



Cabinet Meeting

11 March 2015

Report title

School Admission Arrangements - 2016/2017

Decision designation	AMBER	
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Phil Page Schools, Skills and Learning	
Key decision	Yes	
In forward plan	Yes	
Wards affected	All	
Accountable director	Dr James McElligott - Education	
Originating service	School Places and Transport	
Accountable employee(s)	Bill Hague	Service Manager - School Places and Transport
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Report to be/has been considered by		

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve the co-ordinated admission schemes for secondary and primary school admissions at the normal year of entry for 2016/17 and notify the Secretary of State accordingly by 15 April 2015.
2. Approve the proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2016/17.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 To approve the schemes for co-ordinated school admission arrangements for secondary and primary schools and the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for 2016/17.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 In accordance with legislation and the School Admissions Code, each Local Authority (LA) is required to draw up a scheme (or schemes) for co-ordinating admission arrangements for all mainstream, maintained schools (community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided, foundation and academies) within their area.
- 2.2 In addition, each Admission Authority is required to review their admission arrangements annually and to consult on their proposed admission arrangements. The Local Authority's responsibility in this regard is for the Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools in Wolverhampton. For academies the academy trust(s) are the admitting authority not the LA, however some academies follow LA admission arrangements. Where no significant changes are proposed to admission arrangement a formal consultation is required only every seven years

3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.

- 3.1 Since their introduction the Authority's schemes have been amended each year and they have worked well. During previous consultations no comments, objections or concerns have been raised. There are only minor changes proposed for the 2016/2017 admissions round, to dates and to the allocation activities timetables, so consultation has not been required this year.
- 3.2 The LAs within the West Midlands and beyond operate an inter-LA scheme for primary and secondary admissions. There are no proposals to change the schemes in this regard.
- 3.3 The proposed schemes are set out in Appendices 1 and 2.
- 3.4 For 2016/2017 the Local Authority will maintain waiting lists for primary schools including year two to three transfers and secondary schools until 31 December 2016.
- 3.5 During the Autumn term 2014, Governors were asked to consider their recommendations in respect of their school's Planned Admission Number (PAN). There is one proposed change to PAN for 2016/17 – to increase the PAN of Moreton Community School from 135 to 140.

4.0 Financial implications

- 4.1 The Schools Admissions services is funded largely through the Dedicated Schools Grant as an approved centrally managed service. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report [MF/02032015/G]

5.0 Legal implications

- 5.1 School admission arrangements are heavily regulated by the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as amended by the Education and Skills Act 2008. Regulations also apply and the Local Authority is required to comply with the School Admissions Code in relation to admission arrangements.
- 5.2 The Schemes for co-ordinated admissions and the Admission arrangements for Wolverhampton community schools, voluntary controlled schools, free schools and academies comply with the current relevant legislation.
- 5.3 The Authority must notify the Secretary of State that a co-ordinated scheme for admissions in 2016 has been adopted by the 15 April 2015.
[TS/25022015/Q]

6.0 Equalities implications

- 6.1 Initial screening was carried out (equality analysis – stage one – initial analysis) and no significant impacts have been highlighted.

7.0 Environmental implications

- 7.1 The report has no environmental implications.

8.0 Human resources implications

- 8.1 There are no human resource implications from this report.

9.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications from this report.

10.0 Schedule of background papers

- 10.1 School Admissions Code 2014 and School Admissions Regulations 2012.