

ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOLS – 2014/15

1. **'Looked-after' child** – a child that is looked-after' by a Local Authority in accordance with Section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989 and a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so, because of adoption (or become subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
2. **Attendance in Key Stage 2 (age 7-10+) at a designated cluster junior or primary school**
3. **A sibling link** - an older brother/sister or older child (including adoptive, foster or step-children) that shares the same parent/carer and lives at the same address, who will still be attending the preferred school at the time of admission.
4. **Exceptional medical or psychological reasons** (you must include a medical or psychological report, prepared by a professional, to confirm information that you include in this section. This report should explain why only this school can meet your child's medical or psychological needs. Common childhood medical conditions such as asthma or giving a child's or giving a child's nervousness at starting new school as a psychological reason for choosing a particular school are unlikely to be accepted as exceptional). If you intend to use this criterion when expressing a preference, please contact the School Admissions Team before completing the application form. (Eligibility under this category will be considered by a meeting of Senior LA Officers).
5. **Pupils for whom preferences are expressed on grounds other than those outlined above.**

NOTES

Within each of the above, places will be offered on the basis of distance from the centre of the home address to the main entrance of the school with priority being given to those living closest to the school. Distance is measured by the shortest safest walking distance, using a geographical information system (GIS).

At the first stage of allocations there will be no distinction between 1st, 2nd, 3rd etc. preference applications. Therefore all applications will be considered equally against the admission criteria. If a pupil then qualifies for a place at more than one school, the parent's highest ranked preference will be offered and any lower ranking offers will be disregarded.

In determining allocations, priority will be given to those applications where the parental preference is received by the published deadline date.

Where a pupil has a statement of special education need naming a school, a place will be offered at that school (subject to confirmation by the SEN Unit).

Where it is not possible to offer at a school, the child will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list is sorted using the admission criteria and will be held until the end of the Autumn term, after the children start Y7 in September.

Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process will be included with the notification letter but are also available from the School Admissions Team.