



Sunshine Academy PAN Reduction – Frequently Asked Questions

What is being proposed?

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust is consulting on a proposal to reduce the Reception Published Admission Number (PAN) at Sunshine Academy from 60 places to 30 places with effect from September 2028.

The PAN is the number of pupils the academy intends to admit into Reception each year.

Why is the Trust proposing this change?

The proposal reflects a significant reduction in local birth rates and a sustained decline in demand for Reception places within the local area.

The current PAN of 60 no longer reflects the number of children seeking places at the academy.

The proposal would align the academy's admission arrangements more closely with current and projected demand.

Will this affect children currently attending Sunshine Academy?

No.

The proposal relates only to future Reception admissions from September 2028 onwards.

Children currently attending the academy will not be affected.

Will this affect children already in Nursery?

No.

Children attending Nursery will continue to be able to apply for a Reception place in the usual way.

As now, attendance at Nursery does not guarantee admission to Reception.

Does this mean Sunshine Academy is closing?

No.

The proposal relates only to the number of Reception places available each year.

There are no proposals to close the academy.

Will class sizes increase?

No.

The proposal would reduce the number of Reception places available rather than increase class sizes.

All classes would continue to operate within statutory requirements and Trust expectations.

Will the quality of education be affected?

The Trust's aim is to ensure that resources are used effectively and sustainably so that pupils continue to receive a high-quality education.

The proposal is intended to support the long-term sustainability of the academy.

Why is the proposal being made now?

The Trust has reviewed pupil place demand, local demographic information and longer-term forecasts.

The proposal seeks to ensure that admission arrangements reflect current and projected demand for places.

Has a decision already been made?

No.

The Trust is undertaking a formal consultation and is seeking views from parents, carers, local schools, admission authorities, local authorities and other interested parties.

All responses received during the consultation period will be considered before any final decision is made.

How can I share my views?

Responses can be submitted using the consultation response form available on the academy website.

The consultation period runs from Monday 2 November 2026 until Monday 14 December 2026.

What happens after the consultation closes?

All responses will be reviewed and considered by Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust.

A report summarising the consultation responses will be prepared and presented to the Trust Board before a final decision is made.

Any changes to the academy's admission arrangements would take effect from September 2028.

Where can I find further information?

Further information, including the consultation document and response form, is available from Sunshine Academy and on the academy website throughout the consultation period.