

Briefing note on the Fair Access Protocol by the Admissions (Exclusions & Reintegration) Manager.

The fair access protocol was specifically implemented in order that no school be overburdened with pupils deemed to be 'Hard to Place'. In order to achieve a fair distribution over-subscribed schools will necessarily be obliged to take over their Published Admissions Number.

The parental preferences do not reflect an increasing demand for Springfield School under the fair access protocol and indeed the numbers of entrants under the fair access protocol who are placed at Springfield School by the Inclusion Support Panel remains very low (1 in the last academic year and 1 so far this academic year).

This is significantly lower than other secondary schools; Admiral Lord Nelson School, also being an oversubscribed school, took 5 this academic year and 5 last. Since January 2006 the average number of pupils taken by a secondary school is 28, Springfield School is the lowest with 14 (less than 3 per academic year) and the range is 14-38. Whilst special measures affords a level of protection there has not been a secondary school in this circumstance since January 2006 and indeed Mayfield and Miltoncross schools who did have notices to improve which was noted by the panel, took 37 and 31 pupils respectively.