



Dunstable Icknield Lower School

Learn, Believe, Achieve



Admissions Policy

Policy Published	March 2019	Admissions Administrator
Review Date	March 2020	Reviewed annually

Dunstable Icknield Lower School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.



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Central Bedfordshire Council is the admission authority for Dunstable Icknield Lower School for all places offered in Reception to Year 4.

1. Admissions

- 1.1 Admission criteria are used by an admission authority to decide in which order places are allocated where the school has more applications than places available. A school's oversubscription criteria is determined by its admission authority. The admission authority is responsible for applying the correct criteria to each application before the allocation to ensure that places are allocated in the correct order.
- 1.2 The school has an agreed admission number of 60 for entry to the Reception Year and for each year from Year 1 to Year 4.
- 1.3 The Local Authority will apply the following criteria (in the rank order shown) to decide the order in which places will be allocated when there are more requests from parents / carers than the number of places available:
 - i. All 'looked after' children or children who were previously 'looked after' (see definitions).
 - ii. Children living in the catchment area with siblings at the school (see definitions).
 - iii. Children living in the catchment area (see definitions).
 - iv. Other children with siblings at the school (see definitions).
 - v. Children who live nearest to the school determined by straight line distance from the school site to the child's home address (see definitions).

2. Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan

- 2.1 In accordance with the Education Act 1996, children with a Statement of SEN or Education, Health and Care Plan are required to be admitted to the academy/school named in the Statement or Plan and will be allocated a place ahead of those without a Statement of Special Education Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan in the allocation process. Thereafter the admissions criteria for each academy/school will apply to those children without a Statement of Special Education Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan. After allocations have been made, if an application is made late or is received as part of the in-year process, pupils who have a Statement of Special Education Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan are required to be admitted to the school which is named on the statement of Plan even if the school is full.

3. Criteria Application

- 3.1 The admissions criteria will be applied separately and sequentially until all places are filled. Priority is not given within each criterion to children who meet other criteria.

4. What happens where there is more than one child in the same criterion and there are not enough places available?

- 4.1 The distance criterion will be used as a tiebreaker in each criterion where required to determine the allocation of places.
- 4.2 The distance the pupil lives from the school which is measured in a straight line, using the local authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving



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the higher priority. The local authority will measure the distance from the address point of the pupil's home to a point on the school site agreed with the governing body of the school.

4.3 In the event of:

- a. two or more children living at the same address point (e.g. children resident in a block of flats) or
- b. two addresses measuring the same distance from the school

The ultimate tie-breaker will be random selection, using the Tribal Admissions database to allocate the place.

5. Measuring home to school distance

5.1 Home to school distances for admission allocation purposes will be measured along a straight line between a child's address and the relevant school/academy. The measurement is taken from the NLPG (National Land and Property Gazetteer) address point of your child's house the designated measuring point of the school.

5.1 Address point data is a nationally recognised method of identifying individual residences. This is an objective method of measuring home to school distances consistently when applying admission criteria. It does not take into account the actual or expected route a child will travel to school.

6. Definitions

6.1 **'Looked after' children** - A 'looked after' child is a child who is in the care of the local authority as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. In relation to school admissions legislation a 'looked after child' is a child in public care at the time of application to a school.

6.2 **Previously 'looked after' children** - A previously 'looked after' child is a child who was 'looked after', but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or a special guardianship order.

6.3 **Catchment Area** - A geographical area from which children are given priority for admission to the particular school. Please see www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/admissions for more information on school catchment areas.

6.4 **Sibling** - A sibling refers to a brother or sister, half brother or sister, step brother or sister or fostered brother or sister where foster care has been arranged by a Local Authority or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living at the same address. The sibling must be in the school at the time of application and be likely to remain in the school at the proposed date of admission.

For further information about how places are allocated, making an appeal, in year applications, late applications or any other aspect of the admissions process, please contact Central Bedfordshire Council.