

Tudor Grange Academies Trust Dingle Lane Solihull West Midlands B91 3PD

29 February 2024

Tudor Grange Academy Solihull

Decision notice

Consultation on proposed new admission arrangements for the 2025-2026 intake

A public consultation on the admission arrangements for 2025-2026 ran from 15th December 2023 to 31st January 2024, according to the requirements of the <u>Schools Admissions Code</u> (2021).

Changes were proposed to the existing admission arrangements as follows:

- We have added a new oversubscription category for children with an exceptional medical and/or social need, the wording has been made clearer and tightened up, and we are proposing to adopt a new Supplementary Information Form that parents must submit for inclusion in this high priority category. This is consistent with all other academies within the Trust.
- We have added a new oversubscription category to include children of staff who were recruited to fill a vacant post at the Academy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. We have included information to confirm what is meant by a 'staff member', and a 'child of a staff member', including where they must be based and where the child must live, which is mandatory information under the Code.

A committee of trustees met on 8 February 2024 to consider the responses received in the public consultation and determine the admission arrangements for 2025-2026.

29 responses from stakeholders were received. A number of responses related to the removal of siblings as a criterion in the tie-breaker. This had been removed in error and the document was corrected and recirculated on 20th December 2023.

Trustees carefully considered the responses from stakeholders. A number of responses were concerned with the hierarchy of prioritisation in the oversubscription criteria. No changes had been proposed to the order of criteria in the consultation.

A number of responses were concerned with the introduction of the oversubscription criterion for children of staff who had been recruited to a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. Many of those were disappointed that the criterion was limited and that many existing members of staff were excluded. Trustees were mindful of the current challenges faced when recruiting in education, but were also aware of their duty as trustees, to ensure that schools within Tudor Grange Academies Trust remained schools which focused on serving their communities. Trustees decided to proceed with the oversubscription criterion for children of members of staff (paragraph 11.4) as consulted upon, with



eligibility limited to those staff who had been recruited to a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Trustees agreed that they may consider a future consultation to add an oversubscription criterion for children of members of staff who have been employed at the academy for two or more years. In alignment with the ethos of Tudor Grange Academies Trust, this would be likely to come after those children from catchment.

There were some minor changes to wording:

- in paragraph 11.2 (Children with an exceptional medical and/or social need to attend Tudor Grange Academy Solihull) to clarify the decision maker;
- In paragraph 11.3 (Children attending Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James), clarification that to be eligible under this criterion, the child must remain on the roll of Tudor Grange Primary Academy St James until the end of Year 6;
- In paragraph 11.4 (Children attending Tudor Grange Primary Academy Hockley Heath living in the catchment area of Tudor Grange Academy Solihull), clarification that to be eligible under this criterion, the child must also remain on the roll of Tudor Grange Primary Academy Hockley Heath until the end of Year 6;
- In paragraph 11.5 (Children of staff at Tudor Grange Academy Solihull recruited to a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage), clarification of eligibility;
- In paragraph 54 (Waiting List), clarification of how the waiting list will operate.

Subject to these amendments, Trustees determined the admission arrangements for 2025-2026 incorporating the consultation changes as proposed.

Dr W P Rock Chairman of the Board of Trustees Tudor Grange Academies Trust

