



NORTHMEAD JUNIOR SCHOOL

Admissions Policy for 2023/2024

The Governors' Admission Committee will admit ninety pupils to Northmead at age 7 without reference to ability or aptitude. Applications in respect of children with Education Health and Care Plan where the school is named have, by law, a priority for admission.

Criteria for Admission

1. Any Looked After Children or Previously Looked After Children -
Looked After Children are children who are registered as being in the care of the Local Authority or provided with accommodation by a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989(a) e.g. fostered or living in a children's home, at the time an application for a school is made.
Previously Looked after children are children who have previously been in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by a local authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 (a) and who have left that care through adoption, a child arrangements order (in accordance with Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 and as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014) or special guardianship order (in accordance with Section 14A of the Children Act 1989).
Children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child will be regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. The parent/carer will need to provide evidence to demonstrate that the child was in state care outside of England and left that care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children who need priority places due to medical grounds or individual and compelling family circumstances. Applications must be supported by substantive medical evidence from a consultant specialist doctor or appropriate documentary evidence.
3. Where the child has a brother or sister currently attending Northmead Junior School or Stoughton Infant School at the time of admission. A sibling will be considered to be a brother or sister (that is, another child of the same parents, whether living permanently at the same address or not), a half-brother or half-sister or a step-brother or step-sister or an adoptive or foster sibling, living at the same address.
4. Children attending Stoughton Infant school.
5. Children living in the school's catchment area of Stoughton ward (map showing Ward boundaries available from school office).
6. All other children.

'TIE BREAKER'

If there is oversubscription within any criteria, priority will be given to those living nearest to the school as measured along the shortest walking route. Shortest walking route is calculated using public footpaths, Google maps and using local knowledge of the area. The address that will apply to the application will be that shown at the closing date unless a change of address for good reason has been accepted by the Home Local Authority.

If two or more children share a priority for a place, the school will draw lots to determine which child should be given priority e.g. in the case that two children live equidistant from the school, the school will determine which child should be given priority by drawing lots.

MULTIPLE BIRTHS

In the case of multiple births, where children are ranked consecutively in their order of priority for a place and there are not sufficient vacancies remaining for each of them, wherever it is logistically possible, each child will be offered a place. Where it is not logistically possible to offer each child a place the child(ren) to be offered the last remaining place(s) will be determined by their rank position.

CHILDREN WITH AN EDUCATION, HEALTH AND CARE PLAN

Children with an Educational Health and Care Plan (EHCP) will be allocated to the school before other applicants are considered. The number of places available in the school will be reduced by the number of children with a statement of educational needs or Educational Health Care Plan that have applied to the school.

ADMISSIONS OUTSIDE A CHILD'S CHRONOLOGICAL YEAR GROUP

Applicants may choose to seek places outside of their child's chronological (correct) year group. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and what is in the best interest of the child concerned.

- Applicants who are applying for their child to have a decelerated entry to school, i.e. to start later than other children in their chronological age group, should initially apply for a school place in accordance with the deadlines that apply for their child's chronological age. If, in liaison with the headteacher, governors agree for the child to have a decelerated entry to the school place cannot be deferred and instead the applicant will be invited to apply again in the following year for the decelerated cohort
- Applicants who are applying for their child to have an accelerated entry to school, i.e. to start earlier than other children in their chronological age group, must initially apply for a school place at the same time that other families are applying for that cohort. If, in liaison with the headteacher, governors agree for the child to have an accelerated entry to the school, the application will be processed. If it is not agreed for the child to have an accelerated entry to the school, the applicant will be invited to apply again in the following year for the correct cohort

Applicants must state clearly why they feel admission to a different year group is in the child's best interest and provide what evidence they have to support this. More information on educating children out of their chronological year group and the process for making such requests is available at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions

HOME ADDRESS

The child's home address excludes any business, relative's or childminder's address and must be the child's normal place or residence. Where the child is subject to a child arrangements order and that order stipulates that the child will live with one parent/carer more than the other, the address to be used will be the one where the child is expected to live for the majority of the time. For other children, the address to be used will be the address where the child lives the majority of the time. In other cases, whether the child spends an equal time between their parents/carers, it will be up to the parent/carers to agree which address to use. Where a child spends their time equally between their parents/carers and they cannot agree on who should make the application, we will accept an application from the parent/carer who is registered for child benefit. If neither parent/carer is registered for child benefit we will accept the application from the parent/carer whose address is registered with the child's current school or nursery.

APPLICATIONS

Applications for admission at the start of Year Three for September 2023 must be made on the Surrey LA Common Admissions Form for Primary/Junior Schools – September 2023.

LATE APPLICATIONS

In the event of the school being oversubscribed, applications received after the closing date will be relegated to the waiting list and considered under the criteria shown above.

CONFIRMATION OF PLACES AT THE SCHOOL

The LA will confirm a place at the school has been allocated by writing to parents.

If the school is oversubscribed the Governors will confirm the allocation of a place at the school to those meeting the school's admission criteria up to 90 places. Governors will only confirm the allocation of a place at the school after the local authority has issued its letters to parents.

WAITING LIST

In the event of there being more than 90 applications, the school will hold a waiting list for places. Waiting list places will be offered in line with the criteria shown above and not by the length of time the child has been on the waiting list.

APPEALS

Parents who have not been allocated a place are entitled to appeal to an independent Appeal Panel. Forms for this are available from the school office.

IN YEAR ADMISSIONS.

Applications for in year admissions should be made directly to the school. The school office can provide the local authority's application form for completion (IYA – SMA form). All in year admissions will be considered against the criteria previously listed in this policy with the exception of Criteria 4. Should a child from Stoughton Infant School be on our waiting list due to oversubscription during the initial round of applications, an alternative place would be offered at an alternative school by the Local Authority. Therefore, in year admissions will be any admission after 1st September 2023 whether it was to a child who has applied as part of the normal round who had remained on the waiting list, or a child who had applied after the start of the school year.

Date of Policy : Spring 2009

Date of Review : Spring 2022

Date of next Review: Spring 2023

Directory : Staffroom\Policies\Parent\Admission