

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2024-25 FOR FURZEDOWN, PENWORTHAM AND SELLINCOURT PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Introduction

This Admissions Policy applies to the following community schools in Wandsworth: Furzedown, Penwortham, and Sellincourt Primary Schools

For admissions to all other community schools, please see separate documents.

Admission Numbers

The planned admission number for each of these schools is as follows:

Furzedown	60	Sellincourt	60
Penwortham	90		

Oversubscription Criteria

Places will first be allocated to Children with an Education Health and Care Plan which names the school or for whom the school is being consulted with by the responsible Local Authority (see additional information below). These children will be included in the overall admission number of the school. In the event of oversubscription, the remaining places will then be offered in the following order of priority:

- (i) Looked after children and those who ceased to be looked after children looked after because they were adopted, or because they became subject to a residence order, child arrangements order or a special guardianship order. This includes those children who appear to the Local Authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. (See note 1)
- (ii) Children with a professionally supported exceptional medical need or exceptional social need for a place at a particular school, as decided as decided by Wandsworth Local Authority. (See note 2)
- (iii) Children living inside the priority area with a brother or sister on the school roll on the date of admission. (See note 3);
- (iv) Children of staff employed directly at the school. (See note 4)
- (v) Children living inside the priority area in order of straight line distance from home to school, as measured by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. (See note 5)
- (vi) Children living outside the priority area with a brother or sister on the school roll on the date of admission (See note 3)
- (vii) Other children living outside the priority area in order of straight line distance from home to school, as measured by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. (See note 5)

If there are more applications than places within any category, applications will be considered in order of straight line distance from home to school as measured by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System (see note 5).

Notes:

1. *A child looked after is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. An adopted child is defined by section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976. A residence order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989. A child arrangement order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989. Priority under this criterion will also be given to those children who appear to the Local Authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Documentary evidence will be required in all circumstances.*
2. *Applications made on exceptional medical grounds must be supported by a current letter from a specialist health professional. Applications made on exceptional social grounds must be supported by a current letter from a social worker or other care professional working with the family. The letters must give reasons why the child's condition or circumstances make it necessary for the child to attend the school applied for, and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend an alternative school. If this information is not provided by the application closing date, the application will not be considered under this criterion. The Local Authority may request professional advice, from within or outside Wandsworth Council, before reaching a decision.*
3. *A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister living at the same address, a child who is living as part of the family by reason of a court order, or a child who has been placed with foster carers as a result of being looked after by a local authority.*
4. *Priority to children of staff will be given only 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, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. The member of staff must be employed on at least a 0.6 full time equivalent (FTE) basis and employed directly at the school (rather than through an agency or third party organisation). Priority of admission will only be given for the community school at which the member of staff is working. The number of places offered under this criterion will be limited to a maximum of one place per Form of Entry (FE) at each school.*
5. *The straight-line measurement used to prioritise applicants for admission to schools in Wandsworth commences in all cases at the location of the property and terminates at the central point of the school site as determined by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. Measurements by alternative systems and/or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random.*

6. *The permanent address of the parent/guardian with whom the child is living on the closing date for applications will be used for this purpose and this must be the address where the family normally lives. Parents are not permitted to use a temporary address to secure a school place for the child. A business address, a child-minder's address, or any address including a family member's address other than the child's permanent home will not be accepted. Proof of address will be sought and if there is any doubt about the validity of the address given it may be the subject of further investigation. Please see the "Choose a Wandsworth Primary School" admissions brochure for further information.*
7. *Where a child lives with parents with shared custody/responsibility, the address where the child spends the majority of the week should be used by parents for the school application. If there is a genuine 50/50 shared arrangement in place, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. In cases where an agreement cannot be reached between the parents and Child Benefit is claimed, the address that is registered for this claim will be used. Additional proof may be requested, eg court order or a solicitor's letter to confirm the arrangements.*
8. *There is no automatic right of transfer from the nursery class to the infant reception class within the same primary school. If there are more applications than places available, priority will be based on the above criteria alone.*

PRIORITY AREAS

The boundaries of the priority areas for Furzedown School, Penwortham School and Sellincourt Schools run along the roads detailed below. These roads and all the roads inside the boundary are included in the priority area (unless otherwise stated).

Furzedown School

- Furzedown Road
- West side of Thrale Road (odd numbers 75-99) from junction with Furzedown Road to Nimrod Road
- Brookview Road to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Woodnook Road to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Parklands Road to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Moyser Road (odd numbers 91-133 and even numbers 96-144) to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Longstone Road to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Spalding Road to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Welham Road (odd numbers 143-163 and even numbers 50-78) to the junction with Nimrod Road
- Southcroft Road (odd numbers 1-161 and even numbers 2-248), 47-50 Eastbourne Road, 1-9 Amen Corner, 223-249 Mitcham Road (east side)
- East side of Rectory Lane (numbers 1-113)

Penwortham School

- Nimrod Road (both sides)
- Thrale Road (odd numbers 1-73 (west side) and even numbers 36-62 (east side))
- West Drive

- Tooting Bec Road (from junction with West Drive to junction with Aldrington Road)
- Aldrington Road (from the junction with Tooting Bec Road to 10 Aldrington Road, including all properties on between eastside of Aldrington Road and railway line; that is, Shepley Court in the north to Fir Tree Close in the south)
- North side of Fayland Avenue (Boothby House, Adams House, odd numbers 1-31) to junction with Thrale Road
- West side of Mitcham Lane (even numbers 120-282)
- Southcroft Road (odd numbers 225-313 and even numbers 250-444) and Swain Close
- NB Only the following properties in Moyser Road (odd numbers 1 & 1A-89 and even numbers 2 & 2A-94) and Welham Road (odd numbers 1-131 and even numbers 18-34) fall in the priority area.

Sellincourt School

- East side of Tooting High Street (odd numbers 71-221)
- South side and west side of Mitcham Road (even numbers 2-284) and west side of London Road (even numbers 2-6)
- Longley Road (both sides) including Waterfall Terrace.

Please also see attached maps.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Method of Application for Reception

Parents/carers must apply on the Common Application Form of the local authority where they live. This can be completed online via www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions or on a paper form available from the school or their local council's School Admissions Team. The closing date for Reception class applications will be 15 January 2024. Notification letters/emails will be sent out on 16 April 2024. Applications received after the set closing date will be accepted but will not normally be considered for a place at the school until after the initial offer date.

Twins and Children of Multiple Birth

Twins, children of multiple birth and children born in the same academic year will be considered individually alongside all other applicants. Every effort will be made to accommodate all children within the same school even if this means that the PAN will be exceeded.

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are considered for places separately outside of the mainstream admissions process. Places will first be allocated to children with an EHCP which names the school or for whom the school is being consulted with by the responsible Local Authority (see note below). These children will be included in the overall admission number of the school. If, following consultation, the place is not required at the school, it will be offered from the school's waiting list.

Waiting List

Unsuccessful applicants (including any applications received after the closing date) will be included on the school's waiting list ranked in order of priority under the published

oversubscription criteria, without regard to the date that the application was received. Please note a child's position on the waiting list can go down as well as up. For example, if a new application is received or if a child on the list moves nearer to the school, the waiting list may need to be revised. The offer of a place does not depend on the length of time your child's name has been on the waiting list.

Appeals

Parents who are not offered a place for their child have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel. Further information will be provided in the notification letter. The Council will publish an appeals timetable annually on its website showing the relevant deadlines.

Date of Admission/Deferred Entry

Children will normally be admitted to the reception year in the September following their fourth birthday.

In line with the Admissions Code, parents can defer their child's entry to the reception year until later in the school year, where they have been offered a place at a school to start before they are of compulsory school age. Where entry is deferred, the school will hold the place for that child and not offer it to another child. However, entry cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the beginning of the final term of the Reception Year. Parents can also request that their child attends part-time until he/she reaches compulsory school age.

Children will not normally be admitted to Reception prior to the September following their fourth birthday.

Delayed Admission of Summer Born Children to Reception to the following September¹

Children will normally be admitted to the reception year in the September following their fourth birthday and the vast majority of pupils are educated within their normal chronological age group. However, if there are exceptional reasons, parents can request that the child is admitted outside his/her age group. Such requests would normally apply to children that are summer born² and there are significant reasons that would benefit the child's academic, social and emotional development by starting Reception a year later.

The Council recommends that parents considering delaying entry to Reception to the following September discuss this with their preferred schools before making a formal request. The school may wish to discuss how your child's could be met within their actual age group and the impact of being educated with children of a different age group.

If, following this discussion, parents wish to proceed with the request they should apply for a school place in your child's actual age group by the closing date of 15 January 2024 and include a written request with the application. The Council will then write to you to confirm the request has been received and that your current application has been cancelled.

¹ This is interim guidance on the consideration of requests to be admitted outside a child's normal year group following the government's announcement in September 2015 to make changes to the Admissions Code. This may be superseded by the publication of a new Admissions Code.

² For admission purposes, summer born children are defined as born between 1 April and 31 August.

It will be necessary to reapply for a Reception place in the following year. There can be no guarantee that there will be a place available at the school as this will depend upon the number of applications and pattern of admissions in that year. If the preferred school(s) are oversubscribed, the application will be considered in accordance with the schools' admission criteria. It is not possible to reserve a place for the following year.

Please see www.wandsworth.gov.uk/admissions for further information.

Admission of children outside their normal age group to other year groups¹

Any request for admission outside of the child's chronological year of entry will be considered in accordance with paragraphs 2.18-2.20 of the Admissions Code.

The Council, as the admission authority for Wandsworth community schools, will consider requests on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent's views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The headteacher's views will also be taken into account.

To request a place outside your child's normal age group, please provide a covering letter with your application outlining the reasons for admission outside of the chronological year group. Where possible, the request should be supported by a letter from a professional (e.g. Head/Senior teacher of previous school, GP, Hospital Consultant, Social Worker) that specifies the reasons for admission outside of the chronological year group. If the request is approved, the application will then be considered in accordance with the school's admission criteria in the event of oversubscription.

Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at the school but this right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Children will not normally be admitted to Reception prior to the September following their fourth birthday.

In Year Admissions

For in year admissions, parents/carers must apply to the school on the Wandsworth In Year Common Application Form. Applications will be considered in accordance with the above oversubscription criteria. In the event that it is not possible to offer a place the waiting list and appeals procedures described above will apply.

Fair Access Protocol

Wandsworth community schools participate in the local authority's In Year Admission Fair Access Protocol to allocate places exceptionally to vulnerable and other children in accordance with the School Admission Code 2021. Where required, the admission of such pupils under the protocol takes precedence over pupils on a school's waiting list and may require the school to admit above the planned admission number for the relevant year group.

Priority Areas for Franciscan, Furzedown, Penwortham and Sellincourt Schools

