

WYCHBOLD FIRST SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY for 2018/19

When there are more applications than places, children are admitted in the following order of priority:

- i) Relevant ***‘Looked after’** and **previously *‘Looked after’** children.
- ii) **Siblings** (see below for definition) of pupils attending the school **and** living within the **catchment** area of the school. In order to qualify for a place on the grounds of a sibling attending the school, the sibling must already be attending the school at the time of application and still be attending at the time of admission. Copies of catchment area maps, if required are available from the school or LA. To find the catchment school for a postcode visit [School Catchment Search](#)

In the event of a school catchment area change being approved, pupils who would still have a **sibling connection** (see below for definition) at the time of admission and who are living at the same address in the previous catchment area for a school, (but not within the revised catchment area), at the time the change was approved will be considered as living within the **catchment area**.
- iii) Pupils living within the **catchment** area of the school. Copies of catchment area maps, if required are available from the school or LA. To find the catchment school for a postcode visit [School Catchment Search](#) ;
- iv) Pupils living outside of the catchment area but who would still have a **sibling connection** (see below for definition) at school at the time of admission. In order to qualify for a place on the grounds of a sibling attending the school, the sibling must already be attending the school at the time of application and still be attending at the time of admission;
- v) **Children of staff** at the school, where that member of staff has been employed for two or more years, and/or is recruited to fill a post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- vi) Pupils who live **nearest** to the school by the shortest straight line distance. The measurement will be taken using the GeoCode Points for each property and the GeoCode point for the School. The Governing Body will utilise the Local Authority software package called Arcview GIS to determine distance. Ordnance Survey supplies the co-ordinates that are used to plot an address within this system. ***(In the event of equi-distance applicants, any place will be allocated by random selection (lottery). Someone totally independent of the Governing Body will supervise this process).***

In accordance with legislation, a child with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan will be offered a place at the school named in the Statement or the Plan.

*‘Looked after’ means all those currently in the care of a Local Authority or accommodated by a Local Authority under the terms of the Children Act 1989 and children who were previously in the care of or accommodated by a Local Authority but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

Where there are too many applications from within the catchment area, priority will be decided in the following order, i.e. sibling connection then children of staff then according to distance, each assessed as indicated above.

The sibling connection, as well as brother and sister will include half-siblings, adopted children, step-siblings or a child of the parent/carers partner. They must also be living at the same home address. Children who

are brought together as a family by a same sex civil partnership and who are living at the same address, are also considered to be siblings.

In the event that one or more but not all children from a multiple birth can be allocated a place(s), all of the children from that multiple birth will be admitted even if this takes the school over PAN. These children are exceptions to the Infant Class Size legislation.

Late Applications

The school has agreed to accept late applications, within the time-frame set out in the LA co-ordinated scheme, and treat them as being on time, only in the following circumstances;

- a) where a family have just moved address, (refer to Information for Parents booklet);
- b) where it is agreed by the Governing Body, that individual circumstances apply and the delay was reasonable given the circumstances of the case;

In each case supporting documentary evidence will be required. **In all other circumstances, or if the application is not received until after the date set out in the scheme, late applications will receive a lower priority, and will only be considered after the applications received (or deemed to be) on time.**

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists are maintained by the School, and parents need to apply, in order to be included. These waiting lists will be maintained until the end of the 31st December 2018. Parents will need to reapply at the start of each term if they wish to be included on the list for the following term.

Fair Access Protocol

As part of the Worcestershire Fair Access Protocol, all schools with Key Stage 2, 3 and 4 classes can be required to exceed the published admission number to admit pupils covered by the Protocol.

'In Year' transfer arrangements

Parents/Carers with a first preference application for 'In Year' transfers into this school must apply directly to the school.

In line with the Code of Practice, all own admission authority schools **must**, on receipt of an in-year application, notify the relevant Local Authority of its outcome and inform parents of their right to appeal against a refusal of a place.

Parents or carers seeking to transfer to a school that does not involve a house move, or where there is no need for an immediate move, need to be aware that any date set for joining the new school may be after the next term or half term holiday and that parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child continues to receive appropriate education in the interim.

Admission of Children outside of their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health, effectively

in the year group below or above their chronological age group. In addition, the parents of a summer born child may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to Reception rather than Year 1.

This will involve the Head completing an educational assessment to determine whether or not it is appropriate for the individual child to delay or accelerate their entry into school and be taught outside of their chronological age group.