

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

---

**REPORT OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
21 APRIL 1999**

---

**NOTE:** Copies of the report mentioned below has been sent to all members of the Education Committee. If you have any queries on this report please contact Elaine Shell, Room 222, County Secretary's Department, County Hall, Hertford. (Telephone: 01992 555563)

**SECONDARY TRANSFER : ADMISSION RULES FOR COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOLS FOR SEPTEMBER 2000, CO-ORDINATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2000, AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURES FOR 2001/2002 ADMISSIONS**

The Committee have received a report on the outcome of the consultation with schools, local councils, and admissions forums about the rules to be used in the event of the oversubscription of community secondary schools and Tring Voluntary Controlled School.

The report also considered what steps should be taken if admitting authorities could not agree on a co-ordination scheme to be used for September 2000 entry, and informed the Committee about the Government's timetable for putting into place consultative arrangements for September 2001/2002 admissions and the 'Education (Relevant Area for consultation on Admission Arrangements) Regulations 1999'.

The Committee have now approved admission rules for community secondary schools and Tring School for September 2000.

Also approved are arrangements for ensuring that admission to secondary schools in 2000 are co-ordinated. The Director of Education has been authorised to lodge an objection with the Adjudicator if any admitting authority in the County determining admission arrangements for September 2000 does not include a co-ordinated secondary transfer scheme as proposed by the County Council. It was also agreed that consideration be given to consulting with other admitting authorities with a view to extending the closing date of the clearing house in order properly to co-ordinate admissions from grant maintained and voluntary aided schools.

The Director of Education has been authorised, in consultation with the Student Services Panel, to prepare and consult on proposals for 'relevant areas' as required by the 1999 Regulations. The results will be reported to the Education Operations Sub-Committee in July, the Sub-Committee having been authorised by the Committee to determine the 'relevant areas' for admissions consultation. (Subsequent note : it is now likely that this will be considered at a full meeting of the Committee to take place in July.)

The Committee have also agreed that, unless objections are received from the DfEE, the Education Department should publish the percentages of parents who obtained first, second or third rankings for the County as a whole and for each district. Secondary schools will be consulted on the publication of the ranking percentages for each school, so that, if appropriate, these figures can be made available for parents choosing schools in the Autumn term. Primary schools will be consulted, on the publication of statistics showing, by primary school, allocations to ranked secondary schools.

It was further agreed that the following issues be considered by the Student Services Panel before consultation on the rules for entry to secondary schools in September 2001 takes place:-

- whether the definition of 'alternative school' should include denominational schools;
- whether the definition of 'traditional areas' for single sex schools should be modified; and
- how parents can be fully consulted about the process and rules.

**R Mays  
Chairman**

**County Hall  
Hertford  
21 April 1999**