



School Admissions Update – September 2022

This update is for VA schools and academies.

1. Admission arrangements for 2024-5

It's time to start planning your admission arrangements for the 2024-25 school year.

Admission authorities have a statutory duty to consult the LDBS before consulting others about their admissions arrangements. Admission arrangements must be put out for consultation every seven years, or whenever changes are proposed.

If you intend to make changes, please consult the LDBS on your proposed changes as soon as possible. If you are putting your admission arrangements out for consultation to comply with the mandatory seven-year cycle, please consult with us first – even if you are not changing anything.

Consultation is not required for changes that are necessary to comply with the School Admissions Code or Appeals Code, or to increase in the school's published admissions number (PAN).

We will respond to consultation requests within two weeks of receipt. The statutory consultation timetable is set out below. Contact us: admissions@london.anglican.org

2. Church-related oversubscription criteria and Covid variations

If your admission arrangements include church-related oversubscription criteria that refer to Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (CTBI), please change this to Churches Together in England (CTIE). This change does not require consultation, as it is necessary to comply with the Admissions Code 2021, which requires admission arrangements to be clear. An adjudicator recently found that a reference to CTBI did not satisfy the Code, as CTBI does not list individual church names but only denominations. CTIE has a list of member churches on its website and was determined to be sufficiently clear.

Please check your admission arrangements for 2023-24 and 2024-5.

You may also wish to revisit any variations made to your admission arrangements to address church closures during the Coronavirus pandemic. Any change will require that you follow the statutory consultation timetable (see next page).



3. New Admission Appeals Code 2022

The Department for Education has released a new Admission Appeals Code, which will take effect on 1 October 2022 and will apply to all admission appeals lodged on or after that date. The new Code allows appeal hearings to be held remotely by video conference and in limited circumstances by telephone conference, as well as in person.

Please check that your admission arrangements for 2023-4 and 2024-5 are compliant with the new Appeals Code.

4. Statutory consultation timetable

June to end September	Consultation Part 1 – with LDBS	Admission authorities must consult the LDBS on any changes to admissions arrangements, in good time for the LDBS to respond, before consulting others. This consultation happens every 7 years at minimum, and whenever changes are needed.
October to 31 January	Consultation Part 2 – with LA and wider audience	<p>After taking account of the LDBS's response, admission authorities must consult:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LA • All other admissions authorities in the relevant area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents of children aged 2-18 in the relevant area • Others whom the admissions authority deems to have an interest in the arrangements, including local churches where church criteria change <p>The consultation must be posted on the school's website for a minimum of 6 weeks between 1 October and 31 January. The latest date for consultation to start is therefore 4 December.</p>
31 January to 28 February	Determination by admission authority	Admission authorities must take into account any responses and objections to the proposed arrangements. They must vote to determine the admissions arrangements by 28 February.
By 15 March	Publication by admission authority	<p>Once the admission arrangements are determined, and by no later than 15 March, admissions authorities must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notify the LDBS • Notify the LA • Notify all schools in the relevant area • Publish the arrangements on their website <p>Admission authorities must also send a copy of the arrangements and supplementary information form to the LDBS and LA. This must occur annually, even when changes have not been made.</p>



Statutory guidance

The School Admissions Code 2021: School admissions code - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

The School Admissions Appeals Code 2022: School admission appeals code - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

LDBS admissions advice team

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