



Consultation Document:

Proposed Changes to Reigate School Admissions Arrangements for entry September 2026

Introduction

Greensand Multi Academy Trust is considering changes to the admissions arrangements for Reigate School. This consultation document provides information about the proposed changes and seeks the views of stakeholders in accordance with the Department for Education (DfE) guidelines and the School Admissions Code.

The consultation period will run for six weeks to ensure that all stakeholders have ample opportunity to provide feedback.

Start date: Tuesday 12th November 2024

End date: Monday 6th January 2025

Purpose of the Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to gather feedback on the proposed changes to the admissions arrangements at Reigate School from stakeholders including parents, carers, school staff, local authorities and the wider community.

The proposed changes are intended to ensure fair access to education and to respond to the evolving needs of our school community. This document outlines the current admissions arrangements, the proposed amendments, and the rationale behind the change.

Current Admissions Arrangements

Currently, Reigate School's admissions criteria are as follows:

Where Reigate School is over-subscribed for any year group, applications for entry in 2025/2026 will be ranked in the following order:-

1. Looked after and previously looked after children
2. Exceptional social/medical need
3. Children of a member of staff
4. Siblings
5. Children living within the catchment area (see Annex 1)
6. Any other children.

Additional specific information related to the criteria are detailed in the school's admissions policy, accessible via the school website or by request.

Proposed Changes to Admissions Arrangements

To adjust the catchment area boundary to address imbalances in the geographic distribution of students and support community cohesion by improving access for families in certain underserved areas (Annex 2).

This change aims to balance school places for students across our catchment area, ensuring fair access to all applicants, particularly those from nearby communities with historically lower admission rates due to boundary constraints.

When the catchment area was originally drawn, patterns of admissions from previous years were used. Areas on the periphery that are not currently included have been unfairly served for a variety of reasons:

- The area of South Reigate, proposed for inclusion in this consultation, is currently not served by a local school and Reigate School is the nearest one. Entry from this area probably did not appear in the original data because there are very few houses in the area. This area is not served by adequate public transport links to any school. Children living there would be able to safely walk to Reigate School (2.27KM) but would find walking to alternative schools difficult or unreasonable.
- The areas of North Reigate and Northwest Reigate, proposed for inclusion in this consultation, include a mix of populated and unpopulated areas. The current map appears to randomly cut off streets part way along, making it difficult to distinguish exactly which houses are included and which ones are not. This makes it very difficult for families to judge whether they are likely to be offered a place.

By the point of entry in September 2024, places had been offered to families living outside of the catchment area and much closer to other local schools. This would suggest that the catchment area, which is deliberately designed to fairly share children with local schools, was not effective. It also means that some children on the peripheries of the catchment area in the North, Northwest and South have been unfairly served by the arrangement.

Potential Impact of Proposed Changes

For Local Families: Adjusting the catchment boundary could improve access for families in nearby areas that currently face challenges in obtaining placements at Reigate School.

For Local Schools: Adjusting the catchment area should provide a fairer distribution of children and enable greater certainty regarding numbers on roll at an earlier stage.

Stakeholders Consulted

This consultation seeks input from a range of stakeholders, including:

- Parents and carers of current and prospective students
- Staff members of Reigate School
- Local primary and secondary schools
- Local authorities and community representatives

- Other interested members of the local community

How to Respond

We welcome your feedback on the proposed changes. Please submit responses by Monday 6th January 2025 using one of the following methods:

Email: Send your comments to info@greensandacademytrust.co.uk with the subject line 'Catchment Area Consultation'.

Post: Mail written responses to:

Lead Governance Professional
Greensand Multi Academy Trust
C/o Reigate School
Pendleton Road
Reigate RH2 7NT

All responses received by 6th January 2025 will be considered before making a final decision. A summary of responses and the Trust's final decision will be published on the school website and made available to interested parties.

Next Steps

Following the consultation period:

1. The trustees will review all feedback and make any necessary adjustments to the proposal.
2. A final decision will be made and published by 15th March 2025
3. If adopted, the new admissions arrangements will be implemented for admissions in September 2026

Conclusion

Greensand Multi Academy Trust is committed to ensuring a fair, transparent, and community-responsive admissions process. We value the input of all stakeholders and thank you for your time and participation in this consultation.

Annex 1



