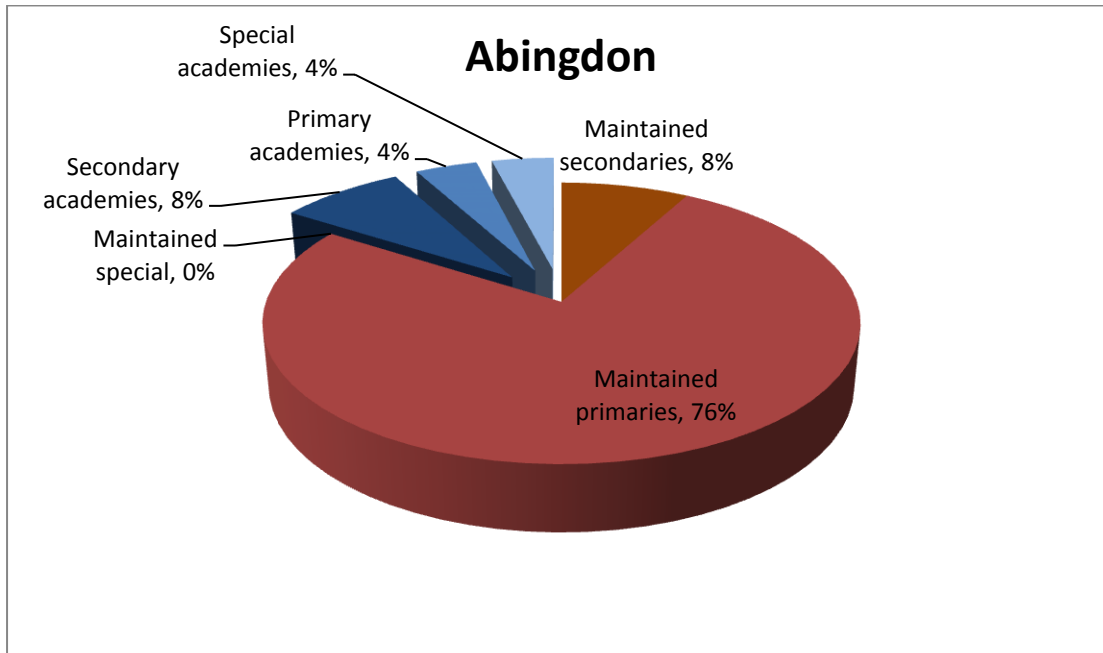
Charlbury, Chipping Norton and Woodstock

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 28 | 19 (excl. 1 nursery) | 9 (9) |
| Secondary | 3 | 0 | 3 (3) |
| Special | 0 | 0 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 31 | 21 | 10 (10) |



Abingdon

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies 2015 bracketed |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 20 | 19 | 1 (1) |
| Secondary | 4 | 2 | 2 (2) |
| Special | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 25 | 21 | 4 (4) |



Appendix 3 - individual schools that have, or are considering conversion to academy status at December 2016.

(NB a red font denotes a change since November 2016)

For the latest version of the conversions update, please see: <http://schools.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/node/112>

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|---|----------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------------|---|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Southwold Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 2607 | 01/04/2016 | Voluntary converter | MAT | The White Horse Federation |
| Brize Norton Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 2250 | 01/03/2016 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St James, East Hanney | | Pri | 4-11 | 3225 | 01/03/2016 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| William Morris Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2019 | 01/02/2016 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | GLF Schools |
| St Mary's Infants, Witney | | Inf | 4-11 | 3207 | 01/12/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Tower Hill Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 2303 | 01/11/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Wolvercote Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 2534 | 01/11/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Burford Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2251 | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Finstock Church of England Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3040 | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Mill Academy |
| Queen Emma's Primary School | Queen's Dyke | Pri | 4-11 | 2304 | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Mill Academy |
| The Batt CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3605 | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Bishop Carpenter CoFE (VA) | | Pri | 4-11 | 3302 | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Hornton Primary School | | Pri | 2-11 | 2001 | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3005 | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Matthew Arnold School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4128 | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | West Oxford Schools Trust |
| The Bicester School | Bicester Community College | Sec | 11-18 | 4011 | 01/08/2015 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Activate Learning Education Trust |
| The Warriner School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4007 | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Bampton CE Primary School | | Pri | 2-11 | 3131 | 01/07/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| North Leigh CE Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 3128 | 01/07/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Christopher's CoFE Primary School, Langford | | Pri | 4-11 | 3555 | 01/03/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Peter's CE Infant School, Alvescot | | Inf | 4-6 | 3550 | 01/03/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| The Blake CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3600 | 01/03/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Meadowbrook College (PRU) | | Spec | 2-19 | 1106 | 01/02/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Radcliffe Academy Trust |
| Millbrook Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2016 | 01/12/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Bayards Hill Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2015 | 01/10/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Cheney School Academy Trust |
| St Nicholas CE Primary School, East Challow | | Pri | 4-11 | 3224 | 01/10/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Blessed George Napier Catholic Secondary School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4600 | 01/08/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC |

ES6

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|--|--------------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|-----------------|---|----------------|--|
| Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3420 | 01/08/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Banbury | | Pri | 3-11 | 3825 | 01/08/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC |
| Glory Farm Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2211 | 01/07/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Bicester Learning Academy |
| Hanborough Manor C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3147 | 01/07/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| The Cooper School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4032 | 01/07/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Bicester Learning Academy |
| Freeland C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3208 | 01/06/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| St Peter's C of E Primary School, Cassington | | Pri | 3-11 | 3651 | 01/06/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Standlake C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3127 | 01/06/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Eynsham Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2013 | 01/05/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Stanton Harcourt C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3130 | 01/05/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Wheatley Park School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4077 | 01/05/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Wheatley CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 2009 | 01/03/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Christopher's CE Primary School, Cowley | | Pri | 3-11 | 2010 | 01/02/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| John Mason Secondary School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4126 | 01/02/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | John Mason Academy Trust |
| Grove CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3228 | 01/12/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| The Hendreds CE Primary School, Wantage | | Pri | 4-11 | 3250 | 01/12/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Buckland C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3222 | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Cholsey Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 2596 | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella Trust | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| John Blandy VC Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3230 | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Longcot & Fernham C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3232 | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Shrivenham C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 3239 | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Watchfield Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2572 | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Charlton Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 2573 | 01/10/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Wantage C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3246 | 01/10/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Abbey Woods Academy | Berinsfield Community Primary School | Pri | 3-11 | 2007 | 01/09/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | CfBT Schools Trust |
| Orchard Meadow Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2006 | 01/08/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Blackbird Academy Trust (BAT) |
| Pegasus Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2593 | 01/08/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Blackbird Academy Trust (BAT) |

ES6

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|----------|-----------------|---|------------------|--|
| Windale Community Primary School | | Pri | 2-11 | 2005 | 01/08/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Blackbird Academy Trust (BAT) |
| Ladygrove Park Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2609 | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella Trust | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| Manor School, Didcot | | Pri | 4-11 | 2597 | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella Trust | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| St Johns Primary School, Wallingford | | Pri | 4-11 | 2567 | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella Trust | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| Willowcroft Community Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3912 | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella Trust | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| Cotteslowe Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2004 | 01/04/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary, Witney | | Pri | 4-11 | 3822 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| Our Lady's RC Primary School, Cowley | | Pri | 4-11 | 3836 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St John Fisher RC Primary School, Littlemore | | Pri | 3-11 | 3839 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Joseph's RC Primary School, Carterton | | Pri | 3-11 | 3556 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Joseph's RC Primary School, Thame | | Pri | 4-11 | 3826 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Kidlington | | Pri | 3-11 | 3823 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Gregory The Great RC Secondary School | | All throu | 3-18 | 4145 | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| Fitzwaryn Special School | | Spec | 2-19 | 7027 | 01/02/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Propeller Academy Trust |
| Harriers Banbury Academy | Harriers Ground Community Primary Sch | Pri | 3-11 | 2053 | 01/02/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Aspirations Academy Trust (AAT) |
| Iffley Academy | Iffley Mead Special School, Isis Academy | Spec | 2-19 | 7018 | 01/02/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | The Iffley Academy Trust |
| Kingfisher Special School | | Spec | 2-19 | 7000 | 01/02/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Propeller Academy Trust |
| Cheney Community College | | Sec | 11-18 | 4120 | 01/01/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Cheney School Academy Trust |
| Gosford Hill School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4060 | 01/11/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Gosford Hill School |
| The Marlborough C of E School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4560 | 01/10/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | The Marlborough Church of England School |
| Northern House Special School | | Spec | 2-19 | 7016 | 01/09/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Northern House School Academy Trust |

ES6

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|---------------------------------|--|-------|-----------|----------|-----------------|---|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| The John Henry Newman CE School | | Pri | 3-11 | 2000 | 01/09/2012 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Lord Williams's School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4580 | 01/09/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Thame Partnership Academy Trust |
| St Birinus School, Didcot | | Sec | 11-18 | 4129 | 01/09/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Didcot Academy of Schools |
| Banbury Academy | Banbury School | Sec | 11-18 | 4000 | 01/08/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Aspirations Academy Trust (AAT) |
| Didcot Girls' School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4139 | 01/08/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Didcot Academy of Schools |
| Dashwood Banbury Academy | Dashwood Primary School | Pri | 3-11 | 2003 | 01/08/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Aspirations Academy Trust (AAT) |
| Burford Secondary School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4040 | 01/07/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Burford School |
| The Henry Box School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4050 | 01/06/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | The Mill Academy |
| Faringdon Community College | | Sec | 11-18 | 4141 | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Langtree School | | Sec | 11-16 | 4094 | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | The Langtree School Academy Trust |
| Faringdon Infant School | | Inf | 3-6 | 2561 | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Faringdon Junior School | | Jun | 7-11 | 2562 | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| The Cherwell School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4116 | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Bartholomew School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4054 | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Chipping Norton School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4010 | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Chipping Norton School Academy Trust |
| Gillotts School | | Sec | 11-16 | 4055 | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Gillots School |
| Hanwell Fields Community School | | Pri | 3-11 | 3837 | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |
| Rush Common School | | Pri | 4-11 | 2574 | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Rush Common Academy Trust |
| Wallingford School | | Sec | 11-18 | 4140 | 01/09/2011 | Voluntary Converter | Single converter | Wallingford Schools Academy Trust |
| King Alfred's Academy | King Alfred's Community & Sports College | Sec | 11-18 | 4142 | 01/08/2011 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Oxford Spires Academy | Oxford School | Sec | 11-18 | 6907 | 01/01/2011 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | CfBT Schools Trust |
| The Oxford Academy | | Sec | 11-18 | 6906 | 01/09/2008 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | Single converter | The Oxford Academy Trust |
| North Oxfordshire Academy | | Sec | 11-18 | 6905 | 01/09/2007 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |

ES6

Establishments in the process of conversion:

| Name of converting establishment | Phase | Age Range | DfE code | Type of School | Programmed Conversion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|----------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|----------------|----------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| West Kidlington Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 2110 | LEA | NO DATE | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | The White Horse Federation |
| Rose Hill Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 2531 | LEA | NO DATE | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | | TBC |
| Tackley CofE Primary | Pri | 4-11 | 3144 | VC | 01/01/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) |
| Larkmead School | Sec | 11-18 | 4125 | LEA | 01/01/2017 | Voluntary Converter | | Vale Academy Trust |
| Dr South's CE VA Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 3655 | VA | 01/01/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) |
| New Marston Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 2529 | LEA | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River learning Trust |
| Wood Green School | Sec | 11-18 | 4052 | LEA | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| Icknield Community College | Sec | 11-16 | 4082 | LEA | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| Chalgrove Community Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 2452 | LEA | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| Leafield CofE Controlled Primary | Pri | 4-11 | 3124 | VC | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) |
| Wroxton CE Primary School | Pri | 4-11 | 3004 | VA | 01/04/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) |
| Edith Moorhouse Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 2255 | LEA | 01/04/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River learning Trust |
| South Moreton School | Pri | 4-11 | 2566 | LEA | 01/04/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) |
| Dr Radcliffe's CofE School | Pri | 4-11 | 3828 | VA | 01/05/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST) |

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New schools since 2013:

| New open academies | Trust name / sponsor | DfE | No. of places | Type of Academy | Planned opening date | Opened | Age rang | Phase |
|---|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| Tyndale Community Primary Free School | Chapel Street Community S | 2008 | 470 | Free School | Sep-13 | 01/09/2013 | 4-11 | Pri |
| Heyford Park Free School | Heyfordian School Trust | 4003 | 840 | Free School | Sep-13 | 01/09/2013 | 4-19 | all through |
| Europa | Europa School Trust | 4002 | | Free School | Sep-13 | 01/09/2013 | 4-19 | all through |
| MacIntyre Academy for Autistic Pupils (Endeavour Academy) | MacIntyre Academy Trust | 7003 | 25 | Academy | Sep-14 | 01/09/2014 | 11-19 | Spec |
| Banbury Space Studio | Aspirations Academy Trust | 4006 | 300 | Studio School | Sep-14 | 01/09/2014 | 14-19 | Studio |
| UTC Oxfordshire (at Didcot) | Activate Learning Education Trust | 4008 | 350 | UTC | Sep-15 | 07/09/2015 | 14-19 | UTC |
| BicesterTechnology Studio School | Activate Learning Education Trust | | 310 | Studio School | Sep-16 | 05/09/2016 | 14-19 | Studio |
| GEMS Didcot Primary Academy (Great Western Park) | GEMS Learning Trust | 2012 | 420 | Primary school academy | Sep-16 | 07/09/2016 | 3-11 | Pri |

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