



EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION

REPORT OF:	Executive Member for Children, Young People and Education
LEAD OFFICERS:	Strategic Director of Children & Education (DCS)
DATE:	Friday, 6 December 2024

PORTFOLIO/S AFFECTED: Departments

WARD/S AFFECTED: (All Wards);

SUBJECT: Coordinated Schools Admissions Scheme 2026/27

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To advise the Executive Member of the Local Authority's Coordinated Admissions Schemes for the 2026/27 academic year.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Executive Member formally approves the proposed Coordinated Admissions Schemes including:

- Coordinated Primary School Admission Scheme for 2026-27 Academic Year (Appendix 1)
- Coordinated Secondary School Admission Scheme for 2026-27 Academic Year (Appendix 2)

3. BACKGROUND

Each year all local authorities must formulate and publish on their website by 1 January in the relevant determination year, a scheme to coordinate admission arrangements for the normal admissions round and late applications for all publicly funded schools within their area.

Where the scheme is substantially different from the scheme adopted for the previous academic year, the local authority must consult the other admission authorities in the area and any other local authorities it determines.

Where the scheme has not changed from the previous year there is no requirement to consult, subject to the requirement that the local authority must consult on the scheme at least once every seven years, even if there have been no changes during that period. Blackburn with Darwen BC carried out its most recent statutory 7-year consultation in 2022 (in respect of the 2024-25 co-ordinated admissions scheme).

A local authority must inform the Secretary of State whether they have secured the adoption of a qualifying scheme by 28 February in the determination year. The Secretary of State may impose a scheme where a scheme has not been adopted.

All admission authorities must participate in coordination for the normal admissions round and late applications and provide the local authority with the information it needs to co-ordinate admissions

by the dates agreed within the scheme.

4. KEY ISSUES & RISKS

The Local Authority would be in breach of its statutory duties if it failed to determine and publish its coordinated schools admissions schemes by 1 January each year.

There have been no substantial changes to the 2026/27 primary and secondary coordinated admissions schemes.

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

None

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

The Local Authority would be in breach of its statutory duties under the School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements (England) Regulations 2012 and 2014 if it failed to determine and publish its coordinated school admissions schemes by 1 January each year.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Managed through established staffing resource.

9. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Please select one of the options below. Where appropriate please include the hyperlink to the EIA.

Option 1 Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) not required – the EIA checklist has been completed.

Option 2 In determining this matter the Executive Member needs to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA link here)*

Option 3 In determining this matter the Executive Board Members need to consider the EIA associated with this item in advance of making the decision. *(insert EIA attachment)*

10. CONSULTATIONS

There have been no substantial changes to the 2026/27 primary and secondary coordinated admissions schemes and therefore no consultation is required.

11. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The recommendations are made further to advice from the Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with

equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been considered. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

12. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

All Declarations of Interest of any Executive Member consulted and note of any dispensation granted by the Chief Executive will be recorded and published if applicable.

VERSION: 1

CONTACT OFFICER:	Sarah Anderson, School Transport Manager Victoria Clarke, Place Planning and Admissions Coordinator Carol Grimshaw, Head of Service, School Systems Support
DATE:	
BACKGROUND PAPER:	Appendix 1 Coordinated Primary School Admission Scheme for 2026-27 Academic Year Appendix 2 Coordinated Secondary School Admission Scheme for 2026-27 Academic Year