

Agenda Item: (iii)

Meeting: Admissions Forum

Date: 21 October 2009

Subject: Admission Numbers

Report of: Acting Chief Executive/Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children, Families and Learning

Summary: The purpose of this report is to inform the Forum of proposed changes to admission numbers and to seek agreement to the revised exceptions which may result in the admission number for a school being exceeded.

Contact Officer: Rosa Bonwick

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. To note the proposed change to the admission number for the replacement Roecroft Lower School.**
- 2. To agree the additional exception which may result in the admission number being exceeded.**
- 3. To invite the governing bodies of foundation, trust and voluntary aided schools to adopt the revised exceptions.**

Changes to Admission Numbers

1. A report will be submitted to the Executive on 10 November 2009 seeking funding approval for the building of a replacement school for Roecroft Lower School. The school will be two forms of entry and subject to funding approval, the admission number for the new school will be 60. The school currently has a published admission number of 30.
2. The Local Authority will, therefore, be consulting on an increase to the admission number for the school which, subject to the completion of the building project, will be effective from September 2011.
3. An increase to the published admission number of 27 or more would require an admission authority to consult with the trade union representing staff at the school. In the case of Roecroft Lower School, the relevant trade unions will have been consulted when the statutory notice for the replacement school was published. It is not, therefore, necessary to include the trade unions in this process.

4. No other increases are proposed for September 2011. However, the Local Authority will be writing to community and voluntary controlled schools about the arrangements proposed for September 2011. This may result in other changes which will be reported to the next meeting of the Forum.

Admissions above the published admission number

5. At the meeting of the Forum on 24 March 2009, members agreed the exceptions which may result in the admission number for a school being exceeded. A copy of those exceptions is attached at Appendix A.
6. An additional exception has been added for consideration by the Forum. Members will recall the discussion at the meeting on 24 June 2009, concerning the admission of twins or children from multiple births. The Local Authority would seek to admit those children to the same school, even if the school had reached its published admission number, provided the admission of those children would not cause a breach of infant class size limits. It is recommended that this be added to the list of exceptions and that foundation, trust and voluntary aided schools be invited to adopt the revised exceptions.

Appendices:

Appendix A – Admissions above the published admission number