

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SKILLS**

School Place Planning Council House  
Manor Square Solihull  
West Midlands B91 3QB  
Tel: 0121 704 6702  
Email: [annpearson@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:annpearson@solihull.gov.uk)  
[www.solihull.gov.uk](http://www.solihull.gov.uk)

Your Ref.

Our Ref.

Please ask for: Ann Pearson

Date: 26 June 2024

Dear Colleague

**Reduction to Published Admission Number – Blossomfield Infant School**

The Local Authority is seeking a variation to the published admission number (PAN) for Blossomfield Infant School. The school currently operates an admission number of 90, and this variation application will seek a reduction to 60 from September 2025. The 2025 reception admission arrangements for community schools were approved by the Council in February 2023, therefore any change requires approval by the Schools Adjudicator.

The proposed reduction in PAN was considered and approved by the Governing Body of Blossomfield Infant School on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024, following a drop in applications for September 2024. By applying for a reduction in PAN, the school will be able to better financially plan for the reduction in pupil numbers which will minimise the disruption to teaching and learning at the school. Even with a reduction of the PAN to 60, we would expect the school to be able to accommodate all the children living in its catchment area that apply for a place and siblings of children already at the school, at its normal point of intake. By seeking this reduction, any subsequent reduction in pupils transferring into Year 3 can also be better planned for.

This change in PAN is due to a fall in the birth rate in Solihull and therefore a reduction in families applying for a reception place. In September 2024, it is forecast that there will be over 200 (8%) empty reception places in the Borough, the equivalent of 7 reception classes. Officers are working with a number of schools to consider the impact of the falling birth rate.

This request to vary the published admission arrangements will be considered by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator, who will determine whether the application is approved. As part of the application process the Authority is required to notify all admission authorities in the area and all community schools.

If you need any further information on this proposed change, please feel free to contact me. Or if you wish to comment on the proposal, please email your comments to [annpearson@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:annpearson@solihull.gov.uk) by noon on **12<sup>th</sup> July 2024**.

Yours sincerely



Ann Pearson  
Team Leader - School Place Planning  
Children's Services