

Agenda Item: (iv)

Meeting: Admissions Forum

Date: 21 October 2009

Subject: Co-ordinated Admission Schemes

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 that no changes are proposed to the co-ordinated admissions scheme for upper schools and the academy for 2011/2012 and to seek agreement to the changes proposed to the co-ordinated admissions scheme for primary schools for 2011/2012.

Contact Officer: Rosa Bonwick

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. To note the co-ordinated admissions scheme for upper schools and the academy.**
- 2. To note and agree the proposed changes to the co-ordinated admissions scheme for primary schools.**

Co-ordinated Scheme for Upper Schools and the Academy

1. The proposed co-ordinated scheme for upper schools and the academy is attached at Appendix A. No changes are proposed to the scheme, other than the timescales which have been updated for 2011/2012.
2. Members of the Forum will note that the national closing date of 31 October 2010 falls at the weekend. The Department of Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has confirmed that the national closing dates have been set irrespective of whether those dates are working days.

Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary Schools

3. The proposed co-ordinated scheme for primary schools (middle and lower) is attached at Appendix B. The scheme has been updated to reflect the requirement, from September 2011, for Local Authorities to co-ordinate primary applications from residents living in the Local Authority area.

4. Parents applying for a middle or lower school place will be required to submit their application to their home Local Authority, irrespective of whether their application is for a school in or outside that Local Authority area. If the application is for a school maintained by another Local Authority, the home Local Authority will be required to liaise with that authority, to determine whether a place is available, and to notify the parent of the outcome of their application.
5. Members will recall that the scheme for admissions in 2010/2011 makes provision for the joint arrangements for processing primary applications, between Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough. That has been removed from the scheme for 2011/2012 as those joint arrangements will cease before the 2011 admissions round commences.
6. The timescales have been updated and additional dates have been added for the exchange of information between Local Authorities. Members will note also that the national closing date of 15 January 2011 falls on a non working day.
7. As there will be a significant change to the co-ordinated scheme for primary admissions, the Local Authority would be required to consult in accordance with the School Admissions Code. Although there are no changes to the co-ordinated scheme for upper schools and the academy, other than the timescales, the Local Authority suggests that this scheme is issued as part of the consultation, for information purposes only.

Appendices:

Appendix A - Co-ordinated Admission Arrangements Upper Schools and Academy
Academic Year 2011/2012

Appendix B - Co-ordinated Admission Arrangements Primary Schools Academic Year
2011/2012