John Kyrle High School & Sixth Form Centre

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CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2028/29

Proposed reduction in the Year 7 Published Admission Number

Proposal: To reduce the Year 7 PAN from 240 to 210 from September 2028

Consultation period: 23 November 2026 to 11 January 2027

About this consultation

Heart of Mercia Multi-Academy Trust is the admission authority for John Kyrle High School. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, admission authorities must consult when changes to admission arrangements are proposed. The Trust is therefore consulting on the proposed admission arrangements for the 2028/29 academic year.

John Kyrle High School is a strong and well-regarded local school, committed to providing an excellent education and serving families across Ross-on-Wye and the surrounding area. The aim of this proposal is to align the school's admission number with projected local demand while protecting the quality, breadth and long-term sustainability of its educational provision.

The proposed change

The Trust proposes to reduce the Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 7 from 240 to 210 places, from September 2028. This would move the school from eight forms of entry to seven. No other change is proposed to the school's admission arrangements or oversubscription criteria.

Why is the change proposed?

The proposal follows consideration of current and projected pupil numbers, local demographic trends and the school's capacity to plan its curriculum, staffing and resources effectively.

- Lower birth rates and smaller primary cohorts are reducing demand for secondary school places locally.
- John Kyrle admitted 185 pupils to Year 7 in September 2026, compared with the current PAN of 240.
- Herefordshire Council forecasts an intake of 194 pupils in September 2028. A PAN of 210 would remain above this forecast and retain capacity for local demand.
- A seven-form entry model would support more stable curriculum, staffing and resource planning, helping the school sustain a broad, high-quality offer.

The proposed PAN of 210 is a maximum admission number, not a target or a limit on applications. Families would continue to be able to apply for a place at John Kyrle High School through the normal coordinated admissions process.

What would the change mean?

If approved, the change would:

- apply only to pupils seeking admission to Year 7 from September 2028;
- have no effect on pupils already attending John Kyrle High School;
- have no effect on the September 2027 Year 7 intake;
- make no change to the school's oversubscription criteria; and
- make no other change to the proposed admission arrangements for 2028/29.

Proposed admission arrangements

The complete proposed admission arrangements for 2028/29 should be read alongside this consultation notice: Proposed Admission Arrangements 2028/29.

Who is invited to respond?

The consultation is open to parents and carers, local residents, local schools, other admission authorities, Herefordshire Council, neighbouring local authorities, diocesan bodies and any other interested party. We welcome comments in support of the proposal as well as concerns, representations or objections.

How to respond

Please submit your response by 11 January 2027 using the online consultation form:
John Kyrle High School: PAN Reduction Consultation 2028/29 - response form

Alternatively, responses may be sent by post to:
Clerk to the Governors
John Kyrle High School
Ross-on-Wye
HR9 7ET

If you require the consultation information or response form in an alternative format, please contact John Kyrle High School. Responses should focus on the proposed admission arrangements and will be handled in accordance with the school and Trust's data protection arrangements.

What happens next?

After the consultation closes, Heart of Mercia Multi-Academy Trust will consider all responses before determining the admission arrangements for 2028/29. The admission arrangements must be formally determined by 28 February 2027. The final determined arrangements and the outcome of the consultation will then be published.

Key dates

Stage	Date
Consultation opens	23 November 2026
Consultation closes	11 January 2027
Admission arrangements determined by	28 February 2027
Determined admission arrangements published by	15 March 2027
Proposed new PAN takes effect	September 2028