



Consultation on Reduction in the Published Admission Number for September 2025

About the Academy

City of London Academy Islington is an inclusive, co-educational, non-denominational secondary school that welcomes all children and families, including those with special needs. The Academy is part of the City of London Academies Trust, which it joined in September 2020, having previously been a standalone academy.

When the Academy first opened in 2010, it had a Published Admissions Number (PAN) of 125 – five form entry, with class sizes of 25. The new site, its buildings, classrooms and other facilities were designed to accommodate 125 students in Years 7 to 11, plus a sixth form which was intended to have a maximum of 200 students across Years 12 and 13 i.e. a maximum student population of 825. The Academy currently has over 900 students on roll, with a PAN of 165 in Years 7 to 11.

Proposed Changes to Admissions

The Academy is consulting on a proposed change (reduction) in the PAN from September 2025 from the current PAN of 165 (six form entry) to a PAN of 140 (five form entry). All other admissions criteria as stated in our current Admissions Policy will remain unchanged. The Academy retains its commitment to being an inclusive school and our existing admissions criteria support this intention. For a copy of our existing Admissions Policy, please visit our website: www.colai.org.uk.

Rationale

- The buildings and facilities were not designed for the increase in the PAN to the current number of 165 in Years 7 to 11. Overcrowding has already meant that we have had to convert offices, science prep rooms and other spaces in the school into teaching rooms. We have also introduced a split break time and lunch time to alleviate crowding in the canteen and playgrounds. However, we have an unsustainable and insurmountable pressure on the limited specialist facilities and teaching rooms in the Academy that can only be alleviated by a reduction in the PAN to 140, and with it, a reduction from a six-form entry to a five-form entry.
- We have investigated the possibility of building new classrooms and facilities, but tight planning restrictions, combined with a lack of available space on an already heavily built-up site and excessively high projected costs mean that this is not a feasible option.
- There is a decline in the school age population in Islington and neighboring Boroughs which

is projected to continue. With that, there is a declining demand for secondary school places. We are anticipating that this could result in the Academy being under-roll if we maintain the PAN at the current number of 165. We are seeking to reduce the PAN in anticipation of this demographic trend impacting recruitment of students to the Academy.

- Having a planned reduction in the PAN will assist in the forward planning of staffing of the Academy. This will reduce the risk of the Academy being overstaffed and underfunded, which would compromise our ability to offer an outstanding educational experience to the students in our care.

Consultation

For the reasons stated above, we are consulting on a reduction in the Academy's PAN from 165 to 140 from September 2025.

All relevant stakeholders are invited to share their views on this change to the PAN. Should you wish to submit your comments, please click on this link to access the Google form that will allow you to express your views <https://forms.gle/hhc6gEbYGN1DCBBT9>. Alternatively, you can email info@colai.org.uk. Please include 'PAN Consultation' in the subject line of the email.

This consultation will open Wednesday 1st October 2023 and will close on Wednesday 13th December 2023.