

Consultation to reduce Mildenhall College Academy's Published Admission Number from September 2025

Introduction

The Academy Transformation Trust is consulting on a reduction in the published admission number (PAN) at Mildenhall College Academy from 270 to 210 effective from 1st September 2025.

The current PAN for Mildenhall College Academy of 270 was originally agreed on the basis of the full building design being delivered to accommodate this growth. As yet, however, the final phase of the building has not yet begun construction, leaving the academy with only 8,208m² for Key Stages 3 and 4. This year, the roll has grown to 1,204, for which the DfE estimates a *minimum* of 8,635m² is needed to accommodate these students safely and efficiently – a shortfall of 427m². With a further 270 pupils admitted to Year 7 in 2024, this shortfall will grow to 849 m².

Despite the addition of four temporary classrooms this year, this shortfall is felt particularly acutely at break, lunchtime and during movement between lessons. There is also a shortage of specialist teaching rooms. A PAN of 210 from 2025 will gradually reduce the constraints on space over time. At the point in the future when the final phase of the building is delivered, we will be in a position to grow the PAN again.

The proposed change will enhance the ability of the academy's senior leadership, our Trust Board and our Education Directorate to carry out impactful school improvement and continue the academy's journey to an outstanding Ofsted. The change will assist the Trust Board in supporting resource management and planning to ensure both the academy and its learning environment remain both viable and suitable for the delivery of a high standard of education in the space available.

No pupil who already has a place at the academy will be affected by this proposal.

Specific Proposal

The Academy Transformation Trust's Board and Mildenhall College Academy are proposing to reduce the published admission number from 270 to 210 effective from September 1st, 2025. This means the number of places available for pupils in Year 7 will be 210 in 2025 and will remain at 210 for all subsequent Year 7 cohorts going forward until the final phase of the building is delivered.

Academy Transformation Trust's Board and Mildenhall College Academy have considered a number of key factors in deciding to hold a consultation in regard to the proposal:

- The ability of the academy to support pupil place planning and provide sufficient places for local pupils.
- The ability of the learning environment to support the highest standard of school improvement and delivery of education.
- Management and resource planning and its sufficiency in supporting the required pupil cohorts.
- Capacity within the academy will increase, providing a more effective education to the pupils on roll.

Academy Transformation Trust is committed to supporting pupil place planning within each local authority where we operate and would consider reviewing the planned admission number in future should the need in area require this support.

Consultation period

The consultation period is running for six working weeks from Friday 24th November 2023, until Friday 19th January 2024.



Sir Nick Weller

CEO, Academy Transformation Trust

Who is being consulted

The consultation of this proposal is for the attention of the following:

- Local parents with children at the school or under school age
- Residents/people in the area with an interest in the proposal
- All other relevant admission authorities within the local area
- The local authority
- Neighbouring local authorities.

How to respond

Academy transformation Trust and The Mildenhall College Academy welcome your views on this proposal, and you can engage in the following ways:

Email: consultations@attrust.org.uk with the subject header **Mildenhall College PAN**

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