

28 November 2023

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Ossett Academy: Consultation on a proposed reduction of the Published Admission Number (PAN) for 2025 / 2026

Consultation period: 28 November 2023 to 22 January 2024

Ossett Academy is one of four academies within Accord Multi Academy Trust. The Trust is the Admissions Authority for the academy and wishes to consult on a proposal to reduce the PAN from 310 to 300 with effect from September 2025.

The School Admissions Code requires that all admission authorities consult key stakeholders where a reduction of PAN is proposed. Stakeholders are deemed to be:

- Parents and carers of children between the ages of 2 and 18.
- All other admission authorities within the relevant area.
- Staff.
- Wakefield Local Authority.
- Any adjoining neighbouring LAs where the admission authority is the LA.
- Other persons in the local area who may have an interest in the proposed admissions.

The School Admissions Code can be found at [School admissions code 2021 publishing.service.gov.uk](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/721222/school-admissions-code-2021.pdf)

Specific Proposal and Rationale

The academy proposes to reduce the PAN from 310 to 300 with effect from September 2025. This means that the maximum number of academy places for pupils entering year 7 from 2025 will be 300. For children who already have a place at the academy there will be no change.

Historically, Ossett Academy and Accord Multi Academy Trust worked closely with Wakefield Local Authority to increase the PAN from 280 to its current PAN of 310 to meet the demand for places arising from within the Ossett Pyramid of schools from September 2018.

The current pupil place planning projections provided by Wakefield Local Authority confirms that there would be no detrimental impact caused by the proposed reduction in PAN to 300 pupils, with sufficient places remaining for pupils within the Ossett Academy pyramid of schools.

Equally, during the 5-year period from September 2018, Ossett Academy has been able to meet the demand for places in both the Ossett Academy pyramid of schools, and the Wakefield West planning area, with an average of 12 percent of places also allocated to pupils living outside of Wakefield Local Authority.

In line with Wakefield Local Authority admission arrangements the following changes are also proposed:

- In all categories, when decisions have to be made between children satisfying the same criterion, children living nearest to the school, measured as the crow flies, have priority. The way distances from home to school are calculated will change. Instead of using metres between the centroids of each property according to the Local Authority's in-house mapping software, they will be calculated in miles according to the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG).
- The time that decisions will be made available to parents who have applied online will change from 00:30 to 00:00 on offer day.

In setting out this proposal, it is also important to note that the Accord Multi Academy Trust remains committed to continue to monitor the demand for places within the communities that it serves, and to respond where appropriate.

How to respond?

The consultation will run from 28 November 2023 to 22 January 2024, and for the duration of the consultation the Ossett Academy website will include a copy of this letter and the proposed admission arrangements for the academy.

All stakeholders are invited to submit comments in relation to the proposals to the Trust using the following contact details:

Post: Accord Multi Academy Trust
Storrs Hill Road
Ossett
Wakefield
WF5 0DG

Email: enquiries@accordmat.org (email title: Ossett Academy PAN Consultation)

Electronic Form: [Ossett Academy Consultation](#)

All responses must be received by 22 January 2024, with representations received after the specified date not being considered.

Following the consultation, Trustees will consider the responses and decide whether to approve the proposed changes to the Admission Policy for the 2025 / 2026 academic year.



Alan Warboys
Chief Executive Officer