

30th January 2025

Change to Planned Admission Number (PAN) at Cherry Tree Academy

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of the Community,

We are writing to inform you that the trustees of Waterton Academy Trust have now approved the proposal to reduce the Planned Admission Number (PAN) for Cherry Tree Academy.

From the 2026/27 academic year, the PAN for Reception will be reduced from 45 to 30 pupils. This decision was made following a thorough consultation process, which ran from December 2024 to January 2025, and after careful consideration of current and forecasted pupil numbers, local demographic trends, and the feedback from the local authority.

Why is the PAN being reduced?

The reduction in PAN reflects the ongoing decline in local birth rates and the forecasted pupil numbers in the area. This change ensures that Cherry Tree Academy can better align resources with actual demand for places, allowing us to provide high-quality education and a stable, well-planned learning environment for all pupils.

What does this mean?

- The change will take effect starting with the Reception intake in September 2026.
- Existing pupils and those joining the school before this date will not be affected.
- The reduction will enable us to maintain manageable class sizes, support individual pupil needs more effectively, and ensure financial sustainability for the school.

Commitment to Annual Review

The local authority has confirmed its support for the decision, subject to an annual review of the availability of places in other year groups during the transition period. This review will ensure that families in the community continue to have access to suitable school places.

We want to thank all members of our community for your ongoing support as we make this important change to benefit our school and pupils.

If you have any questions or would like further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact us via email at cherrytreeoffice@watertonacademytrust.org or by calling the school office at 01924 967603.

Designated Person for Safeguarding: Miss L Shephard

Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding: Mr A Dawson, Mrs S Cannon and Ms K King

If you are worried a child is at risk of harm, please contact: Social Care Direct on 01924 303456



Cherry Tree Academy

Growth and Excellence, Every Day



Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Dawson".

Adam Dawson
Headteacher
Cherry Tree Academy

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Deputy Designated Person for Safeguarding: Mr A Dawson, Mrs S Cannon and Ms K King

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Headteacher: Mr A Dawson



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cherrytreeacademy.org



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