



CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS TRUST

6th December 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

Consultation on Admission Arrangements 2026/27 - Ashton Gate Primary School

The leadership team of Ashton Gate Primary School and the Trust (Cathedral Schools Trust) are consulting on the admission arrangements for children who will be admitted to the school effective from September 2026. There are two proposals included in the consultation:

Proposal 1: to reduce the published admission number (PAN) for new Reception children from 120 to 90 places, effective from September 2026.

Around 15 years ago Bristol experienced a significant increase in births which resulted in the urgent need for additional primary places. Ashton Gate Primary School increased its PAN accordingly to absorb the extra demand. However, since 2017, birth rates have fallen in Bristol and there is therefore reduced demand for primary school places across the city. This trend is not unique to our school; across Bristol, there are currently 500 unused primary places and the decrease in overall demand is forecast to continue into the foreseeable future. Managing pupil admission numbers (PAN) down in a controlled and organised way in conjunction with other schools allows for more sustainable place planning across the city and better distribution of places.

We have consulted with the School Place Planning Team regarding future projected pupil numbers in Bristol, and they have confirmed that the planned requirements will still be met once this proposed change is implemented.

Proposal 2: to include a children of staff criterion to the priority list for admissions for Ashton Gate Primary School. The option for staff to be able to send their children to

the school where they work is important for a range of reasons including making the logistical challenges of childcare more manageable and supporting their wellbeing. Evidence from other trust schools indicates it also supports recruitment and retention of staff.

Please [click here](#) to view the proposed admission arrangements

(Proposed changes are highlighted in yellow).

The consultation process will run from **Friday 6th December 2024 to 12 noon on Friday 31st January 2025.**

It is important to emphasise that this is a consultation process and that all views will be heard as part of this consultation and arrangements are not agreed until after the consultation has taken place. For pupils already enrolled at Ashton Gate Primary School in other year groups, there will be no change. These are the only proposed changes to the admissions criteria; all other criteria will remain unchanged.

If you would like to comment or offer feedback on the proposed admission arrangements please complete the [form here](#), ticking the relevant box to show which school your comments refer to. Please note responses received after 12 noon on 31st January 2025 will not be considered.

If you have any queries or requests for hard copies of the admission arrangements please contact Angela Akbayir via email: school@ashtongateprimary.org

Alternatively you can contact us by post at: CST Admissions, % The Acorn, St Katherine's School, Pill, North Somerset, BS20 0HU

Kind regards,

Gareth Jones
Executive Headteacher