

2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022

Dear Beckfoot Nessfield Stakeholder

**Consultation on the proposed reduction of pupil admission numbers (PAN) at Beckfoot Nessfield from 45 to 30.**

I am writing to seek your view on the proposal to reduce the pupil admission number (PAN) at Beckfoot Nessfield from 45 to 30. This will reduce the total capacity of the school from 315 to 210 (Reception to Year 6). This would mean that from September 2024, and all subsequent Reception cohorts, the maximum number of pupils admitted into Reception will be 30. For cohorts, and individual children, already in school there will be no change.

You may recall that this time last year we consulted to reduce the PAN from 60 to 45 however it has now become clear from the planning data that there will not be enough children in the planning area to fill the school to a PAN of 45 so we now need to reduce the PAN further to 30 in order to be able to control the future planning for the school.

According to data from the Office of National Statistics (ONS), the number of live births nationally fell for five consecutive years up to 2020, with the total number of live births in 2020 being the fewest since 2002. There was a slight increase in 2021 but still fewer births than in 2019. Given the falling number of births nationally and across the District, this has led to a high level of surplus places in some of the primary school planning areas, including Keighley 2, where Beckfoot Nessfield Primary School is situated.

The current total PAN for all the schools in the Keighley 2 planning area is 445 and will reduce to 415 in 2023. The Local Authority's current forecasts indicate that the number of reception places required for reception for the next four intake years are:

2023/24: 337  
2024/25: 309  
2025/26: 316  
2026/27: 317

This demonstrates a need to reduce the over PAN across the planning area.



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**Remarkable Learners: 'Soaring Ahead'**

The purpose of this letter is therefore to gain your views and comments on the proposal to change the PAN from 45 to 30, as part of the overall consultation prior to any decision being made. Letters of consultation will be sent to all local schools, parents/carers, local community, local authority and all other stakeholders.

The consultation period will run from Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2022 to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023. After which we submit your responses along with a business case to the Department for Education who will make a decision on the reduction in PAN.

There will be a consultation evening at school where you will have the opportunity to share your views and discuss the proposals on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January, 4pm.

Any comments or suggestions on the proposal can be made by emailing [Consultation@BeckfootNessfield.org](mailto:Consultation@BeckfootNessfield.org)

Finally, I hope that you will be able to support us with this change. It is an important development and it will help us to realise our ambition to create a remarkable school for our community to be proud of.

Yours sincerely

Linda Hanson  
Headteacher