

**Report to Coventry School Admissions Forum
Friday 24 September 2010**

**Implementation of the In-Year Fair Access Protocol – third year review:
Operation of the Social Inclusion Placements Panel 2009/10**

1. Background.

1.1 Under the School Admissions Code all admission authorities and Admission Forums have been required to have an In-Year Fair Access Protocol in place since September 2007 (formerly referred to as "hard to place pupil protocol"). All schools and Academies are required to participate in their local authority area's protocol in order to ensure that unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. This includes admitting children above the published admission number to schools that are already full and ensures that all schools in an area admit their fair share of children with challenging behaviour, including children excluded from other schools..

1.2 Section 4.31 of the Admissions Code 2010 requires that Admission Forums monitor the effectiveness of local authority Fair Access Protocols.

The forum should consider:

- how well the In-Year Fair Access protocol is working
- how quickly children are found places
- and the contribution every school in the area is making.

2. Coventry's In-Year Fair Access Protocol

2.1 Coventry's Protocol covers two groups of children:

-Children who have been permanently excluded from school or who are at risk of permanent exclusion (managed transfers)

-Hard-to-place pupils.

2.2 For a pupil to be considered hard-to-place there should be evidence of one or more of the following:

- Previous and recent permanent exclusion, a high number of fixed term exclusions or managed move/transfer

- Recent history of significant behaviour problems
- Recent history of offending
- Persistent and poor attendance, at least below 80%
- Lengthy periods of absence from education
- Mental health problems
- Significant social/emotional difficulties resulting from adverse home circumstances
- Parental concerns/ parents who are hard to engage.

2.3 The Local Authority has used a formula to determine the number of pupils in both categories each school will be expected to take. The formula takes account of the differing contexts and circumstances of schools, in particular the size of school, the degree of transience faced by the school and the relative deprivation of the school's population.

2.4 For 2008/09 and 2009/10 changes were made to the number of pupils to be admitted at seven of the Authority's secondary schools to take account of the National Challenge. These were agreed by the secondary heads and were based on a graduated approach to the seven schools according to the level of challenge they faced.

2.5 The table attached as appendix 1 sets out the numbers of managed transfers/permanent exclusions and hard to place pupils which schools were expected to admit during the academic year 2009/10. The formula is based on 45 pupils in each category but this reduced to 35 in each category following the adjustment for the National Challenge schools.

3. Permanent exclusions / Managed transfers

3.1 During the academic year 2009/10 there were 19 permanent exclusions from secondary schools and 70 managed transfer requests. In addition four children who live in Coventry but who were permanently excluded from schools in other local authorities were also supported. Trends over the last 6 years are given below:

	Permanent exclusions	Managed transfers	TOTAL
2009/10	19	70	89
2008/09	22	77	99
2007/08	10	94	104
2006/07	12	89	101
2005/06	8	61	69
2004/05	8	95	103

Information on the 89 pupils for 2009/10 is contained in appendix 2.

3.2 Pupils in key stage 3 normally spend a period of time at the Grange Extended Learning Centre (12 FTE places) or Wyken Extended Learning Centre (24 FTE places). Pupils living in the west of the city are normally placed at the Grange ELC and those in the east at Wyken ELC. 43 KS3 pupils were referred in 2009/10. The aim of the KS3 ELCs is to support pupils to return to another mainstream school. Pupils are reintegrated when appropriate and receive support from an outreach worker. 15 pupils returned to mainstream school from the ELCs in 2009/10.

3.3 Pupils in key stage 4 are usually allocated a place at Chace ELC/Individual Programmes, a small number may return directly to a new mainstream school. In 2009/10 46 key stage 4 referrals were received which was higher than in 2008/09 (34) but similar to the academic years 07/08 (48) and 06/07 (44). In the autumn term 08 (November) the LA introduced more robust arrangements for key stage 4 referrals which included all such cases being considered by the Social Inclusion Placements Panel. These arrangements were introduced because of concerns at the high number of pupils being referred to Chace ELC. Three requests for Chace ELC were refused by the Social Inclusion Placements Panel. In 2009/10 seven key stage 4 pupils were allocated places in mainstream schools.

4. Hard to place pupils

4.1 The Social Inclusion Panel met on a monthly basis during the academic year. The panel is Chaired by the Business and Performance Manager and comprises senior officers from appropriate Local Authority Services and four headteacher representatives, one from each of the 4 secondary federations. Heads attend 3 meetings on a rolling programme to support consistency in decision making.

4.2 90 cases were discussed across the 11 meetings which were held (79 in 2008/09). Most cases were identified by the admissions team as potentially hard to place because of one or more of the issues outlined in paragraph 2.2 above. Information on these pupils is contained in appendix 3. 35 pupils were confirmed as hard to place and were agreed as supported transfers into an alternative mainstream school, 24 in key stage 3 and 11 in key stage 4 (22 in 2008/09).

4.3 Trends over the past three years are given below:

	Cases	Supported transfers	KS3	KS4	Standard admissions
2007/08	76	26	14	11	16
2008/09	79	22	16	6	10
2009/10	90	35	24	11	21

5. Overview

5.1 Appendix 4 gives an overview of all pupils admitted to Coventry Schools in 2009/10.

5.2 Appendix 5 gives an overview of pupils admitted to each school against the agreement in the Service Level Agreement.

6. Arrangements for 2010/11

6.1 There are ongoing discussions with secondary headteachers regarding these systems/arrangements. Headteachers are generally very positive about the work of the Social Inclusion Placements Panel and associated procedures.

Appendix 1.

ADMISSION OF EXCLUDED PUPILS/PUPILS AT RISK OF EXCLUSION AND HARD TO PLACE PUPILS – BASED ON 90 PUPILS (45 IN EACH CATEGORY) – ADJUSTED TO 70 (35) FOR NATIONAL CHALLENGE.

School	No on Roll (11 – 15) January 2009	In Year Admissions 2008/2009	Housing Benefit Index 2008/2009	NUMBER OF PUPILS ADMITTED PER SCHOOL YEAR		
				Exclud/ at risk of exclsn	Hard to place	TOTAL
Barrs Hill	598	79	128	0	0	0
Caludon Castle	1215	15	104	3	3	6
Coundon Court	1355	19	75	3	3	6
Ernesford Grange	793	29	222	1	1	2
Finham Park	1182	25	32	4	4	8
Foxford	892	25	194	1	1	2
Lyng Hall	572	41	138	0	0	0
Pres. Kennedy	1247	49	215	1	1	2
Sidney Stringer	1046	73	342	0	0	0
Stoke Park	895	34	116	2	2	4
Tile Hill Wood	1154	25	128	2	2	4
Westwood School	542	30	82	1	1	2
Whitley Abbey	639	29	107	1	1	2
Woodlands	793	10	89	3	3	6
Grace Academy	590	16	139	2	2	4
Bishop Ullathorne	776	10	90	3	3	6
Blue Coat CE	1050	9	76	4	4	8
Card. Newman RC	1023	22	117	2	2	4
Card. Wiseman RC	1186	29	188	2	2	4
	(17548)			70 (35)		

Requests Out 09'10

School	School roll Jan 09	Totals	% of school roll	Panel decision				
				Standard Admission	Supported transfer	Chace/Individual Programme	Wyken KS3 PRU	Other
Barr's Hill	598		0.0%					
Caludon Castle	1215		0.0%					
Coundon Court	1355		0.0%					
Ernesford Grange	793		0.0%					
Finham Park	1182		0.0%					
Foxford	892		0.0%					
Grace Academy	590	3	0.5%					
Lyng Hall	572		0.0%					
President Kennedy	1247		0.0%					
Sidney Stringer	1046		0.0%					
Stoke Park	895		0.0%					
Tile Hill Wood	1154	1	0.1%					
Whitley Abbey	639	4	0.6%					
The Woodlands	793	1	0.1%					
The Westwood School	542		0.0%					
Bishop Ullathorne RC	776		0.0%					
Blue Coat	1050		0.0%					
Cardinal Newman RC	1023		0.0%					
Cardinal Wiseman RC	1186	3	0.3%					
Out of City		13						
Off Role		2						
ELC								
	17548	27	0.2%	0	0	0	0	0

* One taken out of Autumn figures

Completed requests in 09'10

Totals	% of school roll	Entrance			
		Standard Admission	Supported transfer	Awaiting completion	Supported transfer withdrawn
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
1	0.1%		1		
	0.0%				
1	0.1%		1		
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
	0.0%				
0	#				
0	#				
0	#				
2	0.0%	0	2	0	0

* Includes 2 cases where parents didn't want alt. school

Hard to Place - Requests Out

School	School roll Jan 10	Term of panel hearing			Totals	% of school roll	Year Group					Panel decision				
		Autumn	Spring	Summer			7	8	9	10	11	Standard Admission	Supported transfer	Chace/Individual Pro	Wyken KS3 PRU	Other
Barr's Hill	604	1	1	2	4	0.7%			3	1			2			2
Caludon Castle	1228		2		2	0.2%			1	1				1		1
Coundon Court	1367	1		1	2	0.1%	1	1				2				
Ernesford Grange	724		1	1	2	0.3%			2			1				1
Finham Park	1200															
Foxford	879	1	2	2	5	0.6%	2		1	2		1		2		2
Grace Academy	618	4	2	4	10	1.6%	4	3	1		2	2	5			3
Lyng Hall	549			1	1	0.2%			1				1			
President Kennedy	1184	1		1	2	0.2%		1		1			1			1
Sidney Stringer	1047	2	2		4	0.4%	1	1	1	1			2			2
Stoke Park	884															
Tile Hill Wood	1113	1	1	1	3	0.3%				2	1		2			1
Whitley Abbey	673	5		3	8	1.2%	3		4	1		1	4			3
The Woodlands	763	2		2	4	0.5%			1	3		1				3
The Westwood School	540		1		1	0.2%	1					1				
Bishop Ullathorne RC	741			1	1	0.1%		1				1				
Blue Coat	1054			1	1	0.1%		1					1			
Cardinal Newman RC	1043															
Cardinal Wiseman RC	1165	3	1		4	0.3%		3		1		1	2			1
Out of City		18	11	4	33		2	7	7	7	10	10	13	7	1	2
Off School Roll		2		1	3				2	1			2	1		
ELC																
	17376	41	24	25	90	0.5%	14	18	24	21	13	21	35	11	1	22

Updated 19/07/10

Hard to Place - Completed Requests (Receiving schools)

Appendix 3

School	School roll Jan 10	Term of panel hearing			Totals	% of school roll	Year Group					Entrance	
		Autumn	Spring	Summer			7	8	9	10	11	Standard Admission	Supported transfer
Barr's Hill	604	1		2	3	0.5%	1		2			2	1
Caludon Castle	1228	3		1	4	0.3%		2		2			4
Coundon Court	1367		2	1	3	0.2%	1	1	1			1	2
Ernesford Grange	724	4			4	0.6%	1		1	2			4
Finham Park	1200	3		2	5	0.4%	1	2	2			1	4
Foxford	879	1		1	2	0.2%	1		1				2
Grace Academy	618			1	1	0.2%			1				1
Lyng Hall	549	2	1	2	5	0.9%	2	2	1			3	2
President Kennedy	1184	5		2	7	0.6%		3	1	3		5	2
Sidney Stringer	1047												
Stoke Park	884	1	1		2	0.2%			1	1			2
Tile Hill Wood	1113			1	1	0.1%		1					1
Whitley Abbey	673		1	3	4	0.6%	1	1	1	1		2	2
The Woodlands	763		3		3	0.4%		1	1	1		1	2
The Westwood School	540		2		2	0.4%			1	1		1	1
Bishop Ullathorne RC	741												
Blue Coat	1054	2			2	0.2%				1	1		2
Cardinal Newman RC	1043	1			1	0.1%					1		1
Cardinal Wiseman RC	1165	1	1	1	3	0.3%	1	1	1			1	2
	17376	24	11	17	52	0.3%	9	14	15	12	2	17	35

Bold indicates Year group of supported transfer

4 standard admissions withdrawn

7 supported transfers - not yet completed

PUPILS ADMITTED TO COVENTRY SCHOOLS 2009/10

APPENDIX 4

School	In year admissions 2009/10	Excluded/at risk of exclusion No. admitted	Hard to place No. admitted	TOTAL
Barrs Hill	58	0	1	59
Caludon Castle	14	1	4	19
Coundon Court	22	4	2	28
Ernesford Grange	24	1	4	29
Finham Park	25	3	4	32
Foxford	43	1	2	46
Lyng Hall	39	0	2	41
Pres. Kennedy	43	1	2	46
Sidney Stringer	78	0	0	78
Stoke Park	34	1	2	37
Tile Hill Wood	38	0	1	39
Westwood	35	0	1	36
Whitley Abbey	41	1	2	44
Woodlands	32	2	2	36
Bishop Ullathorne	11	0	0	11
Blue Coat CE	3	2	2	7
Cardinal Newman RC	10	1	1	12
Cardinal Wiseman RC	32	2	2	36
Grace Academy	30	2	1	33
Total	612	22	35	669

PUPILS ADMITTED TO COVENTRY SCHOOLS 2009/10

APPENDIX 5

School	SLA per category	TOTAL	Excluded/at risk of exclusion No. admitted	Hard to place No. admitted	TOTAL ADMITTED	Places not filled
Barrs Hill	0	0	0	1	1	-1
Caludon Castle	3	6	1	4	5	1
Coundon Court	3	6	4	2	6	0
Ernesford Grange	1	2	1	4	5	-3
Finham Park	4	8	3	4	7	1
Foxford	1	2	1	2	3	-1
Lyng Hall	0	0	0	2	2	-2
Pres. Kennedy	1	2	1	2	3	-1
Sidney Stringer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stoke Park	2	4	1	2	3	1
Tile Hill Wood	2	4	0	1	1	3
Westwood	1	2	0	1	1	1
Whitley Abbey	1	2	1	2	3	-1
Woodlands	3	6	2	2	4	2
Bishop Ullathorne	3	6	0	0	0	6
Blue Coat CE	4	8	2	2	4	4
Cardinal Newman RC	2	4	1	1	2	2
Cardinal Wiseman RC	2	4	2	2	4	0
Grace Academy	2	4	2	1	3	1
Total	35	70	22	35	57	13