



ILKLEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL

A MOORLANDS LEARNING TRUST ACADEMY

Consultation on Proposed Changes to the Oversubscription Criteria for Out of Area Admissions to Ilkley Grammar School (for admission from September 2027)

Dear Stakeholders,

We are writing to inform you that a consultation is now open to seek your views on proposed changes to the oversubscription criteria for out of area admissions at Ilkley Grammar School, effective from September 2027.

Please note that these proposed changes **do not affect**:

- The school's Published Admission Number (PAN) for years 7–11, which remains at 300
- Criteria 1–5 of the existing oversubscription arrangements, including the ranking and prioritisation of children who reside within the Priority 1 or Priority 2 catchment areas
- The current priority for children with siblings already attending the school in years 7–10

The proposed changes apply **only to applicants who live outside the school's catchment areas and who do not have a sibling who is attending the school** at the time of application in years 7–10.

Proposed Amendments to the Oversubscription Criteria

Rather than prioritising out of area children who do not have a sibling just based on straight-line distance, it is proposed that the following criteria are introduced for out of area admissions (applicable after current criteria 1–5):

Criterion 6:

Children whose home address is outside of the school's priority admission area and who are currently on roll at a Trust school within the Priority 1 catchment area (Ashlands Primary School and Burley Oaks Primary School).

Criterion 7:

Children whose home address is outside of the school's priority admission area and who are currently on roll at a Trust school within the Priority 2 catchment area (Menston Primary School).

Criterion 8:

Children of staff employed at Ilkley Grammar School who have been in post for two or more years at the time of application and/or who have been recently appointed to a post with a demonstrable skill shortage.

A skill shortage is defined as:

- For teaching staff: a subject area identified nationally or locally as facing a shortage of appropriately qualified teachers.
- For associate staff: a role that has remained vacant for an extended period, despite multiple recruitment attempts.

Criterion 9:

All other applicants whose home address is outside the school's priority admission area.

Rationale for the Proposed Changes



Moorlands
Learning Trust

Headteacher: Mrs Carly Purnell – Ilkley Grammar School

Cowpasture Road Ilkley West Yorkshire LS29 8TR t: 01943 608424 e: admin@igs.mlt.co.uk

The Academy Trust is a Company incorporated in England and Wales, limited by guarantee with registered Company number 076638





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Trust Schools

The Trust is committed to ensuring strong continuity of education across its schools and to taking collective responsibility for all children within the Trust. Giving priority to pupils who currently attend named Trust primary schools for out of area, non-sibling places reflects this commitment.

This approach helps maintain existing friendship groups, supports seamless curriculum and pastoral transition, and reinforces the shared ethos and values across our schools.

Please note: In accordance with the School Admissions Code, Trust schools must be explicitly named in the criteria. Should another school within the catchment area join the Trust in the future, a further consultation process would be required before including it within Criterion 6 or 7.

Children of Staff

Providing priority for the children of staff who live out of catchment is a common practice nationally. It recognises the significant contribution of staff to the life of the school and supports both recruitment and retention.

Across the country, schools are facing ongoing challenges in attracting and retaining teachers, particularly in specialist subject areas such as mathematics, science, computing and technology, as well as in certain support roles.

While Ilkley Grammar School currently benefits from a stable and skilled workforce and strong recruitment, this change would help to further strengthen staff retention, encourage the recruitment of high-quality candidates, and enhance staff morale and sense of belonging within the school community.

Consultation Period and Comments

The consultation will run from Wednesday 19th November 2025 until 21st January 2026, and we welcome your feedback on these proposed changes.

Any comments or suggestions can be made to the following e-mail address:
consultation@igs.mlt.co.uk

If you wish to send a response by post, please send it to Ilkley Grammar School directly: Admissions Consultation, Ilkley Grammar School, Cowpasture Road, Ilkley, LS29 8TR

All responses will be considered by the Local Governing Body and the Trustees of Moorlands Learning Trust before the admissions arrangements are formally determined.

Thank you for taking the time to engage with this consultation.

Carly Purnell
Headteacher



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