



## Lewisham's determined admissions criteria for nursery schools and nursery classes in community primary schools (children starting nursery during the academic year 2022/23)

Where there is over-subscription, places will be offered to:

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. 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 definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Details **must** be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer.  
\* it is expected that a revised School Admissions Code, expected early in 2021, will revise the definition of a looked after child to include children who have been adopted from care from outside of England.
2. In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit vulnerable children, as proposed by Lewisham's Children Centre Criteria for Priority or Excluded (POE), on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the nursery is the only one able to meet the child's needs, before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be made by the headteacher who may consult with the Executive Director for Children and Young People. Supporting documentary evidence **must** be provided with the application;
3. Children whose brother or sister is on the roll of the main school when the application is made and is expected to be on the roll of the school, or of the junior school in the case of separate infant and junior schools, at the intended date of admission. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given to those
  - i) with exceptional social or medical need (as defined in paragraph 2 above) and then to those
  - ii) permanently living closest to the school (as defined in paragraph 4 below)

**Children applying for a place at Clyde or Chelwood Nurseries will only qualify for a place under the sibling criteria if their older sibling is on the roll of the nursery when the application is made and is expected to be on the roll of the nursery at the intended date of admission.**

Children in Year 6 of a mainstream primary school and who will have transferred to secondary school by the time the younger child is admitted to the nursery do not confer sibling priority.

Siblings include all blood or adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child applying. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.

4. Children whose permanent home address is closest to the school.

All distances will be measured in a straight line, using digitised mapping software of the area, from the home to the nearest gate nominated by the school. If more than one applicant lives

in multi-occupancy building (e.g. flats) priority will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.

Waiting lists will be held in the same order as the admission criteria.

**Tie break** - on the rare occasion where two or more children tie for the last available place, lots will be drawn to decide which child is offered the place.

To meet the needs of the age group Head teachers will have discretion over the balance of eligible\* two year olds, and three- and four-year olds in their nurseries, and the ratio of part-time and any full-time places offered.

Priority will be given to Lewisham residents.

An existing childminder's address, instead of the permanent address, may only be used to determine "nearness" if the child has an exceptional medical or social need for that particular school. The permanent home address must also be in Lewisham.

Three terms is regarded as the minimum time that children should spend in a nursery school or nursery class before transferring to a reception class.

Applications to nursery schools or classes are not dealt with through a coordinated scheme and there is no set closing or decision date. Applications are made direct to the nursery.

**If a child cannot be offered a place, a request can be made for the child's name to be placed on the waiting list; however there is no formal appeal process** \*please refer to the Early Education and Childcare Guidance 2014 for further information about eligibility.



## **Lewisham's determined admissions criteria for community primary school reception classes (children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018) and who will start school in September 2022**

When there is over-subscription, places are offered to:

- 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. 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 definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Details **must** be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer.  
\* it is expected that a revised School Admissions Code, expected early in 2021, will revise the definition of a looked after child to include children who have been adopted from care from outside of England.
- 2 In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit children on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs, before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be considered in consultation with a panel of teaching and medical professionals. Medical professionals provide advice on applications made under medical conditions and teaching professionals advise on applications made for social or special reasons. Supporting evidence **must** be provided before the closing date for applications.
- 3 Children whose brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications and is expected to be on the roll of the school (or of the junior school in the case of separate infant and junior schools\*), at the intended date of admission.

Children in Year 6 who will have transferred to secondary school by the time the younger child is admitted do not confer sibling priority.

If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given to:

- i) those with an exceptional social or medical need (see 2 above) and then to
- ii) those who are permanently living nearest to the school (see 4 below).

*\* this applies to children attending Stillness Infant and Junior Schools.*

Siblings include all blood or adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child applying. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.

- 4 Children living nearest to the school.

All distances will be measured to a central nodal point in the school premises, using digitised mapping software of the area, from a nodal point in the applicant's permanent home address. If more than one applicant lives in a multi-occupancy building (e.g. flats) priority will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.

**Twins, triplets and other multiple births**— where twins, triplets or children from other multiple births qualify for the last school place to be allocated Lewisham will admit all of the qualifying siblings in excess of the published admissions limit and they will be considered as 'excepted pupils'.

**Tie break** - on the rare occasion where two or more identical applications qualify for the last available place, lots will be drawn to decide which qualifying child is offered the place.

**Waiting lists** - In accordance with the pan London agreement, and to ensure Lewisham meets its duty to continue to co-ordinate admissions beyond offer date and comply with the parents' highest possible preference, Lewisham will ensure that waiting lists do not contain lower ranked preferences except where it (or the home LA) has agreed to a parental request to change the order of preferences. In such cases, where there is a parental request to change the order of preferences, the original application, including any offer made under co-ordination, will be withdrawn and the applicant will be required to re-apply. Waiting lists for Lewisham's community schools will include those who have moved to the area and were unable to make an 'ontime' application.

The reception coordinated scheme continues until the end of the summer term 2022. Applications received for reception class beyond the end of the summer term 2022 will be considered as an In Year applicant. Waiting lists will be held for the first term of the reception year only. Those with a continuing interest in a place at a school beyond this time will be required to make an in year application.



## Appendix C

### Lewisham's determined admissions criteria for community secondary schools for pupils transferring from primary to secondary school in September 2022 (children born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011)

Where there is oversubscription places will be offered to:

- 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. 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 definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Details **must** be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer.  
\* it is expected that a revised School Admissions Code, expected early in 2021, will revise the definition of a looked after child to include children who have been adopted from care from outside of England.
  - 2 In exceptional circumstances there is discretion to admit children on the grounds of their or their family's severe medical or social need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional, setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs before an admission decision is made. The admission decision will be considered in consultation with a panel of teaching and medical professionals. Medical professionals provide advice on applications made under medical conditions and teaching professionals advise on applications made for social or special reasons. Supporting evidence **must** be provided before the closing date for applications.
  - 3a 11 – 16 Community Schools - Children whose older brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications as well as those whose sibling was a former pupil of the school and who transferred to a 16-18 education provision at the end of the previous academic year. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given  
(i) to those with exceptional social and medical need and  
(ii) to those living nearest the school.  
Or
  - 3b 11-18 Community Schools - Children whose brother or sister is on roll of the school on the closing date for applications and will still be on the roll of the school at the intended date of admission. If the school is over-subscribed entirely with siblings, priority will be given  
(i) to those with exceptional social and medical need and  
(ii) to those living nearest the school.
- In all cases siblings include all blood and adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.
- 4 Children who live nearest to the school.

All distances will be measured to a central nodal point in the school premises using digitised mapping software of the area, from a nodal point in the applicant's permanent address. If more than one applicant lives in a multi-occupancy building (e.g. flats) preference will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.



**Twins, triplets and other multiple births**— where twins, triplets or children from other multiple births qualify for the last school place to be allocated Lewisham will admit all of the qualifying siblings in excess of the published admissions limit.

**Tie break** - on the rare occasion where two or more identical applications qualify for the last available place lots will be drawn to decide which qualifying child is offered the place.

When a school is over-subscribed, any vacancy which arises as a result of the withdrawal of a successful application will be offered to the next child on the waiting list

**Waiting lists** - In accordance with the secondary transfer coordinated scheme, and to ensure Lewisham meets its duty to continue to co-ordinate admissions beyond offer date and comply with the parents' highest possible preference, Lewisham will ensure that waiting lists do not contain lower ranked preferences except where it (or the home LA) has agreed to a parental request to change the order of preferences. In such cases, where there is a parental request to change the order of preferences, the original application, including any offer made under co-ordination, will be withdrawn and the applicant will be required to re-apply.

The pan London secondary transfer scheme continues until the end of the summer term 2022. Applications received for Year 7 beyond the end of the summer term 2022 will be considered as In Year applications.

Waiting lists will be held for the first term of Year 7 only. Those with a continuing interest in a place at a school beyond this time will be required to make an in year application.

## Appendix D

### Lewisham's determined admissions arrangements for community school's sixth form

In the event of the school's sixth form being over-subscribed (having more applications than places available) places will be offered to the following:

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. 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 definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Details must be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer. . \* it is expected that a revised School Admissions Code, expected early in 2021, will revise the definition of a looked after child to include children who have been adopted from care from outside of England.
2. Applicants who have an exceptional social or medical need for a place at the school, supported by professional documentation from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar. Decisions on these cases will be taken in consultation with the Executive Director for Children and Young People or her delegated representative.
3. Applicants who at the time of application are on roll of Forest Hill or Sydenham schools will be given priority at Sydenham and Forest Hill Sixth Form (SFH6).
4. Applicants who can best demonstrate their suitability for the course involved (factors taken into account will be attendance and previous academic performance).
5. If the school is over-subscribed with applicants from the feeder schools only, priority will first go to applicants from those schools with professionally-supported social or medical cases (see above), and then to those who can best demonstrate their suitability for the course involved.
6. If two identical applicants qualify for the last available place, home to school distance will be used as a tie break. If the applicants live the exact distance from the school lots will be taken to determine which applicant is offered the remaining place.

Any minimum standards required for entry will be published in the school's prospectus.

Lewisham is required to publish the number of places (if any) expected to be available to students not on roll of the feeder schools. For SFH6 it is expected that a maximum of 10 places per school (20 in total) will be available to children attending other schools.

There will be the right of appeal against any refusal of a place at the school's sixth form, and the appeal will be heard in line with the provisions of the Education Act 2002.

The sixth forms will publish a closing date for receipt of applications and the date of notification of the outcome of their applications. Late applicants will only be considered if there are places unallocated at the time of application.



## Lewisham's determined arrangements for In Year Admissions to Lewisham community schools

Applications for places at a community school in a year group other than the normal year of entry to primary (ie Class R to Year 6) and secondary school (ie Year 7 to Year 11), will be treated as an In Year admission. Places for all year groups to a Lewisham community primary or secondary school will be offered to children in the following order:

- a) 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. 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 definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Details must be supplied by the allocated social worker or foster carer. .\* it is expected that a revised School Admissions Code, expected early in 2021, will revise the definition of a looked after child to include children who have been adopted from care from outside of England.
- b) Children with severe social and medical need for that particular school and who would not otherwise qualify for admission. The application must be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant, social worker or similar professional setting out the reasons why the school is the only one to meet the child's needs.
- c) Siblings of children already on the roll of the school.
- d) Children who live nearest the school, the distance being measured in a straight line using digitized mapping software to a central nodal point in the school premises.

All distances will be measured to a central nodal point in the school premises, using digitised mapping software of the area, from a nodal point in the applicant's permanent home address. If more than one applicant lives in a multi-occupancy building (e.g. flats) priority will be given to the applicant whose door number is the lowest numerically and/or alphabetically.

Siblings include all blood or adoptive siblings, half-siblings, foster siblings of Looked After Children and step siblings. Siblings must all live at the same address as the child applying. Proof of the sibling relationship may be required.



### **Determined generic protocols for admitting children under the In Year Admissions Arrangements**

- Parents wishing to make an In Year application to any maintained school including faith, foundation and free schools and Academies in Lewisham that participate in the centralised scheme should do so by completing a Lewisham iCAF. Community schools will not hold separate waiting lists.
- All schools, regardless of whether they participate in the scheme are required to inform Lewisham of their current vacancies.
- As the co-ordinating authority for in year admissions across both primary and secondary phases Lewisham LA will decide which school or federation of schools to approach about an individual admission. In most cases this will be at one of the schools named by the parent on their iCAF. Where it is not possible to offer a Lewisham resident a place at the school named and where the child is not on roll of a local school Lewisham will offer the next nearest school to the family home with a vacancy. The parent will also be notified of their statutory right of appeal if the preferred school(s) is (are) full.
- Where the application is for a community school Lewisham will inform the parent of the school to be offered and will determine the date the child will be added to the school's roll. In turn schools must arrange the admission by the date specified in the offer letter.
- Where an application is made for a voluntary aided, foundation or free school or an Academy Lewisham will refer the applicant's details to the school who will be required to confirm within **10** school days\* whether a place can be offered or not. Once a decision has been taken the school will inform Lewisham's Admissions and Appeals Team of the outcome and, where a place can be offered, the Team will contact the applicant direct to inform them of this. The Admissions Authority must inform unsuccessful applicants of their right of appeal. \* It is expected that this deadline is likely to change once the revised School Admissions Code is issued early in 2021.
- Schools must place the child on roll by the date proposed by the School Admissions and Appeals Team.
- Children transferring from one local school to another may not transfer to the new school until the start of the following half term unless both the home school and receiving school agrees an earlier admission date.
- Federations will have an important role in apportioning admissions among the schools in their federation.
- If an admission is disputed by a school, the case must be referred to the Fair Access Panel completing the appropriate referral form giving detailed reasons why the school should not admit the child within 5 school days. The child's placement will be discussed at the next Fair Access Panel. Lewisham reserves the right to direct admission if necessary.
- Details will be shared with schools termly about the numbers of admissions taking place. There should not be a disproportionate impact on any school.

### **Transfers between schools**

Children who request a transfer from their current school do not take priority over those who qualify under the Fair Access or In Year Admissions arrangements as detailed above. Applicants will be referred to their home school and the parent asked to discuss their reasons for transfer with

the Headteacher. Children who are requesting a transfer due to their challenging behaviour may require a managed move. Please refer to the Managed Moves Policy.

Determined



## Generic admissions arrangements

**Lewisham local authority will continue to participate in the pan London admissions scheme (known as The Scheme) for reception and secondary transfer admissions. Please refer to the scheme for details of how this operates.**

### Reception

Timing of Admission – Lewisham will operate one point of entry for reception class. Children born between 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 will be expected to accept a full time reception place starting in September 2022.

Parents of children who permanently live in Lewisham **must** apply for a reception class place (Year R) by participating in the coordinated reception scheme by making an online application by 15 January 2022.

The application period for the reception co-ordinated scheme will commence on 1 September 2021 and close on 15 January 2022.

Deferred admission to primary school - Lewisham offers early admission in reception class to children before they reach statutory school age. Parents/carers have the option of deferring their child's admission to reception class to a later term eg the start of the spring or summer term. However the child must be admitted to school during the reception year and not beyond it. Alternatively the parent may arrange for their child to be admitted on a part time basis up to the point they reach statutory school age. Parents may not defer their child's admission beyond reception year or after the beginning of the term after their child's fifth birthday.

Children who attend a nursery class in a primary school frequently transfer to the main school; however there is no automatic transfer and children attending the nursery are not given priority. Parents of nursery children who permanently live in Lewisham **must** apply for a reception place by participating in the coordinated reception scheme by making an online application. Applications from parents of children on the roll of the nursery will be considered with other applicants at the appropriate time.

### Secondary Transfer

Children born between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011 will be expected to transfer to secondary school in September 2022.

Parents of children who permanently live in Lewisham **must** apply for a secondary school place (Year 7) by participating in the coordinated secondary transfer scheme by making an online application by 31 October 2021.

The application period for the secondary transfer co-ordinated scheme will commence on 1 September 2021 and close on 31 October 2021.

**Earlier Admission:** In very exceptional circumstances Lewisham will consider a request for admission out of cohort for a younger child (*ie for reception children this will be those born after 31 August 2018 and for Year 7 those born after 31 August 2011*).

- The application may be supported by the child's nursery/primary headteacher and/or an educational psychologist confirming that the child is academically outstanding and sufficiently physically and emotionally mature to cope with the demands of primary/secondary school.
- The parent agrees that their child will transfer to primary/secondary school with the earlier cohort regardless of the outcome of their applications and will not qualify to participate in the transfer scheme the following year.

**Later admission:** In very exceptional circumstances Lewisham will consider a request for a delayed admission for an older child (*ie for reception this will be those born before 1 September 2017 and for Year 7 those born before 1 September 2009*).

- The application may be supported by the child's nursery/primary headteacher and/or an educational psychologist confirming that the child has learning delay or difficulty and their social maturity is well below that of their peers.
- The parent agrees that their child will transfer to primary/secondary school with the later cohort regardless of the outcome of their applications and had not participated in the transfer scheme the year before.

In cases described above parents must consider the implications of an earlier or later transfer as headteachers of primary/secondary schools are not required to continue to keep the child out of year group and may decide to later educate the child in the correct year\*.

\*further guidance on the admission of summer born children is expected and Lewisham will amend its current arrangements on 'delayed entry into primary school for summer born children' where necessary.

The Education and Skills Act 2008 increased the minimum age at which young people in England can leave learning which requires them to continue in education, employment or training to the age of 18. Children who have transferred to secondary school a year earlier than their peers will be required to stay in full-time education, undertake work-based learning such as an Apprenticeship, or part-time education or training if they are employed, self-employed or volunteering for more than 20 hours per week until they are 18.

## Making an Application – Primary and Secondary

All applicants will be required to demonstrate that the address they are applying from is their permanent home address and that they have parental responsibility and therefore eligible to apply for a school place for the child. Applications from children who are transferring to reception class or secondary school and not already on the roll of a Lewisham primary school and whose documentation has not been previously verified must be accompanied with:

- two documents confirming their address
- one document confirming their child's address
- one document confirming their child's date of birth.

### Confirming the permanent home address

Applicants must provide **one** document from Section A and **one** document from Section B:

#### Section A (all documents must be current)

- Council Tax statement or letter
- Tenancy agreement or solicitors letter
- Letter from the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) or UK Border Authority (UKBA)

#### Section B (all documents must be current)

- TV licence
- Utility bill (no more than three months old, mobile phone bills will not be accepted)
- Driving licence
- NHS registration card (must show the applicant's name and address)

### Confirming the child's address

**one** of the following documents to confirm the child's name and address:

- Child's NHS registration card (must show the child's name and address)
- Medical letter or prescription (no more than 12 months old)
- Immigration documents (must show address)
- Letter signed by 'No recourse to public fund' team (must state child and parent's name and address)

- If the child is looked after, a letter signed by social services (must state the child's name and address)



### Confirming the child's date of birth

**one** of the following documents to confirm the child's date of birth:

- Identity page from a current Passport
- EU national identity card
- Prescription or medical letter (must have child's name and DOB printed on it)

Parents may state the reasons why they wish their child to attend a particular school, including whether there is a sibling already attending the school.

**Shared care arrangements:** Lewisham is aware that some parents share the care of their child. Lewisham will normally accept that the child lives with the parent who has parental responsibility and where the child resides for the majority of time during term time. Documentary evidence, for example a residence order or other court order, may be required.

**Permanent home address:** Proof of permanent home address will be required and will include the current Council Tax statement. In addition Lewisham may require copies of utility bills.

Lewisham is aware that some parents rent a property close to a popular school to increase the likelihood of their child gaining admission. To establish an applicant's permanent rather than temporary home address the following will be required;

- 1 closing accounts for the last known address,
- 2 official confirmation of the end of tenancy or house sale for the last known address,
- 3a a tenancy agreement via a commercial letting agency for a period of 12 months or more. The period of the tenancy must extend beyond the start of the academic year in which the child is due to be admitted or
- 3b solicitor's confirmation of the completion of the purchase of the new property.

Where the tenancy or ownership of the last known address has not been surrendered, Lewisham will accept this last known address as the permanent home address.

In establishing permanent home address Lewisham may also check records held within the Council as well as other external agencies. If a false address has been given and an offer made on the basis of that information, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

**Appeals:** Appeals for statutory school phases will be heard in accordance with the provisions of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Education Act 2002, together with the School Admissions Appeals Code. Parents will have the right of appeal to any school that has refused their child a place. On time appeals for reception and secondary transfer phases for community schools will be heard during the summer term prior to the child's admission to school.

Parents who have appealed unsuccessfully for a school will not be able to apply and subsequently appeal again for a place at the same school in the same academic year unless there are significant and material changes to the child or family's circumstances. Documentary proof of such changes will be required from the appropriate professional(s) working with the family.

Appendix H

**DETERMINED ADMISSIONS LIMITS 2022/23 FOR MAINSTREAM COMMUNITY SCHOOLS IN LEWISHAM**

<b>Primary Schools</b>	<b>Admissions Number</b>
Adamsrill Primary School	60
Ashmead Primary School	60
Athelney Primary School	60
Baring Primary School	30
Beecroft Gardens Primary School	60
Brindishe Green Primary School	90
Brindishe Lee Primary School	30
Brindishe Manor Primary School	60
Coopers Lane Primary School	90
Dalmain Primary School	60
Deptford Park Primary School	90
Dowderry Primary School	60
Edmund Waller Primary School	60
Elfrida Primary School	60
Eliot Bank Primary School	60
Fairlawn Primary School	60
Forster Park Primary School	60
Gordonbrock Primary School	90
Grinling Gibbons Primary School	30
Haseltine Primary School	60
Holbeach Primary School	60
Horniman Primary School	30
John Ball Primary School	90
John Stainer Primary School	60
Kelvin Grove Primary School	90
Kender Primary School	60
Kilmorie Primary School	90
Launcelot Primary School	60
Lucas Vale Primary School	30
Marvels Lane Primary School	60
Myatt Garden Primary School	60
Perrymount Primary School	30
Rangefield Primary School	60
Rathfern Primary School	60
Rushey Green Primary School	90
Sandhurst Primary School	90
Sir Francis Drake Primary School	30
Stillness Junior School (children automatically transfer from the Infant School)	90
Stillness Infant School	90
Torridon Primary School	90

<b>Secondary Schools</b>	<b>Admissions Number</b>
<b>Conisborough College</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Deptford Green School</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Forest Hill School</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>Sydenham School</b>	<b>240</b>

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