



# Statutory consultation on proposed admission arrangements for Darwen Saint Peter's Church of England Primary School 2025/2026

*From 17th November 2023 to 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024*

## Why are we consulting?

When changes are proposed to admission arrangements, all Admission Authorities must consult on their admission arrangements that will apply to admission applications for the following school year.

At least every 7 years, Admission Authorities must consult on their admission arrangements; even if there have been no changes during that period.

We would like your views on a number of proposed changes to the admission arrangements for Darwen Saint Peter's Church of England Primary School for 2025/2026.

Admission Authorities must consult on proposed changes to its admission arrangements for a minimum of six weeks between 1 October (at the earliest) and 31 January (at the latest) in the determination year.

## What are we proposing to change and why?

1. We are proposing to make a change to Criterion 2 – definition of siblings: To avoid ambiguity, we wish to amend the wording of the sibling criterion to remove the words 'for most of the week'. We are including the children of the parent/carer's partner living in the same family unit at the same address in the definition of 'siblings'.
2. Criterion 3 – living in the parish: To also make the meaning clear, we are proposing to change the wording of: 'Children whose parents live in the ecclesiastical parish of...' to children whose home address is in the ecclesiastical parish.
3. The School Admissions Code requires that catchment areas must be "clearly defined." A parent looking at the map must be able to tell without difficulty exactly where the boundary falls, i.e. which addresses fall within the boundary and which do not. We proposing to make changes to include a more detailed map which is accessible by visiting: <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/> (Criterion 6).
4. Admissions policies should state a date at which the lists of relevant churches are taken, to avoid ambiguity if the lists change over time. We are proposing the addition of, 'Lists are taken as on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023'.
5. In regards to Criterion 6, The School Admissions Code requires that admission arrangements must be clear, so that parents can understand easily how places will be allocated. We propose that criterion 6 ought to: Specify the definition of parental worshipping; Note that the governors will request confirmation of this from the relevant member of the clergy; State the CTE web address (plus the web address of any other organisation you include) and specify that the list of relevant churches/places of worship can be found there; Include the paragraph about what will happen if a church was closed for public worship; and include worship at churches in full membership of the Evangelical Alliance and the Northwest Partnership as well as CTE.
6. We propose to remove the sentence at the end of the paragraph: 'This may also apply to siblings who are in the same year group'.
7. To avoid unnecessary appeals/complaints due to ambiguity, the Supplementary Information Form (Clergy Reference Form) has been edited.

## Who are we consulting with

We are seeking views from:

- 1) Parents in our borough who have children;
- 2) Other persons in our borough who the Local Authority believes will have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- 3) All other admission authorities within the borough;
- 4) Governing bodies in the borough (who are not admission authorities);
- 5) Our adjoining/neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority;
- 6) The bodies representing the religions/religious denomination of the faith schools in our borough

#### Consultation timetable

17 <sup>th</sup> November 2023	Consultation opens.
12 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	End of consultation period and deadline for submitting responses to the Local Authority.
Week commencing 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024	Analysis of consultation responses and preparation of information to be considered by the Governing Body.
February 2024	Formal determination of admission arrangements.
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2024	Publication of determined admission arrangements.

#### How to respond

This consultation will run from 17th November 2023 to 12th January 2024 (a period of six term time weeks). You are invited to submit responses about the proposal above via the link on the school's website:

- Online survey:  
[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Y1vmByVthEqdBZqQDr9j5liaR\\_yIP1NKi3s\\_e0Yck2IUMEFKMEdRUjJDUOVETDITTjdBTetSM0o4Sy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Y1vmByVthEqdBZqQDr9j5liaR_yIP1NKi3s_e0Yck2IUMEFKMEdRUjJDUOVETDITTjdBTetSM0o4Sy4u)
- Alternatively, download the consultation response form from <https://www.stpeterscep.co.uk/> and return via:
- Email – [office@stpetersdarwen.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpetersdarwen.blackburn.sch.uk)
- Post – Darwen Saint Peter's Church of England Primary School, Turncroft Road, Darwen, Lancashire BB3 2BW
- Responses must be received no later than 5pm on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Responses received after this time and date may not be considered.

#### For more information

If you would like to discuss the proposal or would like more information, please email [office@stpetersdarwen.blackburn.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpetersdarwen.blackburn.sch.uk)