

Livingstone Road Primary Federation

Sylvan Infant School and
Branksome Heath Junior School

Executive Head: Mrs S Hayward

Heads of School: Mr D Walsh, Miss J Collinson



HAMWIC TRUST

SYLVAN INFANT SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2020/21

All the admission authorities within Poole operate an equal preference admissions system. This means that all first, second and third preference applications are considered together. The local authority will offer the highest ranked preference possible.

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Needs issued by a local authority naming a school where a child should receive his/her education will be admitted to that school before preferences are considered for admission in September.

Sylvan Infant School has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 for 2020/21.

Oversubscription criteria

Applications submitted by 15 January 2020 will be dealt with first. If there are more applications received by 15 January 2020 than places available, the following criteria will be used, in numerical order, to decide the priority list for the offering of places up to the school's Published Admission Number:

1. "Looked After Children" or "previously Looked After Children".
2. Children who live in the school's catchment area who have a sibling who is already on the roll of the school and will continue to attend the school at the time of admission.
3. Children who live in the school's catchment area who have a significant medical or psychological condition.
4. All other children who live in the school's catchment area.
5. Children who live outside the school's catchment area who have a sibling who is already on the roll of the school and will continue to attend the school at the time of admission.
6. Children who live outside the school's catchment area who have a significant medical or psychological condition.
7. All other children who live outside the school's catchment area.

If the school is oversubscribed in any of the categories above, children who live closest to the school will be given priority. If the distance measurement is equal for two or more applicants the place will be allocated by the drawing of lots.

Please ensure you read Notes 1 to 6 for further information about each category.

Late Applications

The closing date for applications is 15 January 2020. Applications received after that date will be late applications. If the school has places available after admitting all on-time applications, late applications will be considered in accordance with the admissions priorities set out above.

Waiting Lists

If a place cannot be offered at Sylvan Infant School, unsuccessful applicants will automatically be placed on the waiting list. If places become available, children on the waiting list will be offered them according to the priorities set out above and any previous offer of a school place will be withdrawn. The length of time on the waiting list cannot be taken into account. Unsuccessful late applications will be treated in the same way as unsuccessful on-time applications and placed on the waiting list according to the priorities set out above. Each time a child is added to the waiting list, the waiting list will be re-ranked according to the Admissions Policy criteria. The waiting list will be held until 31st July 2021. Any parent wishing to remain on the waiting list after this date will need to make a new in-year application to the school.

Admissions arrangements

Admission to all Poole schools will be in accordance with the agreed scheme for co-ordinated admission arrangements 2020/21.

Entry to Reception including deferred entry

All children can start in Reception on a full-time basis in September 2020. Parents/carers may discuss with the Headteacher as to whether their child should start on a part-time basis, but the final decision will rest with the parent/carer of the child. Children may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age (by the start of the term following their fifth birthday).

Parents can defer the date their child starts school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age (i.e. by the start of the term following their fifth birthday) or, for children born between 1 April and 31 August, not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year (i.e. the term that starts after the Easter/Spring holidays) for which the offer was made.

The school place offered cannot be deferred until the following academic year – it must be taken up in the academic year for which it is offered. Parents and carers who do not take up the offer of a place during the Reception year will need to reapply for a school place the following year. Places offered but not taken up by the beginning of the final term (i.e. the term that starts after the Easter/Spring holidays) will be withdrawn.

If parents/carers want to apply for the following year they would normally be expected to apply for a place in Year 1. Parents and carers need to be aware that Year 1 in the school they were originally offered could be full at this stage.

Parents/carers wishing to apply for a year group different to that determined by their child's date of birth, including delayed admission to reception for summer born children need to refer to the section headed "Applications for a place in a year group different to that determined by date of birth, including delayed admission to reception for summer born children" which can be found later in this document. Parents considering this are advised to contact the school and the Local Authority at the earliest possible opportunity (preferably before 31 October 2019) to ensure a decision has been made by before the national closing date for applications to Reception and Transfer to Junior School 2020/21.

Applications for a place in a year group different to that determined by date of birth, including delayed admission to reception for summer born children

Applications for children to be educated in a year group different to that determined by their date of birth will be considered on their individual merits by the Governing Body of Sylvan Infant School.

Sylvan Infant School, has adopted the local authority's "Policy for responding to parental requests for admission to community schools to a year group different to that determined by their date of birth, including delayed admission to reception for summer born children" when considering applications for a year group different to that determined by date of birth.

Details of what you need to do to apply for a different year group can be found in the policy document available online at <http://www.poole.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-andcolleges/school-admissions/> or from the Poole Admissions Team.

Excepted pupils for infant classes (Years R, 1 and 2)

Infant classes must not contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher. Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an 'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit. The excepted children are:

- a) Children admitted outside the normal admissions round with Education, Health and Care Plans or Statements of Special Educational Needs specifying a school;
- b) Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- c) Children admitted, after initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process;
- d) Children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal;
- e) Children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance;

- f) Children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- g) Children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil;
- h) Children with Special Educational Needs who are normally taught in a special educational needs unit attached to the school, or registered at a special school, who attend some infant classes within the mainstream school.

In Year Fair Access

All the admission authorities in Poole have established an In Year Fair Access Protocol. The purpose of the In Year Fair Access Protocol is to ensure that – outside the normal admissions round – unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. Cases are considered by a Panel comprising Headteachers and/or their representatives. When seeking to place a child, the Panel will consider all schools in a fair, equitable and consistent manner. Decisions of the Panel may mean that individual schools admit children above the Published Admission Number. Admission authorities will not normally be asked to admit a child to an infant class where there are already 30 children in the class.

In Year Admissions – Looked After Children

A Looked After Child (see Note 1) may be admitted to a school above the Published Admission number if it is felt by the local authority that a particular school is the most appropriate placement to meet the needs of the individual child. The school has adopted the local authority protocol for dealing with in year admissions of Looked After Children.

Applications from separated parents

Only one application can be considered for each child. Where parents are separated it is essential that agreement is reached by both parties concerning the nominated preferred schools. If agreement cannot be reached the school will only consider the application from the parent who is the prime carer for the child. The prime carer is the parent in whose name Child Benefit payments are made. If Child Benefit payments are not received by either parent, then the address that the child has been registered with a General Practitioner (GP) at will be considered as the address for the prime carer.

Applications for children of multiple births

If there are insufficient places to accommodate all the children of a multiple birth (i.e. twins, triplets etc) in any year group and one child can be admitted, the other siblings of the multiple birth will be admitted over the school's Published Admission Number. If it is in an infant class (Years R, 1 and 2) the additional children over the PAN will be considered as excepted pupils for the entire time they are in an infant class at the school or until the class numbers fall back to the infant class size limit in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2014.

Notes

1. A “Looked After Child” means any child who is in the care of a local authority in accordance with Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989. A child who was “previously a Looked After Child” means a child who after being Looked After became subject to an Adoption Order under the Adoption Act 1976 or under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002, a Residence Order or Child Arrangement Order under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 or Special Guardianship Order under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989.
2. Sylvan Infant School will consider that a child lives at the address at which he/she lives during the school week. Where a child lives at more than one address during the school week, the school will consider the home address as being where the prime carer resides. The “prime carer” is the person in whose name Child Benefit payments for the individual child are made. If Child Benefit payments are not received by either parent, then the address that the child has been registered with a General Practitioner (GP) at will be considered as the home address of the prime carer. The final decision on the home address of a child will be made by the school. If any information supplied by an applicant is judged by the school to be fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the school may refuse to offer a place, or if already offered, may withdraw the offer.
3. “Sibling” means:
 - a full brother or sister who lives with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
 - a half-brother or half-sister who lives with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
 - an adoptive brother or sister who lives with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
 - a foster brother or sister who lives with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
 - non-blood related children who, together, all live with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
4. Notes relating to use of the distance criterion
 - a. Sylvan Infant School obtains home-to-school distance measurements for the purposes of this policy from the Local Authority. The measurement will be the shortest, safe and practicable walking route from the home address to the nearest approved school access point that is for use by pupils. All distance measurements provided are in accordance with the process described in the Local Authority’s admissions policy for community primary schools.

- b. For applicants living on islands or residing permanently on a boat within Poole harbour, the distance measurement will be a straight line from the centre point of the home address (see Note 2 and Note 4(a) above) to either: 1. the nearest public landing steps at Poole Quay, or 2. a point on the mainland that the applicant proves to the satisfaction of the admission authority that he/she can access. From that point the distance will be measured using the shortest, safe and practicable walking route from the landing point to the nearest approved school access point that is for use by pupils. All distance measurements provided are in accordance with the process described in the Local Authority's admissions policy for community primary schools.
 - c. If an applicant advises the school that the child would or could use the Sandbanks/Studland Chain Ferry in the journey to school, then the distance will be measured on that basis from the home address (see Notes above), including the distance travelled by the ferry.
5. If there are insufficient places to accommodate all applicants and the distance criterion is used, the school will use random allocation for applicants living an equal distance from the school (up to three decimal points) or at the same address or in the same block of flats who are eligible for the remaining places. Applicants will have their names drawn as lots to see who should be offered the place(s). The person drawing the names will be a member of staff at Sylvan Infant School who has no involvement in the school admissions process.
 6. If applying under medical or psychological grounds, written advice from an NHS Consultant (for medical grounds), or an NHS Consultant Psychiatrist (for psychological grounds) that documents the child or young person's medical or psychological needs must be included with the application. Children will only meet this criterion if the school(s) named on the application form is assessed by the school to be the only school(s) that can meet any specific medical or psychological needs identified.