

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** **CABINET**  
**DATE:** **TUESDAY, 17 MARCH 2015**  
**REPORT BY:** **CHIEF OFFICER (EDUCATION AND YOUTH)**  
**SUBJECT:** **SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2016/17**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To advise members of the outcome of the statutory consultation exercise on the admission arrangements for September 2016 and to recommend approval

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

**2.01** The local authority is required each year to undertake a statutory consultation exercise on its admission arrangements for the following year. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, for September 2016 the authority must have determined its arrangements by 15 April 2015 and the consultation must be concluded by 1 March 2015. Statutory consultees are the governing bodies of all schools, admission authorities for all other maintained schools in the area, the diocesan authorities and neighbouring authorities.

**2.01** Consultation must cover the full admission arrangements including the admissions policy, over-subscription criteria, the timetable for admissions and the admission numbers for each school. This information is attached as Appendices 1 and 2.

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

**3.01** The current admission arrangements have been in place since 2003 and the vast majority of parental preferences continue to be met (97%). For information, the number of admission appeals in recent years is detailed in the table below:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Secondary</b>	<b>Primary</b>	<b>Total</b>
2011/12	41	25	66
2012/13	21	97	118
2013/14	46	81	127
2014/15*	17	41	58

\*to date

It is anticipated that over-subscription will continue at a small number of primary and secondary schools in some areas of the County as a consequence of parental preference.

**3.02** There are no changes proposed to the current admissions policy or oversubscription criteria. The policy supports the principle of pupils attending their nearest school. Following consultation with Headteachers, there are also no changes proposed to any admission numbers.

**3.03** The admissions timetable has been drawn up in consultation with neighbouring authorities and takes in to account factors such as allowing parents sufficient time to visit schools and express 5heri preferences, the time needed to process applications chase up late applications, etc. The timetable also recognises the “common offer dates” prescribed by Welsh Government (ie 1st March for secondary places and 16th April for primary).

**3.04** During this academic year, for the first time nursery applications have been made on line and this has proved to be very successful. The on line facility will be extended to secondary and primary admissions in September 2015. Hard copies of applications forms will still be available for any parents unable to make an on line application.

**4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the proposed admission arrangements for 2016/17 be approved.

**5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

None

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

The capacity assessments for schools ensure that the use of teaching space and other rooms is accurately and consistently calculated and provide useful information relating to surplus spaces or over-subscription..

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

All parents have an opportunity to express a preference for a particular school and all applications are dealt with in an open and transparent manner in accordance with the School Admissions code.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

None.

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

No further consultation is required.

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

All statutory consultees have been consulted in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Admission Arrangements 2016/17

Appendix 2 – Admission Numbers

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985  
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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