

13 January 2020

Dear Parents

Pele Trust Admissions Policy (2021-22)

Pele Trust is the Admissions authority for all schools within our Multi Academy Trust. Therefore we carried out a 6-week consultation in line with DfE regulations between 1 October and 26 November 2019. The purpose was to set our Admissions Policy for entry to our schools from September 2021.

In setting out our preferences we consulted on the basis that entry to our primary schools would be largely the same as the current Northumberland County Council policy, i.e. catchment as a priority. However, we proposed that entry to Ponteland High School (in Year 7) would favour those children currently within a Pele Trust primary school as a priority. The latter was in line with our stated intentions during the academy consultations undertaken in May-June 2017.

The Board of Directors have carefully considered all of the responses received during the consultation period and have decided to amend the policy from the initial proposal. Directors were aware that we now have the potential for up to 285 primary aged children being educated in local primary schools each year due to additional primary provision opening in September 2020; this contrasts with the 240 secondary school places available in Y7. Directors are committed to our schools serving our local community and were mindful of the potential for some children who live within the greater catchment area missing out on a secondary school place at their local school.

The main alteration within the secondary school oversubscription criteria is that after looked after children and those with an Education & Health Care Plan (EHCP) the priority will be as follows (in descending order - see page 5 of the policy):

1. Children on roll in a Pele Trust primary school who also live in the catchment area (as defined by Northumberland County Council - see 'school catchment area digital maps' at www.northumberland.gov.uk) and those on whose behalf firm evidence is presented that they will be living in the catchment area by the appropriate admission date
2. Children living in the catchment area on whose behalf firm evidence is presented that they will be living in the catchment area by the appropriate admission date
3. Children school who reside outside of the catchment area but have attended a Pele Trust primary school for a minimum of two full academic years



A copy of the final Admissions Policy (2021-22) is available at www.peletrust.org.uk

We remain committed to the continuity of education for all of our Pele Trust children and will be working to ensure that is the case as they move from primary to secondary school.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. J. Miller'.

Gerry Miller
Chair of Directors
Pele Trust

