

ENCLOSURE

**Trustee Meeting
Autumn Term 2020 14 10 20**

Report by the Director, Learning, Skills & Culture

**CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS
FOR THE 2022/23 ACADEMIC YEAR**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1 All admission authorities have a statutory duty to consult on:
 - any proposed changes to their admission arrangements (ie the admissions criteria).
 - Their proposed admission number, where Trustees are looking to decrease the number.
 - Where admission arrangements have not changed from the previous year there is no need to consult, subject to the requirement that admission authorities must consult on their admission arrangements at least once every 7 years, even if there have been no changes during that period.

The admission arrangements for the 2022/23 academic year must be determined by the Board of Trustees by 28 February 2021.

The Department for Education launched a consultation on a revised version of the School Admissions Code on 26th June. The consultation will run until 16th October. Full details are available here:

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/home-to-school-transport-and-admissions-team/changes-to-the-school-admissions-code/>

Depending on when the revised code is finalised, what it contains, and when it comes into effect, there may be changes required to the admission arrangements. Mandatory changes required by the code can be made without the need for public consultation.

2 LA SUPPORT FOR OWN ADMISSION AUTHORITIES REGARDING ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1 Included in the purchased Admissions SLA for academies, or as an integral part of the service to voluntary aided and foundation schools, North Lincolnshire Council offers support to Trustees, ensuring that any proposed changes to admission arrangements are compliant with admissions legislation. The council also offers to undertake any necessary public consultations on behalf of schools.

- 2.2 Where Trustees wish to change their school's admission arrangements they are advised to contact Sean Kendrew – Access Manager (Admissions and Transport) on 01724 297263 or sean.kendrew@northlincs.gov.uk
Subject to availability, attendance at governing board meetings can be arranged.

3. 2022/23 ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

- 3.1 The council and most other admission authorities in North Lincolnshire made changes to their arrangements for 2019/20 to improve clarity and compliance with the School Admissions Code. These changes were made after a full public consultation.
- 3.2 No changes are suggested for the 2022/23 arrangements.
- 3.3 A draft admission policy for each school will be circulated with the agenda for the Autumn Term meeting.
- 3.4 Should changes be necessary as a result of a revised School Admissions Code taking effect (as per paragraphs 1.4 and 1.5 above), the council will inform schools of this and provide a new draft policy for further ratification by the governing board.

4. ADMISSION NUMBERS

- 4.1 As part of determining their admission arrangements, own admission authorities must set an admission number for each relevant age group eg reception year or year 7.
- 4.2 At the time of allocation if there is greater demand than anticipated, the council may liaise with the school to discuss the possibility of admitting additional pupils.

5. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 5.1 If an admission authority is proposing changes (see paragraph 1.1) a full public consultation with all relevant parties must take place. The consultation period must last for a minimum of six weeks for any period between 1 October 2020 and 31 January 2021 (see also paragraph 2.1 above).

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Admission Arrangements

Trustees should consider whether they wish to adopt the draft 2022/23 admissions policy, or make changes.

6.2 Admission Numbers

Trustees should consider their current admission number and decide whether it should be kept the same, increased, or decreased. If there is a wish to decrease the number a public consultation will be required (even if no other changes are to be made to the arrangements).



7. RESPONSE

- 7 .1 If the Board of Trustees is satisfied with the draft policy for 2022/23 and is either maintaining or increasing the published admission number, it can formally determine the policy.
- The chair or clerk is asked to e-mail sean.kendrew@northlincs.gov.uk within one week of the meeting taking place to confirm that the determination has taken place, and to advise what admission number has been set.
- 7 .2 If the Board of Trustees wishes to change its arrangements or decrease its published admission number, a full public consultation will be required.
- The chair or clerk is asked to e-mail sean.kendrew@northlincs.gov.uk within one week of the meeting taking place giving details of the proposed changes to the arrangements and/or admission number. As per paragraph 2.1 above relevant support will be offered.

Director, Learning, Skills and Culture
Hewson House
PO Box 35
Station Road
BRIGG
North Lincolnshire
DN20 8XJ

Sean Kendrew – Access Manager (Admissions and Transport)