

Meeting:	Harrow Admissions Forum
Date:	23 February 2009
Subject:	Consultation on Admissions Arrangements 2010/2011 - VA Schools
Key Decision: (Executive-side only)	No
Responsible Officer:	Heather Clements, Director Schools and Children's Development
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Anjana Patel
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Appendix A: Letter to VA Schools about requirement to consult Appendix B: Schools who have already submitted proposed admission arrangements for 2010 for consultation

Section 1: Summary

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

By 1 March 2009, schools that are their own admission authority must consult with the Admissions Forum about their proposed admission arrangements.

Recommendations:

To examine arrangements for considering the proposed admission arrangements for VA schools to ensure they meet statutory requirements".

Reason: (For recommendation)

To meet the requirements of the School Admissions Code of Practice which came into force on 10 February 2009

SECTION 2 - REPORT

Background

Admissions Forum must be consulted about admission arrangements, including any supplementary forms, by every admission authority in the area. It is crucial that the Forum scrutinises and challenges unfair and unlawful arrangements. Letters were sent to all Harrow voluntary aided schools on 12 January 2009 reminding them of the requirement to consult and advising them of the new statutory consultation requirements, as follows:

All admission authorities must:

- Consult with their local authority, all other admission authorities within the relevant area, the Admission Forum, admission authorities in neighbouring local authority areas, the relevant religious authority (in the case of the admission authorities of faith schools) and, relevant parents and other groups with an interest in the local area (for example, community groups)
- Consult for a minimum of 8 weeks; and
- Complete the consultation by 1 March 2009.

Members of the Admissions Forum are requested to agree the arrangements they wish to make to consider the proposed admission arrangements for voluntary aided schools to ensure they meet statutory requirements. Governors who are the admission authority for these schools are required to determine their admission arrangements by 15 April 2009. Once the admission arrangements have been determined Governors, must, within 14 days give written notice to the local authority, other bodies consulted and any parents that responded to the consultation of the determined admission arrangements. A copy of the determined admission arrangements must be placed on the school's website.

Appendix B of the reports shows those schools who have already submitted their proposed admission arrangements for 2010 for consultation.

Legal comments

There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Performance Issues

There are no performance implications arising from this report.

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Emma Stabler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer
Date: 19.2.09		
Name: Helen White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer
Date: 19.2.09		

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:



Date: 12th January 2009

To Chairs of Governors and Headteachers
of Harrow's Voluntary Aided Schools

Dear Colleagues,

Re: Consultation on admission arrangements

I am writing to advise you of changes to the above recently announced by the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) following their Admissions Consultation which ended on 2nd October 2008. These changes will affect all admission authorities in respect of consultation on their admission arrangements for the 2010/11 academic year and onwards. The new admissions code will come into force on 10th February 2009, this can be viewed at <http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/sacode/>

For admission arrangements for entry in 2010-11, all admission authorities are required to:

- Consult with their local authority, all other admission authorities within the relevant area, the Admission Forum, admission authorities in neighbouring local authority areas, the relevant religious authority (in the case of the admission authorities of faith schools) and, relevant parents and other groups with an interest in the local area (for example, community groups)
- Consult for a minimum of 8 weeks; and
- Complete the consultation by 1 March 2009.

For admission arrangements for entry in 2011-12 and subsequent years, all admission authorities will consult only every three years, unless changes have been made to the arrangements since the previous consultation. They will also be required to consult for a minimum of 8 weeks between 1 December 2009 and 1 March 2010 if arrangements have changed from the previous year.

Please contact me if you wish to clarify any of the above.

Yours sincerely,

Noreen Severyn
Deputy Manager
Place Planning & School Admissions
Harrow Council
External tel: 020 8424 1025
Internal ext. 2025

Schools who have already submitted proposed admission arrangements
for 2010 for consultation

SCHOOL	ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS	SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM
ST ANSELMS'	✓	✓
ST BERNADETTE'S	✓	
ST GEORGE'S	✓	
ST JOHN FISHER	✓	
ST JOHN'S C OF E		
ST JOSEPH'S	✓	✓
ST TERESA'S	✓	
KRISHA-AVANTI SCHOOL	✓	✓
MORIAH JEWISH DAY SCHOOL	✓	✓
SALVATORIAN		
SACRED HEART		