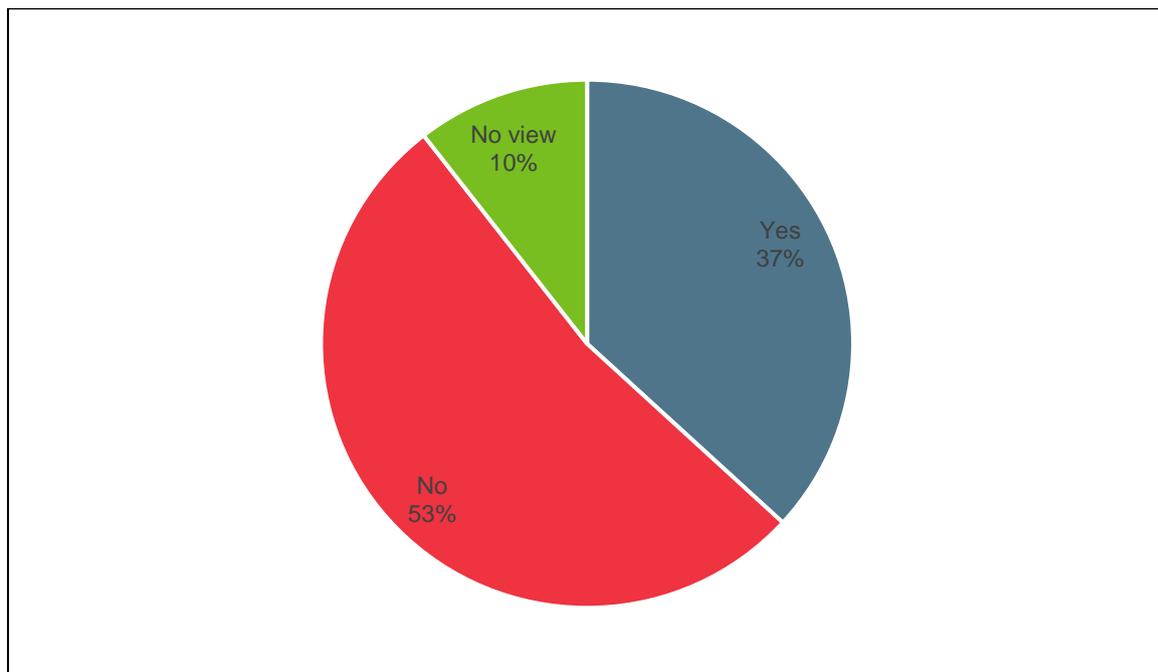


Summary of responses to RMBC's consultation on admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled schools

Question 1 asked 'Do you agree with removing the medical and social oversubscription criteria from the admission arrangements?'

19 responses were received

- 7 respondents answered 'yes'
- 10 respondents answered 'no'
- 2 respondents answered 'no view'



Respondents who were not in agreement with this proposal commented that:

EHCP are harder to gain than many years ago. There will be children who will be going through the process who miss out on school choices due to not having an EHCP who would then appeal on social and medical grounds. This would see many SEN children not receive the correct education in the correct setting for their needs

If a child has a medical or social needs, these need to be mentioned to all children for education purposes. if a child is uneducated about this it can cause bullying etc.

If it is a named school via the EHCP, this should be a priority for that child. This is due to external professionals verifying this is essentially what the child needs. The statement must provide clear reasons why, IE, not just ' can meet need' there must be clear and achievable reasons in there. This must be given a chance to be evidenced, and changed if not achieved by the school for named reasons.

Response: The removal of Social and Medical oversubscription criteria will not change the priority give to children with a setting named in their EHCP, as these children must be admitted. Independent appeal panels must still take into consideration all factors presented by parents and weigh these against the prejudice case provided by school.

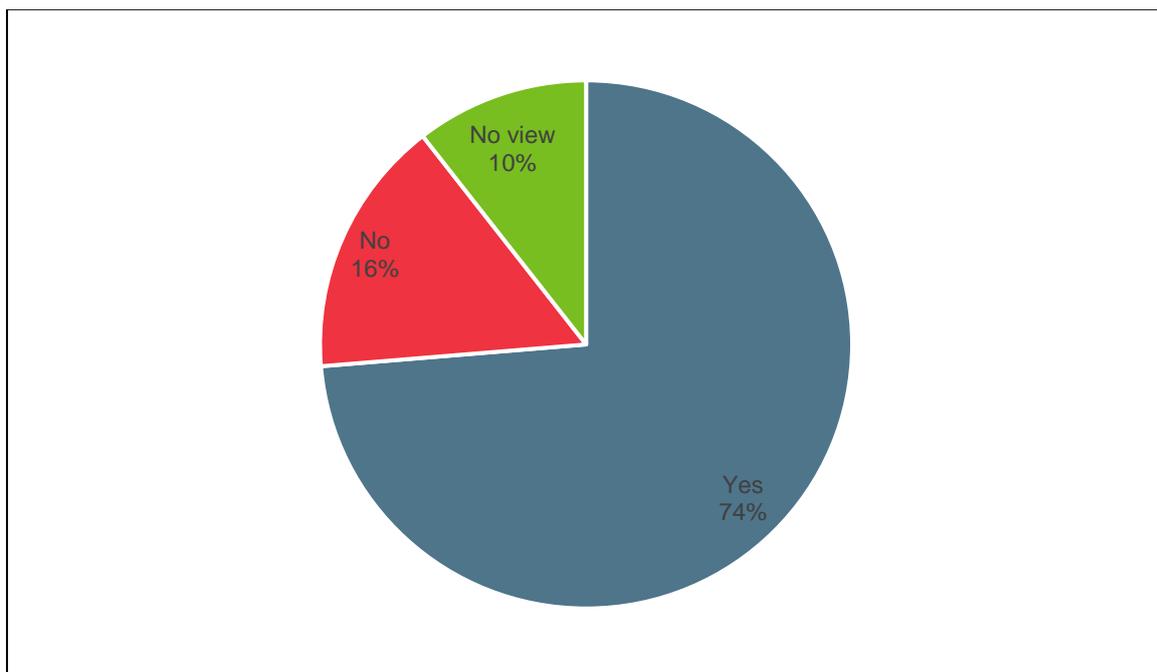
Respondents in agreement with the proposal commented that:

As outlined, the criteria is rarely if ever used and as a Trust who have already taken steps to do this, we are fully supportive of RMBC's proposal to do the same.

Question 2 asked 'Do you agree with the proposed relevant area remaining as the whole of the borough of Rotherham?'

19 responses were received

- 14 respondents answered 'yes'
- 3 respondents answered 'no'
- 2 respondents answered 'no view'



Respondents who were not in agreement with this proposal commented that

Areas surrounding should be included.

Response: It should be noted that there is a requirement in the School Admission Code to consult any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority. The 'area surrounding' is not easily defined and could lead to a subjective judgement.

Respondents in agreement with the proposal commented that:

I feel it should stay as the whole of Rotherham (maybe look at breaking it into North, South, East and West for example). As the whole of Rotherham is very broad. There could be more consideration placed into feeder schools if parents access early year provisions via school. This should definitely be the case (that feeder schools are considered) when moving onto secondary school.

Response: Secondary Schools in Rotherham are all academies and as such RMBC is not the responsible body for setting and determining admission arrangements for entry to secondary. Where an infant school links to a junior, this is always listed as a feeder.

Question 3 asked 'If there are any further comments you would like to make about the proposed admission arrangements for 2026-27.'

2 comments were received:

I would like to see if travel to a school is considered in the criteria , especially for families of low income if they have to move school due to home moves especially around exam times.

I feel Rotherham Council are doing the right thing in consulting with stake holders. I do feel a consideration into feeder schools would be helpful with transition for young people.

Response: Distance and catchment are included as a criterion for oversubscription with the intention that children are able to attend a local school if this is a preference. Parents/ carers are able to apply for a school place at any time if they move house during a school phase and are entitled to apply for travel assistance in line with Council policy so eligibility can be assessed. Feeder schools for Secondaries are determined by the responsible bodies, as per the response in question 2. Feeder schools for infant to junior transition are included in the oversubscription criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools.