

Admission policy for 2023/24 for Hilltop Junior School



Hilltop Junior School

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Academy with age range 7-11

DfES Number: 881-2169

Published admission number 2023/2024: 90

Admission policy

Applications are made on a common application form provided by Essex County Council, and must be submitted by their closing date. Supplementary admissions forms are available from the school, on the school website and on the Essex website; these must be submitted directly to the school.

An application must be made for all prospective pupils via Essex County Council irrespective of which infant school a child attends, including pupils currently attending Hilltop Infant School.

There is no guarantee of a place for children living in the school's priority admission area.

In the event of oversubscription, places will be allocated using the following criteria in the order given:

1	Looked After Children (LAC) and Previously Looked After Children (PLAC)	As defined by the Childrens Act 1989 and the Department for Education's School Admissions Code. This criterion also includes Previously Looked After children (PLAC) who are now adopted, or subject to a residence order or special guardianship order. This also includes children who have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Evidence will be required at the time of application.
2	Children who are eligible for pupil premium	Parents/Carers are required to complete a Supplementary Information Form and submit it to the school, with evidence.
3	Children who are attending Hilltop Infant School or Wickford Church of England School	At the time of the application.
4	Children with a sibling currently attending the school or Hilltop Infant School or Wickford Church of England School	Sibling means a birth, step or adopted sibling living at the same address and attending the school at the time of the application.
5	Children of staff at the school	Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
6	Children living in the priority admission area	A map of the priority admissions area is available on the school website and also from the school on request
7	Remaining applications	

In the event of over subscription within any of the above criteria, priority will be determined by straight line distance from home to school, those living closest being given the highest priority. At the normal point of entry this will be based on measurements provided by the Local Authority.

Mid-year applications (Applications for school places outside the normal admissions round)

All mid-year applications should be made directly to the Briscoe Primary School, using the mid-year application form available on our website or from the school office. Mid-year applications (sometimes called in-year applications) are any application for a school place made to a year group, **apart** from September admissions to Reception (*primary and infant schools*)/Year 3 (*junior schools*).

For applications into existing year groups, a place will be offered when the number of pupils in the relevant year group is below the admission number for that year group.

Measurements for mid-year admissions will be based on an on-line distance calculator. In the event that there are two or more applicants living the same distance from the school then random allocation will be used to determine who has priority for admission. This random allocation process will be independently supervised. Outcomes of mid-term applications will be notified by Hilltop Junior School in writing within 15 school days.

Exceptional medical circumstances of the child (supported by evidence from a medical professional) may override the above criteria (other than Looked After Children).

We may ask for verification of the child's home address, in particular in the case of children to who shared parental responsibility arrangements apply. Where this is the case, the application may be processed on the basis of that address (where the child resides for the majority of the school week) and proof of address and residence arrangements will be required with the application. The child must be living with the parent, relative or carer 24 hours per day, for the majority of the school week.

Applications received after the national closing date will be handled in accordance with the above and treated as a mid-year application.

The Academy Trust recognises that it must comply with the Department for Education's Admissions and Appeals Codes. Therefore:

- (1) a child whose Educational Health Care Plan names the school will be admitted;
- (2) the school maintains a waiting list for at least the first term of the academic year. The waiting list will be ordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out above;
- (3) pupils refused admission have a right of appeal to an independent panel;
- (4) it is the school's general policy that all new entrants start their schooling in September. Any requests for a deferred entry should be discussed with the school separately.
- (5) Exceptional requests for pupils to be placed outside their year group must be made separately. Such requests will be considered taking into account the school organisation, class sizes, medical evidence and professional evidence of emotional and social need.
- (6) The school is charged under the School Standards and Frameworks Act 1988 to restrict infant class sizes to a maximum of 30 per qualified teacher.