

## **Nursery Classes, Nursery Schools and Foundation Stage Units Oversubscription Criteria 2011-12**

Where admission authorities receive more applications than they have places to offer, they require a means by which to decide which applicants should be offered places. This is done by applying set Oversubscription Criteria:

A child who has a Statement of Special Educational Needs where the school is named on the Statement will be admitted to that school.

- 1 Children in Care
- 2 Children living in the school or nursery unit's designated area with a sibling who will be attending the school or nursery unit at the time of admission
- 3 Other children living in the school or nursery unit's designated area
- 4 Children living outside the school or nursery unit's designated area, but with a sibling who will be attending the school or nursery unit at the time of admission
- 5 Other children living outside the school or nursery unit's designated area

(a) If it is necessary to distinguish between children in a particular category, priority will be determined on the basis of distance between home and school as a direct line from the entrance of the property (residential dwelling) to the school (yellow establishment marker) as plotted on GIS. The shorter the distance, the higher the priority. Where necessary, measurements will be to the closest metre.

(b) If the tie-breaker at (a) is not sufficient to distinguish between applicants in a particular category, there will be a random ballot as set out in the Code of Practice sections 2.28 – 2.30. This will be undertaken by the Early Years Manager in the presence of a County Councillor by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

(c) Priority may be given to the admission of a child for whom an exceptional medical or social justification is demonstrated. Such decisions will be made using the [Protocol for admission to children with Exceptional Medical or Social Justification](#).

(d) Priority may be given to a child who is to be admitted to a designated special educational needs support centre at the school in question.

(e). Where applications are received from families with multiple birth siblings (twins, triplets, etc.) every effort will be made to allocate places at the same school, including offering place(s) above the Planned Admission Number (PAN) wherever possible. This recognises the exceptional nature of the emotional bonds between multiple birth siblings and the Local Authority's commitment to meeting the preference of children for their designated school. Where that is not possible, parents will be invited to decide which of the children should be allocated the available place(s) or seek places at an alternative school with sufficient vacancies to accommodate both or all of the multiple birth siblings.

(f) Where applications are made at the same time for two children not falling within multiple birth siblings, (sometimes referred to as contemporaneous admissions) the application will not be considered under the 'sibling' criteria.

(g) Waiting lists are kept by the school or nursery unit where there are more applications than places available. They are held in order of oversubscription criteria.

(h) The admission arrangements may be modified to meet the particular requirements of a Trust Deed.

(i) Where a request for a place is refused, there is no entitlement to an appeal before the Independent Devon Schools Appeals Panel.