



## Consultation to Reduce PAN from September 2027

### Consultation

A reduction in the school's Published Admission Number (PAN) from 60 to 45 pupils to be admitted to Reception with effect from 1 September 2027.

This proposed change is to update the admission number held by the Local Authority and the Funding Agreement held with the Department for Education.

No pupil who already has a place in school will be affected by the proposed change.

### 1. Background

1.1 The current Published Admission Number (PAN) for St Mary's RC Primary School, Radcliffe is 60. This means that the number of pupils admitted into Reception is limited to 60. The following appendix provides historic and projected pupil numbers, showing a clear decline in intake and overall roll.

1.2 Birth rate data and local demographic trends indicate a sustained reduction in demand for places. The Trust has reviewed projections and confirms that reducing PAN will not negatively impact parental choice or access to Catholic education in the area.

1.3 No pupil currently on roll will be affected by this change.

1.4 Reducing the PAN will assist the Trust Board and the Local Governing Body in providing stability for long-term planning while continuing to offer sufficient places for local children.

### 2. Specific Proposal

2.1 The Trust Board proposes to reduce the PAN from 60 to 45 with effect from September 2027.

2.2 This means that the number of places available for children in Reception in 2026, and all subsequent cohorts, will be 45.

2.3 All other admission criteria, including oversubscription, will remain unchanged.

2.4 Factors considered:

- Ability to provide sufficient places for local Catholic families.
- Maintaining high-quality learning environments.
- Effective resource planning and management.



### 3. Who is being consulted?

- Alignment with diocesan guidance and Trust strategy.
- Parents of children aged 2-18
- Staff
- Local community
- Other local schools
- Local Authority
- Salford Diocese
- Neighbouring local authorities

### 4. How to respond

The consultation will run from Monday 1 December 2025 until Friday 23 January 2026.

You can respond in the following ways:

- By email: [office@stmarysradcliffe.stoccat.org.uk](mailto:office@stmarysradcliffe.stoccat.org.uk)
- In writing: Jane Myerscough, St Mary's RC Primary School, Belgrave Street, Radcliffe, Manchester, M26 4DG

Following the consultation, an update will be published on our website. In line with Local Authority guidance, the admission policy for 2026/27 will be set by 28 February 2026 and published by 15 March 2026.

### Appendix: Pupil Number Trends

Year	Total Pupils	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
2025/26	307	32	41	41	32	51	60	50
2024/25	336	41	41	32	51	60	51	60