



Boorley Park School

## **Admissions Policy 2021-2022**

### **Introductory statement**

Boorley Park Primary School is a two form entry primary school serving the new housing development of Boorley Green, Southampton. It is part of the Wildern Academy Trust.

We offer high quality learning, beginning with Reception in the first year (September 2021) and growing to full capacity over the next seven years by adding a new reception cohort each academic year.

### **Admission number**

The school has an admission number of 60 for entry to Reception year. The school will admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applications than the published admission number are received, the Academy Trust will offer places to all those who have applied.

### **Application process**

For more information and guidance about how to apply for a place please visit Hampshire School Admissions web page by clicking on the link below:

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions>

The deadline date for 2021-2022 applications is **15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**.

The County Council will consider first all those applications received by the published deadline of **midnight on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021**. **Notifications to parents offering a primary or infant school place will be sent by the County Council on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021**.

### **Oversubscription criteria**

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to children in the following priority order:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order (*see notes*).
2. (*For applications in the normal admission round only*) Children or parents who have an exceptional medical or social need (*see notes*). Supporting evidence from a professional is required such as a doctor and/or consultant for medical needs or a social worker, health visitor, housing officer, the police or probation officer for social needs. This evidence must confirm the child or family's medical or social need and why that need(s) makes it essential that the child attends this school rather than any other. If evidence is not submitted by the application deadline, the medical and/or social need cannot be considered.
3. Children living within the catchment area as set out in the map at the end of this policy. Children living on the boundary line will be considered to be living within the catchment area.
4. Children living outside the catchment area who, at the time of application, have a sibling attending the school.
5. Children of staff (*see notes*) who have been recruited to fill a skill-shortage area.

## 6. Other children.

### **Tie-break**

If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the above categories, straight line distance will be used to prioritise applications; applicants living nearer the school have priority. Distances will be measured from the Ordnance Survey home address point to the school address point using Hampshire County Council's Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Distances to multiple dwellings will give priority to the ground floor over the first floor and so on. On individual floors, distances will be measured to the stairs leading to the communal entrance. Where two or more applicants are equidistant, random allocation will be used to allocate the place, undertaken by the local authority. Details of the random allocation procedure are available on the Hampshire County Council website.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins and triplets etc) for the same family tied for the final place. We will admit them all as permitted by the infant class size rules and exceed the PAN.

### **Late applications**

All applications received by the school after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Applications made after midnight on 15 January 2020 will be considered after all on-time applications have been fully processed unless exceptional circumstances merit consideration alongside on-time applications.

### **Deferred entry for infants**

Parents offered a place in reception for their child have a right to defer the date their child is admitted, or attend part-time, until the child reaches compulsory school age. Places cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made.

Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday (or on their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday if it falls on the prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 August, 31 December and 31 March.

### **Admission of children outside their normal age group**

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so, parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of the normal year group is being requested.

When such a request is made, the academy trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the headteacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

Parents of summer born children (those born between 1 April and 31 August) who are particularly concerned about their child's readiness for school and wish to request to delay their child's entry to Year R for an entire school year until September 2022, should make an application for their child's normal year group at the usual time, but at the same time, submit their request for admission outside of the normal age group to ensure that a decision is made before the primary national offer date.

### **Waiting lists**

When all available places have been allocated, a waiting list will be operated by schools on behalf of the local authority. Any places that become available will be allocated according to the criteria of the admission policy with no account being taken of the length of time on the waiting list or any priority order expressed as part of the main admission round. Fair Access admissions and school closure arrangements will take priority over the waiting list.

The waiting list will be reviewed and revised –

- each time a child is added to, or removed from, the waiting list;
- when a child's changed circumstances will affect their priority;

- at the end of each school year, when parents with a child on the waiting list will be contacted and asked if they wish to remain on the list for the following school year.

At the time of receiving an offer of a school place parents will be advised of the process for having their child's name on a school's waiting list. Parents may keep their child's name on the waiting list of as many schools as they wish and for as long as they wish.

### **Appeals**

All applicants refused a place have a right to appeal to an independent appeal panel, constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admissions Appeals Code.

~~Appellants should contact Wildern School admissions team by end of April for information on how to appeal.~~

Appellants should visit [www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/guidance/appeals](http://www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions/guidance/appeals) for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website at [www.wildern.org](http://www.wildern.org)

### **In-year applications**

The allocation of any available places in Year R during the 2021-22 academic year will be made in accordance with the admission criteria contained in this policy. There are no deadline dates for in-year applications. Applications can be made using the Local Authority application form, available online at [www.hants.gov.uk](http://www.hants.gov.uk) or by requesting a paper form from the school office.

### **Notes:**

#### **Home address**

The home address is where a child normally lives, normally including weekends and during school holidays as well as during the week, and should be used for the application. The home address of children who spend part of their week with one parent and part with the other, at different addresses, will be the address at which they spend most of their time. If a child's residence is split equally between both parents, the address of the parent that claims Child Benefit will be considered as the child's main residence.

#### **Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan**

All children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school must be admitted. Where possible such children will be admitted within the PAN.

#### **Looked after children**

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).

#### **Previously looked after children**

Previously looked after children are those who were looked after but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order. An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976. 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).

#### **Medical and Social Need**

'Medical need' does not include mild medical conditions, such as asthma or allergies. 'Social need' does not include a parent's wish that a child attends the school because of a child's aptitude or ability or because their friends attend the school or because of routine child minding

arrangements. Priority will be given to those children whose evidence establishes that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally this priority will apply to children whose evidence establishes that their parents'/guardians' physical or mental health or social needs mean that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Evidence must confirm the circumstances of the case and must set out why the child should attend a particular school and why no other school could meet the child's needs. Providing evidence does not guarantee that a child will be given priority at a particular school and in each case a decision will be made based on the merits of the case and whether the evidence demonstrates that a placement should be made at one particular school above any other.

**Sibling**

'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister a foster brother or sister, a step brother or sister or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place.

**Children of staff**

Staff' includes all those on the payroll of the school. 'Children of staff' refers to situations where the staff member is the natural parent, the legal guardian or a resident step parent.