



Dear Parents and Members of the Local Community

## Admissions Consultation Proposal to Raise the Pupil Admission Number (PAN)

Sylvester Primary Academy proposes to raise its current Pupil Admission Number (PAN) in reception from 30 to **35** (an increase of 5 students) commencing September 2021.

This proposal would allow for an overall increase of **35** students in total across Years Reception to Year 6. This increase would build to an eventual school capacity of **245** (excluding nursery)

The school currently has 209 on roll in Years Reception - 6 and is already operating on an over-subscribed basis in the majority of year groups. The table below represents the current numbers (September 2019), which demonstrates the high popularity/demand for places and associated in-year admissions and appeals.

SPA	Current PAN	Actual Numbers on Roll	Difference from PAN (+/-)
Year R	30	35*	+5
Year 1	30	30	0
Year 2	30	28	-2
Year 3	30	33	+3
Year 4	30	27	-3
Year 5	30	29	-1
Year 6	30	27	-3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>-1</b>

\*interim arrangements in place 2019/20 & 20/21 to support demand

In terms of overall demand for places, the school has been oversubscribed in 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019. There has received an increasing number of preference applications for both places in reception and in year applications. This has resulted in a growing number of pupils and their parents being disappointed not to have been awarded a place.

The School would therefore like to respond to this growing demand for places by increasing its overall capacity and PAN by 5 places per school year. This increase can be managed appropriately by a move to a PAN of 35 over the course of a number of years which will retain the ability to have suitable class sizes and support both pupils and staff.

Dream, Believe, Achieve



The current model of 30 is proving to be uneconomical at present to support the effective and efficient use of resources available to the school. An increase to a PAN of 35 allows for much greater efficiencies and economics in terms of staff to pupil ratios. The school will continue to ensure it complies with appropriate class size legislation.

In summary we submit for consultation to increase our PAN by 5 pupils places commencing with reception in September 2021.

A period of consultation opens on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 and will close on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2020. We intend to hold an information session for stakeholders on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am in the main school Hall. If you wish to send any comments in relation to this consultation please email [trust@wadedeacon.co.uk](mailto:trust@wadedeacon.co.uk), or post to the school marked admissions consultation.

The final decision regarding the recommendation by the Trust for an increase in PAN in line with the "Making significant changes to an open academy" guidance will be made with the Regional School Commissioner. Your comments, whether in support to this proposal or not, will help to inform the way forward.

Yours faithfully,

Ruth Harrison  
Principal

Ian Kirkham  
Chief Operations Officer