

Consultation on a proposed reduction in the published admission number (PAN) for Lowercroft Primary School with effect from September 2025

The Schools Admissions Code 2021 sets out a requirement for all Admission Authorities to undertake statutory consultation where they propose a reduction to the Published Admission Number (PAN) of a school. The purpose of consultation is to ensure transparency and openness on the contents of a proposal and allow parents, carers and other interested stakeholders to make a representation that will be considered as part of the determination of the proposal. The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for Lowercroft Primary School is 35. Reducing the PAN at the school will assist the school's Governing Body to provide stability in its long-term planning and allow the school to continue to secure high quality educational outcomes for the students currently on roll, while continuing to provide an appropriate number of places for future pupil numbers in-line with demand.

Representations and recommendations from the consultation exercise will be considered before making any decisions on the proposals.

Lowercroft Primary School propose to reduce the published admission number of the school from 35 to 30 for Reception Year with effect from September 2025 onwards. This means that the number of places available for children in Year R in 2025 – and all subsequent Year R cohorts will be 30.

This is the only proposed change, the oversubscription criteria will remain the same, which is :-

- *Children with Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan will be given a place at the school named on their EHCP. When schools are oversubscribed, priority for allocation of places will be as follows:-*
- *Children in public care (Looked After Children) and previously looked after children.*
- *Children who will have an older brother or sister in the school in September 2025. For this purpose, a brother or sister may be a full or step-brother or a full or step-sister, living at the same address, at the time of admission.*
- *Other children*

If there is over-subscription in any category, places will be offered using a straight line distance measurement from home to school. The distance will be measured using the Local Authority's computerised mapping system, which measures from the address point of the home property to the address point of the school as defined by Bury Council's LLPG (Local Land and Property Gazetteer). Where the final place in a year group can be taken by two or more children living an equal distance from the school, (for example two children living in the same block of flats) the Local Authority will then use random allocation to decide which of the children can be offered a place.

Who are we consulting with

We are seeking views from:

- 1) Parents in our borough who have children between the ages of two and eighteen
- 2) Other persons in our borough who the Local Authority believes will have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- 3) All other admission authorities within the borough;
- 4) Governing bodies in the borough (who are not admission authorities);

- 5) Our adjoining/neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority;
- 6) The bodies representing the religions/religious denomination of the faith schools in our borough

Consultation timetable

6 November 2023	Consultation opens.
18 December 2023	End of consultation period and deadline for submitting responses to the Local Authority.
w/c 18 December 2023	Analysis of consultation representations and preparation of information to be considered by the School/LA.
28 February 2024	Formal determination of admission arrangements.
15 March 2024	Publication of determined admission arrangements.

How to respond

This consultation will run from Monday 6 November 2023 to Monday 18 December 2023 (a period of six term time weeks). You are invited to submit responses about the proposal above to the Local Authority by:

- email – schoolorganisation@bury.gov.uk
- post – School Admissions Team, Knowsley Place, Duke Street, Bury, BL9 0EJ
- school – lowercroft@bury.gov.uk

Responses must be received no later than 5pm on Monday 18 December 2023. Responses received after this time and date may not be considered.