

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
CABINET MEMBER**

**SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR  
2024/25 COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY  
CONTROLLED SCHOOLS**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet Member of the outcome of the consultation with schools in respect of admission arrangements for 2024/25.
- 1.2 To seek approval to implement the proposed admission arrangements for the 2024/25 academic year.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 The local authority is required to determine by 28 February 2023 its admission arrangements for the academic year 2024/25, including admission numbers, for each community and voluntary controlled school.
- 2.2 Admission arrangements are to describe how school places are allocated, especially with reference to the oversubscription criteria. This confirms how applications are prioritised when the number of applications exceeds the number of places available.
- 2.3 The admission number refers to the number of school places that the admission authority must offer in the relevant age group of the school.
- 2.4 The School Admissions Code 2021 requires that oversubscription criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair, and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation.
- 2.5 Changes were made to the arrangements for 2019/20 after a full public consultation.

- 2.6 Having consulted publicly for the 2019/20 arrangements, the council is not required to consult again for seven years (ie until the 2026/27 arrangements) unless it makes changes to its arrangements such as changing the oversubscription criteria or seeking to reduce a school's admission number.
- 2.7 With one exception, governing boards supported both the admission arrangements and the proposed admission number for their school.
- 2.8 The governing board of Goxhill Primary School requested that the published admission number for their school be reduced from 36 to 30 for the following reasons:
- An intake of 30 would maintain Early Years Foundation Stage class sizes at or below the threshold where it is legal for a single qualified teacher to deliver teaching with appropriate junior support. Class sizes above that cut-off of 30 pupils require another qualified teacher.
  - Class sizes at Goxhill Primary School no longer reach the current published admission number of 36 and, based on local population projections, are not expected to do so in the future.
  - There is adequate capacity within the Federation's other primary schools (East Halton Primary School and New Holland Church of England and Methodist Primary School) to service the needs of the local population who live outside the Goxhill catchment area.
- 2.9 The relevant council officers responsible for the supply of school places have no objections to the proposed reduction in published admission number for Goxhill Primary School.
- 2.10 A public consultation ran from 19 December 2022 to 29 January 2023 inviting comments on the proposed change. No comments were received.

### **3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the proposed admissions arrangements for the 2024/25 academic year contained in Appendix 1.

### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 Following the consultation with schools, the council has not received any requests to amend the proposed arrangements.
- 4.2 The main provisions of the oversubscription criteria (eg catchment, siblings and distance) are well established and clearly understood across the area.

4.3 With regard to the proposed admission numbers, all are the same as for the 2023/24 academic year, apart from the proposal to reduce the number at Goxhill Primary School.

4.4 If any more changes are proposed at this time it would be more appropriate to consider them for the 2025/26 academic year due to the need to consult publicly for at least six weeks between 1st October and 31st January prior to the determination taking place.

**5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

5.1 There are no financial or other resource implications.

**6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

6.1 There are no other relevant implications.

**7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

7.1 Not required. The arrangements will not alter the pattern of where children attend school.

**8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

8.1 The following have been consulted on the proposed 2024/25 admission arrangements:

The governing board for each community and voluntary controlled school

8.2 Consultation on Proposed Admission Arrangements: Following consultation with the above stakeholders regarding the admission arrangements in Appendix 1, no objections or representations have been received.

8.3 Consultation on Proposed Admission Numbers: Following consultation with the above stakeholders regarding the admission numbers in Appendix 1, each governing board recommended accepting the proposed admission number apart from Goxhill Primary School.

8.4 With regard to the proposed reduction in admission number at Goxhill Primary School, the following have been consulted:

- Parents of children between the ages to two and eighteen;
- Other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- All other admission authorities within the relevant area;
- The governing body of the school;

- Adjoining neighbouring local authorities.

No objections were received.

## 9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the proposed admissions arrangements for the 2024/25 academic year contained in Appendix 1.

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Date: February 2023

**Background Papers used in the preparation of this report –**  
School Admissions Code 2021