

Consultation on Surrey's admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools for September 2024

Outcome of consultation

Response to consultation

1. By the closing date, 13 respondents had submitted an online response to the consultation, some of whom had answered more than one question.
2. The 13 responses were all from parents.
3. A summary of the responses to the individual school related questions within the consultation is set out below in Table A.

Table A - Summary of responses to admission consultation for September 2024

Question Number	Proposal	Document	Agree	Disagree	No Opinion
1	Southfield Park Primary School - extension of catchment area to include the Parkview estate as a replacement for 'nearest school'	Enclosure 1, Appendix 3	3	7	3
2	Southfield Park Primary School - amendment to tie breaker within catchment so that children living closer to the school receive higher priority	Enclosure 1	4	6	3
3	Stamford Green Primary School - introduction of catchment area as a replacement for 'nearest school'	Enclosure 1, Appendix 4	3	6	4
4	Beauclerc Infant School - reduction of Reception PAN from 40 to 30	Enclosure 1, Appendix 1	0	1	12
5	Farncombe CofE Infant School - reduction of Reception PAN from 50 to 30	Enclosure 1, Appendix 1	0	1	12
6	St Ann's Heath Junior School – reduction of Junior PAN from 90 to 60 and removal of Meadowcroft Infant School as a feeder school (subject to it being agreed for Meadowcroft Infant School to become an all through primary school from September 2024	Enclosure 1, Appendix 1 and 2	0	0	13

Analysis of responses to questions within the 2024 admission consultation

Southfield Park Primary School - extension of catchment area to include the Parkview estate as a replacement for 'nearest school'

4. Overall, three respondents agreed with this proposal and seven were opposed to it.
5. Of the three respondents who agreed with the proposal, two gave reasons, as follows:
 - Having a priority area and nearest school is confusing and creates pockets of exclusion
 - This should be standardised across the Council

- This proposal will reduce uncertainty for Parkview families, will cement the relationship between the school and the Parkview estate and will enhance the sense of local community
- Will hopefully reduce traffic in local area as cycleways and footpaths from Parkview to Southfield Park are excellent

6. None of the respondents who agreed indicated that they would be affected by the proposal, although one indicated that this was because their second child would qualify as a sibling.

7. Of the seven respondents who were opposed to the proposal, 6 gave reasons, as follows:

- Parkview has other primary schools in close proximity
- Increasing priority for Parkview will negatively impact on the likelihood of children getting into the school from other developments, such as Clarendon Park, and such residents would be forced to travel further distances and increase traffic on roads
- Extending (catchment) to further away would result in more cars at school run times
- It will have a negative impact on households further afield and at the edge of the catchment
- Extending the catchment without creating new school places will deprive children living in Clarendon Park from getting a place
- This excludes residents in poorer areas as the less affluent roads are out of catchment
- Clarendon Park only has Southfield Park Primary that they can walk to

8. None of the respondents who were opposed indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

Southfield Park Primary School - amendment to tie breaker within catchment so that children living closer to the school receive higher priority

9. Overall, four respondents agreed with this proposal and six were opposed to it.

10. None of the respondents who agreed gave any reasons or indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

11. Of the six respondents who were opposed to the proposal, four gave reasons, as follows:

- It will impact on the ability of children living furthest from the school to gain entry
- These areas, such as Clarendon Park, don't have other schools close by
- More traffic on road and reduction in healthy lifestyle of walking to school
- All children should be included in catchment
- Parkview has other schools close by

12. None of the respondents who was opposed indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

Stamford Green Primary School - introduction of catchment area as a replacement for 'nearest school'

13. Overall, three respondents agreed with this proposal and six were opposed to it.

14. One of the respondents who agreed gave the following reasons:

- It is fairer
- There was previously a lot of confusion about closer schools, which were not a valid option for non-religious families
- The catchment area makes it clear and fair for local families

15. None of the respondents who agreed indicated that they would be affected by the proposal.

16. Of the six respondents who were opposed to the proposal, four gave reasons, as follows:

- Children should be placed in their nearest school – don't see why the policy is being changed
- We live close to the Wells estate but outside catchment
- We would be disadvantaged as only other option is religious schools
- This should be standardised across the Council

- Excludes children in poorer areas who are closer to the school
- What is wrong with current process to give opportunity to those slightly further to get in

17. One of the respondents who was opposed indicated that they would be affected by the proposal because they would be just outside the catchment area and so would not get a place at their chosen school. Another respondent would not be affected because they already have a sibling at the school but felt that neighbours might be affected.

Beauclerc Infant School - reduction of Reception PAN from 40 to 30

18. Overall, no respondents agreed with this proposal and one was opposed to it.

19. The respondent who was opposed gave no reason and did not indicate that they would be affected by it.

Farncombe CofE Infant School - reduction of Reception PAN from 50 to 30

20. Overall, no respondents agreed with this proposal and one was opposed to it.

21. The respondent who was opposed gave no reason and did not indicate that they would be affected by it.

St Ann's Heath Junior School – reduction of Junior PAN from 90 to 60 and removal of Meadowcroft Infant School as a feeder school (subject to it being agreed for Meadowcroft Infant School to become an all through primary school from September 2024

22. No respondents commented on this proposal.

Admission arrangements for which no change was proposed

23. One respondent chose to make a specific comment on other aspects of admission arrangements in Surrey. They suggested that the system should be standardised to remove pockets of exclusion and to facilitate access to education, and that a point-based system would probably be fairer than catchment areas / nearest school / distance as absolute criteria.

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