

Title: Admission Arrangements

DFE Policy Category: C

Date reviewed: Dec '18 (last consultation 11th Dec '17 to 31st Jan '18)

Date of next review: Annually (any changes must be consulted on where no changes made, consultation required at least every 7 years)

Approved by: LGB

Member of staff responsible for policy: DHU



Admission Arrangements

Section 1 – General Principles

The Hathershaw College is a 11-16 mixed comprehensive school in the town of Oldham. The College is a member of West Oldham Trust working with partner primaries Broadfield, Holy Rosary and St Martin's.

The main principle of admission to The Hathershaw College is to maintain the character of the school as a comprehensive school, providing for the needs of young people within the 11-16 age range who live in Oldham. Wherever possible, places will be made available to those currently attending West Oldham Trust primary schools.

Admission to The Hathershaw College is not dependent on any 'voluntary' contribution.

Youngsters will be admitted at the age of 11+ without reference to ability or aptitude using the criteria below. The admission number for September 2020 will be 210.

The College participates in the Local Authority coordinated scheme, all deadlines within which should be adhered to by applicants.

As required by the regulations of the Admissions Code December 2014, the College will give top priority to applications on behalf of looked after children and previously looked after children.

Section 2 – Oversubscription

All schools are required by section 324 of the Education Act 1996 to admit to the school a child with a statement of special educational need that names the school. This is not an oversubscription criterion and all children with statements naming the school or those with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that names the school will be admitted before other children are offered places.

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For all other applications the following criteria will be applied to prioritise children for admission:

1. Children in care or children who have at any time been in care, including adopted children.
2. Children applying from one of our named partner primary schools in West Oldham Trust and who have a sibling attending the school at the time of application, with a reasonable expectation that the sibling will be attending at the start of the new academic year
3. Children applying from one of our named partner primary schools in West Oldham Trust
4. Children with a sibling attending the school at the time of application and with a reasonable expectation that they will be attending at the start of the new academic year
5. Tie-breaker
In the event of oversubscription in any category above priority will be determined by the proximity of the child's home to The Hathershaw College based on post codes. Apartments in the same block will be treated equally. If there are more applications than places available from the block furthest away a further tie-breaker of Random Allocation will be used for the applications from this block.

Section 3 - Definitions and Details

- Looked after children are children who, at the time of making an application to a school, are:
 - In the care of a local authority, or
 - Being provided with accommodation by a local authority in exercise of its social services functions
- Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they:
 - Were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 or the Adoption and Children Act 2002, or
 - Became subject to a child arrangement order, or
 - Became subject to a special guardianship order

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- Partner Primary Schools – Through West Oldham Trust we have strong curriculum, sporting and community links with our partners as shown below:

- Broadfield
- Holy Rosary
- St Martin's

- Sibling – by 'sibling' we mean:
 - Children living at the same address who have one or both natural parents in common
 - Children living at the same address with common adoptive parent or parents
 - Children at the same address who are related by parent's marriage
 - Children at the same address whose parents are living as partners at this address
 - Children of multiple birth who may or may not be residing at the same address

nb: we do not include 'cousins' within our definition of 'sibling'

- Home Address –
 - Proof of residence will be required by the coordinating scheme. The offer of a place may be withdrawn if proof of residency is not met.
 - Where a child lives part of the week with one parent and part with another member of the family the 'home address' will be considered to be the residence where the child spends at least three nights of the school week.
 - Distance from home to school will be measured in a straight line between the home postcode and the school postcode by GIS software within the admission database, using Post Office and Ordnance Survey data.

- Ethos

The ethos of the College is based upon Co-operative values of Self-Help, Responsibility, Democracy, Solidarity, Honesty, Openness, Equality and Caring for Others.

We make a commitment to maximize the life-chances of every child by recognising and developing excellence. Parents are an important partner in our work and we work closely together to ensure success.

Waiting Lists

Under the co-ordinated scheme the LA will maintain a waiting list until the end of the Autumn term. The school will continue to maintain a waiting list for subsequent terms. Applications

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for inclusion on a waiting list must be made on the appropriate form, available from school, and will be ranked according to the oversubscription criteria as described above. We have to admit any student of a 'direction' by the LA or allocated to us according to the local Fair Access Protocol.

In-Year Admissions

You can apply for a place for your child at any time outside the normal admissions round. As is the case in the normal admissions round, all children whose statement of SEN or EHC Plan names the school will be admitted.

Likewise, if there are spaces available in the year group you are applying for, your child will always be offered a place.

If there are no places available at the time of your application, your child's name will be added to a waiting list for the relevant year group. When a space becomes available it will be filled by one of the pupils on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed in section 2 of this policy. Priority will not be given to children on the basis that they have been on the waiting list the longest.

Applications for in-year admissions should be sent directly to the school.

Independent Appeal Panel Procedure

All parents have the right to appeal against the refusal of a school place by submitting an appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel. If parents wish to appeal they can do so by completing a School Admission Appeal Form, available from and returnable to Constitutional Services. A decision by an Admission Appeal Panel is binding on the council, school governors and parents.

This legislation applies to The Hathershaw College Academy Trust via its funding agreements.