

# MIDDLESBROUGH COUNCIL

## EXECUTIVE REPORT

### 2017/18 SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Executive Member for Education & Skills – Councillor Jan Brunton

Executive Director for Wellbeing Care & Learning – Richenda Broad

14 March 2016

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### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To consider and approve school admission arrangements for the intake in September 2017.

### SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The school admission arrangements for 2017/18 be approved.

### IF THIS IS A KEY DECISION WHICH KEY DECISION TEST APPLIES?

3. It is over the financial threshold (£150,000)   
It has a significant impact on 2 or more wards   
Non Key

### DECISION IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE

4. For the purposes of the scrutiny call in procedure this report is

Non-urgent   
Urgent report

If urgent please give full reasons

### BACKGROUND AND EXTERNAL CONSULTATION

5. The latest School Admissions Code (the Code) came into force in December 2014, and applies to admissions to all maintained schools and academies. Admission authorities must ensure that their determined admission arrangements for 2017/18 comply with the mandatory provision of the Code.
6. Each year the LA determines the authority's admission arrangements which are then formally consulted on with schools, parents and other LA's for a minimum of 6 weeks. The public consultation took place in December 2015 to January 2016.

7. The Admissions Scheme applies to all schools within Middlesbrough and gives details of the admissions procedures and timetables. There are no changes to the scheme from previous years with the exception of date changes.
8. The Admissions Policy at Appendix 1 gives details of the oversubscription criteria and admission numbers for the community primary and secondary schools in Middlesbrough. (Own Admission Authority Schools will have their own policies).
9. The Access to Education team continue to work with schools to seek to alleviate pressure on school places in all areas of the town. There are proposed changes to the community primary and secondary schools arrangements as detailed below.
  - Increase in Pallister Park published admission number from 60 to 75
  - Increase in Park End published admission number from 60 to 66
  - In the Admission Arrangements document under the heading 'Admission of Children Outside their Normal Age Group' a paragraph has been added advising that the current policy regarding this may change if the Government makes further changes to the Admissions Code.
10. Also please note that as last year, it is proposed that admission numbers will apply to the relevant intake year only and will remain the same for that relevant year group throughout the progression of the year group through the school.
11. The In-Year Transfer Scheme remains unchanged from previous years. The 2014 Admissions Code provided that Admission Authorities can change the way mid-year transfer requests from intake year 2013/14 are processed. However it is proposed that Middlesbrough continue with the existing arrangements for processing transfers requests for all schools in Middlesbrough to be able to monitor transfers and Children Missing from Education. This is in line with our neighbouring Local Authorities.
12. Consultation on the attached admission arrangements for 2017/18 was undertaken with schools and stakeholders in December 2015 and January 2016. No comments were received from stakeholders.
13. **IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IA)**
14. An Impact Assessment is not required as this is an annual statutory requirement.

## **OPTION APPRAISAL/RISK ASSESSMENT**

15. This is a statutory function no option appraisal or risk assessment is indicated.

## **FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND WARD IMPLICATIONS**

16. **Financial** - there are no costs being considered within this report.
17. **Ward Implications** – All wards are affected by admissions arrangements contained in this report.
18. **Legal Implications** – this is a statutory function.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

19. The attached school admission arrangements for the intake in September 2017 are approved.

## **REASONS**

20. The arrangements have been consulted on and reflect the current capacity available in Middlesbrough schools.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

**The following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:**

Attached

Appendix 1 Proposed Admission Numbers 2017-18

Appendix 2 Admissions Scheme 2017-18

Appendix 3 Admission Arrangements 2017-18

Appendix 4 In Year Transfer Scheme 2017-18

Appendix 5 Consultation Letter

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