

TYTHERINGTON SCHOOL APPEALS – GOVERNORS CASE

Tytherington School is successful and popular for a number of reasons including:

- High quality teaching
- Strong relationships between teachers and pupils
- We carefully match our resources to the number of pupils
- We are creative about our accommodation to match the number on roll

The school's budget is largely determined by the number of pupils on roll but is awarded retrospectively (lagged), pupils are counted in January and a budget allocation from the ESFA for the following year is set in March/April. To significantly increase numbers during the year would negate the factors above; to do so over a number of years would significantly change the nature of the school, possibly making it less effective and less attractive to the community.

The school's Leadership Team and Governors cannot recommend an increase in numbers. The strain on financial resources and accommodation and the extra demands on teachers caused by larger classes may result in the provision of a lower quality of education. We are also bound by the Health and Safety regulations that limit numbers of students in specialist work spaces.

As sympathetic as we are to families who have not been offered a place, we recommend numbers do not exceed the school's open enrolment figure of 1214 which is based on the DfE's analysis of available teaching spaces.

The Governors have made determined efforts to expand the school to meet increased parental demand over the years. The point is illustrated by the following figures:

- The school's open enrolment figure (a DfE calculation of capacity based on the analysis of teaching spaces) was last calculated as 1214. This equates to 200 pupils in years 7 to 11.
- The school's approved admission number is 210 places per year group totalling 1200 (11-16).
- In addition, we offer Post -16 education to an increasingly popular Sixth Form.

The school population based on our rising year 7 intake will be 1226ⁱ.

Given a capacity of 1214 there is already a significant over-subscription against capacity.

The main school site was originally built for 800 pupils. As a result, we have very narrow corridors, insufficient toilets, small classrooms and limited storage space – all issues that concern parents of children currently at the school. The pressure of numbers has also caused supervision problems at lunchtime.

To exceed our net capacity would invite:

- Health and Safety issues (specialist Design and Technology rooms are built for groups of 20 and Science laboratories for 24).
- Stress on staff and pupils currently in the school that will damage relationships and reduce morale.
- Difficulties in accommodating pupils for communal events such as assemblies, examinations, parents' evenings etc.
- A decline in standards.

The Governors therefore appeal to the Committee to determine the degree of prejudice in favour of the school and decline any appeals for additional places.

ⁱCorrect as of April 2018