

Equality Impact Assessment: Conversation Screening Tool

What is being reviewed?	School Admission Arrangements
What changes are being made?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The School Admissions Code 2021 requires admission authorities to consult and determine admission arrangements in readiness for future school applications. No changes to the admission arrangements are being made. The arrangements will be the same as those publicly consulted on and determined for the academic year 2023/24. The requirement to consult is not needed but BCP Council must still formally determine the arrangements on an annual basis.
Service Unit:	Children's Services
Participants in the conversation:	<p>Angie Hill, Team Manager, School Admissions, Children's Services</p> <p>Tanya Smith, Head of Service – School Places, Funding and Admissions, Children's Services</p> <p>Carly Williams, Team Leader, School Admissions, Children's Services</p>
Conversation date/s:	4 August 2022, 8 August 2022
Do you know your current or potential client base? Who are the key stakeholders?	<p>The key stakeholders and client base are parents and carers of children and young people aged 3-16-years-old.</p> <p>During the 2021/22 academic year, BCP Council received approximately 9000 applications for point of entry to school (Reception, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7 and Year 9) and a further 4,500 (approximately) in year applications to start school during the school year. It is anticipated that there will continue to be similar numbers received.</p>
Do different groups have different needs or experiences?	<p>The policy continues to ensure that school admission applications are considered based on the statutory requirements of the School Admissions Code.</p> <p>The School Admissions Code requires Looked After Children, Previously Looked After Children and children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are prioritised.</p> <p>The School Admissions Code enables children entitled to Pupil Premium and children with medical needs to be prioritised within oversubscription criteria.</p> <p>When there are more applications than school places available, the admissions policy includes a set of oversubscription criteria to enable fair and equitable ranking of applications. The oversubscription criteria, after allocation of placement for children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Looked After and Previously Looked After Children (including children who were previously looked after in state care outside of England)

Appendix three

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2) Children who BCP Council accepts have an exceptional medical or social need and where there is a need for a place at one specific school 3) Children who live in the school's catchment area who have a sibling who is already on the roll of the school and will continue to attend the school at the time of admission 4) Children living within the school's catchment area who are attending a recognised feeder school and are on that school's roll at the time of application 5) All other children who live in the school's catchment area 6) Children who live outside the school's catchment area who have a sibling who is already on the roll of the school and will continue to attend the school at the time of admission 7) Children living outside the school's catchment area who are attending a recognised feeder school and are on that school's roll at the time of application 8) Children living outside the school's catchment area and whose parents wish them to attend a CE (Church of England) voluntary controlled school on denominational grounds 9) Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed for two or more years at the school applied for at the time the application for admission is made or who have been recruited to a vacancy to meet a demonstrable skills shortage as at the date of application (in year) or relevant closing date under the local authority co-ordinated scheme (normal year of entry) and who still intend to be employed at the school at the time of the child's admission 10) All other children who live outside the school's catchment area. <p>If a school is oversubscribed in any of the categories above, children in the oversubscribed category who live closest to the school will be given priority.</p> <p>Except for multiple birth children, if the distance measurement is equal for two or more applicants, the place will be allocated by the drawing of lots (note eleven). If a multiple birth child is offered the last school place, all children from the multiple birth will be offered a place over the published admission number for the school.</p>
<p>Will this change affect any service users?</p>	<p>As there are no proposed changes to the admission arrangements and the processes involved in allocating school places there will be no affect to service users.</p>
<p>What are the benefits or positive impacts of the change on current or potential users?</p>	<p>As there are no proposed changes to the admission arrangements and the processes involved in allocating school places there will be no affect to service users.</p> <p>No changes but the oversubscription criteria ensure that applications are considered as per the requirements of the</p>

Appendix three

	Admissions Code – see criteria above
What are the negative impacts of the change on current or potential users?	<p>As there are no proposed changes to the admission arrangements and the processes involved in allocating school places there will be no affect to service users.</p> <p>No changes but the oversubscription criteria ensure that applications are considered as per the requirements of the Admissions Code – see criteria above</p>
Will the change affect employees?	Not applicable as the arrangements only apply to those seeking a school place.
Will the change affect the wider community?	School admission arrangements are statutorily required to be determined annually. As there are no proposed changes to the admission arrangements and the processes involved in allocating school places there will be no affect to service users.
What mitigating actions are planned or already in place for those negatively affected by this change?	<p>As there are no proposed changes to the admission arrangements and the processes involved in allocating school places there will be no affect to service users.</p> <p>The arrangements ensure that applications are considered in line with legislation and the policy itself.</p>
Summary of Equality Implications:	<p>All school applications will continue to be processed in line with the requirements of the School Admissions Code. All families can apply for any school at any time and their applications will be considered in line with the school admissions policy.</p> <p>Families will have the opportunity to access an independent appeal process if they are unhappy with the decision of their application.</p> <p>The requirement to ensure that children with EHCPs are placed before allocation of all children and the requirement to ensure all Looked After and Previously Looked After Children are ranked highest using the oversubscription criteria ensures that these vulnerable groups are positively impacted by the admissions process.</p> <p>School admission arrangements are within the domain of Education described in the Measurement Framework for Equality and Human Rights. They ensure access to appropriate education is provided for children and young people.</p>