

MEETING:	HEREFORDSHIRE LOCAL ADMISSIONS FORUM
DATE:	14 JULY 2010
TITLE OF REPORT:	INFORMATION REGARDING TRANSFERS OUTSIDE THE NORMAL ADMISSIONS ROUNDS
OFFICER:	GOVERNOR SERVICES COORDINATOR

CLASSIFICATION: Open

Wards Affected

Countywide

Purpose

To consider the statistics in relation to secondary school “in-year” transfers.

Key Decision

This is not a Key Decision.

Recommendation

THAT: the information be considered by LAF.

Key Points Summary

- 1 There have been 326 transfers during the 2008/2009 academic year compared to the previous academic year’s total of 354 and the previous year’s total of 521. LAF will note that again over half (54%) of the transfers are from out of county (OCC) or out of the country transfers. There are clearly a range of reasons why transfers occur, including parents moving house as well as the reasons such as bullying explicitly highlighted in the data report.
- 2 Aylestone no longer “heads” the list in terms of transfers out of school during 2008/09 with 17 instances this is a significant reduction from last year total of 30 and 93 the year before that. Rather the higher incidence of transfers out are being experienced also at Kingstone (12), The Minster (15), Weobley (18) and The Hereford Academy (16)
- 3 It is also worth noting that the number of transfers citing bullying as a reason is reduced from 56 in 2006/2007 to 18 in 2007/2008 and 8 in 2008/09.
- 4 It is worth reminding The Forum that with effect from 1st September 2010 the Local Authority takes on the statutory responsibility to co-ordinate In Year Transfers in addition to The Reception Class and Transfer Rounds. Recently all schools were reminded of the In Year Transfer Procedure ratified by The Local Admission Forum in November 2010 to deal with this

Further information on the subject of this report is available from
Caroline Watkins – Governor Services Co-ordinator on (01432) 260929

additional responsibility. Effectively the Local Authority Admissions Team will make all offers (and refusals) in response to parental requests for In Year Transfer and not individual school admission authorities. An additional benefit of this co-ordination will be the facility to identify and then refer “serial movers” to either the Choice Advice and/or Educational Welfare Service.

- 5 On a related subject the In Year Fair Access Placement Panel has been in operation now since December 2009 (the In Year Fair Access Protocol was also ratified by The Local Admissions Forum in November 2010).
- 6 So far the panel has met 4 times and considered 24 individual cases, 17 of which related to year 10 and Year 11 pupils – the hardest to place when transferring. A review of the workings and composition of the Placement Panel will shortly be undertaken by senior management within the directorate.

Alternative Options

- 7 Not applicable

Reasons for Recommendations

- 8 Not applicable

Introduction and Background

- 9 At the LAF in June 2007 it was requested that information be provided on secondary school in year transfers. It was felt by LAF that this information would be of interest and would give an indication of parental preference amongst high schools.
- 10 The first page of the information in Appendix 7.1 gives overall numbers across the County in 2008/09. Pages following provide a further breakdown of this information by reason. SA3 refers to the in year transfer request application form.

Key Considerations

- 11 None

Community Impact

- 12 None

Financial Implications

- 13 There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

- 14 None

Risk Management

- 15 None

Consultees

None

Appendices

Appendix 4.1 – “In Year Transfer Matrix”

Background Papers

None identified.