



Pathways E-ACT Academy

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2018/19

Introduction

Under the terms of the co-ordinated admissions scheme, the Local Authority (LA) is responsible for co-ordinating the admission of all children (Reception through to year 6) in Sheffield schools and academies.

Nursery places are administered and allocated by Pathways Academy, if your child is 3 before the end of August please apply to the Academy at the main office

Application Procedures

All parents are required to apply to their home LA regardless of where the school / academy they are applying for is situated. Sheffield residents will apply to the LA. The LA will liaise with other Admissions Authorities and LAs where required. Sheffield LA will inform parent / carers in writing of the outcome of their application.

Application forms are available from www.sheffield.gov.uk/home/schools and can be requested by telephone on 01142735766
ed-admissions@sheffield.gov.uk

Admission Arrangements

These arrangements are without prejudice in accordance with the DfE School Admissions Code 1st February 2012. These admissions arrangements apply to applicants seeking a place in Reception up to Year 6 for Pathways Academy.

Applications for admission to the nursery of Pathways Academy will be dealt with by the Academy.

Parents / carers of children who are admitted for nursery provision MUST apply through the Local Authority for a place at the academy if they want their child to transfer to the Reception class in Pathways Academy.

Published Admission Number (PAN)

A published Admission Number (PAN) is the number of places a school / academy has in the year of entry. Places will normally only be offered up to the published admission number. A child cannot be refused admission to the normal year of entry on the grounds of prejudice to the provision of efficient education and efficient use of resources unless the published admission number has been reached.

Outside of the year of entry it is expected that the PAN will continue to be applied. However, if circumstances at the academy have changed since the year of entry, a place may be refused even if the admission number has not been reached.

The Published Admission Number for entry in the 2018/19 academic year is as follows:

Nursery: 60
Reception: 60
Year 1: 57
Year 2: 57
Year 3: 57
Year 4: 57
Year 5: 90
Year 6: 90

Oversubscription Criteria

The oversubscription criteria will be applied to all applicants where there are more applicants than places available. All applicants will be placed in a priority order determined by the oversubscription criteria.

Places will be offered to the applicants with the highest priority until all places at the school have been offered. The oversubscription criteria for all year groups (Reception to Year 6) is as follows:

1. Children who are looked after by a Local authority and children who were previously looked after by a local authority. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residency order or special guardianship order.
2. If a parent / carer has chosen a particular school because the child has exceptional social or medical circumstances or the parent is disabled, this should be indicated with the reasons for choosing the school. Parents / carers must also provide documented social, medical or psychological evidence in support of the application from an appropriate independent registered professional which clearly explains why the child should attend this school.
3. Children with older brothers or sisters (including adopted siblings, fostered siblings, step siblings and those living as siblings in the same family unit), attending the Academy.
4. Distance, children whose permanent home address is closest to the academy will be given priority. This will be measured in a straight line from the Child's permanent home address to the centre of the Academy building.
5. If there are more children in any of the individual categories than there are places remaining, then those children who live nearest to the school by a straight line (radial) measure will have priority. The distance is measured using a geographical information system and the measurement is taken from the centre point of the Academy to the centre point of the home.

6. If siblings from multiple births (twins, triplets, etc.) apply for a place and the Academy would reach its Published Admission Number after admitting one or more, but before admitting of all those siblings, the Academy will offer a place to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the Academy above its Published Admission Number.

7. In the unlikely event of a tie-breaker situation, the applicant will be chosen by random allocation.

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists will be held in criteria order according to the oversubscription criteria. Waiting lists will not be operated on a “first come first served” basis.

The amount of time an applicant is on a waiting list will not affect their position on it.

Each added child will require the list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria. Priority will not be given to children based on the date their application was received or their name was added to the list.

Looked after children, previously looked after children or those allocated a place at school with a Fair Access Protocol will take precedence over those on the waiting list.

Waiting lists are maintained at academy level and co-ordinated with the LA. Where places are offered to children by the academy, the academy shall notify the LA and update the waiting list accordingly.

Mid - Year Admissions (outside the normal round)

All applications for In Year Admissions (Reception to Year 6) should be made directly to the LA. The LA will coordinate all applications. This will not affect the academy’s right to determine which applicants have priority for admission. An in-year common preference form, available from the academy of Sheffield LA must be completed and returned to the Admissions Team at the LA (even if students do not live in the borough) for admission to the academy outside the normal admissions round. All requests will be considered by the academy who will inform the local authority whether or not a place can be offered. The local authority will then send a letter to parents. If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria shall apply. Parents whose application is turned down are entitled to appeal as the academy will not hold a waiting list for in-year admissions.

Where the case has been identified as meeting the In Year Fair Access criteria, the case should be referred back to the LA and taken through the In Year Fair Access Protocol.

Fair Access Protocol - LA Fair Access Protocol states:

The Fair Access protocol is designed to facilitate the school placement of young people not on the roll of a school who are seeking admissions to a Sheffield school or academy, live in the city of Sheffield and who fall into one of the categories mentioned below. It does not come into force if the pupil admission is during the standard transition process or for non-complex midyear admissions.

As a statutory requirement, the Protocol is in place because the School Admissions Code 2012 states that each local authority must have a Fair Access Protocol, agreed with the majority of schools in its area to ensure that -outside the normal admissions round- unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible.

Pupil Categories:

The FAP is intended to apply to children of compulsory school age who have difficulty securing a school place and who also fall into one of the following categories:

- Children from the criminal justice system or Pupil Referral Units who need to be reintegrated into mainstream education;
- Children who have been out of education for two months or more;
- Children of Gypsies, Roma, travellers, refugees and asylum seekers;
- Children who are homeless
- Children with unsupportive family backgrounds for whom a place has not been sought;
- Children who are carers;
- Children with special educational needs, disabilities or medical conditions (but without an EHCP).

This list is not exhaustive and the Admissions Team have the discretion to initiate the protocol for any other children who they feel appear unlikely to secure a school place within 4 weeks following the receipt of their application. The application of this protocol does not necessarily mean a child is challenging, but instead that they are potentially vulnerable.

Appeals

Under the terms of the Education Act 1998 there is a right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel against the decision made by the school.

Parents will be offered their right to appeal via their Local Authority.