



Office of  
the Schools  
Adjudicator

**Template for  
Local Authority Report**

to

**The Schools Adjudicator**

from

**Cambridgeshire Local Authority**

to be provided by

**31 October 2022**

**Report Cleared by: Name**

**Job Title**

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**Please email your completed report to: [Office of the Schools Adjudicator](#) by  
31 October 2022 and earlier if possible**

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## Information requested

### Section 1 - Normal point of admission

#### A. Co-ordination

i. How well did co-ordination of the main admissions round work?	Not well	A large number of small problems or a major problem	Well with few small problems	Very well
Reception				x
Year 7				x
Other relevant years of entry				

ii. Please give examples to illustrate your answer if you wish:

High number of late applications for primary in rounds 2/3.

#### B. Looked after and previously looked after children

i. How does the admissions system in your local authority area serve the interests of looked after children at **normal points of admission**?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

ii. How do the admissions systems in other local authority areas serve the interests of children looked after by your local authority at **normal points of admission**?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

iii. How does your admissions system serve the interests of children who are looked after by other local authorities but educated in your area at **normal points of admission**?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- iv. How does the admissions system in your local authority area serve the interests of previously looked after children at **normal points of admission**?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- v. Please confirm that your local authority has included children adopted from state care outside England in its definition of previously looked after children in admission arrangements for schools for which it is the admission authority

Yes  No  Not applicable

- vi. How confident are you that all other admission authorities in your area have included children adopted from state care outside England in their definitions of previously looked after children in admission arrangements for schools for which they are the admission authority?

Confident all have  Confident some have  Not aware of whether all or some have  Not applicable

vii If you wish, please give examples of any good or poor practice or difficulties which exemplify your answers about the admission to schools of looked after and previously looked after children at **normal points of admission**:

Certain geographical areas have cheaper housing and a higher number of children homes which means one or two schools have a higher proportion of CiC than other schools.

### C. Special educational needs and/or disabilities

Please provide any comments you wish to make on the admission of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities at normal points of admission:

Some schools slow on take up to offer place when it is necessary to commence an EHCP process.

## Section 2 - In-year admissions

### A. Effect of Code changes on in-year admissions

Please provide any comments you wish to make on the effect of the changes to the Code's provisions for in-year admissions. It would be particularly helpful to have comments on whether you think the changes have made it easier or not for parents to secure places for children in-year?

More schools are capping at the start of the academic year. No, I don't think the changes have made it easier for parents. Schools are more frequently using the definition of challenging behaviour to refuse admission.

### B. Looked after children and previously looked after children

- i. How does the **in-year admission** system serve children who are looked after by your local authority and who are being educated in your area?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- ii. How do the **in-year admission** systems in other local authority areas serve the interests of your looked after children?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- iii. How does your **in-year admission** system serve the interests of children who are looked after by other local authorities but educated in your area?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- iv. How does your **in-year admission** system serve the interests of previously looked after children?

Not at all  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- v. If you wish, please give examples of any good or poor practice or difficulties which support or exemplify your answers about **in-year admissions** for looked after and previously looked after children:

Fenland schools have a disproportionate number of CiC/PCiC. This causes issues when other schools have less.

**C. Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities**

- i. How well served are children with special educational needs and/or disabilities who have an education, health and care plan that names a school when they need to be **admitted in-year**?

Not at all well  Not well  Well  Very well  Not applicable

- ii. How well served are children with special educational needs and/or disabilities who do not have an education, health and care plan when they need to be **admitted in-year**?

Not at all well  Not well  Well  Very well  Do not know

- iii. Please give examples of any good or poor practice or difficulties which support or exemplify your answers about **in-year admissions** for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities:

This is variable. Many schools always cite the high level of current SEN need in schools – a tiring argument and one that is challenged but causes delays.

- iv. If you wish, please provide any comments about **in-year admissions** in respect of other children:

**Schools do not want to take year 11's when they have moved into the country/county, significant increase in overseas for Peterborough and high number of Ukraine for Cambridgeshire – put pressure on places.**

**D. Fair access protocol**

- i. Do you have a fair access protocol agreed with the majority of state-funded mainstream schools in your area?

Yes for primary  
 Yes for secondary

- ii. If you have not been able to tick both boxes above, please explain why:

iii. How many children were admitted to schools in your area under the fair access protocol between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022?

Type of school	Number of Primary aged children admitted	Number of Secondary aged children admitted
Community and voluntary controlled	14	0
Foundation, voluntary aided and academies	4	100
Total	18	112

iv. How well do you consider hard to place children are served by the fair access protocol in your area?

Not at all well applicable    
 Not well    
 Well    
 Very well    
 Not applicable

v. Please provide any comments you wish on the protocol not covered above. It would be particularly helpful to have any comments on the impact of the Code changes on the operation of the FAP in your area and the ability to secure places for vulnerable children:

FA Protocol to be revised and going out to consultation in November 2022.

### E. Directions

How many directions did the local authority make between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2022 to maintained schools for which the local authority is not the admission authority to admit children (including children looked after by the local authority but resident in another area)?

Total Number of children	Of which, looked after	Of which, not looked after
0		

**F.** If you wish, please provide any other comments on the admission of children **in-year** not previously raised:

### **Section 3 - Other matters**

Are there any other matters that the local authority would like to raise that have not been covered by the questions above?

### **Section 4 - Feedback**

We would be grateful if you could provide any feedback on completing this report to inform our practice for 2023.

Thank you for completing this template.

Please return to [Office of the Schools Adjudicator](#) by 31 October 2022