

## School Admissions Policy 2027-28

The Governors of Patterdale Church of England Primary School are the Admissions Authority for the school. Following consultation with the Diocesan Board of Education and the Local Authority the Governors have set the published admission number for access to the reception class as 6.

The parental pack contains information and **an application form for admission to our school**. It is also possible for an application to be made on the Local Authority's website.

**An application for entry in September 2027 must be made subject to the Local Authority closing date.**

Parents are encouraged to name three schools in order of preference on the application form. The Governors operate a system whereby they consider all preferences equally. So the order of your preferences will not be used in considering your application. (It will only be used if a place is available for your child at more than one school.) Places at this school will be allocated according to this Admissions Policy and the Local Authority's Coordinated Admissions Scheme. A letter informing parents of the success or otherwise of their application will be sent out by the Local Authority in April. Parents of those children not offered a place will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative school by the Local Authority. They will be informed of their right of appeal.

**All children will be admitted unless there are more applicants than places in which case the Governors will make allocations using the following criteria. These are listed in order of priority.**

1. 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 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 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 who have physical and/or medical needs who would be disadvantaged by travelling to another school. Written evidence from an appropriate professional would be required for the Governors to consider admission in this category.
3. Children living within the catchment area having a brother or sister attending our school at the time of their admission giving priority, if necessary, to those children with the youngest siblings. Brothers and sisters are those living at the same address including step, adopted and foster children.
4. Children living in the catchment area.
5. Children living outside the catchment area who, at the time of their admission, have brothers or sisters in the school.
6. Children living outside the catchment area.

Details regarding the catchment area can be obtained by email to the School Admissions and Appeals Team:- [School.admissions@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk](mailto:School.admissions@westmorlandandfurness.gov.uk)

Or you can find details by visiting: [Admission process and appeal a decision | Westmorland and Furness Council](#)

The criteria outlined above will be strictly followed there being one exception. If a child has a statement of Special Educational Needs naming Patterdale Church of England Primary School then irrespective of the criteria the child *will* be admitted as in these circumstances the Governors have a statutory duty to admit the child concerned.

#### Tie Break:

In some categories, where there are more applicants than places available, age will act as a determining factor but unless specified it will be distance. The distance is measured from the centre of the child's address and a common point on the school site as determined by the Governors. The Governors will use the Local Authority's computerised Geographical Information System (GIS) to ensure consistency of measurement. The closest addresses will have priority.

#### Address of Pupil:

The address on the application form must be the current one at the time of application. Where a child can live at more than one address, the home address is to be the one where the child sleeps and thus wakes up for all or the majority of the school week. Where there is any doubt, the governors reserve the right to verify the information provided by the parent(s), for example, through the GP or the child benefit address.

#### In Year Admissions:

In year admissions are those which occur outside the "normal" admission time. If you wish your child to attend Patterdale Church of England Primary School you should visit our school and admission details will be provided if we have a vacancy in the relevant year. If your child is refused a place, you will be informed of your right to appeal.

#### Fraudulent applications:

If the Governors of Patterdale Church of England Primary School discover that a child has been awarded a place as a result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent, for example, an incorrect address and as a result it effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim then the Governors will withdraw the offer of a place. The Governors will reconsider the application and the right of appeal offered if a place is refused.

#### Deferred Admission:

For children beginning School following their fourth birthday admission is normally in September. However, if you wish entry can be deferred until later in the year or until the term in which your child reaches compulsory school age. For example if your child's fifth birthday is between September and December then, if you wish, admission may be deferred until the beginning of the Spring Term. If it is between January and April admission may be deferred until the beginning of the Summer Term. You can also request part time education until the term in which your child reaches compulsory school age. The Governors recommend that in your child's interests full time education is deferred no later than the start of the Spring Term.

#### Appeals Procedure:

If the Governors are unable to offer your child a place because of over subscription you, as a parent, have a right of appeal under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as amended by the Education Act 2002 and subsequent legislation. You should notify the Clerk to the Governors of Patterdale Church of England Primary School within 20 days of receiving the letter which will give the grounds for refusing a place. As a parent you will have an opportunity to submit your case to an independent (of the Governors) appeals panel. You must set out your grounds for the appeal in writing. You will normally receive at least 10 days' notice of the time and venue for the appeal hearing where you will be able to present your case in person. You will be informed within 5 school days whenever possible. This right of appeal does not prevent you from making an appeal in respect of any other school. The Independent Appeal will be organised on behalf of the Governors by the Local Authority Legal and Democratic Services Unit at Carlisle.

