

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

Statutory consultation on the proposed changes to the sibling oversubscription criterion for Haringey Community and Voluntary Controlled (VC) Primary Schools for 2017-18

INTRODUCTION

As part of our wider consultation on our proposed admission arrangements for 2017/18 we welcome your views on a proposed change to the oversubscription criteria for our community and voluntary controlled (VC) primary schools which would limit admission of a sibling to a school *if* there is a change to the home address between admission of the first child and any subsequent child(ren) meaning that the family no longer lives in the area local to the school. The change of address must mean that the family now live 0.5 miles or more from the school. Where families move but still live within 0.5 miles from the school, the change to the sibling criterion would not apply to that family. The change in criterion is being proposed as a measure to retain local places for local families and so that children attend school within their local community.

Currently for community and voluntary controlled (VC) primary schools, priority for a school place is given to **all** siblings of children on the roll of the school on the date of admission regardless of their current address. On occasion this has meant that those children with a sibling(s) already at the school may gain admission to a school over more local children even though they may live much further from the school.

The Council is proposing the following change to the sibling admission criterion in its current admissions policy for community and voluntary controlled (VC) primary schools:

“Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission, whose home address is no more than a distance of 0.5 miles from the school. Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission, whose home address is more than 0.5 miles from the school will also receive priority where the child’s home address has not changed since the last sibling was offered a place or the last sibling was admitted prior to September 2017.”

Those families who have not moved since the last sibling was offered a place or who currently have siblings at the school will continue to receive priority. Any other applicants would still be considered for a place under the remaining oversubscription criteria. If a school is undersubscribed, they would still be offered a place in any case.

The table on page 5 gives a breakdown by Planning Area¹ of the number of applicants who would have been affected by the change to the sibling criterion *if* it had been applied for admission to primary school in September 2015.

Please note that this consultation is about proposed changes to the admission criteria for **community and voluntary controlled (VC) primary schools only** (because the Council is the admission authority for these schools and sets the admissions arrangements). A copy of the full admissions arrangements is included as an appendix to this document.

FAQs

Who is the Council consulting with?

The Council is consulting with parents and carers of children already at Haringey schools and with early years providers, private nurseries and child minders, local residents, parents of any other children aged from birth to nineteen, councillors, MPs, head teachers, governors, the diocesan authorities, neighbouring local authorities and any other interested stakeholders. We are consulting on the admission arrangements for our community and VC, nursery, infant, junior, primary, secondary and sixth form settings. We want to hear from anyone who has a view on the arrangements including those who might be affected by a change to the sibling criterion if it were to go ahead.

When is the Council consulting?

The consultation will run from 13 November to 31 December 2015. School Admissions Code 2014 says that consultation **must** last for a minimum of 6 weeks and **must** take place between **1 October** and **31 January** in the year before the arrangements come into effect.

When would the changes come into effect?

If approved, the arrangements would be introduced for September 2017 entry.

Why is a distance of 0.5 miles being proposed?

The proposed distance of 0.5 miles has been determined by calculating the average maximum distance that children gained entry to oversubscribed schools over the last two admissions rounds in 2014 and 2015. It is felt that this is a reasonable distance to determine that a family still live within the locality of a school whilst also being based on historic admission patterns in the borough. The furthest distance offered does vary from school to school but 0.5 miles gives a reasonable measure for what constitutes local based on average historic patterns in Haringey's schools.

¹ For the purposes of planning school places the borough is divided into five Planning Areas (PAs). A map of the five Planning areas can be found on page 6 of this document and further details are available to view in our Annual School Place Planning Report at www.haringey.gov.uk/schoolplaceplanning.

Where can I found out more information about the consultation?

Full details of the consultation and how you can make your views known are available to view at www.haringey.gov.uk/admission_arrangements_consultation

Paper copies are available in all Haringey libraries, or by phoning 020 8489 1000 for a copy to be sent to you by post.

How can I make my views known?

You can respond to the consultation by:

- Completing the online questionnaire at www.haringey.gov.uk/admission_arrangements_consultation
- Returning your response form to: School Admissions Consultation, River Park House, 3rd Floor, 225 High Road N22 7HQ
- Emailing your response to schooladmissions@haringey.gov.uk

I already have a child at a community school. Will I be affected by this change?

No, we are proposing that children already with a brother or sister at a community school will still receive priority for a place, provided the brother or sister started at the school prior to September 2017. However we will listen to and consider views expressed though the consultation that seek for the arrangements to be applied to the siblings of all children already in our community and voluntary controlled (VC) primary schools by September 2017.

I have not moved since my older child was offered a place. Will I be affected by this change?

No, if you have not moved since your older child was offered a place and that child will still be attending the school, you would still receive priority regardless of the distance to the school from your home in the criterion as currently proposed.

Which schools are affected by the change?

This consultation is about proposed changes to the oversubscription admission criteria for community schools (for which the Council is the admission authority and sets the admissions arrangements). If a school is not oversubscribed (there are **not** more applications than there are places available) this criterion would not come into effect. The criterion will only be applied to those schools that are oversubscribed in any given year. For 2015 entry this would have included the schools set out on page 19 of the 2016 [Primary Admissions booklet](#). The number of oversubscribed schools can vary from year to year depending on the number of applications received for each school.

What happens next?

The Council will consider all the representations received in response to this consultation and prepare a report to be considered by the Council's Cabinet on 9 February 2016, which will make recommendations on the admission arrangements to be agreed for 2017/18.

Will the changes be adopted by voluntary-aided (faith) schools, foundation schools, free schools or academies?

This consultation is about proposed changes to the admission criteria for community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools only (for which the Council is the admission authority and sets the admissions policy). Academies, foundation schools, free schools and voluntary aided (faith) schools in the borough set their own admission arrangements and the decision to apply this criterion to their own arrangements rests with the governing body or Academy Trust of those schools and would be subject to a separate consultation.

How are distances measured?

Distances are measured in a straight line from the Ordinance Survey Address point of your home to the Ordinance Survey address point of the school, calculated using Haringey Council's computerised mapping system. Measurement by alternative systems or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances.

What is a sibling?

A sibling is defined as a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister, a foster brother or sister or an adopted brother or sister living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made.

Further information

If you have any further queries, please contact Carlo Kodsi, School Admissions Team Leader by email at schooladmissions@haringey.gov.uk, telephone number 020 8489 1823

Table A: Offers made on basis of Sibling Priority for Community and Voluntary Controlled (VC) Schools for Primary Admission in September 2015*

Planning Area	Total Sibling Offers (A)	Of (A) - those living over 0.5 miles (B)	Of (B) - those living within furthest distance offered (FDO), or in an undersubscribed school (C)	Of (B - C) - those who had not moved since sibling offered (D)	Places Made Available by Proposed Change	Percentage of Sibling Places Made Available by Proposed Change
Planning Area 1	160	28	0	6	22	13.8%
Planning Area 2	197	66	13	24	29	14.7%
Planning Area 3	133	39	24	4	11	8.3%
Planning Area 4	232	83	72	4	7	3.0%
Planning Area 5	196	59	22	18	19	9.7%
Grand Total	918	275	131	56	88	9.7%

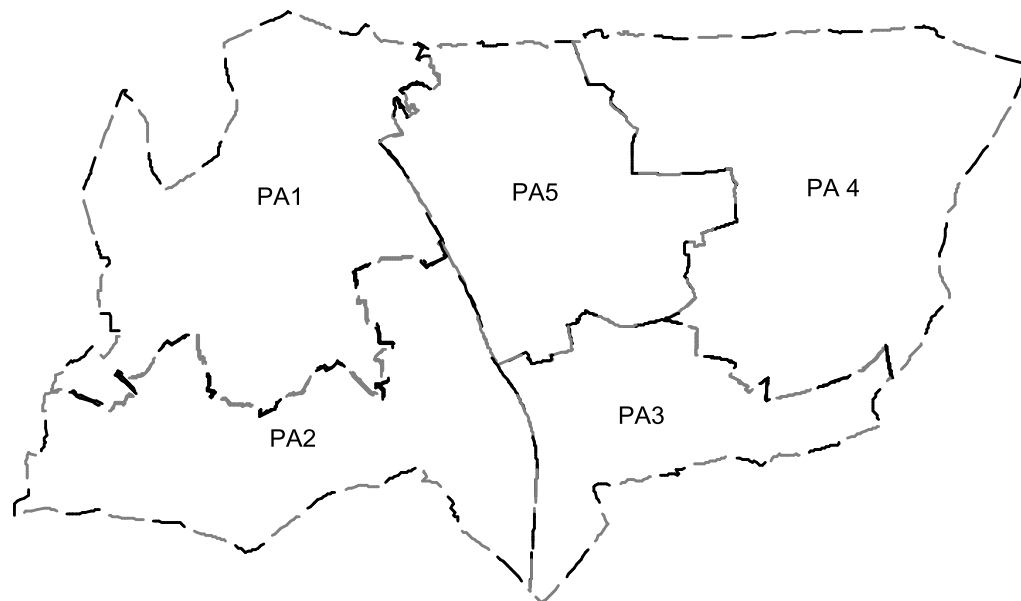
*These figures include a small number of own admitting authority schools whose governors have agreed to follow the Council's oversubscription criterion for community and VC schools - Harris Coleraine Park, Harris Phillip Lane, Trinity Primary Academy, Noel Park Academy and Brooke House Primary

Notes

- (A) Applicants offered a place on sibling priority
- (B) Applicants offered a place on sibling priority living over 0.5 miles from the school
- (C) Those living over 0.5 miles who would have been offered a place as the cut off distance (furthest distance offered) was greater than 0.5 miles or the school was undersubscribed
- (D) Those living over 0.5 miles who would have been offered a place as they had not moved since their older child was offered a place.

These illustrative figures disregard the caveat that children with siblings admitted prior to September 2017 will receive priority in any case.

Map of Planning Areas



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Schools in Planning Areas 1-6

PA1 – Muswell Hill, Tetherdown, St James CE, Our Lady of Muswell, Eden, Coldfall, Rhodes Avenue, Bounds Green, St Martin of Porres RC

PA2 – Campsbourne, St Mary’s CE, Rokesly, St Peter-in-Chains RC, St Gildas’ RC, Coleridge, Weston Park, St Aidan’s VC, Stroud Green, St Michael’s CE N6, Highgate

PA3 – South Harringay, Chestnuts, West Green, St John Vianney RC, Seven Sisters, St Ann’s CE, St Mary’s RC, Tiverton, St Ignatius RC, Crowland, Stamford Hill

PA4 – Earlsmead, Ferry Lane, Welbourne, Holy Trinity CE, Bruce Grove, Mulberry, Harris Academy Coleraine Park, Risley Avenue, Lancasterian, St Paul’s & All Hallows CE, St Francis de Sales RC, Lea Valley, Brooke House, Devonshire Hill

PA5 – Earlham, Trinity Primary, Lordship Lane, St Michael’s CE N22, St Paul’s RC, Noel Park, Alexandra, Belmont, The willow, Harris Academy Phillip Lane, North Harringay

APPENDIX

Proposed Admission Criteria for Reception and Junior Admissions 2017

Haringey Borough Council is the admission authority for the 33 community and 1 voluntary controlled (VC) primary schools in the borough.

This admissions policy applies to all these schools and to the four own admitting authority schools whose governors have agreed to follow the oversubscription criteria for community and VC primary schools.

The admission numbers for Haringey community primary schools (and St Aidan's VC Primary) for the 2017/18 school year will be as follows:

Admission Numbers

School	Admission number	School	Admission number
Alexandra	60	Mulberry	90
Belmont Infants	56	Muswell Hill	60
Bounds Green	60	North Harringay	60
Bruce Grove	60	Rhodes Avenue	90
Campsbourne	60	Risley Avenue	90
Chestnuts	60	Rokesly Infant	90
Coldfall	90	St Aidan's VC	30
Coleridge	120	Seven Sisters	60
Crowland	60	South Harringay Infant	60
Devonshire Hill	60	Stamford Hill	30
Earlham	60	Stroud Green	60
Earlsmead	60	Tetherdown	60
Ferry Lane	30	Tiverton	60
Highgate	56	Welbourne	90
Lancasterian	58	West Green	30
Lea Valley	60	Weston Park	30
Lordship Lane	90	The Willow	60

The governing bodies at the following schools have asked Haringey to set and apply their admission arrangements on their behalf

School	Admission number
Harris Primary Academy Philip Lane	60
Noel Park Primary	60
Trinity Primary	60

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan or statement of special educational needs naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Children in Care/ Looked After Children

Children who are looked after by a local authority or were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order.

A looked after child is a child who is (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).

2. Social Medical

Children who the Authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social need for a place at one specific school. Applications will only be considered under this category if they are supported by a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other relevant independent professional. The information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child.

3. Linked school

This rule applies only to junior school admissions. Applicants attending an infant school will be prioritised under this rule for admission to the linked junior school. The Linked infant and junior schools in Haringey normally share the same names (e.g. Rokesly Infant School is linked to Rokesly Junior School) with the exception of St Peter-in-Chains Infant School and St Gildas' Junior School.

4. Brother or Sister (sibling)

Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission, whose home address is no more than a distance of 0.5 miles from the school. Children with a brother or sister already attending the school and who will still be attending on the date of admission, whose home address is more than 0.5 miles from the school will also receive priority where the child's home address **has not changed** since the last sibling was offered a place or the last sibling was admitted prior to September 2017.

5. Distance

Children whose home address is closest to the preferred school.

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system.

Tie breakers

The tie breaker to decide between two applications that cannot otherwise be separated is children whose home address is closest to the school, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system.

The tiebreak for two or more applications whose home address is exactly the same distance from the school (and who are not from multiple births) will be random allocation using a computerised system.

Multiple births

If only one place is available at the school and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth, we will ask community schools to go over their published admission number.

Notes

- (i) Home address is defined as the child's only or main residence.
- (ii) A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister, a foster brother or sister or an adopted brother or sister living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made.
- (iii) Haringey measures distance in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system. Measurements by alternative systems or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random using a computerised system.

Additional Information

Method of Application for Reception

Parents/carers must apply on the Common Application Form of the local authority where they live. This can be completed online via www.eadmissions.org.uk or on a paper form available from the school or their local council's School Admissions Team. The closing date for Reception class applications will be 15th January 2017. Notification letters will be sent out on 17th April 2017. Applications received after the application deadline will be classed as late and processed after all other applications received on time.

Deferred entry - before compulsory school age

Children will normally be admitted to the reception year in the September following their fourth birthday. In line with the Admissions Code, parents can defer their child's entry to the reception year until later in the school year, where they have been offered a place at a school to start before they are of compulsory school age. Where entry is deferred, the school will hold the place for that child and not offer it to another child. However, entry cannot be deferred beyond the point the child reaches compulsory school age nor beyond the beginning of the final term of the Reception Year. Parents can also request that their child attends part-time until he/she reaches compulsory school age.

Summer born – Children educated outside their chronological age group

Paragraph 2.17 of the School Admissions Code (2014) states that the parents of a summer born child may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than year 1.

The Council, as the admission authority for Haringey community and voluntary controlled (VC) schools will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the child's individual needs and abilities and to consider whether these can best be met in reception or year one. It will also involve taking account of

- the parents' views
- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development
- where relevant their medical history and the views of a medical professional
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely, and
- the potential impact on the child of being admitted to year one without first having completed the reception year.

The views of the head teacher will be an important part of this consideration.

Parents should write to the Council giving reasons for their request. This should be accompanied by a paper application form for that child's actual age group. The application will be processed and a school place will be secured. This place can later be withdrawn if the request for delayed admission is approved. Parents who are granted their request must then make a fresh application which will be considered in accordance with the school's oversubscription criteria in the event of oversubscription. The decision will be reviewed once the child has started school at intervals agreed by the family and the school.

Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Waiting List

Unsuccessful applicants will be included on the school's waiting list ranked in order of priority under the published oversubscription criteria, without regard to the date that the application was received. Please note a child's position on the waiting list can go down as well as up as other applicants join the list. For example, if a new application is received or if a child on the list moves nearer to the school, the waiting list may need to be revised. The offer of a place does not depend on the length of time your child's name has been on the waiting list.

Appeals

Parents who are not offered a place for their child have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel. Further information will be provided in the notification letter. The Council will publish an appeals timetable annually on its website showing the relevant deadlines.

In Year Admissions

For in year admissions, parents/carers must apply on the Haringey In-Year Common Application Form. Applications will be considered in accordance with the above oversubscription criteria. In the event that it is not possible to offer a place the waiting list and appeals procedures described above will apply.