

**REPORT TO:** Education Committee

**MEETING DATE:** 22 March 2022

**BY:** Executive Director for Education and Children's Services

**SUBJECT:** Roll Capping in East Lothian Secondary Schools – Session 2022/23

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## 1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Committee to approve the S1-S4 intake levels for East Lothian secondary schools for Session 2022/23.

## 2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to agree a maximum intake level in S1-S4 for session 2022/23 in the schools listed below. The reasons for this are set out in section 3.

School	Maximum S1 intake level	Maximum S2 intake level	Maximum S3 intake level	Maximum S4 intake level
Dunbar Grammar School	220	220	220	220
Knox Academy	180	180	180	160
Musselburgh Grammar School	240	260	260	240
North Berwick High School	180	200	180	210
Preston Lodge High School	240	210	210	210
Ross High School	260	240	260	260

- 2.2 We request that the Committee delegate any changes to the maximum intake level in S1 – S4 to the Head of Education in consultation with the Education Convener, should the number of pupils requiring a place at the school significantly increase or decrease.

### **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;
  - ensure equality of resources throughout East Lothian;
  - commit to a real choice of education inside our schools and 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 partly 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 we then balance that with other schools’ situations to ensure that resources are shared evenly throughout East Lothian, thereby avoiding unreasonable public expenditure.
- 3.4 Limiting the number of pupils that the school can admit each academic year allows schools to timetable and employ a suitable number and category of teachers. In general, capping will support appropriate and early organisation for schools to meet their pupils’ needs for a high level of education. Capping prevents detrimental impacts on pupils’ education, and ensures effective and efficient management of resources by the authority.

**Note:** Practical classes, such as science subjects, are set in multiples of 20 pupils in secondary schools. Non-practical classes are set in multiples of 30 pupils and those classrooms are furnished to accommodate a maximum of 30 pupils. Where a limit has been set for S1 roll, this has been calculated in multiples of 20 and 30, as per practical and non-practical class maximum.

### 3.5 S1 August 2022 – School Roll

Based on the number of pupils expected in S1 and the current S1-S5 pupils progressing into S2-S6, the pupil numbers for next session 2022/23 are expected to be:

<b>School</b>	<b><u>S1</u></b>	<b><u>S2</u></b>	<b><u>S3</u></b>	<b><u>S4</u></b>	<b><u>S5</u></b>	<b><u>S6</u></b>	<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>
<b>Dunbar Grammar</b>	198	197	209	212	195	153	1164
<b>Knox Academy</b>	164	162	164	155	131	100	876
<b>Musselburgh Grammar</b>	223	242	245	230	183	96	1219
<b>North Berwick High School</b>	166	182	170	199	170	161	1048
<b>Preston Lodge High School</b>	220	198	201	189	145	82	1035
<b>Ross High School</b>	255	226	239	244	193	108	1265

3.6 The total roll includes pupils who are expected to transfer to S1 in August 2022 and the number of pupils expected to move up into S2 and so on, to S6.

3.7 The process is complex owing to pupils moving to and leaving East Lothian, late applications, and pupils choosing private schools. We consult with Head Teachers regularly and consider the statistics and information that we collate to decide on appropriate recommendations for the S1 intake. This has informed our capping recommendation, 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.

## 5 EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 The subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on equality, the environment or economy.

## 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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<b>DATE</b>	22 February 2022