

Admissions Policy

2020-21

Policy Source/Written By	JBIG
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Person responsible	Headteacher
Group responsible	Governing Body

Policy Overview:

At the present time admissions to the Academy continue to be administered by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) as the Admissions Authority, and the Academy has adopted the Lincolnshire County Council Admissions Policy set out below.

Procedures:

Published Admission Number

The published admission number for Year 7 is 116. This limit applies also to years 8 to 11.

Admission into Year 7

Arrangements for applications for places in Year 7 at CYA will be made in accordance with Lincolnshire County Council's co-ordinated admission arrangements; parents resident in Lincolnshire can apply online at

www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions, they can also apply by telephone, or ask for a hard copy application form, by telephoning 01522 782030. Parents resident in other areas must apply through their home local authority. CYA will use the Lincolnshire County Council's timetable published online for these applications and the relevant Local Authority will make the offers of places on their behalf as required by the School Admissions Code.

Admission into Years 8 to 11

For a midyear place, including the Year 7 that has commenced, an application can be made online at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions or on the midyear application form. Applications can be made directly through Lincolnshire by out of county residents if their home local authorities do not co-ordinate this process.

In accordance with legislation, the allocation of places for children with the following will take place first; Statement of Special Educational Needs (Education Act 1996) or Education, Health and Care Plan (Children and Families Act 2014). Remaining places will be allocated in accordance with this policy.

Oversubscription criteria

The oversubscription criteria are listed in order. Words marked with a number, for example (1), (2) and (3) are explained separately in the definition and notes section.

1. Children in public care (Looked after Children) and those previously in public care (1).
2. Children with a brother or sister on roll at the time of application or who will be attending the academy at the expected time of admission (2).
3. The distance from the home to the academy. Priority will be given to the child living nearest the school, as defined in Note (3). If two or more children are tied for the last place a lottery will be drawn by an independent person, not employed by the school or working in Children's Service Directorate at the local authority.

If any of the oversubscription criteria have too many applicants, then the tiebreak will be by distance using the method in Note (3).

Waiting lists

For admission into Year 7 the governors will keep a waiting list which we call a reserve list. If you do not get a place at your first preference school your child is automatically put on the reserve list for any schools above the one you were offered. This list is in the order of the oversubscription criteria. Names can move down the list if someone moves into the area and is higher placed on the oversubscription criteria. The list is kept by the Schools Admission Team until the end of the coordinated admission round in August each year. After this schools will keep the reserve list until the end of the autumn term.

Schools are not required to keep any lists for any other year groups. If you wish your child to join the school at other times you can ask if the governors keep a reserve list. If they do it will be kept in the order of the oversubscription criteria. The time you have been on the list is not taken into account.

Definitions and notes:

- (1) A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

Child arrangements orders are defined in s.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.

Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

- (2) Brother or sister.

In all cases, both siblings must live at the same address. A sibling is defined as;

- a brother or sister who shares the same biological parents
- a half-brother, half-sister, step-brother or step-sister
- a legally adopted child, a child legally adopted by a biological or step-parent
- Twins, other siblings from a multiple birth and siblings in the same year group.

In these cases, all the children will be considered together as one application. If one or more can be admitted within the published admission number the school will be allowed to go above its admission number as necessary to admit all the children, unless this would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.

- (3) Straight line distance is calculated electronically to three figures after the decimal point (e.g. 1.543 miles) by Lincolnshire County Council school admissions team from the Post Office Address Point of the home to the Post Office Address Point of the school.

By home we mean the address where the child lives for the majority of the school term time with a parent who has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act 1989. Or any child in the household where an adult in the household is defined as a parent for the purposes of Section 576 of the Education Act 1996. This could include a person who is not a parent but who has responsibility for her or him.

It could include a child's guardians but will not usually include other relatives such as grandparents, aunts, uncles etc. unless they have all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority, which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and their property.

Where your child lives normally during the school week with more than one parent at different addresses, the home address for the purposes of school admissions will be that of the parent who lives closest, as measured by straight line distance, to the school in question.

If you have more than one home, we will take as the home address the address where you and your child normally live for the majority of the school term time.

Admission of Children Outside their Normal Age Group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. Parents wishing to make these requests must contact their home local authority for guidance on the procedure to follow. It is important for parents to note that they will have the opportunity and responsibility to provide whatever evidence they wish to support their request.

Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned; this will include taking account of:

- the parent's views;
- any available information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- where relevant, the child's medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether the child has previously been educated out of their normal age group;
- any evidence that the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely
- the views of the head teacher

Appeals

The procedures for appeals relating to admissions will be in accordance with all relevant legislation. They are independent and entirely separate from the admission system. The decision of the independent appeal panel is binding on all parties.

Further information can be found at www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions .

Fraudulent or Misleading Applications

The Admission Authority has the right to investigate any concerns it may have about your application and to withdraw the offer of a place if it considers there is evidence that you have made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information, for example a false address was given which denied a place to a child with a stronger claim.

We reserve the right to check any address and other information provided so we can apply the oversubscription criteria accurately and fairly.

Fair Access Protocol

Local Authorities are required to have Fair Access Protocols in order to make sure that unplaced children who live in the home local authority, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. This includes admitting children above the published admissions number to schools that are already full.

Children of UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces)

In order to meet the government's military covenant aimed at helping UK service personnel, and Crown Servants returning from abroad we have adopted the following arrangements.

For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting to the area, or crown servants returning to live in the area from overseas, the Governors will:

- Process an application in advance of the family arriving in the area provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and a Unit postal address or quartering area address. This address will be used when considering the application against the school's oversubscription criteria.
- Accept a Unit postal address or quartering area address for admissions purposes for a service child.

The Governors will not refuse a service child a place because the family does not currently live in the area.

For late co-ordinated applications and midyear applications supported by the appropriate military documentation we will aim to remove any disadvantage to UK service personnel (UK Armed Forces).

The school's Governors will consider whether:

- An application from that address would normally succeed in an oversubscribed year.
- There is any child on the reserve list with higher priority under the oversubscription criteria. This is because we must only allocate places based on the criteria and must not admit a Services child ahead of another child with higher priority under the criteria.
- The prejudice from admitting an extra child would be excessive.

The Governors have discretion to admit above the admission number in these circumstances if they wish, but are not obliged to do so.

We will need the notice of posting or official government letter and posting address before we can consider an application under these arrangements.

We allocate a school as soon as possible by applying the policies and practices that we normally follow.