

Pupil Intake Limits - School Session 2016/17

Report by Mary Smith, Director, Education, Communities and Economy

1 Purpose of Report

This report informs Council of the pupil intake limits required for the school session starting in August 2016 and the implications for placing requests.

2 Background

Pupil enrolment for the 2016/17 school session is underway. The closing date for receipt of placing requests is 15th March 2016 and decisions on those requests will be made and communicated to parents/carers during April. The placing request appeal panel will meet on 20th May to consider appeals in respect of placing requests which have been refused.

The progress of house building in parts of Midlothian is generating growth in pupil numbers. This combined with the popularity of certain schools with limited capacity means that pupil intake limits are needed to ensure places are available for pupils to be able to attend school in their locality.

The Council's approach to pupil placement is to ensure there is a place for every pupil at their catchment school and to grant placing requests for siblings whenever possible. For the August 2016 intake it may not be possible to maintain this position for all schools.

3 Intake August 2016

A full list of primary schools showing P1 capacity and projected numbers of P1 pupils is included in Appendix 1. The schools which are experiencing pressure on intake for August 2016 and where placing requests may be refused include Burnbrae, Cuiken, King's Park, Lawfield, St Andrew's, St David's, St Luke's, Stobhill and Tynewater Primary Schools.

The schools where the number of P1 pupils wishing to attend their catchment school exceeds the P1 capacity includes Burnbrae, Cuiken, Lawfield, St Andrew's, St David's and St Luke's Primary Schools. The Schools Catchment Review Programme as reported to Council on 15 December 2015, contains plans to increase primary school capacity in these areas but it will be at least two years before it comes available.

From August 2016 the following primary school intake limits will be applied:

Burnbrae	63 pupils
Cuiken	42 pupils
King's Park	70 pupils
Lawfield	60 pupils
St Andrew's	25 pupils
St David's	30 pupils
St Luke's	33 pupils
Stobhill	30 pupils
Tynewater	30 pupils

In secondary schools pressure is being experienced at Lasswade High School due to the net number of placing requests received. Over the past 4 years the percentage of those requesting places at Lasswade has risen from 9% to 20% of catchment pupils. The current number of catchment S1 pupils for Lasswade is 267; the net number of placing request for August 2016 is 54, giving a projected roll of 321.

	Aug-16	Aug-15	Aug-14	Aug-13
Placing Requests In From				
Newbattle	27	30	23	13
Dalkeith	29	13	12	15
St David's	10	24	25	11
Pencuik				1
Outwith	1			
	<u>67</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>40</u>
Placing Requests Out To				
Beeslack	11	14	13	12
Dalkeith	1	1	3	
Newbattle	1			1
Penicuik			2	
St David's			3	1
Private/Other Authority			3	5
	<u>13</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>24</u>	<u>19</u>
Net Placing Requests	54	52	36	21
S1 Cohort	<u>267</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>238</u>
Total S1 Pupils	<u>321</u>	<u>299</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>259</u>
Net Placing Requests as % of Cohort	20%	21%	15%	9%

The majority of placing requests received from pupils attending Roman Catholic primary schools reside in Lasswade's catchment area:

Aug 16	Aug 15	Aug 14	Aug 13
7	21	20	9

From August 2016 an intake limit of 300 pupils will apply for Lasswade High School with five of those places reserved for pupils moving to live in the area. It is anticipated that placing requests from those with siblings already attending will be granted and that approximately 30 placing requests will be refused.

4 Report implications

4.1 Resource

There are no additional resource requirements arising directly as a consequence of this report.

4.2 Risk

There is a risk that the Council will not have a place for every pupil at their catchment school which is mitigated by the application of limits on pupil intake.

4.3 Single Midlothian Plan and Business Transformation

Themes addressed in this report:

- Community safety
- Adult health, care and housing
- Getting it right for every Midlothian child
- Improving opportunities in Midlothian
- Sustainable growth
- Business transformation and Best Value
- None of the above

4.4 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Girfec 5: Our people will be successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

4.5 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The aim of this paper supports the priority to improve the quality of learning and teaching, leading to raised levels of achievement and attainment, by providing every child with the opportunity to attend school in their local community

4.6 Adopting a Preventative Approach

The Council's approach to pupil placement adopts a preventative approach by maximising the opportunities for pupils to attend school in their local community.

4.7 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

This report informs Council of the potential impact on communities arising from pressure on school places.

4.8 Ensuring Equalities

This paper informs Council of the impact of managing pupil admissions in line with national and local policy and procedure. The paper proposes no change to existing policy and procedure used and accordingly, no Equality Impact Assessment is required.

4.9 Supporting Sustainable Development

The sustainability issues relating to this report relate to the sufficiency of schools places particularly in areas of housing development, the provision of additional capacity is being taken forward via the School Catchment Review Programme.

4.10 IT Issues

There are no IT issues arising directly as a result of this report.

5 Recommendations

Council is requested to:

- a) Note the content of this report.
- b) Note the intention to cap P1 & S1 intake limits for August 2016 for the following schools:
Burnbrae, Cuiken, Kings Park, Lawfield, St Andrew's, St David's, St Luke's, Stobhill and
Tynewater Primary Schools;
Lasswade High School

1 March 2016

Report Contact: Sandra Banks

Tel No: 0131 271 3727

E mail: sandra.banks@midlothian.gov.uk

Appendix 1 Projected Primary Intake – August 2016

Appendix 1

Projected Primary Intake – August 2016

School Name	Registered	Not Yet Registered	Deferrals	Total Catchment	Placing Request In	PR in from Outwith Midlothian	PR Out	Projected P1	P1 Capacity
Bilston	17	1	0	18	0	0	3	15	25
Bonnyrigg	54	0	9	45	16	1	7	55	60
Burnbrae	88	4	12	80	12	1	14	79	60
Combank St James	36	0	6	30	8	0	5	33	50
Cuiken	44	0	2	42	11	2	8	47	33
Danderhall	33	0	3	30	0	3	1	32	40
Glencorse	12	1	1	12	4	0	8	8	11
Gorebridge	46	1	4	43	8	0	10	41	60
Hawthornden	52	0	2	50	4	0	9	45	50
King's Park	62	0	4	58	16	0	2	72	70
Lasswade	44	0	6	38	9	1	6	42	50
Lawfield	68	6	4	70	4	0	17	57	50
Loanhead	31	0	2	29	2	4	7	28	25
Mauricewood	39	0	2	37	24	0	7	54	60
Mayfield	37	3	3	37	12	0	7	42	50
Moorfoot	15	0	3	12	4	0	0	16	14
Newtongrange	53	2	4	51	5	0	8	48	60
North Gorebridge	21	0	0	21	5	0	8	18	25
Paradykes	35	0	5	30	10	1	1	40	38
Rosewell	15	1	0	16	1	0	1	16	25
Roslin	25	0	2	23	2	0	0	25	25
Sacred Heart	23	0	2	21	0	0	4	17	18
St Andrew's	29	0	1	28	5	0	3	30	25
St David's	44	0	2	42	1	0	11	32	30
St Luke's	45	0	5	40	0	0	10	30	30
St Margaret's	10	0	1	9	1	3	1	12	14
St Mary's	11	0	1	10	1	0	0	11	25
St Matthew's	5	0	0	5	0	0	1	4	10
Stobhill	28	0	0	28	12	0	5	35	30
Strathesk	67	0	2	65	3	0	20	48	50
Tynewater	20	1	1	20	9	2	1	30	25
Woodburn	80	3	4	79	5	0	8	76	90
	1,189	23	93	1,119	194	18	193	1,138	1,228

Notes

The projected P1 numbers are as of 26 February and will change following finalisation of registration and decisions on placing requests.

P1 capacity for a 7-class school is 25 pupils, this can be increased by allocating an additional teacher to that class.

P1 capacity for a school operating with composite classes is dependent on the number of other pupils attending later stages (P2 to P7).