



## **Moulton Primary School**

# **SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY**

## **September 2024 Intake**

**Date Policy Determined: 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022**

**Review Date: October 2023**

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## 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Explain **how to apply** for a place at the school
- Set out the school's **arrangements for allocating places to the pupils** who apply
- Explain **how to appeal** against a decision not to offer your child a place

## 2. Legislation and statutory requirements

This policy is based on the following advice from the Department for Education (DfE):

- School Admissions Code
- School Admission Appeals Code

The school is required by its funding agreement to comply with these codes, and with the law relating to admissions as set out in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

A child reaches **compulsory school age** on the prescribed day following his or her fifth birthday (or on his or her fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed day 31 August.

## 3. How to apply for a place in the Normal Admissions Round

West Northamptonshire Council administer Moulton Primary School admissions on their behalf. To apply for a place through West Northamptonshire Council please visit :- [Primary school places | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/primary-school-places)

The **normal admissions round** is the period during which parents/carers can apply for state-funded school places at the school's normal point of entry (Reception), using the Common Application Form (CAF) provided by their home local authority.

Parents/carers should use the application form provided by their home local authority (regardless of which local authority the schools are in). This form is used to express a preference for a minimum of 3 state-funded schools, in rank order.

Parents/carers will receive an offer for a school place directly from their local authority on National Offer Day (16 April or the next working day)

## 4. Allocation of places

### 4.1 Admission number

The school has an agreed Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 children for entry in Reception.

Places will first be allocated to children who have an Education, Health Care (EHC) Plan that names the school as offering the appropriate provision.

### 4.2 Oversubscription admission criteria

When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children, and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. To children who live within the area of Moulton Parish – see point 5 for Definition of area.

3. To children who will have brothers or sisters, see point 5 Definition of Sibling, continuing at the school at the time of the admission of the younger child.
4. To children who live in the area immediately beyond the parish boundary and known as Moulton Leys, the remainder of the parish boundary excluded by criteria 2 and the odd numbers at Thorpeville. That is the area bounded by the town boundary, Boughton Lane, Talavera Way and the A43 Kettering Road
5. Other Children

### **4.3 Allocation to PAN**

If the admission number is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school. Distances are measured on a straight line basis from the address point of the child's home address to the address point of the school using WNC's Geographical Information System.

### **4.4 Tie-breaker**

If two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated and there is only one place available, a random allocation process will be used to determine who should be allocated the place.

## **5. Definitions**

**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 arrangements order, or
- Became subject to a special guardianship order
- This includes 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.

### **Siblings:**

A sibling is defined as a child's brother or sister. A sibling must be living at the same permanent address and as part of the same family unit (one or two parents plus children) to qualify under this criterion.

For School Admissions purposes, the term sibling includes:

- half-brothers and half-sisters
- step-brothers and step-sisters
- adopted children
- children in foster care
- children living in the same family unit, even if they are not biological brothers and sisters – for example when the parents are not married/in a civil relationship.

Cousins are not regarded as siblings.

### **Defined Area (also known as linked or designated area/village):**

The defined area for the school is residents within the Moulton Parish as detailed below Appendix 1, by Daventry District Street Naming and Numbering Department, dated 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020). This list is not exhaustive and will grow as the village grows.

### **Home Address (Child's):**

The child's home address is defined as the address at which the child normally resides with their parent/carer at the time of application. If a child lives with parents who are separated, 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 equal amounts of time at two addresses, the parents must agree which address they wish to be the child's main address before we can process the application.

Documentary evidence of ownership or rental agreement may be required together with proof of actual permanent residence at the property concerned.

## **6. Fraudulent or Misleading Applications**

The admissions authority (or the LA processing an application on behalf of the admission authority) has the right to investigate any concerns we may have about an application and to withdraw the offer of a place if it is considered that there is evidence that an applicant has made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information.

## **7. Conflicting Applications**

If we receive more than one application for the same child (made by separated parents) and where the home address and / or the preferences do not match, **neither application will be processed** until such time that the parents can agree on both the address and the preferences. If no agreement can be made, parents are recommended to seek legal advice. If an agreement cannot be reached before the closing date, this may affect the chances of your child being allocated a place at the school.

## **8. Late Applications**

Late applications are any common application forms (for the normal point of entry) received by the local authority after its statutory closing date of 15 January. Late applicants will not receive an offer of a school place by the local authority on National Offer Day (16 April or the next working day).

Late applications will be processed in the subsequent rounds of allocations between May and July (for more details, refer to the local authority's composite prospectus or the WNC website).

## **9. Children below Compulsory School Age**

Where children below compulsory school age are offered a place at the school, they will be entitled to attend the school full-time in the September following their fourth birthday.

Parents/carers may defer their child's entry to the allocated school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age, and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made when the place will cease to be available for the child.

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

## 10. Requests for admission outside the normal age group

### **10.1 Requests for admission outside the normal age group (Summer Born)**

Parents/carers who wish to apply for a place in Reception out of the normal age group, should make their request to delay their application in writing to the school in the first instance by emailing the headteacher at [head@moulton-pri.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:head@moulton-pri.northants-ecl.gov.uk) . The request should 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 delay applying. This will ensure that if the admission authority does not agree to the request, there is still time for parents/carers to submit an application for the normal year of entry by the statutory deadline (15<sup>th</sup> January). The admission authority will make a decision 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 Head teacher's views.

#### **What happens next?**

The Admission Authority 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.

- If the Admissions Committee **agrees** to the parent's/carer's request to delay 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 delayed 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.

### **10.2 Requests for admission outside the normal age group (Not Summer Born)**

Parents/carers may seek a place for their child out of their normal age group. They must put their request in writing to the school by emailing the headteacher at [head@moulton-pri.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:head@moulton-pri.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

The Admission Authority of the school will consider the request and make a decision 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 views of the Head teacher of the school concerned.

The Admission Authority of the school MUST set out clearly for parents the reasons for their decision about the year group a child should be admitted to.

Parents/carers do not have a right to appeal if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

## 11. In-year Admissions

An in-year admission refers to an application for a school place made during the school year or an application for admission to a school made at the start of the school year for any year group other than the normal year of entry.

If the school's published admission number has been reached in a child's year group, we will not be able to offer a place at the school. Parents/carers can ask for their child's name to be added to the waiting lists (see below for more information).

Applications for in-year admissions should be made online to the local authority on WNC's website.

## 12. Waiting Lists

Waiting lists are held for all year groups by the Local Authority.

Following an unsuccessful application, parents/carers can request that their child's name be placed on the waiting list.

Waiting lists will be cleared at the end of each school term. If you wish your child's name to remain on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year, you will need to inform the School Admissions team, in writing, by the start of each subsequent term (ie: during the Christmas and Easter breaks) to renew your interest.

When a place becomes available it will be filled by one of the pupils on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed in section 4.2 of this policy. Priority will not be given to children on the basis that they have been on the waiting list the longest and children being allocated places under the Fair Access Protocol will be given priority.

## 13. Appeals

If a parent/carer's application for a place at the school is unsuccessful, they will be informed why admission was refused and have the right of appeal against the decision not to offer their child a place at the school.

Parents/carers wishing to appeal should complete the online appeal form on the WNC website.

Please visit [Appeal a school place | West Northamptonshire Council \(westnorthants.gov.uk\)](https://www.westnorthants.gov.uk/peopleservices/education/primary-secondary-admissions/appeal-a-school-place) for more information and to complete the form.

If parents/carers wish to submit supporting evidence after lodging their appeal, it should be e-mailed to [AppealsTeam.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:AppealsTeam.NCC@westnorthants.gov.uk) within 10 working days of the submission of the appeal.

Appeals must be lodged in writing, giving the reasons for appeal, by 5pm on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023. Appeals received after this date will still be heard, but there is no guarantee they will be heard before the end of the school year in which the application is made.

NB: For appeals concerning places not offered during the normal admissions round, i.e. in-year places, appeals should be submitted within 30 school days of refusal of a place.

## **14. Admissions policy review**

The Full Governing Body has delegated the decision making of this policy to the Resources Committee. This policy will be reviewed annually.

### **Consultation:**

When changes are proposed to the school's admission arrangements, the governing body **must** consult on their admission arrangements (including any supplementary information form) that will apply for admission applications the following school year. Where the admission arrangements have not changed from the previous year there is no requirement to consult, subject to the requirement that admission authorities **must** consult on their admission arrangements at least once every 7 years, even if there have been no changes during that period.

### **Determination:**

All admission authorities **must** determine (i.e. formally agree) admission arrangements every year, even if they have not changed from previous years and a consultation has not been required. Admission authorities **must** determine admission arrangements by **28 February** in the determination year



## APPENDIX 1

Moulton Parish has the following streets as at 30/4/2020 (provided by Daventry District Council, Street Naming and Numbering Department)

Alibone Close  
Arnsby Crescent  
Ashby Court  
Ashby Gardens  
Ashley Close  
Ashley lane  
Aspinal Road\*  
Back Side  
Barbers Close  
Barlow Lane  
Bluebells Way  
Boughton Fair Lane  
Boughton Lane  
Boughton Road  
Brickfield Close  
Browns Close  
Brunting Road  
Campling Close  
Carey Close  
Carr Road  
Chater Street  
Church Hill  
Church Mews  
Church Street  
Church View  
Court Farm Close  
Cross Street  
Dairy Close  
Dickens Close  
Doves Lane  
Eady Close  
Earls Close  
Eynon Close  
Forester Road  
Fuller Road  
Furzefield Way  
Grasslings Close  
Greensleeves Close

Greenwood Close  
Grove Farm Lane  
Groveleys Close  
Harvey Lane  
High Street  
Holcot Road  
Homestead Close  
Honeystones  
Inniskilling Close  
Jeyes Close  
Johnswell Way  
Kefford Drive  
Kettering Road  
Kirk Close  
Kyberry Way  
Langlands Drive  
Leonard Lane  
Long Close  
Lucas Court  
Lunchfield Court  
Lunchfield Gardens  
Lunchfield Lane  
Lunchfield Walk  
Manor Road  
March Springs  
Moorbridge Road  
Morning Star Lane  
Mulbridge Way  
Nightingale Drive  
Northampton Lane North  
Northampton Lane South  
Oakley Drive  
Onion Fields  
Overstone Close  
Overstone Road  
Parade Bank  
Park View Close  
Park View  
Pitsford Road  
Pound Lane  
Prince of Wales Row  
Pytchley View

Quaker Way  
Reedings  
Rose Tree Close  
Roundhill Close  
Ryland Road  
Sanders Drive  
Sandy Hill Lane  
School Lane  
Siddons Way  
Silverthorn Drive  
Silverwell Close  
Southcourt  
Spectacle Lane  
Spinney Close  
Spring Close  
St Nicholas Drive\*  
Stanton Close  
Stewart Close  
Stocks Hill  
Summerley Way\*  
Tarrant Close  
Tarrant Way  
The Avenue  
The Crescent  
The Furrows  
The Glebe  
The Grove  
The Hollies  
The Laurels  
The Paddocks  
Thompson Way  
Thorpeville  
Turnpike  
Wantage Close  
Waterfurrows Way  
Wells Court  
West Street  
Whistlefields Close\*  
Whiting Court  
Willow Tree Way  
Worley Way\*

\*These streets are addressed as Moulton and they have at least 1 property within the boundary of Moulton but the parish boundary cuts through the estate. The other properties are in the Parish of Overstone.