



Haringey Council

Agenda item:

[No.]

Cabinet

On 22 March 2011

Report Title: **Admissions to Schools – Determined Admission Arrangements for 2012/13**

Report of: **Director of the Children and Young People's Service**

Wards(s) affected: **All**

Report for: **Key**

1. Purpose

- 1.1 To present the arrangements for admission to community nursery classes, primary, junior and secondary schools and to St Aidan's Voluntary Controlled School for the 2012/13 academic year to be determined.
- 1.2 To present arrangements for admission to sixth form for the 2012/13 academic year to be determined.

2. Introduction by Cabinet Member

- 2.1 This report details the statutory requirements for admission to nursery, primary, secondary and 6th form study. I am confident we have followed the appropriate national guidance in drawing up these proposals.
- 2.2 Given the importance of this issue to parents and children I am pleased to see that some of the wording and style used in the material has been simplified. I am also pleased to report that we have addressed the particular circumstances of families with twins or other multiple births.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To determine the admission arrangements for all community nursery classes, primary and secondary schools and St Aidan's Voluntary Controlled Primary.
- 3.2 To determine the admission arrangements for students starting sixth form.

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4. Chief Financial Officers Comments

- 4.1 The local Authority's Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) allocation and subsequent School's delegated budgets are based on the actual numbers of pupils on roll in the January preceding each financial year. As such admissions arrangements can have a bearing on the resources available. If pupil numbers are higher in September than in the preceding January the additional costs arising from the increase will need to be contained within existing resources. In schools where this entails an agreed new form of entry, the additional cost will be met from funding set aside from the DSG as part of the budget strategy. More diffused increases in numbers will be absorbed by individual schools with no increase in resources. There are no particular issues within this report that would serve to change the current situation.
- 4.2 However, Members should be aware that as part of the implementation of the Early Years Single Funding Formula (EYSFF) consideration is being given to the number and distribution of full time places for 3 and 4 year old children; in order for changes to be made (which could only be from 2012/13 academic year at the earliest) proposals would need to be brought forward and agreed in a subsequent report.

5. Head of Legal Services Comments

- 5.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted on the content of this report. The proposed arrangements are ones that comply with the mandatory requirements of the School Admissions Code of February 2009 and the framework set out in statute and in relevant statutory instruments, that are referred to below in Section 6 of this report.

6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- Section 88C of the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998
- The Education Act 2002
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Education and Skills Act 2008
- The Education (Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (Secondary Schools) (England) Regulations 2008
- The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2008
- The Education (Admissions Appeals Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009
- The School Admissions Code (2009)
- The School Admissions Appeals Code (2009)

7. Strategic Implications

- 7.1 Section 88C of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, as amended by the Education and Skills Act 2008, and associated Regulations require admission authorities to consult on their admission arrangements at least every three years and in any year in which variations are being considered. Co-ordinated schemes must be formulated every year.
- 7.2 The wording and style of the admission arrangements has been simplified. Information has been included to clarify how we will deal with tie break situations and applications from families with twins or other multiple births.
- 7.3 The Children and Young People's Service has a duty to monitor the compliance of arrangements from its own admitting authority schools. As such we will provide advice to governing bodies who are the admission authorities for other maintained primary and secondary schools in Haringey (for example St Thomas More Catholic School, The John Loughborough School, Fortismere School and Greig City Academy). However, these "own admission authorities" are responsible for their own consultation process and their determination. All determined arrangements will be published on the Haringey website for access by the public.
- 7.4 The new arrangements will then come into effect from the September 2012 intake.

8. Secondary Transfer 2012 – Hornsey School for Girls

- 8.1 We have received a response to the admissions consultation from the governing body at Hornsey School for Girls. They have made representations to reduce their PAN from 243 to 216. This is consistent with our forecast for pupil demand for the school and in the general area.
- 8.2 The governing body has also submitted a request to remove criterion 4 from their arrangements. This is criterion 4.

Proportion by primary school

Girls allocated places in proportion to the applications received from each primary school. If there are more requests from girls attending a particular primary school than the proportionate allocation, places will be allocated to those girls living closest to Hornsey School for Girls. If a place becomes available but there are no remaining requests from that particular primary school, (school A), the place will be added to the proportion allocated to the primary school (school B) which is the primary school with the highest unmet demand. Girls who attend independent schools or who move into the area and who are unplaced in a primary school will be assigned to their nearest community primary school.

(The proportionality category will cease after 1 March 2012 and the waiting list for Hornsey School for Girls will be held in order of distance of the home address to the school.)

- 8.3 The school is currently undersubscribed so all girls who apply will be offered a place. It has been reported that the complexity of the rule has prevented parents making applications.
- 8.4 The School Admission Forum support the change in PAN and removal of the criterion

4 for admission to school in 2012. However the Forum would like the arrangements to be reviewed for admission to school in 2013 when the school is likely to be oversubscribed to ensure that there is a simple criterion to support girls living in different parts of the borough having an equal chance of being offered a place at the school.

8.5 It is recommended that criterion 4 should remain in essence to ensure equality of opportunity for girls applying from all parts of the borough however the criterion has been reworded for clarity. We would also recommend that the PAN is reduced to 216.

9. Admissions to Sixth Form Study in Haringey

9.1 The determined admission arrangements for community schools sixth form provision in Haringey, (Alexandra Park School, the Highgate Wood School, Hornsey School for Girls' and the Haringey Sixth Form Centre).

9.2 The School Admissions Code permits that minimum academic achievement can be used in admission arrangements at this level. Haringey Council is the admission authority and therefore must consult and determine the admission arrangements. Applications from prospective students are made directly to each individual provider who will administer the agreed admission arrangements.

10 Conclusion

10.1 Section 88C of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and relevant Regulations require admission authorities for maintained schools to determine their admission arrangements annually following consultation, where such consultation is required.

11. Recommendations

11.1 To approve the proposed admission arrangements for all community nursery classes, primary and secondary schools and St Aidan's Voluntary Controlled Primary School for the 2012/13 school year. This includes to reduce the PAN for Noel Park from 81 to 60 and increase the PAN for Alexandra Primary from 30 to 60.

11.2 To approve the proposed admission arrangements for students starting sixth form study in Haringey in September 2012.

16. Equalities Implications

The current oversubscription criteria for Haringey community schools and the advice given to governors of schools who are their own admission authority comply with the mandatory provisions and advice given in the School Admissions Code 2009. The Code has due regard to the provisions of the Equality Act 2010. The recommendations contained in the report regarding admission arrangements are also compliant with the provisions of the 2010 Act.

16. Use of Appendices

- Appendix 1 Starting nursery in Haringey in September 2012.
- Appendix 2 Starting reception class or junior in Haringey September 2012.
- Appendix 3 Starting secondary school in Haringey in September 2012.
- Appendix 4 Starting school during the year in Haringey 2012/13
- Appendix 5 In Year Fair Access Protocol 2012
- Appendix 6 Starting sixth form in Haringey in September 2012

