



Meir Heath Academy

Principal: Mrs M Southern

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Consultation on Admission Arrangements

Normal Age of Entry – Academic Year 2027/2028

Meir Heath Academy is undertaking a consultation in line with the School Admissions Regulations and would welcome your views on a proposed change to its admission arrangements for pupils starting school in September 2027.

We value the opinions of our community and stakeholders, and your feedback will be carefully considered before any final decisions are made.

Proposed Change

The Academy is proposing to reduce its Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 45 with effect from September 2027. This would apply to children joining Reception from that date onwards. There will be no change to the size of year groups for pupils already attending the school.

This is the only amendment being proposed; all other aspects of the admission arrangements will remain unchanged.

Reason for Consultation

This proposal has been considered by Meir Heath Academy and St Bart's Academy Trust following a review of current and projected pupil numbers. Key factors include:

- A sustained decline in birth rates within the local catchment area
- The current school roll of 271 pupils (October 2025 census), which is significantly below the school's capacity of 420
- School funding being closely linked to pupil numbers, with unfilled places having a negative impact on budgets
- A PAN of 45 would enable classes to be fully subscribed, ensuring resources are used effectively and efficiently
- No anticipated increase in pupil numbers from local housing developments
- Improved long-term planning and financial stability, supporting high-quality educational outcomes for all pupils

Consultation Process

As required by the admissions regulations, the school is consulting with:

- Parents and carers of current and prospective pupils
- Local stakeholders with an interest in school admissions
- The local authority
- Other local schools

The consultation will close at 5pm on 31st January 2026.

A full copy of the proposed admission arrangements is available on the school website. Comments or responses should be submitted by email to meirheathoffice@sbmat.org by the closing date above.

Thank you for taking the time to share your views.

Yours sincerely,

Melanie Southern
Proud Principal of Meir Heath Academy

