

# <u>Warwickshire County Council</u> <u>Consultation for 2025/2026 School Admissions</u>

(including the coordinated admissions scheme for children due to start school in Reception, children due to transfer from Year 2 at an infant school, and children due to start Year 7 in a secondary school, in September 2025)

#### Consultation and coordination

Warwickshire County Council is required to operate a coordinated admissions scheme. This allows Warwickshire residents to make a single application for places at their preferred school(s) and receive a single offer of a school place, whether or not this is one of their preference schools.

Warwickshire County Council is undertaking a consultation relating to our admission arrangements for the 2025/26 academic year. As required by the School Admissions Code (2021), admission authorities must consult on their proposed admissions arrangements for 2025 entry between 01 October 2023 and 31 January 2024. Consultation for 2025 entry must last for a minimum of six weeks.

The consultation period for Warwickshire County Council's proposed admission arrangements for 2025 entry, and in-year admissions for the 2025/26 academic year, will therefore operate between:

# 00:00 on Thursday 7 December 2023 until

# 23:59 on Wednesday 31 January 2024

The proposed changes being consulted on for the 2025 year of entry are:

- the reduction of the published admission number at three local authority maintained primary schools;
- changes to deferred and delayed entry information following updated DfE guidance; and
- minor changes in the coordinated scheme regarding offering places from waiting lists after National Offer Day.

## **Proposed PAN Reductions**

Kingsbury Primary School - Proposal to reduce PAN from 45 to 30

Newburgh Primary School - Proposal to reduce PAN from 60 to 30

The Dassett CofE Primary School – Proposal to reduce PAN from 30 to 15

The changes proposed will support long term financial planning at the above three schools.



The following school is increasing its PAN for 2025 entry - this does not require consultation but has been highlighted in the admission arrangements:

Galley Common Infant School – PAN increase from 54 to 60

The following school proposes to increase its PAN for 2025 entry subject to the outcome of a separate consultation to increase the capacity of the site:

Lighthorne Heath Primary School – proposed increase from 13 to 30

## Changes to deferred and delayed entry information

Following recent changes to DfE guidance for deferred and delayed entry, and other children educated out of year group, the local authority has updated its policy. The admission arrangements have been amended to reflect these changes.

### Proposed minor changes to process reoffers in the coordinated scheme

It is proposed that there will no longer be specific reallocation rounds for the reoffering of places from the waiting list after the relevant national offer day. Late applications and any declines received from places offered will begin to be processed starting two weeks after the relevant offer day and will continue to be processed as and when a place becomes available. This will avoid unnecessary delays and ensure as many vacancies as possible are filled prior to appeals being heard.

Copies of the proposed Admissions Arrangements are available online here:

https://ask.warwickshire.gov.uk/schools/schooladmissionarrangements2025

or by contacting Nikki Daly, Education Access and Organisation Coordinator, using the contact details below.

Please note that there are other important dates stated in the School Admissions Code regarding the consultation process, which must be complied with. While some of these dates are referenced in the proposed admission arrangements, the full version of the Code can be found using the following link:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_d ata/file/1001050/School\_admissions\_code\_2021.pdf

Where changes are proposed, admission authorities **must** consult with the following:

- a) parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen,
- b) other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions,
- c) all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools),



- d) any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority; and
- e) in the case of schools designated with a religious character, the body or person representing the religion or religious denomination.

#### In-Year admissions

While there is no longer a requirement for local authorities to co-ordinate in-year admissions, we are proposing that Warwickshire's School Admissions Service continue to receive these applications for the 2025/26 academic year. This will apply to all Warwickshire Schools where the local authority is the admission authority but we would also encourage own admission authority schools to adopt such an approach.

When the local authority co-ordinates in-year admissions, parents are able to make a single application for a school place and it makes it far easier for the local authority to track vulnerable groups of children.

#### **Determination**

Following the consultation period, the arrangements will then be considered by Cabinet, before being determined by the deadline of 28 February 2024 (as required by the School Admissions Code).

Once the arrangements have been determined, Warwickshire County Council will publish the final version of its 2025 entry coordinated scheme, the relevant oversubscription criteria for this entry year, and the 2025/26 in-year arrangements, as well as the admission arrangements for schools who are their own admission authority, on the WCC website, by the deadline of 15 March 2024.

#### Comments and Feedback

Any comments or feedback on Warwickshire County Council's proposed admission arrangements for September 2025 entry, and the 2025/26 academic year, should be sent, in writing, for the attention of:

Nikki Daly
Education Access and Organisation Coordinator
Either by post, using the following address:

Education Services
Warwickshire County Council
Shire Hall, Warwick CV34 4RL

Or via email: schoolorganisation@warwickshire.gov.uk