

CUMBRIA EDUCATION SERVICE
GENERAL ADMISSIONS POLICY (YEAR 12) 2018-2019
Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools

Where there are more applications than places available in Year 12 at a community or voluntary controlled school, applications will be prioritised using the criteria below. They will be applied in conjunction with explanatory notes 1 - 4 which form part of the policy.

1. Students (children) looked after and previously, i.e. in public care, giving priority, if necessary, to the youngest child(ren) - see note 1 overleaf.
2. Students living in the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school at the time of their admission - see note 2 overleaf.
3. Students living outside the catchment area who, at the time of their admission, have brothers or sisters in the school who were allocated a place at that school by the Local Authority either (a) in the absence of a place being available in the catchment area school due to oversubscription and the school was identified by the Local Authority as the next nearest with a place available or (b) the school is named in the sibling's Statement of Special Educational Need/Education, Health and Care Plan - see notes 2, and 3 overleaf.
4. Other students living in the catchment area.
5. Students living outside the catchment area who have brothers or sisters in the school at the time of their admission - see note 2 overleaf.
6. Students living outside the catchment area.
7. Where there is a need to prioritise places within any of the above criteria except criteria 1, priority will be given to those students who live nearest to the school – see note 4 and 5 overleaf.

Applications will be prioritised on the above basis. An exception will be made under the Authority's policy for the education of children with special needs (i) where a child holds 1. a Statement of Special Educational Need or 2. an Education, Health and Care Plan, or (ii) is currently undergoing a co-ordinated assessment, and in either case it is considered that attendance at a particular school is necessary to meet the identified needs of that child.

Explanatory Notes

[These notes are part of the policy]

Note 1

A child looked after, i.e., in public care, is defined as a child who is looked after by a local authority within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. Children previously looked after are children who were looked after, but have ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002) or became subject to a Child Arrangements Order or Special Guardianship Order (Children Act 1989).

The provision to give the highest priority to looked after and previously looked after children applies to all children who have been adopted from local authority care.

Note 2

Brothers and sisters are those living at the same address and includes step and foster children. Priority will only be given where it is known at the time of allocating places that a sibling will be attending the school at the time of admission.

In circumstances where there is an application for more than one child in the family, and it is not possible to offer a place to all of the children concerned, it will be up to the parent or carers to decide whether they wish to accept the place[s] offered. This will also be the case in relation to twins, etc.

Note 3

If parent or carers believe they qualify for consideration under criterion 3, they should indicate this on their preference form in the place provided for this purpose.

Note 4

Distance measurements will be undertaken using the Local Authority's computerised Geographical Information System [GIS]. This measures a straight-line between the centre of the pupil's home address and a common point on the school site as determined by the LA.

Note 5

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break in categories 5 and 8 to decide who has the highest priority for admission if the distance between the children's home address and the school is the same. This process will be independently verified.