

Statutory consultation on the proposed coordinated admission schemes for Primary and Secondary schools for 2024/2025



From 19 October 2022 to 7 December 2022

Why are we consulting?

Every Local Authority is required by law to have a scheme for co-ordinating the normal admissions round each year for all state-funded schools in their area. When changes are proposed to the coordinated admission scheme, the Local Authority must consult on their proposed new coordinated admission scheme.

In addition, every Local Authority must consult on its coordinated admissions scheme at least every seven years, even if there have been no changes to the coordinated admissions scheme during that period.

When a Local Authority is consulting on its coordinated admissions scheme (either because of proposed changes or to meet the seven year requirement), the consultation must take place for a minimum of six weeks between 1 October (at the earliest) and 31 December (at the latest) in the determination year.

The consultation period for Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's coordinated admissions scheme for Primary and Secondary schools will run from 19 October 2022 to 7 December 2022.

What are we proposing to change and why?

We are not proposing to make any changes to our coordinated admission scheme at this time. However, in line with the School Admissions Code 2021, we must consult on our coordinated admissions scheme arrangements at least every 7 years, even if no changes are being proposed.

As we are approaching the end of this 7 year period, we would like to hear your views on our current coordinated admissions scheme arrangements. The following paragraph details the purpose of the scheme, which you may use to inform your feedback:

The purpose of co-ordinated admission schemes is to establish mechanisms for ensuring, so far as reasonably practicable, that every parent/carers of a child living in the LA area who has applied for a school place in the 'normal admission round' receives an offer of a school place on the national offer day. The scheme must also cover late applications made after the closing date but before the start of the school year.

We are consulting on both our proposed primary *and* secondary school coordinated admission arrangements for 2024/25. Both proposed coordinated admission schemes have been provided as part of this consultation.

Who are we consulting with

We are seeking views from:

- 1) Parents in our borough who have children between the ages of two and eighteen
- 2) Other persons in our borough who the Local Authority believes will have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- 3) All other admission authorities within the borough;
- 4) Governing bodies in the borough (who are not admission authorities);
- 5) Our adjoining/neighbouring local authorities where they are an admission authority;
- 6) The bodies representing the religions/religious denominations of the faith schools in our borough.

Consultation timetable

19 October 2022	Consultation opens.
7 December 2022	End of consultation period and deadline for submitting responses to the Local Authority.
Week commencing 5 December 2022	Analysis of consultation responses and preparation of information to be considered by the Local Authority.
16 December 2022	Executive Member Decision Meeting
23 December 2022	Formal determination of coordinated admission scheme arrangements.
1 January 2023	Publication of determined coordinated admission scheme arrangements.

How to respond

This consultation will run from 19 October 2022 to 7 December 2022 (a period of six term time weeks). You are invited to submit responses about the proposal above to the Local Authority by:

- Online survey - <https://forms.office.com/r/qXJ0FpXtVJ>
- Alternatively, download the consultation response form from www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions and return via:
- email – Carol Grimshaw at admissions@blackburn.gov.uk or
- post – Carol Grimshaw, School Admissions Team, Ground Floor, 10 Duke Street, Blackburn, BB2 1DH

Responses must be received no later than 5pm on Wednesday 7 December 2022. Responses received after this time and date may not be considered.

For more information

If you would like to discuss the proposal or would like more information, please email Carol Grimshaw at admissions@blackburn.gov.uk.