



Haringey Council

Report for:	Cabinet Member for Children	Item Number:	
Title:	Determined Admission Arrangements for 2013/14		
Report Authorised by:	Libby Blake, Director Children and Young People's Service		
Lead Officer:	Jennifer Duxbury, Head of Admissions and School Organisation		
Ward(s) affected: All	Report for Key Decision		

1. Describe the issue under consideration

- 1.1 The admission arrangements for entry to school in the academic year 2013/14 for Haringey community nursery classes, primary, infant, junior and secondary schools and St Aidan's voluntary controlled School.
- 1.1 The arrangements for 2013/14 admission to sixth form.
- 1.2 The co-ordinated scheme which all Haringey schools and Academies will follow, to ensure all school places are offered in accordance with statutory timescales.

2. Cabinet Member introduction

- 2.1 I am satisfied that the proper procedures have been followed and that the arrangements comply with our statutory responsibilities.
- 2.2 I am pleased to note that we have made some changes as a result of the consultation in relation to children adopted from local authority care.



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3. Recommendations

- 3.1 To determine the admission arrangements for Haringey community nursery classes, primary, infant, junior and secondary schools and St Aidan's voluntary controlled School.
- 3.2 To determine the admission arrangements for students starting sixth form.
- 3.3 To determine the co-ordinated scheme for all Haringey schools and Academies.

4. Other options considered

Not applicable

5. Background information

- 5.1 The new Schools Admissions Code and associated Regulations, which came into force on 1 February 2012, require admission authorities to consult on their admission arrangements at least every 7 years and in any year in which variations are being considered. Co-ordinated schemes must be formulated every year.
- 5.2 The admission arrangements for 2013/14 do not differ from those consulted on last year, other than where they have been updated in line with the mandatory provisions of the new Admissions Code. The consultation was undertaken between 30 January and 25 March 2012 in order to give all stakeholders the opportunity to comment on the arrangements should they wish to do so.
- 5.3 One response to the consultation was received, asking that the Children in Care criterion be changed to include adopted children who were previously looked after in line with changes set out in the new Schools Admissions Code.

At the time the admission arrangements were approved by Cabinet to go out to consultation, the second draft of the new Code had not yet been issued by the DfE and therefore it was not possible to include these changes in the consultation document. However, following the publication of the new Schools Admissions Code, the Children in Care criterion set out in Appendices 1- 6 were updated to include previously looked after children who became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order immediately after being looked after.

A further response was received requesting that the sibling criterion be removed from secondary admissions. The sibling criterion is used to support families who want their



children to travel together to the same school and it would require full consultation to remove the criterion.

- 5.4 Infant class size legislation sets out that infant classes (reception, year 1 and year 2) must not contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher. Additional children may be admitted only under limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an 'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit. The new Admissions Code and Schedule to The School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 2012 include twins and multiple births as permitted exceptions. We have therefore included a paragraph in Appendices 2, 3 and 6 to explain that if only one place is available at a community school and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth siblings, we will ask community schools to go over their published admission number to accommodate the multiple birth siblings from the family.
- 5.5 The new Admissions Code removes the duty on Local Authorities to coordinate in-year admissions from September 2013. However, we believe that a coordinated scheme provides the best and most effective means of Haringey fulfilling its safeguarding duty, which includes seeking to ensure that children are not missing education. We are therefore determining an in-year co-ordinated scheme for 2013 with a minor change in administrative procedure, namely that Haringey will act as a maintaining LA rather than a home LA (as it did previously). This means that from September 2013, all in-year applications to Haringey schools will be made to Haringey School Admissions Service and this applies for both Haringey residents and for children resident outside of Haringey. This is in line with procedure to be adopted across London.
- 5.6 The determined admissions arrangements include the admission numbers for the schools that the Local Authority is consulting on to be expanded. However these proposals are subject to the outcome of the expansion consultations.
- 5.7 The determined admissions arrangements include the increase in published admission number of Heartlands High School.
- 5.8 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 Academies and 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. The governors of Alexandra Park and Woodside have advised the Local Authority that they wish to adopt the admission arrangements for Community schools.
- 5.9 All determined arrangements will be published on the Haringey website for access by the public.



6 Comments of the Chief Finance Officer and financial implications

6.1 There are no direct financial consequences for the Council as a result of this report as the Council is, and its schools are, in the majority of cases, funded on the basis of the actual pupil numbers recorded on the Annual School Census (ASC) return. However schools for which there are changes to the published Admissions Number will need to take account of such changes in their financial projections as the admission points do not always correspond with the January ASC date.

7 Head of Legal Services and legal implications

7.1 The Head of Legal Services has been consulted on the content of this report. The School Admissions Code, issued by the Department for Education on 01 February 2012, under section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, applies to school admission arrangements determined in 2012 for admission in the school year 2013/2014. The Code applies to all maintained schools in England. The admission arrangements must be determined by the authority by 15 April 2012. Once the admission arrangements are determined the authority must notify the relevant bodies in accordance with the legislation and publish a copy of the arrangements on the Council's website. The Code is to be read alongside the School Admission Appeals Code as well as The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 and The School Admissions (Appeals Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 all of which came into force on 01 February 2012.

7.2 It is the responsibility of the authority to ensure that admission arrangements are compliant with the Code. Arrangements mean overall procedures, practices, criteria and supplementary information to be used in deciding on the allocation of school places. In drawing up the arrangements the authority must ensure that the practices and criteria used are fair, clear and objective. Parents should be able to look at the set of arrangements and understand easily how places will be allocated.

7.3 The arrangements must include the Published Admission Number (or PAN) and the authority must set an admission number for each relevant age group. In addition the authority must set out in the arrangements the criteria against which places will be allocated at schools when there are more applications than places and the order in which the criteria will be applied. The highest priority being given to looked after children or previously looked after children. Looked after children being defined by section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989.

7.4 The oversubscription criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair and comply with the relevant legislation including equalities legislation so as to not disadvantage unfairly, either directly or indirectly, a child from a particular social or racial group, or a child with a disability or special educational needs. It is for the



authority to decide which criteria would be the most suitable according to local circumstances. Examples given in the School Admissions Code include, among others, where there are siblings at the school, the distance from school, catchment areas, feeder schools and social and medical need. The Code provides more detailed guidance in relation to each criteria.

- 7.5 The authority must consult on the proposed arrangements for a minimum of 8 weeks between 01 November and 01 March of the relevant year. The Code also specifies who is to be consulted. The authority for the duration of the consultation must publish a copy of the full proposed admission arrangements (including the proposed PAN) on its website together with details to whom comments should be sent and the areas on which comments are not sought. Failure to consult effectively may be grounds for subsequent complaints and appeals. Details of the consultation process are set out in paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 of the report and on page 9 of the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 7.
- 7.6 Consultation must be undertaken when proposals are still at a formative stage. It must include sufficient reasons for particular proposals to allow those consulted to give intelligent consideration and an intelligent response, adequate time must be given for this purpose and the product of the consultation must be conscientiously taken into account when the ultimate decision is taken.
- 7.7 By regulation 18(1) of The School Admissions Regulations 2012 a local authority must publish the following information on their website by 1st May in the determination year - (a) the proposed admission arrangements for any school or Academy which is intended to open in their area within the determination year; (b) the details of where the determined admission arrangements for schools and Academies in their area can be viewed; and (c) a statement about any person or body's right to object to admission arrangements, the condition to be met before an objection can be determined (regulation 24) and those objections that cannot be made (regulations 21 and 22).
- 7.8 Any objections to the arrangements must be made to the Schools Adjudicator by 30 June 2012. A composite prospectus for parents must be published online by 12 September in the offer year with hard copies available for those who do not have internet access and must be kept up to date throughout the period.
- 7.9 Members must have due regard to the public sector equality duty in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 and attention is drawn to paragraph 7.4 above and paragraph 8 of the report and the Equality Impact Assessment at Appendix 7. A summary of the public sector equality duty is set out in Appendix 8.

8 Equalities and Community Cohesion Comments



The admission arrangements for Haringey community schools, coordinated scheme for all Haringey 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. 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.

9 Head of Procurement Comments

Not applicable

10 Policy Implication

The new arrangements will come into effect from the September 2013 intake.

11 Use of Appendices

Appendix 1	Starting nursery in Haringey in September 2013
Appendix 2	Starting reception class or junior in Haringey September 2013
Appendix 3	Starting secondary school in Haringey in September 2013
Appendix 4	Starting school during the year in Haringey 2013
Appendix 5	In Year Fair Access Protocol 2013
Appendix 6	Starting sixth form in Haringey in September 2013
Appendix 7	Equality Impact Assessment
Appendix 8	Summary of Public Sector Duty

12 Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

- Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998
- The Education Act 2002;
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006;
- Education and Skills Act 2008;
- The School Admissions Code (2012);
- The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012;
- The School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 2012;



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- The School Admissions (Appeals) (England) Regulations 2012 (regulations apply to appeals lodged after 01/02/2012);
- The School Information (England) Regulations 2008; and
- Education Act 2011

The following regulations were revoked by the 2012 regulations but continue to have effect in relation to the arrangements under which pupils are admitted to schools in England for the academic years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013

- The School Admissions (Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2008
- The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2008
- The Education (Admissions Appeals Arrangements) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009