
Document type: Policy

**Admission
Arrangements
for
The Forest Academy
2017-2018**

September 2015

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Introduction

The Governing Body is the admissions authority for The Forest Academy and these admission arrangements only apply to this Academy.

Admission to this Academy is into the Relevant Year Group which is Reception Year group,

Schools are required to admit children up to their admission number in the Relevant year group.

Attendance at a nursery unit attached to a school does not guarantee a place at that school.

The Academy does not operate a defined community (catchment area).

A Date of admission to primary schools

Although the law does not require children to be admitted to school until the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday, (compulsory school age), the School Admissions Code makes provision for all children to be admitted to school in the September following their 4th birthday.

Parents will be able to access this entitlement through one of the following options.

Option 1

Full-time in the Reception Year from 1 September following the child's 4th birthday.

Option 2

Part-time in the Reception Year from 1 September following the child's fourth birthday.

Option 3

Part-time in an early years setting.

B Deferred entry to primary school

- 1 Where a place is offered at a school, a parent who accepts that school place can defer entry to that school until the term after the child's fifth birthday.
- 2 There may be Spring and Summer Term admissions as a result of parents who have deferred their child's entry.
- 3 The deferred place at that school will be held for that child and will not be available to be offered to another child.
- 4 The deferred place must be taken up during the same school year for which the offer of the place was made and accepted.
- 5 Entry to a school cannot be deferred to:
 - a) the next academic year; or
 - b) beyond the beginning of the term following the child's fifth birthday.

C Admission of children outside their normal age group

- 1 Parents of gifted and talented children, or those who have experienced problems or missed part of a year, for example due to ill health, can seek places outside their normal age group.
- 2 A determination on the exceptional circumstances will be made by the based on the information provided by the parent.
- 3 The right of appeal does not apply if the child is offered a place in another year group at the school.

D Oversubscription criteria

- 1 Where the number of applications for the Academy received during the normal admissions round exceeds the admission number, or an admission limit set higher than the admission number, then admission will be determined in accordance with the following priority of admission criteria:

Children who have a Statement of Special Educational Need which names the Academy are required to be admitted.

First, Looked After Children and previously Looked After children;

Second, to children with brothers and/or sisters attending the Academy on the proposed date of admission;

Third, to children living nearest to the Academy; the distance to be measured by a straight line between the centre point of the child's ordinary place of residence and the main entrance to the Academy building.

- 2 The child's ordinary place of residence will be deemed to be a residential property at which the person or persons with parental responsibility for the child resides at the closing date for receiving applications for admission to school.

Where parental responsibility is held by more than one person and those persons reside in separate properties, the child's ordinary place of residence will be deemed to be that property at which the child resides for the greater part of the week including weekends.

Where responsibility for a child is shared evenly, the person receiving Child Benefit is deemed to be the person responsible for completing application forms, and whose address will be used for admissions purposes.

- 3 For the sibling criterion to be applicable one of the following conditions must exist:

- a) brother and/or sister to be permanently resident at the same address;
- b) stepbrother and/or stepsister to be permanently resident at the same address (to include half brothers/sisters).

- 4 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 care functions at the time of making an application to the school.

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

E Expressing a preference for admission to the Relevant Year Group

- 1 For admission to the Reception Year Group parents will be invited to express three preferences for those schools at which they wish their child to receive education, in accordance with the co-ordinated scheme.
- 2 The single offer of a place will be communicated to parents on the offer day of 17 April 2017 by the Local Authority.

F Late applications

- 1 Late applications received 16 January 2017 will be considered after the determination of the single offer of a school place for those common application forms received by 16 January.

G Waiting lists

- 1 A waiting list will be established for the Academy where the number of applications has exceeded the places available in the relevant year group.
- 2 Names of children will automatically be placed on the waiting list where they have not been offered a place where that school is ranked above that at which a place has been offered to the parent.
- 3 The waiting list will be established on the offer day and be maintained up to the end of the Autumn Term in the admission year.
- 4 The waiting list is determined according to the Governing Body's priority of admission oversubscription criteria.
- 5 Following the offer day should an application be received for a school where the pupil has a higher priority, as determined by the admissions criteria for a place at the school, they will be placed on the waiting list above those with a lower priority.

H False information

- 1 Where the Authority has made a single offer of a place at a school on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent, which has effectively denied a place to a child with a stronger claim to a place at the school, the Governing Body will request that the Local Authority withdraw the offer of a place.
- 2 Where a child starts attending the school on the basis of fraudulent or intentionally misleading information the place may be withdrawn depending on the length of time that the child has been at the school. Where a place or an offer has been withdrawn the application will be re-considered and an

independent appeal offered where the child is not re-admitted to the school.

- 3 Where it is established that the place was obtained on the basis of fraudulent or intentionally misleading application and the child continues to attend the school, the sibling criterion will cease to apply in the event of the parent making an application to the same school on behalf of a younger child in the family.

I Appeals against the Governing Body's decision not to offer a school place

- 1 Any parent whose child is not offered a place at the Academy has the right to an independent appeal.
- 2 The right of an independent appeal applies to all preferences expressed for the Academy.
- 3 Parents who intend to make an appeal must submit a Notice of Appeal to the Local Authority within 20 school days of receiving the offer letter.
- 4 Normally appeal hearings will be held within 30 school days of the closing date for receiving the notice of appeal.
- 5 For twice excluded pupils see section M.

J Distance Criterion : Tie-Break

- 1 Where the offer of the remaining place in the relevant year group could be made to the parent of eligible multiple siblings, resident at the same address, it will be for the parent to determine for which sibling the single offer of the school place will be made.
- 2(a) Where the offer of the remaining place in the relevant year group could be made for a number of eligible children resident equi-distant from the school the determination of the single offer will be by Random Allocation.
 - (b) The Random Allocation will:
 - (i) be independently supervised
 - (ii) take place on a date and at a time notified in advance to the participating parents so that they can attend as witnesses.

ANNEX 1

Admission Number

The Forest Academy	30
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ANNEX 2

Time table for admission to primary schools

Closing date for receiving applications	16 January 2017
Offer day	17 April 2017
Appeals completed	End of Summer Term 2017