



Glasgow City Council

City Administration Committee

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

Item 1

23rd October 2025

Contact: Head of Resources Lorna Goldie

**PROPOSALS FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL RESERVED PLACES FOR SCHOOL
SESSION 2026/2027**

Purpose of Report:

This report provides information on the specific number of reserved places for named primary schools for session 2026/27, commencing in August 2026.

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to:

- Note the successful implementation of the reserved places provision in previous school sessions;
- Note the existing factors for determining reserved places for session 2026/27 based on experience since introduction in 2014/15;
- Approve the list of schools and number of places to be reserved in each for school session 2026/27.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

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

1 Background

- 1.1 On 23 January 2014 the Executive Committee agreed in principle to utilise the reserved places provision within the placing request legislation in order to safeguard places for children living within a school's catchment area.
- 1.2 The reason for the utilisation of the reserved places provision within the Education (Scotland) Act 1991 as amended by the Standards in Schools Act 2000 is that after decades of a decreasing population across the city the population of Glasgow started to increase.
- 1.3 The use of reserved spaces is part of an approach to manage the education estate in a strategic manner and address capacity issues before they develop.
- 1.4 The allocation of spaces at any school in rank order is:
 - Catchment children
 - Reserved spaces
 - Placing requests
- 1.5 On 3 April 2014, the Executive Committee agreed a methodology and a range of factors for determining the level of reserved places in schools for school session 2014/15.
- 1.6 Session 2014/15 was the first year of utilising the reserved places provision within the placing request legislation. Further reports have been submitted on an annual basis since then, setting out the proposals for reserved places for each new school session taking account of the experiences and lessons learned over the past number of years since the first years of operation.

2 Experience to date

- 2.1 Overall the introduction of reserved places has worked well, safeguarding places for catchment area children either enrolling after the normal enrolment timetable or safeguarding places for future years' demand based on forecasts of catchment area needs.
- 2.2 In October 2014 the Council's provision of reserved places was appealed to the Sheriff Court by a parent of a child wishing to attend a primary school by placing request that had been refused. The appeal was rejected, the Court finding in favour of the Council confirming that the Council had appropriately applied the provisions within legislation to safeguard places for future catchment area demand.
- 2.3 Initially in session 2014/15 the number of reserved places being set aside in some cases was found to be too high and above what might be required,

therefore the factors used to determine the number of reserved places required was modified to address this for session 2015/16.

- 2.4 The modified factors have worked well since session 2016/17 and it is proposed that these continue to be used in determining the number of reserved places each school session moving forward.

For School Session 2026/27

	Number of Places Reserved
<u>Factor 1</u>	
Schools with a current catchment area waiting list	3
<u>Factor 2</u>	
The projected pupil roll exceeded the capacity of the school within 7 years	7
<u>Factor 3</u>	
The number of catchment In-term enrolments in the previous session:	
• 0 – 5 pupils	0
• 6 – 10 pupils	1
• 11 – 20 pupils	2
• above 20 pupils	4
<u>Factor 4</u>	
Other known factors e.g. planned Housing developments	10

Note: There will be a maximum of 10 reserved places in any school for session 2026/27

- 2.5 There are a total of 247 proposed reserved spaces across 62 Primary schools for session 2026/27. Details of all the primary schools where it is proposed to use reserved places and the numbers of places to be reserved for school session 2025/26 are provided in **Appendix 1** to this report.
- 2.6 **Appendix 2** to this report provides a good example of the successful use of reserved P1 places.
- 2.7 **Appendix 3** to this report shows the allocation of Reserved Places across school stages

3 Policy and Resource Implications

Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	This approach allows us to make effective use of available finance by reducing the potential transport costs that may arise if catchment children could not be accommodated at their local school
<i>Legal:</i>	In line with the appropriate legislation as indicated in the report.
<i>Personnel:</i>	Within existing resources
<i>Procurement:</i>	N/A

Council Strategic Plan:	Grand Challenge 1 Mission 2 – Meet the learning and care needs of children and their families before and through school
	Grand Challenge 2 Mission 3 – Raise attainment amongst Glasgow's children and young people

Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

<i>Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2021-25? Please specify.</i>	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.
<i>What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?</i>	There is potential for positive impact on young people from the proposed reserved spaces as part of the broader approach to providing a high-quality education.
<i>Please highlight if the policy/proposal will</i>	The use of reserved places will ensure that families moving into the catchment area mid-

help address socio-economic disadvantage.

term will have a realistic opportunity to place their child at their catchment school

Climate Impacts:

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

The use of reserved spaces will support the management of the education estate and the supply and demand of school places across the city. The Council will not have to provide transportation to a non-catchment area school in circumstances whereby the catchment area school is full and unable to accommodate the child.

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

The ability to place children within their catchment school will mean that the majority of children are within walking or cycling distance of their school.

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

It will minimise the need for transportation to school and promote the net zero travel option of walking or cycling.

Privacy and Data Protection Impacts:

N/A

3 Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- Note the successful implementation of the reserved places provision in previous school sessions;
- Note the existing factors for determining reserved places for session 2026/27 based on past experience since introduction in 2014/15;
- Approve the list of schools and number of places to be reserved in each for school session 2026/27.

Appendix 1

PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH RESERVED PLACES 2026/2027 (MAX 10 PER SCHOOL)

	School Name	TOTAL RESERVED PLACES
1	Antonine Primary School	3
2	Ashpark Primary School	10
3	Avenue End Primary School	3
4	Balornock Primary School	3
5	Blairdardie Primary School	3
6	Broomhill Primary School	3
7	Cadder Primary School	3
8	Calton Gaelic Primary School	3
9	Cardonald Primary School	3
10	Carmyle Primary School	3
11	Carntyne Primary School	3
12	Cleeves Primary School	3
13	Clyde Primary School	3
14	Corpus Christi Primary School	10
15	Cranhill Primary School	3
16	Croftfoot Primary School	3
17	Cuthbertson Primary School	3
18	Dalmarnock Primary School	3
19	Elmvale Primary School	3
20	Glendale Gaelic Primary School	10
21	Glendale Primary School (Bunsgoil Ghaidhlig Ghleann Dail)	10
22	Gowanbank Primary School	3
23	Holy Cross Primary School	10
24	Hyndland Primary School	3
25	Ibrox Primary School	7
26	John Paul II Primary School	3
27	Lorne Street Primary School	7
28	Merrylee Primary School	3
29	Miller Primary School	3
30	Mosspark Primary School	3
31	Mount Florida Primary School	3
32	Mount Vernon Primary School	7
33	North Kelvinside Primary	3

34	Notre Dame Primary School	3
35	Our Lady of Lourdes Primary	3
36	Our Lady of the Rosary Primary School	3
37	Parkview Primary School	3
38	Pollokshields Primary School	3
39	Quarry Brae Primary School	3
40	Riverbank Primary School	10
41	Royston Primary School	3
42	St Angela's Primary School	3
43	St Bartholomew's Primary School	3
44	St Bernard's Primary School	3
45	St Bridget's Primary School	3
46	St Brigid's Primary School	3
47	St Catherine's Primary School	3
48	St Clare's Primary School	3
49	St Maria Goretti Primary School	3
50	St Marnock's Primary School	3
51	St Martha's Primary School	3
52	St Martin's Primary School	3
53	St Mary's Primary School	3
54	St Monica's Primary School (south)	3
55	St Patrick's Primary School	3
56	St Philomena's Primary School	3
57	St Roch's Primary School	3
58	St Rose Of Lima Primary School	3
59	St Timothy's Primary School	3
60	Sunnyside Primary School	3
61	Thorntree Primary School	3
62	Wallacewell Primary School	10
TOTAL		247

Appendix 2

Example of use of Reserved Places.

School A

P1 Capacity set in November 2024	66 (inclusive of 3 x reserved places)
Total catchment Enrolments by 18/07/2025	63 (3 x reserved places held)
3 x Placing Request applications received	31/07/2025 – these were refused as only catchment reserved places were available.
3 x Catchment Enrolment requests received	10/08/2025 – as 3 x reserved catchment places still available these could be accommodated for start of new term.

Appendix 3

ALLOCATION OF RESERVED PLACES

Agreed allocation of Reserved Places	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7
1	1						
2	1	1					
3	1	1	1				
4	2	1	1				
5	2	1	1	1			
6	2	1	1	1	1		
7	2	1	1	1	1	1	
8	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
9	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
10	3	2	1	1	1	1	1