



Thorpe Primary School
Atherstone Avenue
Peterborough
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CHALLENGE · INSPIRE · SUCCEED

Headteacher: Miss E Anderson

Deputy Head: Mrs P Jeremaes

Deputy Head: Mrs N Oxer

23 October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thorpe Primary School Admissions Consultation: Proposal to reduce the Published Admissions Number (PAN)

Background

Thorpe Primary School and Peterborough Keys Academies Trust (PKAT) works closely with the Local Authority to monitor and evaluate the predicted future demand for places in its schools. Since we converted to a 3-form entry school in 2015, we have never reached full capacity. It has become apparent that there is a declining birth rate locally to which we are not immune. The demand for places is forecast to reduce such that it is necessary to propose a PAN reduction to ensure the school remains financially sustainable and continues to be able to meet the changing demand for school places in our catchment area.

The Proposal

We believe it is unlikely that the school will fill up to the existing PAN in the next several years, based on the number of births and forecast need for school places in the future. We therefore propose to reduce the Pupil Admission Number (PAN) for the Reception Year Group for Thorpe Primary School for intake September 2026/27 from 90 to 60 pupils and for each subsequent year.

What does this mean?

This means that the number of school places we offer for reception intake starting from September 2026 will be reduced, and for all subsequent years: we will become a 2-form entry school. This is the only proposed change to the admissions criteria; all other criteria will remain the same. The proposed change will not affect families seeking a first-time place at the school for September 2025.

The proposed change will help the schools to effectively focus its teaching and learning resources to match the demand of school places in the catchment area. The Trust and school staff are working hard to continue to improve the outcomes of all our children and feel strongly that the proposed reduction will benefit future outcomes for our young learners, whilst still enabling us to meet the changing demand of places.

The Consultation

We place great importance on seeking views of our families, staff colleagues and the wider community. We hope all current, future families and any other interested stakeholders will provide feedback on this proposal.



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As set out in the Schools Admission Code, we are entering into a 6-week statutory consultation. Following the consultation, the Local Authority shall consider the consultation results and determine the subsequent admission arrangements.

The consultation will run for six weeks starting Thursday 24th October until Thursday 5th December 2024.

All stakeholders are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal. Please email estephens-dunn@pkat.co.uk (please ensure the 'Subject or Title' of your email states "Thorpe PAN Consultation"). You will find a copy of the proposed Admission Policy for September 26/27 intake on the school's website, www.thorpeprimary.co.uk

I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your continued support of Thorpe Primary School.

Yours sincerely

E Anderson

Emma Anderson
Headteacher



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