



Admission Arrangements 2019/20 - For School & Nursery

If a school is oversubscribed, places are allocated in accordance with the school's published admission criteria (also known as admission policies or admission arrangements).

The admission authority for a school or academy must set admission arrangements annually.

For community schools, the admission authority is the local council. For voluntary aided schools, academies, and free schools, it is the school's governing body or academy trust (please see individual school's websites for information on their determined admission arrangements)

Oversubscription criteria – community and voluntary controlled schools

When there are fewer applications for places in a particular school than the published admission number for that school all legitimate applications will be met with the offer of a place there.

Where there are more applicants than places, the following oversubscription criteria (admission criteria) will be used for deciding which applications have priority. These criteria are set out below in the order in which they are applied.

1. **Looked after children and previously looked after children** – Children in public care and children previously looked after will automatically be given first priority over other categories where priority is claimed on the application form and validated by the local authority.
2. **Special reasons** – Priority for admission may be given where there are exceptional social, medical or educational reasons for admission to a particular school. These reasons must be supported by evidence from a relevant professional (e.g. a doctor or a social worker) and must be submitted with the application for admission. The purpose of this criterion is to give priority to pupils with a specific need that can be met specifically at one school rather than another. The threshold for a successful application under this criterion is high and such cases are likely to be rare since all schools are able to offer support and facilities for a wide range of needs.
3. **Siblings**
Catchment area siblings – Children whose normal place of residence is in the catchment area of the school at the closing date for applications, and who will have a sibling at the school at the point of admission, in distance order with those living closer having higher priority.
Non-catchment area siblings – Children whose normal place of residence is outside the catchment area of the school at the closing date for applications and who will have a sibling at the school at the point of admission in distance order with those living closer having higher priority.
4. **Catchment area children** – Children whose normal place of residence is in the catchment area at the closing date for applications in distance order with those living closer having higher priority.
5. **Non-catchment area children** – Children whose normal place of residence is outside the catchment area at the closing date for applications in distance order with those living closer having higher priority.