

**Agenda Item: 4 (d)**

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**Meeting: ADMISSIONS FORUM**

**Date: 24 March 2010**

**Subject: Admission Numbers – Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools**

**Report of: Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Children’s Services**

**Summary:** The purpose of this report is to agree the admission numbers for community and voluntary controlled schools.

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Contact Officer: Rosa Bonwick

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- 1. That the proposed admission numbers for those schools listed in Appendix A be agreed, subject to the views of the Forum on the proposed increase to the admission number for Hadrian Lower School.**

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1. The proposed admission numbers for community and voluntary controlled schools are set out in Appendix A.
  2. Members of the Forum will recall that a replacement school is planned for Roecroft Lower School. The school will be two forms of entry and subject to the completion of the building project, the admission number for the new school will be 60. The school currently has a published admission number of 30.
  3. Following consultation with community and voluntary controlled schools requests for increases to admission numbers were received from the Governing Bodies of the following schools:

Gravenhurst Lower School – an increase from 9 to 10. This increase can be accommodated within existing class organisation.

Mary Bassett Lower School – an increase from 30 to 60. There is a long term need for additional lower school places in the Leighton Buzzard area. The school has sufficient accommodation to support two forms of entry and therefore no additional accommodation would be required.

The Local Authority had no objections to these change which were included within the statutory consultation process.

3. No comments on the proposed admission numbers for individual schools were received during the consultation process.
4. A late request to increase the admission number has been received from the Governing Body of Hadrian Lower School. The school currently has an admission number of 52, which reflects the capacity of the school. The school has recently had an extension to two classrooms which were significantly smaller than others in the school. As a result of the extension work the school now has 10 classrooms of similar size. This will enable the school to accommodate 30 children in each of the classrooms.

The headteacher did inform St Christopher's Lower School, which is the neighbouring lower school, of the proposed change. The Local Authority was advised that no objections were raised by the school. However, following officer discussions with the headteacher of St Christopher's Lower School, it appears that the school has reservations, given that an announcement on the future structure of schools in Central Bedfordshire is expected in April.

The increase to the admission number will reflect the revised capacity of the school and the Local Authority does not believe that this will impact on any future decision on school structures.

Members of the Forum are asked to consider whether they would support the increase to the admission number for Hadrian Lower School.

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## **Appendices:**

Appendix A – Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools – Proposed Admission Numbers  
2011