

MEETING:	HEREFORDSHIRE LOCAL ADMISSIONS FORUM
DATE:	7 JULY 2011
TITLE OF REPORT:	INFORMATION REGARDING TRANSFERS OUTSIDE THE NORMAL ADMISSIONS ROUNDS
PORTFOLIO AREA:	People's Services Directorate

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

There have been 276 transfers during the 2009/2010 academic year compared to the previous academic year's total of 326 and the previous year's total of 354. For information the total to date for the current 2010/2011 academic year is 304 transfers. LAF will note that half 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.

Aylestone continues to see a reduction in terms of transfers out of the school during 2009/10 with 12 instances this is a reduction from last year total of 17 and 30 the year before that. Rather the higher incidences of transfers out are being experienced also at Kingstone (13), Whitecross (18) and The Hereford Academy (22).

It is worth reminding The Forum that with effect from 1st September 2010 the Local Authority has taken 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 additional responsibility. Effectively the Local Authority Admissions Team now makes 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.

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).

This academic year so far the panel has met 7 times and considered 45 individual cases, 13 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 is being undertaken by senior management within the directorate. The Schools Forum has also asked for information with regard to the scale and impact of in year transfers.

Alternative Options

Not applicable

Reasons for Recommendations

Not applicable

Introduction and Background

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.

The first page of the information in Appendix 4.1 gives overall numbers across the County in 2009/10. Pages following provide a further breakdown of this information by reason. SA3 refers to the in year transfer request application form.

Key Considerations

None

Community Impact

None

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Legal Implications

None

Risk Management

None

Consultees

None

Appendices

Appendix 4.1 – “In Year Transfer Matrix”

Background Papers

None identified.