

Surrey County Council

Proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools September 2017

Introduction

Surrey County Council is consulting on:

- the admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2017
- proposed changes to admission arrangements for some community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2017
- a proposed change to Surrey's coordinated scheme for primary admissions

Where changes are proposed, further details are set out in this document.

A copy of the proposed admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools, along with the coordinated schemes and an equality impact assessment, are set out in the following documents, with changes highlighted in bold:

Enclosure 1	Admission arrangements for community & voluntary controlled schools
APPENDIX 1	Published admission numbers
APPENDIX 2	Schools to operate shared sibling priority
APPENDIX 3	Schools to be considered to admit local children
APPENDIX 4	Catchment map for Southfield Park Primary School
APPENDIX 5	Catchment map for Woodmansterne Primary School
APPENDIX 6	Catchment map for Tatsfield Primary School
APPENDIX 7	Catchment map for St Andrew's CofE Controlled Infant School
Enclosure 2	Primary and secondary coordinated schemes
Enclosure 3	Equality impact assessment

What changes are being proposed?

1. Beacon Hill Primary School – Waverley

For September 2017, the local authority intends to introduce a Year 3 intake of 2 for Beacon Hill Primary School, in addition to its existing intake of 30 at Reception. Whilst this additional intake is not subject to consultation, the local authority must consult on the admission criteria that it proposes to introduce for this intake.

It is therefore proposed to introduce admission criteria for Year 3 in September 2017, as follows:

- a. Looked after and previously looked after children
- b. Exceptional social/medical need
- c. Siblings
- d. Children for whom the school is the nearest to their home address
- e. Any other children

These criteria are in line with those that already exist for admission to Reception at the school and therefore ensure that there is consistency in the way children are admitted to each intake.

2. Chennestone Primary School – Spelthorne

It is proposed to introduce a feeder link for Chennestone Primary School for children at Beauclerc Infant School so that the admission criteria would be as follows:

- a. Looked after and previously looked after children
- b. Exceptional social/medical need
- c. Siblings
- d. Children attending Beauclerc Infant School
- e. Children for whom the school is the nearest to their home address
- f. Any other children

Chennestone Primary School currently admits 30 children in to Reception and a further 40 children in to Year 3. It is federated with Beauclerc Infant School which has a Reception PAN of 40. The majority of children at Beauclerc Infant School currently transfer to Chennestone Primary School and this number has been on the increase over the past three years:

2015	32 pupils (80%)
2014	29 pupils (72.5%)
2013	25 pupils (63%)
2012	21 pupils (52.5%)

The next highest feeder school to Chennestone Primary School is Hawkedale Infant School, which has a Reception PAN of 30. Over the past three years the following number of pupils have transferred from Hawkedale Infants to Chennestone Primary at Year 3:

2015	7 pupils (23%)
2014	7 pupils (23%)
2013	11 pupils (37%)
2012	9 pupils (30%)

Many of the children from Hawkedale Infant School who do not transfer to Chennestone Primary are offered a place at Springfield Primary School which has a Reception PAN of 30 and a Year 3 PAN of 30.

However, it has been agreed for Hawkedale Infant School to become an all through primary school from September 2017 and to expand Springfield Primary to two Forms of Entry (FE) and to remove its Junior intake. In this way, with the exception of children attending Beauclerc, all children in the area will be attending all through primary schools.

This proposal is intended to deliver a clear transition to Year 3 for the children attending Beauclerc Infant School.

3. Cranleigh Primary School - Waverley

For September 2017, the local authority intends to reintroduce a Year 3 intake of 30 for Cranleigh Primary School, in addition to its existing intake of 30 at Reception. Whilst this additional intake is not subject to consultation, the local authority must consult on the admission criteria that it proposes to introduce for this intake.

It is therefore proposed to introduce admission criteria for Year 3 in September 2017, as follows:

- a. Looked after and previously looked after children
- b. Exceptional social/medical need
- c. Siblings

- d. Children for whom the school is the nearest to their home address
- e. Any other children

These criteria are in line with those that already exist for admission to Reception at the school and therefore ensure that there is consistency in the way children are admitted to each intake.

4. West Ewell Infant School – Epsom & Ewell

The PAN for West Ewell Infant School was reduced from 120 to 90 for 2016 admission following a request to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator for an in year variation to the admission arrangements. However for September 2017 admission it is proposed to reduce the Reception intake at West Ewell Infant School further, from 90 to 60.

West Ewell Infant School is due to become an all through primary school in September 2017. However, without a further reduction in intake, the school would be unable to accommodate the number of children in their Foundation and Key Stage 1 classes, alongside accommodating Key Stage 2 provision as they grow.

5. Start date to primary admissions round

For 2017 admission, it is proposed to publish a later start date for the primary admissions round (Reception and Year 3). Instead of inviting applicants to apply from 1 September 2016 it is proposed to publicise a later date of 31 October 2016, which is the week after the October half term.

It has been identified that publishing a later start date would have the following benefits:

- It would reduce the number of applications where parents make changes after they have submitted their application
- It would enable support to be targeted to primary applicants after the secondary closing date (31 October)
- More would be known of school expansions and bulge classes so parents would be in a better position to make informed decisions
- It would relieve some of the pressure from primary schools at the start of the autumn term and enable them to focus support in the second half of the term
- It might reduce the pressure on parents in feeling they have to apply early, even though the closing date isn't until 15 January
- It would give parents more time to familiarise themselves with the process
- It would give parents more time to visit schools and consider admission criteria before they have to submit their applications. This might especially benefit parents with summer born children who may not have considered school places as much as others

Although the majority of London local authorities open their primary admissions round at the beginning of September there are a number of other local authorities which have published a later start to their primary admissions round for 2016:

Bracknell Forest	2 November 2015
Buckinghamshire	4 November 2015
Essex	9 November 2015
Hampshire	1 November 2015
Hertfordshire	9 November 2015
Kent	10 November 2015
West Sussex	5 October 2015
Windsor & Maidenhead	2 November 2015

It is not anticipated that this proposal would have any detrimental effect on applicants who would still have nearly eleven weeks to complete their application by 15 January (the statutory closing date for primary applications). This timeframe is more in line with that allowed for secondary applicants, who are given nearly nine weeks to complete their application by 31 October (the statutory closing date for secondary applications).

How can you respond to the consultation?

The consultation on the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools and these proposed changes will run from Monday 2 November 2015 to Monday 14 December 2015. If you would like to take part please complete an online response form available at Surreysays (www.surreysays.co.uk). Alternatively if you would prefer to respond on a paper form, please telephone the Surrey Schools and Childcare Service on 0300 200 1004 to request a copy. Please note that only response forms which are fully completed with the respondent's name and address will be accepted.

What happens next?

After the closing date, responses will be collated and presented to the County Council's decision making Cabinet on 2 February 2016. It will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposed changes as well as determining the admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools for which no changes are proposed. Cabinet's decision will then need to be ratified by the full County Council on 9 February 2016. Once determined the final admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools will be placed on Surrey's website at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions.