

Title: Al Madinah Free School
Author: Department for Education (DfE)

Impact Assessment – Section 9 Academies Act Duty

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

Background

2. The Al Madinah Free School is a 4 – 16, co-educational Islamic faith all-through school. In September 2012, the school will be located in a temporary building (Norman House, Friary Street, Derby, DE1 1AN) until Midland House is ready in January 2013. It originally planned to open with an intake of 300 pupils (60 pupils in Reception, 60 in Year 1, 120 in Year 7 and 60 in Year 8). However, as the temporary building will only be able to accommodate around 270 pupils EFA have advised the Trust not to go over this number. The school will operate at full capacity from 2018. Once it reaches full capacity it will have 1,020 pupils.
3. We do not believe we need to assess the impact on local schools near Norman House as this site will be vacated in six months; the areas pupils will come from (Arboretum and Normanton) will not change as a result.
4. Once the school is at capacity it will be based on two sites. We are in discussion with the British Railways Board Residuary (BRBR) to acquire one of their sites in Derby to host the primary school. This site is located very close to Midland House. The BRBR site will host the primary school and Midland House will host the secondary school.
5. The proposer group are a mixture of teachers, local businessmen and health care professionals. The lead proposer, Ziad Amjad, is a teacher.

Catchment Area, its Characteristics and Admissions

6. It is highly likely that the school will attract pupils from the Arboretum and Normanton area. Derby City Council's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment – Demographic Profile (March 2011) suggests that demand for childcare may be higher in both Arboretum and Normanton compared to others wards. This is because both areas have a relatively high proportion of people aged 0-17 years. Demand may also increase over time as both Arboretum and Normanton have an increasing birth rate. The primary school population is projected to increase by 9.8% up to 2015/16. The secondary school population is projected to increase by 2.4% up to 2017/18 although it will decrease slightly over the next couple of years.
7. The school does not have a self-defined catchment area, although it hopes to draw pupils from Arboretum and Normanton area. We have used the postcode (DE1 2TZ) of Midland House for the purposes of the impact assessment. This is because Midland House will be used as the main school until 2013 or 2014. It should be

noted that the primary building is likely to be located about 700 yards away in Faraday & Hartley House, which is in DE24 8UP.

8. The average distance travelled in Derby by parents of primary pupils is 0.6 miles and for secondary it is 1.4 miles.
9. The school's admissions policy is fully compliant with the School Admissions Code. Admissions to Al Madinah Free School will not be based on a defined catchment area. Any applicant regardless of distance or location will be considered equally within the defined admissions criteria. However, if in any admissions period the school is oversubscribed the defined oversubscription criteria will be applied.
10. Where fewer applications than the published admission number for the relevant years are received the Al Madinah Trust will offer places at Al Madinah Free School to all those who have applied.
11. Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, after admitting pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs where Al Madinah Free School is named on the statement, under Section 324 of the Education Act 1996, the following criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:
 - Children who are in the care of a Local Authority as per section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
 - For admission to Year 7 only – pupils currently within the Al-Madinah Primary School.
12. After the allocation of criteria 1 and 2 above, where the number of applications is greater than the published number above, the criteria below will be used.

Category A - Faith Based Admissions

13. Up to 50% of the remaining places will be offered to children of the Muslim Faith. Pupils seeking admission under this category must comply with the Muslim Faith criteria.

Category B - Open Places Admissions

14. Up to 50% of the remaining places will be offered to children of any faith or none.
15. All applications that are not allocated a place under Category A will be added to and considered equally alongside all others in Category B.
16. Where in any year Al-Madinah School receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term after the beginning of the school year. Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out above. For clarity, separate waiting lists will be created for Category A and Category B. Places will be allocated from the relevant list should a place become available (i.e. if a non-faith place becomes available it will be filled from the non-faith waiting list and vice

versa). Only if there are no pupils on the relevant waiting list will the place be offered to the next pupil on the alternative list.

Local Authority View

17. Derby City Council was invited to provide their views on the Free School proposal. They responded to that invitation on 29 March. The LA did not have a strong view for or against the Free School. They stated that there are no particular concerns with the establishment of additional primary places, as they anticipate that the primary pupil numbers will be increasing. However, in terms of secondary places they believe that Al Madinah Free School may impact on existing schools with surplus capacity.
18. The LA also raised concern about the lack of playground space for the primary building and expressed some concerns about the admission arrangements for 2012/13 (the timing of the offer meant pupils were likely to have already accepted places at other schools) before the school moves into the LA co-ordinated admissions process.
19. The LA wrote to the Department again on 29 June to seek reassurance from the Department about the suitability of the temporary premises that will be used in September 2012. The Trust and EFA are working together to make sure that the building will be suitable for pupils. They are also submitting a planning permission application for the car park to be converted into an outside play area for the children. We wrote to the LA on 16 July to reassure them that EFA and the Trust will make sure this is in hand.

Representations

20. On 6 March the Department received an email from Paulette Low to say that she was in favour of the Al Madinah Free School proposal. Paulette Low worked as a supply teacher at Derby Moore Community and Sports College.
21. On 23 April the Department received a letter from Councillor Bob Troup, on behalf of Bemrose School Governors. He stated in his letter that the view was from the majority of the Governors, but it wasn't unanimous. The Governors were concerned that the Department had already made a decision to open this school before the Trust went out to consultation. They also expressed their concern about the Free School's impact on achievement, community cohesion and funds being diverted to the Free School from existing schools. We responded to them to address their concerns.
22. The Department has received a number of emails from the Derbyshire Humanists, who object to a faith school opening, for two main reasons. They think pupils at the Al-Madinah School will be de facto 100% from Muslim backgrounds despite claims otherwise, on the grounds that non-Muslim parents will not want to send their children to a Muslim school. They also think it is unfair to impose religion on children and that they will live and be educated in a religious bubble of parents, peers, schools and community since the Derby Pakistani community is very much self-segregated in terms of housing.

23. The proposed school and the members of the trust have been subject to a campaign run by a Muslim group (which we believe is associated with Hizb-ut Tahrir). The group set up a text campaign and wrote a report to discredit members of the Trust. Members of the Trust have also received threatening phone calls from this group. A member of this group has written several times to the Department. We invited them to provide specific information that we could feed into our Due Diligence checks but they have been unable to supply anything more than unsubstantiated allegations.
24. As part of their consultation, the Al Madinah Trust sent copies of their consultation document and questions to all nursery, primary and secondary schools in Derby. No responses were received from the schools, other than the letter from Bemrose School Governors. The first consultation closed on 23 April 2012.
25. The findings of the consultation showed there was strong support for the project amongst the stakeholders questioned; at no stage during the open days and liaison with interested parties did the proposers encounter direct criticism or opposition to the Al Madinah Free School proposal.
26. Of the 230 responses to the consultation, 92% were in favour of the school and 5% were against. Of the 5% against, the majority were concerned about the impact the new school will have on existing schools. There were some concerns that over a period of time the Al Madinah School may encourage religious segregation. Teachers' union representatives expressed their concerns that staff at the Free School may not be qualified and noted their objections to Free Schools as a principle.
27. The Trust named St Andrews House in their original consultation documents. As they could not secure the purchase of St Andrews House they had to go out to consultation again with details of their temporary site (Norman House). This consultation lasted two weeks (20 June to 4 July). The Trust notified everyone they contacted during their first consultation and published details of the second consultation on their website. They did not receive any response to its second consultation.

Impact on other schools

28. We have considered the impact the Free School may have on other primary and secondary schools. For primary schools we used a 1 mile radius and for secondary we used a 3 mile radius. This is because these are the maximum distances travelled to school by a significant majority of primary pupils and secondary pupils respectively in Derby. Below is a discussion of the likely impact on the nearest primary and schools to the proposed site.

Primary Schools:

29. Within the local area of the proposed Free School, it is expected that nine primary schools will feel a minimal impact and 5 schools will feel a moderate impact. We have determined that no school will feel a high impact on the opening of the proposed Free School.

Primary schools where the impact is likely to be minimal:

School name	Distance from Free School	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Surplus places as a proportion of total capacity	Level 4+ at KS2
Hardwick Primary School	0.14	540	528	2.2%	88%
Derby St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	0.24	100	104	-4.0%	N/A
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Derby	0.38	336	348	-3.6%	52%
Dale Community Primary School	0.4	525	544	-3.6%	81%
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	0.43	265	257	3.0%	74%
St James' Church of England Aided Infant School	0.46	90	84	6.7%	N/A
Pear Tree Infant School	0.46	257	267	-3.9%	N/A
Village Primary School	0.71	525	500	4.8%	71%
Bishop Lonsdale Church of England Aided Primary School and Nursery	0.75	182	191	-5.0%	30%

30. The nine schools above have been assessed as being minimally affected by the opening of the Free School. All but four currently have more pupils on their roll than their capacity. All are unlikely to lose a significant number of pupils to the Free School. Five are Christian faith schools, so are highly unlikely to lose pupils to a Muslim faith Free School.

Primary schools where the impact is likely to be moderate:

31. The impact of the Free School on the five primary schools below has been assessed as moderate, based on the fact that they all have surplus places.

School name	Distance from Free School (miles)	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Surplus places as a proportion of total capacity	Level 4+ at KS2 most recent
Arboretum Primary School	0.09	312	305	2.2%	45%
Rosehill Infant and Nursery School	0.44	153	145	5.2%	N/A
Pear Tree Community Junior School	0.46	348	302	13.2%	81%
Firs Estate Primary School	0.62	315	228	27.6%	33%
Becket Primary School	0.72	202	172	14.9%	26%

Arboretum Primary School

32. Arboretum Primary school is located less than the average distance travelled to primary school in Derby (0.6 miles) so in principle is likely to lose more pupils to the new Free School than schools further away. Additionally, it has attainment below the national average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
33. However, the school was oversubscribed for entry in 2010/11 so even if it does lose some potential pupils to the proposed Free School, it should still be able to fill most, if not all, of its places. Additionally, the primary school aged population is projected to increase over the next few years so any potential negative impact may be mitigated by an increased demand for primary school places in the local area. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of Arboretum Primary, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Rosehill Infant and Nursery School

34. Rosehill Infant and Nursery school is located less than the average distance travelled to primary school in Derby (0.6 miles) so in principle is likely to lose more pupils to the new Free School than schools further away. The school has been rated as 'satisfactory' by Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
35. The school has a moderate level of surplus of places (5.2% of total capacity). The loss of additional pupils to the new school may exacerbate the existing surplus issue. However, the school was oversubscribed for entry in September 2011 so even if it does lose some potential pupils to the proposed Free School, it should still be able to fill most, if not all, of its places in reception. Additionally, the primary school aged population is projected to increase over the next few years so any potential negative impact may be mitigated by an increased demand for primary school places in the local area. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of Rosehill, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Pear Tree Community Junior School

36. Pear Tree Community Junior school is located less than the average distance travelled to primary school in Derby (0.6 miles) so in principle is likely to lose more pupils to the new Free School than schools further away. Its attainment level is above the national average. However, the school has been rated as 'satisfactory' by Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
37. The school has a large surplus of places (13.2% of total capacity). The loss of additional pupils to the new school may exacerbate the existing surplus issue. However, the school was oversubscribed for entry in September 2011 so even if it does lose some potential pupils to the proposed Free School, it should still be able to fill most, if not all, of its places in Year 3 (the entry year for the school). Additionally, the primary school aged population is projected to increase over the next few years

so any potential negative impact may be mitigated by an increased demand for primary school places in the local area. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of Pear Tree, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Firs Estate Primary School

38. Firs Estate Primary school is located just above the average distance travelled to primary school in Derby (0.6 miles) so in principle is likely to lose fewer pupils to the new Free School than schools closer by. However, it has attainment well below the national average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
39. The school has a large surplus of places (27.6% of total capacity). The loss of additional pupils to the new school may exacerbate the existing surplus issue. However, the school was oversubscribed for entry in September 2011 so even if it does lose some potential pupils to the proposed Free School, it should still be able to fill most, if not all, of its places in reception. Additionally, the primary school aged population is projected to increase over the next few years so any potential negative impact may be mitigated by an increased demand for primary school places in the local area. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of Firs Estate school, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Becket Primary School

40. Becket Primary school is located above the average distance travelled to primary school in Derby (0.6 miles) so in principle likely to lose fewer pupils to the new Free School than schools closer by. However, it has attainment well below the national average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
41. The school has a large surplus of places (14.9% of total capacity). The loss of additional pupils to the new school may exacerbate the existing surplus issue. However, the school was oversubscribed for entry in September 2011 so even if it does lose some potential pupils to the proposed Free School, it should still be able to fill most, if not all, of its places in reception. Additionally, the primary school aged population is projected to increase over the next few years so any potential negative impact may be mitigated by an increased demand for primary school places in the local area. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of Becket school, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Secondary schools:

42. Within the local area of the proposed Free School, it is expected that five secondary schools will feel a minimal impact; two will feel a moderate impact; one will feel a

moderate/high impact and four schools will feel a high impact on the opening of the proposed Free School.

Secondary schools where the impact is likely to be minimal:

43. The impact of the Free School on the five schools below has been assessed as minimal, based on the fact that all except one have a deficit of places and have attainment levels above the LA average. Saint Benedict is a Catholic faith school, so it is highly unlikely to lose pupils to a Muslim faith school.

School name	Distance from Free School	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Surplus places as a proportion of total capacity	Level 4+ at KS4 most recent
Landau Forte College	1.32	1025	1141	-11.3%	64%
Littleover Community School	2.06	1,342	1,505	-12.2%	83%
Saint Benedict Catholic School and Performing Arts College	2.43	1,379	1,474	-6.9%	55%
West Park School	2.9	1,350	1,293	4.2%	78%
Lees Brook Community Sports College	2.92	1,147	1,171	-2.1%	62%

Secondary schools where the impact is likely to be moderate:

44. The impact of the Free School on the two schools below has been assessed as moderate, due to their having high levels of surplus and/or below average attainment and/or poor Ofsted ratings.

School name	Distance from Free School	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Surplus places as a proportion of total capacity	Percentage of pupils achieving Level 2 (5+ GCSEs or equivalent at A*-C) including English and maths GCSEs or iGCSEs
Derby Moor Community Sports College	1.75	1361	1338	1.7%	50%
da Vinci Community College	2.63	750	634	15.5%	40%

Derby Moor Community Sports College

45. Derby Moor Community Sports College is located just above the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle is likely to lose

fewer pupils to the new Free School than schools closer by. However, it has attainment below the national and LA average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.

46. However, the school was oversubscribed for entry in September 2011 so even if it did lose some potential pupils to the new Free School, it should still be able to fill most, if not all, of its places. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of Derby Moor, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School. The Minister should note that Derby Moor is the main proposer of the Derby Pride AP Free School, due to open in September 2012.

da Vinci Community College

47. da Vinci Community College is located over one mile above the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle it is likely to lose fewer pupils to the new Free School than schools closer by. However, it has attainment well below the local authority average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
48. Although the school has a high surplus of places (15.5% of total capacity) it filled almost of its places for entry in September 2011 so even if it did lose some potential pupils to the new school, it should still be able to fill most of its places. Additionally given the distance from the Free School, the loss of pupils is expected to be limited. We therefore do not expect the opening of this Free School to impact on the long-term viability of da Vinci, especially as the latter is a non-faith school so some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Secondary school where the impact is likely to be moderate/high:

49. The impact of the Free School on Murray Park Community School has been assessed as moderate/high, because it has a high level of surplus and below average attainment. However, the impact has not been rated as high because attainment is only just under the LA average, Ofsted have assessed it as improving and the school is located over two miles from the proposed Free School, all of which is expected to limit to some extent the loss of pupils to the new Free School.

School name	Distance from Free School	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Surplus places as a proportion of total capacity	Percentage of pupils achieving Level 2 (5+ GCSEs or equivalent at A*-C) including English and maths GCSEs or iGCSEs
Murray Park Community School	2.29	1100	948	13.8%	53%

Murray Park Community School

50. Murray Park Community

School is located almost a mile above the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle is likely to lose fewer pupils to the new Free School than schools closer by. However, it has attainment just below the local average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.

51. The school was undersubscribed for entry in 2010/2011. The loss of even a few pupils could exacerbate the existing surplus issue in this school and there could be a significant impact on the school's overall attainment, viability and capacity to improve. It is unlikely that any negative impact will be mitigated by an increased demand for secondary school places in the local area over the next few years as the secondary school aged population is projected to remain relatively stable.
52. Against that in October 2011, Ofsted observed that the school was making good progress and that it was improving year on year, which might attract mean some parents choose this school over the Free School, which does not have a track record as yet. In addition, as Murray Park is a non-faith school some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.
53. Overall, whilst the loss of pupils to the Free School may hamper Murray Park's capacity to carry on making improvements, especially if the school loses pupils at the higher end of the ability spectrum, the school's long term viability is unlikely to be impacted significantly, given that over time the secondary population is set to increase and it is a relatively large school.

Secondary school where the impact is high:

54. The impact of the Free School on the four schools below has been assessed as high, based on the fact that all have high surplus places and are underperforming on a consistent basis.

School	Distance from Free School	Capacity	Pupils on roll	Surplus / Deficit	% 5A*-C incl Eng and Maths 2009 (incl equivalents)	% 5A*-C incl Eng and Maths 2010(incl equivalents)	% 5A*-C incl Eng and Maths 2011 (incl equivalents)
Bemrose School	1.11	900	725	19.44%	25%	37%	28%
Merrill College	1.99	1330	1000	24.8%	N/A	N/A	32%
Sinfin Community School	2.39	1105	891	19.4%	23%	26%	37%
Noel-Baker Community School and Language College	2.42	1665	1259	24.9%	33%	39%	34%
LA average					46%	55%	57%
National average					51%	55%	58%

Bemrose School

55. Bemrose School is the closest school to the proposed Free School, located less than the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle is likely to lose more pupils to the new Free School than schools further away. Additionally, it has attainment significantly below the local authority average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
56. The school was undersubscribed for entry in 2010/2011 and has an existing surplus of places of 19% of total capacity. The loss of even a few pupils could exacerbate the existing surplus issue in this school and there could be a significant impact on the school's overall attainment, viability and capacity to improve. It is unlikely that any negative impact will be mitigated by an increased demand for secondary school places in the local area over the next few years as the secondary school aged population is projected to remain relatively stable.
57. The school has a very challenging intake (32% FSM, 20% with special needs, and 57% EAL) which may make it hard for them to improve their headline attainment and thus increase their attractiveness to parents. The largest ethnic group in this school is Pakistanis – 39% compared to 27% White British. It is highly likely that this group will be more likely to move to the new Al Madinah Free School. However, as Bemrose is a non-faith school some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.
58. Overall, the long term viability of this school could be impacted by the Free School, bearing in mind its close proximity to the Free School, its large number of surplus places and relatively small size.

Merrill College

59. Merrill College is located above the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle is likely to lose fewer pupils to the new Free School than schools closer by. The school was re-opened in September 2010 in partnership with Derby College. It has a new leadership team and a new governing body. It is an average-sized mixed comprehensive school.
60. The large majority of students are White British (70%). The proportion of students from minority ethnic backgrounds is broadly average, with only 4% classified as Pakistani. Therefore, it is less likely to lose pupils to a Muslim faith school. However, its attainment is well below the local authority average and only a 'satisfactory' Ofsted, so parents may be attracted to an alternative. Although this may be only limited to the 4% Pakistani population of the school.
61. The school was significantly undersubscribed for entry in 2010/2011 and already almost 25% of its places are surplus. The loss of even a few pupils could exacerbate this surplus places issue and there could be a significant impact on the school's overall attainment, viability and capacity to improve. It is unlikely that any negative impact will be mitigated by an increased demand for secondary school places in the local area over the next few years as the secondary school aged population is projected to remain relatively stable.

Sinfin Community School

62. Sinfin Community School is located above the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle it is unlikely to lose pupils to the new Free School. It became a National Challenge Trust school in April 2010, and acquired a new governing body. It is similar in size to most secondary schools. Many of the new governors are also governors of Chellaston Academy, which contributes support for Sinfin's leaders and managers.
63. The proportion of students known to be eligible for free school meals is much higher than the national average. The proportion of students from minority ethnic backgrounds is higher than the national average and the proportion of those whose first language is not English is also high. Over half the students are White British, the next biggest groups are of Indian and Pakistani heritage.
64. Its attainment level is well below the local authority average and it was given a notice to improve by Ofsted in February 2012. The follow up inspection in June 2012 found progress since the school previous inspection has been inadequate. It is highly likely parents may be attracted to an alternative, especially those of Pakistani origin who are also likely to be Muslims.
65. The school was undersubscribed for entry in 2010/2011 and already almost 20% of its places are surplus. The loss of even a few pupils could exacerbate this surplus places issue and there could be a significant impact on the school's overall attainment, viability and capacity to improve. It is unlikely that any negative impact will be mitigated by an increased demand for secondary school places in the local area over the next few years as the secondary school aged population is projected to remain relatively stable.

Noel-Baker Community School and Language College

66. Noel-Baker Community School and Language College is located one mile above the average distance travelled to secondary school in Derby (1.4 miles) so in principle it is likely to lose fewer pupils to the new Free than schools closer by. However, it has attainment well below the local authority average and has been given a notice to improve by Ofsted in February 2012, so parents may be attracted to an alternative.
67. The school was undersubscribed for entry in 2010/2011. The loss of some pupils could exacerbate the existing surplus issue in this school and there could be a significant impact on the school's overall attainment and capacity to improve. It is unlikely that any negative impact will be mitigated by an increased demand for secondary school places in the local area over the next few years as the secondary school aged population is projected to remain relatively stable.
68. However, the Free School is unlikely to impact on Noel Baker's long term viability, bearing in mind that the latter is larger than the average secondary school, the vast majority of students are from White British backgrounds, and as a non-faith school some parents wanting to send their children to it may not be interested in a faith Free School.

Impact on Special Schools, Alternative Provision and FE institutions

69. Al Madinah Free School will be admitting children in Reception and Yr1, Y7 and Yr8 in September 2012. Thereafter, it will have an intake of 60 pupils in Reception and 60 in Yr7. It will have no specialist SEN provision but will work to accommodate the needs of pupils where the school is named in their statement of SEN. As such, it is unlikely to have any direct impact on local Special and Alternative Provision schools.
70. It is unlikely that they will have an impact on post-16 and FE institutions as the Free School is not planning on offering these services at their school.

Conclusion

71. The impact on local primary schools should be no more than moderate as any impact is likely to be spread across a large number of schools. This should be offset by the projected 9.8% growth in the primary population by 2015/16.
72. In terms of impact on secondary schools, Al Madinah is likely to have most impact on Bemrose School due to the latter's underachievement, close proximity relatively small size and the relatively large proportion of Pakistani Muslim pupils attending the school.
73. The opening of Al Madinah may also have a high impact on Sinfin Community School, as it performs poorly and also serves a high proportion of the Pakistani community who are likely to find the offer of Al Madinah attractive.
74. Although the impact on Merrill College and Noel-Baker Community School and Language College have been rated as high, they are unlikely to lose too many pupils from their schools, except perhaps their small minority of Pakistani pupils, so their long term viability should not be significantly affected.

The secondary population in Derby is due to stay relatively steady over the next few years until the growing primary population moves on to secondary schools. Over time the opening of Al Madinah Free School is likely to have a positive impact on the secondary sector by helping to meet the need for extra places in light of the expected increase in the secondary population in a few years' time and by providing additional competition that should serve to drive improvements by other schools.