

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE & LEARNING
15 APRIL 2014**

**ANNUAL ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS 2015/16
Director of Children, Young People & Learning**

1. PURPOSE OF DECISION

- 1.1. To review the outcomes of the recent annual admissions arrangements consultation 2015/16, and to comment and agree actions in light of the consultation responses.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. **That the Executive Member for Children, Young People & Learning notes the responses to the consultation and agrees the annual admissions arrangements which include the changes consulted on as set out in Annexes A to E.**

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1. To ensure that the admission arrangements for Bracknell Forest Council have taken full account of the comments received in the consultation exercise and comply with the statutory School Admissions Code.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 4.1. No alternative option was considered

5. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 5.1. The School Admissions Code requires authorities to consult on admissions arrangements only if they are making changes to them; although all admission arrangements must be determined by the Executive by 15 April 2014. We have therefore only consulted on the primary, infant and junior 2015/16 and the in-year admission arrangements 2014/15.
- 5.2. In the consultation parents were asked if they agreed to extend the social criteria. By extending it we would help parents by reducing the possibility of having siblings attending different schools. This would apply where the parent was unable to obtain a place at their designated area school for an older child, although they had applied for a place. **This applies to primary, infant and junior school only (this does not include applications for secondary school).** The exact wording can be found in Appendix A and B pages 12.
- 5.3. In order to encourage and facilitate feedback on the Councils proposals, comments were invited via the portal anonymously.
Comments received
- 5.4. The closing date for receiving comments was 31 January 2014.
- 5.5. The Council received 4 comments from the consultation exercise which are attached.

UNRESTRICTED

- 5.6. When reading the comments it can be seen that three of the responses are in support of the change and another person has comment on something outside of the consultation process.

6. **ADVICE RECEIVED FROM STATUTORY AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Borough Solicitor

- 6.1 The legal issues are contained within the body of the attached documents.

Borough Treasurer

- 6.2 The Borough Treasurer is satisfied that no significant financial implications arise from this report.

Equalities Impact Assessment

- 6.3 Bracknell Forest Council has an inclusive education policy and children will not be discriminated against as laid down by the Equality Act 2010, Human Rights Act 1998, Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and 2005 and Equality Act 2010.

Strategic Risk Management Issues

- 6.4 Significant Risks include:

ISSUE	RISK	COMMENT
If the annual admissions arrangements are not set the Local Authority would be in breach of the School Admissions Code.	M	The Local Authority could be reported to the Adjudicator for failure to comply with the School Admissions Code.

7. **CONSULTATION**

- 7.1. The consultation took place between 9 December 2013 and 31 January 2014. The process consisted of publishing the proposed changes on the Bracknell Forest website via the consultation portal; writing to all Headteachers of Bracknell Forest schools; Chairs of Governors and all neighbouring local authorities.

7.2. Background Papers

- 7.3. Consultation responses

7.4. Arrangements Consulted on:

APPENDIX A – Primary, Infant and Junior Admission Arrangements 2015/16

APPENDIX B – In year Admission Arrangements 2014/15

7.5. Arrangements not Consulted on:

APPENDIX C – Secondary Admission Arrangements 2015/16

APPENDIX D – 6th Form Admission Arrangements 2015/16

APPENDIX E - Nursery Admission Arrangements 2015/16

8. CONTACTS

8.1. Contact for further information

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