



Glasgow City Council
City Administration Committee

Item 2

24th October 2024

Report by Councillor Christina Cannon, City Convener for Education and Early Years

Contact: Lorna Goldie, Head of Resources

PROPOSALS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL P1 NUMBERS AND SECONDARY SCHOOL S1 NUMBERS FOR SESSION 2025/26

Purpose of Report:

This report seeks approval from the City Administration Committee to apply P1 capping limits in primary schools (P1 numbers) and S1 capping limits for secondary schools (S1 numbers) for session 2025/26.

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to:

- approve the maximum P1 intakes in primary schools as noted in Appendix 1 for session 2025/26.
- approve the S1 maximum intakes in secondary schools as noted in Appendix 2 for session 2025/26.
- authorise the Executive Director of Education to amend the P1 and S1 capping limits in the circumstances outlined in paragraphs 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7 and 4.12.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes No consulted: Yes No

1 Background

- 1.1 In response to the predicted changes in the school age population across the city over the coming decade and beyond, there is a need to manage the education estate effectively at both strategic and operational levels to ensure that there is adequate capacity to meet the changing demand for places in the city's primary and secondary schools.
- 1.2 The primary age population has been increasing over the last ten years with the future consequential effect on the secondary school aged population. Primary school roll projections are forecasting a 9% decrease in Primary school rolls over the next 10 years.
- 1.3 In order to manage the education estate effectively, the following factors need to be taken into account:
 - The current capacities of the city's primary and secondary schools
 - The forecast demand for catchment area places over the coming years based on birth rates, inward/outward migration and planned housing developments
 - The current and predicted pattern of placing requests, into and out-with the city and between schools within the city boundaries
- 1.4 In October 2014 the Scottish Government issued national guidance on determining the capacity of primary schools. In doing so, this ensures a consistency and transparency of practice that aims to protect, as far as possible, flexibility to adopt a variety of learning and teaching styles in line with the expectations of a "Curriculum for Excellence".
- 1.5 The national guidance has been used to re-determine the capacities of the Council's primary schools and their maximum P1 intakes. Details of the re-determined P1 maximum intakes for all primary schools are contained in Appendix 1.

2. Operational Management of the Education Estate

- 2.1 At an operational level the Council is required to plan for the sufficiency of primary and secondary school places across the city on a rolling annual basis with priority given to children and young people residing within the defined catchment areas. Having ensured that catchment area needs can be met, then placing requests are approved in line with legislation and the Council's placing request priority criteria.
- 2.2 In 2014/15 the Council took the decision to use the provisions within the placing request legislation to reserve places for catchment area children and young people where there was a demonstrable need due to enrolment patterns beyond the normal enrolment timetable or where there is future demand forecast due to, for example, new housing developments. The Reserved Places 2025 2026 Committee Report provides full details of proposed reserve spaces for Primary schools.
- 2.3 This alone, however, will not ensure that adequate capacity is maintained in

certain schools across the city due to a range of factors including:

- the overall capacity of the school
- the desire to maintain a level of flexible spaces/rooms to ensure that a range of learning and teaching approaches can be utilised in line with the principles of a Curriculum for Excellence
- the complexities of varying class size maxima that determine class organisation year on year
- the capacity of specialist accommodation in secondary schools, e.g. science, technical and home economics, physical education
- the demand for placing requests
- the general trend of pupil population growth predicted over the medium to long term
- Overseas enrolments

3. Annual Summary of P1 and S1 transitions for August 2024

3.1.1. A total of 5724 P1 enrolments were processed for start of session in August 2024

3.1.2 A total of 5825 P7 transitions for S1 in August 2024 were processed, the table in Appendix 2 provides a detailed summary by school

3.1.3 Some schools were unable to accommodate the number of pupils transferring and in these instances an oversubscription or local school full process was require. The key points to note are

- Oversubscription exercises were required for the Glendale Gaelic, Glasgow Gaelic Primary and Calton Gaelic (NE Annex) schools in January as available places initially exceeded catchment enrolments. Pupils were placed at alternative GME establishments where possible or their catchment non GME school.
- Where an increase in capacity is possible without impacting future years intake, then the Head of Service can approve an increase.
 - It was necessary to increase capacity for 4 primary schools to accommodate catchment pupils during the session. However due to subsequent movement only 2 schools (Riverbank and Wallacewell Primary schools) remain above their agreed cap.
 - It was necessary to increase capacity for 1 Secondary school, Smithycroft Secondary, to accommodate catchment pupils during the session. S1 capacity was increased from 180 to 200.
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- Due to late catchment enrolments , at various points during the P1 exercise 31 Primary schools could not accommodate a total of 191 catchment enrolments leading to the Local School Full process being invoked. The majority of these were resolved due to subsequent movement of children across the estate either by granting of placing requests, pupils moving house or placing requests granted out with authority. By 31st July only 10 schools had waiting lists for a total of 19 catchment children, an overall reduction of 90%. This demonstrates the fluidity and movement of children throughout the session.

The table below provides a geographic breakdown

Waiting List Info as at August 2024	2024/2025 Annual Exercise
North East	Number
Number of Establishments with waiting list	5
Total Number of children on waiting list	14

North West	Number
Number of Establishments with waiting list	1
Total Number of children on waiting list	1

South	Number
Number of Establishments with waiting list	4
Total Number of children on waiting list	4

City Information	Number
Total Number of Establishments with waiting list	10
Total Number of children on waiting list	19

Total LSF exercise	2024/2025 Annual Exercise
North East	Number
Number of Establishments with waiting list	9
Total Number of children on waiting list	46

North West	Number
Number of Establishments with waiting list	7
Total Number of children on waiting list	31

South	Number
Number of Establishments with waiting list	15
Total Number of children on waiting list	114

City Information	Number
Total Number of Establishments with waiting list	31
Total Number of children on waiting list	191

- All catchment children in the Secondary sector were placed and there was no requirement for Local School Full in any of the 30 Secondary schools

3.2 Placing Requests

3.2.1 A total of 3792 Placing requests were received, of which 52% were Primary (P1) 48% were Secondary.(S1). The table below provides a summary of placing requests and outcomes.

SUMMARY OF PLACING REQUESTS - ANNUAL EXERCISE - P1/S1 INTAKE AUGUST 2024

	2024 Annual Exercise	%
Total Placing Requests/Received	3792	
Primary	1977	
Secondary	1815	
Total Placing Requests Granted	2282	60% of total PR's received
Primary	1290	
Secondary	992	
Total Placing Requests Refused	901	24% of total PR's received
Primary	232	
Secondary	669	
Withdrawn/Unnecessary/Duplicate	609	16% of total PR's received
Primary	455	
Secondary	154	

3.2.2 Committee Services received a total of 395 appeals against placing request refusals for P1 And S1 in August 2024. Should spaces become available in schools with appeal prior to appeal date they are offered to appellants based on placing request ranking criteria, 58% of appeals received were able to be placed. prior to appeal hearing.

The table below provides a summary of appeals and outcomes

PLACING REQUEST APPEALS	2024 Annual Exercise	%	
Total Appeals Received	395	44%	of total PR's refused
Total Appeals not heard as placed	230	58%	of total PR's appealed
Total Appeals withdrawn by parent prior to hearing	38	10%	of total PR's appealed
Total Appeals Remaining	127	32%	of total PR's appealed
Total Appeals upheld	5	4%	of total appeals heard
Total Appeals not upheld	109	86%	of total appeals heard
Total Appeals not yet heard	13	10%	

4. Proposals for P1 and S1 Capping for Session 2024/25

- 4.1 Taking into account the factors described in section 2 above, in line with the methodology contained within the national guidance the following details the proposals.

P1 Primary School Capping

- 4.2 Currently the statutory maximum class sizes are as follows:

Primary 1	maximum of 25 pupils
Primary 2 & 3	maximum of 30 pupils
Primary 4 to 7	maximum of 33 pupils
Composite Classes	maximum of 25 pupils

- 4.3 These restrictions mean that the number of children a school can accommodate will vary each year and is dependent on the age profile of enrolled children.
- 4.4 Of particular challenge is the determination of the maximum number of children that can be enrolled in P1 each year, relative to the overall number of classrooms available, the range of maximum class sizes of 25, 30 and 33 (noted above), and the number of P7 pupils leaving to go to secondary school. If P1 intakes are not capped, this can lead to the requirement to create additional classes where there is an absolute limit on the number of classrooms available. This can result in either the loss of general purpose classrooms that are extremely valuable for maximising the learning and teaching experience, or the need to provide additional temporary accommodation. In addition, the size of classes from P2 to P7 for the year of entry and in future will impact on the numbers of children that can be accommodated at P1. Due to the importance of effectively managing capacities of schools, training is provided for the panel members of Education Appeal Committees.
- 4.5 The Council places a priority on local children being accommodated in their local schools. Families can move areas within the city or move into the city between registration and August. Therefore, there may be times when Education Services has to review the cap to ensure that catchment children are accommodated in their local schools where this is operationally possible.

- 4.6 The proposed caps set out in appendix 1 of this report have been calculated based on the actual number of children registered at each school as of September 2024. As noted previously, the movement (either in or out) of even 1 child can affect the classification of a school and the number of children that can be accommodated in P1 at the start of the new term. For this reason, the caps proposed in appendix 1 are “notional” and may be subject to change dependent on the numbers of catchment children finally enrolled.
- 4.7 In line with the Council’s policy of providing local schools for children, and the statutory duty to effectively and efficiently manage public resources, Education Services may also restrict P1 intakes in line with the national class size maxima (see 3.2). For example, if the P1 cap of a primary school is 54 (to ensure classroom availability) and there are 48 children from the catchment area. The Executive Director will use delegated authority to cap at 50 to create 2 classes of 25 pupils. This ensures that all catchment children are admitted, but also ensures effective management of public resources. Training on this is provided for all panel members.
- 4.8 P1 capping in primary schools will mitigate against the loss of GP rooms and/or require the use of temporary accommodation in the short term and enable the Council to plan and manage the primary estate efficiently and effectively over the medium and long term.
- 4.9 In previous years the Cap for Gaelic Medium (GME) Primary schools at P1 has been set at 140 to manage number transitioning to Secondary, however this year caps have been set at the sustainable capacity for each of the 4 GME Primaries increasing the number of available spaces for P1 to 147.

Secondary School S1 Capping

- 4.10 Currently the statutory maximum class sizes for secondary schools are:
- S1 and S2 33 pupils
 - S3 to S6 30 pupils
 - Practical Classes 20 pupils
- 4.11 S1 capping is an essential tool to manage capacities and to ensure that an effective timetable can be designed that provides all young people with a breadth of opportunities and learning experiences. A timetable can be limited by a number of factors such as staffing or facilities available to the school. The cap suggested take account of the limiting factors and has endeavoured to be set at the maximum sustainable level.
- 4.12 Appendix 2 to this report provides details of the Council’s secondary schools proposed S1 capping limits for 2025/26.
- 4.13 The proposed caps set out in appendix 2 of this report have been calculated based on the actual number of children registered in P7 in Glasgow Primary Schools as of September 2024, and eligible to transfer to S1 in August 2025. As noted previously, the movement (either in or out) of even 1 child can affect the

classification and timetabling of a Secondary school and the number of children that can be accommodated in S1 at the start of the new term. For this reason, the caps proposed in appendix 2 are “notional” and may be subject to change dependent on the numbers of catchment children transferring to S1 in their catchment secondary school.

4 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

Financial: This approach allows us to make effective use of available finance by reducing the potential transport and staffing costs that may arise if catchment children could not be accommodated in their local schools. It also ensures that placing requests are effectively managed.

Legal: In line with the appropriate legislation as indicated in the report.

Personnel: Within existing resources.

Procurement: N/A

Council Strategic Plan: Excellent and Inclusive Education 35

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify. Education Services are integral to the delivery of the Council Family Equality Outcomes and we recognise as part of our equality commitments that providing access to a high-quality education is one of the ways the Council Family can advance equality of opportunity. Specific work in Glasgow schools is included under Equality Outcomes 5, 6, 7 and 14.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report? There is potential for positive impact on young people from the proposed capping as part of the broader approach to providing a high quality education. The Scottish Governments guidance on capacity of primary schools was used as part of the re-determination of capacities. This aims to protect, as far as possible, flexibility to adopt a variety of learning and teaching styles in line with the expectations of a Curriculum for Excellence.

Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio-economic disadvantage.

S1 capping will be used to ensure that an effective timetable can be designed which will provide young people with a breadth of opportunities and learning experiences in all GCC mainstream secondary schools.

Climate Impacts:

Does the proposal support any Climate Plan actions? Please specify:

The appropriate use of capping will support the management of the education estate and the supply and demand of school places across the city.

What are the potential climate impacts as a result of this proposal?

Capping P1 and S1 intakes will ensure that families residing in the catchment area will have improved opportunity to place their child at their catchment school which for the majority of children is within walking or cycling distance

Will the proposal contribute to Glasgow's net zero carbon target?

The use of capping will contribute to the effective management of the education estate and ensure that all children and young people can maximise their potential. Additionally, the ability to place all local children within their catchment school will mean that the Council will not have to pay for additional staffing or provide bus, rail or taxi transportation to non-catchment area schools.

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts: N/A.

5 Recommendations

5.1 The Committee is asked to:

- approve the maximum P1 intakes in primary schools (Appendix 1) for session 2025/26
- approve the S1 maximum intakes in secondary schools as (Appendix 2)for session 2025/26
- authorise the Executive Director of Education to amend the P1 and S1 capping limits in the circumstances outlined in paragraphs 4.5, 4.6, 4.7 and 4.12

Appendix 1

<u>Primary School Name</u>	<u>Proposed Cap</u>
Alexandra Parade	<u>62</u>
Anderston	<u>51</u>
Annette St	<u>33</u>
Antonine	<u>45</u>
Ashpark	<u>54</u>
Aultmore Park	<u>51</u>
Avenue End	<u>47</u>
Balornock	<u>51</u>
Bankhead	<u>66</u>
Barmulloch	<u>33</u>
Battlefield	<u>72</u>
Blackfriar's	<u>47</u>
Blairdardie	<u>66</u>
Broomhill	<u>66</u>
Bunsgoil Glasgow Gaelic	<u>54</u>
Cadder	<u>38</u>
Caldercuilt	<u>33</u>
Caledonia	<u>47</u>
Calton Gaelic	<u>20</u>
Camstradden	<u>54</u>
Cardonald	<u>62</u>
Carmunnock	<u>33</u>
Carmyle	<u>33</u>
Carntyne	<u>51</u>
Castleton	<u>62</u>
Chirnsyde	<u>47</u>
Cleeves	<u>47</u>
Clyde	<u>50</u>
Corpus Christi	<u>50</u>
Craigton	<u>47</u>
Cranhill	<u>33</u>
Croftfoot	<u>54</u>
Crookston Castle	<u>78</u>
Cuthbertson	<u>54</u>
Dalmarnock	<u>47</u>
Darnley	<u>47</u>
Dunard	<u>47</u>
Eastbank	<u>51</u>
Elmvale	<u>54</u>

<u>Primary School Name</u>	<u>Proposed Cap</u>
Garnetbank	<u>38</u>
Garrowhill	<u>66</u>
Glendale Gaelic	<u>25</u>
Glendale	<u>45</u>
Golfhill	<u>33</u>
Govan Gaelic	<u>47</u>
Gowanbank	<u>38</u>
Haghill Park	<u>33</u>
Highpark	<u>33</u>
Hillhead	<u>90</u>
Hillington	<u>54</u>
Holy Cross	<u>82</u>
Hyndland	<u>62</u>
Ibrox	<u>33</u>
John Paul II	<u>45</u>
Kelvindale	<u>72</u>
Kings Park	<u>62</u>
Knightswood	<u>87</u>
Langfaulds	<u>25</u>
Langside	<u>62</u>
Lorne St	<u>38</u>
Merrylee	<u>72</u>
Miller	<u>33</u>
Miltonbank	<u>33</u>
Mosspark	<u>51</u>
Mount Florida	<u>38</u>
Mount Vernon	<u>45</u>
North Kelvinside	<u>47</u>
Notre Dame	<u>66</u>
Oakgrove	<u>38</u>
Oakwood	<u>62</u>
Our Lady of Lourdes	<u>54</u>
Our Lady of Peace	<u>45</u>
Our Lady of the Annunciation	<u>33</u>
Our Lady of the Rosary	<u>62</u>
Parkview	<u>38</u>
Pirie Park	<u>66</u>
Pollokshields	<u>47</u>
Quarry Brae	<u>47</u>
Riverbank	<u>40</u>
Riverside	<u>33</u>
Royston	<u>33</u>
Sacred Heart	<u>54</u>

<u>Primary School Name</u>	<u>Proposed Cap</u>
Sandaig	<u>33</u>
Sandwood	<u>45</u>
Saracen	<u>38</u>
Scotstoun	<u>70</u>
Shawlands	<u>78</u>
St Albert's	<u>45</u>
St Angela's	<u>58</u>
St Anne's	<u>54</u>
St Bartholomew's	<u>45</u>
St Benedict's	<u>66</u>
St Bernard's	<u>66</u>
St Blane's	<u>45</u>
St Brendan's	<u>33</u>
St Bride's	<u>66</u>
St Bridget's	<u>70</u>
St Brigid's	<u>47</u>
St Catherine's	<u>62</u>
St Charles'	<u>47</u>
St Clare's	<u>45</u>
St Constantine's	<u>54</u>
St Conval's	<u>54</u>
St Cuthbert's	<u>33</u>
St Denis'	<u>33</u>
St Fillan's	<u>66</u>
St Francis'	<u>70</u>
St Francis of Assisi	<u>45</u>
St George's	<u>33</u>
St Joachim's	<u>25</u>
St Joseph's	<u>38</u>
St Maria Goretti	<u>33</u>
St Marnock's	<u>47</u>
St Martha's	<u>54</u>
St Martin's	<u>47</u>
St Mary's	<u>51</u>
St Michael's	<u>54</u>
St Mirin's	<u>54</u>
St Monica's	<u>54</u>
St Monica's (Milton)	<u>62</u>
St Mungo's	<u>38</u>
St Ninian's	<u>42</u>
St Patrick's	<u>33</u>
St Paul's (Shettleston)	<u>54</u>
St Paul's (Whiteinch)	<u>47</u>
St Philomena's	<u>47</u>

<u>Primary School Name</u>	<u>Proposed Cap</u>
St Roch's	<u>54</u>
St Rose of Lima	<u>72</u>
St Saviour's	<u>33</u>
St Teresa's	<u>25</u>
St Thomas'	<u>66</u>
St Timothy's	<u>66</u>
St Vincent's	<u>54</u>
Sunnyside	<u>33</u>
Swinton	<u>38</u>
Thorntree	<u>66</u>
Thornwood	<u>47</u>
Tinto	<u>66</u>
Toryglen	<u>25</u>
Wallacewell	<u>62</u>
Wellshot	<u>54</u>
Whiteinch	<u>25</u>
TOTAL P1 PLACES	<u>7011</u>
TOTAL P1 GME PLACES	146

Secondary School caps

SCHOOL	AREA	S1 CAP
ALL SAINTS	NORTH EAST	180
BANNERMAN	NORTH EAST	240
BELLAHOUSTON	SOUTH	200
CASTLEMILK	SOUTH	120
CLEVEDEN	NORTH WEST	180
DRUMCHAPEL	NORTH WEST	120
EASTBANK	NORTH EAST	240
GLASGOW GAELIC	NORTH WEST	120
GOVAN	SOUTH	120
HILLHEAD	NORTH WEST	180
HILLPARK	SOUTH	240
HOLYROOD	SOUTH	420
HYNDLAND	NORTH WEST	180
JOHN PAUL	NORTH WEST	180
KINGS PARK	SOUTH	200
KNIGHTSWOOD	NORTH WEST	240
LOCHEND	NORTH EAST	100
LOURDES	SOUTH	300
NOTRE DAME	NORTH WEST	120
ROSSHALL	SOUTH	240
SHAWLANDS	SOUTH	280
SMITHYCROFT	NORTH EAST	180
SPRINGBURN	NORTH EAST	180
ST ANDREWS	NORTH EAST	360
ST MARGARET MARYS	SOUTH	120
ST MUNGOS	NORTH EAST	220
ST PAULS	SOUTH	220
ST ROCHS	NORTH EAST	140
ST THOMAS AQUINAS	NORTH WEST	200
WHITEHILL	NORTH EAST	120