Bradford Diocesan Academies Trust

Consultation on Proposed Changes to Admission Arrangements at The Academy at St James

The purpose of this communication it to outline the proposed changes to the admission arrangements for the Academy at St James for the academic year 2027.

The Academy at St James and BDAT are proposing to introduce an additional oversubscription criterion. This new criterion would give priority to children who, at the date of admission, are attending the Nursery at the Academy at St James School.

The proposed amendment aims to support continuity of education for children already settled in the school environment and strengthen the transition from nursery to Reception, ensuring stability and wellbeing of pupils. The change reflects the commitment to providing a consistent and supportive educational journey for all children.

In accordance with the School Admissions Code (2021), the Academy at St James and BDAT are consulting with key stakeholders, including:

- The Academy at St James School, Staff
- Parents/carers of current pupils and prospective parents of pupils
- All other Admission Authorities within the District including Bradford LA.
- Neighbouring Local Authorities
- Councillors and MPs
- Trade Unions
- Anyone else who has an interest in the proposed changes

A copy of the proposal has been published on the BDAT and The Academy at St James website.

This consultation will run for six weeks from Monday 1st December 2025 to Friday 23rd January 2026, after which time any representations received will be carefully considered and a report taken to BDAT for a decision to be made on the addition of the oversubscription criteria to give priority to children who, on the date of admission, are pupils at the Academy at St James school. Any questions in relation to the consultation should be sent to the school via School contact email address. office@stjames.bdat-academies.org