



## TURNFURLONG INFANT SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2021-2022

Children are admitted to Reception full-time, in the September following their fourth birthday. The school's Planned Admission Number (PAN) is 90 pupils per year group.

Admission arrangements are determined by the Local Authority policy and all information regarding Admissions can be found on the Buckinghamshire County Council public website; <https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/education/school-admissions/>

All governing bodies are required by section 324 of the Education Act 1996 to admit to the school a child with an Education Health and Care Plan that names the school. These children will therefore be admitted prior to applying the admission rules.

Once a child is allocated a Reception place under the scheme the school will offer a full time place in September. Parents can choose whether to defer this offer within the constraint at **(1)** below, or to accept the offer on a part time basis as they wish. This deferment can be up to the point at which the child is legally required to start school (i.e. the start of the term after the child's fifth birthday) and cannot be beyond the end of the normal academic year of entry for the child (i.e. the latest any child could start is during the summer term of Reception) otherwise they must re-apply for admission to Year 1.

(1) Parents of children younger than five have the right to defer entry until no later than the term after the child's fifth birthday. This must be within the same academic year.

If there are more applications received than the places available at a school, then the places will be allocated within the scheme in accordance with the published admission rules for the school.

Where a child is admitted to the Nursery class at Turnfurlong Infant School there can be **no guarantee** of a place in the main school as the co-ordinated admissions scheme is used to decide who should be admitted to the main school.

### **Admission rules and priorities for Turnfurlong Infant School**

Once children with an EHCP are admitted, then the following rules and priorities are applied in order to allocate school places;

- 1 A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became the subject of an adoption, residence or special

guardianship order. (See Note 1)

- 2 Children who have exceptional medical or social needs, which can only be met at Turnfurlong Infant School, supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional person. (See Note 2)
- 3 Children living within the catchment area of the school (See Note 3).
- 4 For the main point of entry: Siblings (See Note 4) of children who are attending Turnfurlong Infant School or Turnfurlong Junior School in Year R – Year 5 at the time allocations are made, and are expected to be on either school roll at the time of the proposed admission, or who have already been offered a place to start in the current academic year at Turnfurlong Infant School or Turnfurlong Junior School.

For immediate in year admission after the normal point of entry: Siblings of children who are in Year R to Year 6 at the time of admission to Turnfurlong Infant School or Turnfurlong Junior School.

- 5 Children of members of staff of any of the schools within the Aylesbury Learning Partnership (Turnfurlong Infant School, The Grange Secondary School, Turnfurlong Junior School) if they have been employed at the school for more than two years and are still serving at the school or if a member of staff is recruited to fill a demonstrable skills shortage.
- 6 Once the above rules have been applied then any further places will be offered in distance order; using the distance between the family's Normal Home Address (See Notes 5 and 6) and the school's nearest open entrance gate offering the closest first. We use a straight line distance. (See Note 7)
- 7 Where Turnfurlong Infant School can take some, but not all, of the children who qualify under one of these rules, we will give priority to children by taking account of the next rule (or rules) in the numbered list to decide who has priority for places.
- 8 If it still not possible to decide between two applicants who are equidistant then an independently scrutinised random allocation will be made to allocate the final place. An explanation of the method of making random allocations is on the council website at:

<https://www.buckscc.gov.uk/media/1740/random-allocation-procedure.pdf>

(See also Note 8 below regarding twins and multiple births)

### **Explanation of terms used in the admission rules.**

#### **Note 1: Definition of a 'Looked After Child'**

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). This

covers accommodated children and those who are in care under a Care Order/interim order. This can include: living with family or friends, in foster care, a children's home, residential school, special school or in supported lodgings.

This includes children who were previously looked after and immediately after being looked after became the subject of an adoption, residence or special guardianship order as set out below.

Other definitions:

adoption order: 'under Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002'

residence order: is an order setting the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the children's Act 1989

special guardianship order: is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians) under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989

### **Note 2: Exceptional Social and Medical process**

Education Professionals will consider the applications under this rule on receipt of information from the parent to indicate strong reasons for the child attending a particular school. When making an application parents should send evidence from an independent professional person (this might be a doctor, health visitor, or Education Welfare Officer, for example) who knows about the child and supports the application to the school. It must clearly show why the school is the most suitable and any difficulties if alternate schools were offered.

### **Note 3: Primary School Catchment Areas**

The primary school catchments can be viewed under 'Find a School near you' at: <http://www.buckscc.gov.uk/schooladmission/>

### **Note 4: Definition of sibling**

A sibling is a brother or sister. For admission purposes we mean one of two or more individuals who have one or more parent in common, or any other child (including an adopted child) who permanently lives at the same address and for whom the parent also has parental responsibility.

We will only consider a pupil in a primary school as a 'sibling' if he or she is attending, in the specified year groups, Turnfurlong Infant School or a Turnfurlong Junior School at the time the allocations are made or, for in-year admissions the time of admission, or has been formally offered a place at the school in the operation of the Coordinated Primary Admissions Scheme. In all cases they are expected to still be at the school at the time of proposed admission.

### **Note 5: Definition of parent**

This is as defined in law (the Education Act 1996) as either:

- Any person who has parental responsibility (defined in Children Act 1989) for the child or young person; or
- Any person who has care of the child or young person.

**Note 6: Definition of normal home address**

This is the child's home address. This must be where the parent or legal carer of the child live together unless it is proved that the child is resident elsewhere with someone who has legal care and control of the child. The address should be a residential property that is owned, leased or rented by the child's parent(s) or person with legal care and control of the child. To avoid doubt where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week or month, the address where the child lives will be determined by:

- 1) confirmation of the registered address to which Child Benefit is currently being paid, or, if child benefit is not received then the address from which the child in question is registered with the doctor.
- 2) If **1)** above is not applicable then the parent with whom the child spends the greater proportion of the school week from Sunday evening to Thursday evening.

**Note 7: Definition of home to school distance**

The straight line distance definition: is 'the distance from the address point of the pupil's house, as set out by Ordnance Survey, to the nearest open school gate available for pupils to use'.

As part of the computer system we use for school admissions there is a program that measures the 'straight-line' distance from the nearest open school gates to your home address. The point we measure to at your home address is determined by the Ordnance Survey ADDRESS-POINT which is an Ordnance Survey data product that provides a National Grid coordinate and a unique reference for each postal address in Great Britain that is on the Royal Mail's Post Office Address File (PAF®).

The PAF contains postal address data and includes premises such as buildings or permanent mobile and park homes, plus other features such as temporary buildings and houseboats.

**Note 8: Multiple births – twins, triplets etc**

In cases where there is one remaining place and the next child on the waiting list is one of a twin, triplet or other multiple birth group then both twins (or all the siblings in the case of multiple births) will be admitted and whilst that child is in the class they will be an excepted pupil under the Schools Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 2012 which permit Key Stage 1 class sizes to exceed 30 following the admission of a twin for as long as necessary until a child leaves the class at which point the class size will remain at the lower figure.