



Admissions Policy

Policy Reviewed:	September 2019
Next Review:	September 2020

Mission Statement

At Masefield we believe that all our children can achieve, becoming successful future citizens that contribute positively to a society in which all members are equally valued.

High aspirations, high motivation and high outcomes for all, ensure that achievement gaps wherever they exist are narrowed in order to improve pupils' life choices and future prospects.

We strive for all of our children to be safe, feel valued, develop resilience and continually learn within our nurturing and supportive community.

At Masefield, our children

Believe * Achieve * Succeed

Policy

The following policy has been adopted from Bolton Local Authority. The School will handle all In-Year admission in co-ordination with the Local Authority and the Local Authority will handle all procedures for reception admissions into school and will arrange an independent panel for any appeals that may arise.

Review

This policy will be reviewed and approved by BASE Academy Trust Board each September

September 2019

Review: September 2020

Scheme for the Coordination of In-Year Admissions to Red Lane/Masefield Primary Schools from January 2020

1. Applicants should contact the school where they are seeking admission.
2. Application forms are available from:
 - School website
 - School office
3. Parent/Carer must return the completed Part 1 and Part 2 application forms to the school together with any documentation to support the application. In the event that the form has been returned to the Local Authority the LA will liaise with the school to determine if a place can be offered.
4. All applications must be processed within 5 to 10 school days of receipt. This will include investigation as to whether a place is available and secondly if a place is available and there is more than one applicant, the admission criteria will be applied.
5. Where a place can be offered then the school must agree a start date with the parent/carer to admit the student within 5 to 10 school days of the offer being made.
6. Where schools are full in the relevant year group, parents must be referred to the Local Authority (Pupil & Student Services). The pupil's name will be added to the school held waiting list. Waiting lists will be prioritised in accordance with the schools published admission criteria.
7. The School will provide parents with relevant advice and guidance of the appeals procedures.
12. School will inform the Local Authority of the outcome of all applications for admission.
13. Where a place becomes available the school will consult their waiting list to determine whether there are any applicants awaiting admission. If there is more than one applicant the school will apply the published admission criteria.

BASE ACADEMY TRUST
PROPOSED ADMISSION POLICY FOR RED LANE AND MASEFIELD PRIMARY
SCHOOLS 2019/2020

The school will admit all children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education Health and Care Plan, in whose statement/plan the school is named.

The proposed policy for admission for 2019/2020 is as follows.

If the school is over-subscribed the following criteria will be applied to all applications in priority order.

1. Children in Public Care (Looked After Children) including adopted children who were previously in care and children who leave care under a special guardianship or residence order. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social functions (see definition in Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989)

2. Other children who are considered as “vulnerable” whose application for the preferred school is supported by the Assistant Director for Social Care. This will include;

- a. Children for whom there is a child protection plan or has been within a 12 month period.
- b. Children who have had a period in care within 2 years of the admission application and are still receiving social care services
- c. Children who are considered to be at significant risk of becoming looked after
- d. Children who are living in temporary accommodation due to fleeing violence and the area for rehousing has been identified

3. Children who will have older siblings in years Reception to Year 6 of the preferred school at the time of application and at the date of admission. Sibling includes full, step, half, foster and adopted brothers and sisters living at the same address.

4. Children who have strong Church connections where the school is a Church school.

Parents must complete the supplementary form attached to the application form as evidence that the family and the child are active worshipping members at the church to which the school is affiliated. Active worshipping members of the church will be those persons who worship at least once a month sustained over a period of a year prior to the closing date for applications.

5. Children who suffer from some medical condition or disability, which makes it, better for them to attend that school rather than another. Places will only be offered under this criterion if the child has a certified medical condition with strong professional supporting evidence confirming that existing exceptional problems with the child’s health would be seriously exacerbated if a place were not made at the preferred school. Parents applying under this criterion must provide a letter from the child’s GP/Consultant setting out the reasons why the school is the most suitable school and details of the child’s medical condition. Medical evidence must be submitted by 15th January 2019. Evidence received after this date will not be taken into consideration

6. Proximity (Where you live).

Shortest walking distance to the preferred school minus shortest walking distance to the nearest/next nearest school plus 100 to create a ranking value. The lower the ranking value the higher the priority for a place.

The nearest/next nearest school will include all community, voluntary-controlled, foundation, free and academy schools whether in the Bolton Borough or not.

- If any categories are oversubscribed then geographical proximity (as set out in category 6 above) will be used as a tie breaker. If the proximity value is equal then random allocation will be used as a tie-breaker. This will be carried out by an officer of Bolton Council independent to the School Admission Team
- The shortest walking route will be that determined by the Local Authority using only those public rights of way recognised within the measuring system. This will be measured using Routefinder, a computerised mapping system which uses the ordnance survey integrated network which measures from the point on the highway nearest to the centre of the home property and the designated main entrance to the school. In the event of a tie-break within a block of flats those living furthest from the communal entrance will be given priority.
- Where a single place remains at a school and the application being considered is for twins (etc.) the Council will allocate above the admission number to accommodate each child.

BOLTON LA CO-ORDINATED PRIMARY ADMISSION SCHEME FOR 2020/2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

Normal Year Admissions

- (a) All parents/carers of Bolton children must complete the Bolton LA application form for admission to the borough maintained primary schools. This will include children with an Education Health and Care Plan. Parents will also be given the option of applying on-line via the Council's website
- (b) The LA will provide parents with access details to the online application form which will be distributed to their registered home address. The booklet will be available to view or download from the Council's website. Hard copies will be available on request. For parents who are unable to apply online a paper preference form will be available and will be posted in December 2019 to all those who at that time have not submitted an online application.
- (c) The LA application form (and online application) will allow parents/carers to express at least 3 preferences in rank order and to state reasons for the preferences.
- (d) Parents/carers must return the completed form (or submit their online application) to reach the LA by 15th January 2020. The forms should be submitted to the LA's Pupil and Student Services (P&SS).
- (e) The procedures for processing application forms received after the closing date is given below.
- (f) The LA will forward relevant information from the application forms by 3rd February 2020 to other local authorities where Bolton residents have expressed a preference for a maintained school or academy in their area. On this date other LAs will provide details of preferences for Bolton schools or academies expressed by their residents
- (g) The Local Authority will forward relevant information from the application forms by 10th February 2020 to the admission authority schools and academies in Bolton where parents/carers have expressed a preference for them. The preference ranking for them will not be shared with the admission authorities in compliance with the School Admissions Code
- (h) Bolton admission authority schools and academies will inform the LA by 10th March 2020 of the priority ranking of all applicants according to their admission arrangements
- (i) By 16th March 2020 the LA will inform other local authorities of offers to be made to children resident within their areas and receive details of offers they will be making to Bolton residents. This information will continue to be exchanged until 31st March 2020.
- (j) All parents/carers of Bolton children will receive emails or letters from the LA informing them of the outcome of the application for admission to the borough primary schools on 16th April 2020. If admission is refused to the preferred school or academy parents/carers will be informed of the alternative school to be offered and provided with advice on how to appeal.
- (k) The LA will continue to co-ordinate admission arrangements until the end 31st December 2020 and will hold a waiting list of all pupils whose preference for the school could not be met. This will mean the LA application form must be completed. The LA will provide the relevant admission authority details of children requesting admission. The LA will convey to parents/carers of Bolton children the outcome of their application.

LATE APPLICATIONS

1. LATE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE CLOSING DATE BUT BEFORE PLACES ARE ALLOCATED

The closing date will as far as possible be strictly observed. Late applications will only be considered after all the applications received by the closing date have been considered. Places will however be allocated and parents/carers will receive notification as far as possible on 16th April 2020.

Only in exceptional circumstances where evidence is available will late applications be considered on time. These may include the following:

- parents who moved into the borough after the closing date
- parents/carers were abroad for the whole period between the publication of the LA's admission booklet and the closing date for the application form
- Parental/carer/child illness which required hospitalisation for the major part of the period between the publication of the LA's admission booklet and the closing date for the application form.

2. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE ALLOCATION DATE

The LA will continue to manage the co-ordinated admission arrangements after the allocation date i.e. 16th April 2020 until 31st December 2020.

The LA form and any relevant documents will be passed on to the appropriate admissions authority for consideration. The LA will retain responsibility for informing parents/carers about the outcome of their application. If admission is refused to the preferred Borough school(s) or academy, an appeal form(s) will be sent with the letter, which will inform parents/carers of the alternative school to be offered.

WAITING LISTS AND CHANGE OF PREFERENCES

WAITING LIST

Bolton LA maintains waiting lists for admission to the borough schools and academies and for 2020 admissions this will be held until 31st December 2020. Details of children who have not been offered a place at their preferred school(s), including late applicants will automatically be placed on the waiting list.

The waiting list will be compiled using the relevant published oversubscription criteria. As no distinction will be made between applications received on time and late applications, the waiting list will remain fluid.

The LA will maintain the waiting list until 31st December 2020. Procedures for changing schools after this period are outlined in the policy relating to in year admissions.

A parent cannot add their name to the waiting list for a school that was not one of their original three preferences but can change their preferences after offer date on 16th April 2020 if necessary.

CHANGE OF PREFERENCES

A change of preference after the closing date 15th January 2020 will only be acceptable in exceptional circumstances. This is likely to be when there is a change of address. Verification must be provided e.g. letter from solicitor exchanging contracts or a tenancy agreement together with evidence to confirm permanent residency at the new address. The LA cannot change any preferences for whatever reason after 21st February 2020 until after the offer date of 16th April 2020.

TIMETABLE FOR PRIMARY ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

Closing date for applications and return of applications to the LA

15th January 2020



LA sends application details to other Local Authorities by 3rd February 2020 and Bolton voluntary-aided schools and academies by 10th February 2020



Other LAs, Aided schools/Academies to provide LA with ranked list of pupils by

10th March 2020 until 31st March 2020



March to April 2020 The Local Authority will resolve all potential offers to ensure that each child receives a single offer of a school place



Offers made to parents by LA

16th April 2020

Parents to accept/decline place offered by

30th April 2020



Appeals

May to July 2020