



Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust
Chief Executive Officer: Mr P J G Drew
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Consultation to Reduce Sunshine Academy's Published Admission Number from September 2028

Introduction:

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust is consulting on a reduction in the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Sunshine Academy from 60 down to 30, effective from 1 September 2028.

The current PAN for Sunshine Academy of 60 was agreed when it reflected demand for places at that time. Owing to falling birth rates, the current Published Admission Number of 60 is significantly higher than current and projected demand for Reception places within the local area.

The proposed change will enhance the ability of Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust and Sunshine Academy to effectively manage resources and plan for the future, ensuring the academy remains financially sustainable and continues to provide a high-quality education for all pupils.

No pupil who already has a place at the academy will be affected by this proposal.

Specific Proposal:

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust and Sunshine Academy are proposing to reduce the Published Admission Number from 60 to 30 with effect from 1 September 2028.

This means the number of places available for children entering Reception will be 30 and will remain at 30 for all subsequent Reception cohorts going forward.

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust and Sunshine Academy have considered a number of key factors in deciding to hold a consultation regarding this proposal:

- A significant decline in local birth rates and a corresponding reduction in demand for Reception places.
- The need to ensure that admission arrangements accurately reflect current and projected demand for places.
- The effective organisation of classes and staffing structures.
- Financial planning and the efficient deployment of resources.
- The long-term sustainability of the academy.
- The availability of places within other local schools and the Local Authority's duty to secure a sufficient supply of school places.



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The reduction in pupil numbers has already had a significant impact on the academy. Due to falling rolls and the associated reduction in funding, the academy has undergone two staffing restructures in order to remain financially sustainable.

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust remains committed to supporting pupil place planning within Walsall and would consider reviewing the Published Admission Number in the future should local demand require this.

Consultation Period:

The consultation period will run for six weeks from Monday 2 November 2026 until Monday 14 December 2026.

Who is Being Consulted:

The consultation on this proposal is for the attention of:

- The consultation on this proposal is for the attention of the following:
- Local parents with children at the academy or below school age.
- Residents and people in the area with an interest in the proposal.
- All other relevant admission authorities within the local area.
- Walsall Council.
- Neighbouring local authorities.



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How to Respond:

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust and Sunshine Academy welcome your views on this proposal.

Responses can be submitted by following this link: [Proposal to Reduce Sunshine Academy's PAN from 60 to 30 from September 2028 – Fill in form](#) or scanning the QR code below:

Proposal to Reduce Sunshine
Academy's PAN from 60 to 30
from September 2028



Alternatively, responses may be submitted in writing to Dan Sandy:

Lighthouse Multi Academy Trust, Davis Road, Willenhall, Walsall. WV12 5HA