

Admission arrangements for Peterborough Community Secondary Schools for 2018

As the admissions authority, the Local Authority gives priority to children whose parents have applied for a school place by the published deadline. Community schools do not always have enough places available for every child whose parents have applied for a place. In this case the Local Authority will use an order of priority for admissions to all Community and Voluntary-Controlled Secondary schools in Peterborough.

The Local Authority will admit children with a statement of Special Educational Needs which names the school. This will be in addition to any specific arrangements to specialist provision.

The order of priority for all other children is as follows:

1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. 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).
2. Children living in the catchment area served by the school* with a sibling** on roll at the time of admission
3. Children living in the catchment area* for the school*
4. Children of members of staff, provided that they have been employed for a minimum of two years and/or are recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage
5. The attendance of a sibling** on the school roll at the time of admission
6. Other children whose parents have requested a place who live outside the catchment area for the school*

*An alphabetical list of streets and their school catchment areas is available on the Peterborough City Council website.

**For the purposes of admissions, the Department for Children, Schools Families' definition of sibling is as follows:

'Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address.'

Every effort will be made to ensure that brothers or sisters (as defined above) and those from multiple births can attend the same secondary school if this is a stated parental preference.

In cases of equal merit, priority will be given to the child living nearest the school as measured by a straight line. Distance is measured in a straight line using the Local Land Property Gazetteer (LLPG) provided from the seed point located at the child's home address to the seed point for the school. The seed point is taken from the ordinance survey's (OS) Address-Base dataset. It is used to locate individual residential and school addresses using grid references as seed points.

It may be necessary to use other OS maps or online resources for any home address outside of the Peterborough local authority area not covered by the local authority's computerised distance measuring system. In the case of flats, the priority is that of floor level i.e. ground, first, second etc. in that order.

In cases of exactly the same measurement where no differentiation can be established, a lottery will be used to decide the allocation of the place.

For late applications, the Local Authority will allocate places in the same order of priority. In cases of equal merit, priority will be given to the child living nearest the school measured by a straight line as above.