The Kite Academy Trust

Consultation on Proposed Admission Arrangements for 2028/29

Consultation period: 16th November to 31st December 2026

Proposed implementation: September 2028

Introduction

The Kite Academy Trust, as the admission authority for its academies, is responsible for determining its admission arrangements in accordance with the School Admissions Code (2021). The Code requires admission authorities to set admission arrangements annually and to consult publicly where changes are proposed. The Kite Academy Trust is, therefore, undertaking a consultation on the proposed changes to its admissions arrangements for the school year 2028/29 and welcomes the views of parents, carers, schools, other admission authorities, the local authority and members of the local community.

Proposal

For September 2028, The Kite Academy Trust is proposing:

1. The introduction of a supplementary information form to support requests for admission outside of a child's chronological age group. Where a parent wishes to request that their child is admitted to a year group outside of their chronological age (i.e. accelerated or decelerated school entry), the use of this form is intended to guide applicants through the process, ensure they understand what information is required and provide opportunity to outline the basis of an application. Please see Appendix A.
2. A reduction in the published admission number (PAN) for Year 3 entry at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy from 30 to 2.

Why is a reduction in PAN being proposed?

Following a consultation process in 2021 for implementation in September 2023, The Kite Academy Trust reduced the PAN for initial entry (Reception) to Hale Nursery & Primary Academy from 60 to 30. The Trust also introduced a PAN of 30 at Year 3 in September 2023, to maintain the provision of 60 junior places (two classes) across Years 3 to 6.

Hale Nursery & Primary Academy therefore currently has the following formal points of entry:

Reception: 30 places **Year 3:** 30 places

The current PAN at Year 3 provides an additional 30 places for pupils to join the academy at this point of entry. In recent years, the number of applications and places offered for admission to Year 3 at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy has been significantly below the PAN of 30. With current pupil forecasts indicating a continued surplus of junior places across the Hale & Weybourne place-planning area to 2035, the Trust is proposing a reduction of the Year 3 PAN from 30 to 2 to better reflect the level of local demand for places at this point of entry, while continuing to provide families with the choice to apply for a place at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy for the beginning of Key Stage 2.

Maintaining a PAN that is substantially above demonstrated and forecast demand can make it more difficult for a school to plan its staffing, class organisation, curriculum and resources effectively. Where significant numbers of places remain unfilled over a sustained period, the organisational structure associated with a higher planned intake may become increasingly difficult to sustain.

The Kite Academy Trust wishes to ensure that Hale Nursery & Primary Academy is able to:

- plan its staffing and class structure effectively around realistic pupil numbers;
- deploy its financial and staffing resources efficiently;
- protect, as far as possible, resources available for teaching and learning;
- maintain suitable class organisation as pupils move through Key Stage 2;
- provide an exceptional, high-quality educational offer for pupils;
- respond appropriately to forecast demographic changes and the availability of primary school places locally;
- remain educationally and financially sustainable for the longer term.

Evidence supporting the proposal

The Trust has considered available evidence about historic demand and projected need in developing this proposal.

Year 3 applications/offers

The data below demonstrates that the additional Year 3 places provided through the current PAN have not been required in recent years:

School Year	Year 3 PAN	Additional Year 3 Places Offered	Total N^{O} Year 3 Places Available	Year 3 N^{O} on Roll* *(October 2026 Census)*	Surplus N^{O} Year 3 Places
2024/25	30	2	60	32	28
2025/26	30	9	60	29	31
2026/27	30	3	60	29	31

**This total includes the pupils on roll in Year 2 who automatically move into Year 3*

Local pupil-place forecasts

The current forecast data below indicates a continuing surplus of primary school places across the Hale and Weybourne primary place planning area to 2036:

School Year	Total N^{O} Year 3 Places Available	Forecast N^{O} Year 3 Places Required	Surplus N^{O} Year 3 Places
2027/28	150	109	41
2028/29	180	149	31
2029/30	150	121	29
2030/31	150	111	39
2031/32	150	112	38
2032/33	150	117	33
2033/34	150	118	32
2034/35	150	119	31
2035/36	150	120	30

Source: Surrey County Council Primary Place Planning Forecasts for 2027-2036 (October 2026)

The Trust considers that this data, taken together with recent patterns of demand at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy, supports the proposal to reduce the Year 3 PAN to a level that better reflects the current demand for school places and that forecast for future years.

What would the proposed change mean?

The proposed place reduction relates only to the additional places made available for entry to Hale Nursery & Primary Academy at Year 3 through the normal admissions round. Children already attending Hale Nursery & Primary Academy would not need to reapply for a place when moving from Year 2 to Year 3. No existing pupil would lose their place as a result of this proposal.

The proposal will mean that the number of additional places available for pupils to join the academy at Year 3 from September 2028 will be 2. The places available (PAN) for initial entry to Reception will remain unchanged at 30.

The Trust recognises the importance of parental preference and has considered the potential impact of the proposed change on families seeking a Year 3 place. The context in which the reduction in Year 3 PAN at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy has been proposed includes consideration of:

- the pattern of applications and offers for Year 3 at Hale in recent admissions rounds;
- the significant difference between actual demand and the existing PAN of 30;
- current forecasts for pupil numbers;
- the availability of junior school places within the local area; and
- the need to maintain a sustainable educational and financial model for the academy.

Applications for Year 3 would continue to be considered in accordance with The Kite Academy Trust's Admission Arrangements. If Hale Nursery & Primary Academy received more applications than available places, applications would be ranked against its published oversubscription criteria.

The proposal will also not affect parents' entitlement to make an in-year application for a school place at any time outside the normal admissions round. Such applications will be considered in accordance with The Kite Academy Trust's Admission Arrangements and subject to the availability of places within the year group for which admission is sought.

Why a PAN of 2?

In determining the proposed figure, the Trust has sought to balance:

- the need to ensure the number of Year 3 places at Hale Nursery & Primary Academy more appropriately reflects the evidenced place demand;
- the need to support efficient and sustainable staffing and class organisation;
- the availability of school places within the local area;
- the importance of retaining an opportunity for pupils to join Hale Nursery & Primary Academy at the beginning of Key Stage 2.

As for other primary schools within The Kite Academy Trust, the proposed Year 3 PAN of 2 at Hale retains a formal point of entry, while also significantly reducing the level of additional capacity that recent experience and current forecasts suggest is unlikely to be required.

The Trust regularly reviews admission numbers to ensure that place availability appropriately reflects local demand, while maintaining the effective and sustainable operation of its academies. Should the local demand for school places increase in the future, the Trust will consider raising the PAN to accommodate this.

The Consultation Process

The School Admissions Code (2021) states that a consultation process must be open for at least six weeks and take place between 1st October and 31st January in the determination year.

The Trust's consultation on the proposed changes to its Admission Arrangements for 2028/29 will be open for responses from **16th November** to **31st December 2026**.

The full proposed Admission Arrangements for 2028/29 can be found on the Trust's website - **www.thekiteacademytrust.org** - and should be read alongside this consultation document. No changes to the Admission Arrangements are proposed other than those set out in this consultation. All other aspects of the Admission Arrangements remain unchanged.

To respond to the consultation, please complete the online form **here**. Alternatively, written responses can be sent by post to the address at the bottom of the page for the attention of the Executive Team. Please note that only responses received by the closing date and providing the respondent's name and address will be accepted, so as to eliminate duplicate responses to the consultation.

After the closing date, responses will be collated and considered by the Executive Team and a recommendation made to the Trust Board as to whether to proceed with the proposed changes. This recommendation and the responses received will be reviewed by the Trust Board at their meeting on 11th February 2027.

The Kite Academy Trust's Admission Arrangements for 2028/29 will be determined by the statutory deadline of 28th February 2027 and published on the Trust's website by 15th March 2027.

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The Kite Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales

Registered Number: 09785186

Appendix A

The Kite Academy Trust

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM – ADMISSION OUTSIDE OF CHRONOLOGICAL AGE GROUP

Only to be completed for applications for a child to be admitted outside of their chronological age group.

An application for admission outside of a child's chronological age group must be made by submission of this form. The completed form and any supporting documentation must be submitted to the Kite Academy Trust Executive Team as soon as possible in advance of the national closing date for primary school applications (15th January).

This is **NOT** an application for a school place – it is an application for an agreement in principle for a child to be admitted outside of their chronological year group. A separate admission application for a school place must be submitted to the Local Authority in the normal way.

Where an agreement in principal to admission outside of a chronological age group is given, written confirmation of this from The Kite Academy Trust Executive Team must accompany the admission application for a school place. It should be noted that an agreement in principle does not guarantee a place in the desired year group nor does it give priority to the application over other applications received.

Child's Details	
Child's Surname:	
Child's Forename(s):	
Child's Date of Birth:	
Child's Main Home Address:	
Parent's Details	
Parent's Surname:	
Parent's Forename(s):	
Parent's Home Address: *(if different)*	
Parent's Email Address:	
Parent's Telephone Number:	
Application Details	
Which academy would you like to apply for?	
What date would you like the child to be admitted?	

What year group would you like the child to be admitted to?	
What year group would the child's chronological age group be in?	

Please give detailed reasons for your belief that it is in the best interests of your child to be admitted outside of their chronological age group. In doing so, please take into account the following factors which will be considered as part of the decision-making process:

- The parents' views:
- The Headteacher's view;
- The child's academic, social and emotional development;
- Where relevant, the child's medical history and the views of their medical professionals;
- Whether the child has previously been educated outside of their normal age group;
- Whether the child would have naturally have fallen into a lower age range were it not for having been born prematurely.

This is a non-exhaustive list and there may be other relevant factors to be considered.

Please list all documents attached in support of your application:	

Declaration

I understand that the information contained in this form is subject to GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation) and my personal data may be exchanged with the Local Authority, admissions authorities, schools and Government agencies where necessary.

I understand that the outcome of this request for admission outside of a chronological age group will be on the basis that the information I provide is accurate and correct.

I understand that if I submit this form or evidence after the closing date for primary school applications, it may not be considered until after the national offer day.

I certify that I have parental responsibility for the child named on this form and that the information provided on this form is true and accurate, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Parent/Guardian:	
Print Name:	