Love Encourage Aspire Respect Nurture

Encourage one another and build one another up.
1 Thessalonians 5:11

At Blockley School, we encourage one another and build one another up, aspiring to love learning, celebrate success, respect difference and nurture others in a Christian environment.

Admission Policy

GENERAL

1. This policy may be amended in writing at any time by agreement between the Secretary of State and the Academy Trust.
2. Except as provided in paragraphs 2A and 2B below the Academy Trust will act in accordance with, and will ensure that an Independent Appeal panel is trained to act in accordance with, all relevant provisions of the School Admission Code, and the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education as they apply at any given time to maintained schools and with equalities law and the law on admissions as they apply to maintained schools. For this purpose, reference in the Codes or legislation to admission authorities shall be deemed to be references to the governing body of the Academy Trust.

2A. The Academy trust is permitted to determine admission arrangements (subject to consultation in accordance with the Schools Admissions Code) that give priority for admission (but not above looked after children and previously looked after children) to other children attracting the pupil premium, including the service premium. Where an Academy Trust exercises this freedom it will provide information in its admission arrangements of eligibility for the premiums.

2B. For the purposes of applying the pupil premium admission criterion only, admission authorities are prevented from giving priority to children according to the financial or occupational status of parents/carers or occupational status of parents/carers or using supplementary evidence that ask for:

- Any personal details about their financial status;
- Whether parents/carers are serving in the armed forces (of any nation) stationed in England, and exercising parental care and responsibility for the child in question.

3. Notwithstanding the generality of paragraph 2, the Academy Trust will participate in the co-ordinated admission arrangements and operated by the Local Authority (LA) and the Fair Access Protocol.
4. Notwithstanding any provision in this policy, the Secretary of State may:
   (a) Direct the Academy Trust to admit a named pupil to Blockley Church of England Primary School on application from the LA. This will include complying with a School Attendance Order. Before doing so the Secretary of State will consult the Academy Trust.
   (b) Direct the Academy trust to admit a named pupil to Blockley Church of England Primary School if the Academy Trust has failed to act in accordance with this policy or has otherwise failed to comply with applicable admissions and equalities legislation or the provisions of the Codes;
   (c) Direct the Academy Trust to amend its admission arrangements where they fail to comply with the School Admissions Code or the School Admissions Appeal Code.

4A. Blockley Church of England Primary School is a Church of England Primary Academy in the diocese of Gloucester.

This is the body which (a) has to be consulted on admission arrangements (b) has the right to issue guidance on the adoption of faith criteria and (c) has the right of objection to admission arrangements. CE Dioceses also have to approve the disposal of land or premises of CE Academies.

5. The Academy Trust shall ensure that parents/carers and relevant children will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of the Academy trust. The Independent Appeal panel will be independent of the Academy trust. The arrangements for appeals will comply with the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education. The determination of the appeals panel is binding on all parties.

REQUIREMENT TO ADMIT PUPILS.

6. The Academy will:
   a. Subject to its right of appeal to the Secretary of State in relation to a named pupil, admit all pupils with an Education and Health Care Plan naming the Academy;
   b. Determine admission oversubscription criteria that give highest priority to looked after children and previously looked after children, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the School Admissions Code.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA, ADMISSION NUMBER, CONSULTATION, DETERMINATION AND OBJECTIONS.

7. The Academy admission arrangements will include oversubscription criteria, and an admission number for each relevant age group. The Academy will consult on its admission arrangements and determine them in line with the requirements within the School Admission Code.
8. The Office of the School's Adjudicator (OSA) will consider objections to the Academy's admission arrangements. The Academy Trust should therefore make it clear, when

determining the Academy's admission arrangements, that objections should be submitted to the OSA.

9. A determination of an objection by the OSA will be binding upon the Academy and the Academy Trust will make appropriate changes as quickly as possible.

Admission Criteria for Blockley Church of England Primary School.

1. Children will be admitted in the year in which they become five. There is one admission date per year, early in September.
2. Children will be admitted without reference to ability, aptitude, race, religion or background. The Published Admission Number for the year commencing 1st September 2027 will be 20.
3. The catchment area covers the settlements of Adlestrop, Aston Magna, Aston-sub-edge, Batsford, Bledington, Blockley, Broadwell, Broad Campden, Bourton-on-the-Hill, Chipping Campden, Condicote, Dorn, Donnington, Draycott, Ebrington, Evenlode, Longborough, Oddington Mickleton, Moreton-in-Marsh, Paxford, Saintbury, Sezincote, Snowshill, Todenham, Weston-sub-edge and Willersey. These parishes are in priority catchment area 1.
4. Where applications for admission exceed the Published Admission Number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set below, to decide which children to admit:
    1. A 'looked after child' (1) or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption (2) child arrangements order (residency order) (3) or special guardianship order (4) including those 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 (5).

        1. 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) at the time of making an application to a school. In Gloucestershire, such children are referred to as Children in Care.

        2. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

        3. Under the provisions of s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

        4. See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

        5. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

    2. Children living in the priority catchment area normally served by the school whose sibling is attending the school and who will continue to do so when the younger child is admitted.

A sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carers partner and, in every case the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address.

3. Children living in the catchment area normally served by the school, with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a direct line. In the event of over subscription in any of the above criteria then the strongest geographical claim measured in a straight line from Ordnance Survey point of the child's home address to the Ordnance Survey point of Blockley Church of England Primary School Foyer using a computerised measuring system, with those living closest to the school receiving the higher priority.
4. Children of full or part time salaried members of staff who have been employed at Blockley Educational Academy for two years or more at the time of the application for admission, and/or children of a member of staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
5. Children living out of the catchment area normally served by the school whose siblings is attending the school and who will continue to do so when the younger child is admitted. A sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister or the child of the parent/carers partner and, in every case, the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address.
6. Children living out of the catchment area normally served by the school, with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a direct line.
7. **Over-subscription for those fulfilling the admissions criteria (ie. Sibling or living in catchment area.)** In the event of over-subscription, in any category, places will be awarded to those with the strongest geographical claim-this will be used as a tie-break. Where two or more applicants are received from children living the same distance away for one final place, the school will make the final decision by lottery.

Children with SEN

Blockley Church of England Primary School is required to admit a child with an Education and Health Care Plan, that names the school, even if the school is full.

Waiting List

If the school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be held for at least a year. The waiting list will be prioritised according to the school's oversubscription criteria.

In Year Admissions

The Local Authority is no longer responsible for offering places to children on behalf of all schools/academies, but the Local Authority does maintain the statutory duty of being responsible and aware of all pupils and vacancies within schools/academies within Gloucestershire. To apply for an In-year place at Blockley Church of England Primary School, parents/carers should therefore contact the school in the first instance.

Transport

Pupils living in the catchment area and more than three miles from the nearest school may apply for assistance with transport to the school.

Admission of Summer Born Children for Reception Entry

The Governing Body acknowledges the updated advice from the Department of Education that, parents/carers of "summer born" children (born between 1 April and 31 August) may request to start the Reception Class of a school a whole academic year later. The Governing Body will make a decision on behalf of the School. The Governing Body will decide whether the deferred entry can be approved for the school.

Normal Admission Round

The term 'normal admissions round' refers to all applications for admission to the main year of entry of the school i.e. Reception for Infant and Primary Schools. Applications made during the normal admissions round will be made in advance of the academic year in which the child is due to start at the new school. Children are entitled to a full-time place, however, may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

Admission Appeals Code for Blockley Church of England Primary School

The Academy Trust is responsible for making arrangements for appeals against the refusal of a school place. The Academy Trust and Appeal panel must act in accordance with the Department for Education School Admission Appeals Code, 2022 and other law relating to admissions and relevant human rights and equalities legislation.

Contact information for Blockley Educational Academy

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