



CITY OF PETERBOROUGH
ACADEMY

**ADMISSIONS
POLICY**

2017/2018

PROCEDURE FOR ADMITTING PUPILS TO THE CITY OF PETERBOROUGH ACADEMY

The City of Peterborough Academy provides for the needs of children within the 11 to 19 age range.

Pupils will be admitted at the age of 11+ without reference to ability or aptitude using the criteria set out in this policy. Admission to our Academy is not dependent on any 'voluntary' contribution.

The Greenwood Academies Trust is the Admissions Authority for the City of Peterborough Academy.

The Academy participates in the Local Authority co-ordinated scheme and all deadlines within that should be adhered to by applicants.

Admission number for secondary provision (age 11)

1. The Academy has the following agreed admission number for the Academy:
 - 180 for pupils in Year 7

Admission number for Sixth Form provision (age 16)

2. The Academy will build up year on year to provide a total of 200 Post-16 by September 2019.
3. The Academy will operate a Sixth Form for a total of 200 students. The Sixth Form will not open until September 2018. 100 places overall will be available in year 12 (the year 12 'capacity').

Of these places, an agreed admissions number of a minimum 10 will be offered to eligible external applicants. If fewer than 100 of the Academy's own year 11 pupils transfer into year 12, additional external pupils will be admitted until year 12 meets its capacity of 100.

Process of Application

4. Arrangements for applications for places at the Academy will be made in accordance with Peterborough City Council LA's co-ordinated admissions arrangements; parents resident in Peterborough can apply online at:

www.peterborough.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Parents resident in other areas must apply through their home Local Authority.

5. The Academy will use the PCC's timetable for applications to the Academy each year (exact dates within the months may vary from year to year).
 - a) In September – the Academy will publish in its prospectus information about the arrangements for admission, including oversubscription criteria, for the following September.
 - b) September/October – the City of Peterborough Academy will provide opportunities for parents to visit the Academy.
 - c) By 31 October – Parents complete the common application form (CAF) and return it to PCC to administer.
 - d) 1 March – notification of offers made to parents.

Consideration of applications

6. The City of Peterborough Academy will consider all applications for places at the Academy. Where fewer than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year groups are received, the Academy will offer places to all those who have applied.

Procedures where the Academy is over-subscribed

7. Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number in any age group, applications will be considered against the criteria set out in paragraphs 8 and 14 below.

Admission to Year 7

8. The City of Peterborough Academy will first accept all pupils with a statutory right to a place through a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health and Care Plan naming the Academy. After the admission of these pupils, criteria will be applied for the remaining places in the order in which they are set out below:
 - a) Looked After Children or previously Looked After children*.
 - b) A child attending one of the following primary schools, without taking the school's order in the following alphabetical list into account:
 - Abbotsmede Community Primary School
 - All Saints C of E Junior School
 - Bishop Creighton Academy
 - Dogsthorpe Academy
 - Newark Hill Academy
 - Parnwell Primary School
 - Welland Academy
 - c) A child with a sibling* on roll at the Academy at the time of application and admission.
 - d) Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:
 - where the member of staff has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the Academy is made; and
 - the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
 - e) Other children.

In the event of oversubscription within the above criterion, priority will be given to those living nearest to the Academy, as defined by the straight line distance*.

In the event that two or more distances are exactly the same, the Academy will use a method of random allocation by lot, drawn by an independent person outside of the Academy.

* *see definitions*

Admission of children outside their normal age group

9. Parents may request admission for their child outside their normal age group.

In general, it is considered that children should be educated in their normal age group, with the curriculum differentiated as appropriate and they should only be educated out of their normal age group in very limited circumstances.

The decision to allow a child to repeat a year or to admit a child into a cohort outside their chronological year group lies with the Academy, in liaison with the Local Authority, based on the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the parent, the Principal and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

10. Any parent of wanting their child to be admitted outside of the normal age group for Year 7 should make an application to their Local Authority for their child's normal age group at the usual time but also submit a request for admission outside of the normal age group at the same time.

Any parent wanting their child to be admitted out of the normal age group in any other year should submit a request, in writing, to the Academy as soon as is possible.

Admission to Year 12 (Sixth Form) – oversubscription criteria

11. The Academy will first accept all pupils with a statutory right to a place at the Academy through a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health and Care Plan naming the Academy.
12. To be eligible to enter the Sixth Form both internal and external applicants will be expected to meet minimum academic entry criteria for the Sixth Form as a whole.

When the Sixth Form is undersubscribed all applicants meeting the minimum academic entry requirements will be admitted. They will also be expected to have met the published academic standard for their chosen subjects to be permitted to follow their preferred courses. If not suitably qualified for their preferred courses pupils will be offered alternatives (if available).

13. The Academy will publish specific criteria in relation to minimum entrance requirements for the Sixth Form and for the range of courses available based upon GCSE grades or other measures of prior attainment. These criteria will be published in the Academy's prospectus and website and in the Composite Admissions booklet.
14. In the event of oversubscription for the Sixth Form places available in addition to those allocated to existing students and after the admission of children as detailed in paragraph 11 above, the following criteria will be used, in order:
 - a) Looked after Children or previously Looked After children*.
 - b) Distance from home to the Academy as defined by the straight line distance*.
 - c) Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:
 - where the member of staff has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the Academy is made; and
 - the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
 - d) Other children.

In the event of oversubscription, within the above criterion, preference will be given to children who live nearest the Academy site as defined by the straight line distance*.

In the event that two or more distances are exactly the same, the Academy will use a method of random allocation by lot, drawn by an independent person outside of the Academy.

* *see definitions*

Operation of Waiting Lists

15. As required by the Schools Admissions Code, the City of Peterborough Academy will maintain a waiting list until the end of the Autumn term for Year 7.

Applications for inclusion on a waiting list will be ranked solely according to our over-subscription criteria as described in paragraphs 8 and 14 above.

Arrangements for in-year Admissions

16. The Local Authority will co-ordinate admissions for in-year applications and for applications for year groups other than the normal point(s) of entry.
17. Subject to any provisions in the LA's co-ordinated admission arrangements relating to applications submitted for years other than the normal year of entry, the Academy will consider all such applications and if the year group applied for has a place available, admit the child unless one of the permitted reliefs apply.
18. If more applications are received than there are places available, the over-subscription criteria in paragraphs 8 and 14 for the relevant age group shall apply. Parents whose application is refused shall be entitled to appeal.

Arrangements for admission of pupils as the Academy builds to its full capacity

19. The Academy opened on 1 September 2013 and published admission numbers relate solely to pupils in Year 7. For each September up to September 2017, a year group will be added until all year groups from year 7 to 11 exist.

Right of Appeal

20. There will be a right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel for unsuccessful applicants relating to admissions at age 11 or above.

Appeals should be made within twenty (20) school days of the date of refusal to:

City of Peterborough Academy
Reeves Way
Peterborough
PE1 5LQ

Please mark your envelope 'Admissions Appeals'.

Fair Access

21. The City of Peterborough Academy participates in the Peterborough City Council Fair Access protocol.

All schools, including Voluntary Aided Schools, Trust Schools and Academies must participate in the protocol.

The purpose of the Fair Access Protocol is to ensure that vulnerable children are offered a school place as quickly as possible and to evenly spread children with additional needs across all schools in the county. The protocol only applies to mid-term applications; it does not operate when children transfer from primary school to secondary school.

Fraudulent or Misleading Applications

22. As an Admission Authority, we have the right to investigate any concerns we may have about your application and to withdraw the offer of a place if we consider there is evidence that you have made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information, for example a false address was given which denied a place to a child with a stronger claim. We reserve the right to check any address and other information provided so we can apply the oversubscription criteria accurately and fairly.

This policy was reviewed and approved by the Greenwood Academies Trust on 9 December 2016.

Definitions

1. Definition of 'Looked After' and previously 'Looked After' children

In accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989, a 'Looked After child' is defined as:

- a child who is in the care of a Local Authority at the time an application for admission to the Academy is made
- a child who is being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their social services functions in accordance with section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to the Academy.

Previously Looked After children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted¹ (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order). This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 and Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

2. Definition of siblings and the position of twins

A sibling is defined as:

- Sibling is defined as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters or another child normally living for the majority of term time in the same household, where an adult in the household has parental responsibility as defined by the Children Act 1989, or any child in the household where an adult in the household is defined as a parent for the purposes of Section 576 of the Education Act 1996. This could include a person who is not a parent but who has responsibility for him/her.

1. An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'child arrangements order' is an order under Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014 determining (a) with whom the child is to live, spend time or otherwise have contact and (b) when a child is to live, spend time or otherwise have contact with any person. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians)

In the case of twins or other siblings from a multiple birth, where there is only one place available in the Academy, these will be considered together as one application. The Academy's admission number may be exceeded by one.

In the case of siblings in the same year group, where there is only one place available in the Academy, both will be considered together as one application. The Academy may go above its admission number as necessary to admit all the children.

3. Definition of the straight line distance from the Academy to an intending pupil's home

Distance as will be determined using Peterborough City Council's Geographic Information System (GIS) from the Ordnance Survey (OS) seed point located at the child's home address to the OS seed point (or a specified point(s)) for the school, using a straight line. It may be necessary to use other OS maps or on-line resources for any home address outside of the Peterborough LA area not covered by the Council's GIS system.

Where two dwellings with the same front entrance are located on different floors of the same building, a lower floor will be regarded as being closer to the Academy than any above it. Where two or more dwellings with the same front entrance are located on the same floor of the same building, the closest dwelling to the front door, counting clockwise, will be regarded as being closer to the Academy than any subsequent dwelling counted clockwise.

Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the 'home' address will be determined as the address at which the child resides for the majority of the week and/or where the child is registered with a doctor and/or where the child benefit is paid.