
REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EDUCATION LEEDS

ADMISSIONS FORUM: 12 May 2009

SUBJECT: Determination of the Admission Policy 2010/2011

1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1.1 This report is to inform the Admission Forum of the determination of the admission arrangements for 2010/2011.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The outcome of the consultation on the local Authority admission policy was submitted to the Executive Board on 1 April 2009 for determination. All of the Aided, Academy and Foundation schools have now submitted their admission policies to the local Authority.
- 2.2 The local authority is required to publish a public notice by May 1st to confirm that all admission policies have been determined and where they can be viewed. This is to provide parents with the opportunity to submit any objection they may have to the Schools' Adjudicator.
- 2.3 The local Authority are also required to submit a report, along with copies of all the admission policies and supplementary information forms, to the Schools Adjudicator on or before the 30 June 2009 objecting to any arrangements which do not fully comply with the School Admissions Code.

3.0 MAIN ISSUES

- 3.1 All of our schools have worked very positively with the Admissions Team and taken account of the suggestions and comments that have been made. Likewise both Diocese have been very supportive in providing model admission policies and guidance to their schools. Governors have been willing to accept the changes brought about by the new School Admissions Code and recommendations made by the Diocesan Boards and Education Leeds.
- 3.2 We have no reason to have any objections to the Schools Adjudicator on the admission policies. All policies and supplementary forms have been received and considered by the Council's Legal Department. There were a number of changes necessary to some of the forms and policies and these have been actioned.

3.3

All forms will be submitted to the Schools Adjudicator with our comments. A copy of the submission will be provided to the Admission Forum for information.

3.4

All schools have been advised that we will be submitting both their policies and their supplementary information forms to the Schools Adjudicator. The local Authority will comply with its duty to object to any arrangements which do not adhere to the School Admissions Code. The deadline for submission is the 30 June 2009.

3.5

The admission policy for community and voluntary controlled schools in Leeds is based on sibling priority and nearest school. It is an equal preference system so that parents can be as ambitious as they wish with their higher preferences, but are encouraged to include their nearest school as a safety net. This system has worked well for a number of years. The Aided and Foundation schools and academies in Leeds have admission policies which comply with the School Admission Code. The Fair Access Protocol is operating well, with all schools admitting pupils where required, and working in partnership with each other.

3.6

The local authority and schools provide clear information about the determined admission arrangements each year and involve parents in the admissions process through the annual policy consultation.

4.0

CONCLUSIONS

4.1

All admission authorities in Leeds are working positively with the local Authority with respect to all aspects of the School Admissions Code. A small number of minor infringements of the Code have been noted in a few proposed policies; however these have been amended when brought to the attention of the schools. Within Leeds we are not aware of any admissions authority proposing to determine non compliant admission arrangements for 2010.

4.2

All the required information will be submitted to the Schools Adjudicator, with a copy provided to the Admission Forum.

5.0

RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1

That Admission Forum note the positive way in which the local Authority, Diocese, Foundation, Academy and schools have worked together to ensure full compliance with the School Admissions Code.

5.2

Following submission of the information to the Schools Adjudicator, copied to the Admission Forum, it may be necessary to have a further Admission Forum meeting during the summer term if the Forum wish to submit any further objections to the Adjudicator.