

Ribble Drive Primary School



Admissions Policy

RATIONALE

As a Local Authority maintained school it is the responsibility of the Governors, together with the Local Authority to decide on the criteria for admissions. It is our aim to have clear and fair criteria which will enable children to make the best possible start to their school careers.

This will enable us to realise both our Mission Statement:

"Be The Best You Can Be"

And our Disability Statement:

"To make all reasonable adjustments to ensure that any member of the school community with a disability is not placed at a disadvantage and to endeavour to anticipate their needs in advance of their participation in any activities within the school"

This policy applies to the **whole school**, including the EYFS

This policy supports Articles 3(Best Interests of the Child), 18(Responsibility of Parents), and 28(Access to Education): UNICEF: The Convention on the Rights of the Child.

ARRANGEMENTS

Children with Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan will be given a place at the school named on their EHCP.

When schools are oversubscribed, priority for allocation of places will be as follows: -

1. Children in public care (Looked After Children) and previously looked after children. (1) (2)
2. Children who will have an older brother or sister in the school in September 2024. For this purpose, a brother or sister may be a full or step-brother or a full or step-sister, living at the same address, at the time of admission.
3. Other children

If applications are received after the closing date, they will be dealt with as late applications, and will not be considered until after those applications which were received on time.

If there is over-subscription in any category, places will be offered using a straight-line distance measurement from home to school. The distance will be measured using the Local Authority's computerised mapping system, which measures from the address point of the home property to the address point of the school as defined by Bury Council's LLPG (Local Land and Property Gazetteer). Where the final place in a year group can be taken by two or more children living an equal distance from the school, (for example two

children living in the same block of flats) the Local Authority will then use random allocation to decide which of the children can be offered a place.

Where a child has parents with shared responsibility and lives with each parent for part of the week, the home address will be decided by using the name & address of the parent/ carer to whom the Child Benefit payment is paid. Or where the child is registered with a GP and in agreement with both parents.

If there is a situation where only one place is available and the next children to be offered are twins or triplets, both twins or the three triplets will be offered places as a permitted exception to class size regulations.

1st, 2nd and 3rd preferences for all primary schools in Bury will be considered equally.

If you wish to give reasons for your preferences you may do so. However, parents should note that the criteria given above are the criteria which will be used to offer places.

Parents of children who are admitted to the school before they are of compulsory school age can defer their child's entry until later in the school year. Where entry is deferred, the school will hold a place for that child and not offer it to another child. A parent cannot defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the academic year for which the original application was accepted. Parents can also request that their child attends on a part time basis until the child reaches compulsory school age. Where parents wish to defer admission under the 'summer born regulations', parents must put their request in writing to the school admissions team, together with any supporting evidence that the parent wishes to be taken into account. Decisions on requests for admission outside the normal age group will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent's views; any information provided 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. This request should be sent to the team at the time of normal application.

Parents are only entitled to one appeal for an individual school each year. A re-appeal would only be considered if new evidence became available which could not have been made available at the original appeal hearing.

1 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, in England.

2 A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after (in England), but ceased to be so because they were adopted, or become subject to a child arrangements or special guardianship order, as well as a child who appears to have been in state care outside of England care (i.e. In the care of/or accommodated by a public authority, religious organisation or any other provider whose sole/main purpose is to benefit society), but ceased to be so as a result of being adopted.

Revised: Autumn 2025

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