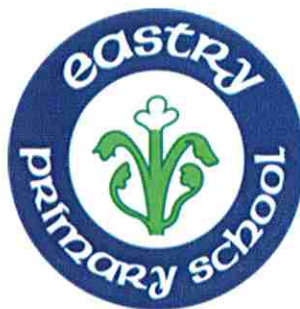


Mrs Sarah Moss, Headteacher
BA (Hons)
Tel: 01304 611360
Fax: 01304 621145
Email: headteacher@eastry.kent.sch.uk
www.eastry.kent.sch.uk



EASTRY CHURCH OF ENGLAND
PRIMARY SCHOOL
COOKS LEA
EASTRY
SANDWICH
KENT
CT13 0LR

Friday 12th Decemeber 2025

Consultation to change Eastry C of E Primary's Published Admission Number (PAN)

Dear parents and carers

The governing body, in collaboration with the local authority, are consulting on reducing the published admission number from 30 to 15. Initially this would be an in-year variation for 2026-2027 and then a change to the school's admission criteria for 2027-2028.

This decision has not been taken lightly and has been informed by a number of factors. Firstly, we currently have 152 children on role. Therefore, we are being funded as a 5-class school. It is therefore not financially sustainable to continue operating at 7 classes.

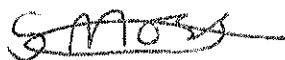
Numbers on roll in year r are reducing across the district. We currently have 15 children in year r and the local authority trajectory is this will be the case across the district for at least the next 5 years. We are not the only school locally therefore having to restructure classes, Sandwich Infants have reduced from 6 classes to 4. All other schools in the Sandwich district are already operating with mixed year groups.

Our current intention is that classes currently in year 1 -6 will remain single form entry so they will see not change. However, if agreed by the School's Adjudicator, we will combine year r (fledglings) and year 1 from September 2026. This will then roll through as they move through the school. This model can be beneficial to children for the following reasons:

- Children may stay with the teacher for two years, enabling them to build strong, trusting relationships, consistent personalised support and challenge
- Mixed- aged classroom allow for collaboration
- All children are always taught at the own pace and every child progresses differently this provides opportunities for them to excel academically and personally.
- Smaller schools give more possibilities for every child to shine, be that through worships, leadership roles or in sports
- Older pupils become positive role models, mentoring younger pupils.

If you would like to discuss this with us further, we will hold a drop-in session on 19th January 2026 at 14:45.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Moss', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Sarah Moss
Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hayley Cook', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Hayley Cook
Chair of Governors.