



Public Consultation on School Admission Arrangements 2027-2028

Introduction

When an admission authority proposes to make changes to their admission arrangements, they must conduct a public consultation to ensure views are heard.

Bracknell Forest Council, as the admission authority for community and voluntary controlled schools in Bracknell Forest, is consulting on the following change to the admission arrangements for the 2027-2028 academic year:

It is proposed that the designated area (also known as the catchment area) for Crowthorne CE Primary School be returned to its original state prior to the 2017 expansion. This would involve removing the area of the Bucklers Park development from the school's current designated area.

A full copy of the *Proposed Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Secondary and Primary Schools 2027-2028* can be viewed here:

www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/admissions-consultation

Why are we proposing this change?

Following a decision in 2015 to increase school places and build more schools in Bracknell Forest, a major consultation took place to ensure admission arrangements, including designated areas, were still appropriate for the area they would serve.

As a result of this consultation, in 2017 the designated area for Crowthorne CE Primary School was expanded to account for an additional primary school to be constructed in the Bucklers Park estate. This new school would operate as an expansion to the already established Crowthorne CE Primary School, functioning as a split-site school.

Due to falling local need for primary school places, this school construction has been deemed surplus to requirement and will no longer be constructed as a mainstream school, or an expansion to the existing Crowthorne CE Primary School.

Legislation requires designated / catchment areas to be reasonable and clearly defined. As the new primary school in Buckler's Park will no longer be used for mainstream education, the designated area for Crowthorne CE Primary School no longer represents the needs of local residents, with those residents living close to the north westerly and south easterly border of the school grounds who are geographically closer to the school but outside of the designated area at a disadvantage. Conversely, residents living a significant distance have a high chance of admission due to the shape of the existing designated area.

Therefore, the council is proposing to return the designated area of Crowthorne CE Primary School back to its original state prior to the expansion in 2017. Maps showing both the current and proposed designated areas have been provided below. Larger copies can be viewed on the Bracknell Forest website: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/admissions-consultation

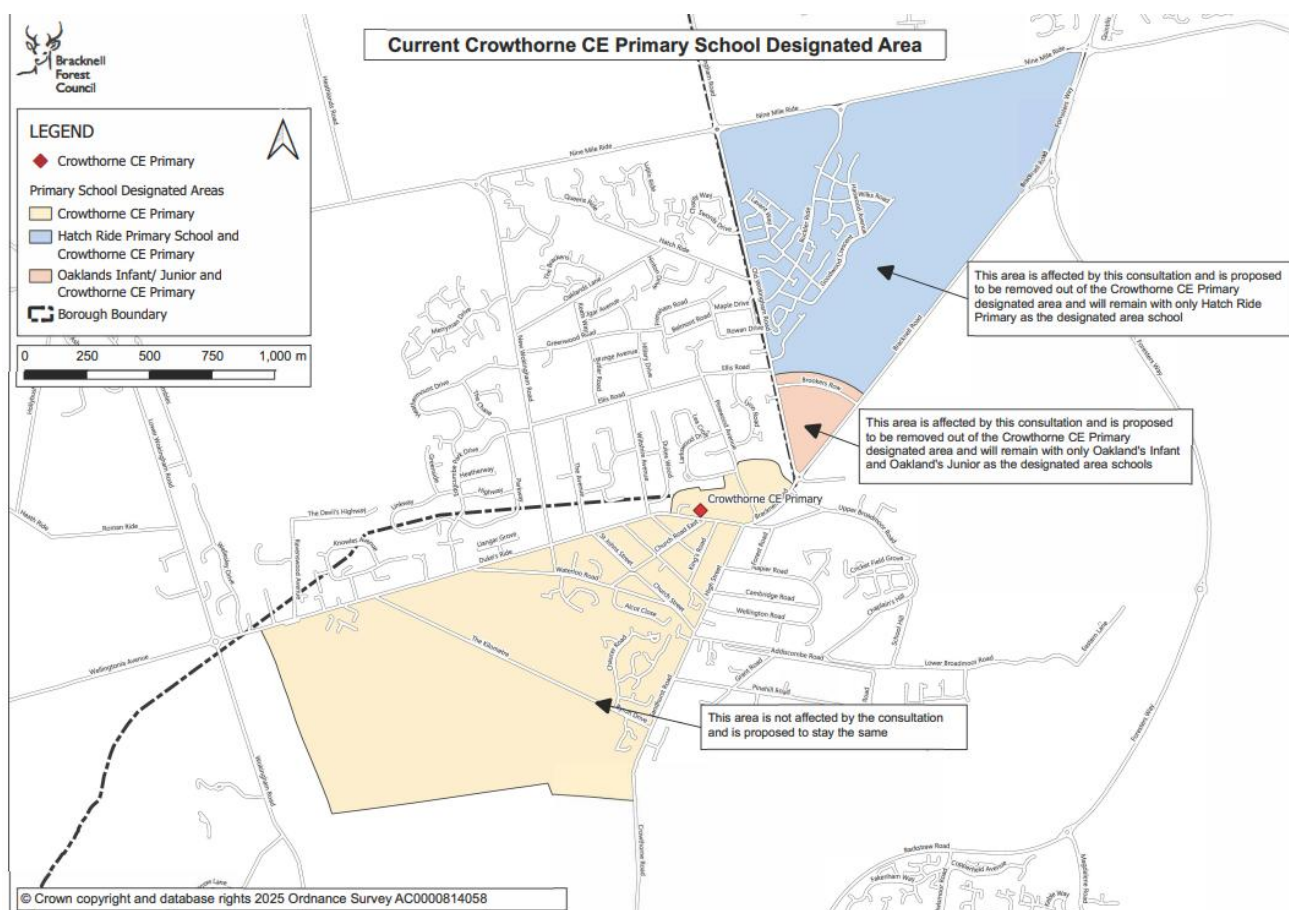
We recognise that residents of Bucklers Park may feel concerned about this change and what it could mean for their children's access to local school places.

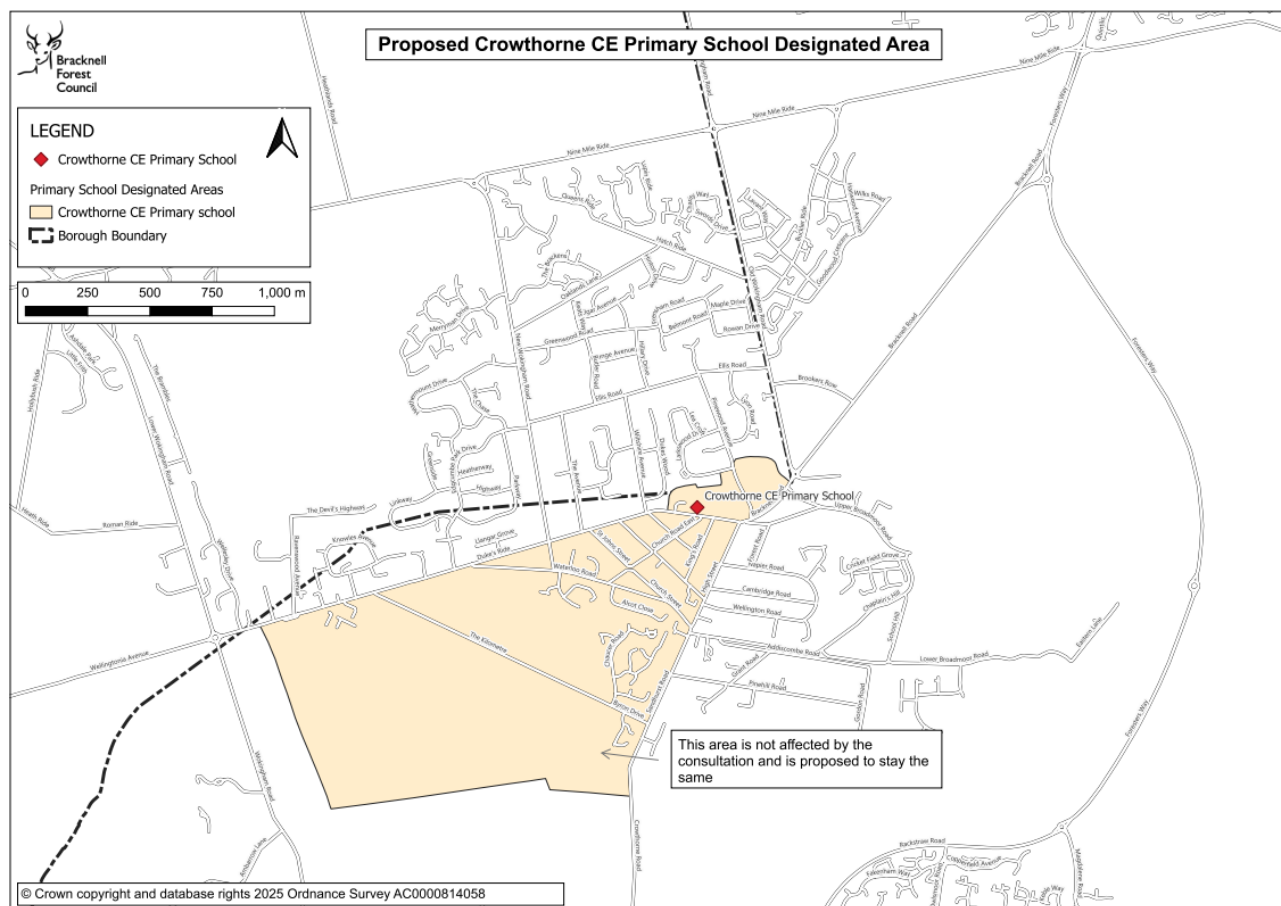
We would like to reassure residents that any siblings of children living within the Buckers Park development and who are already attending Crowthorne CE Primary School at the time of the designated area change, will be protected under the '*Protected Sibling Status*', meaning they will retain the designated area criterion for Crowthorne CE Primary School in certain circumstances. Please refer to the proposed admission arrangements for full details on this protection.

Bucklers Park residents benefit from being within the designated areas of other local schools. Depending on the specific location within the development, this includes Hatch Ride Primary School, or Oaklands Infant and Oaklands Junior Schools. Therefore, removing Bucklers Park from the designated area of Crowthorne CE Primary School will not compromise access to sufficient local school places for its residents. The areas of Bucklers Park also included in these schools designated areas can be viewed on the *Current Crowthorne CE Primary School Designated Area* map below. A larger copy is also available on the Bracknell Forest website: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/admissions-consultation

Removing Bucklers Park from the designated area of Crowthorne CE Primary School will ensure fairer access to local school places for all residents within and around the proposed designated area.

An interactive map has been created to help residents determine how this change may affect their individual home address. The map can be accessed via the Bracknell Forest website: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/admissions-consultation





How can you respond?

The consultation takes place between 12 November 2025 and 07 January 2026.

An online survey has been created to collect responses. You can access the survey here via the Bracknell Forest website: www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/admissions-consultation

You can also respond by emailing consultation.education@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Or by writing to us at:
The School Admissions Team,
Bracknell Forest Council,
Time Square
Market Street
Bracknell
RG12 1JD

Please mark your response with **BRACKNELL FOREST ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION**

What happens next?

After the consultation closes responses will be collated and presented to the Cabinet Member for Education who will decide whether to proceed with the proposed changes as well as determining the admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled schools.

Admission arrangements will be determined by the statutory deadline of 28 February 2026 and published on the Bracknell Forest website by 15 March 2026.