

28.02.24

Admission Consultation for pupils starting school in 2025/26 - Outcome

Dear Parent/Carer,

In December 23, we wrote to you, in line with DFE guidance, to consult with you on our proposal to change the school admission arrangements for Heaton Avenue, a SHARE Primary Academy - specifically the pupil admission number (PAN). The proposal related to an amendment to admission arrangements for the 2025/26 Reception intake, commencing on 1st September 2025.

We proposed to reduce the school PAN (pupil admission number) from 60 to 45 pupils as we believed that this reflected the demand for places in the area more accurately and would have enabled us to plan our staffing levels more precisely in the longer term.

After the consultation period, which ran from Friday 15th December 2023 until Wednesday 31st January 2024, Share Multi Academy Trust has considered responses from all stakeholders and from the Local Authority (LA). The LA gave the following feedback:

- When considering the number of children in each year group cohort, who are resident in the Cleckheaton primary school planning area, the population can be seen to decrease in 2024/25, it then increases again in 2025/26, before declining once more. Given the expected population recovery in 2025/26, a reduction in PAN at Heaton Avenue could compromise parental choice and availability of primary school places within a reasonable distance.
- There may also be a small impact on demand for school places due to house-building within the planning area, although we do not expect this to be significant.

In light of the above, and taking into consideration the advice from the LA, Share MAT has taken the decision not to make changes to the Heaton Avenue PAN in the academic year 2025/26 and to keep pupil numbers under annual review if more evidence of population decline becomes available beyond 25/26.

Yours Sincerely,



Executive Principal
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