



Responses received to Consultation on Admissions Criteria & the Trust’s Responses

(Consultation closed Wednesday 5th February 2020)

Date Received	Respondent	Response
16.12.2019	Respondent 1	<p>I have just read the proposal for changing the admissions criteria for children of staff into the Greensand Trust schools and would just like to inquire about how many school places you estimate this would take? I would imagine a school like Dovers would be relatively minimal, but when considering a larger school like Reigate School, with all its staff members - this could run into potentially dozens of places.</p> <p>With the ongoing pressure to secure school places in the Reigate area, esp at secondary level, I wonder if the criteria should be set to include staff children within a particular catchment area (for example 3 miles)?</p> <p>Have the trust looked at scenarios for this, or estimated number of places this might take up? I’d be interested to know more.</p> <p><u>Trust Response:</u></p> <p>The potential impact upon school places was considered prior to consultation in relation to all schools and we estimate that the numbers in all schools within the Trust, regardless of staff numbers, will be low.</p> <p>In terms of criteria, the Trust’s admission arrangements with regards to children of staff mirror Surrey County Council’s admission arrangements.</p>

16.12.2019	Respondent 2	<p>I've reread your proposed amendment several times now and I am still unclear if (1) this amendment applied to the child of any teacher at ANY of the trusts or only to the specific school at which said teacher works; (2) what the justification is for this change in criteria; and (3) currently what statistics do you have to support staff members being local or commuting in from a great distance thus enabling their children to by-pass the catchment area and potentially reside in another county altogether?</p> <p>Many thanks - I look forward to your response.</p>
		<p><u>Trust Response:</u></p> <p>The amendment to the admission arrangements only applies to the specific school at which the member of staff works, and not to other schools within the Trust.</p> <p>The Trust's admission arrangements with regards to children of staff mirror Surrey County Council's admission arrangements.</p> <p>We do not hold statistics on children of staff.</p>
16.12.2019	Respondent 3	<p>As per the new criteria, can you please confirm if this is for the school the staff are currently based at or for any school which is part of the MAT?</p>
		<p><u>Trust Response:</u></p> <p>The amendment to the admission arrangements only applies to the specific school at which the member of staff works, and not to other schools within the Trust.</p>

03.01.2020	Respondent 4	<p>I have recently been notified about changes to the admissions arrangements for Holmesdale Community Infant School and Reigate Priory Junior School.</p> <p>I am a local parent, and resident who lives in Reigate, with one child who already attends one of these schools and a younger child who I hope will also attend next year. It is my view that teachers with children should not be given any preferential treatment with places at these local schools. Local schools should primarily be for the local children who live within the area and by giving spaces to the children of teachers will have a negative impact on local families, which I feel is unfair. Part of the reason we chose to move where we did was based on the availability of the very good schools we would have access too. By allowing teachers and children who could potentially live well outside the catchment area is completely changing the boundaries for all the children and parents. I see no reason why teachers at the local schools don't have to follow the same admissions criteria, based on location as everyone else does.</p> <p><u>Trust Response:</u></p> <p>This change is being introduced in light of the current recruitment and retention challenges that schools across the country face. To provide the best education for our children, we need to be able to attract qualified and high quality staff. In mirroring Surrey County Council's change to admissions criteria, we believe that Greensand schools will continue to be able to do this.</p> <p>The schools within the Greensand MAT are committed to serving their local communities and recognise and appreciate your concerns. Admissions criteria are reviewed annually and should the national picture regarding recruitment alter in the future, this criteria will be re-considered.</p>
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