

## BARNSELY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT OF THE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (CHILDREN'S SERVICES)

**TITLE: Co-ordinated Scheme for Admission to Schools 2025-2026**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>7 February 2024</b>
<b>Cabinet Member Portfolio</b>	<b>CHILDREN'S SERVICES</b>
<b>Key Decision</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Public or Private</b>	<b>Public</b>

#### **Purpose of report**

This report seeks Cabinet's approval for the co-ordinated scheme for admission to primary and secondary schools for the 2025-2026 school year.

#### **Council Plan priority**

The proposed arrangements primarily support the Council Plan's priority for a ***Learning Barnsley*** through which children and young people achieve the best outcomes, including improved educational attainment, by admission and attendance at schools' which are judged to be 'Good' or 'Outstanding' by Ofsted

#### **Recommendations**

That Cabinet:-

- 1. Approve the proposed co-ordinated scheme for admission to schools 2025-2026 to ensure compliance with school admissions legislation.**

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 The Council is the admissions authority for all maintained community and voluntary controlled schools within the Borough.
- 1.2 Co-ordination of admission schemes between different admission authorities is a statutory requirement on the local authority and is a mechanism for ensuring the single offer of a school place on the same day where a parent has completed a common application form.
- 1.3 A report is submitted to Cabinet on an annual basis to approve the

coordination of admission arrangements for the admission year.

## **2. PROPOSAL**

- 2.1 The draft scheme is fully compliant with the requirements of the School Admissions legislation which sets out the statutory duties of the Local Authority.

## **3. IMPLICATIONS OF THE DECISION**

### **3.1 Financial and Risk**

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

### **3.2 Legal**

There are no specific implications arising from this report and the scheme is fully compliant with legislation, ensuring that the Council is meeting obligations in relation to statutory requirements.

### **3.3 Equality**

The proposed policy complies with legislation and is fair and transparent across the Borough for all service users. An equality impact assessment has been compiled and is appended to this report.

### **3.4 Sustainability**

The Decision-making wheel not completed as there are no sustainability issues arising from this report.

### **3.5 Employee**

There are no direct implications arising from this report.

### **3.6 Communications**

There are no implications arising from this report.

## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Formal consultation has been undertaken in accordance with legislation and Codes of Practice.

- 4.2 As per the Admissions Code 2021 requirements, consultation was made with; parents of children between the ages of 2 and 18, all adjoining neighbouring local authorities, and all other admissions authorities within Barnsley including Dioceses where applicable. The consultation was also displayed on BMBC website and social media channels.

4.3 The consultation lasted for 6 weeks between 13<sup>th</sup> November and 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023. No comments were shared by consultees.

## 5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 Not applicable to the statutory duty to determine a co-ordinated scheme for admission to primary and secondary schools.

## 6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 The scheme provides a consistency of approach across Barnsley and ensures compliance with appropriate legislation.

## 7. GLOSSARY

None

## 8. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Draft Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary and Secondary Schools 2025-2026

Appendix 2: Equality and Impact Assessment for Co-ordinated Scheme for Primary and Secondary Schools 2025-2026

## 9. BACKGROUND PAPERS

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email [governance@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:governance@barnsley.gov.uk) so that appropriate arrangements can be made

## 10. REPORT SIGN OFF

<b>Financial consultation &amp; sign off</b>	Senior Financial Services officer consulted and date <b>Joshua Amahwe (12/01/2024)</b>
<b>Legal consultation &amp; sign off</b>	Legal Services officer consulted and date <b>Sajeda Khalifa</b> <b>12 January 2024</b>

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**Post: School Admissions and Access Manager**