

**ADMISSIONS POLICY - SEPTEMBER 2023 – AUGUST 2024**

William Tyndale Primary School is an Academy

**Admissions criteria for Primary classes at William Tyndale Primary School for September 2023**

William Tyndale Academy Trust is responsible for the admission of pupils into **William Tyndale Primary School** and admits **60 pupils** to the Reception year.

William Tyndale Primary School is required to comply with the infant class size rules which requires that each Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 class must have no more than 30 children with a qualified teacher.

The admission numbers for William Tyndale Primary School take this into account.

If there are fewer applications for William Tyndale Primary School than there are places available, everyone is offered a place.

The admission of pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. If your child has an EHCP you must contact your local authority SEN officer. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014 specifying the special education provision required for that child. All Children whose Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) names William Tyndale Primary School will be admitted.

In the event of over subscription to William Tyndale Primary School, the following criteria will be applied in the order listed below:

1. Children Looked After (children who are in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions at the time of making an application to the school) and children who have been adopted (or made subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order) immediately after being looked after, including those who appear to have been in state care outside of England.
2. 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 has been made or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
3. Children with a brother or sister\* on roll at the school in Reception to year 6 at the time of the proposed admission

4. Children whose acute medical or social need justify the allocation of a place **only** at William Tyndale Primary School \*\*
5. Applicants living\*\*\* nearest to the school as determined by a computerised mapping system using a **straight line** distance measurement. Routes will be calculated from the home address (as defined by the Land & Property Gazetteer) to the midpoint of the school grounds.

### Tie-Breaks

Distance as measured in 5 above will also be used in any tie-breaker decisions for priorities 1, 2 and 3.

If only one place is available and two or more families live an equal distance from the school or tie within any of the other criteria, then the allocation of that place will be determined by random allocation using a computerised system.

\*A brother or sister must live permanently at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made. This includes natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, step brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters and foster brothers or sisters who live permanently as a family unit at the same address.

\*\* The Academy Trust will make decisions on such cases and will seek, if necessary, advice from the Health Service. A parent's social or medical need cannot justify a place at William Tyndale Primary School but a child could have a social need arising from a parent's medical need. These cases will always require supporting professional evidence (for example, a written statement from a medical consultant, senior social worker or other appropriate professional) which has to demonstrate a clear connection between the child's need and why the child should be given a place at William Tyndale Primary School. In all social and medical applications parents need to prove that William Tyndale Primary School is the **only** school to meet their child's needs. It is the responsibility of the parent to produce the evidence.

\*\*\* Where a child lives with a parent with shared parental responsibilities, the address where the child spends most of their time will be used. In the case of children who spend equal time of the week with each parent, the parents must elect one address for all preferences. For the purpose of calculating distances, the address is identified by using the property geographical references as determined by the borough Council in which the child lives. In the case of a number of addresses in a block with the same geographical references or one or more applicants living the same distance according to the geographical references, further steps will be taken to identify those that are nearest to the school.

## Infant class size

Infant classes (those where the majority of children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) **must not** contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher. Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an 'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit. The excepted children are:

- a) children admitted outside the normal admissions round with an Education Health and Care plan specifying William Tyndale Primary School;
- b) looked after children and previously looked after children admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- c) children admitted, after initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process;
- d) children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal;
- e) children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance;
- f) children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- g) children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil;

## Waiting Lists

In addition to the right of appeal, unsuccessful candidates will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained by the Academy in order of the oversubscription criteria set out above and not in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Looked after children and previously looked after children will take precedence over those on the waiting list. Parents/carers will be consulted regularly on whether they still wish to remain on the ***waiting list***.

## Application procedures, late applications and timetable for admissions to Reception classes at William Tyndale Primary School for September 2023

Applications to William Tyndale Primary School are not dependent on any ability test. In order to apply for a place, you must complete a common application form with your home local authority. This should be returned to your local authority by the closing date.

Further information is available on the London Borough of Islington admissions website at <http://www.islington.gov.uk/admissions>.

Parents/carers will be advised of the outcome of their applications on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2023 or the next working day. Unsuccessful applicants will be given reasons related to the oversubscription criteria listed above and advised of their right of appeal to the independent appeals panel.

**Late applications** will be considered if a vacancy occurs. If no vacancy occurs, then the late application will be added to the waiting list.

The admission of pupils with an EHCP, where LB of Islington has agreed to name The Academy on a child's plan (under Section 324 of the 1996 Education Act), is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. This procedure is integral to the making and maintaining of an EHCP by the London Borough of Islington. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.

After an offer has been made of a place at the Academy, William Tyndale Primary School requires **two proofs of residence** of the **permanent home of the child** to confirm the place. One of these must be a notification of Child Benefit from HMRC unless the parent/carer is not entitled to Child benefit when another proof of residence must be provided. Another proof of residence must be a council tax document, child's medical card, a gas or electricity bill, bank or building society letter or similar. Confirmation of date of birth of the child will also be required

### **Looked after children**

In the case of a previously looked after child, William Tyndale Primary School will require a copy of the adoption order, the child arrangements order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child confirming that he or she was looked after immediately prior to that order being made.

### **Children of UK Service Personnel (UK Armed Forces)**

For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting in Islington or crown servants returning from overseas to live in Islington we will offer a place in advance of the family arriving in Islington provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and a Unit postal address or quartering area address.

Applications are processed in line with William Tyndale Primary School's admission criteria as detailed above. If offered a place this will be held open for a period of up to two school terms in advance of the family's move to the UK.

### **Deferred Entry for Infants**

William Tyndale Academy Trust (which is the school's admissions authority) will provide for the admission of children in the Reception Year Group in the September following their fourth birthday. Parents offered a place in Reception for their child have a right to defer the date their child is admitted until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which it was made.

Where parents wish, children may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age. A child reaches compulsory school age on the prescribed day following his or her fifth birthday (or on his or her fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31<sup>st</sup> December, 31<sup>st</sup> March and 31<sup>st</sup> August.

### **Admission of children outside their normal age group**

In line with the Admissions Code 2021, parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. In addition, the parents of a summer born child (all children born from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> August) may request that they are not admitted to Reception until the September following their fifth birthday.

When such a request is made the Academy Trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking into account:

- the parent's views;
- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group;
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely; and
- the views of the head teacher.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

- Parents should request that the child is admitted outside their normal age group by letter
- Parents will submit any evidence in support of their case
- The Academy Trust will consider each case on its merits, taking account the individual circumstances of the request and the child's best interests. We will also ensure the parent is notified by letter as to whether the request for admission out of age group has been agreed before final offers are made, and the reason for any refusal.
- Requests for admission out of the normal year group should be made as part of the normal applications round. A fresh application should be made for the following year if the request has been agreed. An application from a child who would 'normally' be a Year 1 child for a Reception place will be considered alongside all other applications for reception.
- If the Academy Trust agrees to a parent's request for their child to be admitted out of their normal age group, the local authority must process the application as part of the main admissions round.
- Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

#### **Note**

*Unfortunately, it appears that there have been some cases where parents have been tempted to supply false or inappropriate information to try and get a place at a particular Academy or school, for example by giving the address of a relative instead of the home address. Information supplied by parents or carers is checked.*

***If it is found that false information has been provided and a place has been obtained because of this, the place offered is likely to be withdrawn. Parents or carers will still have the right of appeal if the place is withdrawn.***

#### **Expected timetable for consideration of applications for entry to the Reception class in September 2023:**

November 2021  
- January 2022:

Criteria for admission in September 2022 reviewed by the Governing Body and sent to Islington Admissions, other admissions authorities in the relevant area, admissions authorities in neighbouring local authority areas and relevant community groups for a consultation period of not less than 6 weeks.

February 2022:

Criteria for admission in September 2023 must be agreed and determined by the Academy Trust, following consultation, by 28 February 2022 at the latest

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| <u>15th January 2023</u> | Final date for Islington residents to return their Primary Common Application Form to Islington Admissions. |
| <u>February 2023:</u>    | Admissions Committee meets to consider applications.  |
| <u>19th April 2023:</u>  | Parents notified of outcome of application by their home local authority.                                   |
| <u>Late April 2023:</u>  | Final date for parents to confirm their acceptance of a place.  |
| <u>Early May 2023:</u>   | Closing date for receipt of appeals.  |
| <u>June/ July 2023:</u>  | Independent Appeals Committee meets.  |

1. Waiting list arrangements:

All unsuccessful applicants for the Reception class who have not already been offered a place at a school which was a higher preference on their Primary Common Application Form will automatically be placed on the waiting list for that year group. Applicants who have been offered a place at a school which was a higher preference on their Primary Common Application Form will not be placed on the waiting list unless they specifically request to be added. The waiting list will be held by William Tyndale Primary School and will be kept until that cohort reaches the end of Year 6 and transfers to secondary school. Parents of children on the waiting list will be asked at appropriate times whether or not they wish their child to remain on the waiting list. Where no reply is received the child may be removed from the waiting list.

The Academy Trust's Admissions Committee will review the waiting list for a particular year group whenever a vacancy arises in that year group. The position on the waiting list will be determined by applying the published admissions criteria to each applicant. Length of time on the waiting list will not affect position on the list. If new applications are received, the waiting list for that year group will again be reviewed. It should be noted that new applications could adversely affect the position of those already on the list.

**In year admissions:**

As an Academy school any applications for places in classes other than Reception should be made directly to the school.

If a place is available in a particular class and there is no waiting list for that class, the place will be offered to the applicant by the school. If more applications are received than there are places available, then applications will be ranked by the Academy Trust over-subscription criteria for In- year admissions. This is as follows:

The admission of pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice. If your child has an EHCP you must contact your local authority SEN officer. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014 specifying the special education provision required for that child. All Children whose Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) names William Tyndale Primary School will be admitted.

1. Children Looked After (children who are in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions at the time of making an application to the school) and children who have been

adopted (or made subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately after being looked after, including those who appear to have been in state care outside of England.

2. 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 has been made or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

3. Children with a brother or sister\* on roll at the school in Reception to year 6 at the time of the proposed admission

4. Children whose acute medical or social need justify the allocation of a place only at William Tyndale Primary School \*\*

5. Applicants living\*\*\* nearest to the school as determined by a computerised mapping system using a **straight line** distance measurement. Routes will be calculated from the home address (as defined by the Land & Property Gazetteer) to the midpoint of the school grounds.

If a place cannot be offered at the time the applicant applies, the applicant is entitled to ask the reasons why they cannot be offered a place and should be informed of their right to appeal. The applicant will be offered the opportunity of being placed on the waiting list for that class. The waiting list will be maintained by the Academy Trust in the order of the over-subscription criteria above and not in the order in which the applications are received. It should be noted that new applications could adversely affect the position of those already on the list.

The Academy Trust will notify the outcome of an in-year application within 15 school days but will aim to respond within 10 school days.

When a place becomes available in a given class, the Academy Trust will offer the place to the child with the highest position on the waiting list. If new applications have been received since the waiting list for that class was last reviewed, the Admissions Committee will look again at all applications for that class and decide which applicant has highest priority according to the published admissions criteria. The place on the waiting list will be based on the information given at the time in the application form together with any new information which has been provided since the original application was made, e.g. change of address.

The Academy Trust will respond to any vacancy requests from Islington Council in 2 days.