

Whitburn Church of England Academy

Admissions Policy 2024

Preface - Vision and values

‘But since you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete eagerness and in your love for us – see that you also excel in this grace of giving’ (2 Corinthians 8:7)

Our vision is rooted in this biblical teaching and is expressed through our school motto of
‘life in all its

Introduction

We intend to admit up to 205 students to Year 7 in each academic year. The Whitburn Church of England Academy Trust Board are the admissions authority for the school. The Trust Board have made every effort to ensure that these arrangements comply with the School Admissions Code 2021 and all relevant legislation, including that on infant class sizes and equal opportunities. This arrangement follows consultation with the Local Authority, all other schools in the area and all other Admission Authorities in the area. The general admissions arrangements of the Local

S 2023 and the Academy will admit students in accordance with
-ordinated admissions scheme.

A link to the scheme is available at <https://www.southtyneside.gov.uk/article/36364/School-admissions>

Oversubscription criteria

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan naming Whitburn Church of England Academy will always be offered places. If there is a greater demand for admission than there are places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below:

The Academy operates an equal preference system which means that all first, second and third preference applications are considered equally against the following criteria.

- a. -after children and children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because, immediately after being looked after, they became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order (**see note 1**) including children previously in state care outside of England who have ceased to be in that state care as a result of being adopted (**see note 2**)
- b. Children who will have an older sibling link up to and including Year 11 at the time of admission to the Academy (**see note 3**)

Final tiebreaker

Where two or more applicants meet the same admission criteria and the measured distance between home and school is the same to 3 decimal places, the tiebreaker will be a random allocation and will be by the drawing of lots to determine the rank order for each child. In order to ensure fairness the School Admissions Team will administer the random allocation system overseen by an independent adjudicator in accordance with the random allocation procedure.

In determining admissions, priority would be given to those applications where the parental application form is received by the published deadline date.

Once a place at the Academy has been offered and accepted, the Academy will require sight of the to verify the identity of the child. Where a birth certificate may not be available for children arriving from overseas, the Border Agency may be contacted to verify the

Note 1:

-
accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of its social services function. An adoption order is one made under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46).

the person with whom the child is to live (Children Act 1989, Section 8, as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 14).

Applications under this criterion must be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (e.g. a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order).

Note 2

Children previously in state care outside of England means children who have been looked after outside of England by a public authority, a religious organisation or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. The care may have been provided in orphanages or other settings. In the case of children adopted from state care overseas, the admissions authority will

evidence of their previously looked-after status.

Note 3

By sibling we mean an older brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling. The older

If parents move house after the application has been made, but before any offer of a place has been made, the home Local Authority must be informed.

If parents are moving, we will ask for evidence of the move, before considering any application for a place under the co-ordinated scheme.

We would not accept an address where the one given is that of a sec

Year 6 to Year 7 Transfer - Waiting Lists

In accordance with the published admission number (PAN) the Academy will admit a total of 205 students to Year 7 in September 2024.

If you have been refused a place at Whitburn Church of England Academy, you will have the opportunity to be placed on the waiting list if you have ranked the school as a higher preference than the one you have been offered. Waiting lists are established after Friday 8th March 2024 (you will be placed on the waiting list as this is not an automatic procedure). Children are placed on the waiting list according to the oversubscription criteria regardless of when their application was received and within each criterion their place is ordered by the shortest distance measured as a straight line, from the Ordnance Survey coordinates for the parental home residence (including flats) to the main academy entrance, using the straight line distance with those living closer to the Academy receiving higher priority. The Academy will request proof of residency for parents/carers

If student numbers fall below the published admission number the place will be offered to the child at the top of the waiting list. A child who is on the waiting list will move down the list if another late application is received that falls within a higher priority under the oversubscription criteria.

Waiting lists will be held for one term in the academic year i.e. September 2024 until 31st December 2024; no lists will be kept after this date.

Whitburn Church of England Academy in full accordance with the agreed Local Authority In-Year Fair Access Protocol take precedence over those on the waiting list. (*Link to the protocol is available via the South Tyneside Council website*).

In-Year Admissions

