

# ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR LONG DITTON INFANT SCHOOL SEPTEMBER 2018

## i) **First priority: Looked after and previously looked after children**

Within the admission arrangements for all Community and Voluntary Controlled schools looked after and previously looked after children will receive the top priority for a place.

Looked after and previously looked after children will be considered to be:

- children who are registered as being in the care of a Local Authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989(a), e.g. fostered or living in a children's home at the time an application for a school is made; and
- children who have left care through adoption (in accordance with Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002), a residence order (in accordance with Section 8 of the Children Act 1989) or special guardianship order (in accordance with Section 14A of the Children Act 1989).

Places will be allocated under this criterion when places are first offered at a school and the Local Authority may also ask schools to admit over their Published Admission Number at other times under this criterion.

## ii) **Second priority: Exceptional social/medical need**

Occasionally there will be a very small number of children for whom exceptional social or medical circumstances will apply which will warrant a placement at a particular school.

Supporting evidence from a professional is required such as a doctor and/or consultant for medical cases or a social worker, health visitor, housing officer, the police or probation officer for other social circumstances. This evidence must confirm the circumstances of the case and must set out why the child should attend a particular school and why no other school could meet the child's needs.

Providing evidence does not guarantee that a child will be given priority at a particular school and in each case a decision will be made based on the merits of the case and whether the evidence demonstrates that a placement should be made at one particular school above any other.

Places may be allocated under this criterion when places are first offered at a school and the Local Authority may also ask schools to admit over their Published Admission Number at other times under this criterion.

## iii) **Third priority: Children with older siblings attending this school at the time of the younger sibling's admission**

A sibling will be considered to be a brother or sister (that is, another child of the same parents, whether living at the same address or not), a half-brother or half-sister or a step-brother or step-sister or an adoptive or foster sibling, living at the same address.

A child will be given sibling priority if they have a sibling at the school concerned at the time of the child's admission. For the initial intake to the school a child will be given priority for admission only if their sibling will still be at the school in September **2018**.

The nearest school within the admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools is defined as the school closest to the home address with a published admission number for pupils of the appropriate age-range, as measured by a straight line and which admits local children. The nearest school may be inside or outside the county boundary. Under this criterion all Surrey Community and Voluntary Controlled schools are considered to admit local children.

Within the admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools the child's home address excludes any business, relative's or childminder's address and must be the child's normal place of residence. In the case of formal equal shared custody it will be up to the parents to agree which address to use. In other cases it is where the child spends most of the time. All distances will be measured by the computerised Geographical Information System maintained by Surrey's Admissions and Transport team.

The address to be used for the initial allocation of places to Reception will be the child's address at the closing date for application. Changes of address may be considered in accordance with Surrey's Coordinated Scheme if there are exceptional reasons behind the change, such as if a family has just moved to the area. The address to be used for waiting lists, after the initial allocation, will be the child's current address. Any offer of a place on the basis of address is conditional upon the child living at the appropriate address on the relevant date. Parents have a responsibility to notify Surrey County Council of any change of address.

- iv) Fourth priority:** Children resident within the admission priority area (not fixed unless the number of applications exceeds the number of places available).

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- vi) Fifth priority: Any other children**

Remaining places will be offered on the basis of nearness to the school measured in a straight line from the address point of the pupil's house, as set by Ordnance Survey to the nearest official school gate for pupils to use. This is calculated using the Admission and Transport team's Geographical Information System.

Where two or more children share a priority for a place, eg where two children live equidistant from a school and only one place remains, Surrey County Council will draw lots to determine which child should be given priority.

In the case of multiple births, where children are ranked consecutively in their order of priority for a place and there are not sufficient vacancies remaining for each of them, wherever it is logistically possible, each child will be offered a place. Where it is not logistically possible to offer each child a place the child(ren) to be offered the last remaining place(s) will be determined by the drawing of lots.

If there is oversubscription in any of the above criteria priority will be given on the basis of nearness to school measured in a straight line from the address point of the pupil's house, as set by Ordnance Survey to the nearest official school gate for pupils to use. This is calculated using the Admission and Transport team's Geographical Information System.

### **Waiting lists**

Where there are more applicants than places available, waiting lists will operate for each year group according to the oversubscription criteria for each school without regard to the date the application was received or when a child's name was added to the waiting list.

Waiting lists for the initial intake to each Community and Voluntary Controlled school will be maintained until the last day of the Autumn term when they will be cancelled. Parents wishing to remain on the waiting list after this date must write to Surrey County Council by 31 December **2018**, stating their wish and providing their child's name, date of birth and the name of their child's current school. After 31 December **2018**, parents whose children are not already on the waiting list but who wish them to be so must apply for in-year admission through Surrey County Council. Waiting lists for all year groups will be cancelled at the end of each academic year.

**Approved by the Governing Body of Long Ditton Infant School – November 2017**