

**ADMISSION POLICY 2019
(version 9.0)**

Name of the School: **Weston Favell CE Primary School**

Committee/Person(s) Responsible : **Governing Body**

Circulation: **As above/All Staff**

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Version	C & L	Adopted Full Govs	Comments	Initial
1.1	Oct 2008	7/12/09	Policy adopted	SH
1.2	Oct 2009	03/12/09		SH
1.3	Dec 2009		Final paragraph added inline with Diocesan requirements	JR
2.0		2/12/10	References to AR1 /2 changed to SIF A/B. Changes to criteria 4 and 7 inline with Diocesan advice. Changes made to admission number.	JR
3.0		27/09/12	Amendment to the process of 'Late Applications'	JR
4.0		26/09/13	Change from VA to Academy	JR
5.0		25/09/14	Oversubscription criteria: (1) to include previously looked after children, (4) & (6) verify church allegiance, previously SIFA statement. Notes, definition of Social/Medical needs added.	
6.0	Apr 2015	16/4/15	Worshipping member definition updated	
7.0	Sept 2015	25/9/15	Annual review	JR
8.0	Sept 2016	22/09/16	Annual review	JR
9.0	Sept 2017	21/09/2017	Added criteria "children of staff employed by the school".	JR

Applying for a place at Weston Favell CE Primary School

Northamptonshire County Council (the local authority) co-ordinates applications for places in this School.

In order to submit an application, please refer to the local authority's website – admissions@northamptonshire.gov.uk

Admission Policy 2019

Weston Favell CE Primary School

The Governing Body (GB) is the Admission Authority for this Church of England Academy and is therefore responsible for the admission of children to the School.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the Reception year of entry is 60.

The GB will admit children with a statement of special educational needs (SEN)/Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) which names the School.

Oversubscription criteria

Where there are more applications than there are places available, children will be admitted according to the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. (*See definition below*).
2. Children on social or medical grounds, where professionals have clearly identified that the school will best meet the needs of the child.
These applications must be accompanied by documentary evidence from appropriate professionals within the Health or Social services (see below).*
3. Children who have a sibling attending the school at the time of admission.
(see sibling definition below)
4. Children of worshipping members * (*see below*) of any Church which is located in the ecclesiastical parish of St Peter's, Weston Favell and is a member of Churches Together in England.
These applications must be accompanied by form SIF/A available from the school. The completed SIF/A will then be sent to the minister with form SIF/B in order to verify church allegiance.
5. Children of staff employed by the school (see definition below).
6. Children living with their parent(s)/legal guardian(s) in the ecclesiastical parish of St Peter's, Weston Favell. (*see residence definition below*)
7. Children of worshipping members * (*see below*) of any Church that is a member of Churches Together in England, this includes the Church of England.
These applications must be accompanied by form SIF/A available from the school. The completed SIF/A will then be sent to the minister with form SIF/B in order to verify church allegiance.
8. Children of parent(s)/legal guardian(s) of other faiths, or none, who wish their child to be educated in this church school and Christian environment.

Tiebreaker

If the admission number is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the School. (*As to how this distance is measured – see “Distance Measurements” below*).

Notes and Definitions

Children in Care i.e. Looked After Children (LAC) and Previously Looked After Children

Looked after children are children who are (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 application to a school.

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).

Distance Measurements

Distances are measured on a straight line basis from the address point of the child’s home to the address point of the School, using a geographical information system. Each address has a unique address point established by the most valuable elements from the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NPLG), Ordnance Survey Master Map, Royal Mail Postal Address File and The Valuation Office Agency. The address point for a property does not change.

In the case where there are multiple applications from the same shared dwelling (e.g. Flats) or where there are two homes where the distance from the address point of the home to the address point of the school (using the system referred to above) is identical, random allocation, supervised by a suitable independent person, will be used to decide the priority in which applicants are selected in the event of a tiebreaker.

Definition of child’s home address/residence

The child’s home address means the permanent residence of the child at the time of application. Parents/carers may be asked to provide proof of a claim of residence at any time during the admission process.

The address must be the child’s only or main residence that is either:

- ❖ Owned by the child’s parent(s) or carer(s);
- ❖ Leased to or rented by the child’s parent(s) or carer(s) under a lease or written rental agreement of not less than 6 months duration. The property leased must be where the family lives.

Please note – if false or misleading information is used to try and gain a place, this may lead the GB to reject the application or to withdraw the offer of a place.

Children of “worshipping members”

For parents/carers to be worshipping members, at least one of the parents/carers of the child needs to be regarded by the priest/minister/worship leader as being part of the worshipping community at the church/worship centre. This would not necessarily mean that the parent/carer is a “Member” in the technical sense (e.g. through baptism, confirmation or electoral roll) but would imply a pattern of attendance at worship (on Sunday or at other times) that is more than “occasional” and has been sustained for more than a short, very recent, period of time

SIF A/B

If parents/carers wish their application to be considered in criterion 4 and 7, they must complete form SIF/A which is available from the School and return it to the School (not the local authority). This must be done by the deadline of 5pm on 15 January 2019. The School will submit the completed form SIF/A to the relevant minister with form SIF/B to verify the information. As SIF/B needs to be returned to the School in time for the School to rank admissions, it is very important to submit form SIF/A to the School as soon as possible.

Member Churches of Churches Together in England

Please follow this link to access the list of member churches.

http://www.cte.org.uk/Groups/234690/Home/About/Member_Churches_of/Member_Churches_of.aspx

If you would like a paper copy of the churches, please contact the school.

Definition of Sibling

A brother or sister living at the same address as the applicant (i.e. within a family unit) including:

- ❖ a brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- ❖ a half brother or half sister where two children share one common parent;
- ❖ a step brother or step sister, where two children are related by a parents' marriage/civil partnership;
- ❖ A child who has been adopted or is fostered by parents/carers who have other children.

Separated parents

If a child lives with separated parents, the home address will be treated as the place where the child sleeps for most of the school week (i.e. Sunday night – Thursday night inclusive). If the child spends an equal amount of time at 2 addresses, the parents must decide which address they wish to use as the child's main address for the application. **Please note** – if false or misleading information is used to try and gain a school place, this may lead the GB to reject the application or to withdraw the offer of a place.

Children of Staff at the school

- a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
- b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Late applications

Late applications are any application forms (*known as Common Application Forms (CAFs)/Preference Forms*) received by the local authority after its deadline of 5pm on 15 January 2019. Late applicants will not receive an offer of a school place by the local authority on offer day (16 April) but their application will be processed in the next round of allocations (*for details of when these are – refer to the local authority's composite prospectus*).

Waiting lists

All parents/carers who are unsuccessful at gaining a place for their child at the School may wish to place their child's name on the waiting list. To do so, parents/carers must contact the School and request that their child's name is placed on the waiting list. This should be done by email/in writing to enquiries@wfps.org.uk or Weston Favell CE Primary School, Westwood Way, Northampton, NN33HH.

If a place becomes available at the School, it will be allocated according to the oversubscription criteria (*see above*), not on a first come, first served basis.

A child's name will remain on the waiting list until the end of the School term in which the application was made. If parents/carers wish their child's name to stay on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year, they must email/write to the School at the beginning of each term to renew their interest i.e. in January and /or following the Easter break (April/May). Please note a new application form will have to be completed if parents/carers want their child's name to remain on the waiting list in the following academic year.

Please note – placing a child's name on the waiting list does not affect parents'/carers' right to appeal.

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

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

Children are required to start their compulsory education from the beginning of the term following their 5th birthday (based on a 3 term year with terms starting in September, January and April). In [*insert name of school*] School, children are entitled to a full year in Reception i.e. the school place is available from the beginning of the school year in which the child has their 5th birthday.

Deferred entry:

Parents/carers can request that *entry to the School* is deferred until later in the same school year (i.e. a child born in the Autumn term could defer starting school until January and a child born in the Spring or Summer term could defer their start until after Easter). If such a request is made the School is required to *hold the place* for the child; the place cannot be offered to another child but it cannot be kept open beyond the beginning of the Summer term.

Any parents/carers considering deferring their child's admission to school are recommended to discuss this with the Headteacher.

2. Admission of children out of their normal age group

2.1 Parents/carers may seek a place for their child out of their normal age group e.g. if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. Additionally;

2.2 Parents/carers of a summer born child (i.e. a child born in the period from 1 April to 31 August) may not want to send their child to school until the September following their 5th birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – e.g. to Reception rather than to Year 1 – *please refer to the section on Summer Born children below.*

Process for requesting a place out of normal age group (*not Summer Born*)

Parents/carers may seek a place for their child out of their normal age group as stated in 2.1 above. If parents/carers wish to do so, they must contact the Headteacher at the School.

The Admissions Committee of the Governing Board will convene a meeting to consider the request and will make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of:

- ❖ the parent's/carer's views;
- ❖ information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- ❖ where relevant, the child's medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- ❖ whether the child has previously been educated out of their normal age group;
- ❖ whether the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely;
- ❖ the Headteacher's views.

Please note – if the Admissions Committee does not agree to this request to be admitted out of cohort, there is no right of appeal against that decision.

Requests for admission out of normal age group (*Summer Born children*)

- Parents/carers who wish to apply for a place in Reception out of the normal age group should make a request to the Governing Body, as the Body is the admissions authority. The request needs to be accompanied by reasons for such a request and should be made by **1 December** of the year prior to the year the child should enter Reception if they had not requested to defer applying.
- The Admissions Committee of the Governing Board will convene a meeting to consider the request

and will make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of:

- ❖ the parent's/carer's views;
- ❖ information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- ❖ where relevant, the child's medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- ❖ whether the child has previously been educated out of their normal age group;
- ❖ whether the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely;
- ❖ the Headteacher's views.

What happens next?

- The Admissions Committee will inform the parents/carers of its decision on the Year group the child should be admitted to when they have to start school (i.e. Reception or Year 1) and will set out clearly the reasons for their decision. (*For details of when a child has to start school - see paragraph 1 above - "Admission of children below compulsory school age and deferred entry to school"*);
- If the Admissions Committee **agrees** to the parent's/carer's request to defer the application for a Reception place, they will inform the local authority and the parents/carers will then need to make an application for a place in Reception in the normal round of admissions in the following academic year.
Please note – in this following normal admissions round, if the School is oversubscribed, all applications (including deferred applications) for the School will be ranked in accordance with the School's oversubscription criteria. If the application is not successful, parents/carers will have the right to appeal but, as the purpose of the appeals process is to consider whether a child should be admitted to a particular school, parents/carers do not have a right of appeal if they have been offered a place and it is not in the year group they would like;
- If the Admissions Committee does **not agree** to the application being deferred, there is **no right of appeal** against that decision and the parents/carers will need to make an application to the local authority for a place in Reception by 15 January or make an in-year application for a Year 1 place at the appropriate time.

Right of appeal

If a parent/carer is refused a place at the School, they have the right to appeal against the decision to an independent Admission Appeals Panel. Those wishing to appeal should write to or email as follows:

*The Clerk to the Appeals Panel
Bouverie Court
6 The Lakes
Bedford Road
Northampton
NN4 7YD*

Email – education@peterborough-diocese.org.uk