

6th November 2017

Consultation on a proposed reduction in the published admission number for Outwood Academy Acklam, Middlesbrough with effect from September 2019

Length of consultation: 6 weeks, ending on 18th December 2017

Preface

Admission authorities must have determined their admissions arrangements for entry in September 2019 by 28th February 2018. They must publish them on their website and have sent a copy to their local authority before 15th March 2018.

As an academy, we are our own admissions authority and as such must ensure that:

1. consultation lasts for a minimum of 6 weeks and must take place between 1 October 2017 and 31 January 2018.
2. we consult with:
 - a. parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
 - b. other persons in the relevant area who may have an interest in the proposed admissions;
 - c. all other admission authorities within the relevant area;
 - d. the local authority
3. for the duration of the consultation period, a copy of our full proposed admission arrangements (including the proposed PAN) is published on our website together with details of the person within the admission authority to whom comments may be sent and the areas on which comments are not sought.
4. send upon request a copy of the proposed admission arrangements to any of the persons or bodies listed above inviting comment.

Proposal

To decrease the published admission number from 270 students to 210 students.

Although the Regulations and Code of Practice relating to school admissions no longer require an admissions authority to consult when maintaining or increasing a school's PAN, there remains a requirement to consult when the proposal is to reduce a PAN. Outwood Academy Acklam, as the admissions authority, is seeking comments on the proposed change.

Background

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for Outwood Academy Acklam is 270. This means that the number of children admitted into the school at Year 7 each year is limited to 270. Due to the necessary changes to the building, to make it fit for purpose, the current PAN exceeds the physical capacity of the academy to accommodate this number of pupils. Reducing the PAN will ensure that the current building is suitable and fit for purpose.

The building was originally designed around the 'Discovery' model. This included 'big space learning' on the ground floor of each of the five faculty areas, i.e., no classrooms. As this was

not conducive to effective learning and teaching, classrooms had to be built in a £1.5m expenditure to make the building fit for purpose. In doing so, large circulation spaces were inevitable due to the design. The circulation space now exceeds 40% meaning the area that the 1350 PAN (270 per year group) was calculated for is no longer accurate. In short, there is simply not enough classrooms in the academy to accommodate the PAN at 1350.

Specifics of the Proposal

Outwood Academy Acklam proposes to reduce the published admission number of the academy from 270 to 210 with effect from September 2019.

This means that the number of places available for children in Year 7 in 2019 – and all subsequent Year 7 cohorts – will be 210. For children who already have a place at the school in other year groups there will be no change; the admission number for all other years remains at 270.

The capacity of the school building is the sole factor in deciding to consult on this proposal.

Comments are sought only in relation to the proposed change of published admission number and not any other aspect of the admissions arrangements.

Outwood Academy Acklam follows the Middlesbrough Local Authority Agreed School Admissions Arrangements and will continue to do so. The latest copy of this document is available on the academy website. We will follow any dates published by the local authority for 2019-20.

How to Respond

This consultation will run from 6th November 2017 to 18 December 2017 and you are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal above to Mrs Joanne Lake, Executive Assistant, Outwood Academy Acklam, Hall Drive, Acklam, Middlesbrough. TS5 7JY. Please send any comments by 18th December 2017.

Following the consultation period the Academy Council will consider any comments received and how to proceed. Admission arrangements for 2019 will be determined by 28th February 2018 and any subsequent objections would need to be made to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator.

Mark Hassack
Executive Principal
Outwood Grange Academies Trust