



HARROW ADMISSIONS FORUM

**WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2008
7.00 PM**

**PANEL AGENDA (ADVISORY AND CONSULTATIVE)
COMMITTEE ROOMS 1 & 2,
HARROW CIVIC CENTRE**

MEMBERSHIP (Quorum 1 representative from 3 Groups)

Chairman: Councillor

Councillors:

**Mrs Anjana Patel
Dinesh Solanki**

Bill Stephenson

Community School Representatives:

**Governor
(Vacancy)**

**Primary
Sue Jones**

**Secondary
Janice Howkins**

Jewish School Representative:

Mrs D Palman

Roman Catholic School Representative:

Mr M Murphy

Church of England School Representative:

Mrs S Hinton

Church of England Diocese Representative:

Rev P Reece

Catholic Schools Diocese Representative:

Mr Billiet

Primary Elected Parent Governor Representative:

Mrs D Speel

Secondary Elected Parent Governor Representative:

Mr R Chauhan

Harrow Council for Racial Equality Representative:

Saeed Ahmad

Early Years Development Partnership Representative:

Ms H Tucker

Children's Services Representative

(Vacancy)

**Issued by the Democratic Services Section,
Legal and Governance Services Department**

**Contact: Paul Gallagher, Democratic Services Officer
Tel: 020 8424 1265 E-mail: paul.gallagher@harrow.gov.uk**

HARROW COUNCIL

HARROW ADMISSIONS FORUM

WEDNESDAY 9 JULY 2008

AGENDA - PART I

1. **Election of Chairman:**

To appoint a Chairman of the Harrow Admissions Forum for the Municipal Year 2008/2009.

(Note: The Education (Admissions Forums) (England) Regulations 2002 state that the Chairman shall hold office until the next meeting which falls after the date which is a year after the meeting at which the Chairman was elected, and on ceasing to hold office shall be eligible for re-election).

2. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**

To note the attendance at this meeting of any duly appointed Reserve Members.

Reserve Members may attend meetings:-

- (i) to take the place of an ordinary Member for whom they are a reserve;
- (ii) where the ordinary Member will be absent for the whole of the meeting; and
- (iii) the meeting notes at the start of the meeting at the item 'Reserves' that the Reserve Member is or will be attending as a reserve;
- (iv) if a Reserve Member whose intention to attend has been noted arrives after the commencement of the meeting, then that Reserve Member can only act as a Member from the start of the next item of business on the agenda after his/her arrival.

3. **Declarations of Interest:**

To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from:

- (a) all Members of the Committee, Sub Committee, Panel or Forum;
- (b) all other Members present in any part of the room or chamber.

4. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

To consider whether any of the items listed on the agenda should be considered with the press and public excluded on the grounds that it is thought likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, that there would be disclosure of confidential information in breach of an obligation of confidence or of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

5. **Election of Vice-Chairman:**

To appoint a Vice-Chairman of the Harrow Admissions Forum for the Municipal Year 2008/2009.

(Note: The Education (Admissions Forums) (England) Regulations 2002 state that the Vice-Chairman shall hold office until the next meeting which falls after the date which is a year after the meeting at which the Vice-Chairman was elected, and on ceasing to hold office shall be eligible for re-election).

Enc. 6. **Minutes:** (Pages 1 - 4)

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 March 2008 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

7. **Matters Arising:**

8. **Public Questions:**

To receive questions (if any) from local residents or organisations under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 16 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

9. **Petitions:**

To receive petitions (if any) submitted by members of the public/Councillors under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 14 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

10. **Deputations:**

To receive deputations (if any) under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 15 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

Enc. 11. **Krishna-Avanti School - Admission Arrangements:** (Pages 5 - 12)
Report of the Director of Schools and Children's Development.

Enc. 12. **Strategic Reference Group - School Organisation Admissions Focus Group Update:** (Pages 13 - 22)
Report of the Director of Schools and Children's Development.

13. **Date of Next Meeting:**

To be agreed by the Forum.

[Note: The Education (Admissions Forums) (England) Regulations 2002 state that a forum shall meet at least three times during the initial year and at least twice each year thereafter].

AGENDA - PART II - Nil

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HARROW ADMISSIONS FORUM

3 MARCH 2008

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman: | (Vacancy) |
| Councillors: | * Dinesh Solanki
* Bill Stephenson (Vice-Chairman in the Chair) |
| Community School Representatives: | <u>Governor</u> <u>Primary</u> <u>Secondary</u>
(Vacancy) * Sue Jones * Janice Howkins |
| Jewish School Representative: | * Mrs D Palman |
| Roman Catholic School Representative: | * Mike Murphy |
| Church of England School Representative: | Mrs S Hinton |
| Church of England Diocese Representative: | * Rev Paul Reece |
| Catholic Schools Diocese Representative: | * Mr Billiet |
| Primary Elected Parent Governor Representative: | † Mrs D Speel |
| Secondary Elected Parent Governor Representative: | Mr R Chauhan |
| Harrow Council for Racial Equality Representative: | Saeed Ahmad |
| Early Years Development Partnership Representative: | * Helena Tucker |
| Children's Services Representative: | (Vacancy) |

* Denotes Member present
 † Denotes apologies received

In attendance: Councillor Miss Christine Bednell (Portfolio Holder for Schools and Children's Development)

PART I - RECOMMENDATIONS - NIL

PART II - MINUTES

60. **Appointment of Chairman:**
RESOLVED: That the election of Chairman be deferred until the meeting of the Forum in September 2008.
61. **Appointment of Vice-Chairman:**
RESOLVED: That the election of Chairman be deferred until the meeting of the Forum in September 2008.
62. **Attendance by Reserve Members:**
RESOLVED: To note that there were no Reserve Members in attendance at this meeting.
63. **Declarations of Interest:**
RESOLVED: To note that there were no declarations of interests made by Members in relation to the business transacted at this meeting.

64. **Arrangement of Agenda:**

RESOLVED: That all items be considered with the press and public present.

65. **Minutes:**

RESOLVED: That the minutes from the meeting of 4 February 2008 be deferred until the next meeting of the Forum.

66. **Public Questions:**

RESOLVED: To note that no public questions were received at this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 16 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

67. **Petitions:**

RESOLVED: To note that no petitions were received at this meeting under the provisions of the Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 14 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

68. **Deputations:**

RESOLVED: To note that no deputations were received at this meeting under the provisions of Advisory Panel and Consultative Forum Procedure Rule 15 (Part 4E of the Constitution).

69. **Compliance with the School Admissions Code: Voluntary Aided Admission Arrangements:**

The Forum received the report from the Director of Schools and Children's Development, which set out the requirement for the Forum to review the admission arrangements for voluntary aided schools to ensure they meet the statutory requirements.

The officer recommended that good practice meant that it was necessary to clarify particular items of the admissions criteria, for example, how issues of distance and equidistance were calculated. After a discussion, the Forum agreed that admissions criteria would benefit from a clarification of the differences between a letter from a consultant and a letter from a GP. The Chairman commented that a transparent and clear definition of 'compassionate needs' was required and the Voluntary Aided Schools might benefit from looking at Community Schools' definitions.

A member of the Forum noted that some applicants omitted details of their needs often to the detriment of their application. In response, the Chairman queried whether the inclusion of a question about the applicant's disability needs was an issue for concern. The officer replied that the admissions code allowed such questions if they were used in a positive way.

Discussing the admission arrangements for the Krishna-Avanti Primary School the Chairman reported that Mr Gor, a lead representative of the School, did not recall discussing the number of nominated places with the School Organisation Committee. The Chairman expressed concerns over the Krishna-Avanti Primary School having published their new admissions code and extending the number of nominated places from five to ten without consulting the Forum. A member of the Forum commented that it was the understanding of the School Organisation Committee that a special compensation was made for the Krishna-Avanti Primary School, and that it would only stand for a limited time. Another member expressed their discontent about the exclusion of other Hindu temples within the school's admission code. The Chairman replied that the school's admission code must be transparent and also broad enough to include the wider Hindu community.

A Member of the Forum questioned whether the Krishna-Avanti Primary School might be lacking the necessary experience and had made a mistake with their code. A member replied that the contravention of the admissions code had been brought to the School's attention. Councillor Miss Christine Bednell, (Portfolio Holder for Schools and Children's Development) confirmed that the school had knowledgeable advisors, supported the statement. In response, a member queried the possibility of referring the Krishna-Avanti Primary School to the school's adjudicator if no changes were made to their admissions policy.

The Forum sought legal advice about having a meeting with Mr Gor and the legality of asking the Krishna-Avanti Primary School to change its admissions policy after the determination date. The legal representative confirmed that the Forum would need to apply for an exception to make changes during the six-month determination deadline. The legal representative further confirmed that, as no correspondence between Mr Gor and the Forum had raised the possibility of a referral, a meeting was required to adhere to natural justice.

A member suggested that as the Krishna-Avanti School was being discussed over matters of code contravention, then other Voluntary Aided Schools in Harrow that acted in the same manner must also be addressed. The officer replied that although St George's Roman Catholic Primary School had not submitted its admissions policy, if there were no changes to the policy then a dispensation could be allowed for a year.

RESOLVED: That (1) a timeframe of three weeks would be allowed for Mr Gor to respond to an invitation to a meeting with a select group of members of the Forum to discuss the Krishna-Avanti Primary School's admission arrangements before referral would be considered;

(2) that a letter asking if there had been any amendments to their admissions policy would be sent to St George's Roman Catholic Primary School.

70. **School Re-organisation (Age of Transfer) – Admissions Focus Group:**

The Forum received a report from the Director of Schools and Children's Development, which asked the Forum to agree the process for establishing membership of the Focus Group to review admission arrangements to reflect Harrow's change in the age of transfers from 12+ to 11+.

The Chairman commented that the Focus Group would need to have practical ideas to take to parents for genuine consideration, and that the ideas might be controversial and difficult to work with. Councillor Bednell added that when addressing the best methods of the admissions system it would be impossible to satisfy everybody's needs.

A member of the Forum suggested that it was important to gain support from High School Headteachers to help align the parents with the Forum's suggestions. The Chairman added that the Forum must also consider the possibility of creating working groups to run alongside the focus groups. The officer commented that members of the Stakeholder Reference Group would have to make a large commitment, as the workload would be rather high.

The Vice-Chairman in the Chair commented that the Group must be set up immediately as the paper must be ready to go to Cabinet in June 2008. Councillor Miss Christine Bednell (Portfolio Holder for Schools and Children's Development) added that Cabinet must be aware of what was being consulted on in order to return the recommendations to Cabinet in January 2008.

RESOLVED: That the Forum agreed the process for the establishment of the Focus Group and membership would include Councillor Bill Stephenson, Councillor Miss Christine Bednell, a High School Head, two Primary Heads and a Governor.

(Note: The meeting having commenced at 6.02 pm, closed at 7.46 pm)

(Signed) COUNCILLOR BILL STEPHENSON
Vice-Chairman in the Chair

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Meeting:	Harrow Admissions Forum
Date:	9 July 2008
Subject:	Krishna-Avanti School – Admission Arrangements
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	No
Responsible Officer:	Heather Clements, Director Schools and Children’s Development
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Anjana Patel, Schools and Children’s Development
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendices 1 and 2

Section 1: Summary

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

Recommendations:

To consider the revised admission arrangements for the Krishna-Avanti School

Reason: (For recommendation)

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SECTION 2 - REPORT

Background

Following concern expressed by the Admissions Forum, the Governors of the Krishna-Avanti School have reviewed and amended their admission arrangements. The revised arrangements (Appendix 1) and Supplementary Information Form (Appendix 2) are in line with the comments made by members of the Forum at a meeting with Nitesh Gor from the Krishna-Avanti School on 15 April 2008.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Performance Issues

There are no performance issues arising from this report.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: John Stansfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer
Date: 30 June 2008		
Name: Rosemarie Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer
Date: 1 July 2008		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Madeleine Hitchens, Manager Place Planning & Admissions – 020 8424 1398 madeleine.hitchens@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: N/A:



Admissions Policy for Krishna-Avanti Primary School & Nursery

The Admissions Policy for the Krishna-Avanti Primary School & Nursery has been amended and proposed after consultation and as required under the Education Act 2002 and referral to the Harrow Admissions Forum. The policy will comply with the Code of Practice on Admissions.

The School is a Voluntary-Aided Hindu faith school and the Vision Statement of the School is reflective of this distinct character. As such, parents/guardians proposing to send children to the School will also be expected to comply with the ethos and values of the School.

The School is a one-form entry school and will admit 30 pupils per academic year. The School will open incrementally, starting with reception year.

Parents will need to apply for admission for a place in the reception class even if a child has been admitted to the nursery. Attendance at the nursery does not guarantee admission to the School.

The governing body is responsible for determining admissions to the School. The following criteria will be used when considering applications for admissions to the school whenever there are more applicants than places available, which are listed in order of priority:

- 1) Looked after children from Hindu families
- 2) Children with a statement of special educational needs where the School is named in the statement
- 3) Siblings¹
- 4) Five nominations by Bhaktivedanta Manor, Hilfield Land, WD25 8EZ of practising² Hindu families for admissions in 2008, 2009, 2010
- 5) Children from practising Hindu families
- 6) Children from Hindu families who are broadly following³ the tenets of Hinduism
- 7) Other looked after children
- 8) Families who are sympathetic to the Vision Statement⁴ of the School
- 9) All other children

¹ However, this will not apply when the older child will leave school before the younger one starts

² See definition within the Supplementary Information Form

³ See definition under section 'Supplementary Information Form' below

⁴ See description under section 'Vision Statement' below

The School is keen to encourage applications from other faith backgrounds; however, demand for places is expected to be heavily oversubscribed and opening admissions to non Hindu faith based applicants at this early stage has been viewed as inappropriate.

Tie-break

In the event of there being insufficient vacancies to admit all applicants in any of the categories detailed above, priority will be given to children whose parents'/legal guardians' home address is the shortest distance from the main gates of the School when measured in a straight line regardless of ease of access. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address will be taken as the one stated in the application form.

Other Definitions:

Applicant

The parents and/or legal guardian submitting an application for a place on behalf of the child.

Looked after Children

Any child in the care of the Local Authority or in accommodation provided by them

Family

Those individuals who live at the residential address of the parents and/or legal guardians who are submitting an application for a place on behalf of a child

Siblings

All blood or adoptive brothers and sisters or half brothers and sisters

Admission Procedure

Parents are encouraged to attend Open Days or to make an individual appointment to visit the School before applying.

Parents who wish to send their children to the school will need to complete Harrow's common application form which is obtainable from Harrow's Admissions Service and online at www.harrow.gov.uk

Applicants must also complete and return to the School the School's Supplementary Information Form, available from the School or online at www.krishna-avanti.org.uk

In-year applications

Applicants must apply to the Admissions Secretary of the School. Application forms will be given with a copy of the admissions policy. If a place becomes available in the school, the admissions committee will review children waiting for a place alongside new applications in accordance with the above criteria. If there are no children waiting, places will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Supplementary Information Forms

Applications submitted on the basis of Hindu faith should be accompanied by the completed Supplementary Information Form as described above. This Form will also need to be duly signed and supported by a local temple priest acting as referee. Definitions of 'practising' and 'broadly following' (as mentioned in the Admissions Policy priority list) are:

Definition of 'Practising' as confirmed by the Supplementary Information Form –

Children who the Temple is confidently aware are from practising Hindu families and who regularly attend the Temple (i.e. follow all the key tenets of the faith and attend the Temple)

Definition of 'Broadly Following' as confirmed by the Supplementary Information Form –

Children who the Temple cannot confidently verify follow all the key tenets of the faith but who attend the Temple either regularly or irregularly

Vision Statement (fuller version available upon request)

The Krishna-Avanti School helps children realise their spiritual, moral and academic potential in a welcoming, secure and supportive environment centred about loving service to Lord Krishna. The school enables pupils to enjoy learning, to develop character and competence, and to prepare for secondary education and the responsibilities of adult life in 21st Century Britain.

To fulfil this vision, the school promotes six ideals, namely:

1. Academic Achievement

Enabling students to become confident, articulate and motivated learners, thus laying solid foundations for their future vocation, economic well-being and self-fulfilment.

2. Character Formation

Nurturing character and conduct consistent with Vaishnava-Hindu virtues, most notably respect, empathy, honesty, self-esteem, self-discipline, thoughtfulness and appreciation of the divine.

3. Healthy Mind & Body

Promoting pupils' holistic health through the provision of a safe, caring environment, a balanced vegetarian diet and opportunities to practice yoga, meditation and the arts.

4. Wholesome Sense of Identity

Acknowledging the key roles of free choice, exemplary role-models, fidelity to tradition and - above all - a spiritual identity that unites all people and all creatures.

5. Social and Community Cohesion

Inviting all members of the school and broader community to share in its aims, and preparing students of all backgrounds to contribute to society as responsible citizens.

6. Environmental Responsibility

Helping students adopt conscientious lifestyles that help sustain our planet, particularly by setting a practical example, nurturing respect for all life, and maintaining a simple, clean and ecologically-friendly environment.

Waiting lists

Unsuccessful applicants may ask to be placed on a Waiting List.

Final Decision

An admissions committee composed of members of the governing body will make a final decision (based on the criteria set down) on all admissions to the school.

Appeals

Applicants who are not offered a place will have the right to appeal by writing to the appeals panel within a certain number of days from the date of the Governors' letter being sent.



Supplementary Information Form for Krishna-Avanti Primary School & Nursery

Applications submitted on the basis of Hindu faith should be accompanied by the below Supplementary Information Form. This form is to be completed by both the parent/guardian and a temple head (or nominated priest), acting as referee.

Section 1 (To be completed by the parent/guardian)

Name of parent/guardian:

Contact number:

Email:

Name of child:

Date of birth of child:

Section 2 (To be completed by a local temple head acting as referee)

Please tick only one box as appropriate

I am confidently aware that the above named child and parent(s) are practising Hindus and regularly attend the Temple i.e. they follow all the **key** tenets of the faith as practised by our Temple

I cannot confidently verify that the above named child and parent(s) follow the key tenets of the faith as practised by our Temple, but they **do** attend the Temple either regularly or irregularly

To the best of my knowledge, the above named child and parent(s) are **not** practising Hindus

Section 3

Waiting lists

Unsuccessful applicants may ask to be placed on a Waiting List.

Final Decision

An Admissions Panel composed of members of the governing body will make a final decision (based on the criteria set down) on all admissions to the school.

Appeals

Applicants who are not offered a place will have the right to appeal by writing to the independent Appeals Panel within a certain number of days from the date of the Governors' letter being sent.

Section 4 (To be completed by a local temple head acting as referee)

I certify that the family and applicant are personally known to me and that the above provided information is correct.

Full name:

Position:

Name and address of temple:

Signature:

Date:

Contact number:

Email:

Please return the completed form to:

**Admissions
Krishna-Avanti Primary School
c/o Little Stanmore School
St Davids Drive
Edgware
HA8 6JH**



Meeting:	Harrow Admissions Forum
Date:	9 July 2008
Subject:	Strategic Reference Group – School Organisation Admissions Focus Group Update
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	No
Responsible Officer:	Heather Clements, Director Schools and Children’s Development
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Anjana Patel, Schools and Children’s Development
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendices 1, 2, 3(i) and 3(i)

Section 1: Summary

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

Recommendations:

To note and comment on the work of the Admissions Focus Group established by the Harrow Admissions Forum to review admission arrangements to reflect Harrow’s change in the age of transfer from 12+ to 11+.

Reason: (For recommendation)

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SECTION 2 - REPORT

Background

At its meeting on 3rd March 2008, the Forum agreed to establish a Working Group to review admission arrangements to reflect Harrow's change in the age of transfer from 12+ to 11+.

The members of the Working Group considered the underlying principles for reviewing the admission arrangements at this stage and agreed the following:

- Encourage parents to stay in Harrow
- Achieve a balance so there is perceived fairness and equity across the borough
- Compliance with the Code of Practice
- Act on commitment made to review high school admission arrangements at time of change in age of transfer.

The group has met on four occasions and has agreed the following actions:

1. Parents' focus group meeting to get views on options for allocating high school places.
2. Views from other main stakeholders through primary heads, secondary heads governors and early years groups.
3. Letter to be sent to heads and chairs of governors (Appendix 1) to give notification of an exercise to gather early views on the fairest means of allocating high school places.
4. Draft timetable (see Appendix 2) to ensure that all stakeholders have time in which to respond.
5. To undertake an initial "sounding" exercise (Appendix 3i and 3ii) with all stakeholders, including an item in the July edition of Harrow People, to find out whether there is any agreement on a system for allocating high school places that is fair to all children and their families. Responses are required by 31 July 2008. A full consultation report can be viewed at www.harrow.gov.uk/earlysoundings
6. Feedback on "soundings" exercise to be considered by the Working Group, who will report to the Stakeholders Reference Group (SRG) on the outcomes. The SRG will make recommendations to the Harrow Admissions Forum to develop specific proposals for formal consultation.
7. Formal consultation will be undertaken in the Autumn term on specific proposals for the admission arrangements for entry to high school in September 2010.

Members of the Admissions Forum may wish to consider some of the more practical issues involved in changing the age of transfer. For example, what will happen to families where two siblings are going through different transfer groups? If one child is offered a place (either Year 7 or Year 8) should the other child have the sibling link for that year only? Forum Members may wish to identify other issues that could impact on admission arrangements in the transitional year.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Performance Issues

There are no performance issues arising from this report.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: John Stansfield	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer
Date: 30 June 2008		
Name: Rosemarie Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer
Date: 1 July 2008		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Madeleine Hitchens, Manager Place Planning & Admissions – 020 8424 1398 madeleine.hitchens@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: N/A:

21 May 2008

TO ALL HEADTEACHERS
AND CHAIRS OF GOVERNORS

Dear Colleague

ADVANCE NOTICE OF REVIEW OF HIGH SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

As you know, Harrow reviews and consults on admission arrangements for community schools every year. This year, before doing any formal consultation, it has been agreed to take early soundings from schools, parents and other stakeholders on what is the fairest means of allocating high school places.

We are reviewing the admission arrangements to ensure that the oversubscription criteria meet the requirements of the new School Admissions Code of Practice. The Code requires admission authorities to have a system which is clear, objective and provides fair access to educational opportunities. It sets out the government's aim to have a system "where all parents feel they have the same opportunities to apply for the schools they want for their child". All admission authorities are required to have admission arrangements that enable parents to be able to understand whether they have a realistic chance of being offered a place for their child at any particular school. Admission authorities are now required to demonstrate that their admission arrangements are fully compliant with the Code of Practice and other relevant legislation.

After the half-term break we will be sending you detailed information to seek your views on high school admission arrangements. We thought you would like some early notice of this to give you an opportunity to consider how you will engage all parts of your school community in this exercise. Once we have your views these will be used to develop a set of proposals. Consultation on these specific proposals will take place in the autumn term, as part of the annual consultation on admission arrangements.

If you want to discuss this with me, please contact me. My direct line phone number is below.

Yours sincerely

Madeleine Hitchens

Madeleine Hitchens
Manager, Place Planning & Admissions Service

Tel: 020 8424 1398
Fax: 020 8427 0810

D R A F T
CONSULTATION TIMETABLE

INITIAL SOUNDINGS OF PARENTS, SCHOOLS AND EARLY YEARS PROVIDERS ON THEIR VIEWS	TBA BY STAKEHOLDERS REFERENCE GROUP (SRG) REPORT TO GOVERNORS TO INCLUDE INFORMATION ON INVOLVING PARENTS
ARTICLE AND RESPONSE PRO-FORMA IN HARROW PEOPLE	15 JULY ISSUE
CLOSING DATE FOR RESPONSES	31 JULY 2008
FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTATION TO AGE OF TRANSFER (AOT) WORKING GROUP	TBA
REPORT FROM AOT WORKING GROUP TO SRG	TBA
MEETING OF HARROW ADMISSIONS FORUM (HAF) TO AGREE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR DEVELOPMENT	TBA
DEVELOPMENT OF OPTIONS / MODELS	SUMMER VACATION
PRESENTATION OF OPTIONS TO AOT WORKING GROUP TO AGREE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SRG	EARLY AUTUMN TERM
PRESENTATION TO SRG OF AOT WORKING GROUP'S RECOMMENDATIONS	TBA
MEETING OF HAF TO AGREE PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATION	TBA
FORMAL CONSULTATION WITH PARENTS, SCHOOLS, GOVERNORS, STATUTORY CONSULTEES, COMMUNITY GROUPS ETC.	1 OCTOBER 2008
CLOSING DATE FOR CONSULTATION	10 DECEMBER 2008
FEEDBACK TO AOT WORKING GROUP	TBA
FEEDBACK TO SRG	TBA
FEEDBACK TO HAF TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS TO CABINET	TBA
CABINET MEETING TO DETERMINE ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS	TBA (?? 26 MARCH / 2 APRIL??)
STATUTORY DETERMINATION DATE FOR 2010 ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS	15 APRIL 2009

**PARENTS' VERSION
ADMISSION TO HIGH SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2010**

Harrow is asking for your views on the admission arrangements for entry to co-educational community high schools in 2010. Harrow already gives priority to children looked after, children with statements of special educational needs, medical claims and siblings as part of its admission arrangements.

Harrow has used linked schools for many years. Because of changes in the number of children each high school can admit, the unevenness in the number of primary schools linked to high schools and the fact some schools have two linked high schools and others only one, the system must change if it is to offer a fair means of allocating school places. Distance from home to school has been used for allocating places at primary schools for a number of years.

Before any formal proposals are made, you are being asked to give your views on what you feel is the system that is fair to all children and their families. Once we have your views these will be used to develop a set of proposals. Consultation on these specific proposals will take place in the autumn 2008.

A fuller report plus information about other possible admission rules is available at www.harrow.gov.uk/earlysoundings

✂ ----- ✂

Name of school your child currently attends: _____

Please tick the boxes below to let us know which you think is the fairest system for allocating places in Harrow community high schools:

ADMISSION RULE	FOR		AGAINST	
Distance from home to school measured in a straight line from the home address to the closest school gate				
Linked schools (please see over the page for details of linked school arrangements)				
Would you still want linked schools if your child's current linked high school changed?	Yes		No	
Are there any other systems you think should be considered for allocating school places (including lottery and / or banding) or any other comments you would like to make.				

**PLEASE RETURN BY 31 JULY 2008 TO
ADMISSIONS SERVICE, HARROW COUNCIL, CIVIC CENTRE, HARROW HA1 2UW**

LINKED SCHOOLS

Pupils registered at a linked middle or first & middle school on the closing date for receipt of applications have priority for school places over children from non-linked schools regardless of where they live. Linked schools are as follows:

LINKED HIGH SCHOOL	PLACES AVAILABLE	FEEDER PRIMARY SCHOOLS	MAXIMUM POTENTIAL INTAKE FROM LINKED PRIMARY SCHOOLS
Canons	180	Aylward, Glebe, Little Stanmore, Stag Lane	232
Harrow	180	Belmont*, Elmgrove*, Norbury, Whitefriars*	262
Hatch End	300	Cedars, Grimsdyke, Marlborough, Pinner Park*, St. Johns CofE, Weald, Whitefriars	480
Nower Hill	300	Cannon Lane, Pinner Park*, Pinner Wood, St John Fisher ⁺⁺ , West Lodge	330
Park	280	Belmont*, Kenmore Park, Priestmead, Stanburn, Whitchurch	420
Rooks Heath	260	Earlsmead, Newton Farm, Roxbourne, Roxeth Manor, Welldon Park	330
Whitmore	260	Elmgrove*, Grange, Longfield, Roxeth, Vaughan	348

* Belmont has dual links to Harrow and Park

* Elmgrove has dual links to Harrow and Whitmore

* Pinner Park has dual links to Hatch End and Nower Hill

*Whitefriars has dual links to Harrow and Hatch End

⁺⁺ Currently there is no year 7 at St John Fisher

SCHOOLS' VERSION (ADJUSTED FOR SECTOR)
EARLY SOUNDINGS FROM PRIMARY SCHOOLS ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2010

There is a new national code of practice that Harrow must consider when setting the admission rules. The code gives some guidelines on fair ways of allocating places when more applications are received than there are places available in a school. Harrow is asking for your views on the admission arrangements for entry to co-educational community high schools in 2010. Arrangements for Bentley Wood High School for Girls and Harrow's two voluntary aided schools, Sacred Heart and Salvatorian, are not affected and would not change.

Harrow already gives priority to children looked after, children with statements of special educational needs, medical claims and siblings as part of its admission arrangements. All these are described as good practice in the code of practice. Other rules commonly used across the country are:

- Random allocation (lottery)
- Distance between home and school
- Linked schools – this is the system currently used in Harrow
- Banding – this is used to try to ensure that the intake to each school includes a spread of children of different abilities.

We have been talking with parents, headteachers and governors as well as representatives from services that deal with younger children about what is the fairest means of allocating school places. These groups have considered all the options but were not in favour of using lottery or banding.

This leaves distance and linked schools. Harrow has used linked schools for many years. Because of changes in the number of children each high school can admit, the unevenness in the number of primary schools linked to high schools and the fact some schools have two linked high schools and others only one, the system must change if it is to offer a fair means of allocating school places. Distance from home to school has been used for allocating places at primary schools for a number of years.

Before any formal proposals are made, you are being asked to give your views on what you feel is the system that is fair to all children and their families. Once we have your views these will be used to develop a set of proposals. Consultation on these specific proposals will take place in the autumn 2008.

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NAME OF PRIMARY SCHOOL: _____

Please tick the boxes below to let us know which you think is the fairest system for allocating places in Harrow community high schools:

ADMISSION RULE	FOR		AGAINST	
Distance from home to school measured in a straight line				
Linked schools (see overleaf)				
Would you still support linked schools if the high school your school is linked to changed?	Yes		No	
Are there any other systems you think should be considered for allocating school places (including lottery and banding) or any other comments you would like to make.				

**PLEASE RETURN THIS TO THE ADMISSIONS SERVICE, HARROW COUNCIL, HARROW HA1 2UW
 BY 31 JULY 2008**

LINKED SCHOOLS

Pupils registered at a linked middle or first & middle school on the closing date for receipt of applications have priority for school places over children from non-linked schools regardless of where they live. Linked schools are as follows:

LINKED HIGH SCHOOL	PLACES AVAILABLE	LINKED PRIMARY SCHOOLS	MAXIMUM POTENTIAL INTAKE FROM LINKED PRIMARY SCHOOLS
Canons	180	Aylward, Glebe, Little Stanmore, Stag Lane	232
Harrow	180	Belmont*, Elmgrove*, Norbury, Whitefriars*	262
Hatch End	300	Cedars, Grimsdyke, Marlborough, Pinner Park*, St. Johns CofE, Weald, Whitefriars	480
Nower Hill	300	Cannon Lane, Pinner Park*, Pinner Wood, St John Fisher ⁺⁺ , West Lodge	330
Park	280	Belmont*, Kenmore Park, Priestmead, Stanburn, Whitchurch	420
Rooks Heath	260	Earlsmead, Newton Farm, Roxbourne, Roxeth Manor, Welldon Park	330
Whitmore	260	Elmgrove*, Grange, Longfield, Roxeth, Vaughan	348

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