



BRADGATE
Education Partnership

Operational capacity limits

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Operational Capacity

2025/2026 academic year

Church Hill Infant School

Trustees on 12th February 2025 agreed to set operational capacity at Churchill Infants for Yr 2 of 60 pupils.

The operational capacity limit will be in force for the whole of the 2025/2026 academic year.

The capacity limit has been set in order to prevent a breach of infant class size and to prevent any unsustainable financial challenges.

Eastfield Primary School

Trustees on 12th February 2025 agreed to set operational capacity at Eastfield Yr 5 of 34 pupils.

Eastfield has a PAN for 60, however the operational capacity limit is being set in order to allow the school to retain a single large class of 34 pupils as these pupils move towards KS2 assessments and to avoid any unsustainable financial challenges.

An operational capacity has been set for the academic year 2025/2026 in Yr 5 at Eastfield Primary.

This operational capacity will remain in place for the academic year 2026/2027 for this year group in Yr6 unless pupil numbers in this class significantly change.

This capacity limit is due to environmental factors, in particular a large class above 34 pupils where there are limitations on the class space and furniture that is appropriate for them. The operational limit of 34 will ensure suitable provision is made for children to be able to make progress from their starting points and because accepting pupils above the operational limit of 34 will "prejudice the effective education of pupils".

Highgate Primary School

Trustees on 12th February 2025 agreed to set operational capacities at Highgate of 22 pupils in Yr1 and 35 pupils in Year 5.

The operational capacity limits are being set in order to ensure that the school does not breach the infant class size limits and to ensure the school is finally viable.



Mercenfeld

Operational capacities have been set for the academic year 2025/2026 in Yrs 1-6 at Mercenfeld Primary.

This means that the school will accept pupils into classes where there are spaces, but cannot for operational reasons accept more than 30 pupils in each class. This action has been taken to secure effective education for those pupils already at Mercenfeld and because accepting pupils above the limit of 30 will "prejudice the effective education of pupils"

Mountfields Lodge Primary School

On 12th February 2025 trustees approved a further operational capacity limit for the academic year 2025/2026 of:

60 in Yr1

60 in Yr 2

This limit has been set in order to prevent the school breaching the infant class -size limits.

The Roundhill Academy

Trustees on 12th February 2025 agreed to set operational capacities at The Roundhill Academy of 150 pupils in Yr10 and 170 pupils in Year 11.

The operational capacity limit will run for the whole of the 2025/2026 academic year.

The school needs to set these operational limits as the delivery of practical subjects such as Food & DT are restricted by classroom size; Any additional pupils would require additional staff which would create a financially unviable situation.

Wreake Valley Academy

An operational capacity for the remainder of 2025/2026 has been set for year 9 at Wreake Valley Academy of 220 students due to multiple intersecting pressures. The cohort presents significant challenges all requiring intensive pastoral support.

Design Technology classes are already at capacity, and the school cannot add capacity without additional staff.

The school has been unable to recruit Teaching Assistants despite advertising since the academic year began, and this puts significant pressure on the school's ability to support those pupils with specific needs.



An operational capacity has been agreed for Year 10 of 200 students. The cohort faces similar challenges to Year 9. The combination of staffing constraints, inability to fill essential support roles, and other operational issues makes the current cohort size unsustainable for maintaining educational quality and statutory compliance.



2026/2027 academic year

Eastfield Primary School

On 7th July 2026, trustees ratified the following operation capacities for Eastfield Primary School in years 1-6.

Reception / Year 1 - 57 (2 classes of 30)

Year 2 - 43 (2 classes of 30)

Year 3/4 -84 (3 classes of 30)

Year 5 49 (2 classes of 30)

Year 6 - 34

This revised structure reflects a careful balance between pupil numbers, financial sustainability, and educational quality. It ensures staffing is deployed effectively, protects support where needed, and maintains appropriate class sizes. The model supports strong academic outcomes, particularly at key transition points, while continuing to prioritise pupils' wellbeing, stability, and relationships, ensuring that all children are well supported to succeed.

Mercenfeld Primary School

Operational capacities have been set for the academic year 2026/2027 in Yrs 1-6 at Mercenfeld Primary.

This means that the school will accept pupils into classes where there are spaces but cannot for operational reasons accept more than 30 pupils in each class. This action has been taken to secure effective education for those pupils already at Mercenfeld and because accepting pupils above the limit of 30 will "prejudice the effective education of pupils".

Mountfields Lodge Primary School

On 12th February 2025 trustees ratified the school's request for a reduction in the pupil admission number from 75 – 60. This applies to any pupils requesting admission to Mountfields Lodge for the normal 2026 admission round or in-year admissions following this.

Newtown Linford Primary School

On 4th June 2026 trustees approved an operational capacity request for 2026/2027, the Year 3-year group will be capped at 17 due to health and safety concerns. With the current PAN at 20 the KS2 class size could go up to 37 (currently 36). The extra numbers place strain on the school and staff at break and lunch times and in the classroom itself. There is limited space in the school, and we do not have the luxury of break out rooms or additional space to support the increased numbers. By reducing the number to 17, the KS2 class sizes will be limited to a maximum of 34.



Swallowdale Primary School

An operational capacity has been agreed by trustees on 4th June 2026 as follows. Current Year 2 (to be set at 46) and Year 3 children (to be set at 47) (Year 3 and Year 4 cohort in academic year of 2026-2027). Due to reduced NOR and the impact on the budget, a structure of three mixed Year 3 and 4 classes will be adopted in the new academic year. The classes will have more than 30 children per class based on existing numbers and will be situated in classrooms not suitable to accommodate beyond 30 children. Both cohorts also have a number of children with additional needs which require additional support and space which would not be possible with overcrowded rooms. This will prevent the curriculum or provision offered to existing children being negatively impacted due to growing class numbers.

The Roundhill Academy

On 13th April 2026 trustees ratified the school's request for an operational capacity limit as below.

The school have made the decision to set Occupational Capacity for 2026/27 in two year groups at The Roundhill Academy as follows:

Year 8: 120

Year 9: 120

This is due to staffing and timetable constraints and the need to budget effectively across the school. The school could not admit further students in either year group as the timetable has been set to enable adequate class sizes and for safety and Design and Food Technology lessons.