

Nottingham City Council Delegated Decision



Nottingham
City Council

Reference Number:	4010
Author:	Karen Traynor
Department:	Children and Adults
Contact:	Karen Traynor (Job Title: School Admissions Manager, Email: karen.traynor@nottinghamcity.gov.uk, Phone: 0115 87 64625)
Subject:	Proposed admission arrangements for community schools 2022/23
Total Value:	Nil (Type: Nil)
Decision Being Taken:	To approve that the admission arrangements determined for the 2021/22 school year be continued for the 2022/23 school year with no change.
Reasons for the Decision(s)	As the Local Authority is proposing no changes to the admission arrangements, the authority is not required to consult publicly on its proposed admission arrangements. However, since the Local Authority is the admission authority for community schools it must consult the governing body of each school about its proposal to keep the same admission number for that school. A report will therefore be submitted for inclusion on the Governing Body agenda for consideration by governing bodies of community schools during the autumn term 2020.
Briefing notes documents:	2020.07.31 - Briefing paper PFH.doc
Other Options Considered:	No other options than continuing with the 2021/22 admission arrangements for the 2022/23 school year were considered. The option to change the admission arrangements from those agreed for the 2021/22 school year was not felt to be necessary or viable.
Background Papers:	None

Published Works:

School Admissions Code 2014. The School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2014. Report to Executive Board on 18 February 2020 setting out the proposed school admission arrangements for the 2021/22 school year.

Affected Wards:

Citywide

Colleague / Councillor Interests:

Consultations:

As the Local Authority is proposing no changes to the admission arrangements the authority is not required to consult publicly on its proposed admission arrangements. However, since the Local Authority is the admission authority for community schools it must consult the governing body of each school about its proposal to keep the same admission number for that school. A report will therefore be submitted for inclusion on the Governing Body agenda for consideration by governing bodies of community schools during the autumn term 2020.

Crime and Disorder Implications:

Admission arrangements are set to enable all school aged children to access a suitable school place at the appropriate time, as far as possible according to their parent/carers' preference, so that they are not vulnerable to crime and disorder.

Equality:

EIA not required. Reasons: Not required as it does not involve a new or changing policy.

Decision Type:

Portfolio Holder

Subject to Call In:

Yes

Call In Expiry date:

13/10/2020

Advice Sought:

Legal, Finance

Legal Advice:

Section 88C(1) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 ("SSFA"), states that the admission authority for a maintained school in England must, before the beginning of each school year, determine in accordance with this section of the SSFA the admission arrangements which are to apply for that year. Section 88C(2) of the SSFA requires the admission authority to carry out such consultation beforehand about the proposed arrangements as may be prescribed.

The relevant regulations under section 88C(2) of the SSFA are the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended) ("the Admission Arrangements Regulations").

Regulation 12 of the Admission Arrangements Regulations prescribe circumstances within which consultation is required.

The Regulations also provide (Regulation 14) that consultation is not required where the admission authority proposes to increase or keep the same admission numbers as the preceding year, subject to consultation with the governing body of the school in such circumstances. There is also a requirement that admission authorities must consult on arrangements at least once every 7 years even if there are no changes in that period (Regulation 15).

Given the admission authority consulted on admission arrangements for the last school year, it is able keep the same admission numbers as proposed within the report for this school year without the requirement for public a consultation process. The governing body must however be consulted.

A formal decision will be required by the Council at Executive Board following consideration of the proposals by the Governing Body prior to determining and implementing the arrangements.

Advice provided by Dionne Claire Screamon (Solicitor) on 10/08/2020.

Finance Advice:

There is no cost implication as a result of keeping the proposed admissions arrangements for the academic year 2022/23 the same as those in the academic year 2021/22.

Funding for the School Admissions service is funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant. This budget allocation was approved by Schools Forum for the financial year 2020/21 on 8 October 2019 and was taken to the Executive Board for approval on 18 February 2020 as part of the budget setting process.

Advice provided by Julia Elizabeth Holmes (Finance Analyst) on 24/08/2020.

Signatures

David Mellen (Leader/ PH Regeneration, Schools, Communications)
SIGNED and Dated: 06/10/2020
Catherine Underwood (Corporate Director for People)
SIGNED and Dated: 30/09/2020