



Bilton CofE Junior School
Bilton Infant School
Bawnmore Community Infant School



BILTON COMMUNITY FEDERATION

ADMISSIONS POLICY

This policy has been created taking into account the guidance from Warwickshire County Council who are the Admissions Authority for our 3 schools.

POLICY APPROVAL	
Statutory, recommended, or additional policy	Statutory
Policy review cycle	Annual
Policy reviewed by	E Newton (Executive Headteacher) R Ross (Head of School – BJS) P Davey (Head of School – BAWN) C Fawbert (Head of School – BIS) B Cullen (Chair of Governors)
Policy review date	01/11/23
Date of next review	01/11/24
Date approved by Governing Body	30/11/23

Introduction

It is our aim that our policies and procedures reflect our vision and values as a federation.

Vision: 'Empowering children to make a positive impact on the world.'

Values: Care, Honesty, Respect, Co-operation, Forgiveness and Resilience

Purpose and Scope

This policies aim is to give an understanding of the process and systems in place for applying for a place at one of our schools.

Admissions Numbers:

The admission numbers for our schools are as follows:

- Bilton Junior School is 105 per year group
- Bilton Infant School is 60 per year group
- Bawnmore Community Infant School is 60 per year group.

Our 3 schools are considered Partner Schools for oversubscription criteria.

Admissions Authority:

Warwickshire County Council is the Admissions Authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools within Warwickshire.

Parents apply for school places online using Warwickshire's online application system details of this process can be found here: <https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/homepage/421/applying-for-a-primary-school-place>

The contact details for the Admissions Team at Warwickshire County Council are:

Email: admissions@warwickshire.gov.uk

Telephone: 01926 414143 or 01926 742047

Priority Area/Catchment Area:

Each community and voluntary controlled school has an area identified as its Priority Area (this is sometimes referred to as a 'catchment area').

For a map of the school priority area (catchment area) please follow the link below:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/priority-area-map-infant-primary-schools>

In West Rugby, the individual priority areas for Bilton Infant School, Bilton Junior School, Bawnmore Infant School, Cawston Grange Primary School, Henry Hinde Infant School and Henry Hinde Junior School have now been merged to create one large shared area. Therefore, if you live within this area, you are in the priority area for all of the above schools when you apply for a school place.

All 3 of our schools fall within this area, known as the Super Priority Area.

Admissions Arrangements

The following is taken from the Warwickshire County Council Admissions Arrangements 2024/2025 document which is available by clicking the below link.

<https://api.warwickshire.gov.uk/documents/WCCC-1990003847-3704>

Warwickshire County Council Admission Arrangements 2024/25 for community and voluntary controlled schools

Warwickshire County Council is the Admissions Authority for all community and voluntary controlled schools within Warwickshire.

These admission arrangements should be read in conjunction with the Warwickshire coordinated scheme for admission to school in 2024.

A separate application must be made for any transfer from nursery to primary school, and from infant to junior school

Offers for the 2024 entry year will be made up to each schools Published Admission Number (PAN) as outlined in this document.

If the number of applications for any school is less than the published admission number then all applicants will be offered a place.

The Admissions Service may request additional evidence to determine a child's eligibility for particular oversubscription criteria.

Warwickshire County Council's relevant area for consultation is contained within the administrative area of Warwickshire County Council.

When a Warwickshire Community or Voluntary Controlled school is over-subscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order.

Infant Schools (reception entry):

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children who receive the Early Years Pupil Premium for their early years provider at the time of the making of the application, with no more than 14% of the places available to be allocated under this category.
3. Children who are currently, or have been at any point since birth, subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan, with no more than 9% of the places available to be allocated under this category.
4.
 - a. Children living in the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Year 1 or 2 at the time of admission in September 2024.
 - b. Children living in the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the Partner Junior School in Years 3 - 6 at the time of admission in September 2024*.
5. Other children living in the priority area for the school.
- 6.

- a. Children living outside the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Year 1 or 2 at the time of admission in September 2024.
 - b. Children living outside the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the Partner Junior School in Years 3 - 6 at the time of admission in September 2024*.
7. Other children living outside the priority area for the school.

* If you are also applying for a Year 3 place at the Partner Junior School for another child, for entry in September 2024, please be aware that they will not be considered as a sibling link for the infant school applicant until after that child has been offered a place at the junior school and you have confirmed your acceptance of the Year 3 place.

Junior Schools (Year 3 entry):

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children who receive the Pupil Premium, or Service Premium, through their current school.
3. Children who are currently, or have been at any point since birth, subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan, with no more than 9%** of the places available to be allocated under this category.
4. Children who currently attend the Partner Infant School and who intend to remain at that school until the end of the 2023/2024 academic year in July 2024.
5.
 - a. Children living in the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Years 4, 5 or 6 at the time of admission in September 2024.
 - b. Children living in the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the Partner Infant School at the time of admission in September 2024*.
6. Other children living in the Priority Area for the school.
7.
 - a. Children living outside the Priority Area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the same school in Years 4, 5 or 6 at the time of admission in September 2024.
 - b. Children living outside the priority area for the school, who will have a sibling attending the Partner Infant School at the time of admission in September 2024*.
8. Other children living outside the Priority Area for the school.

* If you are also applying for a Reception place at the partner infant school for another child, for entry in September 2024, please be aware that they will not be considered as a sibling link for the junior school applicant until after that child has been offered a place at the infant school and you have confirmed your acceptance of the Reception place.

Definition of looked after and previously looked after children

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). All references to previously looked after children mean such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

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. A child is regarded as

having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders).

Child arrangements orders are defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. 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)

A copy of any relevant documents may be requested as evidence at any time during the admissions process.

Clarification on places available for those in receipt of Early Years Pupil Premium

Where stated, priority is available for children who are in receipt of the Early Years Pupil Premium through their early years' provider, with no more than 14%* of the places available to be allocated under this category. The child must be in receipt of the premium at the time the application is made;

Check your eligibility at: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

*14% represents the national figure (13.7%) of children in receipt of Free School Meals, as stated within the Department for Education's Statistical Publication entitled, 'Schools, Pupils and their Characteristics', issued in June 2018.

If the number of places from the percentage results in a decimal number, then this will be rounded down to a whole number if .4 or below and rounded up to a whole number if .5 or above.

E.g.: 14% of 30 = 4.2. In this case, the number of places available to allocate within this category would be a rounded down to a whole number of 4.

Clarification on places available to those subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan.

Where stated, priority is available for children who are subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan at the time of making the application, or who have been at any point since 1 September 2015, with no more than 9%** of the places available to be allocated under this category.

Further checks will be undertaken by Warwickshire County Council to confirm circumstances for children who are considered under this category. Relevant documents may also be requested from applicants at any time during the admissions process.

**9% represents an average figure (8.7%) within the local authority of children either in need or on a child protection plan (where the conference stage commenced), when compared with cohort sizes of children aged 4 – 16, resident in Warwickshire within the 2017/18 academic year. Data obtained from the Department for Education's statistical publication entitled, 'Characteristics of Children in Need', which contains analysis of data obtained in March 2017.

If the number of places from the percentage results in a decimal number, then this will be rounded down to a whole number if .4 or below and round up to a whole number if .5 or above.

E.g.: 9% of 30 = 2.7. In this case, the number of places available to allocate within this category would be a rounded up to a whole number of 3.

If there are more applicants who comply with either category 2 or 3 than the number of places available under that category, places will be allocated based on the distance between home and school, in line with the rules set out in these criteria for 'Priority within each over-subscription criterion'.

Definition of Priority Areas

Each community and voluntary controlled school have an area identified as its Priority Area (this is sometimes referred to as a 'catchment area').

Full details of Priority Areas are available on the Warwickshire County Council website and can be viewed using interactive maps.

Infant and Primary School Priority Area Maps can be viewed at:

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mapinfantprimaryschools>

Junior and Primary School Priority Area Maps can be viewed at:

<http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/mapjuniorprimaryschools>

Priority within each oversubscription criteria

Where applicants are allocated the same oversubscription criteria, priority is given in order of distance between the child's home address and the school applied for, with the shortest distance being given highest priority.

Distance will be calculated by using a straight-line measurement from the address point location of the applicant's home address (as set by Ordnance Survey) to the pre-determined point ('centroid') of the school in question. All distances are subject to changes which may occur with updates of mapping data.

Tie Break

Where the distance from home to school is identical for two or more applicants within the same oversubscription criteria individual priority will be determined by random allocation using a random number generator. The allocation will be carried out by two officers of the Admissions Service in the presence of a local authority solicitor. The result of the draw will be recorded and countersigned at the time by all parties involved. Applicants will be notified of the outcome in writing.

Definition of Sibling

Sibling is defined as a brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a step brother or sister, an adopted brother or sister, a child living at the same address who is being Looked After by a local authority, or the child of a parents' partner, where the child Page 8 of 14 for whom the school place is being sought is living in the same family unit and at the same address as that sibling.

Waiting lists

Children will automatically be added to the waiting list of any community and voluntary aided schools listed as a higher preference than the school allocated.

Waiting lists are ranked according to the relevant oversubscription criteria above and will not take into account the date individual applications were received or the length of time a child has been on the list.

Waiting lists are held until at least 31 December of each school year of admission and any new child added will require the list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria

Admission of children below compulsory school age and deferred entry to school

Admission authorities are required to provide for the admission of all children in the September following their fourth birthday.

Children offered a place in Reception are entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday. However, parents can defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age (the term after their fifth birthday) and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which it was made.

Where parents wish, children may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

In both cases, an application for a school place must be made in line with the coordinated admissions process for the relevant year of entry. Once a school place is offered parents or carers can request that entry is deferred or for their child to attend part-time.

Admission of children outside 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.

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.

To apply for your child to be educated outside of their normal age group a Delayed Entry Request Form must be completed and submitted to the local authority at the same time that you apply for your child to start in Reception in their chronological year group. This will ensure that your application can still be processed if your request to delay is not supported.

Each request will be looked at individually, with all available information considered. Any decision taken will be on the basis of what is in the child's best interests. Decisions as to whether or not a child is educated out of year group will be taken by the admission authority.

Parents/carers will be notified once a decision is reached, along with the reasons for the decision. Parents will also be notified of the potential risks of a child being taught out of year group and it will be made clear that, when the child moves schools, the admission authority of the new school will be responsible for deciding which year group the child will be placed in. This could result in a child being required to skip or repeat a year.

For further information or to download the Delayed Entry Request Form please visit:

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/school-admissions-appeals/deferringstartingschool/2>

In Year Applications for Places

The schools adopt Warwickshire County Councils Fair Access Protocol for in year applications for places. Further information can be found via the below link:

[Fair Access Protocol – Effective from January 2024](#)