

- e. External students living outside the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school at the time of their admission.
- f. External students living outside the catchment area.

Where there is a need to prioritise places within any of the above criteria except criteria 1a and 2a, priority will be given to those students who live nearest to the school.

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. The student will still need to meet the minimum entry and subject specific academic requirements.

In the event that there are available places after the above criteria has been applied, consideration may be extended to students who narrowly missed meeting the academic criteria. Internal applicants would have priority over external applicants. The applicant would need to have demonstrated in his or her GCSE or other Key Stage 4 courses willingness and an ability to study at the proposed level.

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).

Advice issued by the Department for Education (DfE) in July 2021 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 previously looked after child to be considered under criteria 1a and 2a, the parent or carer must provide appropriate written evidence to support the application. Without this evidence it will not be possible to consider the application under criteria 1a or 2a of the LA General Admissions Policy.

Note 2

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 at the time of admission.

In circumstances where there is an application for more than one child in the family, and it is not possible to offer a place to all of the children concerned, it will be up to the parent or carers to decide whether they wish to accept the place[s] offered. This will also be the case in relation to twins and multiples.

Note 3

The address where the child normally lives will be used in the allocation process. Where the address is difficult to determine, for example where shared living arrangements are in place, in most circumstances, the address of the parent or carer claiming child benefit will be used. If this is not possible, the address that the child is registered with their GP will be used.

Note 4

If parent or carers believe they qualify for consideration under criterion 2c, 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 measurement between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the LA.

Note 6

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break to decide who has the highest priority for admission in all criteria except 1a and 2a, if the distance between the children's home address and the school is the same. This process will be independently verified.