



## Admission Arrangements

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### ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ADMISSIONS OF PUPILS.

Our Children 1st welcome applications from parents who fully subscribe to our ethos and are prepared to support us in our drive for ever improving standards.

As a non-selective and inclusive Academy the school welcomes children regardless of their aptitude or prior attainment.

Admissions are made via Middlesbrough Local Authority and online application and additional information can be found here;

<https://www.middlesbrough.gov.uk/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions>

If the number of applications for places at the Academy is greater than the admission number set for the provision, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below.

After the admission of children with statements of special educational needs/Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), where the School/Academy is named in part IV of the statement/ recorded in the Plan, we will use the following factors in priority order to decide which students will be given places:

1. Looked After Children (children in public care), or previously looked after children.
2. Pupils with brothers or sisters who are at Our Children 1<sup>st</sup>.
3. Pupils whose main residence is within the catchment area.
4. Proximity to the Academy.

Criterion 4 may be used as a tie-breaker.

### Definitions of terms used in the admission arrangements

Notes: Children who have a statement of special education needs where the School is named in Part IV of the statement/recorded in the Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)

Those children will have undergone a statutory assessment of their special educational needs.

Where a Primary is named in the statement/recorded in the EHCP, the School must admit the child.

#### 1. Looked After Children

The definition of a 'looked after child' is a person under the age of 18 who is provided with accommodation by a local authority, acting in its social services capacity, for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, by agreement with the parents or in accordance with section 22 of the Children's Act 1989. Previously looked after refers to those children who immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order (under the provisions of the Children and Families Act 2014), or specialist guardianship order (under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989). Children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements (respite care) are excluded.

## 2. Rules for Siblings

Included in this factor are stepbrothers and sisters and half-brothers and sisters living at the same address and who will be attending the Academy at the expected time of admission.

The special cases of twins and triplets will be referred to the allocation panel if one is eligible for a place and other(s) is/are not. Generally the eldest will be given the place if a choice has to be made.

## 3. Rules for Residence

We have the right to investigate whether you live at the address you say you do and we may change any offer if incorrect information has been given.

## 4. Distance

Distance will be measured by the shortest walking route from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the with those living closer to the Academy receiving the higher priority.

Those living closer to the close will receive the higher priority. Proof of residency will be sought in the form of a Council Tax bill, and should be sent in as supplemental information with each application. No other means of proving residency will be accepted.

## Appeals against a decision not to admit a child to Our Children 1<sup>st</sup> MAT.

Parents have a legal right to appeal against a decision not to admit a child to our Academy. Appeals will be heard by our Appeals Panel which will follow statutory guidance from the DfE 'School Admission Appeals Code'.

Appeals Panel will consist of;

- Independent Clerk
- Chair
- At least one person from each of the following categories;
  - Lay people (someone without personal experience in the management of any school provision of education in any school (except as a school governor or in another voluntary capacity))
  - People who have experience in education, who are acquainted with educational conditions in the local authority area, or who are parents of registered pupils at school.

## Appeals Timetable

- End of May appeals to be sent to Our Children 1<sup>st</sup> MAT
- 10 days notice of hearing will be provided to appellant
- Decision letters will be sent within five school days of the hearing wherever possible

## Admission of children outside their normal age group

In reference to paragraph 2.17 of the School Admissions Code, if a parent requests their child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, the admissions authority will decide on the basis of the circumstances provided.

