

ACADEMY ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION

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Kinsale Junior School Proposal to Reduce Published Admission Number (PAN) for 2027/28

Date: 9 December 2025

Introduction

The Wensum Trust and the Governing Body for Kinsale Junior School is undertaking a statutory consultation on a proposal to reduce the school's Published Admission Number (PAN) for the Year 3 intake. This proposed reduction would take effect from the start of the academic year September 2027.

Background and Rationale for Change

The number of children transferring from infant schools into Year 3 at Kinsale Junior School has been subject to review. The number of children residing in the school's catchment area and applying for a place at Kinsale Junior School has been declining in recent years. This proposal is a proactive measure informed by the latest demographic data and long-term pupil forecasting models provided by Norfolk County Council.

- **Projected Decline:** Local and regional data indicate a sustained decline in the birth rate and/or a reduction in the number of pupils in the Hellesdon area who transition to Kinsale Junior School.
- **Financial Sustainability:** The school's funding is directly linked to the number of children on roll. Maintaining a PAN significantly higher than the actual demand for places leads to surplus capacity, making the organisation of classes and staffing levels less financially sustainable in the long term.
- **Optimal Resource Management:** Reducing the PAN from 60 to 45 will align the school's capacity more closely with projected demand, ensuring resources (staffing, physical space) can be concentrated on providing a high-quality educational experience for the enrolled pupils, without negatively impacting the quality of education.

The Formal Proposal

The Governing Body & Wensum Trust formally proposes to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the Year 3 intake at Kinsale Junior School from the current number of 60 to 45.

This reduction will apply to all new admissions to the Year 3 year group starting in September 2027 and for all subsequent academic years.

Consultation Period and Next Steps

As the Admission Authority, the Trust is required to consult with stakeholders, including parents, other schools, and Norfolk County Council (the co-ordinating Local Authority).

The statutory consultation period will run for a minimum of six weeks, from **09/12/2025** to **20/01/2026**.

We welcome your comments and views on this proposal.

Any comments regarding this consultation should be submitted by email to:

office@kinsalejunior.norfolk.sch.uk

The deadline for comments is 20/01/2026

Following the consultation period, all responses will be considered before the final decision is determined by **The Wensum Trust Board**. The determined arrangements will then be published in accordance with the School Admissions Code.