

Crompton House Church of England School

Consultation 7th Dec 2020 to 18th Jan 2021 to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) from September 2022

7th December 2020

Consultation on a proposed reduction in the published admission number (PAN) for Crompton CofE House School, Shaw, Oldham with effect from September 2022

Length of consultation: 6 weeks, ending on 18 January 2021

Preface

Admission authorities must have determined their admissions arrangements for entry in September 2022 by 28 February 2021. They must publish them on their website and have sent a copy to their local authority before 15 March 2021.

As an academy, we are our own admissions authority and as such must ensure that:

1. Consultation lasts for a minimum of 6 weeks and must take place between 1 October 2020 and 31 January 2021.
2. We consult with:
 - a. Parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
 - b. Other persons in the relevant area who may have an interest in the proposed admissions;
 - c. All other admission authorities within the relevant area;
 - d. The local authority
3. For the duration of the consultation period, a copy of our full proposed admission arrangements (including the proposed PAN) is published on our website together with details of the person within the admission authority to whom comments may be sent and the areas on which comments are not sought.
4. send upon request a copy of the proposed admission arrangements to any of the persons or bodies listed above inviting comment.

Proposal

To decrease the published admission number from 336 students to 308 students.

Although 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, there remains a requirement to consult when the proposal is to reduce a PAN. Crompton House School, as the admissions authority, is seeking comments on this proposed change.

Background

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for Crompton House is 336. This means that the number of children admitted into the school at Year 7 each year is limited to 336. We believe that by 2022, if the current PAN remains at 336 it will exceed the physical capacity of the school to accommodate this number of pupils. Reducing the PAN will ensure that the current buildings are suitable and fit for purpose.

Prior to 2019 the PAN for Crompton House was 224. The school was approached in 2017 by the local authority with a proposal to increase its PAN to 336. In order to accommodate an increased PAN, LA funding through Basics Needs, was used to construct a new teaching block and to remodel pre-existing blocks. Construction of the new teaching block and remodelling of pre-existing blocks commenced in January 2018. The school and local authority experienced significant difficulties during both the planning and building phase of the construction process. For example, every element of the building programme overran by a considerable time period.

The new teaching block should have been completed in August 2019 but was not handed over to the school until March 2020. Therefore, the school had already started the process of increasing its PAN before construction work was completed. Insufficient consultation took place with the school, during the design phase, to ensure that the new buildings and associated re-modelling would create sufficient capacity to accommodate the increased PAN. Now that the construction work has been completed, we have been able to undertake an analysis of future rooming demand. Based upon current curriculum demands, we have calculated that the school cannot continue to accommodate a PAN of 336. If we allow the school to continue to grow at its current rate, by 2023 there will be a deficit of 8 classrooms.

The school attempted to address this problem by requesting that an older block, that was due to be demolished to make way for a new car park, be retained. However, due to contractual and planning reasons this was not possible.

Specifics of the Proposal

Crompton House School proposes to reduce the published admission number of the academy from 336 to 308 with effect from September 2022.

This means that the number of places available for children in Year 7 in 2022 – and all subsequent Year 7 cohorts – will be 308. For children who already have a place at the school in other year groups there will be no change.

The capacity of the school building is the sole factor in deciding to consult on this proposal.

Comments are sought only in relation to the proposed change of published admission number and not any other aspect of the admissions arrangements.

Crompton House School follows the Oldham Borough Council Local Authority Agreed School Admissions Arrangements and will continue to do so. The latest copy of this document is available on the academy website. We will follow any dates published by the local authority for 2020-2021.

How to Respond

This consultation will run from 7th December 2020 to 18 January 2021 and you are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal above to: PAN Consultation CO Miss Janet Slater, Admissions Officer, Crompton House C of E School, Rochdale Road, Shaw, Oldham OL27HS. Please send any comments by 18 January 2021.

Following the consultation period, the Academy Trust Board will consider any comments received and how to proceed. Admission arrangements for 2022 will be determined by 28 February 2021 and any subsequent objections would need to be made to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator.

Karl Newell
Headteacher & CEO
Crompton House Church of England Multi Academy Trust