

Admissions to secondary schools in the Eastbourne area

1. The current community areas for admissions to the secondary schools in the Eastbourne area were established in 2000. At the time the areas were based on patterns of admission in the preceding years and on the tightest areas which had been drawn to restrict admissions. More recently the way that parents express preferences in the Eastbourne area has changed with Ratton and Bishop Bell now being significantly oversubscribed schools. Cavendish School is no longer oversubscribed but remains a popular alternative.
2. The change in popularity has meant that in some years children in the Seaside/Bridgemere area of Eastbourne which is within the areas served by Ratton and Bishop Bell have not been able to gain places at these schools. The LEA and the Heads of the secondary schools have discussed this problem and all agree that the Cavendish area should now be extended to be co-terminous with that of Ratton. By making this change it will indicate to parents living in Seaside/Bridgemere that if they give Cavendish as a first preference it will probably be met.
3. The Cabinet is recommended to agree that from 2005/06 the admission areas in Eastbourne be changed so that the area for Cavendish is the same as Ratton.