



5 December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

**School Places in Dore and Totley - Consultation on Shared Catchments
for Admission to Reception from September 2018**

The Governing Bodies of Dore Primary, Totley Primary and Totley All Saints CE Primary are proud to serve the communities of Dore and Totley. It is our combined ambition to try and ensure that every parent who wishes their child to attend one of our schools has the opportunity to do so.

What is the proposal?

As the situation currently stands, Totley Primary School is committed to taking an extra 30 children in 2017. The decision on permanent expansion to 60 places per year group from 2018 is subject to live consultation and Mercia Learning Trust approval in addition to planning consent. It is expected that a decision on this matter will be reached at the end of January.

If Totley Primary expansion goes ahead across the three local primary schools there should be enough places for every local child. **Governors want to make sure that the places are prioritised for Dore and Totley children by consulting on a proposal to give catchment priority status to both Dore and Totley Primary schools for all residents in Dore and Totley.**

Totley All Saints is a Church Aided School and as such does not have a traditional catchment boundary but prioritises places based upon parish boundaries; currently Totley parishioners have priority. Placement is then by church membership and then the same criteria as other non-church schools. On 7 December the Diocesan Board of Education will consider the option of the parish of Dore having the same status as the parish of Totley for admission to Totley All Saints School. If approved both Totley and Dore parishioners will be offered priority status for admission to the school.





Why are we putting it forward?

At present both Dore and Totley Primary schools have their own catchment areas and there are no proposed changes to the overall boundary – see attached map. Children residing within a school catchment area have one of the highest priorities for admission to that school. Places cannot however be guaranteed, even for catchment area residents as we have seen in recent years at both schools. If a school is oversubscribed from within its own catchment area it can create difficulties for those children who cannot access a place. Without catchment priority status, they may be referred to a school outside of the local area.

All three schools, and their relevant admission authorities, are supportive of these proposals to help ensure school places for local families.

How can you respond?

Two open meetings will be held at King Egbert School to discuss these proposals at 6.00pm on either 14 December 2016 or 11 January 2017.

If you would like to respond to these proposals, please email us at primarycatchmentconsultation@ecgbert.sheffield.sch.uk **by 31 January 2017.**

If the proposed changes are adopted, formal decisions would be taken by the end of February 2017, and these arrangements would come into effect for the first year of entry (Reception) from September 2018 and in subsequent years.

Yours sincerely

Debbie Miller
Chair of Governors
Dore Primary

Howard Freeman
Chair of Governors
Totley All Saints Primary

Sarah Pearson
Chair of Governors
Totley Primary

Phil Smith
Chair, Mercia Learning Trust

