

TOWER HAMLETS CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Consultation on a proposed reduction in the Published Admission Number (PAN) for Elizabeth Selby Infants and Lawdale Junior Schools with effect from September 2020



Version: 1.0
Date issued: 5th November 2018
Prepared by: Pupil Services
Children's Services Directorate
Review date: November 2019



1. Background

- 1.1 The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for Elizabeth Selby Infants and Lawdale Junior Schools is 75. This means that the number of children admitted into the schools at their points of entry (i.e. reception and Year 3) each year is a maximum of 75.
- 1.2 The overall capacity of each School (maximum number on roll) has been set at 225 and 300 respectively made up of 75 children in each year from Reception to Year 2 and from Year 3 to Year 6.
- 1.3 There is limited teaching and outdoor space for the pupils at each school and they are located in an area of surplus primary places. The Local Authority would therefore like to reduce the Published Admission Number from 75 to 60 places in Reception at Elizabeth Selby Infants and in Year 3 at Lawdale Juniors.
- 1.4 The Regulations and Code of Practice relating to school admissions no longer require an admissions authority to consult when maintaining or increasing a school's PAN, but there remains a requirement to consult when the proposal is to reduce the PAN. The Local Authority, as the admissions authority, is therefore seeking comments on the proposed change.

2. Specific Proposal

- 2.1 The Local Authority proposes to reduce the published admission number of each school from 75 to 60 places with effect from September 2020.
- 2.2 This means that the number of places available for children in Reception in 2020 – and all subsequent Reception and Year 3 intakes – will be 60. For children who already have a place at the school in other year groups there will be no change but the admission number for all other years will reduce to 60.
- 2.3 This is the only proposed change to the admission criteria. All other criteria, including oversubscription, will remain the same. Children in Elizabeth Selby Infants will continue to be given priority when applying for a transfer to Lawdale Junior School at the start of Year 3.
- 2.4 Factors that have been considered by the Local Authority and School Governing Bodies when deciding to consult on this proposal include:
 - The schools are on limited sites with restricted space.
 - They are located in Bethnal Green where there continues to be a falling demand for primary school places, resulting in a significant surplus across the area. Through this reduction in need, with the schools being close to other established primary schools, places have not been filled over the past five admission years.
 - The total number of pupils currently on roll at both schools is 425 and is well below the existing PAN of 525.
 - The pupil numbers at each school are stable as a two form entry (60 places) and the proposal to reduce the PAN is supported by the Governing Body.

- 2.5 The Local Authority firmly believes that reducing the PAN will assist the schools to provide stability in their long-term planning and allow them to secure high quality educational outcomes for the pupils currently on roll, whilst ensuring that an appropriate number of places are provided for future pupil numbers, in line with demand.