

EDUCATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 17 JUNE 2019
OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL ACADEMIES PROGRAMME
END OF YEAR REPORT - 2018

Report by Director of Children's Services

Executive Summary

- 1) Following the dramatic rise in conversion in 2017 (23 academy conversions), 2018 saw an average number of conversions over the last ten years, with 11 completed during the year. 82% (9) of the conversions in 2018 were primary schools, 18% (2) of the conversions were secondary schools.
- 2) There were 144¹ academies including new Free Schools and Studio Schools in Oxfordshire at 31st December 2018. 13 more than in 2017 (11 conversions and two new schools).
- 3) As of December 2018, there were 155 maintained schools, including seven LA Maintained Nursery Schools and nine special schools. 85 have a religious designation (either Church of England, Archdiocese of Birmingham (RC) or Diocese of Portsmouth (RC)). The average size of LA Maintained schools is 210, with 44 schools (28%) having less than 100 pupils on roll.
- 4) Approximately 62% of the total Oxfordshire pupil population are now educated in academies, with 97% of secondary pupils attending an academy.
- 5) There remain marked differences in volume of academy conversions between locality areas.
- 6) Conversions to academy status were at average rate of approximately 1 per month in 2018 down from 2 per month in 2017.
- 7) There were no new MATS established in 2018 in Oxfordshire, all schools converting in 2018 joined an established MAT.
- 8) Multi-Academy Trusts are maturing and, in some cases, merging with others to become more sustainable units in terms of both school improvement and financial security.

¹ This figure includes new schools.

- 9) Church of England schools 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.
- 10) In 2018 four primary schools, judged by Ofsted to have serious standards issues, were issued Directed Academy Orders. Three converted to sponsored academy status with an established Oxfordshire based MAT, and one from Reading.
- 11) The pool of sponsors available to support under performing schools in Oxfordshire remained the same in 2018. The need to identify more sponsors is a challenge nationally. However, the supply of sponsors in Oxfordshire remains good 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. 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) Following discussion with Schools Forum and all schools and academies the local authority adopted the national funding formula criteria for allocating funding to its schools and academies from 1 April 2018.
- 15) The authority must provide revenue funding to new academies in the pre-opening stage and during the 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 funded one school in 2016 and two in 2017, and a further two in 2018. There will be more schools opening in 2020 and 2021.
- 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 led 'Presumption' process or through a 'central' (DfE-led) process whereby sponsors can make direct bids to open new schools to Secretary of State.

Introduction

National perspective: In January 2018 The Rt. Hon. Damian Hinds, MP was appointed as the new Secretary of State for Education, supported by Lord Agnew as the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the School System. Together these two politicians continued to steer the Department for Education (DfE) to deliver the *Department's Strategy 2015-2020*², which promotes the academy agenda and the need to develop a mixed economy of LA maintained schools and academies within Multi Academy Trusts, to develop capacity in the system to support more schools effectively.

2018 saw subtle differences to 'back office' processes, prompted in part as a response to the Public Accounts Committee (July 2018), *Converting Schools to Academies*³. This saw changes in the second half of 2018 to expectations from DfE about the qualifying criteria for schools identified for a directive Academy Order (dAO), with the withdrawal of the expectation that a three consecutive Ofsted judgements of 'Requires Improvement' for any school would result in an automatic dAO, as well as to the way the Regional Schools Commissioner reviewed the capacity of Multi Academy Trusts to accommodate new academies and approved schools for Academy Orders.

Oxfordshire perspective: During 2018, Oxfordshire County Council continued to implement its policy on academies through an Academies Programme as part of its overarching Education Strategy, detailed in the Cabinet Report on 20 October 2015⁴. This 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 to actively encourage the incorporation of the remaining maintained schools into sustainable formal collaborative groupings, primarily through the Multi Academy Trust model.

Officers continue to follow many of the principles set out in that report, the main principles being:

- 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.

²[DfE Strategy 2015-2020, World class education and care](#)" DfE 2015

³ <https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmpublic/697/69702.htm>

⁴ http://mycouncil.oxfordshire.gov.uk/documents/s31331/CA_OCT2015R15%20Strategic%20Grouping%20of%20Academies%202015-20.doc.pdf

- 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 Church of England schools with ODST. (Schools are currently advised to pursue individual solutions direct with the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education).
- n) To adopt a more assertive policy in identifying appropriate sponsors for schools required to convert to academy status.
- o) To promote appropriate groupings to form new Multi Academy Trusts and encourage the growth of existing Multi Academy Trusts based in the county.

Officers continue to develop relationships with existing and emerging trusts 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.

Background

Academies are publicly-funded independent schools. Between 2001 and 2010, there was only one kind of Academy, a **Sponsored Academy**, where an existing school was closed and re-opened as a new legal entity in response to low attainment and judgements made by Ofsted. In Oxfordshire, three academies of this kind were established (North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury, The Oxford Academy and Oxford Spires Academy).

The Academies Act 2010 paved the way for a new education landscape, enabling strong schools to voluntarily choose to become an academy, converting under a different process (**Converter Academies**). Initially strong schools were able to apply to the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) to convert as a **Single Academy Trust** (SAT), but increasingly it is acknowledged that for sustainability and school effectiveness reasons, schools must now either seek to join an established **Multi Academy Trusts** (MAT) or work in partnership to establish their own.

Converter academies choose to become an academy themselves but must be approved for conversion by the 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.

The Education Act 2011 set out the government's presumption that all new schools would open as an Academy or Free School (the Free School Presumption), reinforced

in May 2018 through the department's latest version of the non-statutory guidance⁵. New Academies can be set up through different routes: an LA driven **Presumption Competition**, or the open national competition managed by the DfE (**Central Route/Wave Bids**). All types of schools can open through either process: secondary schools, primary schools, special schools, university technical colleges (UTCs), studio schools, free schools, 16-19 provision and alternative provision.

Content

The report identifies and analyses trends in this programme during 2018, and indicates changes from those noted in 2017, under the following headings.

1. National and Local Statistics
2. Conversion Numerical Data
3. Trends in Conversions
4. Sponsorship
5. Cost of Conversions
6. New Academies
7. Regional Schools Commissioner
8. Conclusion

⁵ [The free school presumption](#), Departmental advice for Local Authorities and new school proposers. May 2018

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

At 1st December 2018, 7,814 English schools had become academies of which 5,581 are converters and 2,233 are sponsored. The table below sets out trends in academy conversion nationally and locally during 2018.⁶

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% ⁶ 61% ⁷ | 21% | No national % available |
| December 2017 | 72% ⁶ 64% | 27% | No national % available |
| December 2018 | 67% | 30.6% | No national % available |

Oxfordshire

| Date | Secondary | Primary | Special |
|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| February 2013 | 20 (59%) | 7(1 sponsored) (3%) | 4 (33%) |
| 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%) |
| December 2017 | 31 (91%) | 85 (12 sponsored 36%) | 5 (38%) |
| December 2018 | 33 (97%) | 94 (14 sponsored 40%) | 5 (38%) |

The greatest volume of conversions in Oxfordshire continue 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.

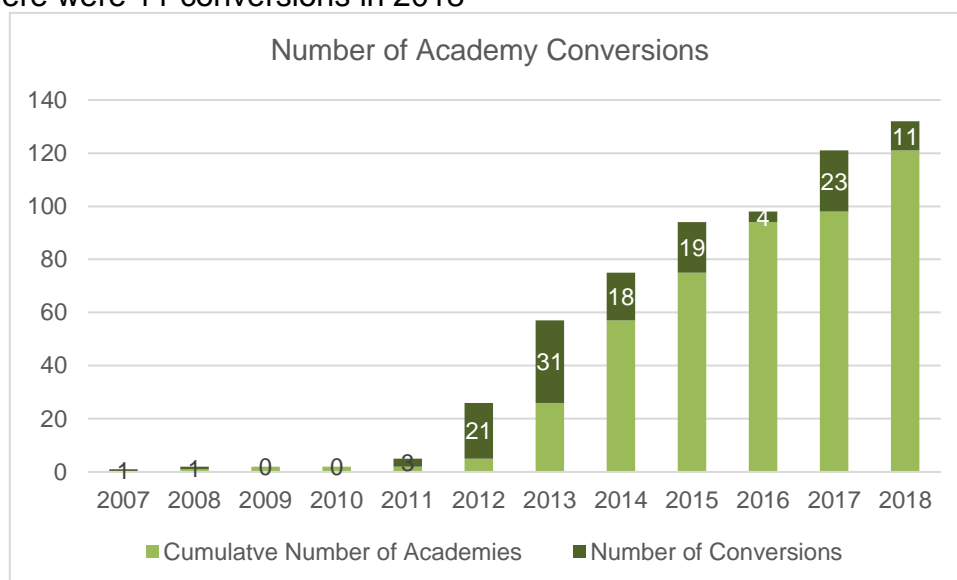
⁶ Source: DfE Transparency Data Transparency data Open academies, free schools, studio schools and UTCs <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-academies-and-academy-projects-in-development>

⁷ These figures have been adjusted down from last year's summary as the source data provided by the DfE Open academies and academy projects in development for past years included new schools. Figures are now conversions only

2. Conversions - Numerical Data (Oxfordshire)

a. Number of academy converters

- 132 since start of academies programme in 2007.
- The rate at which schools have converted to academy status increased considerably in 2017, when 23 conversions were completed
- There were 11 conversions in 2018



b. Conversions by Phase and Type

- 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.
- In 2017 – there were 23 conversions, 3 secondary and 20 primary schools. Of these two primary schools converted as sponsored academies brokered by the DfE.
- In 2018 – there were 11 conversions, 2 secondary, 9 primary (including 1 junior and 1 infant). Of these, 1 secondary and 2 primaries converted as sponsored academies brokered by the DfE.

c. Conversions as a percentage of school estate⁸

- At 31st December 2018 33 (97%) secondary schools, 94 (40%) primaries, and 5 (38%) special schools across the county are now academies

See:

- Appendix 1: Breakdown of number of academies and maintained schools in Oxfordshire.
- Appendix 2: Breakdown of conversions data by locality.
- Appendix 3: Update of individual schools that have, or are publicly considering conversion to academy status as at December 2018.

d. Numbers of pupils in academies

- By 1 December 2018 there were 53,154 (62%) pupils of statutory age in open academies. When Foundation Stage and post 16 pupils are also included this number increases to 60,115 (63.6%) of all pupils in Oxfordshire.
- A further 1416 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 1.5% of pupils on roll.
- 98.4% of all secondary aged pupils attend an academy.

e. Multi Academy Trusts

- In 2018 three new MATS were formed in the county, all were previously SATs:
 1. **Ridgway Education Trust** which was previously Didcot Academy of Schools,
 2. **Community Schools Alliance Trust**, previously Cheney Schools Academy Trust, and
 3. **The Gallery Trust**, formally the Iffley Academy Trust.
- Two Academy Trusts closed:
 4. **The Marlborough Church of England School**, which was a Single Academy trust, joined River Learning Trust
 5. **Blackbird Academy Trust**, which was formed of Orchard Meadow Primary, Windale Primary and Pegasus Primary, joined United Learning Trust (ULT).
- Where SATs or small MATs are struggling financially or with effectiveness, the RSC has been known to encourage brokerage into an established MAT.
- Re-brokering academies (movement of a SAT to a MAT, or a MAT to a MAT) does not usually attract the £25K Academy Conversion Grant and incurs tax implications. This is therefore a costly exercise but is usually done to ensure appropriate school improvement support and sustainability is secured.

⁸ Percentages are expressed in terms of conversions only and the number does not include new schools.

f. Forecast Number of Converter Academies

- The current rate of conversion to academy status is an average of one conversion per month, which is lower than 2017 but is average for the past ten years of the programme.
- At present a further six primary schools and four special schools have indicated a likely intention to convert to academy status in 2019.
- Factors affecting how quickly these discussions translate into conversion to academy status are set out below.
 - 1. Local Authority Service:**
 - a. Consolidation of services received for school improvement and back room functions through the Integrated Business Centre managed by Hampshire County Council.
 - b. Perceived view of Council support for maintained schools.
 - 2. National Policy:**
 - c. Change in Government policy away from compulsory requirement for all schools to become academies by 2020
 - d. Perceived lack of national policy direction for academy programme
 - 3. School Finances**
 - e. Tight school budgets are making it increasingly difficult for schools to afford to convert. Following the removal of the Education Services Grant (ESG) in 2017, it is no longer a simple equation to justify the financial benefits of converting to academy status.
 - 4. Role of the RSC**
 - f. The RSC continues to encourage MATs to grow to sustainable size as set out in 'Good practice guidance and expectations for growth' published by DfE in December 2016.
 - g. The RSC is also mindful of the suitability of schools to convert, and increasingly is requiring greater due diligence prior to confirming an Academy Order.

3. Trends in conversion

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|--|
| a. Phase |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There were two secondary school conversions in 2018. One of which was a sponsored conversion brokered by the DfE and joined a MAT from out of county. There is only one maintained secondary school remaining in the county.• Nine 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, 28% in 2016, 36% in 2017 to 40% in 2018.• The percentage of special school converters remained at 38% in 2018 however there are now 3 special schools with Academy orders and a further SEN school in the consulting phase |
| b. Multi Academy Trusts. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Of the schools that converted in 2018, all joined established MATs in the county and three were sponsored conversions.• 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 six 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 are beginning to consolidate by joining together, for instance Blackbird Academies Trust joining ULT• Trusts that originate outside the county are forming Oxfordshire ‘hubs’. For example, GLF Schools originally based in Surrey operate William Morris Primary and Longford Park Primary Schools in Banbury and have been approved as sponsor for the new school in Banbury in 2020. They are also growing a Didcot hub with Aureus Secondary school and Aureus Primary School which is due to open September 2018.• Oxfordshire grown MATs are also taking schools from outside of the county, for instance The Warriner MAT, who have welcomed a school from Northamptonshire. |
| c. Faith Schools and Academies |
| <p><u>Church of England Provision</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 academy chains unwilling to adopt Church of England Articles, but may be given for ‘locally grown’ trusts.• The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education formed a MAT in 2012, the Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust (ODST). As of 31 December 2018, 28 Oxfordshire schools have joined ODST (with five additional schools from Windsor and Maidenhead) and three more applied to join the trust in 2018.• In addition to the Diocesan MAT, there were a further eight Multi Academy Trusts operating in Oxfordshire with the ability to accommodate a Church of England school in their MAT:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Eynsham Partnership Academy2. Farringdon Academy of Schools |

3. Mill MAT
4. River Learning Trust
5. The Merchant Taylor Oxfordshire Academy Trust Ltd
6. The Warriner Multi Academy Trust
7. The White Horse Federation
8. Vale Academy Trust

Catholic Provision

- There remain two Catholic MACs in the county with ten-member academies: the Dominic Barberi MAC (seven schools), and the Pope Francis MAC (three schools). Both form part of the governance structure set out by the Birmingham Catholic Archdiocese. 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. The nearest academy trust provided by Portsmouth Catholic Diocese for these schools to join is Pier Giorgio Frassati Trust currently based in West Berkshire.

4. Sponsorship

a. Sponsors

- There are currently 20 approved sponsor trusts operating in Oxfordshire. These are:
 1. Activate Learning Education Trust,
 2. Aspirations Academy Trust
 3. Community Schools Alliance Trust,
 4. Eynsham Partnership Academy,
 5. Faringdon Academy of Schools,
 6. GEMS Learning Trust,
 7. GLF Schools,
 8. Gillots School,
 9. MacIntyre,
 10. Maiden Erleigh Trust,
 11. Northern House School Academy Trust,
 12. Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust,
 13. Propeller Academy Trust,
 14. River Learning Trust,
 15. Ridgeway Education Trust,
 16. The Mill Academy Trust,
 17. The Warriner Academy Trust,
 18. The White Horse Federation,
 19. United Learning Trust,
 20. Vale Academy Trust.
- Between them, these trusts manage 132 Oxfordshire academies (up from 121 in 2017), of which 20 were in need of a ‘sponsor’ to convert. Other schools run by the sponsor trusts in Oxfordshire were voluntary converters and Free Schools.
- The availability of these sponsors to pick up schools causing concern is determined by the RSC, who considers capacity and sustainability when approving the identified sponsor.
- As yet, no Oxfordshire trusts have lost sponsor status when standards are not maintained in their schools. However, no sponsors are automatically approved to add more schools to their trust and will always need RSC approval to do so.
- There is evidence that criteria used by all the RSC’s are moderated and more robustly applied than in the past.

b. Underperforming Schools

- Practice has been that once schools are judged by Ofsted to require ‘*special measures*’ a package of local support to effect rapid change in school improvement and management structure is put in place.
- In April 2016 the Education and Adoption Act 2016 was enacted. The DfE also published revised statutory guidance ‘Schools Causing Concern’ in November 2018.
- Key action required by the 2016 Act and the 2018 statutory guidance are set out below:

- RSCs 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 obliged to cooperate with the RSC, another school or school improvement agencies as directed.
- The RSC can 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 a 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.
- 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 remained an issue throughout 2017 and continues into 2018.
- Three schools converted to academy status as a result of having been judged to require special measures by Ofsted during 2018.

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 2018 external sponsors opened two new schools 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.

5. 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 subsequent years additional funds have been allocated and since 2016/17 as part of the CEF main budget. Since 1st April 2016 approximately 50% of costs have been charged directly to schools voluntarily converting to academy status.
- A managed system continues to ensure schools convert with all business issues regarding 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 authority is required to provide revenue support funding to new academies both in the pre-opening stage and during the 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 with Schools Forum agreement from previously held unallocated DSG balances to ensure this is funded. However, these balances are finite, unless additional resources are made available to the LA's DSG the longer term impact of new schools will be the requirement to redirect monies from established schools to provide set up and economies of scale funding for these schools. The funding issue for set up and economies of scale costs associated with new school is acknowledged by the DfE's DSG funding unit and the DfE is in the process of forming a small task group to look at and advise on the issue. Oxfordshire is volunteering to join this group.
- Revenue funding for opening new schools is set by each Council independently and there is considerable variation in rates paid.
- 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 April 2018 following discussion with Schools Forum and all schools and academies the local authority adopted the national funding formula (NFF) criteria for allocating funding to its schools and academies. In later 2018 further consultation with all interested parties confirmed the continued use of the NFF allocation criteria for the financial year 2019-20.

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.
- Schools converting continue to be given an Academy Conversion Grant of £25,000 to meet professional costs incurred by the conversion process. There are no further grants available to schools for the conversion process as there were up to 2016.
- 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. Costs of, and recouped to recover, the conversion process and grants to cover them have remained static for two years.

6. New Academies

| a. New academies which opened in 2018 | | |
|--|--|------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gagle Brook Primary School, Bicester, and Aureus Primary School, Didcot, opened in September 2018 • They will eventually offer up to 630 places for pupils aged 3-11 years, and are managed by The White Horse Federation and GLF Schools respectively. | | |
| b. New academies post 2018 | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • In 2017 Free school bids were approved for further planning for a new special school in the north of the county and an all through school for Grove Airfield development. These bids did fit with the Council's long term strategy to meet demand for pupil places. • 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 ⁹ |
| Gagle Brook Primary school, Bicester to be sponsored by White Horse Federation | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2018 |
| Aureus Primary School, Great Western Park, Didcot to be sponsored by GLF | 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 2019 |
| SW Bicester Secondary School, to be sponsored by The White Horse Federation | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2020 |
| Barton West Primary school, to be sponsored by Cheney Academy Trust | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2020 |

⁹ Dates of opening may be subject to change

| | | |
|--|--|----------------|
| Southam Road, Banbury, primary school | Basic need generated by housing development. | September 2020 |
| <p>There are more new schools identified to meet housing growth but not as far advanced in planning terms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new provision schools are now designated as Free schools and may be provided either through the Local Authority presumption route or through an ad hoc bidding round whereby sponsors can make direct bids to open new schools to Secretary of State. | | |
| <p>c. Costs Associated with provision of new schools</p> | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. | | |

7. 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, a former headmaster of Watford Grammar School for Boys. Five outstanding Head teachers were originally appointed to act as his Board and the roles were effective from August 2014. Appointments were made for a period of 3 years. New representation was appointed in Autumn 2017. An additional post of Deputy RSC was created in 2016 and this is still held by Dame Kate Dethridge.
- 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 regarding 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.

8. Conclusions

1. All schools that converted to academy status in 2018 did so as members of Multi Academy Trusts.
2. The number of schools converting to academy status is average for the ten year period.
3. Larger MATs are forming Oxfordshire hubs.
4. Oxfordshire MATs are taking in schools from outside of the county
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Over 63% of pupils in publicly funded education in Oxfordshire are taught in academies.
8. Additional powers of the RSC through legislation will impact on the future role of the Council and services to be provided.

Academies team
February 2019

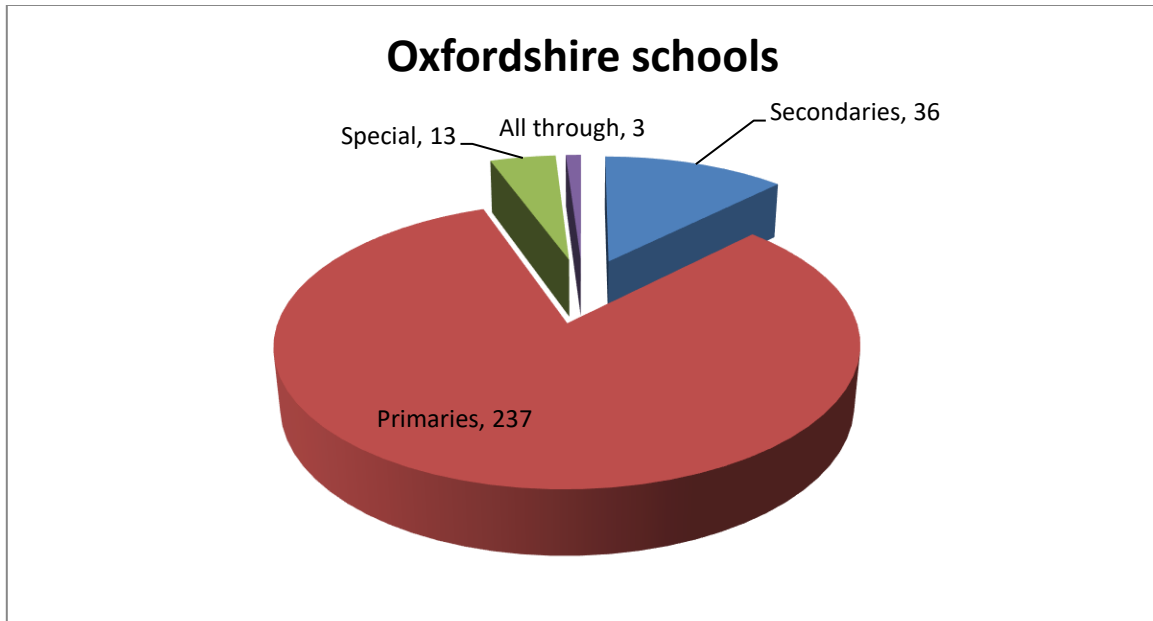
For regular updates please visit our intranet site at

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

Appendix 1 – Oxfordshire overall academy data – as of December 2018

Breakdown of all schools in Oxfordshire:

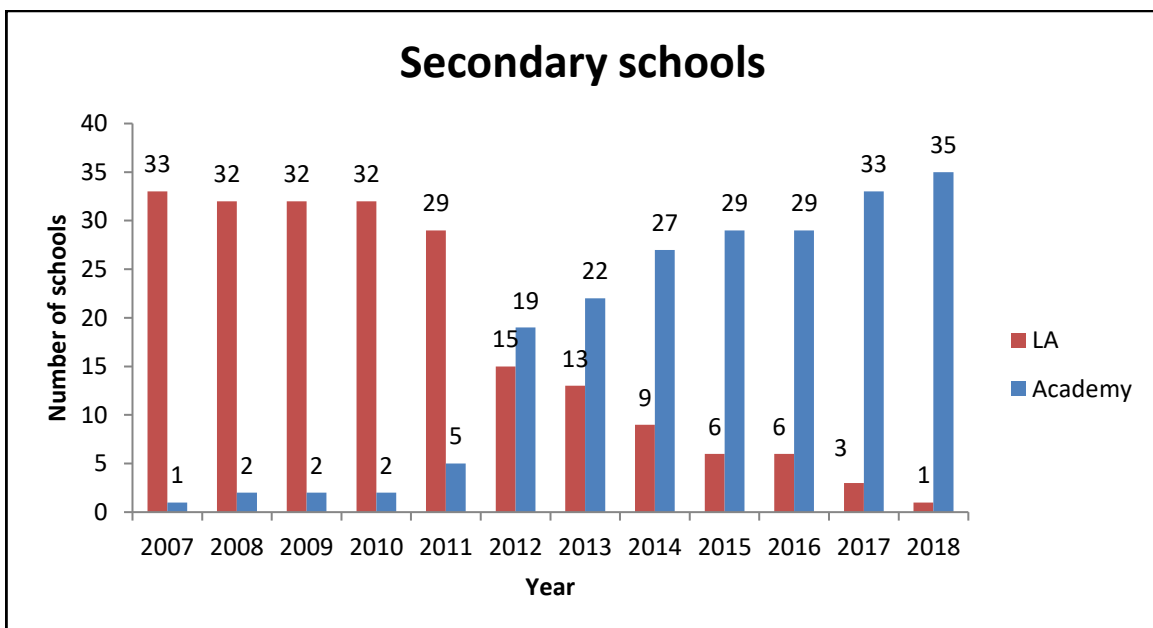
(School figures include the new, free and studio schools but not foundation stage settings and PRUs.)



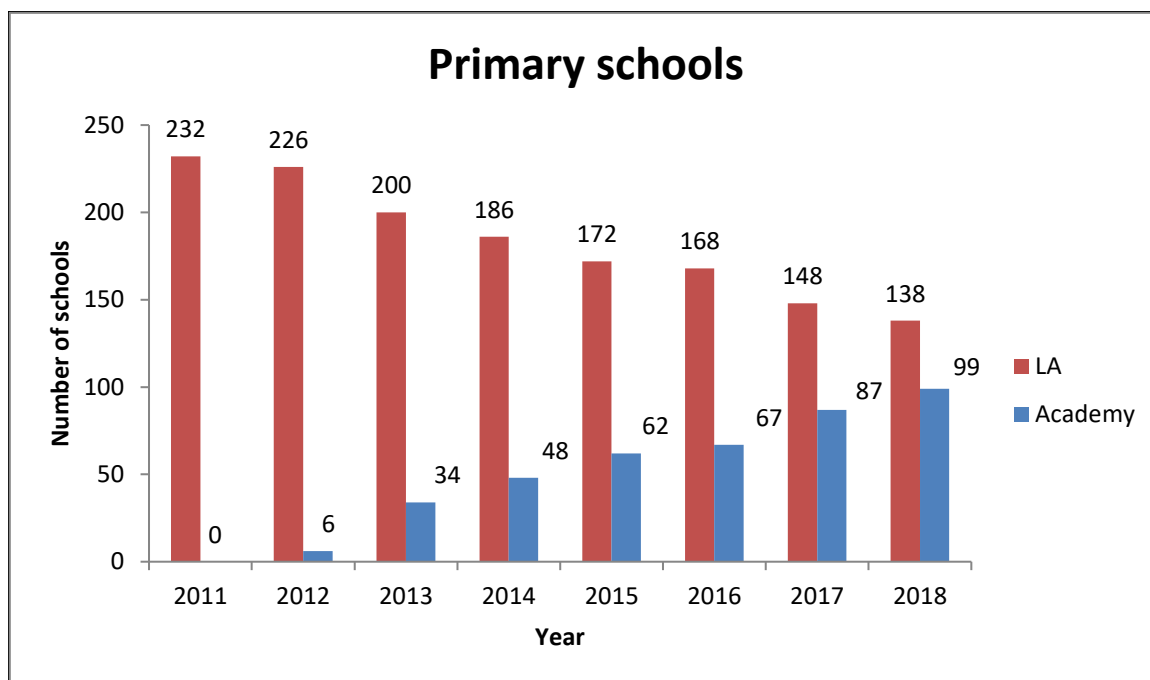
These figures show the numbers of academies and maintained schools as of December 2018

Secondary school Academy status 2011 – 2018:

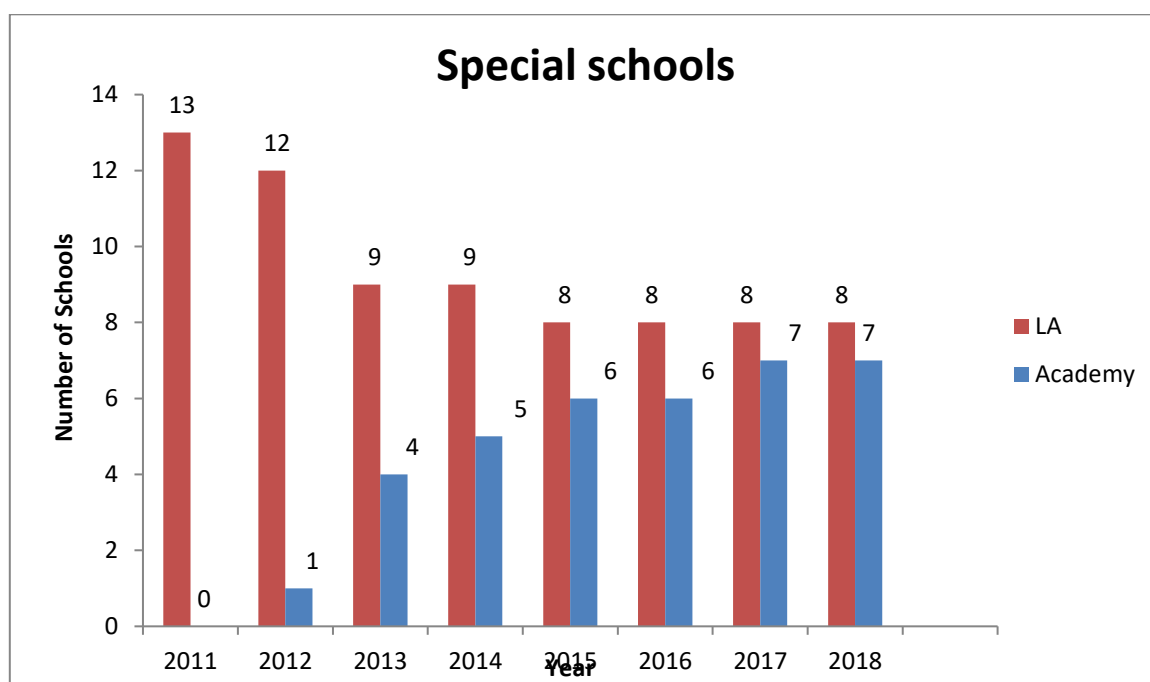
(School figures include the new, free and studio schools but not foundation stage settings and PRUs. Europa, Heyford Park and St Gregory’s are now counted as all through schools so are no longer included in the secondary figures as they were in previous years.)



Primary school Academy status 2011 – 2018:
 (School figures include the new and free schools but not foundation stage settings.)



Special school Academy status 2011 – 2018:
 (School figures include new schools but not PRUs.)

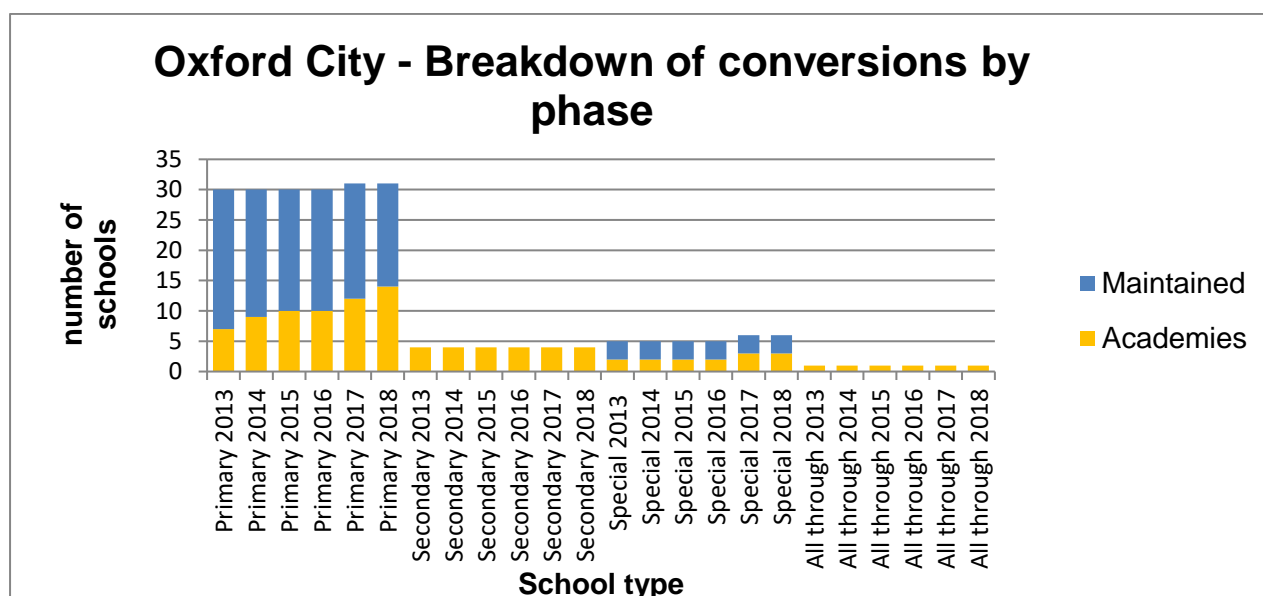
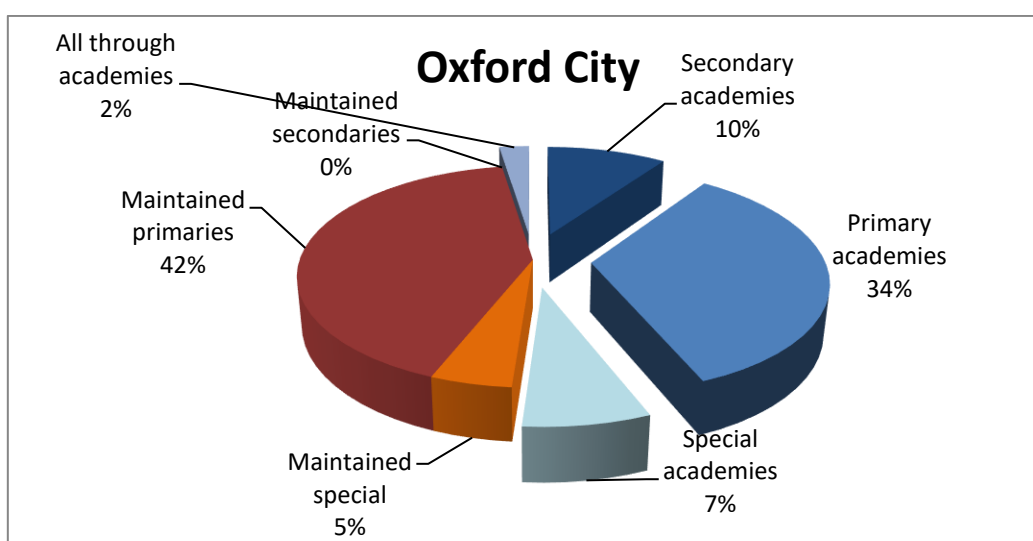


All three of all through schools in Oxfordshire are academies.

Appendix 2 - Locality conversion data – as of December 2018

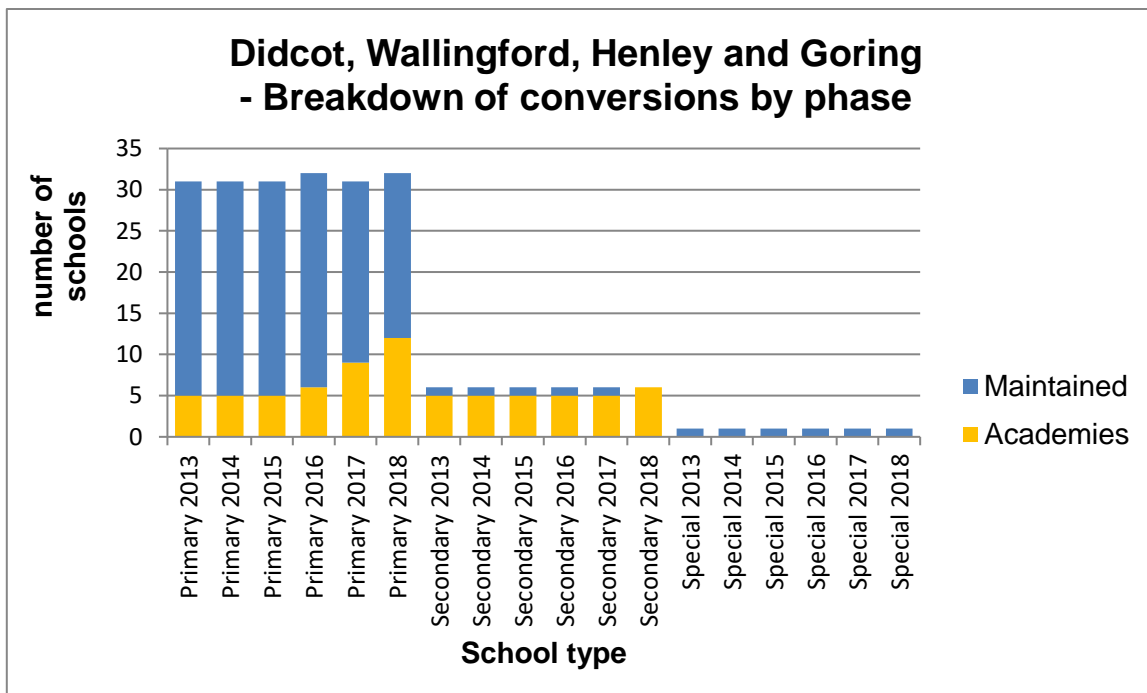
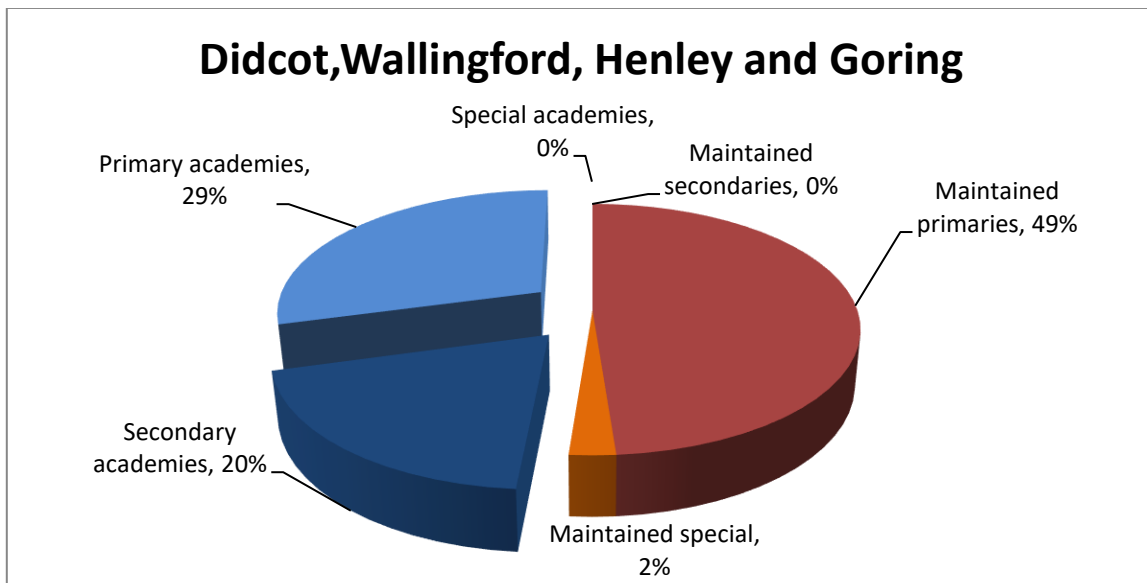
Oxford City

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 31 | 17 (excl. 4 nurseries) | 14 (12) |
| Secondary | 4 | 0 | 4 (4) |
| Special | 5 | 2 | 3 (3) |
| All through | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 41 | 19 | 22 (20) |



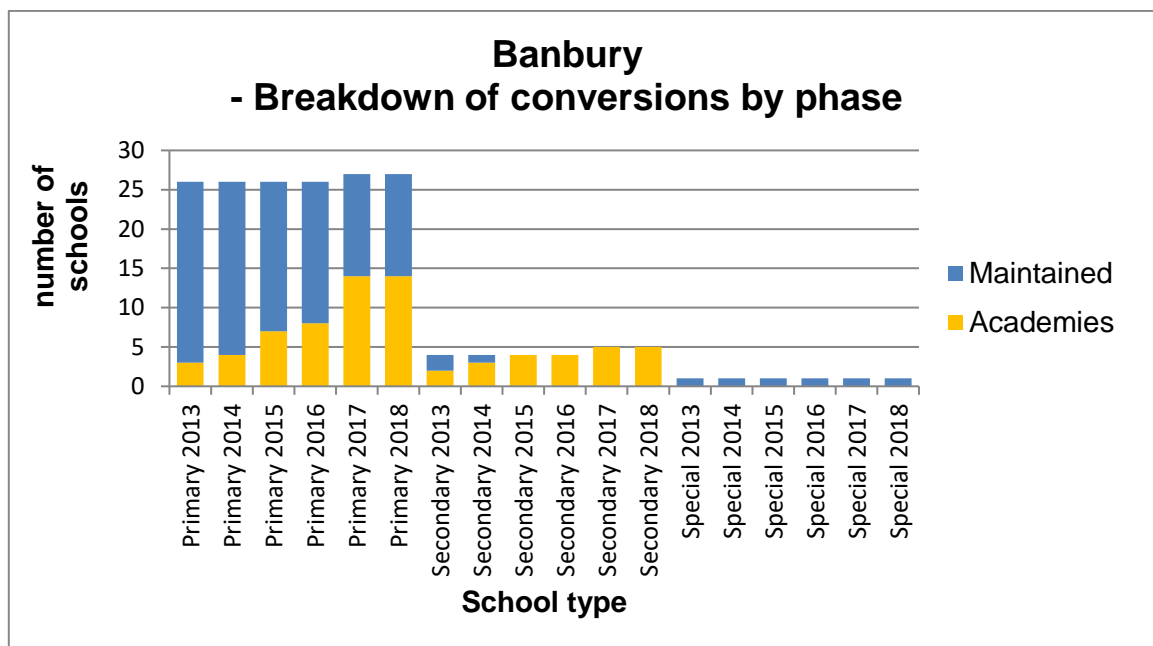
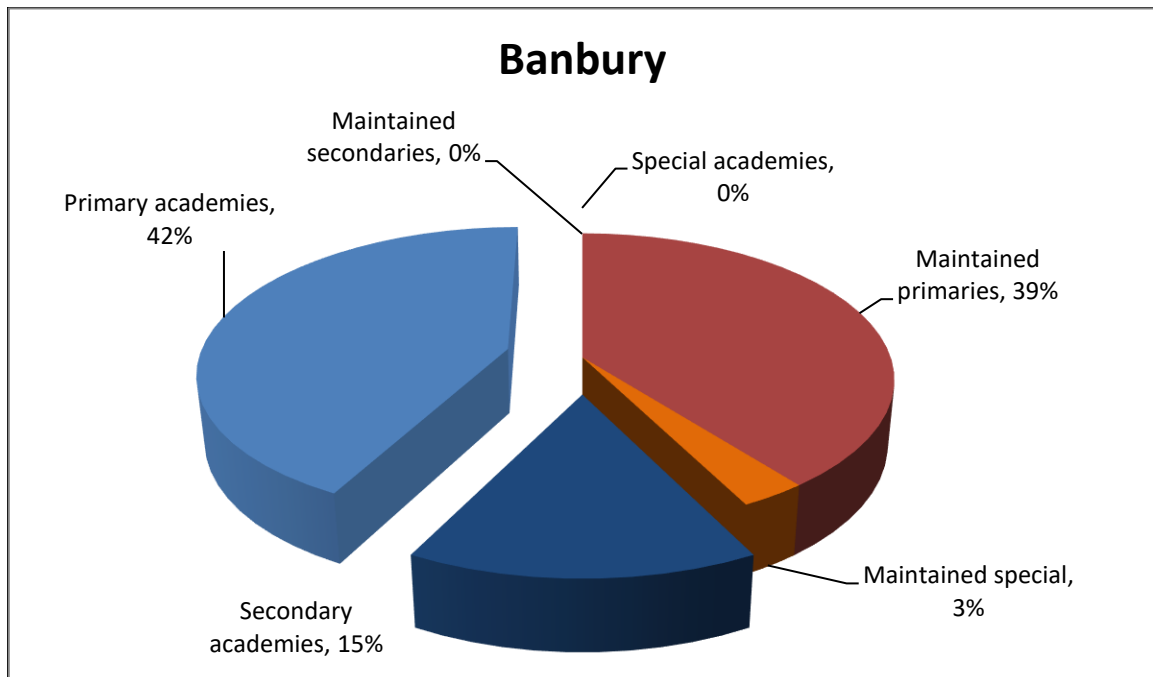
Didcot, Wallingford, Henley and Goring

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 32 | 20 | 12(9) |
| Secondary | 8 | 0 | 8(7) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 41 | 21 | 20(16) |



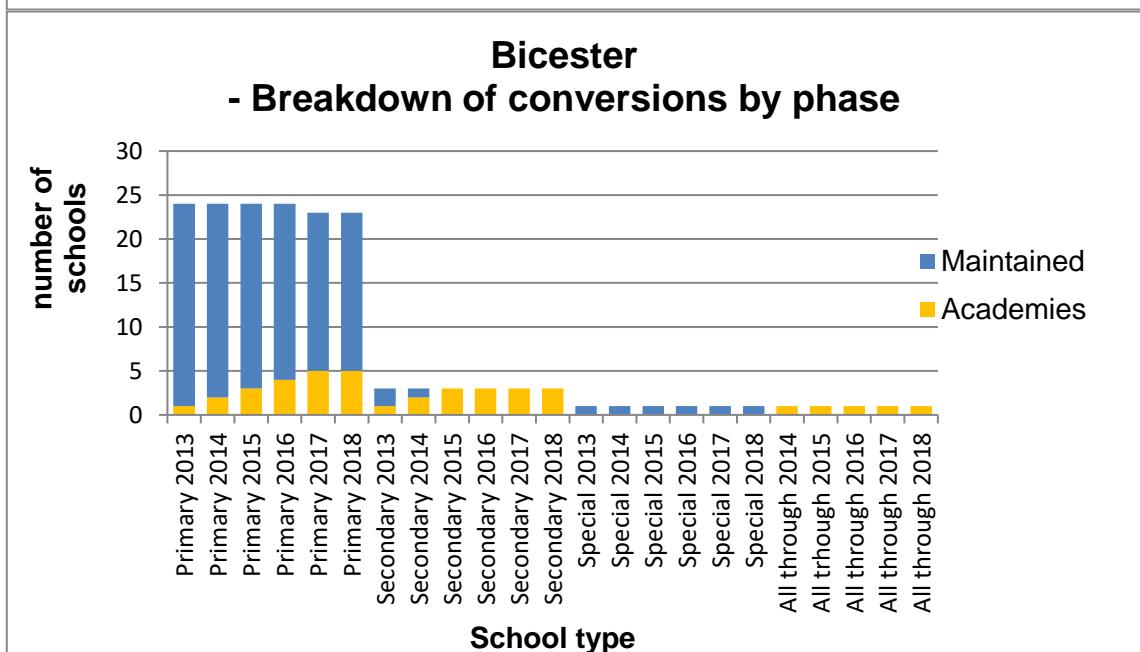
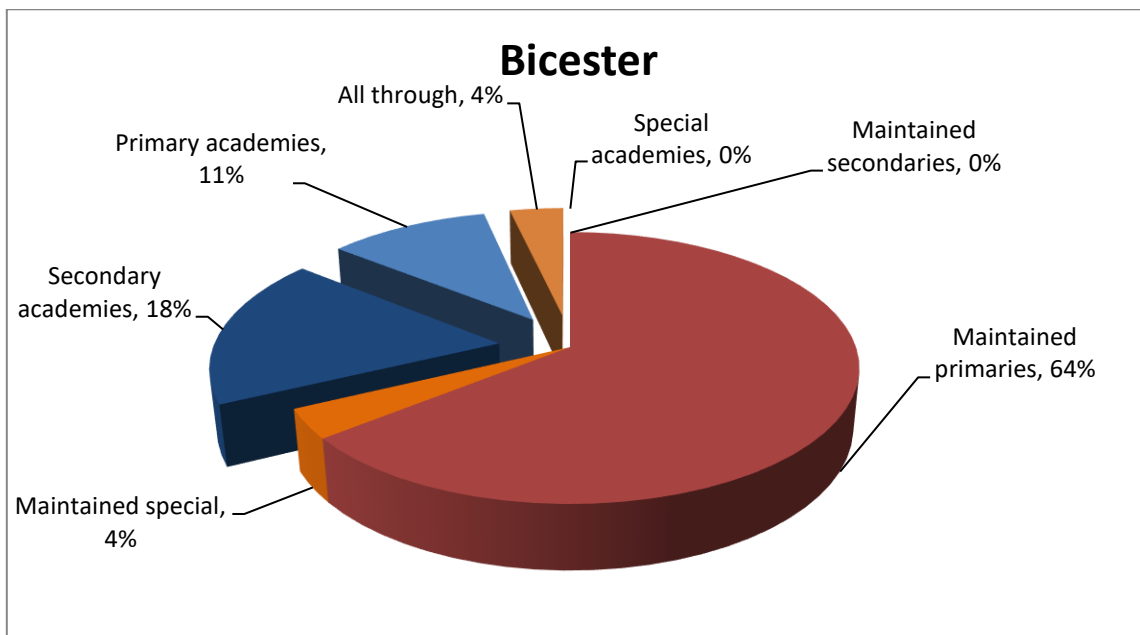
Banbury (Inc. Warriner)

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 27 | 13 | 14 (14) |
| Secondary | 5 | 0 | 5 (5) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 33 | 14 | 19 (19) |



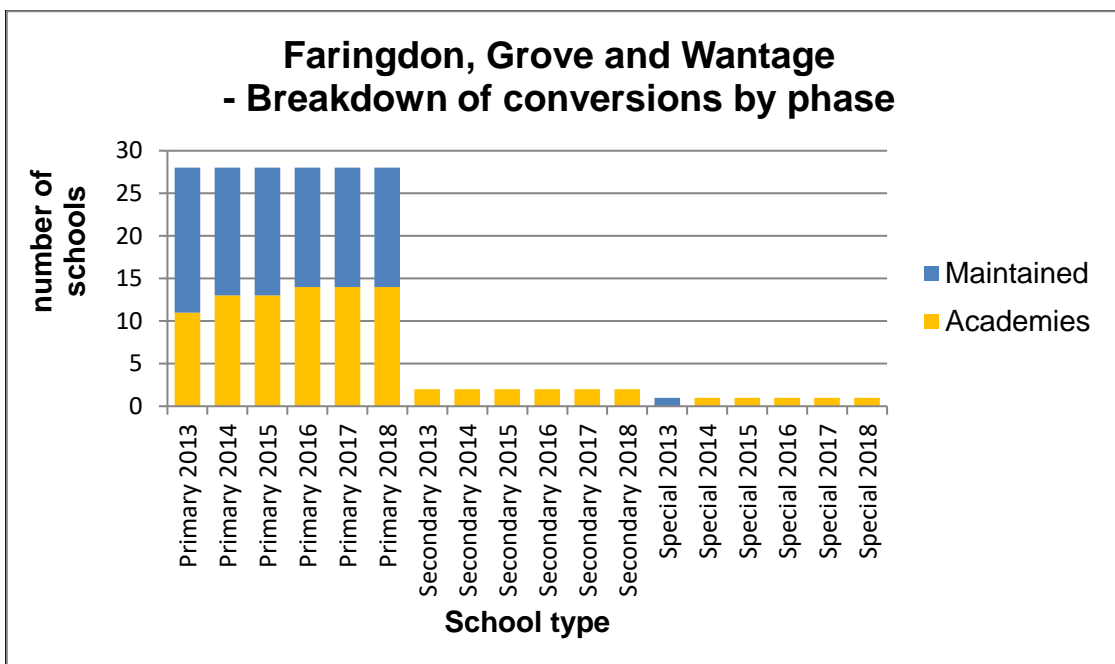
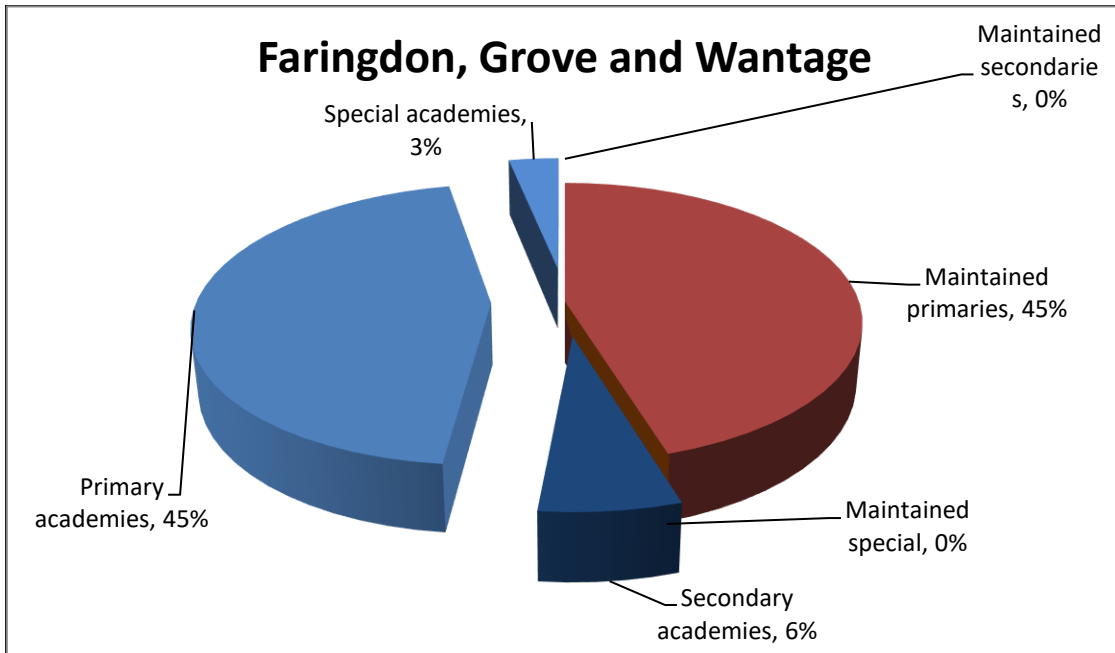
Bicester

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 23 | 18 | 5 (5) |
| Secondary | 3 | 0 | 3 (3) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| All through | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 28 | 19 | 9 (9) |



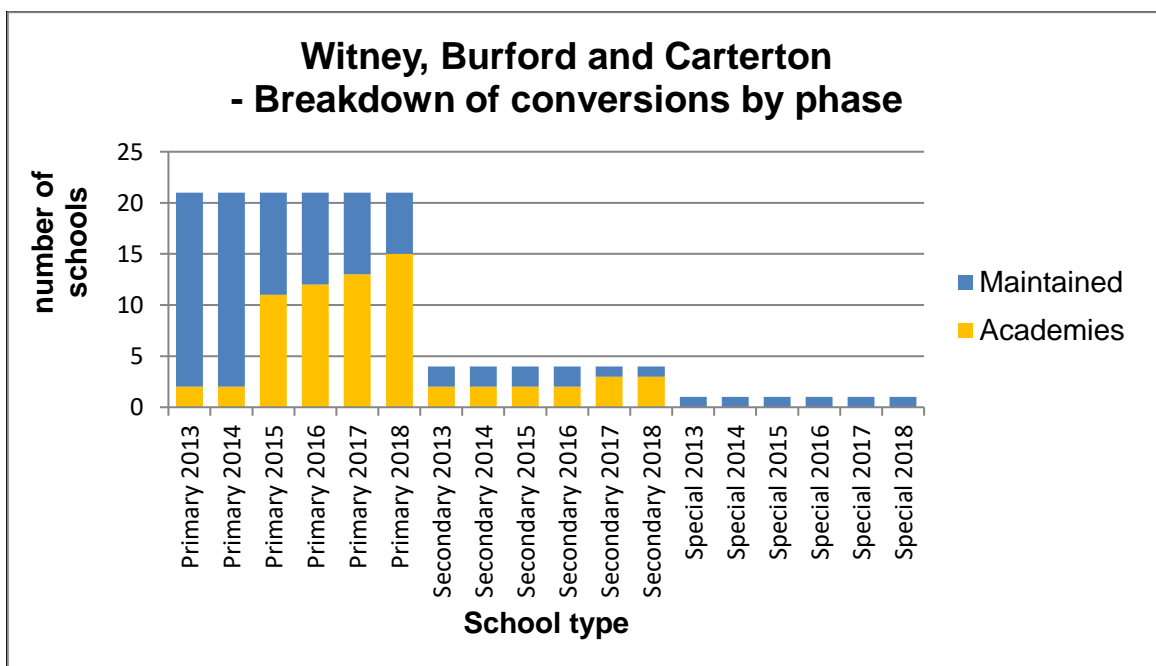
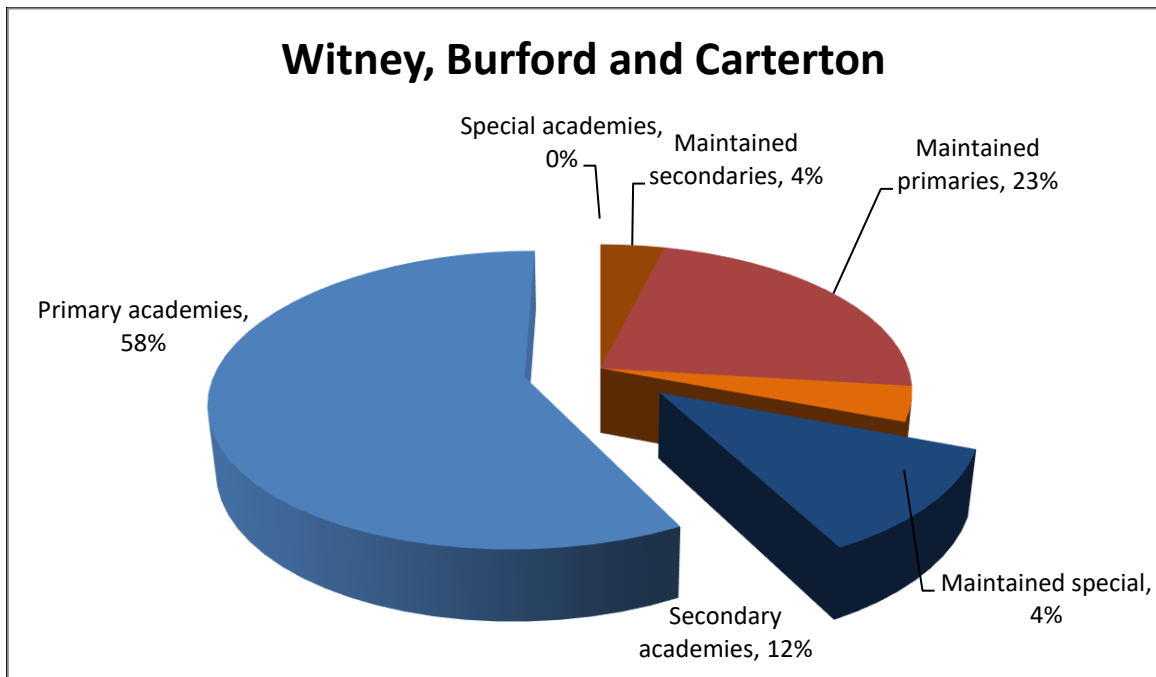
Faringdon, Grove and Wantage

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 28 | 14 | 14 (14) |
| Secondary | 2 | 0 | 2 (2) |
| Special | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 31 | 14 | 17 (17) |



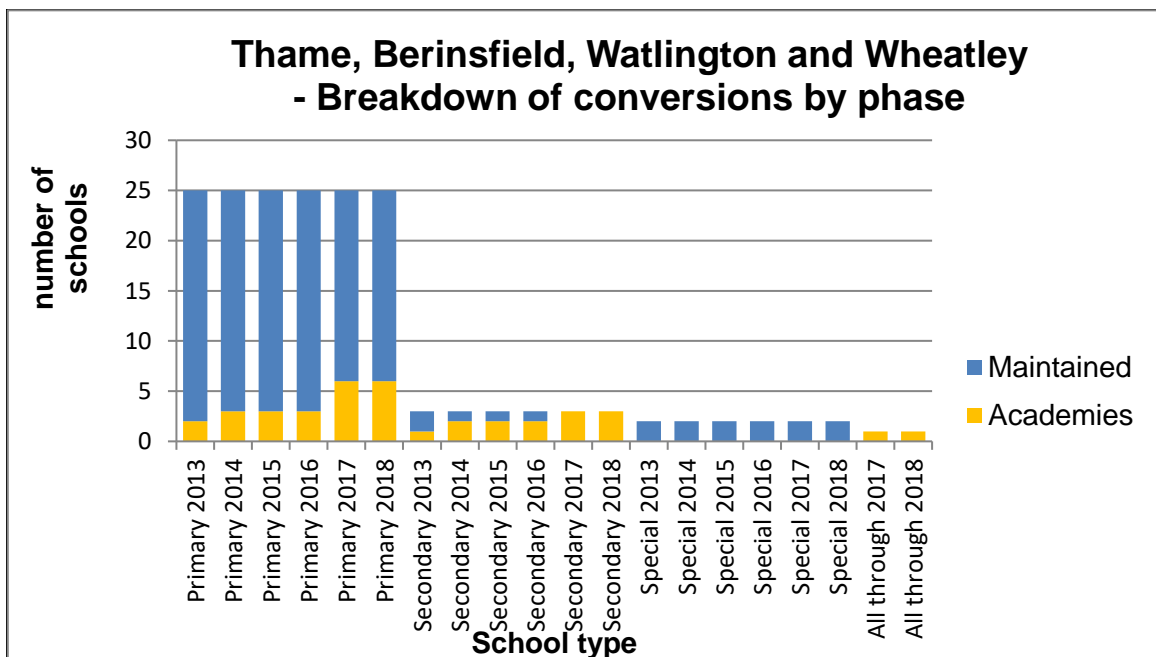
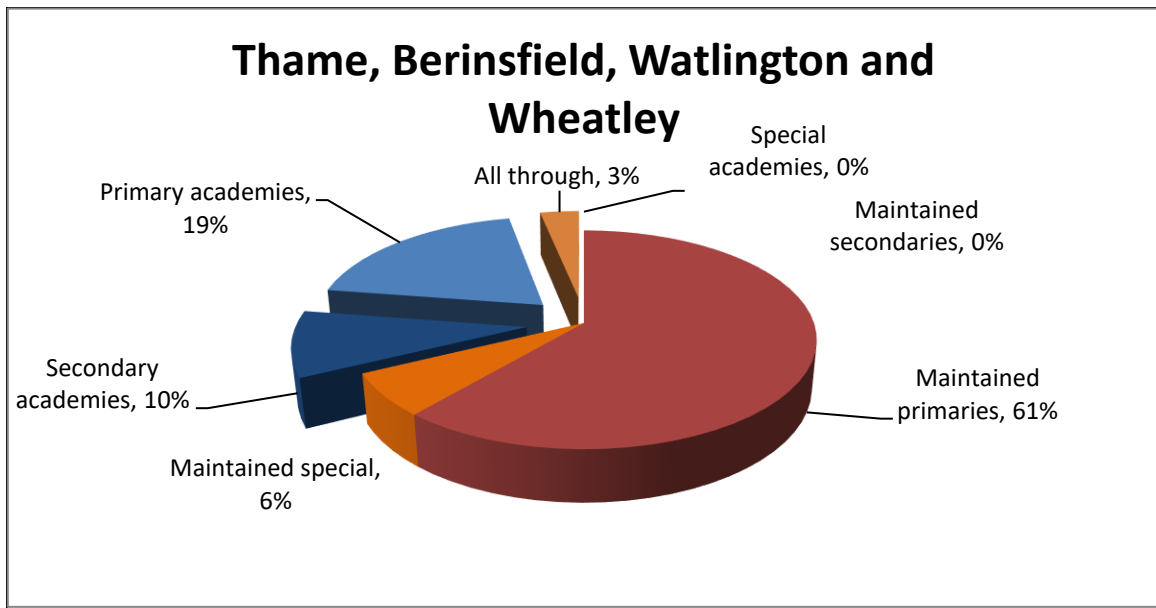
Witney, Burford and Carterton

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 21 | 6 | 15 (13) |
| Secondary | 4 | 1 | 3 (2) |
| Special | 1 | 1 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 26 | 8 | 18 (16) |



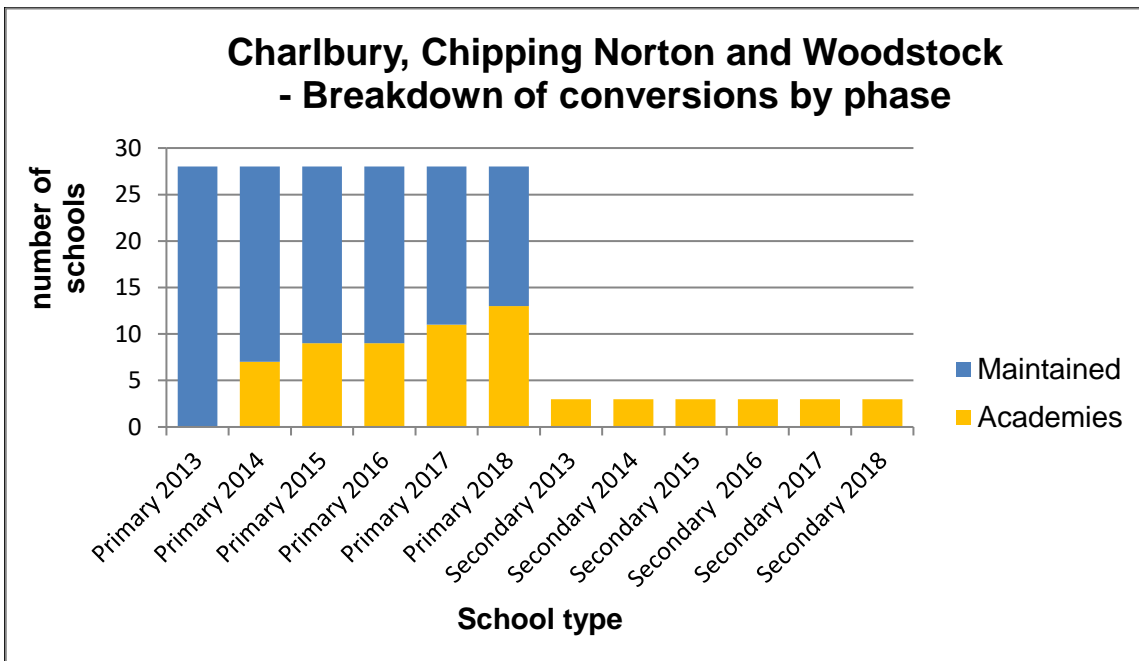
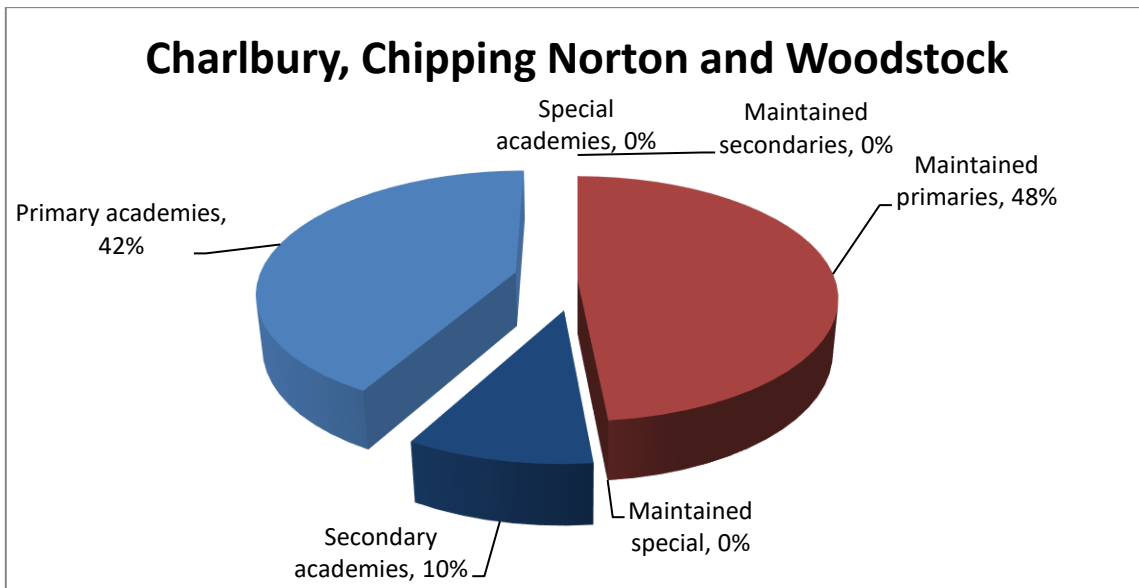
Thame, Berinsfield, Watlington and Wheatley

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|---------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 25 | 19 (excl. 1 nursery) | 6 (6) |
| Secondary | 3 | 0 | 3 (3) |
| Special | 2 | 2 | 0 (0) |
| All through | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Total | 31 | 21 | 10 (10) |



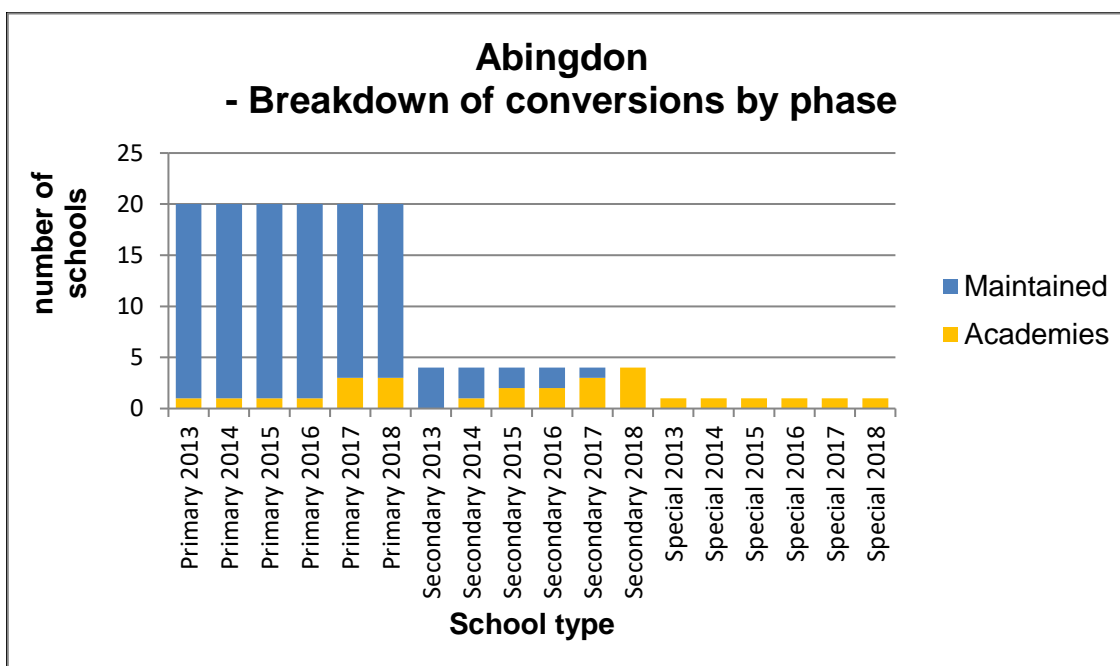
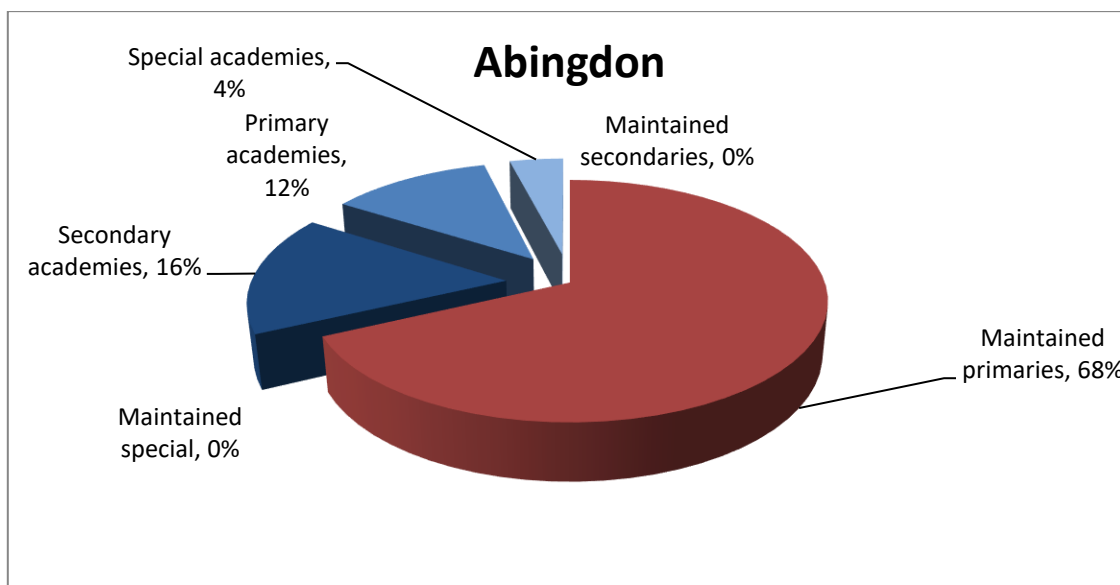
Charlbury, Chipping Norton and Woodstock

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 28 | 15 (excl. 1 nursery) | 13 (11) |
| Secondary | 3 | 0 | 3 (3) |
| Special | 0 | 0 | 0 (0) |
| Total | 31 | 17 | 16 (14) |



Abingdon

| | Total schools | Maintained schools | Academies (2017 bracketed) |
|--------------|----------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Phase | Number | Number | Number |
| Primary | 20 | 17 | 3(1) |
| Secondary | 4 | 0 | 4(3) |
| Special | 1 | 0 | 1 (1) |
| Total | 25 | 17 | 8 (7) |



Appendix 3 - individual schools that have or are considering conversion to academy status at December 2018.

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 | Company number | DfE code | Old DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|--|-------------------------|-------|-----------|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|---|---------------|--|
| Fitzharrys School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07931886 | 4127 | | 01/11/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Abingdon Learning Trust (ALT) |
| Wootton-by-Woodstock CE (Aided) Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3657 | | 01/10/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Sandhills Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 2022 | 2401 | 01/09/2018 | Sponsored converter brokered by | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Middle Barton Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 07966500 | 2151 | | 01/09/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Rose Hill Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 2023 | 2531 | 01/09/2018 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Maiden Erlegh Chiltern Edge | Chiltern Edge Community | Sec | 11-16 | 07548754 | 4013 | 4092 | 01/08/2018 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Maiden Erlegh Trust |
| Fir Tree Jun School | | Jun | 7-11 | 08143249 | 2578 | | 01/04/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Nicholas' CE Inf School & Foundation Stage unit (Wallingford) | | Inf | 3-6 | 08143249 | 3244 | | 01/04/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Witney Community Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 07966500 | 2302 | | 01/04/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Madley Brook Community Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 2002 | | 01/04/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Northbourne CofE Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 3852 | | 01/01/2018 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Mary's CE (VC) Primary (Banbury) | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 3022 | | 01/11/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Hill View Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 04439859 | 2056 | | 01/10/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |
| North Hinksey CofE Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 3237 | | 01/10/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Brightwell-Cum-Sotwell CofE (C) School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07727786 | 3221 | | 01/09/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Merchant Taylors Oxfordshire Academy Trust Ltd |
| Thameside Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07674473 | 2598 | | 01/08/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Kidmore End CE (Aided) Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 3807 | | 01/08/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Deddington CofE Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3452 | | 01/07/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Bishop Loveday CofE Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 9696059 | 3351 | | 01/06/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Dr Radcliffe's CofE School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3828 | | 01/06/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| South Moreton School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 2566 | | 01/06/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Horspath CofE Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 07966500 | 3161 | | 01/05/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Garsington CE Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 3167 | | 01/05/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| West Kidlington Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 08075785 | 2021 | 2110 | 01/05/2017 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | The White Horse Federation |
| Wroxton CE Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 3004 | | 01/04/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Edith Moorhouse Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 07966500 | 2255 | | 01/04/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Chalgrove Community Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 09591931 | 2452 | | 01/03/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| New Marston Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 07966500 | 2020 | 2529 | 01/02/2017 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Leaffield CofE Controlled Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3124 | | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Wood Green School | | Sec | 4-11 | 09591931 | 4052 | | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| Icknield Community College | | Sec | 3-11 | 09591931 | 4082 | | 01/02/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| Tackley CofE Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3144 | | 01/01/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Larkmead School | | Sec | 3-11 | 07674473 | 4125 | | 01/01/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Dr South's CE VA Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 3655 | | 01/01/2017 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | Company number | DfE code | Old DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|---|--------------------|-------|-----------|----------------|----------|--------------|-----------------|---|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Southwold Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08075785 | 2607 | | 01/04/2016 | Voluntary converter | MAT | The White Horse Federation |
| Brize Norton Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 2250 | | 01/03/2016 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St James, East Hanney | | Pri | 4-11 | 07674473 | 3225 | | 01/03/2016 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| William Morris Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07551959 | 2019 | 2059 | 01/02/2016 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | GLF Schools |
| St Mary's Infants, Witney | | Inf | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3207 | | 01/12/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Tower Hill Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 2303 | | 01/11/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Wolvercote Primary | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 2534 | | 01/11/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Burford Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 2251 | | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Finstock Church of England Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 8060721 | 3040 | | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Mill Academy |
| Queen Emma's Primary School | Queen's Dyke | Pri | 4-11 | 8060721 | 2304 | | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Mill Academy |
| The Batt CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3605 | | 01/10/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Bishop Carpenter CoFE (VA) | | Pri | 4-11 | 9696059 | 3302 | | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Hornton Primary School | | Pri | 2-11 | 9696059 | 2001 | | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 9696059 | 3005 | | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Matthew Arnold School | | Sec | 11-18 | 09591931 | 4128 | | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust |
| The Bicester School | Bicester Community | Sec | 11-18 | 0807909 | 4011 | 4030 | 01/08/2015 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Activate Learning Education Trust |
| The Warriner School | | Sec | 11-18 | 9696059 | 4007 | | 01/08/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Warriner Multi Academy Trust |
| Bampton CE Primary School | | Pri | 2-11 | 08143249 | 3131 | | 01/07/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| North Leigh CE Primary | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3128 | | 01/07/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Christopher's CoFE Primary School, Langford | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3555 | | 01/03/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Peter's CE School, Alvescot | | Pri | 4-6 | 08143249 | 3550 | | 01/03/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| The Blake CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3600 | | 01/03/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Meadowbrook College (PRU) | | Spec | 2-19 | 09334026 | 1106 | | 01/02/2015 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Radcliffe Academy Trust |
| Millbrook Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07674473 | 2016 | 2603 | 01/12/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Bayards Hill Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 8319810 | 2015 | 2521 | 01/10/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Community Schools Alliance Trust |
| St Nicholas CE Primary School, East Challow | | Pri | 4-11 | 07674473 | 3224 | | 01/10/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Blessed George Napier Catholic Secondary School | | Sec | 11-18 | 09113542 | 4600 | | 01/08/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC |
| Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 09113542 | 3420 | | 01/08/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC |
| St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Banbury | | Pri | 3-11 | 09113542 | 3825 | | 01/08/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC |
| Glory Farm Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 09053713 | 2211 | | 01/07/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Bicester Learning Academy |
| Hanborough Manor C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07939655 | 3147 | | 01/07/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| The Cooper School | | Sec | 11-18 | 09053713 | 4032 | | 01/07/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Bicester Learning Academy |
| Freeland C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07939655 | 3208 | | 01/06/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| St Peter's C of E Primary School, Cassington | | Pri | 3-11 | 07939655 | 3651 | | 01/06/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Standlake C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07939655 | 3127 | | 01/06/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Eynsham Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07939655 | 2013 | 2209 | 01/05/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Stanton Harcourt C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07939655 | 3130 | | 01/05/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Wheatley Park School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07966500 | 4077 | | 01/05/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Wheatley CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 2009 | 3165 | 01/03/2014 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| St Christopher's CE Primary School, Cowley | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 2010 | 3252 | 01/02/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | Company number | DfE code | Old DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|--|--|-----------|-----------|----------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---------------|--|
| John Mason Secondary School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07937886 | 4126 | | 01/02/2014 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Abingdon Learning Trust (ALT) |
| Grove CE Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3228 | | 01/12/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| The Hendreds CE Primary School, Wantage | | Pri | 4-11 | 08143249 | 3250 | | 01/12/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Buckland C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07977368 | 3222 | | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Cholsey Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 08722647 | 2596 | | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| John Blandy VC Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07977368 | 3230 | | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Longcot & Fernham C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07977368 | 3232 | | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Shrivenham C of E Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07977368 | 3239 | | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Watchfield Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07977368 | 2572 | | 01/11/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Charlton Primary School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07674473 | 2573 | | 01/10/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Wantage C of E Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07674473 | 3246 | | 01/10/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Abbey Woods Academy | Berinsfield Community Primary School | Pri | 3-11 | 07468210 | 2007 | 2461 | 01/09/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | CfBT Schools Trust |
| Orchard Meadow Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 04439859 | 2006 | 2539 | 01/08/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |
| Pegasus Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 04439859 | 2593 | | 01/08/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |
| Windale Community Primary School | | Pri | 2-11 | 04439859 | 2005 | 2606 | 01/08/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |
| Ladygrove Park Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 08517429 | 2609 | | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| Manor School, Didcot | | Pri | 4-11 | 08516551 | 2597 | | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| St Johns Primary School, Wallingford | | Pri | 4-11 | 008517255 | 2567 | | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| Willowcroft Community Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 08516562 | 3912 | | 01/06/2013 | Voluntary Converter | Umbrella | Oxfordshire Primary Education Network (OPEN) |
| Cuttleslowe Primary School | | Pri | 3-11 | 07966500 | 2004 | 2522 | 01/04/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Our Lady of Lourdes RC Primary, Witney | | Pri | 4-11 | 8453966 | 3822 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| Our Lady's RC Primary School, Cowley | | Pri | 4-11 | 8453966 | 3836 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St John Fisher RC Primary School, Littlemore | | Pri | 3-11 | 8453966 | 3839 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Joseph's RC Primary School, Carterton | | Pri | 3-11 | 8453966 | 3556 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Joseph's RC Primary School, Thame | | Pri | 4-11 | 8453966 | 3826 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Kidlington | | Pri | 3-11 | 8453966 | 3823 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| St Gregory The Great RC Secondary School | | All throu | 3-18 | 8453966 | 4145 | | 01/04/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAC | Dominic Barberi MAC |
| Fitzwaryn Special School | | Spec | 2-19 | 8340120 | 7027 | | 01/02/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Propeller Academy Trust |
| Harriers Banbury Academy | Harriers Ground Community Primary Sch | Pri | 3-11 | 7867577 | 2053 | | 01/02/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Aspirations Academy Trust (AAT) |
| Iffley Academy | Iffley Mead Special School, Isis Academy | Spec | 2-19 | 8334718 | 7018 | | 01/02/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Gallery Trust |
| Kingfisher Special School | | Spec | 2-19 | 8340120 | 7000 | 7032 | 01/02/2013 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | Propeller Academy Trust |
| Cheney Community College | | Sec | 11-18 | 8319810 | 4120 | | 01/01/2013 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Community Schools Alliance Trust |
| Gosford Hill School | | Sec | 11-18 | 08237106 | 4060 | | 01/11/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single conv | Gosford Hill School |
| The Marlborough C of E School | | Sec | 11-18 | 8194349 | 4560 | | 01/10/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single conv | The Marlborough Church of England School |
| Northern House Special School | | Spec | 2-19 | 8140768 | 7016 | | 01/09/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Northern House School Academy Trust |
| The John Henry Newman CE School | | Pri | 3-11 | 08143249 | 2000 | 2612 | 01/09/2012 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | Oxford Diocesan Schools Trust |
| Lord Williams's School | | Sec | 11-18 | 8154932 | 4580 | | 01/09/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Thame Partnership Academy Trust |

| Name of converted establishment | Previous name | Phase | Age range | Company number | DfE code | Old DfE code | Completion Date | Type of Conversion - Voluntary or Sponsored | Type of Trust | Trust / sponsor details |
|---------------------------------|--|-------|-----------|----------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|---|---------------|--|
| St Birinus School, Didcot | | Sec | 11-18 | 8104201 | 4129 | | 01/09/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Ridgeway Education Trust |
| Wykham Park Academy | Banbury School then Banbury Academy | Sec | 11-18 | 7867577 | 4000 | 4021 | 01/08/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Aspirations Academy Trust (AAT) |
| Didcot Girls' School | | Sec | 11-18 | 8104201 | 4139 | | 01/08/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Ridgeway Education Trust |
| Dashwood Banbury Academy | Dashwood Primary School | Pri | 3-11 | 7867577 | 2003 | 2592 | 01/08/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Aspirations Academy Trust (AAT) |
| Burford Secondary School | | Sec | 11-18 | 8082185 | 4040 | | 01/07/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single conv | Burford School |
| The Henry Box School | | Sec | 11-18 | 8060721 | 4050 | | 01/06/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Mill Academy |
| Faringdon Community College | | Sec | 11-18 | 7977368 | 4141 | | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Langtree School | | Sec | 11-16 | 07980335 | 4094 | | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single conv | The Langtree School Academy Trust |
| Faringdon Infant School | | Inf | 3-6 | 7977368 | 2561 | | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| Faringdon Junior School | | Jun | 7-11 | 7977368 | 2562 | | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Faringdon Academy of Schools (FAoS) |
| The Cherwell School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07966500 | 4116 | | 01/04/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Bartholomew School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07939655 | 4054 | | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Eynsham Partnership |
| Chipping Norton School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07966500 | 4010 | | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust |
| Gillotts School | | Sec | 11-16 | 07954417 | 4055 | | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | Single conv | Gillots School |
| Hanwell Fields Community School | | Pri | 3-11 | 04439859 | 3837 | | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |
| Rush Common School | | Pri | 4-11 | 07931886 | 2574 | | 01/03/2012 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Abingdon Learning Trust (ALT) |
| Wallingford School | | Sec | 11-18 | 07727786 | 4140 | | 01/09/2011 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Merchant Taylors Oxfordshire Academy Trust Ltd |
| King Alfred's Academy | King Alfred's Community & Sports College | Sec | 11-18 | 07674473 | 4142 | | 01/08/2011 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Vale Academy Trust |
| Oxford Spires Academy | Oxford School | Sec | 11-18 | 07468210 | 6907 | | 01/01/2011 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | CfBT Schools Trust |
| The Oxford Academy | | Sec | 11-18 | 06621108 | 6906 | | 01/09/2008 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | Single | The Oxford Academy Trust |
| North Oxfordshire Academy | | Sec | 11-18 | 04439859 | 6905 | | 01/09/2007 | Sponsored Academy brokered by | MAT | United Learning Trust (ULT) |

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 | Additional Comments |
|----------------------------------|-------|-----------|----------|----------------|----------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Oxfordshire Hospital School | Spec | 2-19 | 7017 | LEA | No Date | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Skylark Partnership | Delayed. Future date to be confirmed. |
| St John's Catholic Primary | Pri | 4-11 | 3350 | VA | No Date | Voluntary Converter | MAC | The Pope Francis MAC | Delayed. Future date to be confirmed. |
| Larkrise Primary School | Pri | 3-11 | 2543 | LEA | 01/02/2019 | Sponsored Academy brokered by DfE | MAT | River Learning Trust | |
| Stadhampton Primary | Pri | 4-11 | 2455 | LEA | 01/02/2019 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Acer Trust | |
| Hardwick CP School | Pri | 4-11 | 2060 | LEA | 01/02/2019 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | GLF | |
| Beckley CofE Primary | Pri | 4-11 | 3256 | VC | 01/04/2019 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | River Learning Trust | |
| Sutton Courtenay CofE Primary | Pri | 3-11 | 3243 | VC | 01/04/2019 | Voluntary Converter | MAT | Ridgeway Education Trust | Previously Didcot Academy of Schools. |
| Springfield School | Spec | 2-19 | 7012 | SP | TBC | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Gallery Trust | Previously The Iffley Academy Trust |
| Bardwell School | Spec | 11-19 | 7029 | SP | TBC | Voluntary Converter | MAT | The Gallery Trust | Previously The Iffley Academy Trust |

New schools since 2013:

| New open academies | Trust name / sponsor | DfE | No. of places | Type of Academy | Planned opening date | Opened | Age range | Phase | Additional information | Additional Comments |
|--|-----------------------------------|------|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|---|--|
| Tyndale Community Primary Free School | Chapel Street Community School | 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 | Languages school | |
| 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 (AA) | 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 | | |
| Bicester Technology Studio School | Activate Learning Education Trust | 4012 | 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 | | |
| Longford Park Primary, Banbury (Bankside) | GLF Schools | 2017 | 420 | Primary school academy | Sep-17 | 07/09/2017 | 4-11 | Pri | 39fte nursery for 2- and 3-year-olds. 6 places for specialist resourced provision - communication and interaction needs, physical or sensory needs. | To meet demand from new housing development. |
| The Aureus Secondary School, Great Western Park, Didcot | GLF Schools | 4004 | 1200 | Secondary school academy | Sep-17 | 11/09/2017 | 11-16 | Sec | GLF Schools - approved by SoS subject to funding agreement | To meet demand from new housing development in Great Western Park. Co-location with UTC (due to open 2015) |
| Gagle Brook Primary School (NW Bicester ecotown) | The White Horse Federation | | 210 | Primary school academy | Sep-18 | 01/09/2018 | 3-11 | Pri | 26fte nursery for 3-year-olds; EY accommodation may also provide option for 2-year-old places until school reaches full operating size. 8 places for specialist resourced provision - communication and interaction needs, physical or sensory needs. | To meet demand from new housing development. |
| Aureus Primary School, Great Western Park, Didcot (Formally Chalkhill) | GLF Schools | 2011 | 420 | Primary school academy | Sep-18 | 03/09/2018 | 3-11 | Pri | 26fte nursery for 3-year-olds | To meet demand from new housing development in Great Western Park. A private day nursery will be opened close to the first primary school - planned for 2018 |