



OUTCOME of Consultation on proposed Admission Arrangements for Aspire Educational Trust for entry into Reception from September 2026

Introduction

The Aspire Educational Trust is the admission authority for the schools named below:

Ash Grove Academy
Broad Oak Primary School
Hollinhey Primary School
Holmes Chapel Primary School
Hurdsfield Primary School
Ivy Bank Primary School
Parkroyal Community School
Peover Superior Endowed Primary School
Puss Bank School & Nursery
Sandbach Primary Academy
The Wilmslow Academy
Underwood West Academy
Victoria Road Primary School
Wilbraham Primary School

As admission authority, this means that The Aspire Educational Trust are responsible for the admission arrangements for these schools.

This document applies to all Academies of the Aspire Educational Trust

Background and intention

Between 4th October 2024 and 15th November 2024, The Aspire Educational Trust consulted with:

- a) parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
- b) other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- c) all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools);
- d) whichever of the governing body and the local authority is not the admission authority;
- e) any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority

to invite views on the proposed changes to the Admissions Policy from September 2026.

Proposed changes to the Admission Arrangements:

- Reduce the PAN size at Underwood West Academy to 60
- Addition of
 - Hurdsfield Primary School, Hulley Road, Macclesfield SK10 2LW and
 - Broad Oak Primary School, 19 Broad Oak Lane, Manchester M20 5QBas members of the Aspire Educational Trust.

Outcome

After the consultation closed the responses and views were collated and presented to the Board of Trustees at the Aspire Educational Trust for discussion. Following consideration, discussion and challenge of the responses it was decided to proceed with the proposed changes and determine the admission arrangements as it was agreed that:

1. The children in Reception and Year One are taught two different curriculums – The Early Years Foundation Stage curriculum and the National Curriculum. In order to ensure that every child is taught the appropriate curriculum, in-line with other children in those year groups across the country, the Reception children are all taught together and are not mixed in a class with Year One children.

Due to the School Admissions Infant Class Size Regulations, children in Reception cannot be taught by a single teacher in classes that are larger than 30. Ordinarily, a school would have one teacher for every 30 children. At UWA, in Reception, there are three teachers for up to 75 children but sometimes the number of children in the cohort has been as low as 61. The school is required to divert significant resources to meet this requirement, which could otherwise be used to benefit other children.

By reducing the PAN size at Underwood West Academy to 60, this would allow delivery of an effective curriculum with the resources available.

2. Cheshire East is currently the Admissions Authority for this school pending conversion to an Academy and joining your Trust. Should the conversion not go ahead, Cheshire East confirmed they would continue to be the Admissions Authority.

Copies of the determined arrangements can be obtained from the Aspirer Educational Trust website <https://www.aspireeducationaltrust.co.uk/page/?title=Admissions&pid=73>