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25<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Tracey,

### **Consultation on Admission Arrangements for 2027/28 Academic Year Worcestershire**

The proposal was discussed with Governors at the Charford First School SARFEG\* Committee meeting as an agenda item on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2025. The map of the proposed change to catchment area was shared also with the proposal as follows:

#### **Millfields First School Bromsgrove Catchment Area Proposed Revision**

***The Governing Body of Millfields First School, Bromsgrove would like to formally request that the current shared catchment area with Charford First School be expanded.***

***The Governing Body believe that by increasing the size of the shared catchment area this would support Millfields First Schools in ensuring parents are aware they could apply for either school and ensure that both schools can maintain sustainable numbers of pupils.***

***The area Governors propose becomes a shared area, lies almost equidistant between Millfields First School and Charford First School. Families in this location would therefore have genuine schooling options without additional travel burdens, and Governors believe that both schools and the wider community would benefit from a more balanced distribution of pupils.***

Alongside this, the Headteacher also shared information received from WCC regarding forecasted numbers for the next four years based on children living in catchment areas. The Headteacher also accessed (via the link) details for the forecasted numbers for Millfields First School's and populated this into a comparison table for Governors as detailed below:

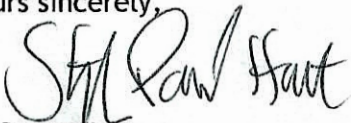
	<b>Sept 2026</b>	<b>2027</b>	<b>2028</b>	<b>2029</b>
Charford First School (90 max)	106	88	104	115
Millfields First School (60 max)	52	40	46	41
Impact	CFS 16 over 8 to MFS = 8 over	CFS 2 under 20 to MFS = 2 less	CFS 14 over 14 to MFS = 0 left	CFS 25 over 19 to MFS = 6 over

There was a committee discussion, which was minuted, with the decision being made that the **Governing Body of Charford First School will NOT support the expansion of a shared catchment area between Millfields First School and Charford First School.** The rationale behind this decision is as follows:

- According to the data above, Millfields First School are significantly below their capacity of 60 places over the next few years. Although Charford First School is over 90 (apart from in 2027), increasing the catchment area as proposed would potentially impact on Charford First School's capacity to be full. A falling roll would have significant implications for our school.
- Not all the predicted children within our catchment (detailed within the table) would necessarily come to Charford. Some may go to St Peter's Catholic First School which would also reduce Charford First Schools intake.
- The area proposed (Stoke Heath) is a more affluent area of the community which means that our cohort characteristics could change, which will impact on our resourcing and support for more disadvantaged pupils.
- There is a new estate - Whitford Road - that is being built which will support expansion of Millfields First School catchment - however, this will be too far for any of the children residing here to come to Charford.
- Governors are aware that Millfields were provided with S106 funding to support their infrastructure ready for the impact of the housing development on their pupil population.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Steve Hart  
Charford First School  
Chair of Governors

\*SARFEG is a sub committee of the Full Governing Body and stands for Safeguarding Audit Risk Finance Estates General purposes

