ENCLOSURE 4

Consultation on Surrey's admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools and coordinated schemes for September 2019

Outcome of consultation

Response to consultation

1. By the closing date, 117 respondents had submitted an online response to the consultation, some of whom had answered more than one question.

2. The 117 responses were from:

Chair of Governors	1
Early Years establishment	1
Grandparent	2
Headteacher	1
Local resident	1
Parent	104
School governor	5
School staff member	1
Academy Trust representative	1
Total	**117**

1. A summary of the responses to the individual school related questions within the consultation is set out below in Table A. As some respondents answered more than one question, the total number of responses in Table A is higher than the total number of respondents.

Table A - Summary of responses to admission consultation for September 2019

Question Number	Proposal	Document	Agree	Disagree
1	Cranmere Primary School - reduction of Reception PAN from 90 to 60	Enclosure 1, Appendix 1	1	7
2	William Cobbett Primary School – reduction of Reception PAN from 40 to 30	Enclosure 1, Appendix 1	3	6
3	The Dawnay School – introduction of a feeder link from Polesden Lacey Infant School at Year 3	Enclosure 1	3	1
4	Reigate Priory School – introduction of a feeder link from Dovers Green and Holmesdale Community infant schools on a tiered basis	Enclosure 1	87	25

Analysis of responses to questions within the 2019 admission consultation

3. **Cranmere Primary School: reduction of Reception PAN from 90 to 60 -** Overall, one respondent agreed with this proposal and seven were opposed to it.

4. The respondent who agreed with the proposal was a school governor of an unrelated school. No reasons were given for their support.

5. The seven respondents who were opposed to the proposal were parents of whom three indicated that they would be affected by the proposal, although only two lived in the local area of the school.

6. Reasons given for opposing the proposal were as follows:
   - Pressure on other schools admission will increase
   - Isn't the problem a shortage of places not a surplus?
   - Where will the children go to school instead?
   - Surrey schools are already oversubscribed. The council should be focused on opening up more spaces rather than reducing admissions
   - It will put more pressure on Thames Ditton Infant School

7. **William Cobbett Primary School: reduction of Reception PAN from 40 to 30 –** Overall, three respondents agreed with this proposal and six were opposed to it.

8. Of the three respondents who agreed with the proposal, one was a school governor of an unrelated school and two were parents. Both parents indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

9. Reasons given for agreeing with the proposal were as follows:
   - It would be better to have a year size of 30 opposed to 40
   - The current arrangement of mixed classes in Year 1 and Year 2 would no longer be necessary

10. One respondent suggested that in addition to the reduction in PAN the following changes should be made to the admission criteria for the school:
    - Distance should be measured to the infant gate to be fairer to children living to the north of the school
    - Sibling priority should be split so that children who have the school as their nearest receive a higher priority to those who do not

11. Of the six respondents who were opposed to the proposal all were parents. One parent indicated that they would be affected by the proposal however they did not live in the local area of the school.

12. Reasons given for opposing the proposal were as follows:
    - Pressure on other schools' admission will increase
    - The requirement for places will not decrease considering the proposed building in the Weybourne and Badshot Lea area
    - Surrey schools are already oversubscribed. The council should be focused on opening up more spaces rather than reducing admissions

13. **The Dawnay School: introduction of a feeder link from Polesden Lacey Infant School at Year 3 -** Overall, three respondents agreed with this proposal and one was opposed to it.

14. Of the three respondents who agreed with the proposal one was a school governor of an unrelated school and two were parents. None declared that they would be affected by the proposal and no reasons were given for their support.

15. The one respondent who was opposed to the proposal was a parent who declared that they would not be affected by the proposal and no reasons were given for their opposition.

16. **Reigate Priory School: introduction of a feeder link from Dovers Green and Holmesdale Community infant schools on a tiered basis –** Overall 87 respondents agreed with this proposal and 25 were opposed to it.

17. Of the 87 respondents who agreed with the proposal one was a school governor of an unrelated school, one was the Chair of Governors of Holmesdale Community Infant School, one was a local resident, two were grandparents and 82 were parents. 73 of the respondents in agreement indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

18. The Chair of Governors at Holmesdale Community Infant School indicated the support of the Governors and the Headteacher to the proposal. He confirmed that over the last few years a large number of children at Holmesdale have faced significant uncertainty as to which school they will attend from Year 3 and that this proposal would benefit these children as they transition from KS1 to KS2.

19. Other reasons given for agreeing with the proposal were as follows:
    - Children at Dovers Green and Holmesdale are the only children who have to move schools as these are the only infant schools in the area and they need a direct journey to a junior school
    - Parents who wish to take children from primary to The Priory should be given less priority than those with no Year 3 school place
    - Gives reassurance to those applying for Reception at Dovers Green and Holmesdale knowing they won't be stranded at Year 3
    - Currently a number of children attend Holmesdale for whom the only feasible Junior school is The Priory but who currently struggle to get in
    - Unfair that a child with a school place should get priority over other children who do not
    - Will ensure children without a school place will be considered fairly for their nearest junior school
    - Will avoid some children being separated from their friends
    - Will reduce the need for children to take up places in all through primary schools where they have to re-establish themselves with children who already know each other
    - Help facilitate school travel for families with children across infant and junior schools
    - Children attending Reigate Priory have traditionally had to live within a very small catchment which means it has only been for those who can afford the high prices in central Reigate. This proposal would allow more children to attend Reigate Priory from a wider catchment area
    - It will decrease the stress and worry for children and parents and ensure some certainty, security and consistency
    - There would be less swapping around in the first few months of term
    - Reigate Priory and the feeder schools would be able to work together to facilitate common planning and goals towards learner development
    - Allows children in Reigate infant schools more chance of being offered a Reigate junior school
    - Minimising transition between schools at this age is sensible to reduce traffic as parents have to shuttle between different schools due to back-filling places of children that have left a primary school such as Reigate Parish
    - It will create a more positive transition for children who will continue their education with friends, strengthen community and provide greater comfort and stability for the families
    - Will enable local children to attend a school to which they can walk

20. Of the 25 respondents who were opposed to the proposal, one was the Headteacher at Sandcross School, one was a representative from an early years

establishment, one was a school staff member at Sandcross School, one was a Trustee of the Everychild Academy Trust that governs Sandcross School, four were school governors (three with links to Sandcross School) and 17 were parents. 22 of the respondents who were opposed indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

21. The Headteacher at Sandcross School indicated that he agreed in principle that children attending an infant school should have priority over entry to a KS2 setting over a child who is already in a primary school. His views were echoed in the responses from the Trustee of the Everychild Academy Trust and the staff member and governors from Sandcross School. However their concerns were as follows:
    - The adverse change to the social make-up of the intake to Sandcross if this proposal leads to a shift in applications for the school
    - The affect this is likely to have on parental perceptions regarding Reigate Priory and Sandcross as their child's next school – Sandcross may be seen as a school which does not want children from these schools
    - The potential change in numbers at Sandcross and the consequential impact on school organisation and finances

22. Other reasons given for opposing the proposal were as follows:
    - It would disadvantage local children who are unable to gain a place at Dovers Green or Holmesdale infant schools
    - Parents should have more not less choice
    - Some children are better served changing schools at Year 3
    - Agree with the introduction of feeder schools but believe that other children for whom The Priory is the nearest school should be given priority between (d) and (e)
    - First priority should be proximity
    - People have paid a premium to purchase a house within the catchment area for Reigate Priory and so unfair to remove the opportunity to attend this school
    - Wouldn't want to continue at Reigate Parish beyond Year 3 as it is a church school
    - Whilst Reigate Parish is the nearest state infant school, Reigate Priory is the nearest state junior school.
    - Families who gained a community place at Reigate Parish will be discriminated against if they are forced to stay at a religious school until Year 6
    - Don't find Reigate Parish School very well established as a junior school and they don't have the outdoor space a junior school should have
    - Wish to change schools at Year 3 and can walk to Reigate Priory
    - Any proposal should be phased in – parents have made infant school choices based on a reasonable expectation of being able to send their children to The Priory
    - Children who have Reigate Priory as their nearest school cannot get in to Dovers Green or Holmesdale infant schools

23. **Admission arrangements for which no change was proposed -** Overall, four respondents chose to make comments on the admission arrangements for which no change was proposed.

24. One parent questioned the legality of the admission arrangements for Reigate Parish Primary School as 50% of places are allocated on religious grounds but the Church of England funds less than 50% of the school's finances.

25. One parent indicated that consideration needed to be given to people moving close to a school and then leaving the school's locality but still getting sibling priority.

26. One school governor queried whether, within the admission arrangements for Southfield Park Primary School, priority for children living in catchment should be given to those who live closest to the school rather than those who live furthest from the school.

27. One parent asked that admission arrangements for faith schools be made consistent across the Council, so they all require a commitment to faith or all do not, especially Long Ditton St Mary's and St Paul's Catholic Primary schools. This concerns the impact faith schools have on determining which is the nearest school when assessing admission to a community or voluntary controlled school.

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