URSULA TAYLOR C OF E SCHOOL

Admissions Policy 2022

The Governing Body, as the admission authority, determines the school's admission policy and arrangements and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admission. The Governing Body works with the Local Authority in order to ensure admissions are co-ordinated within the Borough. The LA Admissions Team provides parents with a common application form and a deadline for submission.

The standard number for Ursula Taylor C of E School currently stands at 60

1. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' (see definitions);
2. Pupils living in the catchment area with siblings at the school (see definition of sibling);
3. Other pupils living in the catchment area;
4. 'Very exceptional' medical grounds (see definition);
5. Other siblings (see definition);
6. Children of staff members (see note 4)
7. Any other children

Notes

1. If applying these criteria results in there being more children with an equal right to admission to the school than the number of available places, the tie break will be the distance the pupil lives from the school, measured in a straight line, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority. The Local Authority will measure the distance from the address point of the pupil's home to a point on the school site agreed with the governing body of the school. The Local Authority will not give priority within each criterion to children who meet other criteria.

2. The Local Authority will normally offer a place at the catchment area school if parents apply for a place at that school during the normal admissions round. However, a place at the catchment area school cannot be guaranteed. If a pupil moves into the catchment area outside the normal admissions round (or after the allocation process has begun) it may be more difficult to offer a place at the catchment area school if this would mean exceeding the admission number at the school. In this case, a place will normally be offered at the next nearest academy which caters for pupils of the same age and has places available.

3. Pupils who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan are required to be admitted to the school which is named on the statement/ EHCP, even if the school is full. Pupils identified for admission through the Fair Access Protocol will also be admitted even if the school is full.

4. Children of Staff at the School

a) Where the member of staff has been employed at the School for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the School is made, and/or

b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Definitions

'Looked after' children

A 'looked after' child is a child who is (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

Previously 'looked after' children

A previously 'looked after' child is one who immediately after being 'looked after' became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. An 'adoption order' is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.
A 'residence order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

Sibling

A sibling refers to a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister or the child of the parent / carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living at the same address. The sibling must be in the school at the time of application and be likely to remain in the school at the proposed date of admission.

'Very Exceptional' Medical Grounds

'Very exceptional' medical grounds refers to cases where there are exceptional medical reasons which make it essential that a child should attend a particular school and where the preferred school is the only school locally that could meet the child's needs. A medical report from the child's doctor or consultant must be submitted with the application form, setting out valid medical reasons why it is essential for the child to be admitted to the school in question and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. The Local Authority reserves the right to seek further information in order to determine whether it is essential for a child to be admitted to the preferred school on medical grounds. Admission on medical grounds cannot be considered where the medical condition relates to that of a parent / carer, brother or sister or other relative/child minder.

Home Address

A pupil's home address will be regarded as the address of the parent / carer with parental responsibility with whom the child normally lives. This will not usually include grandparents, aunts or uncles. Where a child spends time with parents / carers at more than one address, the address used to allocate a school place will be the one at which the pupil is ordinarily resident and where the child spends the majority of the school week (Mondays to Fridays) including nights. If there is any query on the home address this will be checked against original official documentation e.g. council tax bill, a recent utility bill (gas, electricity or water), a rental agreement, child benefit annual statement or family tax credit information.

Policy Reviewed February 2021