



10 November 2020

Consultation on a proposed reduction in the Published Admission Number for Poltair School, with effect from September 2022.

Background

The School Admissions Code, published by the Department for Education (DfE), advises that all admission authorities must set an admission number for "each relevant age group". The Code also advises that all admission authorities must consult when they propose a decrease of the published admission number (PAN). Poltair School (part of the Cornwall Education Learning Trust) is the admitting authority for the school and as such is seeking comments on a proposed reduction in our admission numbers.

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for each year group at Poltair School is 180. This means that the number of children admitted to the school each year is a maximum of 900. The school currently has 771 pupils on roll (Census – October 2020). The number of pupils on roll has remained markedly below the 900 PAN since 2007.

As pupil numbers remain below the PAN, Poltair School, through the Local Authority School Admissions process, continues to admit a higher than average number of In Year Admissions throughout the academic year. These In Year Admissions have a huge impact on the school's ability to successfully deliver planned curriculum provision to all of its pupils. Reducing the PAN will assist the Governing Body in providing stability to their long-term planning while continuing to provide an appropriate number of places for future pupil numbers living in the surrounding area and attending one of the local primary schools.

Proposal

The School Governing Body propose to reduce the PAN for Year 7 pupils from 180 to 160 with effect from September 2022. This means that the number of places available for children in Year 7 in 2022 – and all subsequent Year 7 cohorts as they progress through the school – will be 160.

For children who already have a place at the school in other year groups there will be no change in 2022. This is the only proposed change to the admission criteria; all other criteria, including oversubscription, will remain the same.

Factors considered in deciding to consult on this proposal

- The continued ability of the school to provide sufficient places for children from our area.
- The provision of the most appropriate learning environment for all pupils thus facilitating continuing school improvement.
- Future curriculum, resource and site planning and effective management of all.



Who is consulted?

This consultation is for the specific attention of:

- Parents of children between the ages for 2 and 18.
- All other admission authorities within the area
- Cornwall Council
- Any Primary schools which form part of the designated area used in the school's oversubscription criteria
- The 2 nearest primary and secondary schools where these are not within a 10 mile radius of the school.
- Any other local authority which is the authority for a school within the relevant area.

How to respond

This consultation will run until 22 December 2020. You are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal by email to secretary@poltair.cornwall.sch.uk or by post FAO Mr Foy at Poltair School, Trevarthian Road, St Austell, PL25 4BZ. Please reference "Consultation – Admission Arrangements" as your subject heading.

Following the consultation period, the Governing Body will consider any comments received and how to proceed. Admissions arrangements for September 2022 will be determined by 28 February 2021 and published on the school website by 15 March 2021 with a copy sent to Local Authority. Any objections to arrangements must be made to the Schools Adjudicator by 15 May 2021.