



ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS 2019/2020

Determined and agreed by the Board of Trustees

8th FEBRUARY 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Hannah Randall".

Hannah Randall

Chair of the Board

KEY NOTES – ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2019/2020

School name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Beechwood Primary Academy ▪ Oakwood Primary Academy ▪ Weston Mill Community Primary Academy 	
Admission authority	The Board of Trustees of the Discovery multi academy trust The admissions function has been delegated to the Local Advisory Board of each individual Primary School named above	
Schools' status	Academy	
Catchment area	No	
Supplementary Information Form	Yes – parents who are members of staff only	
Application forms available online	www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions	
	Normal point of entry	In-Year admission
Age range for application	1 September 2014- 31 August 2015	Any admission other than the normal point of entry in years Reception/Foundation – year 6
Application period	Monday 5 November 2018 – Tuesday 15 January 2019	From Sunday 1 September 2019
Offer date	Tuesday 16 April 2019	Within 20 school days of application receipt
Published admission number	See section 3	Unless otherwise agreed, the published admission number at the normal point of entry applies to each year group as it moves through the school

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¹ At the time of determination the Discovery Multi Academy Trust receives services from Plymouth City Council. If the Trust ceases this service, the function will be undertaken by the school or contracted to another provider.

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS: DISCOVERY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

The Board of Trustees of the Discovery multi academy trust is the admission authority for Beechwood Primary Academy, Oakwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Community Primary Academy. The admission authority will comply with provisions within the School Admissions Code and the School Appeals Code available at www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2.

The admission arrangements outlined within this document apply to admissions in the 2019/2020 academic year.

SECTION I

(i) Reception/Foundation admissions (normal point of entry)

The admission arrangements outlined within this section apply to children starting in the Reception/Foundation Year for the first time in 2019/2020. The published admission number (PAN) for this year group is shown in the school list at Section 3 and in the Starting School Parent's Guide. The close date for application is 15 January 2019. Allocation results will be notified on 16 April 2019. The admission authority follows Plymouth City Council's coordinated primary admissions scheme available at www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

All applicants must:

- (i) Complete the Common Application Form available from, and returnable to their home local authority;
- (ii) In addition, applicants applying under criteria 4 below must complete the staff supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council¹.

(ii) In-Year admissions (admissions outside the normal point of entry)

The admission arrangements outlined within this section apply to in-year admissions during the 2019/2020 academic year.

An In-Year admission is any entry to school other than at the normal point, for example, transferring school due to a house move or for other personal reason. Requests for admission to Reception made after the normal round of admissions – after 31 August 2019 – and requests for places in other year groups should be made direct to Plymouth City Council¹.

With the exception of a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), all applications will be considered under Plymouth City Council's Fair Access Protocol.

Application should be made via Plymouth City Council¹ at www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions. The primary schools within the Discovery multi academy trust follow Plymouth City Council's local coordinated in-year admissions scheme available at www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

All applicants must:

- (i) Complete the Common Application Form available from and returnable to Plymouth City Council¹;

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- (ii) In addition, applicants applying under oversubscription criteria 4 must complete the staff supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council¹.

Unless otherwise agreed, the published admission number applies to each year group as it moves through the school. The close date for application is the end of each working day. Offers should be made within twenty school days of the application submission date.

SECTION 2

(i) **Oversubscription criteria for primary schools within the Discovery multi academy trust for normal point of entry and in-year admissions**

A child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school will be admitted.

At the normal point of entry, where there are fewer applicants than the PAN, all children will be admitted unless they can be offered a higher ranked preference. For in-year admissions where there is space in the school, all children will be admitted unless the school can demonstrate that admission would prejudice provision of efficient education or efficient use of resources.

In the event that the School is oversubscribed, the admission authority will apply the following oversubscription criteria in order of priority:

1. **Looked after children and all previously looked after children.** A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order);
2. **A child with exceptional medical or social grounds.** Applicants will only be considered under this heading if the parent/carer or their representative can demonstrate that only the preferred school can meet the exceptional medical or social needs of the child. This can be in the form of a testimony from a medical practitioner, social worker or other professional who can support the application on an 'exceptional' basis.
Exceptional medical or social grounds could include, for example:
 - a serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence
 - a significant caring role for the child which can be supported by evidence from social services;
3. **Children with a sibling already attending the school at the time of admission.** Children will be classed as siblings if they live in the same household in a single family unit. This includes for example, full, half, step, or adoptive brothers or sisters;
4. **Children whose parent/carer is a member of staff employed on a permanent contract by the school** for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage evidenced by completion of the staff supplementary information form¹. (This covers staff working at the school to which the application relates but does not include staff who work on the school site for other employers);

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5. **Other children** not shown in a higher oversubscription criteria.

NOTES:

Admission out of the normal age group: Places will normally be offered in the year group according to the child's date of birth but a parent may submit an application for a year group other than the child's chronological year group. A decision will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent's views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The admission authority will also take into account the views of the head teacher of the school(s) concerned. Parents must not assume that the decision of one school will transfer with the child to a different school as the decision rests with the individual admission authority. Where a place is refused in a different year group but a place is offered in the school, there will be no right of appeal.

Appeals: In the event that an applicant is denied a place at the school, the parent/carer will have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Information relating to the appeal process can be obtained from Plymouth City Council's School Admissions Team¹.

Fraudulent applications/withdrawal of allocated places: The School Admissions Code allows an offer of a school place to be withdrawn if:

- it has been offered in error or
- a parent has not responded within a reasonable period of time or
- it is established that the offer was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application. An example of this would be knowingly using an incorrect home address for a child. In these cases the application would be considered using the information that the local authority believes to be correct, for example using the home address where the local authority considers that the child actually lives.

All suspected fraudulent applications will be investigated and if a case is found, it could lead to criminal prosecution.

Home address: Any allegations received by the admission authority of people providing false or accommodation addresses when applying for school places shall be fully investigated and, if found to be true, it could lead to a criminal prosecution and withdrawal of an allocated place. Schools have been advised by Plymouth City Council to ask parents/carers to provide proof of residence (for example utility bills) before admitting a child. Plymouth local authority (LA) will also carry out checks as appropriate¹. A child's home address is defined as the address at which the child is normally resident or, where a child lives at more than one address, the address at which the child lives for the majority of the time. Where the home address is unclear, the Admission Authority will determine the appropriate address taking into account factors such as the address to which the Child Benefit Allowance or Child Tax Credit is payable, registration for medical services etc.

Mode of study and start date: There is a legal requirement that all children begin full time education by the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday, this is referred to as compulsory school age. Places are offered to children for admission at the beginning of the September term after the fourth birthday. That is before they reach compulsory school age.

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Parents have a right to defer the date their child is admitted, or to take the place up part-time, until the child reaches compulsory school age. The place that was offered would be held open for them at the school. Places cannot be deferred and held open beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made. If you decide that admission will be deferred, you must tell the allocated school so that the place can be held open. Where a parent does not inform the school that admission is to be deferred and does not admit the child at the expected point, it is likely that the place will be withdrawn and offered to another child.

For normal point of entry: the expected point of admission will be September 2019.

For in-year admissions: the expected point of admission will be within two weeks of the date of the allocation or within six weeks of the original application whichever is the later (unless other arrangements have been made with the school).

Multiple births: Defined as the birth of more than one baby from a single pregnancy. We understand that parents/carers would like to keep twins, triplets and other children of multiple birth together. Where the admission criteria is applied and it is not possible to offer places to all children of the same multiple birth family we would work with the family to find the best solution for them and their children. Should it transpire that it is not possible to offer place(s) to all children within that multiple birth, the parent/carer will be invited to nominate which child should be allocated the place.

Response: Parents/carers must respond to an allocation of a school place within two weeks of the date of notification of availability of a school place or, in the case of an in-year admission, within six school weeks of the original application for a school place whichever is the later. Response must be made to Plymouth City Council¹. In the absence of a response, the offer may be revoked and the place may be reallocated to someone else.

Tie Breaker: Where we have to choose between two or more children in the same category as each other, priority will be determined on the basis of distance between home and school. Measurements are taken by a straight line on a map using Plymouth City Council's electronic mapping system¹ – the shorter the distance the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from the spatial locator identified by the National Land and Property Gazetteer. The spatial locator is the address point based on a general internal point. Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location. If the tie-breaker is not sufficient to distinguish between applicants in a particular category, there will be a random ballot as set out in the School Admissions Code. This will be undertaken by the Chair of Governors in the presence of the head teacher by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

Waiting lists: If a place cannot be offered at the preferred school at the normal point of entry, the child's name will automatically be added to the waiting list for any school ranked higher than the school allocated. Those on a waiting list and late applicants will be treated equally and placed on the same list. Waiting lists will be held in the order of the published admission criteria and will be maintained until the end of the summer holidays 2019 in respect of the normal point of entry. Any vacancies that arise will be allocated to the child at the top of the waiting list.

From 1 September 2019, the in-year admissions scheme applies and the waiting list procedure will change in that parent/carers will be asked if they wish their child to be added to a waiting list and to confirm their wish for their child to remain on a waiting list in order that the list can be kept up to date.

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(ii)

STAFF SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM 2019/2020

Please note this is a supplementary information form for administration purposes only and is not an application form. It will be used to rank a submitted application according to the published admission criteria.

Only complete this form if you are:

a) A member of staff employed on a permanent contract by the school (and working at the school applied for) for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made;

or

b) A member of staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

If you are applying under a) or b) above, complete this form and return it to the School Admissions Team, Education, Participation and Skills, Plymouth City Council, Windsor House, Tavistock Road Plymouth, PL6 5UF.

To be completed by the parent/carer

Child's full name:	
Date of birth:	
Member of staff employed by the school:	
Name of school:	
Name of parent/carer:	
Relationship to child:	
Signature:	
Date:	

Data Protection

All information supplied will be processed and held by Plymouth City Council. Information may be shared with other relevant admission authorities and Government Departments where there is a Legal requirement to do so.

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SECTION 3

Published admission number (PAN)

School	2018/2019	2019/2020
Beechwood Primary Academy	60	60
Oakwood Primary Academy	60	60
Weston Mill Community Primary Academy	60	60

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CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

Discovery Multi Academy Trust

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Rockfield Avenue
Plymouth
PL6 6DX

www.discoverymat.co.uk

info@discoverymat.co.uk

Beechwood Primary Academy

Rockfield Avenue
Plymouth
PL6 6DX

Telephone: 01752 706360

www.beechwood-primary.co.uk

beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk

Oakwood Primary Academy

Pendeen Crescent
Southway
Plymouth
PL6 6QS

Telephone: 01752 775478

www.oakwood-primary.co.uk

oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk

Weston Mill Community Primary Academy

Ferndale Road
Camel's Head
PL2 2EL

Telephone: 01752 365250

www.westonmill.plymouth.sch.uk

westonmill.office@discoverymat.co.uk

Plymouth School Admissions Team

Year Reception/Foundation intake at the normal point of entry: 01752 307166

In-Year admissions: Telephone Primary 01752 307170or307110

The website at www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions has information about applying for a place at a school, school appeals, and the coordinated schemes of admission.

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School Appeals

Telephone 01752 398164

schoolappeals@plymouth.gov.uk

Inclusion, Attendance and Welfare Service

Telephone 01752 307405

www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolsandeducation/attendancebehaviourandwelfare

The Department for Education Schools (DFE)

Telephone: 0370 000 2288

www.education.gov.uk

Office of the Schools Adjudicator

www.education.gov.uk/schoolsadjudicator

Plymouth Information, Advice and Support for SEND

Telephone 01752 258933 or 0800 953 1131

www.plymouthias.org.uk

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