

Agenda Item: 4 (f)

Meeting: ADMISSIONS FORUM

Date: 24 March 2010

Subject: Foundation, Trust, Voluntary Aided Schools and Academy

Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children's Services

Summary: The purpose of this report is to note the proposed changes to the admission arrangements for Foundation, Trust, Voluntary Aided Schools and the Academy

Contact Officer: Rosa Bonwick

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. To note the proposed changes to the admissions criteria for those schools listed below in paragraph 2
 2. To note the proposed changes to the admissions criteria for Holywell VA Middle School and Samuel Whitbread Community College
 3. To note the proposed change to the admission number for St Mary's Catholic Lower School.
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Admissions Criteria

1. Members of the Forum will recall from the meeting on 21 October 2009, the recommendation that governing bodies of foundation, trust, voluntary aided schools and the academy, that serve a local catchment area, consider a change to their admissions criteria which would give catchment siblings a higher priority for admission than other children living in the catchment area.
2. The governing bodies of the following schools agreed that they would wish to make that change to their policies:

Lower Schools	Lower Schools	Upper Schools
All Saints VA	Sundon	Harlington
Derwent	Sutton VA	Manshead VA
Gothic Mede	Westoning	Queensbury
Langford		
Meppershall VA	Middle Schools	Academy
Moggerhanger	Arnold	All Saints *
Northill VA	Etonbury	*The change to the admissions policy of All Saints Academy is subject to the approval of the Secretary of State.
St Leonards VA	Parkfields	
St Mary's VA, Clophill	Robert Bloomfield	

3. As no other changes to the admissions criteria for these schools were proposed, the Local Authority agreed to consult on behalf of the governing bodies. No comments on the individual admission criteria for these schools were received during the consultation process.
4. It should be noted that John Donne VA Lower School is not included in the table in paragraph 2. This is because siblings already have priority for admission over catchment children. The Governing Body is not proposing any changes for September 2011.
5. The Governing Body of Holywell VA Middle School agreed that it would wish to change its policy to give catchment siblings a higher priority for admission than other children living in the catchment area. However, it also wished to make other changes. The Governing Body was advised that it would have to carry out the necessary consultation to include all of the proposed changes.

The Governing Body did not consult on the changes. The Local Authority has been informed by the school that the Governing Body is not proceeding with the other changes. It is, however, proposing to include the catchment sibling criterion within the determined admission arrangements.

6. The Governing Body of Samuel Whitbread Community College did not ask the Local Authority to consult, on its behalf, on the inclusion of the catchment sibling criterion, as other changes to its admissions policy were proposed. The Governing Body did not consult and the Local Authority has been informed by the school that it is not proceeding with the other changes. The Governing Body is however, proposing to include the catchment sibling criterion within the determined admission arrangements.

Admission Numbers

7. The Governing Body of St Mary's Catholic Lower School has consulted on an increase to its admission number from 28 to 30. The Local Authority would have no objections to the proposed change.
8. No other changes to admission numbers were proposed by the governing bodies of foundation, trust, voluntary aided schools or the academy.

Appendices:

None