

Title of proposed EIA	Admission arrangements for council schools and the co-ordinated scheme
Reference No	EQUA462
EA is in support of	Amended Policy
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	01/12/2020
Directorate	Education and Skills
Division	Education and Early Years
Service Area	School Admissions and Fair Access
Responsible Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Everyone except external users
Quality Control Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Alan Michell
Accountable Officer(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Lisa Fraser
Purpose of proposal	1.1 All admission authorities, of which Birmingham City Council is one, are required to set ('determine') admission arrangements annually by 28 February. The arrangements so determined will apply to the next-but-one academic year (i.e. arrangements determ
Data sources	Consultation Results; relevant reports/strategies; Statistical Database (please specify)
Please include any other sources of data	Impulse and annual returns to Department for Education and previous consultation feedback.
ASSESS THE POTENTIAL IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community
Age details:	The policy is designed to manage admission arrangements (that apply to council schools and the co-ordinated scheme) for pupils of reception and statutory school age. Children will move school/into school based on age. This includes into reception, infant to junior and secondary school as per the published arrangements. At reception age there is the opportunity for deferred and part-time entry if requested by parents.

The changes in the policy related to deferred entry requests concern the administration of the process and the new requirement for parents to provide evidence of a non-council school's approval of their request for deferral.

Schools are also able to move children within school year groups where this is deemed appropriate and in consultation with parents or carers.

Age is considered across the different phases and processes as per national policy including the School Admission Code (2014).

There is no adverse impact expected in applying the arrangements based on a child's age.

Protected characteristic: Disability

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Disability details:

Children are admitted to schools via the admission arrangements irrespective of disability aside from children who require an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Children subject to an EHCP will normally have a named school that they are required to be admitted to as reflected in the admission arrangements which support the School Admissions Code.

This decision (of a named school) is subject to consultation with parents and carers and schools. The Code makes it clear that discrimination against children with a disability or any special educational need is contrary to the law and specifically the Equality Act (2010).

There are no changes to the arrangements/scheme that have any impact including any adverse impact on children with disabilities.

Protected characteristic: Gender

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Gender details:

There are single sex schools within the school estate.

The admission arrangements and co-ordinated scheme apply the required processes to allocate school places in-year and via the transfer round to allocate places as per the School Admission Code to all schools including single sex schools.

There is no adverse impact expected of the proposed changes to the scheme and arrangements (which do not impact directly on gender).

Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Gender reassignment details:

There are single sex schools within the school estate.

The admission arrangements and co-ordinated scheme simply apply the required processes to allocate school places in-year and via the transfer round to allocate places as per the School Admission Code to all schools.

There is no adverse impact expected of the proposed changes to the scheme and arrangements (which do not impact directly on gender reassignment).

Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership

Service Users/ Stakeholders

Marriage and civil partnership details:

There are no changes in either the arrangements or scheme that impact in any way on marriage or civil partnership.

There is no adverse impact.

Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Pregnancy and maternity details:

There are no changes in either the arrangements or scheme that impact in any way on pregnancy and maternity.

There is no adverse impact.

Protected characteristics: Race

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Race details:

There are no changes to the policy (arrangements or scheme) that impact directly or indirectly on race.

Race is not part of any school's admission arrangements and the council arrangements and the scheme have not been amended to have any related impact.

As with all of the related protected characteristics, the School Admissions Code makes it clear that such discrimination is illegal.

There is no adverse impact in respect of race.

Protected characteristics: Religion or Beliefs

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Religion or beliefs details:

The school estate includes faith based schools with a range of faith based admission criteria expected and understood to be compliant with the law and the School Admissions Code.

Faith is reflected legally and appropriately in the council's voluntary controlled schools admission arrangements (for four schools) only.

There are no proposed changes to the related admission arrangements.

Equally there are no changes in the scheme as regards how places are allocated across the city.

No impact or adverse impact is expected as regards religion or beliefs.

Protected characteristics: Sexual Orientation

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Sexual orientation details:

There are no changes in either the arrangements or scheme that impact in any way on sexual orientation.

There is no adverse impact.

Please indicate any actions arising from completing this screening exercise. None.

Please indicate whether a full impact assessment is recommended NO

What data has been collected to facilitate the assessment of this policy/proposal?

Consultation analysis

Adverse impact on any people with protected characteristics.

Could the policy/proposal be modified to reduce or eliminate any adverse impact?

How will the effect(s) of this policy/proposal on equality be monitored?

What data is required in the future?

Are there any adverse impacts on any particular group(s) No

If yes, please explain your reasons for going ahead.

Initial equality impact assessment of your proposal

Consulted People or Groups

Informed People or Groups

Summary and evidence of findings from your EIA

The current consultation process concluded on 27th January 2020.

There have been three responses, none of which relate to equality issues.

Last year's consultation resulted in five responses, none of which referred to equality issues.

QUALITY CONTROL SECTION

Submit to the Quality Control Officer for reviewing? Yes

Quality Control Officer comments

The council's admission arrangements have been subject to only very minor amendments outside of a change of three schools' published admission numbers (PAN).

The PAN changes have no adverse impact in respect of the above protective characteristics.

The co-ordinated scheme changes relate to three process areas; deferral requests (to reception), proof related to looked after child status.

The limiting of live applications (three

for reception and six for secondary). All of the changes are consistent with the School Admissions Code and none have any impact or adverse impact on the protected characteristics as outlined above in the EIA.

Decision by Quality Control Officer

Proceed for final approval

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

Yes

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approve

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

28/01/2020

Reasons for approval or rejection

The council's admission arrangements have been subject to only very minor amendments outside of a change of three schools' published admission numbers (PAN).

The PAN changes have no adverse impact in respect of the above protective characteristics.

The consultation feedback last year (five responses) and this year (three responses) did not raise any equalities concerns.

The co-ordinated scheme changes relate to three administrative process areas;

Deferral requests (to reception).

Proof related to looked after child status.

The limiting of 'live' preferences.

None of the above have any impact or adverse impact on the listed protective characteristics.

Please print and save a PDF copy for your records

Yes

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