

2021/22 ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

Hotwells Primary School became part of Cathedral Schools Trust (CST) on 1st July 2021. CST is the admission authority. Varied Admission Arrangements determined for use by Cathedral Schools Trust who is the admission authority [August 2021].

Admission to Reception

Hotwells Primary School has a published admission number (PAN) of 30 pupils for entry into Reception. The school will accordingly admit at least 30 each year if sufficient applications are received. All applicants will be admitted if 30 or fewer apply.

Applications for places at Hotwells Primary School will be made in accordance with the local authority's co-ordinated admission procedure. Parents/carers apply via the common application form to their home local authority.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

The school will admit any pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school. The places are reserved and the PAN will be reduced accordingly. Their parents should apply for a place via the service dealing with Special Education Needs in their home local authority and do not need to make an application on the common application form.

Consideration of Applications

Priority will then be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in order:

1. Children in care or children who were previously in care.

Highest priority will be given to children in care or children who were previously in care at the time the application is submitted and will be allocated places in this category.

- a. To a Local Authority in England and immediately after being in care who became subject to an adoption, child arrangement order, or special guardianship order.
- b. 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.

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).

Definition - Children in Care and Children Previously in Care

- a. Children in care are children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority under section 22 of the Children Act 1989. 1989 Children's Act
- b. In relation to school admissions legislation a 'looked after child' is a child in public care at the time of application to a school. Applicants can provide evidence demonstrating their child was previously in care to an institution acting as a Local Authority, or an organisation that supports the best interests of the community/child. In the case of previously looked after children, admission authorities may request a copy of the adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child, confirming that they were looked after immediately prior to that order being made, or such evidence that demonstrates a child was in state care outside of England prior to being adopted.

2. Siblings

Pupils who, on the date of application, will have a sibling on roll at Hotwells Primary School (Reception to Year 6) The term "sibling" means natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-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. The school may require proof of relationship and/or proof of residence.

3. Allocation by Distance

Those children living closest to Hotwells Primary School as measured in a direct line from the home address to the school.

Home Address

A child's permanent home address, where he or she resides with a person with parental responsibility, or with a parent (as defined in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996). It is the address where the child spends the majority of the time. Documentary evidence may be required to confirm a child's home address.

The Admission Authority will not accept more than one address as the child's home address. Where a child regularly lives at more than one address the Admission Authority will have to reach a conclusion about which should be counted as the main address when allocating places, taking relevant evidence into account. Normally this will be the address where the child is registered with a medical GP. Where parents or carers are living separately and do not agree on the child's home address, they are urged to reach an agreement. If this does not happen evidence may be required by providing court documents or other legally binding documentation such as a sworn affidavit confirming where the child resides for the majority of the school week. Where satisfactory evidence cannot be provided, the Admission Authority will determine the address to be used for allocating a school place.

Home to school distance

Home to school distances will be measured in a direct line from a point on the home address as held by the Local Authority, defined in the Local Land and Property Gazetteer, to a defined

point within the main school building using the Local Authority's computerised mapping system. This point is also used for the My neighbourhood search - bristol.gov.uk information available on the Bristol City Council website.

Tie-breaks

Where there are more applications than there are places remaining within a particular category, siblings will be given priority. After this, direct line distance from home to school will be used as a tie-break and the distance measured using the point for the [My neighbourhood search - bristol.gov.uk](http://bristol.gov.uk) information available on the Bristol City Council website. Where two or more applicants cannot be separated, the offer of school place will be determined by random allocation; the drawing of lots, and will be overseen by an independent person.

Twins/Multiple birth

However, if children of multiple births (twins and triplets) are tied for the final place, those siblings will be admitted over PAN as permitted by infant class size rules.

Children of UK Serving Personnel

Children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round will be admitted as 'excepted' children under Infant Class Size legislation.

Deferred Entry for Infants

Parent/carers offered a place in reception for their child have a right to defer entry, or take up a place part-time, until the start of term beginning immediately after their child has reached compulsory school age. However, places cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the final term of the school or until the next academic year. Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their 5th birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31st August, 31st December and 31st March.

Admission of children outside normal age group

Children are normally educated in school with others of their age group; however, 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 normal year group is being requested.

When such a request is made, the academy 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.

Waiting Lists

The school will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the school year. This will be maintained by the school and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application. Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1 - 3 above). Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added or leaves it.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code. The school will prepare guidance for parents/carers on how to appeal.

Late Reception Applicants

The school defines a “late applicant” as one that arrives after the deadline date for submitting their common application to the local authority (15th January). These applicants will not be included in the first round allocation process for reception places. Late applicants will be included in the second round of allocation if places become available.

In Year Applications

Parents/carers, seeking admission to a year group other than reception are able to make an in year application to the school. Parents/carers should complete the on-line application form available on the school website or by requesting a form from the school. Parents/carers will be notified in writing, of the outcome of their application and have a right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel if a place is refused. Parents/carers should indicate on the reply form, included with the notification letter, and return it to the school, if they wish their child’s name to be placed on the waiting list and/or appeal for a place. Children’s position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1 - 3).

Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1 - 3). The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1 - 3) whenever anyone is added or leaves it. Each in year application made to the school is only valid for the academic year in which it is made. Parents/carers will be required to make a fresh application for each new academic year.

Admissions Timeline

Hotwells Primary School will use the following timetable for applications each year (exact dates within the months may vary from year to year).

By early September 2020 – the school will publish on its website information about the arrangements for admission, including oversubscription criteria, for the following September (e.g. in July 2020 for admission in September 2021). This will include details of open events for prospective pupils and their parents/carers to visit the school;

September 2020 - the local authority admission application process will open.

15th January 2021 – closing date for parents/carers to complete the common application form (CAF) via their home local authority (LA), which the LA provide and administer;

Offers will be sent to parents/carers on 16th April 2021 (or next working day) by the home local authority;

June/July 2021 - Appeals will be heard by an independent appeal panel administered by Bristol City Council on behalf of the school.

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