



# Admissions Policy

Head Teacher - Mrs J. Dark  
Last Reviewed September 2022  
Next Review September 2023

Signed by Governing Body \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Rationale

The admissions policy enables a school to offer places to children in a fair and efficient way to meet the needs of the community. Equality of opportunity is paramount.

## Aims

- Serve the community.
- Fair allocation of places.
- Promote equality.

## How parents can apply for their child to be admitted to our school

Our school is an academy but the school determines the admission arrangements in agreement with the LA. The LA is therefore the 'Admissions Authority' for our school. The regulations for entry

to each school, where the Admissions Authority is the LA, are published each year by the LA. Parents can receive a copy of these regulations directly from the LA.

The LA publishes a composite admissions prospectus each year, which gives information about how parents can apply for a place in the school of their choice. Parents have a right to express a preference for the school of their choice and they should do so on the application form. Expressing a preference does not, in itself, guarantee a place at this school. Application forms can be obtained from the Education Department of the LA and should be completed by the date stipulated on the forms. The school notifies parents about the school place as soon as all the applications have been considered.

In this area, children enter school in the academic year they become five. There is one admissions date per year, early in September (i.e. at the start of the school year). Therefore, parents who would like their child to be admitted to this school during the year their child is five should ensure that they complete the necessary application form by 15th January.

### **Admission appeals**

If we do not offer a child a place at this school, it is because to do so would prejudice the education of other children by allowing the numbers of children in the school to increase too much.

If parents wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by applying to the LA. An independent appeals panel then meets to consider all appeals by parents who have been refused a place at our school and who wish to appeal against this decision. An appeals panel's decision is binding for all parties concerned. If the appeals panel decides that we should admit a child to our school, then we will accept this and continue to do all we can to provide the best education for all the children at our school.

### **The standard number**

The standard number is the number of children the school can accommodate. The standard number for our school is 45 for every new admission year. We have a priority area as defined by the LA. We keep this number under review and the governors will apply to change the number if circumstances allow.

## **ENTITLEMENT**

All three and four year olds are entitled to a free early education place before they reach statutory school age (the beginning of the school term immediately following the child's fifth birthday). Some two year olds are also entitled to free education if they meet the entitlement criteria.

Children are admitted into Reception in the September following their fourth birthday. Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to the school is deferred until later in the school year or until the term in which the child reaches compulsory school age. Parents can request that their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age. The admission criteria will apply to all children seeking a school place, whatever their term of entry. The place offered will be reserved on condition that it is taken up within the same school year.

Admissions of summer born children may be deferred to the following September but in those cases children may be offered a place to enter Year 1 unless an application has been made and agreed by the LA or the admitting authority in advance. The Local Authority will consider any application for a deferred entry into Reception of summer born children for the September following their fifth birthday. Such requests will be considered in accordance with the Local Authority's 'Guidance on the admission of summer born children' and DfE Advice.

Children attending a school's nursery are not guaranteed a place in the reception class and a separate application must be made.

### **PUPILS WITH AN EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLAN**

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is dealt with by a separate procedure. Such children are dealt with through a separate legislative process and without reference to the oversubscription criteria below. Children who have an EHCP which names a specific school, will be admitted to that school.

### **TIE BREAK**

When demand exceeds places in any of the following policies, the distance between the child's home and school, measured by a straight line distance from the Ordnance Survey address point of the home to the main entrance to the school building, will be used to decide who is given a place; those living nearest being given the available places. Where the offer of places to applicants with equi-distant addresses would lead to oversubscription, the decision of who will be offered the place will be made by random selection.

### **MULTIPLE BIRTHS**

Where a parents of multiple births (twins, triplets etc) request admission and only one of the siblings can be offered a place, the remaining siblings will also be offered places above the admission number.

### **ADMISSION POLICIES**

Where the number of preferences for a school exceeds the number of places available, priority will be given to children in the following categories:

- 1 Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admissions authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. (see *Note 1*).
- 2 Children who have **exceptional** social or medical needs, supported by a written recommendation from the child's paediatrician/consultant or professional from Children's Services. The letter must explain why the school is the only suitable school to meet the child's needs and why no other school could provide the appropriate support for the child.
- 3 Sisters and brothers of children living at the same address, who are at present on roll at the school, and will still be attending the school at the time of admission (see *Note 2*).
- 4 All other children.

### **NOTES**

1. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. (in accordance with 1.8 School Admissions Code of Practice)
2. The terms "siblings" refers to children who live with the same family at the same address. Children living with the same family e.g. foster children and step-sisters and brothers are also included. Cousins are not siblings.

3. 'Home address' refers to the child's permanent home at the date of admission. Where the child lives with split parents who have shared responsibility, it is for the parents to determine which address to use when applying for a primary school. Proof of residency may be required at any time during or after the allocation process.