

REPORT TO: Education Committee

MEETING DATE: 12 March 2013

BY: Executive Director (Services for People)

SUBJECT: Roll Capping at Dunbar Grammar School, Knox Academy, Musselburgh Grammar School, North Berwick High School and Preston Lodge High School

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to approve the S1 intake level at the above secondary schools for Session 2013/14 and to continue the capping intake level agreed in March 2011 for S1 into S3 for 2013/14 and on to S4 for 2014/15.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to agree a maximum intake level in S1 for session 2013/14 in the schools listed below and to continue this level of pupils through to S4 in 2016/17. The reasons for this are explained below.

School	Maximum S1 intake level
Dunbar Grammar School	180
Knox Academy	140
Musselburgh Grammar School	240
North Berwick High School	160
Preston Lodge High School	220

2.2 In addition to agree the maximum intake level in S3 for session 2013/14 through to S4 in 2014/15.

School	Maximum S3 intake level
Dunbar Grammar School	180
Knox Academy	140
Musselburgh Grammar School	240
North Berwick High School	180

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 The main principles for managing secondary school rolls in East Lothian are :

- To provide high quality education at local schools for local pupils
- To ensure equality of resources throughout East Lothian
- To commit to a real choice of education inside our schools not between our schools

3.2 As an Education Authority East Lothian Council has to manage public funds and ensure a balanced education service across the authority in terms of expenditure and resources. This is largely managed by agreeing to limit the overall school roll for a school or to limit the number of pupils in one specific year, this is commonly referred to as “capping”.

3.3 When considering how to cap school rolls East Lothian Council as an Education Authority must look at all its schools and available resources. We also consider the total population of children who require places in our secondary schools and how many of those are within each catchment area. We consider how each school will manage its resources and to balance that with other schools to ensure there is equity of resources throughout the area of East Lothian and avoid unreasonable public expenditure.

3.4 By limiting the number of pupils that the school can intake each academic year allows schools to timetable, employ a suitable number and category of teachers. As generally capping will support appropriate and early organisation for schools to meet their pupils’ needs to provide a high level of education. Capping prevents pupils’ education being affected to their detriment, loss of resources and better management of finances by the Authority.

Note: Practical classes, such as science subjects are in secondary schools set in multiples of 20 pupils. Non-practical classes are set in multiples of 30 pupils and school classrooms are furnished to accommodate a maximum of

30 pupils. Where a limit has been set for S1 roll this has been calculated on the basis of 20 pupils.

3.5 S1 August 2013 – Projected School Roll

The pupil numbers projected for session 2013/14 are:

School	<u>S1</u>	<u>S2</u>	<u>S3</u>	<u>S4</u>	<u>S5</u>	<u>S6</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Dunbar Grammar School	165	132	159	141	103	72	772
Knox Academy	122	139	125	142	143	95	766
Musselburgh Grammar School	220	225	225	209	172	152	1203
North Berwick High School	147	146	173	174	143	139	922
Preston Lodge High School	199	178	176	168	166	127	1014

- 3.6 The S1 figure in the table above shows the number of P7 pupils living within the school catchment area as at 12 February 2013. The expected total roll includes pupils who are expected to transfer to S1 in August 2013 and the number of pupils expected to move up into S2 and so on, to S6.
- 3.7 The process is complex due to the flow of pupils within and out of East Lothian, late applications and pupils being placed in private schools. We consult with Head Teachers all year round and consider statistics and information provided to us to decide on appropriate recommendations for the S1 intake. This has informed our recommended capping as set out in 2.1 above.
- 3.8 Reserved places must also be considered as part of the roll, for secondary schools and a separate report has been completed for this.

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no policy implications in this report for the Council.

5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 This report is not applicable to the well being of equalities groups and an Equalities Impact Assessment is not required.

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

6.1 Financial - None

6.2 Personnel - None

6.3 Other - None

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None

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