

Title of proposed EIA	In-year variation admission arrangements
Reference No	EQUA462/14/06/2021
EA is in support of	Amended Policy
Review Frequency	Annually
Date of first review	01/12/2021
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 vary their admission arrangements in-year to meet the requirements of the proposed new School Admission Code and as per the related DfE guidance. The Co-ordinated Scheme is also to be varied in response to the same changes in the Code.
Data sources	Consultation Results; relevant reports/strategies; Statistical Database (please specify). The change is required specifically related to the status of children from abroad and who were previously adopted.
Please include any other sources of data	Impulse and annual returns to Department for Education and proposed new Code.
ASSESS THE IMPACT AGAINST THE PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS	
Protected characteristic: Age	Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community
Age details:	<p>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.</p> <p>This EIA is required for the technical change for admission arrangements and has been undertaken on the assumption the same change is required of the Co-ordinated Scheme.</p> <p>Children will move school/into school</p>

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.

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) and proposed new Code.

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

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, including in respect of the IAPLAC change and related change of status/definition.

Protected characteristic: Sex

Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community

Gender details:

	<p>There are single sex schools within the school estate.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>There is no adverse impact expected of the proposed changes to the admission arrangements, including the IAPLAC change (which do not impact directly on gender).</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Gender Reassignment</p> <p>Gender reassignment details:</p>	<p>Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community</p> <p>The admission arrangements simply apply the required processes to allocate school places in-year and via the transfer round to allocate places as per the School Admissions Code to all schools.</p> <p>There is no adverse impact expected of the proposed changes to the admission arrangements (which do not impact directly on gender reassignment).</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Marriage and Civil Partnership</p> <p>Marriage and civil partnership details:</p>	<p>Service Users/ Stakeholders</p> <p>There are no changes in either the arrangements or scheme that impact in any way on marriage or civil partnership.</p> <p>There is no adverse impact.</p>
<p>Protected characteristics: Pregnancy and Maternity</p> <p>Pregnancy and maternity details:</p>	<p>Service Users / Stakeholders; Wider Community</p> <p>There are no changes in either the arrangements or scheme that impact in any way on pregnancy and maternity.</p> <p>There is no adverse impact.</p>

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's arrangements 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 school's admission arrangements (for four schools) only.

There are no proposed changes to the related admission arrangements aside from the change is regards IAPLAC.

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.

Socio-economic impacts

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/response to DfE guidance and a proposed new Code

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 change proposed in the council's admission arrangements for the relevant schools is a requirement of the new School Admissions Code and consistent with the related DfE guidance. The change assigns LAC status to children from abroad who were previously looked after and then adopted. 'Highest priority' must be given to all looked after children.

The in-year variation is a requirement of the Code for ALL admission authorities and has not been consulted upon. It is expected that there will be a consultation process prior to determination of the 2022/23 Admission arrangements. Essentially the same changes are proposed for the Co-ordinated Scheme.

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 and specific amendments (related to IAPLACS) as the result of a requirement to do so to ensure compliance with the proposed new School Admissions Code which is scheduled to be implemented from 1st September 2021.

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 QualityControl Officer

Proceed for final approval

Submit draft to Accountable Officer?

Yes

Decision by Accountable Officer

Approved by Lisa Fraser

Date approved / rejected by the Accountable Officer

08/07/2021

Reasons for approval or rejection

The council's admission arrangements have been subject to only very minor amendments as required by the proposed new School Admissions Code. Essentially the same changes are also proposed within the Co-ordinated Scheme.

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

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

Julie Bach

Person or Group

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