

<h1>BRIEFING</h1>	TO:	Local Admission Forum
	DATE:	5 November 2024
	LEAD OFFICER:	Sarah Whitby Sarah.whitby@rotherham.gov.uk
	TITLE:	Proposed RMBC admission arrangements 2026-27
1. Background		
1.1	Admission authorities must set ('determine') admission arrangements annually by 28 February, regardless of whether there has been any consultation or changes proposed. This a requirement of the School Admission Code 2021 .	
1.2	As the admission Authority for Community and Voluntary controlled schools, RMBC has a responsibility to determine the admission arrangements for these schools.	
2. Key Issues		
2.1	The proposed RMBC admission arrangements for 2026-27, detailed at Appendix 1 , have been redrafted from the 2025-26 arrangements to take into account the academisation of Swallownest Primary School.	
2.2	There are no changes proposed to the Published Admission Number of any Community and Voluntary controlled schools.	
2.3	There are no changes proposed to the oversubscription criteria or catchment for any Community and Voluntary controlled schools.	
2.4	Additional information 'Starting Reception' has been added at the head of page 3 to make clear the arrangements for children starting school in Reception, in line with the provisions as set out in the School Admission Code.	
2.5	In line with the requirements of the School Admission Code to consult on any proposed changes for at least 6 weeks between 1 October and 31 January, it is planned to consult between 25 November 2024 and 17 January 2025.	
2.6	Consultation will be distributed to the consultees specified at 1.47 of the Code in addition to being available on the Council's website and publicised through RMBC social media channels. Consultees will be invited to respond via an online survey, hosted on the RMBC webpages. Alongside the online survey the proposed arrangements and a consultation document explaining the proposals being consulted upon will be available.	
2.7	Parallel consultation is planned in respect of the 'Relevant Area', <i>The area for a school (determined by its local authority and then reviewed every two years) within which the admission authority for that school must consult all other prescribed schools on its admission arrangements.</i>	
2.8	The Local Admission Forum, as the delegated decision maker, must formally approve and determine the proposed admission arrangements by 28 February 2025.	

3. Key Actions and Timelines		
3.1	14 November 2024	Proposed admission arrangements agreed by LAF to go out to consultation
	25 November 2024- 17 January 2025	Consultation period
	20-31 January 2025	Analysis of consultation responses and any required redrafting of the proposed arrangements
	13 February 2025	Proposed admission arrangements determined by LAF following consultation
4. Recommendations		
4.1	That the Local Admissions Forum agree that consultation can commence regarding the proposed RMBC admission arrangements 2026-27, as detailed in Appendix 1 .	
4.2	That the Local Admission Forum agree consultation on the relevant area remaining the whole of Rotherham.	