**Proposal: Reduce the Published Admission Number at Victoria Dock Primary School from 60 to 45.**

The current Published Admission Number (PAN) at Victoria Dock Primary School is 60. This means that the number of children admitted to the school in Reception each year is a maximum of 60.

**Victoria Dock Primary School and The Constellation Trust are proposing to reduce the PAN to 45.** This proposal would mean that the maximum number of pupils intended to be admitted in Reception in 2025, and all subsequent Reception cohorts, will be 45.

Currently, the net capacity of the school is 420, based on an annual intake of 60 pupils. However, currently there are only 314 children on roll, due to a decrease in pupil numbers over the past 4 years.

When planning primary school places, The City of Hull is split into 8 planning areas. Victoria Dock Primary is situated in the Riverside area. According to Local Authority data, there has been a decline in pupil numbers admitted into Reception over recent years across the Riverside Area, falling from 522 places in 2016/17 to 467 places in 2021/22. Over the same period at Victoria Dock Primary, admissions into Reception fell from 60 to 37.

Current published forecasts indicate that there will continue to be surplus places across the Riverside area over the next 3 years, with an estimate of 81 surplus places by 2026/27. Forecasts also show the numbers of Reception places required at Victoria Dock for the next 3 intakes remain well below the current PAN of 60.

Forecasts for Reception places at Victoria Dock are as follows:

2024/25: 38

2025/26: 26

2026/27: 32

In addition to Reception surplus places, the number of pupils on roll across the school from Y1 to Y6 have declined over the past 4 years. The school has already begun operating on a 45 PAN model throughout the school to secure the school budget. Classes have been organised into 3 mixed year group classes in each phase (3x Y1/2, 3x Y3/4 and 3x Y5/6)

Current pupil numbers on roll:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
| 44 | 46 | 33 | 45 | 40 | 45 | 33 |

In addition to these places, the school also runs a Local Authority SEN Enhanced Provision with 5 pupils: 1x Reception, 2x Year 1 and 3x Year 2.

The school has used the Local Authority Reception places forecast information to model the school budget over the next five years in order to make an informed decision on its future. The school has considered the following two options:

a) Do nothing and keep the PAN at 60 – The Reception classes are not forecast to fill to 60, meaning the school will not receive the maximum funding to enable additional teaching groups. There would be an expectation that the school can still take up to 60 pupils throughout the whole intake year. This may result in a high number of in-year allocations that could potentially require changes to class organisation during the school year which is detrimental to the pupils and the school.

b) Reduce the PAN to 45 – There will be sufficient places to meet the forecasted demand for places. The school will plan the curriculum for mixed aged classes in each phase, with the understanding that classes should remain stable and not need to be reorganised during the school year. Funding received for the number of pupils on roll should be sufficient for the level of staffing required for 3 mixed aged classes per phase.

The school is already modelled on a 45 PAN throughout the school due to the current number of children on roll and plans to follow this model in subsequent years. This will enable the school to remain economically viable whilst offering a high-quality education for all children.

The School Admissions Code requires that all admission authorities consult where they propose to reduce a PAN. Victoria Dock Primary School and The Constellation Trust are therefore seeking representations on the proposed change to the PAN for Victoria Dock Primary School in Kingston Upon Hull.

The consultation is open from 6th November 2023 until 21st December 2023.

Responses can by completing the response form and returning to the following address:

PAN Consultation

Victoria Dock Primary School

South Bridge Road

Victoria Dock

Hull

HU9 1TL

Or by email to: admin@victoriadock.hull.sch.uk