



## **REPORT TO EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 2018**

### **SECONDARY SCHOOL ADMISSION LIMITS AND REVISED RESERVED SPACES**

#### **1. Recommendations**

The Committee is recommended to:

- 1.1 Approve the Secondary School Admission Limits 2018-19 as detailed in sections 3.1 to 3.5 below.**
- 1.2 Approve the number of reserved places for Secondary Schools for 2018-19 as detailed in App 1.**

#### **2. Background / Discussion**

- 2.1 On 24 March 2016, The Education, Learning and Leisure Committee agreed to the current S1 admission limits based on new capacities for all Aberdeenshire Secondary Schools.
- 2.2 Admission limits require to be reviewed regularly and varied to adapt to demand for in- zone places. These variations must be approved by the Education and Children's Services Committee.
- 2.3 Secondary Schools in Aberdeenshire are currently required to maintain 10 reserved spaces in their S1 cohort. This is to allow in zone pupils to move into their local school from S1-S4.
- 2.4 To ensure that the number of reserved places is appropriate and relevant to each school setting, the Learning Estates team has calculated both the use of reserved spaces over a period of four years and an average. Appendix 1 outlines the reserved places per school.
- 2.5 Over the last two years the Learning Estates team have processed 243 placing requests for secondary schools. Of these, 22 placing requests have been refused when the school has reached its limit in order to safeguard the reserved places for in zone pupils. These have been at a small number of schools.
- 2.6 The recommended admissions limits for S1 2018/19 and recommended reserved places S1 to S4 are shown in Appendix 1.

### **3. Admission Limits**

#### **3.1 Aboyne Academy**

The current S1 Admission Limit is 140. The latest figures available for the number of in-zone P7 pupils who will require S1 places in session 2018/19 is 144. An Admission Limit of 150 for the 2018/19 S1 year group is therefore proposed.

#### **3.2 Alford Academy**

The current S1 Admission Limit is 130. The latest figure available for the number of in-zone P7 pupils who will require S1 places in session 2018/19 is 137. An Admission Limit of 145 for the 2018/19 S1 year group is therefore proposed.

#### **3.3 Kemnay Academy**

The current S1 Admission Limit is 180. The latest figure available for the number of in-zone P7 pupils who will require S1 places in session 2018/19 is 192. An Admission Limit of 200 for the 2018/19 S1 year group is therefore proposed.

#### **3.4 Mackie Academy**

The current S1 Admission Limit is 240. The latest figure available for the number of in-zone P7 pupils who will require S1 places in session 2018/19 is 249. An Admission Limit of 260 for the 2018/19 S1 year group is therefore proposed.

#### **3.5 Mearns Academy**

The current S1 Admission Limit is 130. The latest figure available for the number of in-zone P7 pupils who will require S1 places in session 2018/19 is 128. An Admission Limit of 140 for the 2018/19 S1 year group is therefore proposed.

#### **3.7 Meldrum Academy**

The current S1 Admission Limit is 180. The latest figure available for the number of in-zone P7 pupils who will require S1 places in session 2018/19 is 181. An Admission Limit of 190 for the 2018/19 S1 year group is therefore proposed.

3.8 The Head of Finance and Monitoring Officer within Business Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report and their comments are incorporated within the report and are satisfied that the report complies with the Scheme of Governance and relevant legislation.

### **4. Scheme of Governance**

4.1 The Committee is able to consider this item in terms of Section E 3.1a of the List of Committee Powers in Part 2A of the Scheme of Governance as it relates to setting school capacities, considering available accommodation and capping schools rolls.

## **5. Implications and Risk**

- 5.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required because pupils will continue to be educated in line with nationally agreed accommodation standards, and by changing school capacities there will not be a differential impact on any of the protected characteristics.
- 5.2 There are no direct staffing and financial implications arising from this paper.
- 5.3 The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Corporate Level: Social risk (demographic change). The following Risks have been identified as relevant to this matter on a Strategic Level: A Future Fit E&CS Estate.
- 5.4 There is no requirement for a Town Centre Impact Assessment.

**Maria Walker**  
**Director of Education & Children's Services**

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Date: 8<sup>th</sup> December 2017

APPENDIX 1

School	Published Capacity	Working Capacity	S1 current Admission Limit	Average change in roll 2015-2018 S1 to S4	Total of in zone S1 cohort 2018	Recommended S1 Admission Limit 2018-	Recommended Reserved Places S1 to S4
Aboyne	750	750	140	2	144	150	2
Alford	700	700	130	7	137	145	7
Banchory	1000	1150 (T)	160	2	153	160	2
Banff	1220	1220	240	-4	154	240	2
Ellon	1300	1300	240	2	171	240	2
Fraserburgh	1510	1510	300	-2	229	300	2
Inverurie	1100	1300 (T)	240	10	193	240	10
Kemnay	700	1180 (T)	180	4	192	200	4
Mackie	1290	1640 (T)	240	5	249	260	5
Mearns	700	700	130	5	128	140	5
Meldrum	980	980	180	5	181	190	5
Mintlaw	900	900	180	2	174	180	2
The Gordon Schools	980	1160 (T)	160	-1	123	160	2
Peterhead	1700	1700	340	2	270	340	2
Portlethen	970	970	180	10	137	180	10
Turriff	840	870 (T)	160	3	118	160	4
Westhill	1000	1000	180	-4	125	180	2