

Bishop Road Primary School

Bishop Road, Bristol BS7 8LS



Head Teacher: Gillian Powe

Deputy Head Teacher: Joe Emissah

Friday 20th December 2024

Head Teacher Letter No.3/24-25

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you all so much for attending our wonderful Christmas celebrations this season. They were such happy and rewarding occasions for all concerned and your enthusiasm and commitment is exciting to see.

I am sure children will remember these occasions for many years to come. Well done to everyone!

Thank you for your charitable donations. We will send the following sums on behalf of the children at Bishop Road.

Bristol Soup Run Trust	£1,344.68
Barnardo's	£1,344.68

I enclose the date list for Terms 3 and 4 2025 for your information.

This is a busy but hopeful and happy time of year and I would like to wish you all many joyful moments and safe travelling over the holidays.

Thank you all for your goodwill and kindness extended to the school and the community. We will see you all again on Monday 6th January 2025.

Yours sincerely,



Gillian Powe
Head Teacher

Enc: Important Information from BCC
Important Dates for Parents



Important Information from Bristol City Council

I received notification on Tuesday from the Local Authority that they have decided to consult on reducing our pupil admission number (P.A.N.). From 2026 onwards we will be open to 90 new applications in reception in place of our present 120. Gradually we will be reducing to 3 forms of entry. Importantly this does not effect this year's application round, which will still have 120 places.

The consultation is now open and this is the link to the document.

<http://www.ask.bristol.gov.uk/consultation-for-school-admission-arrangements-2026-2027>

Please also inform any prospective parents of the consultation since they may well wish to contribute to it. The Christmas period is not the optimum time for this process to take place, but it is important that people are aware of it.

The consultation closes on Friday 31st January 2025.





Consultation for School Admission Arrangements 2026/2027

Why are we consulting?

School Admission Arrangements

Admission Arrangements outline how school places will be allocated at each school setting, including the school's over-subscription criteria which is used when schools receive more applications than places available.

For all community and voluntary controlled schools, arrangements are determined by the Local Authority. For all other schools this is the responsibility of the individual school or academy trust.

Published Admission Number (PAN) Reductions at Bishop Road Primary School

PAN refers to the maximum number places that can be offered at a school for each year group.

- Bristol City Council are proposing reducing PAN at Bishop Road from 120 to 90 from 2026/2027.

Between 2005 and 2017 Bristol experienced a significant and ongoing increase in the demand for primary school places, largely caused by rising birth rates. As a result of this and to ensure there were enough school places for every child who needed one, primary school provision was expanded with many of our schools increasing their site capacities and some new schools were opened.

Since 2017, birth rates across the city have been in decline and Bristol now faces the significant issue of surplus primary school places.

A considerable number of our primary schools are now undersubscribed. By 2026, the LA forecast a citywide surplus of over 1,000 allocatable reception year places. This puts smaller schools at risk of being financially unsustainable.

The LA has reviewed the potential reduction in size of some of our largest schools though PAN reductions to even the school place numbers across geographical areas. In making this proposal we have also considered historic first choice places and other primary schools within a short distance of the school.

The LA understands this is difficult decision and we have considered the needs of the schools and the families involved. Currently over 97% of families are allocated one of their top three primary school choices, 91% receiving their first choice. Due to falling demand, the potential to receive an offer at a preferred local primary school will remain very high.

We welcome the proposals from a number of academy schools also consulting on reducing their PAN. This is a challenge that we face as a city and one that we are keen to respond to as a city.

Organising the city's schools by offering a sustainable number of places will be an ongoing challenge. Acting now and continuing to review available places each year, while pupil numbers are predicted to be declining, will help larger schools plan for a falling roll with regards to staffing and resources as



well as greater enhance the potential survival of our small schools. Keeping schools open is important to our local communities, it also provides the flexibility to increase places, should demand rise again in the future.

How to get involved

If you would like to comment on the proposed arrangements please complete the online feedback form on our ASK Bristol Consultation Page www.ask.bristol.gov.uk/consultation-for-school-admission-arrangements-2026-2027

Alternatively, email james.last@bristol.gov.uk or post to James Last, School Organisation, Bristol City Council, City Hall, PO Box 3399

The consultation will run until 31st January 2025

What happens next?

Once the consultation period has ended, feedback will be reviewed, and the arrangements will be determined and published on the Bristol City Council website by 15th March 2025.

Important Dates for Parents, Terms 3/4 2025



Term 3 – 6.1.25 – 14.2.25

JANUARY 2025

Monday 6th Return to School

Friday 17th Whole School Dress up Day – Inventors & Inventions

Term 4 – 24.2.25 – 4.4.25

FEBRUARY

Wednesday 12th Late Parents' Evening 4pm – 8pm

Thursday 13th Early Parents' Evening 4pm – 6pm

Friday 14th Last day of Term

Monday 24th Return to School

Monday 24th After School Clubs Resume

MARCH

Tuesday 4th Year 1 Bedtime Books – 5pm – 5.45pm

Wednesday 5th Year 2 Bedtime Books – 5pm – 5.45pm

Friday 7th Whole School Book Dress up Day

Friday 7th Book Fair – 3.30 – 4.15pm

Saturday 22nd PTFA Beginners' Ball

April

Friday 4th Last day of Term

Tuesday 22nd Return to School
