27 November 2026

Consultation on Proposed Changes to Admissions Arrangements for Year 7 Entry (September 2028)

The Trustees of Sir Thomas Rich's School, as the admission authority, are consulting on proposed changes to the School's admissions arrangements.

This consultation is carried out in accordance with the requirements of the School Admissions Code 2021.

Summary of Proposed Changes

The School proposes to:

1. Introduce a new oversubscription criterion to give priority to children either attending named state-funded primary schools located within a 10-mile radius of the School, or living within 10 miles of the School.
2. Limit allocations under the locally prioritised categories to 108 of the 155 available places

These proposals apply to Year 7 entry only and do not affect in-year or sixth form admissions.

Proposed Oversubscription Criteria Changes

Admission to Sir Thomas Rich's School will continue to be determined by performance in the Gloucestershire Grammar Schools' Entrance Test. The proposed changes relate only to the order in which places are offered to children who have achieved the qualifying standard.

1. Introduction of a Primary School Priority

The School proposes to introduce an oversubscription criterion giving priority to children who, at the time of registration for the admission test, attend a named state-funded primary school located within 10 miles of the School site.

For the purposes of the School Admissions Code, the named schools operate as feeder schools under paragraph 1.9. There is no formal partnership or preferential educational relationship between Sir Thomas Rich's School and these schools. arrangement is used solely as an objective and verifiable method of identifying the local area from which the School currently draws the majority of its pupils.

The named primary schools are listed in Appendix A of the proposed Admissions Policy and below.

In addition, children whose home address is within 10 miles of the School, as measured by straight-line distance, will also be considered under this priority criterion.

2. Limit on Places Allocated Under Priority Criteria

The School proposes that a maximum of 108 of the 155 Published Admission Number (PAN) places may be allocated to applicants meeting the priority criteria (Categories A–D). The remaining places will be offered to other eligible applicants in rank order of test performance.

Other Changes

Following the recently announced changes to the Admission Test provider and the date of the test, the Admissions Policy has been amended to reflect those changes.

Rationale for the Proposed Changes

The Trustees consider that these proposals:

- Maintain clear, objective, and easily understood admissions arrangements.
- Use oversubscription criteria that are lawful, transparent, and verifiable.
- Provide a practical and objective method of identifying the local area served by the School using named local primary schools and a distance-based criterion, both of which are permitted by the School Admissions Code.
- Align the School's arrangements with approaches commonly used by admission authorities when defining local priority areas.

Please see the School’s website for further details on the rationale.

Consultation Questions

The Trustees welcome views on the following:

1. Do you support the introduction of primary school priority for named schools within 10 miles of the School?
2. Do you support the introduction of a priority area for children living within 10 miles of the School?
3. Do you support the proposed limit of 108 places allocated under priority criteria?

How to Respond

Responses to this consultation should be submitted no later than 15 January 2027.

They may be sent:

- By email to: consultation@strs.org.uk
- In writing to: The Registrar, Sir Thomas Rich's School, Oakleaze, Longlevens, Gloucester, GL2 0LF

Next Steps

Following the consultation period, the Trustees will consider all responses before determining the final admissions arrangements. Final arrangements will be determined by 28 February 2027 and published on the School's website by 15 March 2027.

Yours faithfully

Matthew Lynch
HEADTEACHER

Tom Grogan
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS

Appendix A

Primary Schools within 10 miles of Sir Thomas Rich's School

*Those schools not part of Gloucestershire Local Authority are marked with an *.*

Abbeymead Primary School
Ashchurch Primary School
Ashleworth C of E Primary School
Barnwood C of E Primary School
Beech Green Primary School
Birdlip Primary School
Bishop's Cleeve Primary Academy
Bisley Blue Coat C of E Primary
Brockworth Primary Academy
Bussage C of E Primary School
Callowell Primary School
Calton Primary School
Cashes Green Primary School
Castle Hill Primary School
Catholic School of St Gregory the Great (The)
Charlton Kings Junior Academy
Christ Church C of E Primary School (Cheltenham)
Churcham Primary School
Churchdown Parton Manor Junior School
Churchdown Village Junior School
Clearwater C of E Primary Academy
Coberley C of E Primary School
Coney Hill Community Primary School
Coopers Edge School
Cranham C of E Primary School
Croft Primary School (The)
Deerhurst and Apperley C of E Primary School
Dinglewell Junior School
Dunalley Primary School
Eastcombe Primary School
Eastington Primary School
Eldersfield Lawn CE Primary School*
Elmbridge Primary School
Field Court Junior Academy
Finlay Community School
Foxmoor Primary School

Gardners Lane Primary School
Glenfall Community Primary School
Gloucester Road Primary School
Gotherington Primary Academy
Grange Primary Academy
Grangefield Primary School
Great Oldbury Primary Academy
Greatfield Park Primary School
Hardwicke Parochial Primary Academy
Haresfield C of E Primary School
Harewood Junior School
Hartpury C of E Primary School
Hempsted C of E Primary School
Heron Primary School
Hesters Way Primary School
Highnam C of E Primary Academy
Hillside Primary School
Hillview Primary School
Holy Apostles C of E Primary School
Holy Trinity C of E Primary School
Huntley C of E Primary School
Hunts Grove Primary Academy
Innsworth Junior School
John Moore Primary School (The)
Kingsholm C of E Primary School
Kingsway Primary School
Lakefield C of E Primary School
Lakeside Primary School
Leckhampton C of E Primary School
Linden Primary School
Longford Park Primary Academy
Longlevens Junior School
Longney C of E Primary School
Meadowside Primary School
Miserden C of E Primary School
Mitton Manor Primary School
Naunton Park Primary School
Norton C of E Primary School
Oakwood Primary School
Park Junior School (The)
Pauntley C of E Primary School
Pendock CE Primary School*
Picklenash Junior School

Queen Margaret Primary School
Randwick C of E Primary School
Redmarley C of E Primary Academy
Rodborough Community Primary School
Rosary Catholic Primary Academy (The)
Rowanfield Junior Academy
Sheepscombe Primary School
Shurdington C of E Primary School
Springbank Primary Academy
St James C of E Junior School
St James C of E Primary School
St John's C of E Primary School (Cheltenham)
St Mark's C of E Junior School
St Mary's C of E Junior School (Prestbury)
St Mary's Catholic Primary Academy
St Matthew's C of E Primary School
St Paul's C of E Primary School
St Peter's Catholic Primary School
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School
Staunton & Corse C of E Primary School
Stroud Valley Community Primary School
Swindon Village Primary School
Tewkesbury C of E Primary School
Tibberton Community Primary School
Tirlebrook Primary School
Tredington Community Primary School
Tredworth Junior School
Uplands Community Primary School
Upton St Leonards C of E Primary School
Walmore Hill Primary School
Warden Hill Primary School
Waterwells Primary Academy
Westbury-on-Severn C of E Primary School
Whiteshill Primary School
Whitminster Endowed C of E Primary School
Widden Primary School
Willow Primary Academy (The)
Woodmancote Primary School