

Cookridge Primary School Admissions Policy 2020- 2021



Review – February 2020

The Admissions Policy will be published on the school website.

'Together We Achieve the Extraordinary'



Cookridge Primary School Policy Document Admissions Policy

Admissions policy for Cookridge Primary School in September 2020

Cookridge Primary School is a Foundation School and, with a number of local schools, acquired a shared trust – the North West Leeds Education Partnership Co-operative Trust. The Governing Body is the Admissions Authority for the school as part of the co-ordinated scheme with the local authority. The Chief Executive of Leeds City Council makes the offer of a school place at Cookridge Primary School for reception on behalf of the Governing Body.

Headteachers or school-based staff are not authorised to offer a child a place for Reception for September entry.

The authority to convey the offer of a place has been delegated to Cookridge Primary School for places in other year groups and for entry to Reception outside the normal admissions round.

There will be 45 reception places available in September 2020.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) will be admitted to the school named on their plan.

Where there are fewer applicants than places available, all applicants will be offered a place.

Where there are more applicants than places available, places will be offered in the following order of priority.

Priority 1

- a) Children in public care or fostered under an arrangement made by the local authority or children previously looked after by a Local Authority (see note 1).
- b) Pupils without an EHC plan but who have Special Educational Needs that can only be met at a specific school, or exceptional medical or mobility needs that can only be met at Cookridge Primary School (see note 2).

Priority 2

Children with a sibling (brother or sister) who will be attending the school at the start of the academic year and are living at the same address (see note 3).

Priority 3

Children who live in the defined catchment priority area for the school. (Maps showing the defined catchment area for each school are attached to this policy at Annex A and shown on the Leeds City Council Admissions website www.leeds.gov.uk/admissions).

You can apply for a school even if you don't live in the catchment priority area. Living in a catchment priority area does not guarantee a place will be allocated at that school, only that your application will be prioritised above those who live outside the catchment priority area.

Priority 4

All other children



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Tie Break

If we have more applications meeting one of these priorities than there are places available, we will offer places in order of distance from the school – so those living closer to the school would be offered a place before those living further away, when measured in a straight line. (see note 4).

In the unlikely event there are insufficient places for two (or more) pupils living in the same building (e.g. flats) or otherwise equidistant from the school, then any final place will be allocated by the drawing of lots, witnessed by an independent person.

The drawing of lots for random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins and triplets etc.) from the same family where they are tied for the final place. We will admit them all, exceeding the PAN for the school.

Note 1

A “looked after child” is defined as a child who, at the time of making the application is:

- in the care of a local authority, or
- 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)

A “previously looked after child” is defined as a child:

- who was previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a Special Guardianship Order or a Child Arrangements Order, or
- who has been in state care outside of England and ceased to be so as a result of being adopted

If you are making an application under the priority for a previously looked after child, you will need to complete a Priority 1a Supplementary Information Form available at appendix 1 and send this, with a copy of the court order, so the Local Authority can verify this priority.

Note 2

The priority will be given to children based on their exceptional medical or social needs. ‘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. ‘Medical need’ does not include mild medical conditions as all Leeds schools are expected to be able to meet these needs. Each application must include a 1B Supplementary Information Form available at appendix 2 along with supporting evidence from a medical specialist or social worker, outlining the child’s need and why they must attend one particular school rather than any other, based on those needs. If the evidence is not submitted with the application, a child’s medical or social needs cannot be considered

Cases will be considered individually by a local authority professional panel and where necessary in consultation with the school that has been preferred.

Note 3

For these purposes, siblings must be living at the same address as your child. Siblings refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, foster brother or sister. The definition does not include cousins or other family members sharing a house.



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Note 4

In Leeds we use a straight-line distance system. We use Geographic Information System (GIS) mapping in our school-admission system. The program measures the 'straight-line' distance from a defined point on the main school building to your home address. The point we measure to at your home address is determined by the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG), which provides coordinates for every dwelling. If we are not able to match your address with the LLPG then we will use a manually identified point at the centre of your dwelling.

Note 5 Catchment areas

Each of the community and voluntary controlled primary schools in Leeds has a defined catchment priority area. These can be viewed on the maps available at www.leeds.gov.uk/admissions. You can apply for any school but if you live in the catchment area your application will receive a higher priority at that school than applicants who live outside the catchment area. Living in the catchment area does not guarantee a place at the school. If you don't live in Leeds If you live in another local authority and you live in the defined catchment area for a Leeds school, your application will receive the relevant priority under our admissions policy.

Address

For admission purposes, the home address is the child's permanent address, where the child usually lives with their parent or carer. You must not use any other address on your application, including using the address of a childminder or relative or renting a property for a short period of time as this could be considered as using a fraudulent address. We will investigate any queries about addresses and, depending on what we find, we may change the school place offer.

Only one address can be used on your application for a school place. Where shared care arrangements are in place, both parents must agree which address will be used on the application, and this should be the address where the child lives for the majority of the school week. If no joint declaration is received by the closing date for applications, the local authority will determine which address will be used, based on where the child spends the majority of the school week. In instances where the child spends equal time with each parent, the home address will be taken as the address where the child is registered with the doctor.

When we make an offer, we assume your address will be the same when you take up the school place in September. If you plan to move house, you must still use your current address on your application. As soon as you move house, you must tell us your new address, providing proof of your house move (including evidence of entry to the new address and exit from the old address) as this may mean we have to change the school place offer. If it is found that an intentionally misleading or false address has been given with the aim of fraudulently securing a school place, that place may be withdrawn, even if the child has already started at the school.

Parental Disputes

Parental Responsibility gives both parents important legal rights and responsibilities including involvement in decisions about which schools to preference. Both parents should agree the details of the applications, including the address to be used, which schools to be applied for and which parent submits the application. Where we receive 2 conflicting applications, we will need to obtain



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written evidence all those holding parental responsibility agree the application or a Court Order specifying who should apply. Until we receive this relevant evidence, we will be unable to process the application further and places may have to be offered to other applicants.

Late Applications

If you return the preference form after the deadline we cannot guarantee to consider your preferences at the same time as those received on time. Any primary applications returned or amended after **12 February 2020** will be dealt with as late applications, meaning they will only be dealt with once all other preferences have been considered, unless there are significant and exceptional reasons for the late application. Late applications received after 12 February will be considered before placements are made (where no preference could be met)

Accepting Offers

Parents will be asked to accept the offer of a school place directly with the school. This will not affect their position on any waiting list for a higher preference, or their right to appeal. Parents who do not wish to accept the offer, or do not accept the offer within a reasonable time, may have the place withdrawn. This may leave your child without a school place.

Waiting List

After offers have been made on 16 April, parents can ask to go on the waiting list for any school.

Waiting lists will also be held for each year group for applications outside of the admissions round. All waiting lists will be held in criteria order of the admission policy and will close at the end of the academic year (July 2021). Each time a child is added, the list is ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria in this policy.

Under the Admissions Code, looked after children, previously looked after children, and those allocated a place at the school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol must take precedence over those on a waiting list.

Please be aware that if you request your child is placed on a waiting list after Offer day and a place becomes available at a higher preference school before the end of **August 2020**, your child will automatically be allocated the place at your higher preference school. This will automatically withdraw the place at a lower preference school, and this may then be allocated to another child.

Nursery

Cookridge Primary does not have a Nursery attached to the school – preschool is led and managed by a separate body. In common with all primary schools, a place in nursery does not guarantee a place in the school. Parents must apply for a place if they would like their child to join the reception class.



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Temporary School Site

If a school has to move to a temporary site for any reason, such as the building being damaged by a fire, we will base our distance measurements on the school's permanent site.

Starting Reception Age

Children are expected to start primary school in the September following their 4th birthday. You must ensure your child receives an appropriate full time education from the term following their fifth birthday. Parents can request that the start date for their child is delayed until later in the school year in the case of children who have not yet reached their 5th birthday, however where a place has been offered, this must be taken up by the beginning of the term after the child's 5th birthday, or at the latest, the start of term after the Easter break.

Admission out of chronological age (including Deferment for summer born children)

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, for example if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child (a child born between 1st April and 31st August) may request that the child be admitted out of their normal age group, to reception rather than year 1.

Parents should still apply in the normal admission round for 2020, and indicate their request on the preference form – specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested and the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place. Applicants should also complete the application for deferment form at appendix 3 and attach any available evidence of the need for deferment/admission out of chronological age.

The application will be considered by a panel of early years education experts and headteachers where the individual case will be considered. The panel 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. This will ensure the opportunity to reflect on the long term impact of that decision, and balance this against the child's current needs. There is no right of appeal against a decision relating to admission out of chronological age.

Applications outside the normal admission round (in- year applications)

All applications outside the normal admission round should be made using an in year application form (ICPF) which is available from Leeds City Council.

The application should be submitted to Leeds City Council Admissions team who will then notify all preferred schools about the application. The school will contact you directly to confirm whether they can offer a place. The school will respond to your application, to either offer or refuse a place. If a place cannot be offered, the school will offer the right of appeal and your child will be added to the waiting list.

Where a vacancy arises, places will be offered from the waiting list based on the published oversubscription criteria within this policy.



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Where no house move has taken place, you will be offered a place to start at the beginning of the next term, unless no other accessible school place is available to you.

You can find out about vacancies in schools on www.leeds.gov.uk/admissions.

Appeals

Where we have not been offered a place at the school you preferred, you have the Right to Appeal against the refusal to offer a place. Leeds City Council has an appeals timetable containing deadlines and timescales which can be found at www.leeds.gov.uk/admissions

Appeals against a decision for a transfer of school place, outside the normal admission round, can be submitted any time during the academic year. Appeals will be heard within 30 school days of the appeal request being received (where the application for a place has been refused and the right of appeal has been issued).

Fair Access Protocol

All schools have an active role in admitting pupils under the Fair Access Protocol. The protocol operates outside the boundaries of the Admissions policy. It is a statutory requirement and the Protocol applies to all Leeds schools. The aim is to make sure the most vulnerable children are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible, and that no school, including those with places, is asked to take a disproportionate number of vulnerable children. Leeds City Council's Fair Access protocol can be found at www.leeds.gov.uk/admissions



Appendix 1

**Priority 1a Admissions
Supplementary Information Form**



To be completed when requesting admission a previously looked after child.

Please do not complete this form if the child is currently looked after – the social worker should complete the online application

Transition stage (Please tick) : Nursery to Reception Year 6 to Year 7

CHILD DETAILS

Surname: _____ Forename(s): _____
Date of Birth: _____ Gender: MALE/FEMALE
Address: _____
Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____

FAMILY/CARER'S DETAILS

Parent / Carer's Names: _____
Address (if different from above) _____
Other person/s with parental responsibility _____
Address (if different) _____

The Admission Code gives priority to children who were previously looked after by a Local Authority but have left care through an Adoption Order, Special Guardianship Order or Child Arrangements Order. To claim this priority for admission, please answer the following questions:

Which Local Authority cared for the child immediately before the order was made:

Which court order do you hold for the child:

Adoption Order Special Guardianship Order Child Arrangements Order

Please attach a copy of this order to the form - you can delete sensitive information (for example the name of the birth parents) if you wish to do so

The fact you have applied for admission under this priority will be known to the school. The court order will not stored against your child's records.



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PRIVACY NOTICE

Leeds City Council takes its obligations under the Data Protection legislation very seriously. The Admissions team collect information from you to assess your child's eligibility for a school place. We collect your personal information in respect of admissions and appeals which is considered against the Council's and school's policies for admissions. Our service also needs to use sensitive personal data relating to you (also called "special category data") such as religion and ethnic origin information in order to provide equality of opportunity or treatment.

Leeds City Council is the Data Controller for your information and our legal basis for processing the data is under a legal obligation where it is personal data (such as the School Admissions Regulations 2012 and the School Admissions Code 2014), and where we are processing special category information, under our obligations of substantial public interest. The data collected is required to ensure all children have a school place suitable to their age, ability and needs. Leeds City Council work to ensure that places are allocated and offered in a fair, transparent and open way.

In processing your application we will share information with services within the Council and also with other relevant organisations such as schools, NHS and the Police etc. We will also give some information about you to relevant government departments, such as the Department for Education etc, for statutory reporting purposes and in order to make the services of Leeds better. There may be circumstances where we need to use and share your information without your agreement, however this will only occur where we are legally required to do so.

Your personal data will be retained up to your child's 25th birthday after which it will be confidentially destroyed. Any school admission appeal papers held by the Council in respect of schools who conduct their own appeals will be held by the Council for 2 years and will be destroyed after this period.

You have rights in respect of the information we hold about you, including the right to ask for access to your information or to withdraw from this process. Objecting to Leeds City Council using your information in this way, would restrict the Council's assessment in giving proper consideration to your application and can result in the inability of schools offering a place/withdrawal of a place. Further information is available at <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/opendata/your-rights>. To exercise any of your rights, please contact: dpfoi@leeds.gov.uk; or send to Information Management & Governance, PO Box 837, LS1 9PZ, and we will advise you of the procedure.

Further information about how we process your information can be found on the Council's privacy notice including contact information for the Council's Data Protection Officer: <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/privacy-statement/privacy-notice>. A paper copy of this information is available on request.

PARENTS/CARERS SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Signed.....Date.....

Please return this form to:

Education.annual.cycle@leeds.gov.uk

Or By post: Leeds City Council

PO Box 837

School Admissions

Leeds LS1 9PZ



Checklist

Have you included the following?

- Answered all the questions
- Attached a copy of the court order
- Signed and dated the form



Appendix 2

Priority 1b Admissions
Supplementary Information Form



To be completed by parents who are requesting priority admission at one specific school due to exceptional needs (Priority 1b of the Admissions Policy)

Year group applied for:

Eg. Rec, Yr 7, Y4 etc

CHILD DETAILS

Surname: _____ Forename(s): _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Telephone: _____

FAMILY/CARER'S DETAILS

Parents / Carer's Names: _____

Address (if different from above) _____

Other person/s with parental responsibility _____

Name _____

Address (if different) _____

SCHOOL / SETTING DETAILS

Name of requested school / setting _____

NB you can only request one- Please check the school admissions policy not all schools offer 1b priority _____

FUNDING FOR INCLUSION (FFI)

Does this child currently receive additional funding?

Primary Need Band : _____ Tier : _____

Any Additional Bands of FFI? _____

Total Number of Units : _____

For children in receipt of E band funding please indicate if needs are relating one of the following (tick) :

Specific Language Impairment (SLI) Yes No

Autism / Pragmatic Need Yes No



Please describe the child's Special Educational Need:

What provision is required to meet the child's needs?

1. Please attach a copy of the provision map/plan in place and/or Individual health care plan
2. Please ensure that a copy of the most recent FFI review and individual learning, behaviour or education plan is attached
3. For children transferring into reception the most recent ISAR paperwork must be attached

Please describe why only the requested school/setting is able to meet need.

i.e. What is able to be provided at the requested school that is not available at any other school in relation to the provision your child requires.



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Name of Supporting Professional

Name _____

Designation _____

Signature _____

Contact Address _____

Contact Tel No _____ Date of Referral _____

Name/s and designation/s of any other professionals who are currently involved with the child

Parents Views (to completed by the parent)

Pupil Views (For those pupils transferring to Secondary education please ensure their view is included)



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In processing your application we will share information with services within the Council and also with other relevant organisations such as schools, NHS and the Police etc. We will also give some information about you to relevant government departments, such as the Department for Education etc, for statutory reporting purposes and in order to make the services of Leeds better. There may be circumstances where we need to use and share your information without your agreement, however this will only occur where we are legally required to do so.

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You have rights in respect of the information we hold about you, including the right to ask for access to your information or to withdraw from this process. Objecting to Leeds City Council using your information in this way, would restrict the Council's assessment in giving proper consideration to your application and can result in the inability of schools offering a place/withdrawal of a place. Further information is available at <https://www.leeds.gov.uk/opa/your-rights>. To exercise any of your rights, please contact: dpfoi@leeds.gov.uk; or send to Information Management & Governance, PO Box 837, LS1 9PZ, and we will advise you of the procedure.

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PARENTS/CARERS SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Signed.....Date.....

Please return this form to:

**Leeds City Council
PO Box 837
School Admissions
Leeds
LS1 9PZ**



Checklist

Have you:

- Provided an overview of your child's needs
- Given details of any additional funding in place
- Attached a provision plan/map
- Attached an Individual Healthcare Plan (if appropriate)
- Attached the most recent FFI review (Year 6-7 transfer)
- Attached the most recent ISAR review (Nursery-Reception transfer)
- Given a description of why only the requested school can meet need
- Signed and dated the form



Appendix 3

**Request to start school out of chronological year group
Application form**



To be completed by parents/carers requesting their child starts school in the Reception class, a full year after their chronological age peers.

Note: If you wish your child to attend school part-time until they reach compulsory school age or start school later in the academic year, you should discuss your request with the school. You do not need to complete this form.

Please note that the decision whether to accept a deferral is made by the admitting authority for the school.

Leeds City Council is the Admitting Authority for Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools only.

If you are preferencing any Own Admitting Authority schools (being Academy, Foundation Trust and Voluntary Aided schools) you would need to apply to these schools directly, following the process set out in the school's individual admissions policy

<p><u>CHILD DETAILS</u></p> <p>Full Name: _____</p> <p>Date of Birth: _____ Gender: Male/Female</p> <p>Address: _____ _____</p> <p>Postcode: _____ Telephone number: _____</p> <p><u>FAMILY/CARER DETAILS</u></p> <p>Parents/Carer's Names: _____</p> <p>Address (if different from above): _____ _____</p> <p>Email: _____</p>



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Please describe why you feel a deferment out of chronological year group would support the needs of your child:



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Please attach any supporting evidence from relevant professionals e.g. an early years professional, health care professional, educational psychologist or educational professional that you wish Leeds City Council to consider.

Outline the additional evidence provided by the relevant professional/s to support the application :



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PARENTS/CARERS SIGNATURE REQUIRED

Signed.....Date.....

Please return this form to:

by email to education.annual.cycle@leeds.gov.uk

By Post: **Leeds City Council**

PO Box 837

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Leeds

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