



Consultation on proposed Admission Arrangements for Earley St Peter's CE Primary School for entry into Reception from September 2026

Introduction

Earley St Peter's CE Primary School is an academy school. The Keys Academy Trust is the admission authority for the school. When an admission authority wishes to make changes to their admission arrangements, they must consult to ensure all views are heard. We are proposing to amend the admission arrangements for Earley St Peter's CE Primary School. The Keys Academy Trust is consulting on changes to the admission arrangements for Earley St Peter's CE Primary School, as follows:

Proposed changes to oversubscription criteria

- Removing church attendance from the oversubscription criteria.

Proposed reduction of the published admission number

- Reducing the published admission number (PAN) of places from 70 to 60.

Why are we proposing these changes?

- In December 2023 the school consulted on changing the catchment area of the school to align with the ecclesiastical parish boundary of St Peter's Church and the school catchment area is now in line with the parish boundary for admissions from September 2025 onwards. The Oxford Diocesan Board of Education recommends that over subscription criteria do not include faith-based criteria in order that schools remain as inclusive as possible and recognise the heritage of schools established before the 1870 Schools Act which were set up for the education of the poor of the parish. There were no applications for admission in the church attendance category in 2024/25, one application in 2023/24 and no applications in 2022/23.
- There is a significant over-supply of primary school places in Wokingham, which follows a national decline in the birth rate in the last decade, and an even steeper decline in the birth rate locally. The school has seen a drop in the number of applications for school places in recent years due to these demographic changes. School funding is received on a per pupil basis. By reducing the published admission number, the school will be able to organise in a more structurally viable way which will in turn, directly support the quality of education at the school.

Copies of the proposed arrangements can be obtained from the Earley St Peter's CE Primary School website:

<https://www.earley-st-peters.wokingham.sch.uk/information/admissions/>

How can you respond?

We would like to hear your views on these proposals. Please send any comments regarding the above proposed changes by emailing to: admissions@earley-st-peters.wokingham.sch.uk

Please mark your email: Earley St Peter's CE Primary School Consultation. The consultation takes place between **2nd December 2024 and 13th January, 2025.**

What happens next?

After the consultation closes the responses will be collated and presented to The Keys Academy Trust who will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposed changes and determine the admission arrangements. The outcome will be published on the school's website by 15th March 2025.