

# AMENDMENTS TO SCHOOL PLANNED ADMISSION NUMBERS

## REPORT BY ADMISSIONS AND TRANSPORT MANAGER

LOCAL ADMISSIONS FORUM

18 JUNE 2009

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### Wards Affected

Potentially countywide.

### Purpose

To consider changes to the Planned Admission Numbers (PAN) at Leominster Infants School and Almeley Primary.

### Financial Implications

None.

### Background

#### 1. Leominster Infants School

Leominster Infants School has requested a decrease in its PAN from 110 to 90. This is in line with the reduction in PAN from 110 to 90 agreed by the LAF in June 2008 for Leominster Junior School.

The predicted numbers starting at Leominster Infant School over the next three years are between 70 and 75.

#### 2. Almeley Primary

Almeley Primary has requested an increase in its PAN from 9 to 12.

For information the makeup of the categories of places offered for its new Reception Class starting in September 2009 is:

Category	Number
Catchment Sibling	1
Catchment	3
Sibling Out of Area	2
Out of Area	3
Total	9

The reasons given by the school behind their request are:

“We currently have a PAN of 9, (63 children) + 19 additional allowance for the pupils who transferred to us following the closure of Brilley School. Any children born in, or moving into Brilley since the school closed will be allocated Eardisley School which means that as our 19 Brilley children move through the school we have capacity for an increased PAN.

We would like to increase our PAN to 12 making the future of the school more secure (total 84 as opposed to 63).

We could actually accommodate 15 children per year but in the current climate this may jeopardise other schools and make for a KS1 class of 30, which is not desirable in mixed aged classes. We currently operate in 4 classes - am YR/1, Y2/3, Y4/5, Y5/6 and pm YR, Y1/2, Y3/4 and Y5/6. This facilitates access to the appropriate curriculum.

Including myself as Head teacher we have 4.94 teachers. We have 4 classrooms, 2 of which are full sized (to accommodate 30 children) and 2 temporary classrooms that are undersized; each will accommodate 25 pupils (suitability audit 2008). We have planning permission for a permanent classroom to accommodate 30 pupils.

We have a waiting list of 4 children this academic year with another child 99% certain of moving into area before the start of term which means that there will be 4 appeals this year. We are the only non-denominational school within a 13 mile radius.”

It is the view of the local authority that the PAN should not be increased at this time.

The current PAN of 9 is sufficient to accommodate catchment and sibling children. At the time that offers for reception places were made in March 2009, it was possible to accommodate 3 out of area children within the PAN of 9.

Currently, the school has one additional, temporary, mobile classroom to accommodate the children who were at Brilley Primary School when that school closed. As a result, the current capacity of the school equates to 4 classes. This is to cope with the resultant ‘bulge’ of pupil numbers from the Brilley closure. As these children move through the school and eventually transfer to high school, the additional mobile classroom will be removed and the school capacity will reduce.

Given the current 4 class capacity of the school the local authority has had to agree to the admission of a further two out of area children to the reception year for September 2009. However, there is not a longer term pattern of oversubscription at this school.

The local authority is working with the school on their plans to replace one of their other mobile classrooms with permanent accommodation. As part of this process the local authority will discuss with the school the future capacity requirements.

## **Recommendation**

**THAT:** the requests be considered and the request for the change in PAN at Leominster Infants School be agreed but the change at Almeley Primary not to be agreed.

## **Considerations**

None.

## **Risk Management**

None

## **Background papers**

None

## **Appendices**

None