

1/31/2017

## **Jewish Secondary Schools announce further places**

Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of the mainstream Jewish secondary schools, Hasmonean High School, Immanuel College, JCoSS, JFS, Kantor King Solomon and Yavneh College, met in advance of the first round of offers for Year 7 entry 2017 which will take place in March. The meeting was convened by Pajes (Partnerships for Jewish schools) and was an opportunity for the schools to plan effectively for the anticipated increase in student numbers.

As a direct outcome of these on-going talks, the assembled schools have begun to make strategic and collaborative plans to help meet projected increases in demand.

Following the creation of a bulge class at Yavneh College in September 2016, it is anticipated that there will be need for one and perhaps two additional classes across the sector in September 2017. It has been confirmed that JCoSS will offer 30 extra places for 2017, and JFS is also in a position to offer an additional bulge class should the need arise.

In order to help address the longer term needs of the community, the schools have agreed to a community wide strategy for increasing provision which includes both maximizing the uptake across all our Jewish Secondary schools, the proposed redevelopment of Hasmonean High School, and the potential for long term expansion of the existing Jewish secondary schools.

This would ensure the most efficient use of the community's educational resources and is subject to approval and funding. PaJeS and the schools will now approach the DfE and the local authorities for their support.

**Deborah Lipkin**, JFS Executive Headteacher and **Patrick Moriarty**, JCoSS Headteacher issued a joint statement saying "With the support of our governing and foundation bodies, we are committed to increasing the capacity of Jewish school places for September 2017. Whilst we could never make certain that every Jewish student who wants a place in a Jewish school is guaranteed a place, the increased flexibility should drastically reduce the number of families who are unsuccessful.

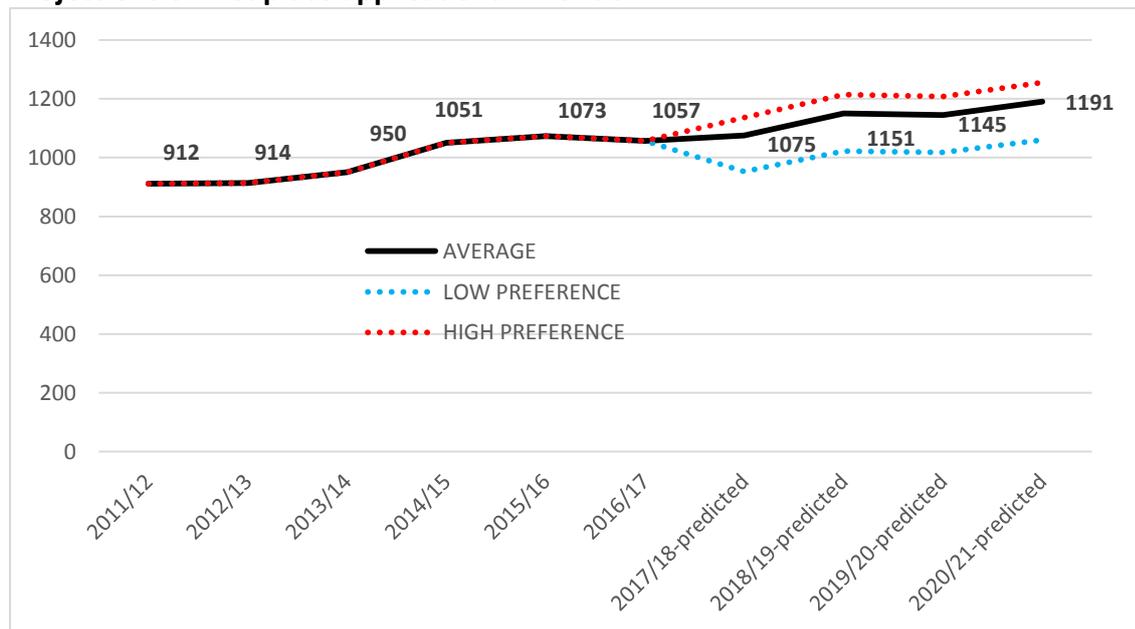
We will continue to work with our colleagues at other Jewish schools to effectively plan for the future.

The level of communication between the Jewish schools is unprecedented and this bodes well for the future of the sector."

**Rabbi David Meyer**, Executive Director of PaJeS said; “Our community’s schools are among the top performing schools in the country. This proposal will enable development founded on this expertise and ensure a cost effective long term provision for our children.

“It is a reflection of the determination and community spirit of our school leaders that a solution has been found that will see our schools collaborate in order to best ensure that every Jewish child has a place in a Jewish school.”

**Projections of first place applications in London**



JPR – PAJES REPORT June 2016