



Broadmayne First School

Admissions Policy

2023/24

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| Approved by: | Governing Body |
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| Last reviewed on: | August 2022 |
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Admission Arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools in Dorset Council 2023/202

Adopted by Broadmayne First School

This policy commences for children applying to schools to start in September 2023 and should be read in conjunction with the Parent's Guide. The guide along with admissions policies for other types of schools and further information and clarification are available on Dorset's school admissions website.

1. Admission of Pupils – General Principles

- The School Admissions Code, legislative guidance including co-ordination, equal preference scheme and infant class size legislation are adhered to,
- The majority of schools serve traditional areas (catchments/communities) to ensure fair access. The school's catchment area is a geographical area defined by the authority following consultation with the governors and neighbouring schools and is available for parents to view on the Dorset for You website,
- Where possible, within the current constraints and legislation, children attend schools preferred by their parents,
- Every (Dorset Council) child will be allocated a place in an educational setting once an application is submitted,
- Admission arrangements are consistently and equally applied to all,
- Resources are used efficiently,
- Allocation of school places are made up to the planned admission number, in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.
- The Dorset Council Admissions Arrangements adhere to the principles of the Equalities Act 2010.

2. Published Admission Numbers (PANs)

All admission authorities must set an admission number for each 'relevant age group' and places will be allocated according to the published oversubscription criteria.

A school will be asked to exceed the admission number only where:-

- The last place within PAN is allocated to one of multiple birth siblings, then the other birth siblings will be admitted,
- Where an error occurs and the child should have been offered a place,
- A large group of families with children arrive in the area where it has not been possible to accommodate them within the normal allocation of places because of the short notice. If this is the case, the Local Authority will identify an appropriate setting to accommodate the children as quickly as possible,
- An unexpected event/incident occurs necessitating urgent/temporary placement,
- There is a need to comply with other agreed protocols, e.g. Children in Care, Fair Access, SEN Code of Practice and the Military Covenant

In Year Admissions only

- Where no other school would provide suitable education within a reasonable distance of the home. In this instance the distance will be considered based on the transport offered to the alternative setting, following national guidance on transport times i.e. the alternative placement will not exceed a journey of 45 minutes for primary aged children and 75 minutes for secondary aged children. The length of journey does not include walking to the 'stop'. Transport is also based on consideration of efficient use of resources and prejudice to the school or neighbouring schools.



3. Admission of Pupils to School for the First Time at Age 4+/5

3.1 Statutory school age

Children reach compulsory school age the school term following their fifth birthday. The start of term is defined as 1 September/January/April (this may not be the first day of term for the school being considered).

3.2 Admission at 4+

An application must be submitted for every child to the LA. Children are able to attend full-time in September of the year they are due to start school. Some schools offer a phased integration. Parents can request part-time attendance until compulsory school age is reached. This needs to be agreed with the headteacher of the school where a place is offered. Parents can also request deferred entry within the first academic year or until compulsory school age. A record of the deferment should be kept by the school and parent. The place is held and is not available to be offered to another child unless it is not taken up by the agreed date when it will be considered vacant. If this request for deferred entry goes beyond the start of the academic year, the parent will need to reapply for a school place in the next academic year for entry to year 1

4. Transfer to the next school by age – Normal Year of Entry

Different age ranges of schools in the Dorset Council area means children may transfer to the next school, depending on where they live, at ages 7+ (Year 3), 9+ (Year 5), 11+ (Year 7) or 13+ (Year 9). In all cases an application should be submitted by the published closing date and through the Home Local Authority. This is the local authority in whose area the child resides. Applications should be submitted by the person who has parental responsibility for the child.

5. In Year Admissions

In-year or casual admissions will be processed either through the LA where schools have opted in to the LA co-ordinated scheme (subject to availability) or directly to the school, where the school has opted out. If uncertain of whether the preferred school takes in year applications direct, parents can contact the school itself or contact Dorset's school admissions department. A formal application must be made in all instances with relevant information attached to the application. Should a place not be allocated at a preference school the parents have a right of appeal. Any alternative placement offered will take account of the distance to travel consistent with the national guidance on journey times i.e. the alternative placement will not exceed a journey of 45 minutes for primary aged children and 75 minutes for secondary age children.

6. Admission of children outside their normal age group

The processes for the admission of children outside their normal or chronological age group are detailed in the "Dorset Council – Guidance on placement outside normal age group".

7. Placements in Alternative Settings and Managed Moves

Policies are available on In Year Fair Access and Managed Move protocols on Dorset's school admissions webpage.

Pupils from outside of Dorset Council area who have been placed in alternative provision (PRU) and move into Dorset may initially be placed in a Learning Centre where consideration will be given to the most suitable placement to support the child's educational achievement. Should integration to mainstream be considered appropriate, and on receipt of an application from the parent, this will be considered by the In Year Fair Access Panel.



It is also expected that where the PRU or Alternative Provision is clear that the young person needs to be returned to a mainstream setting this will be facilitated by the IYFA panel.

Where a young person is placed in a Learning Centre or Alternative Provision, the IYFA panel will also allocate a mainstream school to hold the roll for that child until their needs are understood and appropriate plans for their education and/or return to mainstream are finalized.

8. Children in Care

There is an additional policy and guidance available for Children in Care and children who have previously been in care applications. Children in Care applications are given the highest priority on the oversubscription criteria.

9. School Transport

Details about school transport are provided in the Home to School Transport Policy. Advice is also provided in the Policy and Parents' Guide to ensure parents, guardians and carers are aware that their preference of school and the admissions criteria will affect their entitlement to 'free' school transport. This includes later changes (e.g. change of address) which could have a bearing on continued eligibility for school transport.

10. Withdrawal of School Places

Places will only be withdrawn where:

- A place has been offered in error by the admission authority and the affected child/ren have not yet started at the preferred school,
- A place has been offered on the basis of a false, fraudulent or deliberately misleading application. The place will be withdrawn if the case has been identified by the first October half-term following admission,
- The place has not been taken up by the specified date – the parent will be contacted in advance of the withdrawal of a place,
- The place has been declined by the parent.

11. Waiting Lists

The LA operates a limited waiting list policy. Parents can apply to have their child's name placed on a waiting list for a period of one term following refusal. If parents wish to keep a child on a waiting list beyond this term they will need to write in for an extension. There is no guarantee of a school place by remaining on the waiting list.

12. Appeals

If the LA is unable to offer a place at a school that has been applied for, the parent has the right to appeal to an independent Appeals Panel. The decision of the Panel is binding on all parties and where parents succeed with their appeal, the place at the school originally offered by the LA will be automatically withdrawn.



13. OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

The admission of children with Education Health & Care Plans and Statements of Special Educational Needs is covered by Sections 324 to 328 of, and Schedule 27 to, the Education Act 1996. Guidance on the Admission of EHCP pupils is given in the Special Education Needs Code of Practice.

1. Where all parental preferences for places at the school can be satisfied, all children seeking a place will be admitted.

2. Where there are too few places available to satisfy all preferences, places will be allocated according to the following priority order:-

i) A "Child in Care" or who was "previously a Child in Care" (see footnote 1)

ii) Children who the authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social need and where there is a need for a place at one specific school (see footnotes 2).

iii) Children living within the school's catchment area who will have a sibling(s) attending the school at the time of admission. (see footnote 3 & 4)

iv) Children living within the school's catchment area who are attending the preferred school's recognised maintained feeder school during the previous year and are on that school's roll at the time of application. (see footnote 5).

v) Children living within the school's catchment area.

vi) Children living outside the school's catchment area who will have a sibling(s) attending the school at the time of admission. (see footnote 4)

vii) Children living outside the school's catchment area and who are attending one of the preferred school's recognised maintained feeder schools during the previous year at the time of application. (see footnote 6,7)

viii) Children living outside the school's catchment area and whose parents wish them to attend a CE Voluntary Controlled school on denominational grounds. (see footnote 8)

ix) Children of staff with at least two years continuous service at the school or who have been recruited to a vacancy to meet a demonstrable skills shortage as at the date of application (in year) or relevant closing date under the LA coordinated scheme (normal year of entry) and who still intend to be employed at the school at the time of the child's admission. (see footnote 9 & 10)

x) All other children living outside the school's catchment area.

3. If oversubscribed within any of the priority order categories above, places will be allocated on the basis of the shortest straight-line measurement using a geographical information-based system which identifies an Easting and Northing for the home address and the school and calculates the distance between the two locations. NB. School transport is based on walking and driven distances.

4. In the event that the LA is unable to distinguish between applications despite applying the priority categories above, lots will be drawn by an independent (of the LA) person to determine the final place(s).

5. Where applications are received from families with multiple birth siblings and by adhering to PAN these siblings could not be offered the same school, the admission number will be exceeded to accommodate the multiple birth siblings. This is not an indication that schools can exceed the admission number other than under these exceptional circumstances.



Footnotes

1. A “Child in Care” means any child who is in the care of a local authority in accordance with Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989. A child who was “previously a Child in Care” means a child who after being Looked After became subject to an Adoption Order under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002, a Child Arrangement Order under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 or Special Guardianship Order under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989. This category also includes Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children (IAPLAC). These are also children outside of England, who were deemed to have been in the care of the State (or by the 3rd sector where no state provision is available) prior to their adoption. This category comes into effect September 2021 in accordance with the new DFE School Admissions Code 2021.
2. Applications will only be considered under this category if there is evidence provided such as a Child Protection Order, Children in Need document or a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other relevant independent professional. The information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child. The local authority is all inclusive and will meet all legislative requirements to accommodate children within their educational setting as appropriate to their need.
3. Applications will also be considered under this category for a child who has or will have a sibling with an Education Health & Care Plan and where that sibling attending their nearest Complex Communication Needs Base, Physical Disability Base or a Social, Emotional Mental Health Base at the time of the admission.
4. The term ‘sibling’ means full brother or sister, half or step brother or sister, adoptive brother or sister and other non-blood related children who live with married or cohabiting parents in the same household and relates to all year groups provided by the school. In the case of an infant school the sibling link will apply to the related junior school and vice versa.
5. The feeder school criteria only applies to children attending the recognised feeder Infant School and are applying to the recognised receiver Junior School. This applies to Upton Infant & Junior School and Wyke Regis Infant & Junior School.
6. This does not include independent schools, pre-schools or nurseries.
7. In order to qualify for consideration under this category, parents/guardians will need to show that at least one adult family member and the child to whom the application relates to have been attending their local church at least once a month for a minimum of a year prior to the closing date for applications. The application must also be supported by a written statement from the vicar/priest/minister or leader of the church confirming this.
8. In order to qualify for consideration under this category, parents/guardians will need to 8. The term ‘children’ includes full, half, step, adopted and those non-blood related but resident through marriage, civil partnerships or single family co-habitation arrangements at the time of application or deadline.
9. Staff are defined as all Dorset Council employed teaching and support staff at the preferred school. ‘Children of staff’ refers to situations where the staff member is the natural parent, the legal guardian or a resident step parent. If applicants wish to be considered under this criterion then a letter from the Headteacher confirming the above applies to the applicant must be provided at the time of application.

Failure to provide sufficient evidence will result in the application being processed against the next highest criteria.

All policies and the Parents’ Guide which provides further information and clarification are all available at www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions.



APPENDIX 1

Voluntary Controlled Schools under footnote 8 above and for which Oversubscription Criteria viii applies.

Broadwindsor CEVC Primary School
Greenford CEVC Primary School
Pimperne CEVC Primary School
Cerne Abbas VC CE First School
Manor Park CEVC First School
St Mary's CEVC First School (Charminster)
Lulworth & Winfrith CEVC Primary School
All Saints CEVC Primary School (Bishops Caundle)
Holy Trinity CEVC Primary School

Beaminster School
The Gillingham School

Appendix 1: attendance codes

The following codes are taken from the DfE's guidance on school attendance.

| Code | Definition | Scenario |
|------|-------------------------------|---|
| / | Present (am) | Pupil is present at morning registration |
| \ | Present (pm) | Pupil is present at afternoon registration |
| L | Late arrival | Pupil arrives late before register has closed |
| B | Off-site educational activity | Pupil is at a supervised off-site educational activity approved by the school |
| D | Dual registered | Pupil is attending a session at another setting where they are also registered |
| J | Interview | Pupil has an interview with a prospective employer/educational establishment |
| P | Sporting activity | Pupil is participating in a supervised sporting activity approved by the school |
| V | Educational trip or visit | Pupil is on an educational visit/trip organised, or approved, by the school |
| W | Work experience | Pupil is on a work experience placement |

| Code | Definition | Scenario |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Authorised absence | | |
| C | Authorised leave of absence | Pupil has been granted a leave of absence due to exceptional circumstances |
| E | Excluded | Pupil has been excluded but no alternative provision has been made |
| H | Authorised holiday | Pupil has been allowed to go on holiday due to exceptional circumstances |

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| I | Illness | School has been notified that a pupil will be absent due to illness |
| M | Medical/dental appointment | Pupil is at a medical or dental appointment |
| R | Religious observance | Pupil is taking part in a day of religious observance |
| S | Study leave | Year 11 pupil is on study leave during their public examinations |
| T | Gypsy, Roma and Traveller absence | Pupil from a Traveller community is travelling, as agreed with the school |
| Unauthorised absence | | |
| G | Unauthorised holiday | Pupil is on a holiday that was not approved by the school |
| N | Reason not provided | Pupil is absent for an unknown reason (this code should be amended when the reason emerges, or replaced with code O if no reason for absence has been provided after a reasonable amount of time) |
| O | Unauthorised absence | School is not satisfied with reason for pupil's absence |
| U | Arrival after registration | Pupil arrived at school after the register closed |

| Code | Definition | Scenario |
|------|---|--|
| X | Not required to be in school or Covid-related absence | Pupil of non-compulsory school age is not required to attend Child cannot attend due to self-isolation after contact with a positive Covid case |
| Y | Unable to attend due to exceptional circumstances | School site is closed, there is disruption to travel as a result of a local/national emergency, or pupil is in custody |



Broadmayne First School Admissions Policy

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| Z | Pupil not on admission register | Register set up but pupil has not yet joined the school |
| # | Planned school closure | Whole or partial school closure due to half-term/bank holiday/INSET day |

Appendix 2

Broadmayne First School

Safeguarding Children Children missing education - Ring-back procedure

As part of our commitment to safeguarding children in our care, Broadmayne First School operates a ring-back policy in order to establish as far as possible, the safety of all children during school hours.

The following guidelines will be used to help establish where children are who have not been marked present in the register and where there has not been any message from parents/carers to explain their absence.

1. Registers should be marked by 9am using SIMS.
2. Any child arriving in school after 9am and not marked in the register should be sent by the class teacher/other adult in charge of the class/group to the school office in order to be marked in school but late.
3. Office staff will check all registers on SIMS. At 9:30am, the office will:
 1. Re-check any children that are marked absent and for whom an explanation for the absence has not been given. This includes checking with the class teacher to see if the child has arrived but has not presented themselves to the office as late.
 2. For those children still unaccounted for, the office staff will phone the parent/carer using the first given contact number from the school data sheets. If contact is made, office staff will ask for an explanation of the absence and remind the parent/carer of the need to make contact with the school office before 9am if their child is unable to be at school (for whatever reason).
 3. If the parent/carer cannot be contacted on the first given contact number, other given numbers will be used.
 4. If the parent/carer cannot be contacted on any of the given contact numbers, the alternative contacts will be tried.
 5. If by 10:00am there is no response from the parent/carer or any of the other given contacts, the DSL or deputy DSL will be informed
 6. The DSL will consider each absent child case by case. Action may include:
 - If the child is not usually a child protection concern, the office staff will be asked to continue to try to contact the parent/carer throughout the day until contact is made.
 - If the child is a child protection concern, has a CAF (Common Assessment Framework) or the family is already being supported by the Early Intervention Team or other agencies, these agencies will be contacted in order to establish reasons for the absence.

The above procedures are only guidelines and each absent child should be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

