

APPENDIX 5

Responses to Southwark Council's consultation on admissions 2023/24

The following responses to Southwark council's consultation on admission arrangements for 2023/24 were received during the consultation period, 12th November 2021 to 14th January 2022 (midday).

Five (5) responses were received by the deadline date.

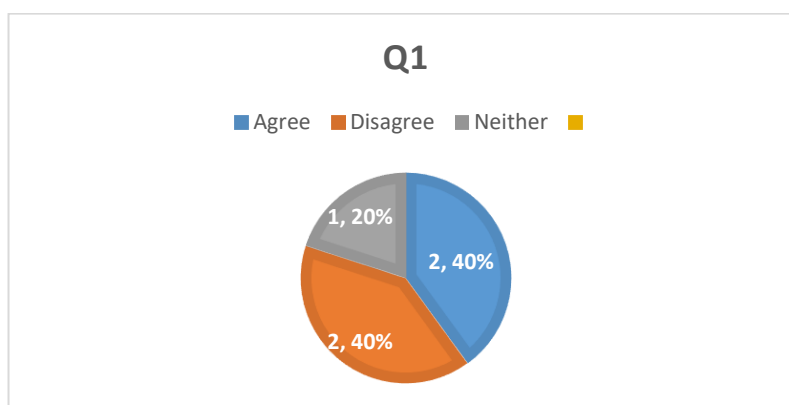
Question 1

Do you agree with reducing the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the September 2023 intake onwards at the following community primary schools:

- Ilderton Primary School (reduce from 60 to 30 places)
- Dog Kennel Hill Primary School (reduce from 60 to 30 places)
- Cobourg Primary School (reduce from 60 to 30 places)

Response

Agree	2
Disagree	2
Neither	1



Summary of comments received	Officer response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>All schools affected by falling rolls.</i> • <i>Small schools will be the hardest hit so the only way to spread numbers out evenly is for larger schools to reduce their intake so numbers can be spread out equally.</i> • <i>Lots of schools within a short distance of each other so parents will still be able to get a local school - hopefully there will be no need for further school closures which would impact more families, children having to change schools.</i> • <i>This needs to be made clearer when publishing proposed changes.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a trend of falling rolls across London. We acknowledge all points made in this response and will share with place planning colleagues for their consideration.

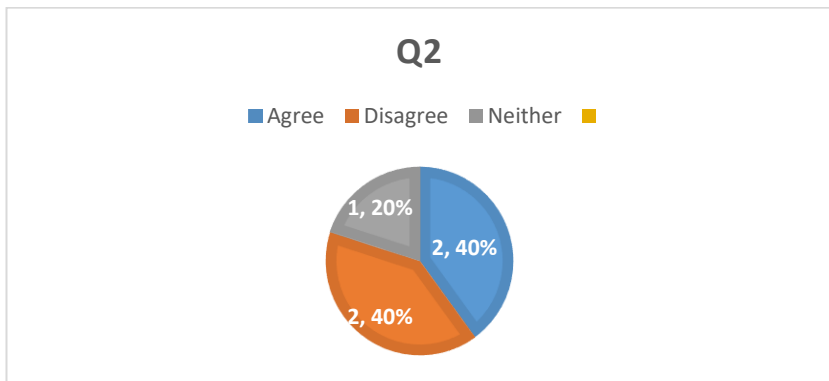
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree on the proposal - a reduction of places will address the falling demographic projections. • Allows schools to reflect admission numbers based on likely applications. • Schools can admit over PAN if pupil numbers increase. • Negative impact – creates small schools, 30 pupils per year is challenging to operate financially. • Lower numbers will eventually feed through to secondary schools. • Academies like Kingsdale who has been permitted to have yearly increases thereby being the one of the largest secondaries in London. • We would want to ensure that if this falling roll feeds through to secondary it is academies like Kingsdale that should consider a PAN reduction.” 	
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Question 2.

Do you agree with the inclusion of the post offer timetable set out in Southwark Council’s proposed co-ordinated admission schemes for reception, junior, year 7 and year 10 for the September 2023 intake (Documents D, E, F, and G)?

Response

Agree	2
Disagree	2
Neither	1



Summary of comments received	Officer response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “I’m unsure of the consequences of this so I can’t answer.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noted

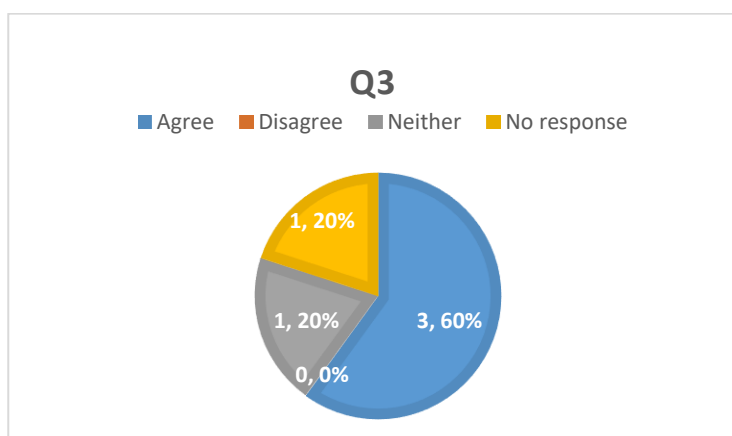
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “These later dates would leave less time for secondary staff to carry out their primary visits, meeting with parents to collect the necessary data and requirements especially for SEND and vulnerable. • Need a more even distribution rather than continuing to top up schools which are oversubscribed to ensure that those under have priority. • Concerned that these late dates out of Southwark may drop off, will not be automatically added to the waiting list. • Normally we take some percentage from Lewisham, of which the few that are late could drop through the net. These dates would mean that we would have to be extra vigilant and must send reminders to applicants to let their home LA be aware of the same.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This proposal may have been misunderstood by the respondent. <p>The proposal was made based on feedback that we’ve had from schools and families over the years. The school admissions team will hand any existing waiting lists back to schools in mid-July, rather than on 31st August as is currently the case. This will enable schools to make contact with families sooner and children will be able to take up their places in September, at the start of term without delay.</p>
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Question 3

Do you agree with Southwark Council’s ‘relevant area’ remaining the same as the administrative area for the council?

Response

Agree	3
Disagree	0
Neither	1
No response	1



Summary of comments received	Officer response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are neutral on this.” 	Noted.