



PAN Consultation St Silas Primary School

Proposed reduction in the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 30 for St Silas Primary School with effect from September 2026.

Background

The current PAN for St Silas is 60 which means that no more than 60 children can be admitted into Reception each year. In recent years applications for Reception have been significantly below 60.

The number of children on roll in the Reception according to October census is:

R 28 (Oct 24 census)

Y1 30 (Oct 23 census)

Y2 23 (Oct 22 census)

Due to the gap between the Published Admission Number (PAN) of 60 and the actual pupil numbers attending the school, there is a need to consider reducing the PAN of the school. The falling roll is because there has been a significant increase in pupil places available in the local area in recent years alongside a falling birth rate.

The Blackburn with Darwen Pupil Forecast Document (Nov 2021) shows that for Blackburn North there will be a 9% surplus of places from 24-25 for the next ten years. Also with limited housing development projected in the area this is unlikely to change. In October 2024 there were 16 applications for 2025 .

As a result, Cidari Multi Academy Trust and St Silas Primary School are seeking to consult and reduce the PAN from 60 to 30. This reduction in PAN will not affect the ethos, values and success of St Silas Primary School. Reducing the PAN will assist the school and the Trust to provide stability in its long-term planning and allow the school to continue to secure high quality education for the pupils currently on roll and our future pupils.

Be assured that Cidari Multi Academy Trust will continue to review local demand and if there is a lack of school places in the future, increasing the PAN back to 60 may be considered.

Impact

This proposal means that the number of places available for children in Reception in 2026, and all subsequent Reception cohorts will change to 30. The whole school PAN will reduce from 420 to 390 in 2026 and then by 30 year on year until it is 210. This change will have no effect on children attending already St Silas Primary School

Consultation timetable

- 30 November 2024: Consultation opens.
- 24 January 2025: End of consultation period and deadline for submitting responses to the Local Authority.
- w/c 27 January 2025: Analysis of consultation representations and preparation of information to be considered by the LA.
- February 2025: Meeting of the Trust's decision panel to consider the responses and agree admission arrangements .
- 28 February 2025: Formal determination of admission arrangements.
- 15 March 2025: Publication of determined admission arrangements.

How to respond

This consultation will run from 30th November 2024 to 24th January 2025.

You are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal either by:

Email Stsoffice@cidari.co.uk

Post: FAO Diane Scott, St Silas Primary School. St Silas Road, Blackburn BB2 6JP

