

Darnhall Primary School
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13th February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Governors at Darnhall Primary School recently applied to the Local Authority to reduce the School's Pupil Admission Number (PAN) from 65 to 45 and this has now been approved by CWaC. The PAN is the maximum number of pupils that a school is allowed to admit per year.

This is a strategic decision intended to enable the school to better serve the Darnhall community in the future. Over the last six years the school has grown from 200 to over 300 pupils as more and more families who want an excellent primary school in their own community choose to send their children to Darnhall. In 2013 and again in 2018 the school was graded as Good by Ofsted, who recognised Darnhall's excellent record in pupil progress in a caring and inclusive environment.

The school has invested in supporting the community through provision of a nursery for two and three year old children and this has recently been expanded to meet demand. Darnhall currently admits between 32 and 38 pupils per year; our ambition is to grow even more, however, with a PAN of 65, we will run out of physical space long before we approached that number. If we are not reaching or exceeding our PAN, the school is unable to access capital grant funding to improve the buildings to accommodate larger numbers.

Although it may on the face of it appear alarming to be reducing the PAN, in fact we are doing this as it is the only strategic option available to us to ensure that the school can continue to grow and meet our ambition; to continue to admit all children whose families choose Darnhall Primary School.

Richard Strachan
Chair of Governors
Darnhall Primary School

