



8 th October 2021	Our ref:	PA/TW/AT
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Headteachers & Chairs of Governors of all Maintained Schools
Neighbouring Local Authorities
Worcester Diocesan Board of Education
Church of England Diocese Birmingham
Birmingham Diocesan Schools Commission
Chair of the Worcestershire Association of Governors
Trade Unions
SENDIASS

Dear Colleagues

**Consultation on Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary
Controlled schools for the Academic Year 2022-2023**

The County Council is consulting on a change to the admissions policy approved by Cabinet in February 2021. The current approved arrangements can be found here [Community or Voluntary Controlled Schools 2022 | Worcestershire County Council](#)

The County Council is consulting on extending the current arrangements in relation to waiting lists, where currently parents currently must renew their request to be placed onto the waiting list each term, the consultation is to extend the period a child remains on the waiting list to the whole of the relevant academic year. The proposal can be viewed here [Consultation on Proposed Admission Policies 2023/2024 Academic Year | Consultation on Proposed Admission Policies 2023/2024 Academic Year | Worcestershire County Council](#)

**Proposed Changes of Age Range, Enlargement of Premises, and Amalgamation of
Schools in Pershore**

All schools in the Pershore pyramid have agreed to consult on the proposal for an area-wide transition to a two-tier system of education, however, there is no single decision-making body that can legally agree such a change for all schools. The Local Authority in their capacity as Education Authority, have agreed to coordinate this consultation, but are not able to solely determine these changes. The proposed changes are available here [Pershore Education Planning Area Review | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Published Admission Number changes (PAN)

The County Council wishes to consult on the reduction of the Published Admission Number (PAN) at the following Community and Voluntary Controlled school:

Crothorne with Charlton CE First School – the Governing Body wish to consult on reducing the PAN from 18 to 15. The intention is to move to a mixed class structure, in line with the Infant Class Size legislation, which the Governing Body believe will assist in future financial sustainability.

We would also draw your attention to those Academy, Foundation, Free or Voluntary Aided schools that may also be consulting on a PAN reduction or a PAN increase that requires statutory approval.

Fladbury CE First School – the Governing Body wish to consult on reducing the PAN from 20 to 15 as part of the area-wide transition to a two-tier system of education in Pershore. The intention is to have a mixed class structure, in line with the Infant Class Size legislation, and to allow for the proposed conversion to primary school without the need for additional accommodation. Please respond directly to the Governing Body at the school on this proposal.

The proposals on PAN reductions can be viewed here [Consultation on Proposed Admission Policies 2023/2024 Academic Year | Consultation on Proposed Admission Policies 2023/2024 Academic Year | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Admission Authorities are not required to consult on an increase to the PAN if the school has the accommodation. However, there is still a statutory requirement to consult on an increase to the size of a school where the increase is 30 places and by more than 25% of the existing accommodation.

Academies will need to seek permission from the Regional Schools Commissioner to vary their PAN and funding agreements. Additional accommodation required at any school to meet any Basic Need and any projects connected to that will need to be included in the capital investment plan.

Information on any additional PAN increases that require statutory increases as part of the Pershore area wide transition to two-tier can be found here [Pershore Education Planning Area Review | Worcestershire County Council](#)

This will apply at the following schools:

Pinvin CE First School
St Barnabas CE First & Middle School
Pershore High School

The PAN changes will be published in the Information for Parents Book 2023, which when published can be found at [School Admissions Booklet and Guides | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Admission Policy for Academy (A), Foundation (FO), Free (FR) and Voluntary Aided (VA) Schools.

All Academy, Foundation, Free and Voluntary Aided schools must consult on their proposed Admission Policies, where there is a change from the policy their Governors/Trusts approved for 2022. A copy of the proposed arrangements for Academy, Foundation, Free and Voluntary Aided schools can be found at: [Consultation on Proposed Admission Policies 2023/2024 Academic Year | Consultation on Proposed Admission Policies 2023/2024](#)

[Academic Year | Worcestershire County Council](#) , the individual school's website or from the schools' offices. A public notice has been placed in the free local press to this effect.

Where there is no change from the determined policy approved for 2022, and no objections were received to that policy, those admission authorities need not consult for 2023.

Any comments on Academy, Foundation, Free and Voluntary Aided school policies should be directed to the schools themselves.

Co-ordinated Admission Arrangements and Dates

Local Authorities are required, to operate a co-ordinated admissions scheme for the normal admissions round for all schools. Under the scheme, LA's are required to coordinate with neighbouring authorities, and all admission authorities within their area to ensure that **only one offer of a school place** is awarded to pupils.

The proposed schemes can be viewed at: [Co-ordinated Schemes for all Worcestershire Schools | Worcestershire County Council](#). These are similar to the schemes implemented for the last few academic years.

Timescales for this consultation

Consultation will run from **11 October 2021 to 26 November 2021**, a response is invited from any interested parties.

Responses to the Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools Admission Policy, PAN reductions at those schools and the Co-ordinated Schemes are required by 12 pm on Friday 26 November 2021.

They should be sent by e-mail to ataylor4@worcschildrenfirst.org.uk

Or by post to: Admission Arrangements Consultation, School Admissions, Worcestershire Children First, County Hall, Spetchley Road, Worcester, WR5 2NP.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Amanda Taylor of myself.

Yours sincerely



Tracey Wilson
Mainstream School Admissions Manager