



Admissions Policy

Introduction

The Governing Body of Worth Primary School applies the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school.

Aims and objectives

We are an inclusive school that welcomes children from all backgrounds and abilities.

The only restriction we place on entry is that of number. If the number of children applying for entry exceeds the places available, we apply the admission criteria set out below. It is our wish to allow parents the right to have a place at the school of their choice wherever possible.

The level of ability of a child or any special needs that s/he may have plays no part in the admissions policy of this school.

Admission for Children who are Four Years Old

Children enter school in the academic year they become five. At Worth Primary School there is one admission date per year, early in September (i.e. the start of the new school year). Admission can be stepped or come later in the school year, depending on the needs of the child. This is discussed and arranged by the parents and Headteacher.

Parents/guardians receive a booklet and a common application form from the LA on which they are invited to name up to three schools in order of preference. This must be returned either to the LA's Admission Team or to one of the schools named on the form by early in February (the exact date is included in booklet each year) to ensure the child can start in September.

A school year runs from September in one calendar year to August in the next, so the children who reach compulsory school age during the school year:-

2015/2016 are those born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011

2016/2017 are those born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012

2017/2018 are those born between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013

2018/2019 are those born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014

We believe that children settle into school better if they are admitted on a phased progression to full-time attendance. Therefore the first two weeks in school are mornings only. This is in line with local authority guidelines.

In year admissions

Where a parent wishes their child to start school during the school year the school advises them that this can only be done by contacting the Local Authority Admissions team. The Admissions team manages all casual admissions now and all places are centrally allocated.

How does the LA allocate places?

The LA's co-ordinated admission scheme is what is called an Equal Preference scheme. It makes sure that everyone who completes a common application form is offered a place by the end of April in the year of admittance. After the closing date, the schools are shown a list of everyone who has applied to them. If the school has enough places for everyone it lets the LA know. If there are not enough places for everyone who wants one the Admission Criteria is applied.

The Admission Criteria for all Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools are, in priority order:

- Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care
- Current family association (sibling)
- Health, Social and Special Access Reasons
- Distance from school

Admission appeals

Appeals are made to Kent LA using the following email appeals@kent.gov.uk
Further details regarding the Kent Admission Process can be found here: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/admissions-criteria/admissions-criteria-201617>

Because the law says that an infant pupil should not be educated in a class which has more than 30 pupils per qualified teacher, an independent appeal panel has to take particular care when considering an appeal which would cause a breach of infant class size legislation. They can only uphold the appeal in one of two situations

1. Where an admission authority has not stuck to its own published admission criteria and the parent can show that their child would have been offered a place if the rules had been applied, or
2. Where an admission authority has acted unreasonably - that is made a decision which is illogical or not based on the facts.

The standard number

The standard number is the number of children the school can accommodate. The standard number for our school is ten. We keep this number under review and the governors will apply to change the number if circumstances allow.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years or whenever deemed necessary by the Head Teacher and Governors in the light of events and changes in the law.

Reviewed by Lynne Moore: May 2016

Governors Agreed: May 2016

To be reviewed: May 2018

Signed:

Date: