

## **The Woodside Academy would welcome your views on the proposed reduction of the school's Published Admission Number by one form of entry (1FE) from September 2020**

**Consultation period: 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 to 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

### **Why are we consulting?**

The Schools Admissions Code 2014 sets out a requirement for all Admission Authorities to undertake statutory consultation, for a minimum of 6 weeks, where they propose to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) of their school.

Admission authorities must set ('determine') admission arrangements annually. Where changes are proposed to admission arrangements, the admission authority must first publicly consult on those arrangements.

The purpose of consultation is to seek the views of parents, carers and other interested stakeholders on the proposal to reduce the school's PAN from 120 to 90 for the 2020/21 academic year. This means that 90 Reception places will be offered from September 2020.

The schools admission code can be found at:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/389388/School\\_Admissions\\_Code\\_2014\\_-\\_19\\_Dec.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/389388/School_Admissions_Code_2014_-_19_Dec.pdf)

### **The Proposal**

As an academy, the Governing Body, in agreement with the directors of the Synaptic Trust, proposes to reduce the published admission number of the school from 120 to 90 from the September 2020. The Local Authority (LA) supports the proposal.

The main reason for the proposed reduction in PAN is due to ongoing falling rolls, the low level of current applications for reception places in September.

The LA projections show that there will be sufficient places available for local children if the PAN for this school is reduced. Should the demand for additional school place increase in the future, the school will revert to the original PAN.

This is the only proposed change; the oversubscription criteria will remain the same.

### **Background**

As a Borough, Croydon has since seen a decrease in the birth rate, which has led to a higher level of surplus places in some of the educational planning areas across the borough; including the East planning area, where The Woodside Academy is situated.

A large portion of funding received by schools is directly related to the number of pupils attending the school. Too many vacancies in schools mean that we will not receive the maximum revenue possible. Therefore we are proposing to reduce the number of available places to enable the schools to operate more efficiently and cost effectively.

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for The Woodside Academy is 120. The proposal is to reduce the PAN to 90 from September 2020 to ensure that the PAN is more in line with the number on roll. The school is experiencing large numbers of families moving out of Croydon. The LA acknowledge a drop in the birth rate in 2013. The school is expecting a large drop in its budget due to the low numbers on roll so far this year.

### **Who are we consulting with?**

During this consultation period we want to seek representations from:

- Parents and carers of children already attending the school
- Parents of any other children aged from birth upwards
- School staff
- School Governors
- Local Primary Schools
- Anyone else with interest or might be affected by the proposed change

### **What happens next?**

Following the consultation, in December 2018 the Governing Body, in consultation with the Synaptic Trust, will consider the results of the consultation and decide how to proceed. The admission arrangements for September 2020 will be determined by the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and published on the school's website on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Any subsequent objections would need to be made to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator by 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019.

### **How to Respond**

The consultation will run from Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018 until 3 pm on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

**All responses must be received by 3pm on Wednesday 27th November 2018.**

Representations received after this specified time and date will not be considered.

You can respond to the consultation by emailing [admin@thewoodsideacademy.org.uk](mailto:admin@thewoodsideacademy.org.uk) or in writing to the school office.

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Yours sincerely  
C E Howarth

Principal