

# Placements Appeals

**3 October 2013**

**CCwP**



# Background

- **Rising Population**
- **The Education (Lower Primary Class Sizes) (Scotland) Amendment**
- **Regulations 2010 introduced a class size maximum of 25 for P1**

# Placement, Appeals 2012

- **P1 requests for out of catchment placements - 1109**
- **P1 appeals – 310**
  
- **S1 requests for out of catchment placements - 763**
- **S1 appeals - 21**

# Placement, Appeals 2013

- **P1 requests for out of catchment placements - 1084**
- **P1 appeals – 261**
  
- **S1 requests for out of catchment placements - 780**
- **S1 appeals - 58**

# Position this year

- **Those parents whose placing requests have been turned down were offered a place in their local (catchment) school**
- **Priority was given to RC Baptised Catholics in a number of RC primary schools**

# Council Policy

- **The Council respects parental choice wherever it can be achieved without additional cost.**
- **P1 and S1 intakes are based on the catchment numbers for a school however if there are spaces available in a class, placing requests will be granted.**



# Priorities for Placements

- **Siblings will be given priority over other children unless other children are prioritised due to individual circumstances or because a council committee has agreed that placing requests out of an oversubscribed school have priority over all other placing requests**
- **In Roman Catholic schools priority is given to baptised Roman Catholics. Non baptised Roman Catholics will be allocated a place in their non denominational catchment school if the RC school is oversubscribed.**

# Grounds for Refusal

**There are three main categories of refusal which are used**

- **Accommodation**
- **Additional teacher**
- **Detriment**





# Reasons for request

**The following are not seen by the department as priorities for allocation of places or waiting lists**

- **Nursery place in the school**
- **Childcare**
- **Workplace**



# Waiting Lists

- **A waiting list is kept for each school where it is required**
- **Each year, between April and August, places are normally freed up in schools due to families moving home, choosing independent school or deferring the start of primary school for a year. Whenever a place comes free it is offered to the person on the top of the waiting list.**

# Team Teaching

- **Team teaching is where two teachers teach a class that has more than the maximum number of pupils for that particular stage, for example a P1 group of 40 might be taught by 2 teachers.**
- **The teachers are jointly responsible for planning, teaching, assessment and liaising with parents.**
- **Each teacher will be responsible for a named group of pupils**

# Composite Classes

- **A composite class is formed with children from two or more different year groups, for example, a P3/4 class. This might happen when the numbers at a particular year stage are too large or too small to form a class but not large enough to form two classes in a year group.**
- **Many of our schools will have a composite class or classes at some stage and many children will be taught in a composite class at some point in their school life.**
- **Legislation on reduced class sizes at the early stages (P1-P3) of primary school has also tended to lead to more composite classes at these stages**



# Composite Classes

- **A composite class would not normally be formed if there were fewer than 5 pupils coming from a particular year stage**
- **It is not normally policy to composite over 3 year stages except where there are very low numbers at particular stages**

# Changes

- **A bill has gone before Parliament in May 2013 dealing with tribunals**
- **The aim is that a tribunal will take over from the Education Appeals Committee**
- **The law in respect of placing requests will not change**