



SERVE CHALLENGE EMPOWER

Mr A Moorcroft
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PRIMARY ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION RESPONSE

Consultation Process

The Challenge Academy Trust Board as the authority for determining admissions at academies across the Trust consulted stakeholder on changes to the following school's admission arrangements for Reception Class entry for academic year 2023/24

- Great Sankey Primary School,
- Meadowside and Nursery Primary School
- Penketh South Primary School

The consultation was on amendment to oversubscription criteria as follows:

Oversubscription Criterion 3 amended to "Children who attend Meadowside Primary and Nursery School (for a minimum of 15 hours per week)".

Oversubscription Criterion 5 added to include "Children of staff employed at the school. This includes full, half or step children and foster children who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit."

The proposed arrangements were sent to Warrington Borough Council, schools in the surrounding areas and were published on the schools' websites. Parents and Guardians were notified of the proposed arrangements.

The consultation ran from 6th December 2021 until 31st January 2022 and all stakeholders were invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal direct to:



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The Challenge Academy Trust
c/o Bridgewater High School
Broomfields Rd
Appleton,
Warrington, WA4 3AE

or via email to:

admin@tcat.uk.com using the heading **Primary Admission Arrangements**

Responses received

1 response to the consultation was received from Admissions at Warrington Borough Council as shown:

“The local authority is not generally supportive of prioritising nursery pupils for entry to reception class. Nursery attendance is non-statutory and parents who live in close proximity to the School who may have chosen a different nursery or childminder could be disadvantaged when it comes to applying for a school place for their child when they reach compulsory school age.

However, we note the reasons why some schools are choosing to do this and that several own admission authority schools have already opted to include nursery attendance in their Arrangements.

In relation to the proposal to introduce ‘children of staff’ as Criterion 5, I am sure you are already aware of this but I thought it may be useful to raise, just in case the Trust is not aware.



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The Code states that children of staff may be given priority in either or both of the following circumstances:

- Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two years or more at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made; and/or
- The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

It might be worth including this reference in each school's arrangements, so it is clear for all to see."

No other responses were received.

Confirmation of Consultation Process

Taking into account the response from Warrington Borough Council Admissions department, the proposed amendment to oversubscription criterion 5 will be amended to

"Oversubscription Criterion 5 added to include "Children of staff employed* at the school. This includes full, half or step children and foster children who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit.

*This will apply where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two years or more at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made; and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage."

Adrienne Laing
Operations Director, The Challenge Academy Trust