



General Admissions Policy 2021/2022

Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Where there are more applications than places available at a community or voluntary controlled school for entry to all year groups except Year 12, applications will be prioritised using the criteria below. They will be applied in conjunction with explanatory notes 1 - 6 which form part of the policy.

1. Children looked after and who were previously looked after, i.e. in public care, giving priority, if necessary, to the youngest child(ren) - see note 1 overleaf.
2. Students who were previously looked after outside of England – see note 1 overleaf.
3. Children living in the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) at the time of admission. See notes 2 and 3 overleaf.
4. Children living outside the catchment area who, at the time of their admission, have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) who were allocated a place at that school by the LA either (a) in the absence of a place being available in the catchment area school due to oversubscription and the school was identified by the LA as the next nearest with a place available or (b) the school is named in the sibling's Statement of Special Educational Need/ Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) - see notes 2, 3 and 4 overleaf.
5. Other children living in the catchment area giving priority to those living closest to the school, measured by a straight-line measure between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the LA - see notes 5 and 6 overleaf.
6. Children living outside the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school) at the time of their admission - see notes 2 and 3 overleaf.
7. Children living outside the catchment area, giving priority to those who live closest to the school, measured by a straight-line measure between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the LA - see notes 5 and 6 overleaf. Applications will be prioritised on the above basis. An exception will be made under the Authority's policy for the education of children with special educational needs where a child holds an Education, Health and Care Plan, that names the school. Remember the deadline: 15 January 2021

Explanatory notes

These notes are part of the policy.

Note 1 A child looked after is a child in public care, who is looked after by a local authority within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. Children previously looked after are children who were looked after, but have ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002) or became subject to a Child Arrangements Order or Special Guardianship Order (Children Act 1989). The provision to give the highest priority to looked after and previously looked after children applies to all children who have been adopted from local authority care.

There is no current provision in the School Admissions Code 2014 in relation to children who were previously looked after outside England. Advice issued by the Department for Education (DfE) states that a child previously looked after outside of England is one that was looked after, outside England, by a public authority, a religious organisation or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

For a child previously looked after outside England to be considered under category 2 of the LA General Admissions Policy, the parent or carer will need to provide appropriate written evidence to support the application, for example, a UK adoption order or a copy of the adoption order from the child’s county of origin. It is the responsibility of the parent or carer to provide the appropriate documentary evidence with the application; without this it will not be possible to consider the application under category 2 of the LA General Admissions Policy.

Note 2 In criteria 3, 4 and 6, priority will be given to those children with the youngest siblings. Brothers and sisters are those living at the same address and includes step and foster children. Priority will only be given where it is known at the time of allocating places that a sibling will be attending the school (excluding a nursery class) at the time of admission.

Note 3 Where reference is made to ‘associated’ infant and junior schools this is to describe those situations where infant and junior schools share the same catchment area.

Note 4 If parent or carers believe they qualify for consideration under criterion 3, they should indicate this on their preference form in the place provided for this purpose.

Note 5 Distance measurements will be undertaken using the Local Authority’s computerised Geographical Information System [GIS]. This measures a straight-line measure between the centre of the pupil’s home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the LA.

‘When love and skill work together expect a masterpiece.’ John Ruskin

Note 6 Random allocation will be used as a tie-break in categories 5 and 7 to decide who has the highest priority for admission if the distance between the children’s home address and the school is the same. This process will be independently verified.

Created by:

Governing Body committee responsible: CPS Curriculum and Standards Committee

Date due for renewal: October 2022

Signed:

Date:

Miss Danielle Fitzsimons

(Head of School)

Signed:

Date:

Mrs Joyce Hallam

(Vice Chair of Governors)