

Birley Spa Primary Academy

Consultation on change to the Published
Admission Number (PAN)



L.E.A.D. Academy Trust
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Statutory consultation on the proposed reduction in the Published Admission Numbers (PAN) for Birley Spa Primary Academy from the 2026/27 Academic year

Consultation period: 09 December 2024 – 26 January 2025

The School Admissions Code requires that all admission authorities consult where they propose to reduce a PAN. L.E.A.D Academy Trust as the admissions authority is therefore seeking comments on the proposed change to the PAN for Birley Spa Primary Academy.

Proposal

L.E.A.D. Academy Trust propose that the PAN at Birley Spa Primary Academy be reduced from 45 to 30 from September 2026.

This means that the number of places available for children in Reception in September 2026 and all subsequent Reception cohorts will be 30. For children who already have a place in the academy in other year groups there will be no change. This is the only proposed change to the admission criteria; all other criteria, including oversubscription will remain the same.

Factors that have been considered by the Trust when deciding to consult on this proposal include:

- A large proportion of funding received by the academy is directly related to the number of pupils attending the academy. Too many vacancies mean that the academy will not receive the maximum possible revenue. Therefore the Trust is proposing to reduce the number of available places to enable the academy to operate more efficiently and cost effectively.
- The total number of pupils from reception to Year 6 recorded by the academy on the October 2024 census was 312 and is well below the current capacity of 375.
- The number of pupils admitted into reception by the October census date was 37 in 2023 and 27 in 2024.
- Catchment and migration forecasts show a reduced requirement for places in the area.

L.E.A.D Academy Trust believe that reducing the PAN will assist the academy to provide stability in their long term planning and allow them to deliver high quality educational outcomes for pupils.

L.E.A.D Academy Trust would be committed to reviewing the PAN if local demographics and context dictates this in the future.

In accordance with the School Admissions Code the Trust is consulting with key stakeholders, including:

- Parents/carers of current pupils and prospective parents of pupils;
- Other persons in the area who have an interest in the proposed arrangements;
- All other admission authorities within the local area;
- The local authority; and
- Adjoining neighbouring local authorities.



You are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal to James Beighton, Head of Operations, via email at james.beighton@leadacademytrust.co.uk or post them to:

James Beighton
c/o Birley Spa Primary Academy
Jermyn Crescent
Sheffield
S12 4QE

This consultation will end on the 26 January 2025. Please send any comments regarding these proposed changes before that time.

Following the consultation period L.E.AD Academy Trust will consider any comments received and how to proceed. Admissions arrangements for September 2026 will be determined by 28th February 2025.