



Arnside National C of E School

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY

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|----------|-----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------|----------|----------------------|
| 1 | Diocese/ Governing Board | 21 November 2018 | November 2020 | S. Kershaw | Chair | <i>S Kershaw</i> |
| 2 | Governing Board | 6 July 2021 | July 2022 | S. Kershaw | Chair | <i>S Kershaw</i> |

Policy on School Admissions

The Governors of **Arnside National CE School** are the Admissions Authority for the school.

The responsibility for arranging / providing for an appeal against refusal of a place at school, lies with the academy trust. The school's adjudicator deals with complaints about arrangements.

Published Admission Number (PAN)

Following consultation with the Diocesan Board of Education and the Local Authority the Governors have set published admission number (PAN) for access to the reception class as **28**.

In the normal admissions round parents apply to the local authority in which they live for places at their preferred schools.

- Parents can express a preference for at least three schools.
The Governors operate a system whereby they consider all preferences equally, so the order of your preferences will not be used in considering your application. (It will only be used if a place is available for your child at more than one school.)
- The deadline for submitting applications to be allocated on National Offer Day for primary schools is **15 January**.
- All preferences are collated and parents then receive an offer in writing from the local authority.
- Places at **Arnside National CE School** will be allocated according to this Admissions Policy and the Local Authority's Coordinated Admissions Scheme.
- The offer is made for primary schools on **National Offer Day – which is 16 April** (or the next working day where 16 April falls on a weekend or bank holiday), in the year in which the child will be admitted.
- Parents of those children not offered a place, will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative school by the Local Authority. They will be informed of their right of appeal.
- An application for entry in **September of any year must** be made subject to the LA closing date.

Our parental pack contains information and **an application form for admission to our school**. It is also possible for an application to be made on the Local Authority's website.

Oversubscription criteria

Arnside National CE School set out arrangements for the criteria against which places will be allocated at school when there are more applications than places and the order in which the criteria will be applied.

- All schools **must** have oversubscription criteria for each 'relevant age group' and the highest priority must be given, (unless otherwise provided in this Code), to **looked after children (LAC)** and **all previously looked after children (PLAC)**, including those children who have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care because of being adopted.
- **Arnside National CE School** will ensure that the oversubscription criteria is reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair, and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation.
- **Arnside National CE School** will ensure that their arrangements will not disadvantage unfairly, either directly or indirectly, a child from a particular social or racial group, or a child with a disability or special educational needs, and that other policies around school uniform or school trips do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.
- **Arnside National CE School** may need to ask for proof of address where it is unclear whether a child meets the published oversubscription criteria.
- In the case of previously looked after children, **Arnside National CE School** may request a copy of the adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child, confirming that they were looked after immediately prior to that order being made, or such evidence that demonstrates a child was in state care outside of England prior to being adopted.
- **Children of UK service personnel and crown servants**
For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting, or crown servants returning from overseas, **Arnside National CE School must** allocate a place in advance of the family

arriving in the area (as long as one is available), provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date.

All children will be admitted unless there are more applicants than places in which case the Governors will make allocations using the following criteria. These are listed in order of priority.

- 1) Children who are in Public Care or who have been adopted but were formerly in Public Care. This also includes children who were previously in Public Care outside of England. A child in public care is defined as a child who is looked after by the Local Authority within the meaning of section 22 of the Children's Act 1989.
- 2) Children who have physical and/or medical needs who would be disadvantaged by travelling to another school. Written evidence from an appropriate professional would be required for the Governors to consider admission in this category.
- 3) Children living within the catchment area having a brother or sister attending our school at the time of their admission giving priority, if necessary, to those children with the youngest siblings. Brothers and sisters are those living at the same address including step, adopted and foster children.
- 4) Children living in the catchment area.
- 5) Children living outside the catchment area who, at the time of their admission, have brothers or sisters in the school (or associated infant or junior school.)
- 6) Children living outside the catchment area. **A map of the catchment area is available on the school website for parents to view.**

The criteria outlined above will be strictly followed there being two exceptions:

1. **All** children whose **Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)** names **Arnside National CE School** **must** be admitted.
2. If a child has a statement of **Special Educational Needs** naming **Arnside National CE School**, then irrespective of the criteria the child *will* be admitted as in these circumstances the Governors have a statutory duty to admit the child concerned.

Tie Break

In some categories, where there are more applicants than places available, age will act as a determining factor but unless specified it will be distance. The distance is measured from the centre of the child's address to a common point on the school site as determined by the LA. The Governors will use the Local Authority's computerised Geographical Information System (GIS) to ensure consistency of measurement. The closest addresses will have priority.

Address of Pupil

The address on the application form must be the current one at the time of application. Where a child can live at more than one address the home address is to be the one where the child sleeps and thus wakes up for all or the majority of the school week. Where there is any doubt the governors reserve the right to verify the information provided by the parent(s), for example, through the GP or the child benefit address.

In Year Admissions

In year admissions are those which occur outside the "normal" admission time. If you wish your child to attend **Arnside National CE School**, you should visit our school and admission details will be provided if we have a vacancy in the relevant year. If your child is refused a place you will be informed of your right to appeal.

Fraudulent applications

If the Governors of **Arnside National CE School** discover that a child has been awarded a place as a result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent, for example, an incorrect address and as a result it effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim then the Governors will withdraw the offer of a place. The Governors will reconsider the application and the right of appeal offered if a place is refused.

Deferred Admission

For children beginning School following their fourth birthday admission is normally in September. However, if you wish, entry can be deferred until later in the year or until the term in which your child reaches compulsory school age. For example, if your child's fifth birthday is between September and December then, if you wish, admission may be deferred until the beginning of the Spring Term. If it is between January and April admission may be deferred until the beginning of the Summer Term. You can also request part time education until the term in which your child reaches compulsory school age. The Governors recommend that in your child's interests full time education is deferred no later than the start of the Spring Term.

Appeals Procedure

If the Governors are unable to offer your child a place because of over subscription you as a parent have a right of appeal under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as amended by the Education Act 2002 and subsequent legislation. You should notify the Clerk to the Governors of **Arnside National CE School** within 14 days of receiving the letter which will give the grounds for refusing a place. As a parent you will have an opportunity to submit your case to an independent (of the Governors) appeals panel. You must set out your grounds for the appeal in writing. You will normally receive at least 20 days' notice of the time and venue for the appeal hearing where you will be able to present your case in person. This right of appeal does not prevent you from making an appeal in respect of any other school. The Independent Appeal will be organised on behalf of the Governors by the Local Authority Legal and Democratic Services Unit at Carlisle.

Waiting List

Those children who are not offered a place may, if the parents so wish, be placed on a waiting list. The names will be placed on the list in the order of the admissions criteria. Late applicants will be slotted into the list according to the admissions criteria. It is thus possible for a child recently arrived in the area to have a higher priority than a child who has been on the waiting list for some time. Irrespective of whether an appeal has been submitted, if a place becomes available it will be offered to the child at the top of the list. The waiting list will remain open for the whole of the first term in the year to which it relates.

Infant Class Size

If your child was refused a place in a reception or key stage one class because of Government limits on infant class size, the grounds on which your appeal could be successful are limited. You would have to show that the decision was one which no reasonable governing board would have made or that your child would have been offered a place if the governors' admissions policy had been properly implemented.

Multiple births

The Governors of **Arnside National CE School** will ensure as far as possible that twins, triplets or those children born in the same year are not separated. Such children will be given priority in any particular category.

Excepted pupils

While no infant class is to contain more than 30 pupils there can be very limited exceptional circumstances. The admittance of such a child(ren) will be known as an "excepted pupil" for the time they are in an infant class or until the numbers fall back to the size limit. An excepted child would be one whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil. It might also include a child born in the same school year, a statemented or looked after child or a child of a UK Serviceman to be admitted outside the normal admission period.

Nursery

If you have a child in our Nursery School/Class, then you must make a separate application for the Reception Class. A place in our Nursery School/Class does not guarantee a place in our Reception Class.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually.