

Frequently Asked Questions

I'm worried about being able to obtain a school place for my child in Reception?

Across Lymm in 2023 there are currently 128 children attending Reception classes with 180 places. Hence a spare capacity of approximately 29%, nearly a third of places are not filled. The number of Reception children in Lymm continues to drop year on year.

After the proposed PAN change at Ravenbank current data shows that there will be 133 pupils for 150 places within Lymm. After the proposed PAN change at Oughtrington in 2026 forecasts indicate 109 pupils for 120 places.

There will be sufficient school places for children in Lymm.

I'm worried about a sibling being able to get a place at Ravenbank

After *Looked After Children*, siblings continue to be given the highest priority in the oversubscription criteria for Ravenbank:

Siblings (pupils with elder brothers or sisters already attending the preferred school and expected to continue at the school in the following school year. This includes full, half or step brothers and sisters and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address as part of the same family unit)

The oversubscription criteria are not being changed for Ravenbank – only the Published Admission Number.

Will the change affect the quality of education at Ravenbank?

The quality of education at Ravenbank will not be affected by the reduction in PAN. By reducing the PAN from 60 to 30 it avoids the need to have mixed year group classes. Therefore, children will be taught in single age classes as they are now.

What if demand for places in Lymm increase again?

The situation will be reviewed annually. The PAN can be increased, when necessary, without consultation.

Why does Ravenbank need to reduce its PAN?

Due to changes in demand for places in the local area over the last few years, the size of Lymm's Reception intake has reduced.

Is the school financially secure?

There are no financial concerns about the financial security at Ravenbank. However, running two classes that are under capacity would create a financial concern. The PAN change should further increase the financial security of the school.

Will the school need to change the way that it delivers the curriculum? Will class sizes be changed?

The school intends to continue to deliver a high-quality curriculum to classes of up to 30 children. There are no plans for year groups to mix.

Why do you intend to reduce the PAN at Oughtrington in 2026?

Forecasted Reception numbers indicate that a further reduction of Reception places is needed in Lymm, but not until 2026. Therefore, we will continue to review the situation. To reduce PAN for 2026 means that we need to run another consultation during the determining year (2024 to 2025).