BRICKHILL ROAD
WELLINGBOROUGH
NN8 3JH

PRINCIPAL: EMMA MERRY

T +44(0)1933 222830
E enquiries@weaversacademy.org.uk
www.weaversacademy.org.uk

WEAVERS ACADEMY
Creative Education Trust

23rd November 2026

CONSULTATION FOR PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2028/2029

The Admissions Code of Practice 2021 requires an Admissions Authority to consult each time it proposes to make significant changes to its admissions arrangements.

The Creative Education Trust (CET) is the Admissions Authority for the family of Academies within CET and, as such, administers the admission arrangements on behalf of the Academy Council of Weavers Academy. We are proposing to change our admissions policy to adopt the following changes to be in effect from September 2028:

- Reducing the Published Admissions Number (PAN) from 246 to 180

The reasons for proposing the reduction of the PAN are as follows:

- We have had a combination of estate constraints and accommodation loss due to the impact of a major flood in 2024 and increasing demands for SEND and intervention provision. The Admissions Authority's position is that the current PAN no longer reflects the Academy's sustainable operational capacity and that a PAN of 180 is more closely aligned to the facilities, specialist provision and support services available on site. Please see Appendix A for the context behind the above-mentioned constraints.

- Weavers Academy has also experienced a decline in the number of pupils joining the school, reflecting falling birth rates and changes in local demographics.

- However, we would be open to increasing PAN in line with demand in the future.

Accordingly, the Board of Directors of CET is undertaking this statutory consultation process with the parents and other stakeholders for Weavers Academy including:

- parents of children between the ages of five and eighteen;
- other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- all other admission authorities within the relevant area;

Creative Education Trust is a company limited by guarantee.
Registered in England and Wales no. 7617529
Registered Office: C/o The Milton Keynes Academy, Fulwoods Drive, Leadenhall, Milton Keynes MK6 5LA
Creative Education Trust is a charity, regulated by the Secretary of State for Education

- whichever of the governing body and the local authority who are not the admission authority; and
- any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority.

CET wishes to invite interested parties to take part in this consultation on the amendment of the Admission Policy for Weavers Academy – please see https://www.weaversacademy.org.uk for the proposed revised Admissions Policy. The consultation will take place for 6 term-time weeks between Monday 23rd November 2026 to Friday 15th January 2027.

Your views on any aspect of the admission arrangements will be sent to our Academy Council and the CET Board of Directors for consideration.

All responses received by the end of the consultation period will be carefully considered and will decide the admission arrangements for the school year 2028/2029. Once the arrangements have been determined by 28th February 2027, they will be published on the Academy's website by 15th March 2027.

We therefore invite you to take part in this consultation on the amendment to our admission policy. Your opinions are important, and we are keen to receive your comments on the arrangements before they are formally approved.

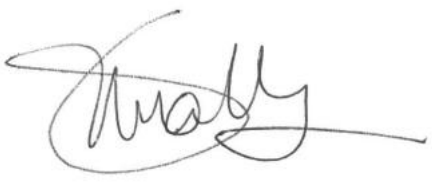
Comments may be submitted in the following ways:

Online at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WEAVERS28

By email to: consultation@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk

By post to: Ms Emma Merry, Principal, Weavers Academy, Brickhill Road, Wellingborough, NN8 3JH

Yours sincerely



EMMA MERRY
PRINCIPAL
WEAVERS ACADEMY

Appendix A – Context for change

1. Facilities and Accommodation Constraints

The Academy is currently operating with a Number on Roll of approximately 1,228 pupils and continues to experience significant pressure on accommodation and facilities.

The school has been required to rely on temporary accommodation to maintain educational provision because of estate and site issues, not because of pupil expansion.

Key facts:

- Two temporary accommodation buildings were installed in September 2022 to mitigate accommodation constraints affecting the permanent estate.
- A three-storey modular building was commissioned in September 2024 following significant flood damage affecting educational accommodation.
- These buildings represent mitigation and replacement accommodation and should not be regarded as additional capacity available for future expansion.

The continued reliance on temporary accommodation demonstrates that the permanent estate is under pressure and lacks the flexibility to sustain current admission levels over the long term.

2. Impact of the 2024 Flood

A significant flood event affected parts of the Academy estate during 2024.
As a consequence:

- Accommodation became unavailable or unsuitable for educational use.
- Educational provision had to be protected through the provision of replacement accommodation.
- The Trust commissioned a three-storey modular building that became operational in September 2024.

The flood exposed weaknesses in the resilience of the estate and reinforced concerns regarding the Academy's ability to continue operating effectively at its current admission number.

3. Ageing Buildings and Estate Condition

An independent structural survey undertaken by Barker Associates concluded that key elements of the Academy estate have reached the end of their intended design life. The report states:

"The structure is likely over 60 years old and has therefore reached the end of its design life."

Issues identified include:

- Movement within concrete cladding systems.
- Water ingress.
- Deteriorating weatherproofing systems.
- Concrete spalling.
- Continuing deterioration risks.

Although the buildings remain safe for occupation, the evidence demonstrates that the estate cannot be relied upon to provide unrestricted capacity for continued operation at the current PAN.

4. Increasing Demand for SEND and Specialist Provision

The Academy has experienced increasing levels of pupil need and vulnerability.

Accommodation is increasingly required for:

- SEND interventions.
- Literacy and numeracy support.
- Small-group teaching.
- Behaviour support.
- Safeguarding interventions.
- Reintegration programmes.
- Alternative provision.

The Academy's internal alternative provision, the POD, is currently operating at full capacity.

Accommodation that would historically have been available for mainstream teaching is increasingly being utilised to fulfil statutory duties associated with SEND, safeguarding and inclusion.

5. Safeguarding and Community Need

The Academy serves a community with significant levels of vulnerability and deprivation. The Academy Self Evaluation reports: "Frequent high-profile safeguarding issues" and "A high number of families living in poverty, with a higher than national average crime rate in the local community."

These factors generate increased demand for:

- Family support.
- Safeguarding provision.
- Pastoral intervention.
- Alternative provision.

- Attendance support.
- Behaviour support.

Such services require specialist accommodation and place additional pressure on available facilities.

6. Protecting School Improvement

The Academy is demonstrating a positive improvement trajectory despite considerable challenges.

Recent successes include:

- Attendance improved by 2.42%.
- Persistent absence reduced by 5.2%.
- Suspensions reduced by 44%.
- Literacy outcomes improved.
- Disadvantaged outcomes improved.
- 97% parental recommendation rate.
- 98% of parents reporting the school is well led.

The Academy's self-evaluation concludes: "The school's improvement trajectory is demonstrably positive."

Reducing the PAN would support the continuation of this improvement by ensuring that admissions remain aligned with available facilities and specialist support capacity.

Overall Conclusion

The case for reducing the PAN from 246 to 180 is based on the cumulative impact of:

- Significant estate and facilities constraints.
- Reliance on temporary accommodation since 2022.
- The impact of the 2024 flood.
- Ageing buildings and structural challenges.
- Increasing SEND and inclusion requirements.
- A fully utilised POD provision.
- Growing safeguarding and pastoral demands.
- The need to maintain educational standards and school improvement.

The strongest admissions argument is therefore: The Academy's effective educational capacity has been reduced by site, accommodation and facilities constraints, whilst demand for specialist provision has increased significantly. A PAN of 180 more accurately reflects the Academy's sustainable operational capacity and its ability to provide safe, inclusive and high-quality education for all pupils.