



Whitburn Church of England Academy

An Academy with Specialist Status in Maths and Computing

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'Excellence for All'

6th September 2021

Whitburn Church of England Academy Proposed Change to Sixth Form (Full Capacity) Planned Admission Number Current Number = 280, Proposed Figure = 240

We are writing regarding our proposed Sixth Form Admissions Policy for 2023, which proposes a reduction in the planned admission number (PAN) from 280 to 240 from September 2023. We are opening consultation on this proposed reduction in the Sixth Form capacity. Details of the consultation and proposed policy are available on both South Tyneside Council and Whitburn Church of England Academy websites.

We have carried out a careful review of our numbers going forwards alongside the overall capacity of the building and staff across the subjects we offer. Since opening in September 2015, we have seen fluctuations in the numbers enrolling for Sixth Form, and in particular subjects but patterns are clearly emerging. We believe reducing the PAN will ensure there is still sufficient capacity to allow those who wish to stay on from Year 11 to do so, and allow us to maintain the quality of education, and quality of student experience by not allowing numbers to grow such that the building is cramped and that class sizes begin to regularly exceed the capacity of the classrooms in the Sixth Form building, i.e. 24.

It has become clear in the last three admissions cycles that approximately 100 students stay on to study at Sixth Form from Year 11. This, alongside approximately 20 admissions from other neighbouring schools gives us the proposed PAN of 240, comprising approx. 120 per year group.

Our Consultation opens today and if you have any comments or queries on this proposal please submit these in writing to the school office or email them to sixthformadmissions@whitburncofeacademy.org. The consultation period will end on 31st January 2022 and, if approved by the Trust board following the consultation outcome, we will publish the new admissions policy on our website and seek variation to our legal funding documents to reflect this change in capacity.

Yours faithfully

J Crowe
Principal

Document available in large font, alternative language or audio format on request



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