

## **Summary of proposed changes to Cheshire West and Chester school admission arrangements, co-ordinated admissions scheme for admission in 2020-2021 academic year.**

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, December 2014, admission authorities must consult on any changes to the admission arrangements and coordinated admission scheme. Cheshire West and Chester are consulting on the following changes for admission in the school year 2020-2021 and for subsequent years, subject to any review:

- **Darnhall Primary School PAN reduction from 65 to 45**

A revised Net Capacity calculation has been produced for Darnhall Primary School; essentially highlighting the matter of school accommodation being no longer sufficient to facilitate for 65 pupils per year group and in recent years several former class bases have been re-designated and are currently fully operational to provide for SEN resource provision. It is therefore proposed to reduce the admission number to 45. Utilising pupil forecasting data this revised admission number will still leave sufficient pupil places within the locality.

- **Looked after and previously looked after children – outside England**

School admission authorities are currently required to give looked after children and previously looked after children highest priority in their oversubscription criteria. On 4 December 2017, the Minister announced that when the opportunity arises he intends to amend the School Admissions Code to ensure that children who were previously in state care outside of England, and have ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted, also receive the same highest priority for admission into a school in England.

It is therefore proposed to introduce to the oversubscription criteria to give these children second highest priority for admission into school.

- **Armed Forces Personnel**

It is proposed that the arrangements are altered to make explicit our working practices when considering applications for children of armed forces personnel to also include veterans in accordance with the Cheshire West Armed Forces Covenant. This will be made clear with the insertion of the word 'veteran' in the arrangements.

- **Requests for children to be admitted into school and taught outside the chronological age group – 'in year'**

It is proposed that the admission arrangements are altered to make explicit the procedure for processing 'in year' requests for children to be admitted into school and taught outside their chronological age group once started school. By 'in year' it is meant outside of the normal admission round – Reception and Year 7. Applications for admission are normally considered in relation to the availability of places in the child's chronological age group, other than in exceptional circumstances. In exceptional circumstances requests can be made for entry into a year group outside the chronological age range of a child. Parents and carers considering such a request must in the first instance speak to the head teacher of the school they will be applying for. The decision as whether it would be in the child's best interest to be educated outside the chronological year is determined by the head teacher of the school/s concerned in agreement with the parent/carer.

The consultation will run from 15 November 2018 to 31 January 2019. This falls within the statutory requirements of the School Admissions Code to consult for at least six weeks between 1 October 2018 and 31 January 2019.