

Admissions training 02 July 2018 – Admissions Arrangements for 2020/21

Diocese confirmed that there will be no material changes to the code for year 2020/21.

DfE wishes to produce new code but has been told there is no parliamentary time available until after Brexit.

Likely changes when new code introduce are:

- All in year applications to go back to the LA, concerns have been raised by some LAs as to the length of time admissions processes and appeals are taking, leaving children without places. However, some LAs may object – Birmingham for example get 5,000 applications per week.
- Infant size appeal process to be changed. All appeals will still go to an independent panel, but parents would not attend.
- Summer born children classification may be changed from current 01 April – 31 August to 01 July – 31 August.
- Clarification on looked after children from overseas, following concern from LAs as to ease of obtaining documentation from some countries. There will have to be proof of looked after status by foreign equivalent of LA or charity or adoption certification. (Nick Gibbs, Minister for State introduced)
- Schools directed to give priority to first born or only child living in catchment, above siblings out of catchment.

Other points to note:

- Do we have evidence of where our consultation was advertised? Some schools having trouble with appeals because of this issue.
- Best practice is to notify the LA of every application that comes through the school. Sarah is checking with contacts at LA.

Highly recommended that schools have no more than six criteria:

- EHC Plans / SEN
- Looked after / previously looked after
- Medical and social
- In catchment
- Out of catchment
- Other

- Unlawful to have deferred or part-time entry into reception class. All schools must offer immediate full-time placement from first day of term, parents may then opt to put children in part-time.

Consideration by committee must be given for:

- Any admissions requested outside of normal year group
- Summer born children whose parents wish to defer them.