

**CONSULTATION ON PUBLISHED ADMISSION NUMBERS AT NEVILL ROAD
INFANT SCHOOL AND NEVILL ROAD JUNIOR SCHOOL FOR
SEPTEMBER 2027**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 All local authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet demand in the area. These may be school places available at provision maintained by the local authority, academies, or other non-maintained schools.
- 1.2 School place planning is a complex process, that takes account of a range of factors. With rapid shifts in economic conditions for families and changing patterns of migration, planning for school places needs to be proactive to respond to both short and medium-term demand for places.
- 1.3 Every admission authority must have admission arrangements that set out how school places are allocated and include oversubscription criteria that are applied when there are more applications than places available. Admission arrangements must also set out the Published Admission Number for the relevant schools.
- 1.4 Every admission authority is required to consult on their admission arrangements at least every seven years even if there are no changes proposed. There was a full consultation on the admission arrangements for Stockport community and voluntary controlled schools in 2020 for September 2022.
- 1.5 This consultation is for the published admission numbers for 2027/28 school year for Nevill Road Infant School and Nevill Road Junior School for which Stockport Council is the admission authority. Other admission authorities in Stockport for example, voluntary aided religious schools or academy trusts may decide to consult on their admission arrangements but Stockport Council is not responsible for this.

2 PROPOSED ADMISSION NUMBERS

- 2.1 Stockport Council is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient school places to meet demand in the area. It does this by reviewing numbers across the borough on a regular basis.
- 2.2 The birthrate in Stockport has fallen significantly over recent years which is leading to high levels of surplus capacity in Key Stage 1 and 2 pupil numbers in some areas and some primary schools.
- 2.3 It is proposed to consult on reducing the published admission number for September 2027 onwards at the following schools:

- 3.4 Nevill Road Infant School has the highest levels of surplus capacity in the area and whilst Nevill Road Junior School's surplus capacity is not as high, the numbers in the Nevill Road Infant School will inevitably flow through to Nevill Road Junior School leading to rising levels of surplus.
- 3.5 Nevill Road Infant School has temporary accommodation on site in the form of two mobile classrooms. These have been on site for a significant amount of time. The school only has six classrooms in the main school building and needs the temporary accommodation to operate at 90 per year group.
- 3.6 The Council were made aware of condition issues with the temporary classrooms and these have been investigated and unfortunately, the classrooms have almost reached the end of their useful life with one having only one year's useful life left.
- 3.7 The replacement cost of the temporary classrooms exceeds available funding especially as declining numbers in the area mean that the Council has already considered consulting on reducing the published admission number at the school to 60 in previous years. The governing body at Nevill Road Infant School were not supportive of a reduction in the published admission number at that time and the consultation did not take place.
- 3.8 The Council increased the published admission of the school over 10 years ago to 90 to ensure sufficient places in the area due to the increase in population across the borough. At that time, the school did not support an increase and wanted to reduce their published admission number to 60. However, due to the need for sufficient places in the area, the Council had to increase the published admission number. The school had the additional demountable accommodation moved on site to support the increase.
- 3.9 The school have not been allocated 90 pupils at initial allocation into Reception for several years. The proposed reduction in the published admission number at Nevill Road Infant School from 90 to 60 will ensure that the school has sufficient accommodation for the pupils that will be allocated at the school. There is sufficient surplus capacity in other schools in the area to absorb any additional demand above 60. Demand in the area is projected to be static for a number of years.
- 3.10 Nevill Road Infant School currently operate a three class model per year group in Years 1 and 2 and two classes in Reception. They are enabled to do this through infant class size funding which is additional to the per pupil funding which would not be sufficient for three classes given the numbers they currently have on roll. Nevill Road Junior School do not have access to this funding and so may be unable to maintain a three class model as the lower numbers currently in Nevill Road Infant School move through into Nevill Road Primary School. The per pupil level of funding means that a two class model will be financially viable.

- 3.11 Reducing the published admission number at Nevill Road Junior School from 90 to 60 in September 2027 will enable the school to have certainty over numbers coming into the school and allow better financial, class and curriculum planning.
- 3.12 If approved, the Published Admission Number at Nevill Road Infant School and Nevill Road Junior School will apply to Reception or Year 3 for September 2027; all other year groups already in the school will be unaffected; the Published Admission Number will move through for Reception and Year 3 in September 2028 and so on until it is phased in across all year groups.

4 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 4.1 The consultation on admission arrangements for September 2027 will run from 22 October 2025 until 7 December 2025.
- 4.2 Responses to the consultation should be submitted to Stockport Council using the online consultation <https://consultation.stockport.gov.uk/>. You can also submit your response to our email address admissions.consult@stockport.gov.uk.
- 4.3 All responses to the consultation will be taken into account when the Council determines the admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary, infant; junior and high schools for which Stockport Council is the admission authority at a meeting in February 2026.