**CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS**

**TAMESIDE COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS**

**SEPTEMBER 2024**

**1 Introduction**

1.1 All admission authorities are required to consult on changes to admission arrangements. Where no changes are proposed to the coordinated admissions scheme or admission arrangements, there is no requirement to consult. Admission authorities must ensure that their determined admission arrangements comply with the mandatory requirements of the School Admissions Code 2021. The consultation process follows a timetable determined by the Department for Education (DfE).

1.2 For entry to school in September 2024 Tameside Council is consulting on a proposed change to published admission numbers as outlined below in 2.1.

1.3 Tameside Council is also consulting on changes to the definition of the child’ home address and to update all arrangements to improve alignment with the Admissions Code for the definition and procedure for Admission outside of normal age range.

1.4 The proposed PAN change will only affect two community high schools and will not affect any academies, voluntary aided or free schools who are responsible for their own admission arrangements. (See Section 2)

1.5 The admission arrangements for all voluntary controlled and community schools for 2024/2025 for both Primary and Secondary Schools are updated and form part of the consultation. The Coordinated Scheme is updated to reflect the change to Admission Outside Age Range to ensure compliance with the School Admissions Code September 2021 and the proposals as set out below. (See Section 3 and 4)

**2 Proposed changes to published admission numbers**

Since 2005, the birth rate in Tameside has been gradually increasing with births peaking in 2012. Due to the increase in the birth rates, this required an increase in school places to meet demand, firstly in the primary sector and subsequently in high schools as children moved from year 6 into secondary education.

Additional places were added at a number of high schools across the borough with a mix of temporary and permanent places. The peak of births has now passed and the birth rate has reduced and has sustained at lower levels over the last 2 years, with rates predicted to remain at these lower levels over the next few years. In light of this, there is a need to remove the additional places created to meet this higher demand and the council is consulting on a reduction to the published admission number at two community high schools.

**Hyde High School**

2.1 Following agreement with the school, it has been agreed to consult on a reduction in the published admission number from 240 to 210

**Denton Community College**

2.2 Following agreement with the school, it has been agreed to consult on a reduction in the published admission number from 330 to 270,

**3 Clarity on the definition of wording on home address where parents have shared responsibility for a child, each for part of week.**

3.1 Change from ‘Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address is the address from which the child travels to school for the majority of school days per week.

To: ‘Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address is the address from which the parent receives the child benefit’.

3.2 The following documents have been updated to reflect this change:

* Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools
* Admission Arrangements for Community High Schools
* Coordinated Admissions for Schools in Tameside for 2024-25
* Admission Arrangements for Stalyhill Junior School

**4 Admission outside Normal Age Group**

4.1 This section has been updated to improve the wording to align with the Admissions Code and to ensure further clarity on the example reasons a parent may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group.

4.2 The following documents have been updated to reflect this change:

* Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary Schools
* Admission Arrangements for Community High Schools
* Coordinated Admissions for Schools in Tameside for 2024-25

**5 Responses to the consultation**

5.1 The consultation will run for six weeks from Thursday 3rd November 2022 to Thursday 15th December 2022.

5.2 You should send your comments to Jacqueline Nurney, Early Education Funding and School Organisation Manager, Directorate of Children’s Services, Tameside Council, PO Box 317, Ashton Under Lyne OL6 0GS or email jacqueline.nurney@tameside.gov.uk