

Cabinet Member Delegated Decision Form

Decision Title

Determination of Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools 2024/25 & Coordinated Admissions Scheme 2024/25

Decision Date

28/02/2023

Decision Summary

To approve the admission arrangements relating to admissions to community and voluntary controlled schools set out in the Appendices.

The School Admissions Code sets out that the local authority must determine its admission arrangements for the community and voluntary schools for which it is the admission authority and adopt a coordinated admissions scheme by 28 February each year.

Appendix 1 contains two documents:

a) The 2024/25 admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools including the coordinated admission scheme for primary and secondary schools for 2024/25.

Admission arrangements set out how children will be admitted to a school, and the criteria that will be applied if there are more applications than places at the school. There were no changes proposed to the oversubscription criteria that were determined for admissions in 2023/24.

The coordinated admissions scheme contains the arrangements for the admission of pupils to schools in Staffordshire, so that parents applying for a place at the normal age of entry, do so to their home local authority (irrespective of where the school might be) and receive one offer of a school place. It includes details of arrangements for data sharing both with other neighbouring local authorities and with own admission authority schools in Staffordshire.

There are no changes made to the proposed arrangements for 2024/2025 following the consultation period.

Member Delegated Function

General Delegation to Cabinet Member - Section 6 of the Constitution

Specific Delegation to Cabinet Member

If 'Specific Delegation to Cabinet Member' is selected above, please complete this section.

Public / Exempt

If the decision is exempt, please tick the relevant paragraph number. Hover over each number to reveal the Exemption Paragraph.

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Options Considered

Changes made following the consultation period are detailed in the relevant appendix of the final arrangements.

Consultation Process

These proposals have been consulted on in line with the requirements of the School Admissions Code including all governing bodies of community and voluntary controlled schools, schools who are their own admissions authority, neighbouring local authorities as well as parents, early years providers and parish councils.

Electoral Divisions Affected

All

Name of Cabinet Member Making Decision:

Jonathan Price

Community Impact Assessment

Key Issues

In addition to children who are in public care, the oversubscription criteria gives higher priority to children for school places who are able to demonstrate that their exceptional medical or social circumstances merit it.

Giving higher priority to children with older siblings in attendance at the preferred school will make it easier for families to attend the same school and reduce the possibility of attendance issues for those families that have been split.

Resource and Value for Money Analysis

The Local Authority has a duty to ensure the efficient use of resources when determining published admission numbers and they have been proposed with this duty in mind.

Risk Analysis

Failure to determine admission arrangements could attract an objection to and investigation by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator. If a coordinated admissions scheme is not adopted then the Secretary of State may make and impose a scheme on the local authority.

Legal Analysis

The proposed admission arrangements and qualifying scheme for coordinated admission arrangements comply with the Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) Regulations 2012, made under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Education Act 1996, and with the School Admissions Code.

Implementation

Is any implementation action required?

Yes No

To be implemented by: School Admissions and Transport Service

Implementation Status

Work to commence on: 23/01/2023
Work in progress: Click or tap to enter a date.
Work completed on date below: Click or tap to enter a date.

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