



Consultation on proposed Admission Arrangements for Aspire Educational Trust for entry into Reception from September 2023

Introduction

The Aspire Educational Trust is the admission authority for the schools named below:

Ash Grove Academy
Hollinhey Primary School
Holmes Chapel Primary School
Ivy Bank Primary School
Parkroyal Community School
Peover Superior Endowed Primary School
Puss Bank School & Nursery
Sandbach Primary Academy
The Wilmslow Academy
Underwood West Academy
Victoria Road Primary School
Wilbraham Primary School

As admission authority, this means that The Aspire Educational Trust are responsible for the admission arrangements for these schools. When an admission authority wishes to make changes to their admission arrangements, they must consult to ensure all views are heard.

The Aspire Educational Trust is consulting on changes to the admission arrangements for the 12 schools within its MAT. This consultation invites you to give your views.

All schools must have admission arrangements that clearly set out how children will be admitted, including information about what happens if there are more applications than places available (oversubscription criteria.)

All admissions authorities must include the oversubscription criteria in their arrangements. The criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation.

It is for admission authorities to decide which criteria are most suitable for the school according to the local circumstances.

Proposed changes to the oversubscribed criteria:

- Introduce a criterion for children of staff employed at the Aspire Educational Trust
- Introduce a criterion for children who attend a nursery/pre school which is based on the school site commencing the Autumn Term of the admission period preceding their year of entry to reception.
- Revise the Looked After Children criterion to include children previously in state care outside of England

Why are we proposing these changes?

The school wishes to retain and recruit the very best teachers for our students, to deliver high quality lessons and support. However, the recruitment and retention of staff is increasingly difficult against a backdrop of a national shortage of teachers. To help attract skilled and knowledgeable staff to key positions and to retain staff for the medium to long term, we wish to add children of staff to our oversubscribed criteria.

As the Aspire Educational Trust has become more popular in recent years, families well known to the school have been disadvantaged as they are unable to secure a reception place. As a school rooted in the community, we wish to continue our work with families and continue to build upon the learning within the school's setting. Therefore, we wish to change our oversubscribed criteria in relation to children attending the school's nursery.

Government guidance asks all admission authorities to consider including children previously in state care outside of England in their Looked After or Previously Looked After Children criterion and we wish to fully support this request.

Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the Aspirer Educational Trust website <https://www.aspireeducationaltrust.co.uk/page/?title=Policies&pid=3>

Who are we consulting with?

Admission authorities must consult with: a) parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen; b) other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission

authority have an interest in the proposed admissions; c) all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools); d) whichever of the governing body and the local authority is not the admission authority; e) any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority;

How can you respond?

We would like to hear your views on these proposals. Please send any comments regarding the above proposed changes by emailing to: rswann@aet.cheshire.sch.uk
Please mark your email AET PRIMARY AND NURSERY CONSULTATION

The consultation takes place between 7th December 2021 and 18th January 2022

What happens next?

After the consultation closes the responses will be collated and presented to the Admissions Committee at the Aspire Educational Trust who will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposed changes and determine the admission arrangements. The outcome will be published on the school's website by 15 March 2022.

This consultation document applies to all Academies of the Aspire Educational Trust