

EDUCATION FOR LIFE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 6TH MARCH 2014

**SUBJECT: CONSULTATION – PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS
2015/2016**

REPORT BY: ACTING DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To consult Members on the proposed changes to the Schools Admission Arrangements for the academic year 2015/2016.
- 1.2 To give Scrutiny Members the opportunity to comment on proposals as part of the consultation process before recommendations are considered by Cabinet at its meeting 19th March 2014.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The report shows the proposed changes in relation to the School Admission Arrangements for the academic year 2015/2016 and ensures that the Authority complies with statutory requirements in carrying out the appropriate consultation.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Ensuring that the Authority's Admission Arrangements are reviewed to meet the needs of schools and the Authority and comply with relevant legislation.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 Members will recall that they are consulted annually regarding the proposed Admission Arrangements. The only significant changes proposed for 2015/16 relates to Secondary School Rationalisation Phase 1 – Islwyn West (Page 11 of the attached Admission Arrangements).
- 4.2 The consultation process has been taking place over the last couple of months and ends on 1st March in accordance with the Code. Consultees have included all Headteachers, all Chairs of Governors and all neighbouring LAs, as well as CCBC's Admission Forum and Scrutiny Committee.
- 4.3 In accordance with paragraph 2.10 of the Code, the admission arrangements must be determined by 15 April and will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 19th March 2014.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Admission Arrangements for 2015/16 have been assessed and no negative impact has been identified. The arrangements note compliance with current Equalities, Human Rights and Welsh Language legislation.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 All comments received from consultees are contained in the body of the report.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members are asked to consider the report and provide any comments as part of the consultation process.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To ensure agreed changes are implemented for September 2015.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 The School Admissions Code (2013) and Schools Admissions Appeal Code (2013).

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Consultees: Directorate Senior Management Team
Councillor R Passmore, Cabinet Member, Education and Leisure
School Admission Forum
Sue Richards, Principal Officer Finance
Lynne Donovan, Personnel Manager
David Thomas, Senior Policy Officer
Susan Ead, Legal Services
Headteachers and Chairs of Governors, CCBC schools
Neighbouring LAs

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Proposed Admission Arrangements for 2015/16