

# COMMUNITY JUNIOR SCHOOLS

Admission criteria 2013/14



## **PROPOSED COMMUNITY JUNIOR SCHOOL ADMISSION CRITERIA:**

The admission arrangements outlined within this document apply to admissions to community school junior schools from the 2013/14 academic year.

In the event that the school is oversubscribed, the Council will apply the following admission criteria in order of priority:

1. A looked after child;
2. Children attending a feeder infant school with a sibling already attending the linked junior school at the time of admission;
3. Other children attending the feeder infant school;
4. Children with a sibling already attending the junior school at the time of admission;
5. Other children.

## **Exceptions will be made as follows:**

- a child whose Special Educational Needs (SEN) Statement names the school will be admitted to that school.
- the Published Admission Number (PAN) will be exceeded, as necessary, to allow for the admission of all children whose parents seek their transfer from the feeder infant school, subject to consultation with the junior school concerned.
- on exceptional medical or social grounds, such as:
  - a serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence;
  - the recent death of a parent;
  - a significant caring role for the child which can be supported by evidence from Social Services.

Parents/carers or their representative will have to demonstrate that only the preferred school can meet the exceptional medical or social needs of the child. This can be in the form of a testimony from a medical practitioner, social worker or other professional who can support the application on an 'exceptional' basis.

- where a child requires admission to a designated special needs centre or other specialist provision attached to the school.
- where it's necessary to meet the requirements of a school's Trust Deed.

## **Notes:**

**Home address:** any allegations received by the admission authority of people providing false or accommodation addresses when applying for school places shall be fully investigated and, if found to be true, allocated places may be withdrawn, as appropriate. Oversubscribed schools are advised to ask parents to provide proof of residence (for example utility bills) before admitting the child.

The local authority (LA) will also carry out checks as appropriate. A child's home address is defined as the address at which the child is normally resident or, where a child lives at more than one address, the address at which the child lives for the majority of the time. Where the home address is unclear, the Admission Authority will determine the appropriate address taking into account factors such as the address to which the Child Benefit Allowance or Child Tax Credit is payable, registration for medical services etc.

**Looked after child:** A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. 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 Act 1989).

**Multiple births:** defined as children of multiple birth (including those born within the same academic year cohort). We understand that parents/carers would like to keep twins, triplets and other children of multiple birth together. Where the admission criteria is applied and it is not possible to offer places to all children of the same multiple birth family we would work with the family to find the best solution for them and their children. Should it transpire that it is not possible to offer place(s) to all children within that multiple birth, the parent will be invited to nominate which child should be allocated the place(s).

**Sibling:** children are siblings if they are a full, half, step, or adoptive brother or sister, and live in the same family unit and household.

**Tie-breaker:** where we have to choose between two or more children in the same category as each other, then the nearer to the school the child lives - as measured by a straight line on the map using the City Council's electronic mapping system - the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from an internal point of the building concerned (usually the visual centre of the building). Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location.

**Definitive tie-breaker:** in the event of there still being a tie, there will be a random ballot using an electronic random number generator.