

Consultation and notification of proposed variations to Leicestershire's school admissions policy for entry 2019



Have your say.

Online: **www.leicestershire.gov.uk/Admissions-Consultation**

For general enquiries or comments about this consultation phone
0116 305 2070 or e-mail **Admissions@leics.gov.uk**

Public consultation: Please submit your views by midnight on
21 January 2018

Why change?

Leicestershire County Council is seeking to make some variations to its School Admission Policy.

Our policy currently guarantees school places for children who live within the catchment area of a school. The Government's School Admissions Code however prohibits the guaranteeing of school places. Leicestershire is therefore seeking a variation to its existing policy to make sure we are compliant with the Code.

To ensure Leicestershire has sufficient quality school places to meet local demands a small number of schools will need to be enlarged.

In response to a combination of local housing growth and an increase in births in the Hinckley and Burbage area, Leicestershire is proposing to merge the catchments areas of the Westfield Infant and Junior Schools and Sketchley Hill Primary School. This is intended to offer local parents and carers in that area greater choice and ease pressure on schools in the local area.

The proposals we are considering

1. We are giving notice of a variation to the School Admission Policy to ensure the policy is compliant with the School Admissions Code. Once approved by the County Council's Cabinet, this variation would come into immediate effect.
2. We are proposing to expand the number of places available at
 - a) Burbage Sketchley Hill
 - b) The Latimer Primary School, Anstey
 - c) Desford Primary School

Should these proposals be approved, works to expand the schools are expected to be completed in time for the 2018 academic year.

3. We are proposing a new, merged catchment area for the Westfield Infant and Junior Schools and Sketchley Hill Primary School. This will also provide an opportunity to correct an historic anomaly and align the catchment area closer to the Leicestershire border. The new catchment area would come into effect for the 2019 academic year.

How the notification and consultation will work

The consultation will run from 6 December 2017 and ends at midnight on 21 January 2018. We are inviting responses from a range of professional agencies and organisations, schools, local councils and parents and carers of children between the ages of 2 and 18.

If you have any objections to these proposals or want to make any comments and suggestions, please fill out the questionnaire and make sure it reaches us by midnight on 21 January 2018.

Following the consultation, we will consider all of the responses received and a report will be taken to the Council's Cabinet in spring 2018.

The proposals in detail

1. Notification of a variation to the admissions policy

The current School Admissions Policy can be viewed at the following link: www.leicestershire.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools-colleges-and-academies/school-admissions/school-policies

We are proposing to replace the current Section 11 of the School Admissions Policy with the following:

11. Exceeding the Admission Number (AN)

- 11.1 At the point of first-time admission and secondary transfers, if there are more requests for in-catchment children than the admission number (AN), the AN will not usually be exceeded, except in exceptional circumstances (see paragraphs 4.11, 4.13, 11.3 and 11.4 below). If there are more requests for places than available within the AN, places will be allocated up to the AN in accordance with the priority criteria. All other outstanding requests will be refused subject to the provisions relating to exceptional circumstances (see paragraphs 11.3 and 11.4).
- 11.2 For applications made outside of the normal admissions round (e.g. mid-term applications) where the AN has been reached, applications will be refused, subject to paragraphs 11.3, also see section – Arrivals in Catchment and Late Applications.
- 11.3 In certain exceptional circumstances the Local Authority may determine that the AN can be exceeded or varied, whether on its own initiative or at the request of the school. In such circumstances:
 - a) Parents submit their application in the usual manner.
 - b) Where the school wishes to request consideration of admission in exceptional circumstances or variation to the AN, they must make a written request to the Admissions Service.

Where the decision to exceed or vary the AN is made before or during the allocation of places, applications will be processed in the usual manner, with on-time applications being considered first, in line with the priority criteria at paragraph (see paragraph 9) and late applications being considered thereafter, if there are still places available after the initial allocation.

Where the decision to exceed or vary the AN is made after the allocation of places, any additional places that become available will be allocated in accordance with the waiting list.

Discretion to exceed the AN shall rest solely with the Local Authority and not the governing body of a school. In reaching any decision the Local Authority will consider the views of interested parties; the governing body of the school, the impact on the education of children in the school; and the availability of other places within the area.

- 11.4 For the purpose of this section, exceptional circumstances may include but are not limited to:
 - a) the admission of children residing within the catchment area where it is considered necessary to ensure the provision of suitable education;
 - b) the admission of children who would have siblings in the school.

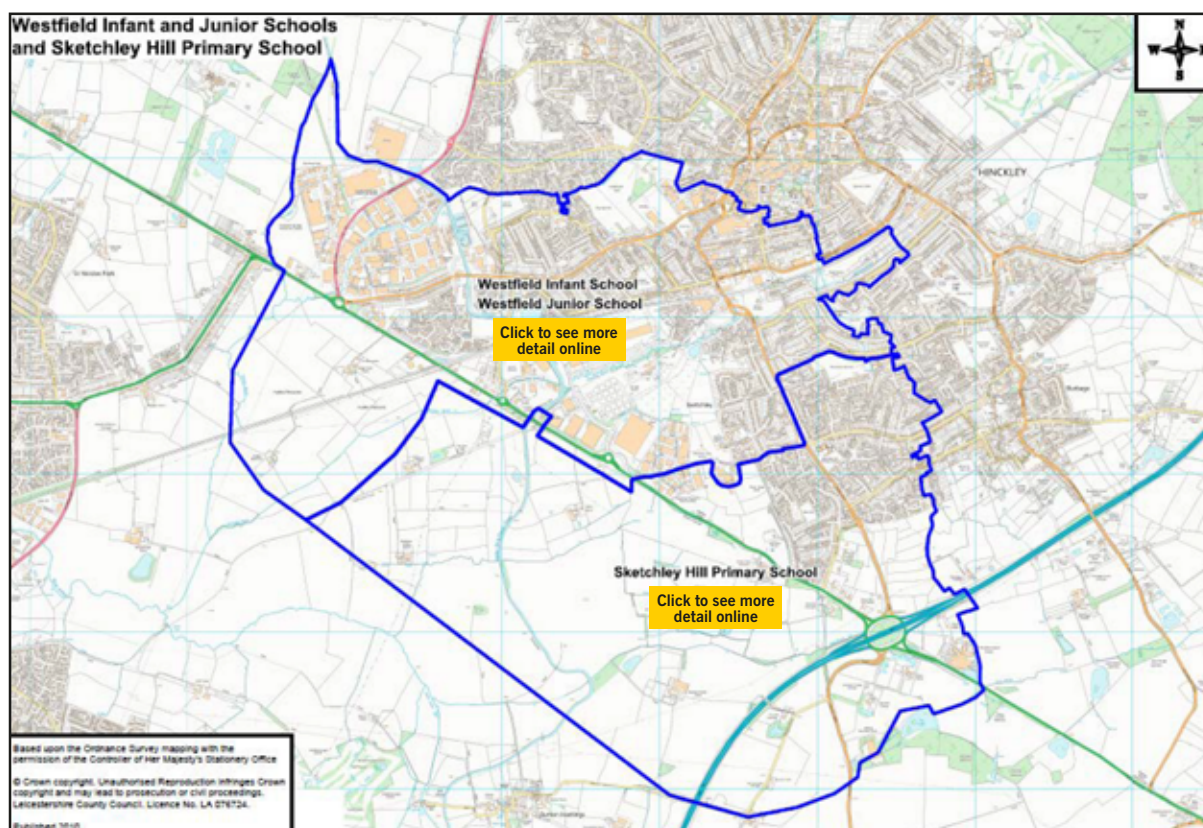
2) Expansion of school places

The following increases are being proposed:

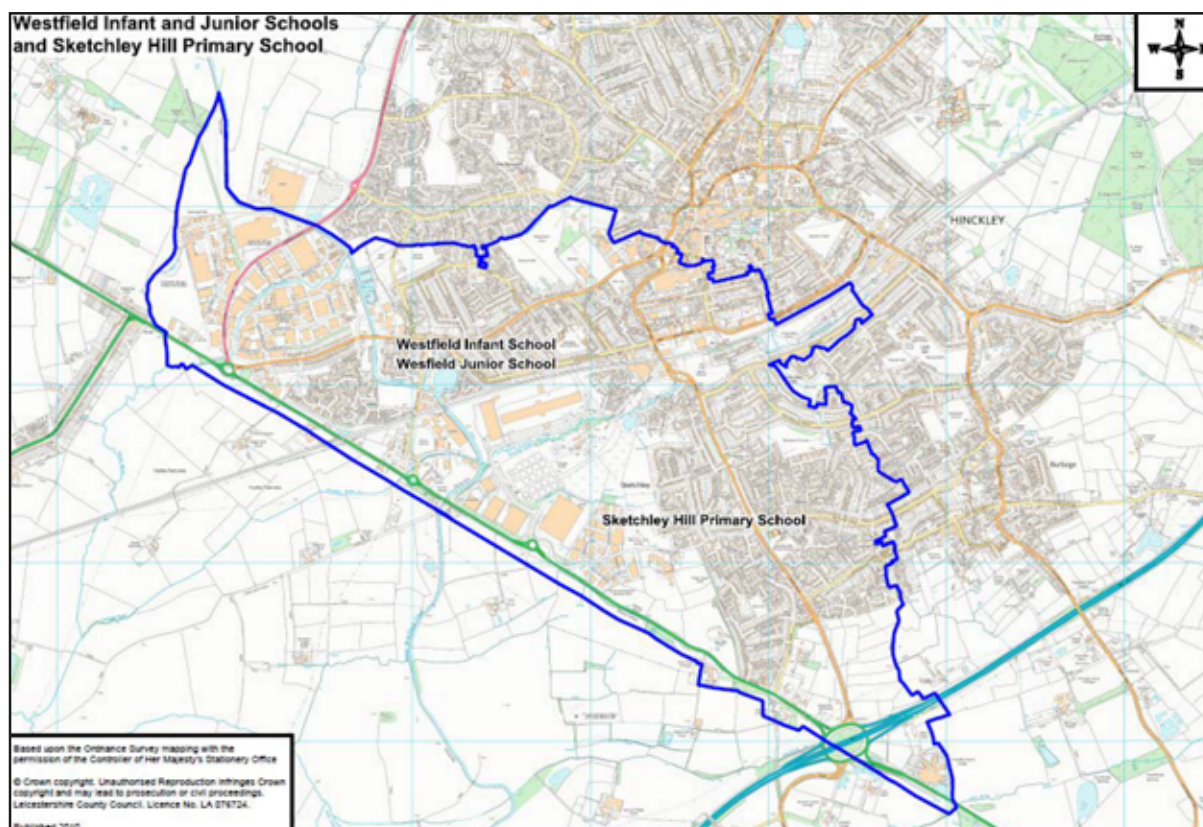
School	Proposed increase in school places on a phased basis starting with reception
Burbage Sketchley Hill	<p>Increase from 420 to 630</p> <p>The school is being extended to accommodate additional pupils arising from an increase in the birth rate and the impact of housing developments being constructed in the area.</p> <p>This proposal is also related to the proposed catchment area changes with Westfield Infant and Junior Schools detailed elsewhere in this document.</p>
The Latimer Primary School, Anstey	<p>Increase from 315 to 420</p> <p>The school is being extended to accommodate additional pupils arising from an increase in the birth rate and the impact of housing developments being constructed in the school catchment area.</p> <p>The proposals will increase the supply of available school places in Anstey, which may affect Woolden Hill Primary School.</p>
Desford Primary School	<p>Increase from 315 to 420</p> <p>The school is being extended to accommodate additional pupils arising from an increase in the birth rate and the impact of housing developments being constructed in the area.</p> <p>There is unlikely to be an impact on other schools in the area.</p>

3) Change to catchment area Westfield Infant and Junior School and Sketchley Hill Primary School

Current



Proposed



You can view the latest information in a number of ways

Visit us online at leicestershire.gov.uk/Admissions-Consultation

Our web pages will be kept up-to-date with the latest information and developments. You'll also be able to access the survey here.

If you have any specific questions email Admissions@leics.gov.uk

Follow us [@leicscountyhall](https://twitter.com/leicscountyhall) for general updates from the council, including the developments on the budget.

Alternatively, you can telephone **0116 305 2070** to ask for information in printed or alternative formats.

જો આપ આ માહિતી આપની ભાષામાં સમજવામાં થોડી મદદ
ઈચ્છતાં હો તો 0116 305 2070 નંબર પર ફોન કરશો અને
અમે આપને મદદ કરવા અવસ્થા કરીશું.

જેકર તુહાનું ઇસ જાનકારી નું સમજાવ દિવસ વ્રજ મદદ જાહીલી
રૈ તાં કિરપા કરવે 0116 305 2070 નંબર કે ફોન કરે અઝે
અસીં તુહાડી મદદ લઈ કિસે દા પૂર્ણ કર દવાંગે।

এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন
সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 2070 এই নম্বরে
ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں کچھ مدد درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر کال کریں
0116 305 2070 اور ہم آپ کی مدد کے لئے کسی کا انتظام کر دیں گے۔

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，
請致電 0116 305 2070，我們會安排有關人員為你
提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji
w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 2070,
a my Ci pomożemy.