November 2026

Victorious Academies Trust
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Consultation on Proposed Admission Arrangements and School Provision Changes for the 2028/29 Academic Year

Introduction

Victorious Academies Trust is consulting on proposed changes to admission arrangements at a number of academies within our Trust, together with a revised Trust Admissions Policy for the 2028/29 academic year.

The proposals have been developed following a review of pupil numbers, admission trends, local demographic information and the efficient use of school resources. The Trust is committed to ensuring that school places are planned effectively and that resources are deployed in a way that supports the continued delivery of high-quality education across all of our schools.

The consultation provides parents, carers, staff, local authorities, schools and other interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the proposed changes before final decisions are made.

Following the consultation period, all responses received will be reviewed and considered by the Trust Board before a decision is made. Any determined admission arrangements will be published in accordance with the statutory timetable.

Background

Like many areas across England, the communities served by Victorious Academies Trust have seen changes in local demographics, including lower birth rates and reduced demand for school places in some areas.

As part of its regular strategic planning, the Trust reviews admission numbers, pupil projections and school capacity to ensure that provision remains aligned with local need. This review has identified a number of proposed changes intended to support the long-term sustainability of individual schools whilst maintaining high-quality educational provision for children and families.

No changes are proposed for pupils currently on roll at any of the schools affected by these proposals.

Who Are We Consulting?

The Trust invites feedback from parents, carers, staff, local authorities, neighbouring schools and other admission authorities, elected representatives and other interested stakeholders.

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Summary of Proposals

School	Current PAN	Proposed PAN
Yew Tree Primary School	45	30
Wild Bank Primary School	30	15
Pinfold Primary School	60	30

The proposed changes have been developed in response to changing levels of demand for school places across the Trust. The proposals are intended to ensure that school capacity remains aligned with local need and that resources can continue to be targeted effectively to support high-quality education for all pupils.

Other Proposed Changes to the Admissions Policy

In addition to the proposed changes to Published Admission Numbers (PANs), the Trust is consulting on a revised Admissions Policy for the 2028/29 academic year.

The revised policy includes a number of administrative and procedural updates to:

- Reflect the Trust's operation across multiple local authority areas.
- Update references to current admissions arrangements and local authority processes.
- Modernise application, in-year admission and appeals procedures.
- Clarify arrangements for admission outside a child's normal age group.
- Update references to distance measurement and tie-break arrangements.
- Ensure continued alignment with current admissions legislation, the School Admissions Code and local authority requirements.
- Improve clarity and consistency throughout the policy.

Stakeholders are encouraged to review the draft Admissions Policy and provide feedback on all proposed changes.

Proposal 1: Yew Tree Primary School

Reduction in Published Admission Number (PAN)

Current PAN: 45 **Proposed PAN: 30**

The Trust is proposing to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception admissions from 45 to 30 pupils from September 2028.

Why is this proposed?

- Falling demand for Reception places.
- Changes in local demographics and birth rates.

- To align admissions with anticipated future demand.
- To ensure the efficient use of school resources whilst maintaining high-quality educational provision.

Impact

- Existing pupils will not be affected.
- The proposal applies only to future Reception admissions from September 2028.
- The school will continue to provide high-quality education for all pupils on roll.

Proposal 2: Wild Bank Primary School

Reduction in Published Admission Number (PAN)

Current PAN: 30 **Proposed PAN: 15**

The Trust is proposing to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception admissions from 30 to 15 pupils from September 2028.

Why is this proposed?

- Sustained lower demand for Reception places.
- Changes in local demographics and birth rates.
- To align admissions with projected pupil numbers.
- To support the long-term sustainability of the school.

Impact

- Existing pupils will not be affected.
- The proposal applies only to future Reception admissions from September 2028.
- The school will continue to provide high-quality education for all pupils on roll.

Proposal 3: Pinfold Primary School

Reduction in Published Admission Number (PAN)

Current PAN: 60 **Proposed PAN: 30**

The Trust is proposing to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception admissions from 60 to 30 pupils from September 2028.

Why is this proposed?

- Falling demand for Reception places.

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- Changes in local demographics and birth rates.
- To align admissions with anticipated future demand.
- To ensure resources are used efficiently whilst maintaining educational standards.

Impact

- Existing pupils will not be affected.
- The proposal applies only to future Reception admissions from September 2028.
- The school will continue to provide high-quality education for all pupils on roll.

Why Are We Consulting?

The Trust has a responsibility to consult on proposed admission arrangements before final decisions are made.

We welcome feedback from parents, carers, staff, governors, local authorities, neighbouring schools and other interested stakeholders. All responses received will be carefully considered before any final decisions are made.

How Can You Have Your Say?

Stakeholders may respond by:

- Completing the online consultation form **click here**.
- If you require assistance completing the online consultation form, please contact Victorious Academies Trust on **0161 830 6964**.

All responses must be submitted by **14 January 2027**. All responses received during the consultation period will be considered before any final decisions are made.

Consultation Timeline

Consultation Opens: 20 November 2026
Consultation Closes: 14 January 2027