



Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Dear consultee**

**Consultation on a proposed reduction in the Published Admission Number for The Victory Primary School with effect from September 2026**

**1. Background**

1.1 The currently published admissions number (PAN) for The Victory Primary School is 60. This means that the number of pupils admitted into the school at year R is limited to 60. In the last five years, the admissions number have never reached 60 due to a falling birth rate in the area.

1.2 Reducing the PAN will assist the LGB ( Local Governing Board) 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 including the catchment area.

1.3 Although the regulations and code of practice relating to school admissions no longer require an admissions authority to consult when maintaining or increasing the schools PAN, there remains a requirement to consult when the proposal is to reduce a PAN. The Victory Primary School is part of United Learning Trust and the school's LGB, as the admissions authority, is seeking comments on the proposed change.

**2. Specific proposal**

2.1 The LGB propose to reduce the published admission number of the school from 60 to 30 with effect from September 2026.

2.2 This means that the number of places available for children in Year R in 2026 - and all subsequent Year R cohorts - 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 60 as they progress through the academy. This is the only proposed change to the admissions criteria; All other criteria, including oversubscription, will remain the same.

2.3 The rationale for this proposal:

- The Victory Primary School have not reached a PAN of 60 in the last five years.
- The number of children joining the school over recent years has been between 30 to 40.

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- Future projections as to the number of pupils of school areas within the local planning area remain low.

2.4 Factors that have been considered by the LGB 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 children thus facilitating continuing school improvement.
- Future resource planning and management.
- The capacity of the school buildings and site and resource management.

### 3. Who is being consulted?

3.1 This consultation is for the specific attention of:

- Parents of children between the ages of 2 and 18.
- Other persons in the relevant area who, in the opinion of the admissions authority, have an interest in the proposed admissions.
- All other admission authorities within the relevant area. (Except the primary schools don't need to consult secondary schools)
- The local authority. (LA)

### 4. How to respond

4.1 This consultation will run from Friday 13th December 2024 until Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2025. You are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal above through the admissions consultation survey - by emailing [admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk)

4.2 Following the consultation period the LGB and Academy Trust will consider any comments received and how to proceed. Admissions arrangements for September 2026 will be determined by 28th of February 2025 and any subsequent objections will need to be made to the Office of the schools Adjudicator by 15 May 2025

If you wish to further discuss this matter, please contact The Victory Primary School via [admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:admin1@thevictory.portsmouth.sch.uk) or on 02392 001160

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Hartley  
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