

Press Release

From Comprehensive Future
For immediate release
1 March 2011

Today parents across the country will find out if their preference for secondary school for their children has been met. Whether or not these preferences have been met will depend on the fairness of the over-subscription criteria of the schools they want their children to attend.

Also today the committee stage of the Education Bill begins. This Bill if enacted will abolish several safeguards introduced by the last government to bring about fair admissions.

The Bill –

- abolishes admissions forums; bodies which include local heads, governors and parents monitoring the fairness of admissions locally
- ends the requirement that local authorities report annually on the fairness of school admissions to the adjudicator
- while extending powers of the adjudicator to academies crucially limits his powers over all schools to ensure that his advice to a school on fairer criteria is actually followed.

Margaret Tulloch Secretary of Comprehensive Future says –

‘We are likely to see more schools able to set their own admission criteria, so mechanisms to ensure fairness will be even more needed, rather than abolished. Parents will lose out. The Government must think again.’

Note to editors

Comprehensive Future is the campaign for fair admissions. www.comprehensivefuture.org.uk

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