



Admissions Policy

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ADMISSION OF CHILDREN IN FOUNDATION STAGE

There is a co-ordinated admission process in Oxfordshire. This means you can apply for a place for your child at any of the maintained primary schools in the county by using the application form available in the booklet Starting School or from the Oxfordshire County Council website on www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Children are usually offered a place from the September after their fourth birthday. All children have to be in full time education by the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. There are now 6 terms in an academic year, but for this purpose the old 3 term structure applies.

If there are more applications for Dorchester, St Birinus School than there are places available, the places have to be allocated in a fair and consistent way. This is the purpose of the admission rules.

The Oxfordshire County Council is the admitting authority for Dorchester, St Birinus School and the admission rules that apply are as follows.

1. Children with a statement of Special Educational Needs that names the school in part 4 of the statement.
2. Children who are “looked after” by a Local Authority (LA) within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time of their application, and “previously looked after” children. The term “previously looked after” refers only to children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order)..
3. Disabled children who need to be admitted to a school on the grounds of physical accessibility. (*The definition of disability is that contained within the Equality Act 2010*).
4. Children who live in the schools designated area of the villages of Dorchester on Thames and Drayton St Leonard. If there are more applicants than places in this category priority will be given in the following descending order;
 - a) First priority in category 4 will go to those children who have siblings already at the school. However, if there are more applicants than places in category 4(a) priority will be given, within this group, to those children who live the closest to the school using the nearest designated public route

as defined on the Directorate for Children, Young People and Families Geographic Information system

b) Second priority in category 4 will go to those children who live the closest to the School by the nearest designated public route as defined on the Directorate for Children, Young People and Families Geographic Information System.

5. Children living outside the designated area who have siblings who already attend the preferred school. If there are more applicants than places in this category priority will be given within this group to children who live closest to the school by the nearest designated public route as defined on the Directorate for Children, Young People and Families Geographic Information System.
6. Those children who live closest to the school by the nearest designated public route as defined on the Directorate for CYPF Geographic Information System.

ALLOCATION OF FOUNDATION STAGE PLACES

Part time Admission places are allocated at the school's discretion. The allocation of part time places and date of entry is the decision of the Headteacher. However, children are required by law to full-time education from the beginning of the school term after they reach the age of five. For schools' admission purposes, school terms are deemed to run from 1st September - 31st December, 1st January - 31st March and 1st April - 31st August.

Full Admission rules for Voluntary Aided schools can be found at the following link:

https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/sites/default/files/folders/documents/childreducationandfamilies/educationandlearning/schools/startingschool/admissionrulesandpolicies/rules201415/VC_P14.pdf