

Chestnuts Primary School Admission Arrangements for 2017/18

Chestnuts Primary School follows the admission arrangements proposed by the local authority for community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools.

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan or statement of special educational needs naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Children in Care/ Looked After Children

Children who are looked after by a local authority or were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order.

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).

2. Social Medical

Children who the admission authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social need for a place at one specific school. Applications will only be considered under this category if they are supported by a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other relevant independent professional. The information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child.

3. Brother or Sister (sibling)

Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission.

4. Distance

Children whose home address is closest to the preferred school.

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system.

Tie breakers

The tie breaker to decide between two applications that cannot otherwise be separated is children whose home address is closest to the school, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system.

The tiebreak for two or more applications whose home address is exactly the same distance from the school (and who are not from multiple births) will be random allocation using a computerised system.

Multiple births

If only one place is available at the school and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth, we will go over the published admission number.

Notes

- (i) Home address is defined as the child's only or main residence.
- (ii) A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister, a foster brother or sister or an adopted brother or sister living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made. The sibling criterion only applies to children with a sibling attending the main school and not the nursery.
- (iii) Measurements will be conducted by the local authority in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system. Measurements by alternative systems or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random using a computerised system.

Deferred entry - before compulsory school age

Children will normally be admitted to the reception year in the September following their fourth birthday. In line with the Admissions Code (2014), parents can defer their child's entry to the reception year until later in the school year, where they have been offered a place at a school to start before they are of compulsory school age. Where entry is deferred, the school will hold the place for that child and not offer it to another child. However, entry cannot be deferred beyond the point the child reaches compulsory school age nor beyond the beginning of the final term of the Reception Year. Parents can also request that their child attends part-time until he/she reaches compulsory school age.

Children educated outside their chronological age group

Paragraph 2.17 of the School Admissions Code (2014) states that the parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group. In addition, 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.

The governors of the school will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the child's individual needs and abilities and to consider whether these can best be met in reception or year one. It will also involve taking account of -

- the parents' 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
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely, and
- the potential impact on the child of being admitted to year one without first having completed the reception year.

The views of the head teacher will be an important part of this consideration.

Parents should write to the Chair of Governors giving reasons for their request. Parents who are granted their request must make an application which will be considered in accordance with the school's oversubscription criteria in the event of oversubscription and there is no guarantee that an offer will be made.

Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Waiting list

Parent/carers can request that their child be added to the waiting list following an unsuccessful application. The waiting list is maintained by the local authority and is ordered strictly in accordance with the above oversubscription criteria.

Waiting list positions can change at any time depending on other applicants' circumstances and it is important to note that your child's position may go down as well as up if other applicants join the waiting list. Being on the waiting list does not guarantee a place at the school.