



Consultation regarding Proposed Change to Admission Arrangements for 2020-21

We propose to change Admissions Arrangements for 2020-21 by deleting Criterion 2 from the school's Over-subscription criteria (shown in green italics)

Admissions Arrangements 2019-20

The agreed admissions number for Year 7 of the school will be 200.

The admission and review of students with an EHCP or a statement of special educational needs is dealt with by a completely separate procedure involving parents, schools, the LA and a range of professionals. This procedure is integral to the making and maintaining of a compliant EHCP (or statement) by the student's home Local Authority. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the Special Education Needs Code of Practice.

Over-subscription Criteria

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the places available and after the agreed admission of any children with an Education, Health and Care Plan, the following over-subscription criteria will be applied in the order below:

1. Children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989, at the time an application for a school is made; and children who have left care through adoption, a residence order or special guardianship order.

2. Children for whom it is essential to be admitted to this school because of special circumstances to do with significant medical or social needs evidenced by written professional advice, explaining why these needs can realistically only be met by Bristol Free School.

3. Children who, on the date of admission, will have a sibling on the roll of the school. Sibling means a full, step, half, adopted or fostered brother or sister, but not cousin, who will be living permanently with them at the same address at the date of their entry to the school; the school may require proof of relationship. This will only apply, if at the time of entry, both siblings reside at the same **address inside the defined Admissions Priority Area (APA)**. The exception to this is the siblings from the school's Founding Year: In accordance with the admissions policy with which the school opened, siblings of the founding year 7 will be given sibling priority regardless of where they live.

4. For entry into the school (normally Year7) an Admissions Priority Area (APA) will apply. The APA is a geographic area based upon the Neighbourhood Partnership Area (NPA), centred upon, the BS9 area, modified to incorporate the area close to the school. Then



i. 20% of the available places will be allocated to those applicants whose home address is closest to the school. The point to which measurements will be made is the mid-point on a line drawn between the centre of the Burghill Road and Concorde Drive entrances to the school.

ii. 80% of the available places will be allocated to those whose home address is closest to a point defined by the mid-point at the junction of Elmlea Avenue and Rylestone Grove; this point lies close to the centre of the NPA. Available places, is defined as the number of places remaining once the number admitted under 1,2 and 3 above are subtracted from the 200 originally available. If there are surplus places available under either 4i or 4ii, they will transfer to the other category in the first instance.

5. Should there be fewer applications from within the APA than there are available, then all applicants from outside the APA will be considered. Again,

i. 20% of the available places will be allocated to those applicants whose home address is closest to the school. The point to which measurements will be made is the mid-point on a line drawn between the centre of the Burghill Road and Concorde Drive entrances to the school.

ii. 80% of the available places will be allocated to those whose home address is closest to a point defined by the mid-point at the junction of Elmlea Avenue and Rylestone Grove; this point lies close to the centre of the NPA. In this instance, places available is defined as the number remaining after the application of criteria 1, 2, 3, 4i and 4ii.

Reasons for Proposed Change

It is planned to remove the 2nd criterion “Children with special circumstances to do with significant medical or social needs” because it overlaps with the separate SEND admissions procedure, coordinated by the Local Authority, which relies upon the formal identification of Special Educational Needs, through an Education Health Care Plan.

To bring clarity to the SEND admissions process at Bristol Free School, it is proposed to remove this criterion, so that children do not forego this critical assessment of their needs, to obtain an EHCP.

Further Information

Consultation is open from Thursday 20 December 2018 to Thursday 31 January 2019

The full draft policy can be read at <https://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/>. Paper copies are also available on request.

Feedback, comments, queries and requests for copies of the policy should be emailed to admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk and marked for the attention of the Admissions Officer.