

Beaconhill Primary School - Admissions Policy

The Governing body recognises that a clear policy of admissions to the school firmly reflects the vision of '*where children matter*' in that all children have access to education in this school as outlined in the following document.

Aims and Objectives

We seek to be an inclusive school, welcoming children from all backgrounds and abilities. All applications will be treated on merit, and in a sensitive manner. The only restriction we place on entry is that of numbers in classes. If the number of children applying for entry exceeds the places available, we adopt the procedure set out below to determine whether a child is to be accepted or not. It is our wish for parents and carers to find a place for their child at the school of their choice. However, this is not always possible, due to excess demand on the places available. A child's level of attainment and/or additional needs are irrelevant to this school's admissions policy.

How Parents/Carers Can Apply for their Child to be Admitted to our School

Our school is a community school, and the admission arrangements are determined in agreement with the local authority (LA). The Admissions Authority for our school is therefore the LA, which publishes its entry regulations every year. Parents and carers can receive a copy of these regulations directly from the LA. The LA's annual admissions prospectus informs parents and carers how to apply for a place at the school of their choice. Parents and carers have a right to express their preference, but this does not, in itself, guarantee a place at that particular school. Application should be made on a form that can be obtained from the local Education Department, and should be returned by the date stipulated on that form. The school will notify parents and carers of the decision as soon as all the applications have been considered. In this school, children enter Reception class at the start of the year in which they will turn 5. For Reception pupils, there is one admission date per year, early in September which is when the Autumn term begins.

Nursery Admissions

We offer Nursery provision for a minimum of three terms, beginning the term after a child turns three. Children begin Nursery at the start of the term after their third birthday. Our Nursery can accommodate three intakes - September, January and April as this is when the Autumn, Spring and Summer terms begin. The school offers afternoon Nursery places to those pupils whose parents qualify for 30 hour provision. The school operates a waiting list

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for Nursery classes. Places are allocated on a first come, first served basis. For pupils living outside the school catchment area, parents will be advised that Reception places may be oversubscribed, which may affect their choice of Nursery placement.

Admission Appeals

If parents and carers wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by applying to the LA. An independent panel considers all such appeals, and its decision is binding for all parties concerned. If the appeals panel decides that we should admit a child to whom we had refused a place, then we will accept this decision and continue to do all we can to provide the best education for all the children at our school. (Further details of appeal arrangements are set out in the revised Code of Practice on School Admissions Appeals, which can be found on the Northumberland County Council website.)

The Planned Admission Number

This is the number of children the LA considers the school can accommodate. The standard number for our school is 30. We keep this number under review, and the governors will apply to change the number if circumstances change.

Sizes of Classes for Nursery

Nursery operates to a maximum of 39 children.

Sizes of classes for Reception and Key Stage One

We teach infant children (aged 4 to seven) in classes that have a maximum number of 30 children. This is a statutory requirement.

Size of Classes in Key Stage Two

There is no legal limitation on the maximum class size for pupils in Key Stage Two though due to space limitations we do not typically go above our Planned Admission Number in Key Stage Two.

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