

Halesowen C of E Primary School



We care, we trust, we believe.
We share, we enjoy, we achieve.

Admissions Policy 2024

Signed by

Headteacher: *Z. Knowlton* Date: 17.2.23

Chair of Governors: *J E Price* Date: 17.2.23

Admissions Policy

Whilst every effort will be made to meet parents' wishes as to a placement at this school for their child/children, **registration does not automatically guarantee a place.**

It should also be noted that registration for a place at the school is a separate process from registration for a Nursery place. Parents whose child attends the Nursery must, if they wish their child to continue on into the school, complete a separate application form.

Admissions Criteria

Places at the school will be allocated on the basis of the following criteria:

a) Looked after children and all previously looked after children. 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). Further references to previously looked after children means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after. (see notes)

b) Children who have a "serious and ongoing medical condition" where Halesowen C of E Primary School is the most appropriate school to meet the condition.

(Parents must provide supportive information from their child's Hospital Consultant at the time of application in order to be considered under this criteria. This supportive information should include information about the needs of the child and should detail the difficulties the child would experience if they attended another school. Parents should also indicate why the preferred school is the most appropriate to meet their child's medical condition rather than any other school. The Governing Body will not seek to obtain medical evidence on behalf of parents.

c) Children who have a brother/sister, half-brother/sister (where the children share one common parent), or step-brother/step-sister living at the same address and who will still be attending the preferred school in the academic year 2024/2025

d) Any places that remain available once the above applicants have been admitted, will be filled according to those children who live closest to the school, determined by a straight-line measurement in metres, from the home address to the main entrance of Halesowen C of E Primary School.

Notes

- A 'looked after child' is a child who is a) in the care of a local authority, or b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22 (1) of the Children's Act 1989) at the time of making an application to the school.
- This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002
- A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.
- Child arrangement orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangement orders replace residence orders and any residence in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order
- 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).
- In accordance with legislation, a child with a Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan will be offered a place at the school named in the EHC Plan as the most appropriate to meet the child's individual needs, this may reduce the amount of places available for children who do not have a an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.
- Any Dudley child not obtaining a place will be advised about the independent appeals process.
- Definition of brother or sister also relates to adopted or fostered children living at the same home address.
- The home address is considered to be the child's (along with their parents') genuine principal place of residence at the time of the allocation of places i.e. where they are normally and regularly living. If a child is resident with friends or relatives (for reasons other than guardianship), the friends or relatives address will not be considered for allocation purposes.
- Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the school week, then the home address will be determined as the

address where the child lives for the majority of the school week. Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence to support the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes. At least one item of proof must demonstrate where the child lives.

- Special conditions will apply in the event that one child from a set of twins or triplets does not gain admission to the preferred school through the admissions criteria. The Governing Body will exceed the admission number for the school concerned to prevent separation of twins / triplets.
- Random allocation will be used as a tie-break to decide who has the highest priority for admission if the distance between two children's homes and the school is the same.

Deferred Entry to Reception Class

Parents have the right to retain a place offered and request that their child be admitted to Reception Class later during the 2024/25 academic year or until the term in which the child reaches compulsory school age, if they so wish. Parents can also request that their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Admission of children outside of their normal age group

If parents wish for their child to be considered for admission to a class outside of their normal age group, they should first make an application for the normal age group. Parents should then submit a formal written request to the Governing Body, outlining the reasons why the child should be considered for admittance into a class outside of their normal age group and submitting any supporting documentation. The Governing Body will consider the application and advise parents the outcome of their application prior to the national offer day, having taken into account the information provided by the parents, the child's best interests and the views of the Head teacher. If parents are considering this option they should read the DFE guidance which can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission>

Late Applications

Preferences that are received after the closing date for receipt of applications will only be considered after applications that were received within the deadline have been dealt with.

There will, however, be exceptional circumstances in which a late application will be considered alongside those applications that were made within the deadline.

In each circumstance supportive documentary evidence must be provided by the parent / carer at the time of application.

Waiting Lists

If the school is oversubscribed and children have been refused admission because other children have a higher priority for admission under the published admissions criteria, then those applicants who are unsuccessful will be asked if they wish to be placed on a waiting list.

Children on the waiting list will be ranked in accordance with the published admissions criteria and the list will operate from the point of allocation until the 31st August 2025. If more than one application is received at the same time, the oversubscription criteria, will be used to determine which applicant will have the place.

Inclusion on a school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available there.

A child's position on a waiting list is not fixed and is subject to change during the year i.e. they can go up or down the list.

Places that become available between the point of allocation and 31st August 2025 will be offered to children according to their ranking on this list i.e. those ranked highest will be offered first.

Application process

For admissions at the normal point of entry the Governors have agreed that the Local Authority will co-ordinate all applications for all schools in Dudley. See the co-ordinated scheme for further details.

The Governing Body have also agreed that in-year admission applications will be co-ordinated by the Local Authority.

Repeat Applications

It is not the School's Policy to consider repeat applications in the same academic year unless there have been significant and material changes in the circumstances of the applicant.