



12 October 2020	Our ref:	PA/TW/AT
	Contact:	Amanda Taylor
	Tel:	01905 844284

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 changes to the admissions policy which was approved by Cabinet in February 2020. The arrangements that Cabinet approved for 2021 to 2022, are available to view at the following link:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/1413/community_or_voluntary_controlled_schools_2021

The County Council, in conjunction with the Governing Body of Wolverley CE Secondary School, are consulting on removing the statement in the current arrangements in relation to oversubscription at Wolverley CE Secondary School. The current arrangements state:

In the event of oversubscription at Wolverley CE Secondary School up to a maximum of 10% of places will be awarded to children living in the Wyre Forest District Council area whose parents have specifically asked for a place for reasons of religious affiliation. The definition of religious affiliation would be in line with the criteria for other CE Voluntary Aided schools in the County:

- *Active members of a Church of England church:*

*(Active members are those that have attended church at least once a month for a period of at least 12 months prior to the application. **Confirmation of attendance is required to be submitted with your application and must be in writing from the minister)***

The arrangements have been in place since 2007 and there have been no applications submitted on the above grounds to date.

The Governing Body of Wolverley CE Secondary are fully committed to providing an environment which has a Christian ethos, that provides a fully inclusive education for all pupils irrespective of faith or belief. The Local Authority is therefore seeking any comments on the proposal to remove the religious affiliation from the admission arrangements for Wolverley CE Secondary School.

Published Admission Number changes (PAN)

The County Council wishes to consult on the reduction of the Published Admission Number (PAN) at several its Community and Voluntary Controlled schools. 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. The details on all the proposals can be viewed at the following link:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/1413/community_or_voluntary_controlled_schools_2021

The Governing Body of Flyford Flavell Primary School in Pershore wish to reduce the PAN of the school, in light of the school's conversion from a first school to a primary school. The reduction would ensure that the school is able to teach 7-year groups across the school, without the need for any additional accommodation. The Local Authority is therefore seeking any comments on the proposal to reduce to a PAN of 15 from the current PAN of 22.

The Governing Body/Academy Trust of St George's CE First School in Redditch wish to reduce the PAN due to falling numbers and to ensure financial sustainability. The school is therefore seeking any comments on the proposal to reduce to a PAN of 30 from the current PAN of 45.

The Governing Body/Academy Trust of Northleigh CE Primary School in Malvern wish to reduce the PAN due to falling numbers and to ensure financial sustainability. The school is therefore seeking any comments on the proposal to reduce to a PAN of 30 from the current PAN of 45.

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.

The PAN changes will be published in the Information for Parents Book 2022 which when published can be found at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

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 2021. A copy of the proposed arrangements for Academy, Foundation, Free and Voluntary Aided schools can be found at:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/1458/2022_to_2023_policies_for_a_n_academy_foundation_free_or_voluntary_aided_school 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 2021, and no objections were received to that policy, those admission authorities need not consult for 2022.

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:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/1459/consultation_2022_to_2023_co-ordinated_admission_arrangements . These are similar to the schemes implemented for the last few academic years.

Consultation will run from **12th October 2020 to 4th December 2020**, a response is invited from all interested parties.

The consultation response form can be found at:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20632/school_admissions_policies_and_appeals/2292/admissions_policies_2022_to_2023_consultation **all responses will be collated and reported to Cabinet.**

Timescales for this consultation

Responses are required by Friday 4th December 2020. 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 or myself.

Yours sincerely



Tracey Wilson

Mainstream Admissions Manager