

Consultation on admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools 2026-2027

Period of consultation: 3 October 2024 to 24 November 2024

Nottinghamshire County Council's consultation invites you to give your views about the proposed admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools in Nottinghamshire for 2026-2027.

Background information

Admission authorities

There are different types of schools in Nottinghamshire. The County Council is the admission authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools. This means that we are responsible for the admission arrangements for these schools.

Other types of schools - academies, foundation, free, studio, trust and voluntary aided schools these are known as own admission authorities. These schools are responsible for their own admission arrangements and have to run their own consultation if changes are proposed. You would need to visit individual school websites for details.

Admission arrangements including oversubscription criteria

All schools must have admission arrangements that clearly set out how children will be admitted, including information about what happens if there are more applications than places available (oversubscription criteria).

All admission authorities must include the oversubscription criteria in their arrangements. The criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair, and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation.

It is for admission authorities to decide which criteria are most suitable for the school according to the local circumstances. There are no proposed changes to the oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools.

Nottinghamshire community and voluntary controlled schools have defined catchment areas and children living in these areas have higher priority for places than children outside of catchment. The address point (using eastings and northings as defined by Ordnance Survey) will be the point used to determine if the property falls within a specific catchment area. Details of catchment areas are available at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/school-catchment-areas

This does not prevent parents who live outside the catchment area of a school, or even outside Nottinghamshire, from expressing a preference for that school.

Children living in the catchment area with a brother or sister (sibling) attending the school are given priority over other children living inside the catchment area. Children living outside the catchment area with a brother or sister attending the school are given priority over all other children living outside the catchment area.

What is included in the consultation?

Nottinghamshire County Council is consulting on the following for 2026-2027:

- Proposed reduction of the Published Admission Number (PAN) at:
 - Hallcroft Infant and Nursery School (from 45 to 30)
 - Ravenshead CofE Primary School (from 60 to 45)

Proposal to reduction to the published admission number (PAN)

The PAN is the number of school places that the admission authority must offer in the age group that children are normally admitted (eg reception). Across the country there is a reduction in pupil population at first admission to school (reception). Place planning reviews indicate that the proposed reduction to PAN for the following schools will not impact on the delivery of sufficient school places in the area by the 2026-2027 academic year.

| DISTRICT | SCHOOL | CURRENT PAN 2025-2026 | PROPOSED PAN 2026-2027 |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Bassetlaw | Hallcroft Infant and Nursery School | 45 | 30 |
| Gedling | Ravenshead CofE Primary School | 60 | 45 |

No other changes are being proposed.

The full proposed admission arrangements document for 2026-2027 is available at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation

Who do we consult with?

We will be seeking the views of the following groups:

- parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen
- other people in the relevant area who may have an interest in the proposed admission arrangements
- all other admission authorities within the relevant area
- all community and voluntary controlled schools in Nottinghamshire
- chairs of governing bodies of Nottinghamshire schools
- diocesan representatives (relevant religious authorities)
- admission authorities in neighbouring local authority areas
- all registered early years providers within Nottinghamshire

You can give your views on the consultation between 3 October 2024 and 24 November 2024

Anyone can comment on the arrangements. If you wish to respond, you can do this up to 24 November 2024 by:

- completing the online response form on the public website www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissionsconsultation
- emailing admissionsconsultations@nottscc.gov.uk

The School Admissions Code 2021 (1.48) states that the full proposed admission arrangements must be available on the website for the duration of the consultation period.

What happens after the consultation closes?

All responses received by 24 November 2024 will be considered. Elected members (County Councillors) make a decision on behalf of Nottinghamshire taking into account a range of information, including the consultation responses. All admission authorities have to agree the admission arrangements that are most suitable according to the local circumstances.

Determining admission arrangements 2026-2027

Admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools must be agreed (determined) by Nottinghamshire County Council by **28 February 2025** even if there have been no changes from previous years.

Publication of determined arrangements 2026-2027

Once Nottinghamshire County Council has determined their admission arrangements, they will be available on the public website for the whole offer year (the academic year in which offers for places are made). Local authorities must publish on their website **by 15 March 2025**.