



Determined School Admission Arrangements

Newham Deanery Catholic Primary Schools

For entry from September 2024

Determination: Monday 28th February 2023

Intellectual property of Newham Deanery Catholic Schools

Section 1: Introduction and legal overview

All admissions authorities for state funded schools in England must comply with the current Schools Admissions Code December 2021 which is produced by Department for Education and sets out the law and guidance relating to school admissions.

Local authorities have an important role in monitoring compliance with the Admissions Code and are required to report annually to the Schools Adjudicator on the fairness and legality of the admissions arrangements for all schools in their area, including those for whom they are not the admissions authority.

As the Admissions Authority for the Newham Catholic Deanery Primary Schools we are required to draft, consult on and determine their admission arrangements including the oversubscription criteria.

For all state funded schools, the law requires that where applications exceed the Published Admission Number (PAN), their Admission Authority must strictly apply their published arrangements and oversubscription criteria to determine the children who must be offered any places available.

This policy sets out the arrangements (rules) that the Local Authority (LB Newham) will follow to determine the placement of children in our maintained primary schools. To promote a clear, fair and transparent approach, the LB of Newham recommend and invite academies and free schools to adopt these arrangements with our oversubscription criteria or their own.

Prior to formal consultation to LB Newham's School Admissions Forum work in partnership with LB Newham officers to agree the content of this policy.

Formal consultation for these arrangements was completed between Monday 15th October 2018 to 17:00 on Friday 23rd November 2018. The Newham Catholic Deanery Primary School in partnership with LB Newham consulted with:

- a) parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
- b) other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- c) all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools);
- d) whichever of the Governing Board and the local authority who are not the admission authority;
- e) any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority; and
- f) in the case of schools designated with a religious character, the body or person representing the religion or religious denomination.

Unless there are any proposed non statutory local changes the next consultation will not be until the autumn of 2025.

Consultation was completed using the Newham and the deanery schools' websites, and email to the head teachers of all the schools located in Newham and heads of admissions in neighbouring local authorities.

These admission arrangements have been formulated to ensure they comply with the Equality Act 2010¹ and therefore do not unlawfully discriminate against pupils, parents or carers because of their sex, race, religion or beliefs, disability, sexual orientation or pupils who are pregnant, undergoing gender reassignment or school age parents.

All references in this document to previously looked after children in the Code mean children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after as well as those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

¹ The Equality Act 2010 replaced all previous equality legislation such as the Race Relations Act, Disability Discrimination Act and Sex Discrimination Act. This act provides a single, consolidated source of discrimination law, covering all the types of discrimination that are unlawful. It simplifies the law by removing anomalies and inconsistencies that had developed over time in the existing legislation, and it extends the protection from discrimination in certain areas.¹

Publication and availability

These will be available on the LB Newham's website and the websites of:

- Newham community schools
- Newham voluntary controlled school
- Academy schools located in Newham whose Governing Bodies/Trust have adopted these as their own arrangements.

The arrangements will be published in the electronic and hard copy versions of the LB Newham's annual composite prospectuses – autumn 2023 editions available for 1 September 2023:

- We are starting school (Reception entry from September 2024 and in year 2023/2024)
- We are going to secondary school (Year 7 entry from September 2024 and in year 2023/2024).

All admission arrangements which include the oversubscription criteria are available upon request (hard copy or electronic) from the relevant school/academy and the local authority, where they are situated.

Associated regulations, statutory guidance and information

Read in conjunction with

- Pan London schemes for 2024 entry
- School Standards Framework Act 1998
- School Admissions Code (September 2021) • School Admission Appeals Code (October 2022)
- Fair Access Protocols guidance for school leaders and local authorities (August 2021)
- School Admissions: applications for overseas children (November 2020)
- Admission of Summer Born Children advice for local authorities and school admission authorities (July 2022)
- Summer Born Children Starting School advice for parents (September 2020)
- Children Missing Education statutory guidance (September 2016)
- School Attendance guidance (August 2020)
- Steps in the process for applications from Crown servants (June 2021)

Information and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the universal term 'school', will be used when referring to all state funded academies, community schools, free schools, studio schools, university technical colleges, voluntary aided faith schools and voluntary controlled faith schools.

Preference

Throughout this document, the terms parental preference and preference are used. To ensure legal compliance and accuracy of meaning these terms cannot be interchanged with the word choice because:

Preference: provides applicants the opportunity to indicate what schools they would like if it were possible.

Choice: means one of their named schools must be offered to an applicant. Where the number of places (supply) is less than demand this is not always possible, meaning we cannot offer applicants a choice.

For school applicants the law only states the right of expressing a preference.

Compulsory school age and school leaving age (legal requirement)

All parents/carers with parental responsibility for a child must ensure the child is in receipt of suitable education and their home local authority is aware of these arrangements during the period when a child is compulsory school age.

Where a person with parental responsibility for a child fails to ensure the child is receiving suitable education appropriate local, OR

Legal action will be carried out to protect the child's right to education.

Compulsory school age is set out in section 8 of the Education Act 1996 and The Education (Start of Compulsory School Age) Order 1998. A child reaches compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their fifth birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August. From this date parent/carers must ensure their child receives suitable education until the last Friday in June of the year they become 16 provided their birthday is before the beginning of the next school year.

A child ceases to be of compulsory school age on the last Friday of June in the school year they become 16. If a child is educated outside their normal age group (i.e. is in year 10 when this date is reached), the school will continue to receive funding for that child but the child will no longer be of compulsory school age during the school year in which most children take their GCSE examinations and cannot, therefore, be obliged to attend.

A child can leave school on the last Friday in June if they will be 16 by the end of the school summer holidays.

Post 16

From the September after they are 16, all young people must do one of the following but they are free to choose which of these options they take:

- remain in full-time education, e.g. at a college or school sixth form
- start an apprenticeship or traineeship
- full time employment combined part-time education or training

Any young person not in education, employment or training (also known as NEET) are registered with the Department of Education by their home authority and they will receive support to obtain a suitable placement.

Parental responsibility

All parent/carers of children of compulsory school age (5 to 16) are required by law to ensure that they receive suitable education by regular attendance at school or otherwise. Failure to comply with this duty can lead to prosecution.

Local Authority responsibility and action

The introduction of academy schools means that the local authority no longer maintains (has responsibility for) all state funded schools in their area. However the LB Newham still has the duty to provide sufficient school places or education otherwise for all children of compulsory school age resident in the borough, irrespective of their immigration status, including those from families with no recourse to public funds and works in partnership with all schools in Newham to ensure this can be delivered.

To ensure all children of compulsory school age receive suitable education their parent/carers must apply for a school place or notify the local authority in writing of the alternative arrangements they have made. Where this does not occur or the alternative arrangements are found to be unsatisfactory, the child will be officially recorded as missing education and action will be taken against the person(s) with parental responsibility.

Parents/carers who do not secure education for their child

Where a parent/carer of a school aged child who is residing in the borough, fails to complete a 'common application form' (CAF) or provide suitable alternative education within 15 days of arrival in LB Newham, or the child being out of education, we reserve the right to apply on their behalf.

This action will result in their child being allocated a placement at the closest school to the child's home with a place available at that time.

Where the child has a sibling at a Newham school, in the first instance we will try to allocate a place at the same school if a place is available at the time. If the school is full we will then allocate a place at the closest school to the child's home where a place is available.

For any child with special educational or access needs that cannot be met in a mainstream school, the 0-25 SEND integrated service will support the family in securing a suitable placement.

Section2: School places

Published Admission Number (PAN)

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is the number of places available in a school for each year of normal point of entry. The Department for Education capacity formula and other factors are used by the local authority/admission authority to determine this number.

The normal point of entry is:

Reception – for infant, primary schools and all through schools where the school does not increase in size for secondary education.

Year 3 – for junior schools

Year 7 – for secondary schools

Year 9 or 10 – for University Technical Colleges UTC's and Studio schools

Year 12 – for sixth form

Outside of the year of entry, it is expected that the PAN will continue to be applied for In Year admissions as a roll limit (see above). However, if circumstances at the school have significantly changed since the publication of the admission number, a place may be refused even if the admission number has not been reached, as a cap on the PAN may have been introduced.

For the majority of schools located in Newham the limit on roll number in other year groups is the same as the PAN but for these year groups most places are already taken as pupils move from one year group up to the next.

To determine the number of forms of entry in a year group (classes) you divide the PAN by 30. In some cases the result by include 0.5 of a class which is possible where the accommodation is in an old building with small size rooms.

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 or exceeded.

The admissions numbers (PAN) for entry in the academic year 2024/2025 are shown in appendix 1.

Special Educational Needs: Resource Units in mainstream schools

Special Educational Needs resource units are located within a number of our schools in Newham. Each is designed for children with particular diagnosed special educational needs including complex needs and severe communication difficulties.

Placement in these provisions is determined by the LB Newham 0-25 SEND integrated service and are usually for children with an Education Health and Care plan.

These places are part of the published admission number (see above), and are not in addition to as there is an expectation that the children placed in these provisions will be educated part of the time in their mainstream class.

Additional places and capping

Additional places

In the event of an unexpected and significant increase to the school aged population, in a particular year group(s) that occurs too late to be addressed as part of the Council's formal place planning strategy, to ensure we can provide suitable education to all children resident in the borough it may be necessary to introduce additional places.

Any proposed increase would be managed by the LB Newham in joint partnership the admission authorities.

Additional places may be delivered outside of formal expansion through:

- Bulge classes: additional class or classes for a specific year group that will continue through the school year on year until the bulge expires at the end of year group 6 or 11 as appropriate to the age range of the school.
- Temporary over allocation: additional places in one or more year groups available for a fixed period agreed through a formal mutual agreement between the LA and the school.
- Short term measures to maximise the number of children who receive a place at their preferred school or to ensure we have sufficient places at the normal point of entry. These are generally only in place between national offer day and the start of the new school year but can be applied to other year groups.

Capping places

Where a school is significantly undersubscribed in any particular year group for a prolonged period, it is possible for the admission number to be capped to withdraw a fixed number of places for a specified period, on the understanding they will be made available at time of increased pressure on places.

Additional places through bulges and over allocation will be delivered under strict controls and with the mutual agreement of the Local Authority and the Trust/Governing Board of the school. These controls will include the potential impact on families and all schools within the borough.

Section 3: Admissions Framework

Normal Admissions (also known as planned admissions)

The law requires that all families with a child must apply to their home authority irrespective of the location of their preferred school(s). This means families living in Newham must apply to London Borough of Newham, Pupil Services.

LB Newham's Pupil Services will:

- Securely share, preferences information for schools outside of Newham, using an encrypted process, with the local authority where the preference school is located. This is to determine the outcome of each application (preference) and offer the highest single offer available to each Newham family who submits and application for a school place.
- Notify all Newham applicants of the outcome of their school application – including the name of the preference allocated or alternative allocation made. These will be issued via an electronic communication where the family have applied using the Pan London eAdmissions portal or letter where a paper application was completed.
- Track applications to ensure all Newham families whether in year 6 in a school located in or out of Newham apply for a secondary school place or confirm they are staying on role at their current school if all through.

All families are given the option to request a paper copy of their child's offer letter for their retention.

In Year Admissions (also known as late arrivals, mid term or mid phase admissions)

For 'In Year' admissions to all year groups outside of the normal admissions and for Year 7 and Reception entry in September 2024, where the application is being submitted after 31 August 2024:

- Newham residents wanting to apply for any schools located in Newham must use LB Newham's In Year common application form (CAF) [In year application form](#)
- Newham residents wanting to apply for schools outside of the borough must check the website for the borough where the school is located to obtain details of the application process.

- Families from outside of Newham who want to apply for a school/academy located in Newham must apply direct to LB Newham Pupil Services [In year application form](#)
- Newham Pupil Services will notify the family and their home borough of the outcome.
- Families who apply but preference cannot be met will be allocated an alternative school place at the school closest to their home with a suitable vacancy unless the child already has a school place in Newham (even if they have not yet started) or they do not reside in Newham – where they will be advised to contact their home authority to arrange education if they are not currently on roll elsewhere.
- All families who are not offered a place at any of their preferred schools are given their statutory right of appeal and their child is automatically added to the waiting list for any school ranked higher than the named school.

For all year groups parents/carers living in Newham have the right to name six preferences, or more if they choose to, being the schools they would prefer their child to attend, using our common application form (CAF). The preferences must be named in the order of priority, with 1st preference being the highest – this is known as the rank order.

The In Year online eform can be completed at [In year application form](#), or requested by phone on 020 8430 2000 or by post from:

Pupil Services
P.O. Box 69972,
London,
E16 9DG

Children from overseas and from Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Isle of Man or the Channel Islands.

Note: this section does not apply to Crown Servants, who are dealt with under the statutory provisions of the School Admissions Code.

Right to attend school in England

In most cases, children arriving from overseas have the right to attend schools in England. School admission authorities must not refuse to admit a child based on the child's nationality or immigration status nor remove them from roll on this basis.

It is the responsibility of parents/carers, not the local authority nor a school, to check that their children have a right, under their visa entry conditions, to study at a school.

Families should check their right of abode or that the conditions of their immigration status otherwise permit them to access a state-funded school before applying for a school place in Newham

Information on how to determine their rights <https://www.gov.uk/right-of-abode>

Any EEA or Swiss national arriving in the UK by 31 December 2020 is eligible to apply to the [EU Settlement Scheme](#), and continue to be able to study in schools in England as they do now if their application is successful.

Children aged under 18 are classed as dependent children if they are the children:

- of foreign nationals who have settled status in the UK,
- OR
- of a family who are entering the UK on a [work visa](#) or [Student visa](#),
- OR

- who are part of a family entering or residing in the UK under the [immigration route for British National \(Overseas\) citizens and their dependants](#).

These children are entitled to enter the country with their family, or to join their family and study at a state-funded or independent school once in the UK.

Foreign nationals cannot use the 6-month Standard Visitor visa, or 11-month Short-term Study (English language) visa, to enter the UK to enrol as a pupil at a school.

Unaccompanied children may also enter the UK to access a school. To comply with their visa terms, unaccompanied foreign national children, and young people (including such EEA nationals entering the UK after 31 December 2020) who are entering on a [Child Student visa](#) or [Student visa](#) must, when accessing education in England, study at the independent school, sixth form college or further education college which is sponsoring them

Normal Admissions (standard entry points into school)

For normal admission, the law requires applications must be made to the child's local authority. If an application is made from another country (including Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, the Isle Man or the Channel Islands) Newham will consider the application as adequate proof of an intention to move or return to the area and include it within the local authority co-ordinated process.

In these circumstances all local authorities can reasonably request the evidence of the new address to confirm which local authority should be responsible for the application and to determine the application.

Applications with an address outside England will not be accepted for processing by Newham unless the Newham is satisfied that there is robust evidence of a confirmed link to a residential address in the borough. Such a link should satisfy the terms of the Pan London framework, and must not be the address of a friend or relative, place of work or other address of convenience unless there is evidence it will be a relatively permanent arrangement.

Where Newham is satisfied that there is evidence of a confirmed link to an address in the borough a further test will be applied to decide if Newham believes the child will be resident at that address on or before the date of admission (start of the new school year in September).

To confirm a link to an address Newham will also check that no other applications are made from the same address being used by the applicant from outside of England unless we have accepted that the living arrangements will be with extended family.

If it cannot be confirmed that the applicant and the child will be linked to the future address in Newham the application will not be accepted and the applicants will be advised to reapply when they have a verifiable address in England.

Where an application is being made for a child who is living outside of England at the time of submission, the application must be made on a paper form not via the Pan London eAdmissions portal.

Note: Applicants with an address outside of England cannot apply using the Pan London eAdmissions system. These applicants must contact pupil.services@newham.gov.uk for the Newham common application form.

In Year Admissions

For in Year applications as Newham co-ordinates in-year applications on behalf of schools located in Newham, we do not require applicants to currently live in the area (or the country).

For in Year applications these will be processed using the child's home address at the time of the application, even if this is outside of the UK (except for children of service personnel and crown servants – see below).

Future addresses in the UK will not be accepted even if contracts/rental agreements have been signed.

Where a place can be offered using the child's overseas current address, the expectation is that the child will be available to take up the place on the proposed start date, which could be as soon as the day after the place being offered. If a child cannot take up the place as they are not in the UK and is not expected for at least a week the place will usually be withdrawn.

For the children of service personnel with a confirmed posting to Newham, or crown servants returning from overseas to live in Newham, the Local authority will allocate a place 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.

Application dates

The UK Government has set national closing and offer dates for applications for normal admissions. These dates only apply to applications for reception and year 7 entry in September of the new academic year and year 3 where a child is moving from an infant to a junior school.

Secondary (Year 7)

National closing day – 31 October, preceding the year of entry. Applications received by LB Newham Pupil Services by 11.59pm on this date will be processed as on time and those received after will be processed as late. It is important to understand that late applications cannot be considered for a place until all on time applicants have been provided with places. This means families who apply late are greatly reducing their opportunity to gain a place at one of their preferred schools. To avoid any potential technical issues it is recommend that applicants to not wait until the closing date to apply.

National offer day – 1 March or first working day after this date where it falls on a weekend or a bank holiday. This is the date when outcomes are issued to all on time applicants. All applicants are posted an outcome letter using 1st class post on national offer day. Where the application was made online, via the Pan London eAdmissions portal the outcome will be available online during the late afternoon/early evening. For families who applied using a paper application form their outcome letter using 1st class post on national offer day.

Late applications (received after national closing date)

Applicants whose common application form (CAF) is received by the third Friday in February in the year of expected admission will be sent their outcome on national offer day.

Applicants whose common application form (CAF) is received after the third Friday in February in the year of expected admission will be sent their outcome within 10 days of their application – with the first offer day being five days after national offer day.

In very exceptional circumstances some late application will be processed as on time. This will be the decision of the child's home local authority and will be binding on all named preferred schools. There is no right of appeal against a decision not to treat a late application as on time.

Primary (Reception and Year 3, where the child attends an infant school)

National closing day – 15 January, preceding the academic year of entry. Applications received by LB Newham Pupil Services by 11.59pm on this date will be processed as on time and those received after will be processed as late. To avoid any potential technical issues it is recommend that applicants to not wait until the closing date to apply. Applications after this time are processed known as late and cannot be considered for a place until all on time applicants have been provided with places. This means families who apply late are greatly reducing their opportunity to gain a place at one of their preferred schools.

National offer day – 16 April or first working day after this date where it falls on a weekend or a bank holiday. This is the date when outcomes are issued to all on time applicants. Where the application was made online, via the Pan London eAdmissions portal the outcome will be available online during the late afternoon/early evening. For families who applied using a paper application form their outcome letter will be sent using 1st class post on national offer day.

Late applications (received after national closing date)

Applicants whose common application form (CAF) is received by the third Friday in March in the year of expected admission will be sent their outcome on national offer day.

Applicants whose common application form (CAF) is received after the third Friday in February in the year of expected admission will be sent their outcome within 10 days of their application – with the first offer day being five days after national offer day.

In very exceptional circumstances some late application will be processed as on time. This will be the decision of the child's home local authority and will be binding on all named preferred schools. There is no right of appeal against a decision not to treat a late application as on time.

In Year applications

For In Year admissions there are no statutory or local closing or offer dates. Our target is to send notification of the outcome of each application within 10 school days. At the start of each academic year this may not always be possible due to the volume of applications received

School applications common application form (CAF)

It is the responsibility/duty of all parents/carers to apply for a school place for any school aged child for whom they have parental responsibility for, or arrange suitable alternative education and formally notify their home Local authority of these arrangements.

For normal and in year applicants – Newham cannot not automatically reserve any child a place at any school including the:

- School closest to their home; OR
- School where their siblings or relatives are or used to be on roll; OR
- School where their child formerly attended; OR
- School where their child attends Saturday school or other clubs/extended services; OR
- Faith school linked to the place of worship where they practise; OR
- School where their parent/carer works..

A child will only be considered for a place at schools where their parent/carer has applied by completing and successfully submitting the appropriate common application form (CAF). This does not mean we can only place a child at one of the schools named, as we reserve the right to allocate an alternative placement if we cannot meet parental preference or the preferred schools cannot meet the child's needs.

Parents/carers are given the opportunity to name their preferred schools as part of their common application. The applicant can name as many school preferences as they would like but we recommend at least three and no more than six.

All of the schools/academies named by parents/carers on their application form will be treated equally to assess whether a school place can be offered to their child based on places available or their oversubscription criteria where applications exceed places available.

All applicants are given the opportunity to supply their religious, philosophical, medical, personal or social reason for wanting a school place at the time of application. However all school placements must still be made in accordance with a schools oversubscription criteria and any associated admissions schemes.

For normal admissions (reception, primary to secondary school transition, infant to junior transition and entry to UTC's) applications for the next academic year received by the published national closing dates will have priority above those who apply after that date, provided their preference for the school has not been withdrawn. A preference will be withdrawn if a change of preference is submitted before the deadline and the school is not included on the new form.

Each application form submitted for a child for the same academic year will supersede the last except where a change of preference is received for a Year 7 or reception class after the national closing dates (see above). In this instance, the latest application received before the closing date will be used to determine the initial allocation and the change of preference will be processed as a late application.

Applications that have been sent to Pupil Services but not received will only be backdated if the parent/carer has proof of submission from the Head Teacher/Business Manager or Office Manager of their child's current school. No other proof of postage or delivery will be accepted.

To guarantee delivery of your application the Council recommends that you apply online. If you apply online you will receive an application reference to confirm receipt.

For in year admissions – applications for internal school transfers within Newham are treated the same as new arrivals, those returning to Newham or those wanting to receive an education in Newham from outside of the borough. The only exception being that if preference cannot be met for a Newham resident who is a new arrival or a child returning to Newham an alternative allocation will be made to ensure we fulfil our duty to provide education for our residents.

All school places are offered based on the child's date of birth. Their academic ability cannot be taken into account at the application (see point below).

Supplementary information form (SIF)

For both normal and in year, applications can only be considered under one of the faith based criterion of a voluntary aided / academy school's oversubscription criteria where the applicant has completed and submitted the schools Supplementary Information Form (SIF).

A SIF is available from the named school and can usually be downloaded from their website. The form must be returned direct to the school not Pupil Services and not as an attachment to an application via the eAdmissions portal.

Where a common application (CAF) for a school that uses SIF for oversubscription purposes is received but no SIF is submitted the application can only be considered under the non faith criterion.

SIFs without the correct common application form (CAF) cannot be considered as the CAF and not the SIF is the actual application.

Certificate of Catholic Practice

'Certificate of Catholic Practice' means a certificate issued by the family's parish priest (or the priest in charge of the church where the family attends Mass) in the form laid down by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It will be issued if the priest is satisfied that at least one Catholic parent or carer (along with the child, if he or she is over seven years old) have (except when it was impossible to do so) attended Mass on Sundays and holydays of obligation for at least five years (or, in the case of the child, since the age of seven, if shorter). It will also be issued when the practice has been continuous since being received into the Church if that occurred less than five years ago. It is expected that most Certificates will be issued on the basis of attendance. A Certificate may also be issued by the priest when attendance is interrupted by exceptional circumstances which excuse from the obligation to attend on that occasion or occasions. Further details of these circumstances can be found in the guidance issued to priests <https://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/school-admissions-2/>

Applicants should check the website of the Diocese for any changes due to Covid 19 related matters that may impact on the certificate.

Applications out of normal year group: Gifted and talented children and those who have missed part or whole school years.

All school places in Newham are offered for a specific year group based on the child's date of birth not their academic age. However the law does not prescribe the year group a child should be admitted to.

There is no legal barrier to children being educated outside their normal year group as determined on the child's date of birth.

Parents/carers can seek in writing at the point of application places outside their child's normal academic year group.

At point of application the schools' admission committee will consider any parental representations to support their request for their child to be educated a year group higher or lower than for their age group. In all cases the decision of the admissions committee is final and there is no right of appeal for a place outside a child's academic year group. This does not affect a parent/carers right of an appeal for a place at their preferred school where they have applied and been refused.

Where a place is not granted outside of the normal academic year group any alternative allocation will be based on the child's age not ability, educational history or parental representations.

Looked After and Previously Looked After Child

For school admissions, all schools are required by law to prioritise looked after children and previously looked after children in their oversubscription criteria. These children must be ranked under criterion one

except for some faith schools where the highest priority ranking only applies to looked after children and previously looked after children of that faith.

Looked after children

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)

Previously looked after children

A child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

An adoption order in England, is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders). A 'child arrangements order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by Section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. 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).

Staff child

A child whose parent/carer (person with legal parental responsibility for the child) is directly employed by the school meaning not contracted via a third party.

The law only permits staff child priority where either or both of the following circumstances apply:

- a) Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made;
- b) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

For category b where employment commences after national closing day the application will be considered under their original priority until after the national offer day 1 March (secondary) and 16 April (primary).

For both normal and in year admissions, proof of employment eligibility must be verified in writing by the headteacher/principal to Newham Pupil Services.

Proof of employment cannot be accepted from the applicant.

Service child

For Newham school admission purposes a child is recognised as a service child when:

- One of their parents/carers (with legal guardianship) is serving in the regular British armed forces, at the national closing date for primary to secondary transition or the application date for In Year applications. OR
- One of their parents/carers (with legal guardianship) died whilst serving in the British armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme.

Siblings

Sibling priority can only be granted where it forms part of the oversubscription criteria.

Only siblings reasonably expected to be on roll at the school when the child for whom a place is being sought is due to start can be accepted for sibling priority purposes.

If a family has more than one child at the preferred school they must name a child in the sibling section who is reasonably expected to be on roll when the child on the application is due to start.

Naming the eldest child is not advisable if they are in year group 6 or 11 as they would have left the preferred school when the child is due to start (unless the school has a sixth form).

Where the applicant has failed to provide the full name and date of birth of the sibling on the application form, in the appropriate section or the name provided is not the one used to register the child at their school, sibling priority may not be granted.

Sibling details entered in the reasons for wanting a place will not be considered.

Named siblings must be living at the same address as the child on the application.

Sibling connections and addresses will be verified by Local Authority in partnership with the preferred school, so it is essential that families notify each of their children's schools of any address change before submitting their application

A sibling connection does not count when the sibling is attending the school's nursery class, unless specified otherwise.

For admission purposes a siblings is defined as each of two or more children having one or both parents in common;

- Brother, (both children have the same blood mother and blood father)
- Sister, (both children have the same blood mother and blood father)
- Half-brother (both children have the same blood mother or blood father)
- Half-sister (both children have the same blood mother or blood father)
- Adopted siblings²,
- Step-brother through marriage,
- Step-sister through marriage,
- Common law step-brother
- Common law step-sister,
- Foster brother (only those placed by a local authority).
- Foster sister (only those placed by any local authority).
- Children subject of a residence order

Examples of those who will not be considered as siblings

- Cousins, aunties, uncles, friends, other family members even when living in the same home,
- Other children living in the same household who are not included in the list above,
- Children living at the address under an informal or formal private fostering arrangement.
- Children who share the same child minder or private fosterer.

If a child awaiting a school offer or is on a waiting list for a new offer and has a sibling who has started at the school following the submission of their application, their parent/carer must notify Pupil Services in writing (pupil.services@newham.gov.uk) of the sibling's enrolment details for the child's priority for a place from the waiting list to be changed to include their new sibling priority.

² 1 An adoption order is an order under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'residence order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989. 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).

Note; in order to be given highest priority for admission, a child has to fall within the definition of 'looked after' in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989. As this Act applies to England and Wales, a child has to be looked after by an English or Welsh local authority in order to be given highest priority.

In addition, in order to fall within the definition of a previously looked after child, an adopted child must have been adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 but as this Act did not come fully into force until December 2005, it is not possible for a child to have been adopted under that Act prior to then. This means that children adopted between 1989 and December 2005 under the Adoption Act 1976 will not be entitled to be prioritised in Group 1. However, as residence orders and special guardianship orders were brought into force by the Children Act's 1989 and 2004 and there was no applicable legislation before these Acts all children subject to a special guardianship order or residence order in place immediately after being looked after will be placed in priority group 1 above

Conversely if a child is on a waiting list and has sibling priority, if their sibling is removed from the schools roll following the submission of their application their parent/carer must notify Pupil Services in writing (pupil.services@newham.gov.uk) of the sibling's leave date for the child's so their sibling priority for a place can be withdrawn.

Twins and children of multiple births siblings who are not twins but are born in the same school year

Normal admissions: Reception and Year 7 for entry in following September.

Twins, children from multiple births and siblings who are not twins but are born in the same within a period that means they are in the same academic year group will be admitted over the 30 class limit if one of the children is the 30th child admitted for a one form entry school or 60th for two form entry school and so on.

In year' admissions: entry outside the normal admission rounds.

Twins, children from multiple births and siblings who are not twins but are born in the same within a period that means they are in the same academic year group may not be allocated a place over the school's admission limit for their year group, if only one sibling can be offered a place.

Where not all the children can be offered a place random allocation would be used to determine which of the children will be offered the place or places available. An officer independent of Children's Services will be responsible for drawing the name of the successful applicant and the draw will be overseen by an independent adjudicator who will not work in Children Services or be involved with the admissions process.

Parish areas

Sarah Bonnell School has determined a priority area. This has fixed boundaries determined by the Council and approved via formal consultation. Although this school is located on the borough boundary, to comply with the law and the Greenwich judgement, the priority area does not follow the borough boundary it follows natural and manmade geographical features.

Residing in the priority area does not guarantee a child a place at the school but it does mean they have priority over children who live outside the priority area who do not have siblings on roll at the school.

Interested parties can find out if home address the child's is in the Sarah Bonnell Priority area by visiting our School Finder app located on the Newham website. Alternatively you can call the Council on 020 08430 2000 for help and advice.

Catchment areas

Schools located in Newham do not have catchment areas.

Parish Catchments (faiths schools only)

The Diocese of Brentwood (Catholic schools in Newham) or Diocese of Chelmsford (St. Luke's Church of England primary school) determine their fixed boundaries and these are approved via formal formal processes.

Residing in parish does not guarantee a child a place at the school.

Parent/carers can find out which school(s) parish area you live in by visiting our School Finder app located on the Newham website. Alternatively you can call the Council on 020 08430 2000 for help and advice.

More information on Parish catchments is available in the admission arrangements for each of our faith schools which can be found on the Newham website and the schools own websites.

Home address

A child's home address is where they reside for the majority of the school year, being 1st September to the end July. This is what we use to determine residency in the priority area for Sarah Bonnell, Catholic or Church of England parish and home to school distance as applicable to an application.

Where a child's natural parents are not living together and the child spends a few days in both households on week days, then the address that will be used for admissions will be the one from which the child goes to school in the morning most often on week days.

For families who own more than one property, where any of these properties that is occupied by a third party through a rental, family or friendship agreement cannot be considered as the child's home address. If the family have more than one property and full Council tax is paid for both properties the address that has been registered for the child for the preceding six months will be used for admissions purposes.

Any address supplied as the child's home address will not be considered if it is:

- An address registered with the Council as commercial property, (the only exception is where a commercial address is confirmed by Housing Section of the child's home borough as being their official temporary home address), OR
- An address registered with the Council as empty or derelict, OR
- A tenant's address, where the property owned by the parent/carer and rented to a third party, who is not the applicant, OR
- Another family members/friends address who does not have parental responsibility for the child, even if the tenant is responsible for the child's daycare arrangements, OR
- Their child-minder's address, OR
- A PO Box address, (where the PO box address is a result of Police or Social Care intervention the LA will work with the appropriate professionals to establish the address to be used for admissions purposes) OR
- Second or other additional property's owned by the child's family, which do not have other tenants and where the child is not resident for at least 6 months of the academic year. OR
- Any address not registered for Council Tax as an official residential abode, OR
- Future addresses even if contracts have been exchanged or the Council have offered the property in writing, OR
- Any address not registered for Council Tax as an official residential abode

This is not an exhaustive list.

And these will not be used for the purposes of allocating school places.

Verification of Home Address

All offers and alternative allocations in Newham are conditional on the information being provided on the application was accurate at the time of submission. This means that address and date of birth checks are not made until the admission meeting, at which point they are mandatory.

See appendix 2 for full details of the documentation required for admission.

In addition to the conditional offer scheme we may also operate internal verification programmes using other Council databases such as Council Tax, Electoral Register and Licensed Landlords.

Where any allegation of using a false address is made, a thorough investigation using all available resources will be carried out.

In some cases unannounced home visits maybe made by officers/representatives from the Council or the school.

It is an offence to provide false address information when applying for a school place. If a family are found to have provided a false address or other information, that was considered as a deliberate act to mislead, the school place offered maybe withdrawn. In some instances this can lead to prosecution and the child being removed from the roll of a school.

Change of home address

If a child awaiting a school offer or is on a waiting list, changes their home address their parent/carer must notify Pupil Services in writing (pupil.services@newham.gov.uk) and provide Newham approved proof of that change.

Any change of home address will not on its own be considered as a fresh application.

On receipt of any change of address Pupil Services will recalculate the home to school distances for any school where they are on the waiting list.

If they are applying for a year 7 or reception class place for next September entry, if the address change is prior to the national closing date 15 January preceding entry, it will be used to determine the offer or alternative allocation for national offer day in March and April.

If the change is after the national closing date it will be used as a correspondence address only until the day after national offer day, at which point it will then be used as the address for admissions purposes.

If Pupil Services are not notified of an address change, in writing by the family to (pupil.services@newham.gov.uk), the Council cannot be held responsible for letters being sent to a child's previous address or the child's priority for a placement being incorrect.

If a child changes home address to live temporarily or permanently with another person other than their parent/carer named on the application, even if this person is a family member, Pupil Services will need proof of the change of parental responsibility before the address change will be applied.

If a child is moving address with their family or they are moving to live with another member of their family, the address on the application must be the address they were living at, at the time the application is signed by the applicant, not their future address.

Special Education Needs and Disability

Children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) or Statement of Special Educational Need will be placed under the latest Special Education Needs and Disability regulations.

Placements in special schools and resource units located in Newham are determined outside of these arrangements using the LB Newham SEND published protocols.

Placement in resource provisions located within schools in Newham are determined the 0-25 SEND Service.

All other children with special educational needs but do not have an EHCP or the need for a placement in resource provision will be placed using the admission arrangements in this document.

Section 4: School placements

All offer of placements is determined by the school's own admissions authority.

Maintained and voluntary controlled schools (excluding voluntary aided faith schools): LB Newham is the Admission Authority.

Maintained voluntary aided faith schools: the school are their own Admission Authority.

Academy schools (including free schools and UTC's): the school or their Trust, as published are the Admission Authority.

Academy schools have the option of devolving responsibility for all or some elements of their admission to the local authority.

Admissions are co-ordinated by London Borough of Newham for all schools in the area. They will determine the highest single offer that can be made to all applicants and send the offer outcomes on behalf of all admission authorities.

Equal preference - single offer scheme

The Local authority operates an equal preference system in line with the School Admissions Code. This means all schools (up to a maximum of six) named by the parent/carer on their common application form (CAF) will be treated equally to assess whether a school place could be offered to their child based on the

published admissions criteria for each school named. In cases where more than one school place could be offered to a child, the ranked order (the preference order) on the CAF will be taken into account and the school place offered will be in the school that was ranked highest of those that could be offered.

If a child was not initially offered a place at the school named as their parent/carer's first preference and a place can be offered from the waiting list at a school that was ranked higher than the school currently offered, the existing offer will be automatically withdrawn even if it was previously accepted unless the child has started at the school or the parent/carer has notified Newham in writing that they no longer want their child to be considered for places at a school ranked higher than the school offered. This notification will mean that the child will be removed from the waiting list for those schools and the child can only be considered for a place if the parent/carer submits a fresh application.

School offer and alternative allocations

Where a school has places available applicants will automatically be offered a place unless they have been permanently excluded in the last year, or have an Education Health Care Plan or Statement of Special Educational Needs. For these children LB Newham follows the SEND and Exclusion regulations and local protocols.

All school places are offered on the condition that the information provided on the application form is accurate at the time of submission.

If at any time a school has more applications than places available their oversubscription criteria will be applied to determine which children can be offered a place or the child's waiting list position where the school is full.

For normal admission being reception up to 1 September in the year of entry offers will be made under the Pan London co-ordinated scheme.

Newham will make every effort to offer every child a place at one of a parent/carers preferred schools, where this is not possible and the child is out of education because they are not on roll at a school, or where no previously allocated placement is available to them, an alternative placement will be allocated unless the child does not live in Newham. This alternative will be the closest to their home address that had a place available at the time of their application.

For children who do not live in Newham, their home borough will be responsible for providing a suitable alternative placement.

If the closest school to their home address with a vacancy is a state funded independent school it can only be allocated if the Admissions Committee for that establishment have agreed in writing to participate in the Local Authority's alternative allocation process.

Newham cannot guarantee that any alternative allocation will be close to the family's home, but it will be within the borough boundary.

Where a child has physical access requirements, and their preferences cannot be met they will be placed in the closest school to their home that has places available and can meet their access needs.

The Authority will not allocate a second alternative placement, as a result of a placement becoming available at a school closer to their home unless they are number one on that schools waiting list. The only exception to this is where Newham parent/carers secure education otherwise and later apply again for a school place. It is possible that a subsequent alternative allocation may be further from the child's home address than the last and each allocation will be for the closest school to their home at the time of application.

For normal admissions, on the day after national offer day, the local authority will contact all applicants who child was allocated an alternative placement because preference could not be met, advising them of all the schools with remaining places. Applicants will be given the opportunity via this written communication change their alternative allocation to another school with a place available. Revised alternative allocations will be made on a first come first served basis.

The Authority cannot guarantee that siblings will be placed in the same school. If this is the case and an alternative allocation is required for all of the children as parental preference cannot be met or the parent has agreed via their application form, the Authority will attempt to place all the siblings or the majority of the siblings in the closest school that can accommodate the maximum number of the children, even if individually they could have been placed in separate schools closer to their home address.

If a parent/carer of a compulsory school aged child is unhappy with the school offered they must still ensure their child is admitted to and regularly attends that school unless they can provide evidence they have suitable alternative education for their child or they no longer need a school place in Newham as they have moved away and can prove they are in the process of securing education for their child outside of Newham.

Acceptances and refusals

For both normal and In Year admissions where a place is offered in Newham we will automatically register your acceptance on our records – unless you fully complete and return the refusal section of the offer letter. This means parent/carers can be confident that their offered place is secured.

Where a place has been offered in a school outside of Newham, as part of Pan London co-ordination for reception, the place will not be automatically accepted. Acceptance must be made by the published closing date either online via the Pan London eAdmissions portal for applicants who applied online or by email to pupil.services@newham.gov.uk

For normal admissions for All Through Schools where a parent/carer has applied for year 7 place in another school, we will ask for written confirmation as to whether the child will be remaining at their All Through School for the first day of the new school year in September or they will be accepting the place offered in the offered school. If the latter we will write to you confirming that you will be off rolled at your current school at the end of Year 6.

If a parent/carer completes and submits the refusal form, if a satisfactory reason is supplied the place will be withdrawn and Pupil Services will write confirming the place will no longer be available for their child. Where the reason is unsatisfactory and indicates the child may be missing education an officer for the named school or the Local Authority will contact the family to seek further information and provide advice on next steps.

For primary to secondary transition and starting primary school, where a parent indicates on the Pan London eAdmissions portal they are refusing the place offered, Pupil Services will contact the family to determine why the child no longer requires the place and what alternative education is being provided.

Start dates

The normal month for admission for primary school is September. Children usually start on the first day of term as published on the school's website or at a date agreed with the head teacher. For reception classes it is common for schools to offer staggered start dates so all the new children do not start together so they have time to settle.

In Year applicants, being those outside the normal admission rounds, usually start within five school days of the parent/carers contact with the named school following receipt of the offer/allocation outcome notification.

Where a child is moving from one school in Newham to another the start date will be agreed between the child's current school, the offered school and the parent/carer.

Parent/carers must contact the school named in the offer letter to arrange admission within three school days from receipt of the school offer letter to arrange an admission meeting. At this meeting parent/carers must provide acceptable proof of their child's date of birth and address which must correspond with the details supplied on the application form. If a child's address has changed since the form was completed, the school will require proof of the address on the application form and the new address.

If the parent/carer is unable to provide the required documents, the school may arrange an unannounced home visit to confirm residence.

Deferred entry and part time arrangements

Children due to start reception in September can have their admission deferred up to but not beyond the term in which the child reaches compulsory school age.

Any offered placement will only be reserved for deferred entry if the parent/carer has applied for deferment in writing to the head teacher of the school offered, has exceptional circumstances and the head teachers agrees to their request (this does not apply to summer born deferment).

Children born between 1 April and 31 August will reach compulsory school age on 31 August, that is, during the summer term.

Children being admitted to reception can be admitted on a part-time basis, until the child reaches compulsory school age or full-time basis, or choose a place at a nursery or other early learning setting if the parents prefer.

Any placement will only be considered on a part-time basis if the parent/carer has applied for the hours they prefer in writing to the head teacher of the school offered and the head teacher agrees to their request.

Summer born children and request for admission outside a child's year group.

Children are educated in school with others of their year group, this group is based on their date of birth and not their ability or the amount of schooling they have already received.

Parents may request that their child be exceptionally admitted outside their age group. The admission authority and the headteacher in partnership with the local authority must decide whether or not the individual child's circumstances make this appropriate on educational grounds. Such requests will only be agreed in exceptional circumstances.

If a place is not offered in the year group of the applicants choice there is no right to independent appeal however, they may make a complaint about an admission authority's decision not to admit their child outside their normal age group. To make a complaint follow the procedure published on that school's website.

All requests must include the applicants reason, these can be supported by recent professional evidence of the child's circumstances which make education outside the age group necessary but this is not essential. Each Admission Authority must make its own decision, but all will expect to see evidence of an individual child's educational need, rather than general factors which relate to a wider group of children born at a similar time. They will want to discuss with parents the impact of the child being educated with children of a different age, both within primary school and at transition to secondary school when admission outside the age cohort cannot be guaranteed.

Summer born children can be admitted to the reception class in the September following their fifth birthday, if their parent/carers indicate this on their common application form. It is expected that parent/carers discuss this as soon as possible with the schools they are interested in applying for and the local authority and consider the impact of this application on their child's future educational career.

Each such application will be considered on an individual basis and the admission authority in conjunction with the Local Authority. Factors that maybe considered include:

- the needs of the child and the possible impact on them of entering year 1 without having first attended the reception class;
- in the case of children born prematurely, the fact that they may have naturally fallen into the lower age group if they had been born on their expected date of birth;
- whether delayed social, emotional or physical development is adversely affecting their readiness for school;
- relevant research into the outcomes of summer born and premature children – some links are provided at the end of this document.

This is not an exhaustive list.

When to apply - Option A

Parents requesting admission to an age group below the child's actual age should submit an application for the child's actual age group before the closing date on 15 January preceding the September of the desired year of entry. The request for later admission should accompany the application. This enables the application to be processed and a school place secured in the child's actual age group if the request is refused by an Admission Authority.

Example – for a summer born child who based on their date of birth, is due to start in reception in September 2023, if a parent wants them to start reception in September 2023 they can submit their application by 15 January 2023 with a request for 2024 start date

When to apply – Option B

Parents seeking admission to an age group below the child's actual age should submit their request in the September of the year before the year when children of the same age are due to start school. This enables a parent to apply for a school place in their child's actual age group before the closing date on 15 January preceding the September of the usual year of entry, if the request for later admission is refused by an Admissions Authority.

Where a child was not living in Newham on 15 January preceding the start of the academic year, Parents must submit a letter expressing their wishes along with the professional evidence with their 'In Year' common application.

In Newham primary head teachers will normally arrange to meet with any parents/carers who request summer born entry with, where possible, their early year's provider and other relevant professionals to determine the outcome. Minutes will be taken at the meeting and all parties will be asked to sign to confirm they are an accurate representation of the meeting.

If the admission authority/head teacher approves the request, the parent will be advised to re-apply by the national closing date for reception for the following year and provide a copy of the decision.

There can be no guarantee of a place being available at the same school in the next year's round of admissions, as this is dependent on the number of applications that year and the priority of all other applicants. It is not possible to reserve a place for the following year. Parents are therefore advised to have alternative arrangements in place.

Even where summer born deferment has been agreed by one school there is no guarantee that another school will accept this decision. This means the new named school will expect the child to start in year 1, not reception.

Parent/carers must consider this decision carefully as it may result in a child being educated below their age group for the whole of their time in school, not just primary school.

Waiting lists

For Year 7 entry in the next academic year, waiting lists will open on the day following national offer day in March.

For reception entry in the next academic year, waiting lists will open on the day following national offer day in April.

For all other year groups waiting lists open on the first day of the new academic year in September and are closed and cleared on the last school day of each school year, except where the application was received in Pupil Services on or after the first day of the month in which the school holiday starts, then the application will be automatically rolled forward to the same school waiting list for the new term.

If a child cannot be offered a place at any of their parent/carers preferences as detailed on their application, a child's name will be automatically added to the waiting list for each of the schools named (unless one of their preferences is an academy or UTC and their admission arrangements state a different process).

The offer of a preferred school will automatically result in lower ranked schools being withdrawn unless the applicant notifies Pupil Services of their requirements.

All waiting lists must be organised in accordance with the published criteria (below), not on a first come, first served basis. This means children new to a waiting list are added in their rightful place based on their priority for a place and not automatically at the bottom.

As a result of waiting lists being organised in accordance with published criteria it is possible for a child to move down a list as well as up. This can be on a daily basis for schools which have high numbers of application and/or high mobility.

A child added to a waiting list will remain on that list until:

The child is offered a place at a school ranked higher, OR
The child is offered a place at the school and the place is refused, OR
The parent/carers request their child to be removed from the list, in writing, OR
The parent/carer submits a fresh application and has not named the school as one of their current preferences, OR
The application was found to be fraudulent or completed to deliberately mislead, OR
The last school day of each term; OR

Where the application was received in Pupil Services on or after the first day of the month in which the school holiday starts, at which time the application will be automatically rolled forward to the same school waiting list for the new term

Where a child has been removed from a waiting list to be added again their parent/carer must complete and submit a fresh application form.

For all schools who participate in the Council's waiting list scheme, Pupil Services will send an automatic weekly email advising the applicant of the child's waiting list position. Note: this service can only be provided if we have a current valid email address and the applicant has opted in to this service..

For those families who have a child on a waiting list for whom we have a current valid email address, we will send notifications when the waiting list are closed and cleared each term.

When any school officially reports a vacancy, the place will be offered to the child who is at the number one position on the waiting list for that year group on the day the vacancy was reported.

The Newham Deanery Catholic Primary Schools reserve the right to reassess each application at the time of a vacancy arising to confirm details such as siblings attending the school, current address etc. and may also ask parents to obtain a current Certificate of Catholic Practice (see above).

Independent admission appeals

A parent/carer whose child has not been offered a place at a school named on their application form will be notified in writing of their right to an independent admissions appeal hearing under the School and Standards Framework Act 1998.

Our appeals process is fully compliant with the Department for Education School Appeals Code that can be found at:

[School Admission Appeals Code](#)

Irrespective of the ranked order of the school, offered parent/carers still have the right of appeal for a place ranked lower than the school offered.

Parents/carers do not have a right of appeal if they have been offered a place and it is not in the year group they would like. However, they may make a complaint in accordance with the relevant published complaints procedure.

Accepting/attending another school does not have a detrimental impact on the outcome of an independent appeal. Irrespective of the family's view of the likely outcome of their appeal, as there is no guarantee that any appeal will be successful the LB Newham strongly recommends that families accept and attend the school offered whilst awaiting the outcome of any appeal. Failure to ensure a child receives suitable education may result in formal attendance proceedings being initiated.

If a parent/carer has had an unsuccessful appeal, a second appeal application for a place in the same academic year, for the same school, will not be considered unless there have been significant changes in circumstances relevant to the application. The admission authority will make their decision as to whether to grant the second appeal based on the significance of the change.

Tie Break: shortest home to school walking distance

If we have to decide between applicants in any of the above admissions criterion the tie break will be: home to school shortest walking distance, starting with the nearest address. In the event of two or more children

living equidistant from the school, the place will be decided by drawing lots, the first name drawn will be offered the place.

For Sarah Bonnell School only, within each criterion, priority is given to those girls whose main home address is within the schools priority area, then the home to school distance tie break is applied.

The Local authority uses an Industry Leading and Council approved Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate shortest walking distance measurements. This system provides distances in miles and yards to three decimal places using a routing database system, based upon two dimensional maps. Contour, elevation or terrain is not taken into account when the distances are measured.

Applicants can check their home to school distance for any school in Newham, including those who use straight line distance by using School Finder on the Newham website. This will show the start and end points and the route we use. This will assist with making any making informed decision about the likelihood of being offered a place before naming preferences.

Note: some academy schools in Newham, who do not adopt these arrangements, use straight line distance or random allocation as their tie breaker

Home to school distance calculations:

Tie break for each oversubscription criterion where there are more applicants in that criterion group than places (except Stratford School Academy who uses random allocation)

Shortest walking distance

Start point of calculation (home address)

For calculation purposes the local authority uses the best address database available to determine the location of the address start point.

This start point is the centroid point of within the property building boundary being the building on the site. The property buildings used are based upon the UK's definitive map base supplied by the UK's national mapping agency Ordnance Survey (OS).

This means if a child lives in a block of flats where a communal entrance used as an entry point the LA will use the centroid of the block and not the individual flat for these calculations.

All calculations are based on the child's home address supplied on the application form being correct at the date of parental/carer's signature and the address being classified as a residential property on the Council's database.

Shortest walking distance and straight line measurement

End point of calculation (school nominated entrance)

The school's nominated entrance (nominated gate) used for calculation purposes is the main gate at the official postal address of the school unless their Governing Body has officially notified the LA by 31 August every year of a different entrance for measurement purposes. No other entrance will be used to calculate the distance.

Route (shortest walking distance only)

The shortest walking route is calculated using the LA's adopted highways and approved footpaths available to the best of our knowledge at the time of the calculations.

The route starts and is measured from the pupils home address centroid, links to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN), then follows the shortest available walking route (see below) to link to the nearest ITN point to the schools nominated entrance and then ends at that nominated entrance. Doglegs are added to the start and end points to join the centroid point of the

property to the start point of the ITN route to give a full and accurate measurement.

All routes are measured using data from Ordnance Survey, the officially recognised national mapping agency. Where necessary we have enhanced this dataset to reflect the characteristics that aim to best deliver our adopted local standards.

The following are excluded from our calculations (this is not an exhaustive list and maybe subject to change depending on conditions outside the control of the Admissions Service)

Parks/recreational areas (The Greenway is included in our calculations)

Unofficial crossing points of the A12/3 and Newham docks

Footpaths not approved by the LA

Second stage tie

If the LA's system calculates that two or more pupils applying for the same school in the same year group have the same home to school distance (to three decimal places) the following criteria is used to determine their priority.

For pupils who live in a block of flats, whether they are within a multiple home block or a flat within a single house, priority will be given based on the floor the child lives, with the lowest floor having priority over higher floors.

In all other cases random allocation would be used to determine which of the children will be offered the place available. An officer independent of Children's Services and the admissions processes will be responsible for drawing the name of the successful applicant and the draw will be overseen by an independent adjudicator who will not work in Children Services or have any involvement with the admissions processes.

For applications from outside of Newham

The route starts and is measured from the pupils home address, links to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN), then follows a straight line measurement (as the crow flies) to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN) on the Newham borough boundary, then follows the shortest available walking route (see below) to link to the nearest ITN point to the schools nominated entrance and then ends at that nominated entrance.

Gates and entrances

Note: the entrance (gates) used for home to school distance tie break purposes, is the entrance for the official postal address except for the following schools which use alternative entrances as requested by their Governing Body.

Brampton Manor Academy – Boundary Lane E6

Central Park Primary School – Loxford Avenue E6

Little Ilford School – Browning Road E12

St. Angela's Ursuline Convent School – Main Entrance of Our Lady of Compassion (Upton Park)

St. Bonaventure's Catholic Comprehensive School – Main Entrance of Our Lady of Compassion (Upton Park)

St Joachim's Catholic Primary School – Front Main Entrance of Newham Dockside

Upton Cross Kirton Road Site – Kirton Road E13

Note: to ensure continuity for all applicants only the LA council approved system can be used to calculate home to school distance tie breaks.

Other GIS systems such as Google Maps or personal Satellite Navigation Systems will not necessarily calculate the same route as the LA approved system as they may not be able to accommodate our approved routes.

Fair Access Protocol

The Council is legally required to have a Fair Access Protocol.

Fair Access Protocols is only be used to place the following groups of vulnerable and/or hard to place children, where they are having difficulty in securing a school place in-year, and it can be demonstrated that reasonable measures have been taken to secure a place through the usual in-year admission procedures.

This Protocol only applies for families applies outside of normal admissions; it only applies to in year admissions.

- a) children either subject to a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan or having had a Child in Need Plan or a Child Protection Plan within 12 months at the point of being referred to the Protocol;
- b) children living in a refuge or in other Relevant Accommodation at the point of being referred to the Protocol;
- c) children from the criminal justice system;
- d) children in alternative provision who need to be reintegrated into mainstream education or who have been permanently excluded but are deemed suitable for mainstream education;
- e) children with special educational needs (but without an Education, Health and Care plan), disabilities or medical conditions;
- f) children who are carers;
- g) children who are homeless;
- h) children in formal kinship care arrangements;
- i) children of, or who are, Gypsies, Roma, Travellers, refugees, and asylum seekers;
- j) children who have been refused a school place on the grounds of their challenging behaviour and referred to the Protocol in accordance with paragraph 3.10 of this Code;
- k) children for whom a place has not been sought due to exceptional circumstances;
- l) children who have been out of education for four or more week where it can be demonstrated that there are no places available at any school within a reasonable distance of their home. This does not include circumstances where a suitable place has been offered to a child and this has not been accepted; and
- m) previously looked after children for whom the local authority has been unable to promptly secure a school place

Eligibility for the Fair Access Protocol does not limit a parent's right to make an in-year application to any school for their child.

There is no duty for local authorities or admission authorities to comply with parental preference when allocating places through the Fair Access Protocol, but parents' views should be taken into account. Children with an EHCP or those who are Looked After cannot be placed using our Fair Access Protocol, these are placed using specific regulations.

A copy of our latest Fair Access Protocol is available on the Newham website or by calling 020 8430 2000.

NEWHAM CATHOLIC DEANERY PRIMARY SCHOOLS

ADMISSION POLICY FOR ADMISSION FROM SEPTEMBER 2024

Newham Catholic Deanery Primary Schools were founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will always be given to Catholic applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The schools are conducted by their Governing Body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with their trust deeds and instrument of government or articles of association³, and seek at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ.

As Catholic schools, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The governing body is the admission authority for each school and has responsibility for admissions to their school. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round⁴. The governing bodies have set their Published Admission Numbers (PAN) of pupils to the reception year in the school year which begins in September 2023 as shown below:

St. Antony's Catholic Primary School	60 pupils*
St. Edward's Catholic Primary School	60 pupils*
St. Francis' Catholic Primary School	60 pupils*
St. Helen's Catholic Primary School	60 pupils*
St. Joachim's Catholic Primary School	60 pupils*
St. Michael's Catholic Primary School	30 pupils
St. Winefride's Catholic Primary School	60 pupils*

The governing body will admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's PAN.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Needs (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with a Statement of Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 & 3)
2. Catholic children with a Certificate of Catholic Practice who are resident in the parish in which the school they are applying for is situated. (see notes 3, 4 & 10)
3. Other Catholic children who are resident in the parish in which the school they are applying for is situated. (see notes 3 & 10)
4. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
5. Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
6. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 5 & 6)
7. Children of other Christian denominations whose application is supported by a minister of religion. (see note 7)
8. Children of other faiths whose application is supported by a religious leader. (see note 8)
9. Any other children.

³*Catholic Primary Schools are part of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Academy Trust and adhere to their articles of association, all other schools are voluntary aided and their trust deeds & instruments of government apply.

⁴ This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provision will be applied in the following order.

The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made (see note 9).

Tie Break

Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the sub-categories listed above would still lead to oversubscription, the places up to the admission number will be offered to those living nearest to the school. Distance will be the walking distance measured from the home to the main entrance of the school. The route will not go through parks, private property or unlit footpaths, and will only use designated pedestrian crossing points for the A13 and the Royal Docks.

Tie Break For St Joachim's (ONLY)

If the governors have to decide between applicants in any of the above admissions criterion the tie break will be: straight line distance (as the crow flies), starting with the nearest address. In the event of two or more children living equidistant from St. Joachim's Catholic Primary School nominated end point (front entrance of Newham Dockside, 1000 Dockside Road, E16 2QU), the place will be decided by drawing lots, the first name drawn will be offered the place.

The Local Authority uses an Industry Leading and Council approved Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate straight line measurements. This system provides distances in miles and yards to three decimal places using a routing database system, based upon two dimensional maps. Contour, elevation or terrain is not taken into account when the distances are measured.

Start point of calculation (home address)

For calculation purposes the local authority uses the best address database available to determine the location of the address start point.

This start point is the centroid point of within the property building boundary. The property buildings used are based upon the UK's definitive map base supplied by the UK's national mapping agency Ordnance Survey (OS).

This means if a child lives in a block of flats where a communal entrance used as an entry point the LA will use the centroid of the block and not the individual flat for these calculations.

All calculations are based on the child's home address supplied on the application form being correct at the date of parental/carer's signature and the address being classified as a residential property on the Council's database.

End point of calculation (St Joachim's Catholic Primary Schools nominated end point)

The school's nominated end point used for calculation purposes is the main entrance of Newham Dockside 1000 Dockside Road, E16 2QU. No other entrance or school entrance will be used to calculate the distance.

Route

The shortest route is calculated using the straight line distance (as the crow flies) from home to the main entrance of Newham Dockside 1000 Dockside Road.

The route starts and is measured from the pupils home address centroid, links to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN), then follows the shortest straight line route to link to the nearest ITN point to the school's nominated entrance and then ends at that nominated entrance.

All routes are measured using data from Ordnance Survey, the officially recognised national mapping agency. Where necessary we have enhanced this dataset to reflect the characteristics that aim to best deliver our adopted local standards.

Second Stage Tie Break

If the LA's system calculates that two or more pupils applying for the same school in the same year group have the same home to school/ nominated end point distance (to three decimal places) the following criteria is used to determine their priority.

For pupils who live in flats, whether they are within a block or a house, priority will be given based on the floor the child lives, with the lowest floor having priority over higher floors.

In all other cases random allocation would be used to determine which of the children will be offered the place available. A member of the Admissions Committee will be responsible for drawing the name of the successful applicant and the draw will be overseen by an independent adjudicator who will not work in St. Joachim's Catholic Primary School or have any involvement with the admissions processes.

For applications from outside of Newham

The route starts and is measured from the pupils home address, links to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN), then follows a straight line measurement (as the crow flies) to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN) on the Newham borough boundary, then a straight line to link to the nearest ITN point to the school's nominated entrance and then ends at that nominated entrance.

Tie Break For all other Newham Catholic Schools

If governors have to decide between applicants in any of the above admissions criterion the tie break will be: home to school shortest walking distance, starting with the nearest address. In the event of two or more children living equidistant from the school, the place will be decided by drawing lots, the first name drawn will be offered the place. The Local authority uses an Industry Leading and Council approved Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate shortest walking distance measurements. This system provides distances in miles and yards to three decimal places using a routing database system, based upon two dimensional maps. Contour, elevation or terrain is not taken into account when the distances are measured.

Start point of calculation (home address)

For calculation purposes the local authority uses the best address database available to determine the location of the address start point.

This start point is the centroid point of within the property building boundary. The property buildings used are based upon the UK's definitive map base supplied by the UK's national mapping agency Ordnance Survey (OS).

This means if a child lives in a block of flats where a communal entrance used as an entry point the LA will use the centroid of the block and not the individual flat for these calculations.

All calculations are based on the child's home address supplied on the application form being correct at the date of parental/carer's signature and the address being classified as a residential property on the Council's database.

End point of calculation (school nominated entrance)

The school's nominated entrance (nominated gate) used for calculation purposes is the main gate at the official postal address of the school unless their Governing Body has officially notified the LA by 31st August every year of a different entrance for measurement purposes. No other entrance will be used to calculate the distance.

Route

The shortest walking route is calculated using the LA's adopted highways and approved footpaths available to the best of our knowledge at the time of the calculations.

The route starts and is measured from the pupils home address centroid, links to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN), then follows the shortest available walking route (see below) to link to the nearest ITN point to the schools nominated entrance and then ends at that nominated entrance.

All routes are measured using data from Ordnance Survey, the officially recognised national mapping agency. Where necessary we have enhanced this dataset to reflect the characteristics that aim to best deliver our adopted local standards.

The following are excluded from our calculations (this is not an exhaustive list and maybe subject to change depending on conditions outside the control of the Admissions Service):

Unlit areas

Parks/recreational areas (The Greenway is included in our calculations)

Unofficial crossing points of the A12/3 and Newham docks

Footpaths not approved by the LA

Second Stage Tie Break

If the LA's system calculates that two or more pupils applying for the same school in the same year group have the same home to school distance (to three decimal places) the following criteria is used to determine their priority.

For pupils who live in flats, whether they are within a block or a house, priority will be given based on the floor on which the child lives, with the lowest floor having priority over higher floors.

In all other cases random allocation would be used to determine which of the children will be offered the place available. An officer independent of Children's Services and the admissions processes will be responsible for drawing the name of the successful applicant and the draw will be overseen by an independent adjudicator who will not work in Children Services or have any involvement with the admissions processes.

For applications from outside of Newham

The route starts and is measured from the pupils home address, links to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN), then follows a straight line measurement (as the crow flies) to the nearest point on the Ordnance Survey MasterMap Integrated Transport Network (ITN) on the Newham borough boundary, then follows the shortest available walking route (see below) to link to the nearest ITN point to the schools nominated entrance and then ends at that nominated entrance.

Note: to ensure continuity for all applicants only the LA council approved system can be used to calculate home to school distance tie breaks.

Other GIS systems such as Google Maps or personal Satellite Navigation Systems will not necessarily calculate the same route as the LA approved system as they may not be able to accommodate our approved routes.

To check your own distance please visit the Newham Website and Type in School Fact Finder:

www.newham.gov.uk/schoolfactfinder

Home address

An address supplied as the child's home address will not be considered if it is:

- An address registered with the Council as commercial property, (the only exception is where a commercial address is confirmed by Housing Section of the child's home borough as being their official temporary home address), OR
- An address registered with the Council as empty or derelict, OR
- A tenant's address, where the property owned by the parent/carer and rented to a third party, who is not the applicant, OR
- Another family members/friends address who does not have parental responsibility for the child, even if the tenant is responsible for the child's daycare arrangements, OR
- Their child-minder's address, OR
- A PO Box address, (where the PO box address is a result of Police or Social Care intervention the LA will work with the appropriate professionals to establish the address to be used for admissions purposes) OR
- Second or other additional property's owned by the child's family, which do not have other tenants and where the child is not resident for at least 6 months of the academic year. OR
- Any address not registered for Council Tax as an official residential abode, OR
- Future addresses even if contracts have been exchanged or the Council have offered the property in writing, OR
- Any address not registered for Council Tax as an official residential abode

And these will not be used for the purposes of allocating school places.

Where a child's natural parents are not living together and the child spends a few days in both households on week days, then the address that will be used for measurement purposes will be the one from which the child goes to school in the morning most often on week days.

Application Procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place at these schools in the normal admission round⁵, you must complete a Common Application Form (CAF) available from the local authority in which you live. You are also requested to complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) attached to this policy if you wish to apply under oversubscription criteria 1 to 4 and 6-8. The SIF should be returned to the school office to which you are applying by 15th January 2023.

For each Catholic Primary School, or Voluntary Aided School, named on the CAF a SIF must also be completed. The SIF must be returned to each school named on the CAF.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application on 16th April or the next working day, (if the 16th April falls at a weekend) by the local authority on our behalf. If you are unsuccessful (unless your child gained a place at a school you ranked higher) you will be informed of the reasons, related to the oversubscription criteria listed above, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

If you do not provide the information required in the SIF and return it by the closing date, together with all supporting documentation, your child will not be placed in criteria 1 to 4 or 6, and this is likely to affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

All applications which are submitted on time will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15th January 2023.

Late Applications

Late applications will be administered in accordance with the London Borough of Newham Primary Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme. Applicants whose Common Application Form (CAF) is received by the third Friday in February in the year of expected admission will be sent their outcome on national offer day. Applicants whose CAF is received after the third Friday in February in the year of expected admission will be sent their outcome within 10 days of their application – with the first offer day being five days after national offer day. You are encouraged to ensure that your application is received on time.

⁵ This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year.

Admission of Children Below Compulsory School Age and Deferred Entry

A child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday. A child's parents may defer the date at which their child, below compulsory school age, is admitted to the school, until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age, or beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which an offer was made. A child may take up a part-time place until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age. Upon receipt of the offer of a place a parent should notify the school, as soon as possible, that they wish to either defer their child's entry to the school or take up a part-time place.

Admission of Children Outside their Normal Age Group

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child, i.e. a child born between 1st April and 31st August, may request that the child be admitted out of their normal age group, to reception rather than year 1.

Any such request should be made in writing to the Headteacher at the school for which you are applying at the same time as the admission application is made. The governing body will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the headteacher, including the headteacher's statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the governing body will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals, as appropriate.

Waiting Lists

In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful children will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out above and **not** in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until the last day of the summer term in July 2023.

Inclusion in the school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

In-Year Applications

An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Application should be made to the school by contacting the school office for which you are applying.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied.

If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above).

You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel

Fair Access Protocol

The schools are committed to taking their fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the governing bodies are empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The governing bodies have this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number (subject to the infant class size exceptions).

Nursery

For children attending the school's nursery, where applicable, an application to the reception class of the school must be made in the normal way, to the home local authority. Attendance at the school's nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered at the school.

The governing body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place or, where the child is already attending the school the place itself, where it is satisfied that the offer or the place was obtained by deception.

Notes (These notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. A Statement of Special Educational Needs is a statement made by the local authority under section 324 of the Education Act 1996, specifying the special educational provision for a child. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear [to the admission authority, i.e the governing body of the school] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making application to the school.
A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
3. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child who is part of a Catholic family where a letter from a priest demonstrates that the child would have been baptised or received if it were not for their status as a looked after child (e.g. a looked after child in the process of adoption by a Catholic family).
For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest (who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church).
4. 'Certificate of Catholic Practice' means a certificate issued by the family's parish priest (or the priest in charge of the church where the family attends Mass) in the form laid down by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. It will be issued if the priest is satisfied that at least one Catholic parent or carer (along with the child, if he or she is over seven years old) have (except when it was impossible to do so) attended Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation for at least five years (or, in the case of a child, since the age of seven, if shorter). It will also be issued when the practice has been continuous since being received into the Church if that occurred less than five years ago. It is expected that most Certificates will be issued on the basis of attendance. A Certificate may also be issued by the priest when attendance is interrupted by exceptional circumstances which excuse from the obligation to attend on that occasion or occasions. Further details of these circumstances can be found in the guidance issued to priests;
<http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/education/school-admissions/>
5. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
6. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
7. 'Children of other Christian denominations' means: children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledging God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above. All members of Churches Together in England and of CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.
8. 'Children of other faiths' means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 7 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purpose of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
 - A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
 - A religion which does not involve belief in a GodCase law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity Law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

9. 'Brother or sister' includes:
- (i) all natural brothers and sisters, half brothers and sisters, adopted brothers and sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address, and
 - (ii) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.
- Examples of those who will **not** be considered as siblings:*
Cousins, friends, other family members living in the same home, other children living in the same household who are not included in the list above, children who share the same child-minder or children of a child-minder.
10. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child and any person who has care of a child.
11. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries are as shown on the attached map and will be applied to the admission arrangements for [September 2023]. Distances will be measured from the home to the main entrance of the school, or *Newham Dockside 1000 Dockside Road, E16 2QU* in the case of St Joachim's. Please note that we do not use routes through parks, private properties or unlit footpaths and we only use the approved crossing points for the Docks and A13. [Map attached]