

**Consultation on a proposed reduction in the Published Admission Number for Ash Croft Primary Academy, with effect from September 2026.****Background**

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) at Ash Croft Primary Academy is 40. This means that the number of children admitted to the school in all year groups each year is a maximum of 40.

Ash Croft Primary Academy is proposing that there is a reduction in the PAN from September 2026 to enable school leaders to effectively plan and manage the organisation of the academy. In recent years the academy has seen a reduction in pupil numbers in all year groups. All current year groups in the academy are not full, with the largest being 33 pupils in the current Year 5 and 32 pupils in the current Year 6 at the time of this consultation.

Due to the PAN of 40 planning of the classes is difficult to manage and often hard to accommodate due to the physical layout of the school building. The Key Stage 2 classrooms at Ash Croft Primary Academy are not large enough to accommodate more than 30 children, and there is very little additional space to create extra classrooms currently.

Reducing the PAN will assist the Academy in providing stability to their long-term planning while continuing to provide an appropriate number of places for future pupil numbers living in the surrounding area and those who may have Special Educational Needs or come through the Fair Access process.

Ash Croft Primary Academy has reached the decision to consult to reduce the PAN to 30 from September 2026. This reduction in PAN will not affect the ethos, values and success of Ash Croft Primary Academy but will enhance the provision of education it can provide in a planned way.

**Specific Proposal**

The Academy propose to reduce total available places from 280 to 210 plus Nursery provision with effect from September 2026.

This means that the number of places available for new Reception Place applications in 2026 – and all subsequent years – will be 30. For children who already have a place at the school in other year groups there will be no change; the admission number for all other years remain at the numbers on role as they progress through the academy. This is the only proposed change to the admission criteria; all other criteria, including oversubscription, will remain the same.

Factors that have been considered by the Academy in deciding to consult on this proposal include:

- The continued ability of the school to provide sufficient places for local children
- The provision of the most appropriate learning environment for all pupils thus facilitating continuing school improvement and allow them to deliver high quality educational outcomes for the pupils currently on roll
- Future resource planning and management including financial impact on staffing
- The capacity of the school buildings and site and resources management will be more effective
- Pupil numbers in each year group being below capacity
- There are no pupils on the waiting list for the Academy

Ash Croft Primary Academy would be committed to reviewing the Pupil Admissions Numbers if the local demographic and context dictates a need for this in the future.

Chief Executive: Mr Antony Hughes

The Harmony Trust, Northmoor Academy, Alderson St, Oldham, OL9 6AQ  
0161 260 0482 | [info@theharmonytrust.org](mailto:info@theharmonytrust.org) | [www.theharmonytrust.org](http://www.theharmonytrust.org)



**THE HARMONY TRUST**

BELIEVE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

### **How to respond**

This consultation will run until 24th November 2024. You are invited to submit queries or comments by emailing [info@ashcroft.theharmonytrust.org](mailto:info@ashcroft.theharmonytrust.org) or in writing to Mrs Luff, Ash Croft Primary, Academy, Deepdale Lane, Sinfin, Derby, DE24 3HF.

Please mark the subject “Ash Croft Academy PAN Consultation”.