



# **Consultation on admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools 2023-2024**

**Period of consultation: 4 October 2021 to 28 November 2021**

Nottinghamshire County Council's consultation invites you to give your views about the proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools in Nottinghamshire for 2023-2024.

## **Background information**

### **Admission authorities**

There are different types of schools in Nottinghamshire. The County Council is the admission authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools. This means that we are responsible for the admission arrangements for these schools.

Other types of schools - academies, foundation, free, studio, trust and voluntary aided schools these are known as own admission authorities. These schools are responsible for their own admission arrangements and have to run their own consultation. You would need to visit individual school websites for details.

### **Admission arrangements including oversubscription criteria**

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 admission 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.

**Nottinghamshire community and voluntary controlled schools** have defined catchment areas and children living in these areas have higher priority for places than children outside of catchment. This supports parents who wish their children to attend a local publicly funded school. Details of catchment areas are available at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/school-catchment-areas](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/school-catchment-areas)

This does not prevent parents who live outside the catchment area of a school, or even outside Nottinghamshire, from expressing a preference for that school.

Children living in the catchment area with a brother or sister (sibling) attending the school are given priority over other children living inside the catchment area. Children living outside the catchment

area with a brother or sister attending the school are given priority over all other children living outside the catchment area.

## **What is included in the consultation?**

Nottinghamshire County Council is consulting on two proposed areas for the admission arrangements 2023-2024.

### **Proposal 1 – review of relevant areas**

This is the area determined by the local authority within which the admission authority for that school must consult all other schools on its admission arrangements. Relevant areas must be reviewed every two years.

Nottinghamshire's relevant areas were last reviewed for admission arrangements 2021-2022. Nottinghamshire County Council as part of this consultation is reviewing the relevant areas.

It is proposed to retain the areas previously set, that is, coterminous with the administrative district in which the school or academy is located:

- Ashfield
- Bassetlaw
- Broxtowe
- Gedling
- Mansfield
- Newark
- Rushcliffe

For schools that have a catchment area or linked school that extends into other district areas the relevant area would also include that area, and/or the neighbouring local authority. For schools giving priority for children living in a parish the relevant area would also include the parish area that the school serves if this crosses into more than one administrative district area and/or other local authority.

The relevant area for a school is that which the admission authority for that school must consult all other prescribed schools on its admission arrangements.

### **Proposal 2 – change to the admission number for Carnarvon Primary School**

A reduction to the published admission number (PAN) at Carnarvon Primary School in the Rushcliffe District is being proposed. The school currently has a PAN of 70, the Council is seeking views on reducing this PAN to 60 for the 2023-2024 academic year. The PAN of 70 is difficult for the school to manage due to the number of classrooms available and the total capacity within the school is not sufficient to continue to provide 3 classes per year groups. Place planning reviews indicate that this reduction to PAN will not impact on the delivery of sufficient school places in the area by 2023.

**No other changes are being proposed.**

The full proposed admission arrangements document is available at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation)

## Who do we consult with?

We will be seeking the views of the following groups:

- parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen
- other people in the relevant area who may have an interest in the proposed admission arrangements
- all other admission authorities within the relevant area
- all community and voluntary controlled schools in Nottinghamshire
- chairs of governing bodies of Nottinghamshire schools
- diocesan representatives (relevant religious authorities)
- admission authorities in neighbouring local authority areas
- all registered early years providers within Nottinghamshire

## You can give your views on the consultation between 4 October 2021 and 28 November 2021

Anyone can comment on the arrangements. If you wish to respond, you can do this up to 28 November 2021 by:

- completing the online response form on the public website [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation)
- emailing [admissionsconsultations@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:admissionsconsultations@nottscc.gov.uk)

**The School Admissions Code 2021 (1.48) states that the full proposed admission arrangements must be available on the website for the duration of the consultation period.**

## What happens after the consultation closes?

**All responses received by 28 November 2021 will be considered. Elected members (County Councillors) make a decision on behalf of Nottinghamshire taking into account a range of information, including the consultation responses.** All admission authorities have to agree the admission arrangements that are most suitable according to the local circumstances.

### **Determining admission arrangements 2023-2024**

Admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools must be agreed (determined) by Nottinghamshire County Council by **28 February 2022** even if there have been no changes from previous years.

### **Publication of determined arrangements 2023-2024**

Once Nottinghamshire County Council has determined their admission arrangements, they will be available on the public website for the whole offer year (the academic year in which offers for places are made). Local authorities must publish on their website **by 15 March 2022**.