



Admission Arrangements Policy

Policy History			
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April 2010	1.0	Original Document	J Appleton
January 2011	1.1	Review	J Appleton
December 2016	1.2	Review & Reformat	K Carrington
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February 2022	2.0	Full review with changes to make format consistent with Trust schools whilst retaining MB's FS1 offer detail	J Appleton
September 2023	2.1	Review & Reformat	K Carrington

This policy outlines the regulations on admissions applied by Meadowbank Primary School fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 introduced a new framework for school admissions as of September 2000, and later revised in the Education Act of 2002. The following is compliant with the Department for Education's School Admissions Codes of Practice 2014 and Appeals Code of Practice 2012.

Introduction

The admission authority for Meadowbank Primary School is Meadowbank Primary Academy Governing Board who work in partnership with the Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team. These arrangements are in line with legislation and statutory guidance (School Admissions Code 2014) and designed to ensure there is a fair admissions procedure for all applicants, and to help guide parents through the application process.

These arrangements will apply to all admissions from September 2023 including in-year admissions.
 Closing date for applications for Nursery school year 2024/2024: [31st March 2024]
 Closing date for applications for Reception school year 2024/2024: [15th April 2024]
 Any applications received after this date will be considered after those applications received before the closing date.

1. Admissions procedure

For the school year commencing September 2023 the planned admissions number (PAN) is for entry into Foundation Stage One (Nursery), 60 for entry into Foundation Stage Two (Reception) with all other year groups set at 60.

1.1 Applying for a place

Meadowbank Primary School welcomes applications. We have two main intake levels; Foundation Stage One (Nursery) and Foundation Stage Two (Reception). We encourage entry at these times so as to aid the progression of the child academically without interruption; however, children are welcome to apply for entry in any year. Entry criteria is different for Foundation Stage One to the rest of the school and does not guarantee a place in Foundation Stage Two.

Parents are encouraged to visit the school with their child if they are planning to apply for a place and we have a number of open days during the year. Arrangements for visits outside of these dates can be made through the school office.

Children are admitted to the school using the criteria outlined in this document. In no way does the academic ability of the child come into consideration when places at the school are being allocated. Parents are invited to express a preference for the school,



but it is up to the Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team to advise on which children will be given a place in accordance with this policy.

Note: Please see Stockport's Admissions Explained Guidance for further information on this:

<https://www.stockport.gov.uk/admissions-explained> including information for late applications, how they are handled and deadlines for submitting changed information.

1.2 Meadowbank Primary School's Foundation Stage One (Nursery) offer

- All three and four year olds in Stockport are eligible for the universal offer of free early years education of up to 15 hours a week term time or a total of 570 hours taken throughout the year.
- All children will become eligible for admission to Foundation Stage One the term following their third birthday.
- Some children will become eligible for extended child care, which is up to 30 hours a week term time, if families meet the eligibility criteria outlined by the Government. This is up to 30 hours a week or a total of 1,140 hours per year.
- At Meadowbank we try to offer those children who are eligible to 30 hours' free childcare, full time provision in our Foundation Stage One class, or for those families who would prefer two and a half days, breakfast club and after school club on the days that the child attends Foundation Stage One, depending on availability.
- The Foundation Stage One is staffed by a qualified teacher and level three staff, who work together as part of the Early Years Foundation Stage Team to develop provision which meets children's needs.
- The entitlement can be split over two settings (schools/private, voluntary and independent) but both must be in agreement.
- You can only change settings between terms if there are exceptional circumstances.
- Where the number of children seeking admission is within the set number of places, then every child shall be given a place as of right.
- Where there are more applications for Foundation Stage One than there are places available, oversubscription criteria is used to determine which children can be offered places as outlined below.
- Each application can fall into one oversubscription category only. If there are more applicants than places available in any one category, then the places are allocated to those living closest to the school using the straight line of measure.
- If a parent is not allocated a place at Meadowbank Primary the child's name will remain on a waiting list for the school until the end of the academic year.
- If a place becomes available at the school, the parent will be contacted and given the opportunity to accept the place.
- The school is offering the following sessions from September 2023

At any one time there is a capacity for:-

- Beginning of the week places Mon/Tues 8.55 - 3.30 and Weds morning 8.55 - 12.00 (2 ½ days)
- End of the week places Weds afternoon 12.15 - 3.15 and Thurs/Fri 8.55 - 3.30 (2 ½ days)
- If families meet the eligibility criteria outlined by the Government 30 hours a week. Five full days Mon-Fri 8.55-3.30

Admission to Meadowbank's Foundation Stage One before the following September Intake

- The school may have places available in Foundation Stage One after the September intake when all children from the older age group have been admitted.
- The school may then offer places to younger children and can have a further intake in January and possibly Easter if there are spaces available.
- Children will only be considered from the beginning of the term following their third birthday.
- Information about available places can be obtained from the Admissions Advice and Support Team.

Note:-Admission to the Foundation Stage One class does **not** give any priority when applying later for a place in the Foundation Stage Two of the same or any other Primary School.

1.2 Oversubscription

Where there are more applications than places available and after the admission of children with an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP) that names the school, applications will be prioritised with the following oversubscription criteria in order:



NB: Categories A – F refer to applications received by the closing date: 15th January 2021.

- A. Looked after children and previously looked after children
- B. Children considered to have 'highly exceptional medical/social reasons' evidenced by professionals in a Common Assessment Framework (CAF) Form or Early Help Assessment.
- C. Children who live in the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission
- D. Children who live in the catchment area of the school
- E. Children who live outside the catchment area of the school and have a sibling at the school at the time of admission
- F. Any other applicants, in order of straight-line distance measured between home and the school
- G. After the closing date for applications the Admissions Support and Advice Team apply the Admissions Policy criteria A-F above to decide which children can be allocated places at the school.

Note: Please see the Stockport Admission Policy for information on tie breakers, siblings and principal parental address.

[Stockport Admissions Policy and Procedures](#)

Also see the School Admissions Code 2014 paragraphs 1.10–1.40 for 'commonly used criteria'

1.4 Children with special educational needs or a disability (SEND)

The school must admit all children who have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) where Meadowbank Primary School is named.

Children who have special educational needs but who do not have an EHCP will be treated equally to all other applicants in the admissions process. This includes children who may need extra support or reasonable adjustments to be made. See our Inclusion, Equality and Diversity Policy/SEN Information Report for details of special educational provision provided by the school.

1.5 Admission of children below compulsory school age and deferred entry to school

When making an offer of a place at the school, Meadowbank Primary School is offering a full time place from the September for the Foundation Stage Two year group. Within our Foundation Stage two we follow the Early Years Foundation Stage Curriculum and our staff are skilled in identifying and creating bespoke provision which meets each and every child's needs.

In addressing points 2.17 in the Admission Code of Practice we set out the following arrangements. Parents of a summer born child (being a child born from 1 April to 31 August), may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted to the school outside of their normal age group (to reception rather than year 1). Where a request to admit outside of the normal group is received, the governors will base its decision on the specific circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned. The governors will include taking account of:

- a. the parents' views;
- b. information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- c. where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- d. whether they have previously been educated outside of their normal age group;
- e. whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely;
- f. and the views of the head teacher.

The governors will provide parents with clear reasons for its decision.

Where the governors agree to a parent's request for their child to be admitted out of their normal age group the governors will process the application as part of the main admissions round, unless the parental request is made too late for this to be possible and on the basis of the determined admission arrangements set out in this policy. Please note that the statutory right to appeal does not apply if your child is offered a place at the school but not in your preferred age group.

1.6 In-year admissions

The process for in-year admissions is the same for admissions at the start of the academic year.

In-year admissions applicants should contact Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team. In-year admissions usually take place after a half term.



<http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmission>

The governing board has the right to refuse the admission of children who have been permanently excluded from two or more schools, if the last time was less than two years ago.

In-year fair access protocol

Meadowbank Primary School participates in the Fair Access Protocol which is implemented by the Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team.

2. Offers

Note: Places cannot be guaranteed at Meadowbank Primary School.

After the closing date of the 30th March 2024 for Nursery Places and 15th April 2024 for Reception Places, the Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team apply the Published Admission Policy Oversubscription Criteria to decide which children can be offered places at the school. Parents will receive an email in April and notification letters will also be sent out by post.

Should circumstances change then parents/carers must inform the Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team immediately. Places which are subsequently found to have changed without notifying the team will be subject to reassessment and, if necessary, withdrawn.

The Admissions Support and Advice Team request documentary evidence from parents/carers. This is to prove the validity of the principal parental address. Documentary evidence provided needs to prove ownership/tenancy/residency at an address and in the case of house moves; disposal of the previous property. In addition to this, the admission authority (Governing Board) at Meadowbank Primary School reserves the right to seek evidence to be presented at the school prior to admission.

The school may withdraw its offer of a place if it is found that the place was offered based on a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application. The offer may also be withdrawn if the Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team has not heard back from the parent or carer of the child in writing within the 20 days' acceptance period. The Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team will always chase the parent in writing for a response and seek consultation with Meadowbank Primary Governing Board, prior to withdrawing the offer.

3. Appeals

Parents or carers can appeal to the independent appeal panel against refusal of admission to the school. The independent appeal panel will act in accordance with the framework set out in the School Admission Appeals Code 2012. In order to ensure a fair appeals process, the members of the panel are independent from the local authority.

A child is allowed to be on the school waiting list while lodging an appeal and the appeal will not affect their position on the list. The decision of the appeals panel is binding on the admissions authority.

4. Waiting list

The Stockport Admissions Support and Advice Team operates a waiting list which is maintained until at least the July of the year of entry. Parents may request that their child is placed on the waiting list. The list will set out the priority for places in the same order set out in the oversubscription criteria. When additional children request a place on the waiting list, the list will be re-ordered in line with the oversubscription criteria. The child may gain entry to the school if the number of pupils falls below the admissions limit of the school.

If a child on the waiting list is offered a position at the school, they will be notified by letter and will have the option of accepting or rejecting the place within 20 days.



5. Changes to admission arrangements

The admission arrangements for the school may be changed by the admission authority in accordance with the requirements of the School Admissions Code 2014. There will be an opportunity for consultation in accordance with the Code.

Parents must notify the school immediately if there are any changes that may affect their child's application, such as a change of address. Where the child has multiple addresses, the address given to the school should be the one where the child spends the majority of the school week. If it is an equal split, the parents must decide which address to give.

6. Contacts

[Stockport Admissions Policy and Procedures](#)
admin@meadowbankprimary.com

The governing board reviews this policy annually. The governors may, however, review the policy earlier than this if the government introduces new regulations, or if the governing board receives recommendations on how the policy might be improved.