Consultation on proposed Admission Arrangements at Willow Bank Infant School for entry into Reception from September 2028

Introduction
Willow Bank Infant School is an academy school, within the Orchard Learning Alliance, who act as their own admissions authority. When an admission authority wishes to make changes to their admission arrangements, they must consult to ensure all relevant views are heard. The Orchard Learning Alliance is consulting on the following changes to the admission arrangements:

Proposed change:
The change to the oversubscribed criteria is:
To add the linked infant and junior schools to Criterion C and Criterion D.

Why are we proposing this change?
The proposal aims to make the admissions arrangements clearer and fairer We are proposing this change to make the admissions arrangements clearer and fairer and strengthen the established relationship between linked infant and junior schools and to provide greater continuity in pupils' educational journey. By including children attending a linked infant school within Criterion C, families can have increased confidence that siblings and friendship groups are more likely to remain together as they move to junior education.
This change also helps to support smoother transitions between schools, promotes stronger collaboration between linked schools, and reflects the expectation of many parents that children attending a linked infant school will normally progress to the associated junior school.

A copy of the proposed arrangement can be seen on the Willow Bank Infant website: https://www.willowbankinfant.com/web/admissions/260173.

How can you respond?
We would appreciate your views on this proposal. Please send any comments by e-mail to: admissions@willowbank-inf.wokingham.sch.uk marking your e-mail ADMISSIONS CONSULTATION 28/29.

The consultation takes place between 18th November 2026 and 6th January 2027.

What happens next?
After the consultation closing date, the responses will be collated and presented to the Orchard Learning Alliance and the local Governing Board who will reach a decision on whether to proceed with the proposed change and determine the admission arrangements. The outcome will be published on the Willow Bank website by 15th March 2027.