

AssessmentNo	390	Owner	LMCALISTER
Resource	Transformation		Service/Establishment Education, Learning & Attainment
	First Name	Surname	Job title
Head Officer	Linda	McAlister	Education Support Officer
	(include job titles/organisation)		
Members	Andrew Brown - Senior Education Officer Linda McAlister - Education Support Officer		
	<i>(Please note: the word 'policy' is used as shorthand for strategy policy function or financial decision)</i>		
Policy Title	Admissions and Placing Requests Policy (PP5.1)		
	The aim, objective, purpose and intended out come of policy		
	To review and improve the placing request criteria for primary and secondary mainstream schools and where applications exceed the number of school places, there is a fair process to enable the authority to make practical, objective decisions and ensure that applications are considered on their merits before a final decision is made. It is proposed that the Council's Admissions and Placing Requests Policy (PP5.1) is changed to make limited changes to the current criteria relating to placing requests for primary and secondary schools, and further amended to provide clarification on proof of residency required for catchment schools, and the ballot process.		
	Service/Partners/Stakeholders/service users involved in the development and/or implementation of policy.		
	A public consultation exercise has been conducted in compliance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. Views on the proposed changes were sought from a range of stakeholders: parents/carers; pupils; parent councils; members of the public; Trades Unions; staff within schools; community councils; Education Services Committee members; Archdiocese Glasgow; neighbouring councils.		
Does the proposals involve the procurement of any goods or services?		No	
If yes please confirm that you have contacted our procurement services to discuss your requirements.		No	
SCREENING			
<i>You must indicate if there is any relevance to the four areas</i>			
Duty to eliminate discrimination (E), advance equal opportunities (A) or foster good relations (F)		Yes	
Relevance to Human Rights (HR)		Yes	
Relevance to Health Impacts (H)		No	
Relevance to Social Economic Impacts (SE)		No	
Who will be affected by this policy?			
Parents / pupils in mainstream primary and secondary schools in relation to school admissions and placing requests in the event that a school is oversubscribed.			
Who will be/has been involved in the consultation process?			
A public consultation exercise has been conducted in compliance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. Views on the proposed changes were sought from a			

range of stakeholders: parents/carers; pupils; parent councils; members of the public; Trades Unions; staff within schools; community councils; Education Services Committee members; Archdiocese Glasgow; neighbouring councils. Full consultation has been carried out including online survey and public meetings.

Please outline any particular need/barriers which equality groups may have in relation to this policy list evidence you are using to support this and whether there is any negative impact on particular groups.

	Needs	Evidence	Impact
Age			No impact on age as age is not a criteria.
Cross Cutting			
Disability	All west Dunbartonshire Schools are accessible for disabled children.	Review of current criteria and proposed amendment to the wording to provide clarity.	The policy includes a priority criteria for pupils with a medical reason which can be demonstrated that support can be provided at the placement school are given high priority.
Social & Economic Impact	Duty to provide equality of opportunities.	Single parent families are generally on low income and child care costs can affect ability to work or undertake further education.	Children from single-parent families where, for example, proximity of school to the parent's place of work/study would be advantageous for the care and well-being of the child.
Sex	Duty to provide equality of opportunities.	The vast majority of single parents are women	The existing criteria for single parents to be given priority has been expanded to include where the parent is undertaking study and the requested school would be advantageous to the care and well being of the child.
Gender Reassign			Placement is not based on gender.
Health			The policy includes a priority criteria for pupils with a medical reason which can be demonstrated that support can be

			provided at the placement school are given high priority.
Human Rights	Article 2 of the First Protocol: Right to Education	The majority of pupils attend their catchment school and the majority of placing requests to go to a school, other than the catchment school are normally granted. Only where there are more requests than places available would the criteria be applied.	The policy does not violate the right to education. Only where applications exceed the number of school places, would the policy be applied.
Marriage & Civil Partnership			Positive impact for single parents in relation to criteria and this may have an unintentional impact on married parents.
Pregnancy & Maternity			
Race			Placement is not based on race.
Religion and Belief	Parents can choose to register their child at either the denominational or non denominational school within the catchment area, or make a placing request to either a denominational or non denominational school outwith the catchment area and this right does not change.		A new criteria has been included in relation only to denominational schools, which will give higher priority those children/young people who have been baptised in the Roman Catholic (RC) Church. This does not exclude children of any or no faith applying for a place in a denominational school ad the criteria would only be applied in cases where there were more placing requests made than places available. This means there is potentially some differential impact in

			this area in some circumstances
Sexual Orientation			
Actions			
Policy has a negative impact on an equality group, but is still to be implemented, please provide justification for this.			
<p>There is potentially some differential impact in terms of religion in some very limited potential sets of circumstances that might arise, but this is in pursuit of a legitimate aim, is proportionate and is within the Equality Act 2010 and schools which provides a general exception for schools with religious character have certain exceptions of the religion or belief provisions which allow them to discriminate because of religion or belief in relation to admissions. This criteria would only be used where there are more placing requests received than spaces available.</p>			
Will the impact of the policy be monitored and reported on an ongoing bases?			
<p>Schools admissions and placing requests for P1/S1 are reviewed on an annual bases and the impact of the policy will therefore be monitored on an annual basis.</p>			
Q7 What is your recommendation for this policy?			
Introduce			
Please provide a meaningful summary of how you have reached the recommendation			
<p>The policy complies with the requirement that all children have the right to education. Where applications exceed the number of school places, authorities have to use a fair process to make practical, objective decisions and ensure that applications are considered on their merits before a final decision is made. There is potentially some differential impact in terms of religion in some very limited potential sets of circumstances that might arise, but this is in pursuit of a legitimate aim, is proportionate and is within the law. We have identify positive impacts in terms of disability and for women, as noted in the EIA</p>			