

18. Secondary School oversubscription criteria

Children with a statement of Special Educational Needs or Individual Development Plan, when the school is named as the most appropriate setting, will be admitted before applying the following oversubscription criteria.

1. Children where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after or have been previously looked after by a local authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
2. Pupils who are currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms. Evidence of permanent residence of a child must be supplied if requested. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5), (6) and (7), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
3. Pupils not currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school whose parents have satisfied the Council, on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms, that the child will be taking up residence within the catchment area by the commencement of the school term to which the application relates. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5), (6) and (7), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
4. Pupils who were on roll at a previous feeder primary school prior to the withdrawal of the feeder school arrangement in September 2020. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (5), (6), and (7), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
5. Pupils in respect of whom the Council judges that there are compelling medical or social grounds for their admission to a specified secondary school i.e. those children recommended for placement at a named school due to medical, psychological or special education reasons. (Written recommendations from the appropriate external agencies or professional advisers will normally be required in such cases). In the event of oversubscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (6) and (7) would be applied to produce an order of preference.
6. Pupils who have an elder brother or sister at the school in years 7 to 11 during the academic year in which the child is to be admitted. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone, the Council will determine priority and allocate places by reference to the age of the pupil's youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority.
7. In determining applications for admission in respect of other pupils the

Council gives particular regard to the proximity of the pupil's home to the secondary school as measured by the shortest available walking route, those living nearest will have priority. The Council uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances.

Only applications received by the published closing date for receipt of preference forms will be considered in the initial round of allocation of places.

In all cases evidence of permanent residence of a pupil at the time of application is required. Any place approved based on residence will be withdrawn if the pupil is not permanently resident at the address at the beginning of the school term to which the application relates.

Where a child permanently lives at two addresses over the course of a school week, then the home address will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the week (i.e. 4 out of 7 days). Parents will be required to provide documentary evidence confirming the child is resident at the address they wish to be considered for allocation purposes. This will be legal documentation, Child Benefit confirmation, evidence from Social Services, Health Professionals or other professionals.

Where a parent provides fraudulent or intentionally misleading information to obtain the advantage of a particular school for their child, to which they would not otherwise be entitled, the LA will withdraw the offer of a place.

In order to ensure that wherever possible pupils access a place at their local school, an equal preference system is being introduced for applications to secondary school. This system is already in place for reception and nursery applications where parents are invited to identify up to 3 preferences. Parents are strongly recommended to list 3 different Community Secondary Schools, at least one being their catchment area school. In the case of applicants for Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg, it is acknowledged that parents may choose to only nominate the Welsh Medium Secondary School however applicants can nominate an alternative if they wish.

Expressing a preference does not guarantee admission to a chosen school. It will give the children of applicant's priority over children whose parents have not expressed a preference for that school. If parents do not apply for 3 different Community secondary Schools or submit their application late, it will be less likely the child will be able to attend their preferred or catchment school as late applications will be assessed after the applications considered in the initial round and their preferred or catchment school may already be fully subscribed.

Parents are advised to complete the application carefully and provide as much information (including supporting documentary evidence where necessary) as possible as this will be used for assessing where the child will be on the list for each school applied for. The council use an 'Equal Preference Scheme' to decide which school can be offered. This means that when we are making decisions, we don't consider the order that parents have put the schools in your application. Each preference will be assessed against the Council's admissions criteria, so it is important that applicants read and understand these fully. The council can only

offer one place within a Community school so when we are allocating places if we can offer more than one place, we will always offer the school that you have listed as the highest preference. Therefore, the order parents put the schools in is so important.

Secondary oversubscription criteria (in year transfers)

1. Children where evidence has been supplied to confirm that they are looked after or have been previously looked after by a local authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act.
2. Pupils who are currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms. Evidence of permanent residence of a child must be supplied if requested. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5), (6) and (7), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
3. Pupils not currently permanently resident within the designated catchment area of the school whose parents have satisfied the Council, on or before the published closing date for receipt of preference forms, that the child will be taking up residence within the catchment area by the commencement of the school term to which the application relates. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (4), (5), (6) and (7), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
4. Pupils who were on roll at a previous feeder primary school prior to the withdrawal of the feeder school arrangement in September 2020. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (5), (6), and (7), in order of priority, would be applied to produce an order of preference.
5. Pupils in respect of whom the Council judges that there are compelling medical or social grounds for their admission to a specified secondary school i.e. those children recommended for placement at a named school due to medical, psychological or special education reasons. (Written recommendations from the appropriate external agencies or professional advisers will normally be required in such cases). In the event of oversubscription by applicants from this category alone criteria (6) and (7) would be applied to produce an order of preference.
6. Pupils who have a brother or sister in attendance at the school in years 7 to 11 during the academic year in which the child is to be admitted. In the event of over-subscription by applicants from this category alone, the Council will determine priority and allocate places by reference to the age of the pupil's youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority.
7. In determining applications for admission in respect of other pupils the

Council gives regard to the proximity of the pupil's home to the secondary school as measured by the shortest available walking route, those living nearest will have priority. The Council uses a Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate home to school distances and is updated regularly to ensure the most accurate information is used to calculate the distances used to consider applications.