



## **THOMAS HINDERWELL PRIMARY ACADEMY – ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2021 - 2022**

### **The David Ross Education Trust is the Admission Authority for this Academy.**

Arrangements for applications for places in Reception at THOMAS HINDERWELL PRIMARY ACADEMY will be made in accordance with co-ordinated admission arrangements; parents resident in North Yorkshire can apply online at: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions>

Parents resident in other areas must apply through their home local authority (LA). THOMAS HINDERWELL PRIMARY ACADEMY will use North Yorkshire's timetable published online for these applications and North Yorkshire will make the offers of places as required by the School Admissions Code (2014).

### **Published Admission Number (PAN)**

The PAN for Reception is 30. If there are fewer applicants than places available all applicants will be admitted.

### **Special Educational Needs**

In accordance with legislation the allocation of places for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (Children and Families Act 2014) naming the school in the plan will take place first. Remaining places will be allocated in accordance with this policy.

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

If there are more applications than places available we will apply the oversubscription criteria listed below. The oversubscription criteria are listed in the order we apply them. If it is necessary to distinguish between more than one applicant in any criteria, the next criteria will be applied until the tie-breaker is used.

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).

A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). Child arrangements orders are defined in s.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

2. Where it relates to the school preference, significant medical factors (supported by a letter from the GP, consultant or other medical professional) or exceptional family circumstances (supported by a letter from the relevant agency, such as a social or family support worker).
3. Being resident in the catchment area of the school as denoted by the school's area map, which can be

found at the school office, or a copy sent on request.

4. A child with a sibling on roll at the time of application. Siblings include a brother or sister who share the same parents; a half-brother, half-sister or legally adopted child living at the same address; a child looked after by a local authority placed in a foster family with other school age children; a stepchild or children who are not related but live as a family unit, where parents both live at the same address as the child.
5. The distance from the child's permanent home address to the school. Priority will be given to the child living nearest the school. Distances are measured using the post office address point of the home to the post office address point of the main school gate and using North Yorkshire's computerised distance measuring software.

Where a child lives normally during the school week with more than one parent at different addresses, the permanent home address for the purposes of school admissions will be the one where the child spends the majority of school nights Sunday – Thursday.

### **Tie-break**

If the distance criterion is not sufficient to distinguish between two or more applicants for the last remaining place then random allocation will be used. This process will be supervised by somebody independent of the school.

### **Multiple Births**

In the case of twins or other multiple births, where there is only one place available in the school, both will be considered together as one application. The school will be allowed to go above its admission number by one.

### **Fraudulent or Misleading Applications**

We reserve the right to check any address and other information provided so we can apply the oversubscription criteria accurately and fairly. As an admission authority we have the right to investigate any concerns we may have about your application and to withdraw the offer of a place if we consider there is evidence that you have made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information, for example if a false address was given which denied a place to a child with a stronger claim.

### **Fair Access Protocol**

Local Authorities are required to have Fair Access Protocols in order to make sure that unplaced children who live in the home local authority, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. This includes admitting children above the published admissions number to schools that are already full. Students allocated under fair access protocols will take precedence over those on a waiting list. Thomas Hinderwell Primary Academy will participate in North Yorkshire County Council's fair access protocol.

### **Deferred Entry to School**

In accordance with the requirements of the Admissions Code, if your child has been offered a place:-

- a) your child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday;
- b) you can defer the date your child is admitted to the school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which your child reaches compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which it was made; and
- c) if you wish, your child may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which your child reaches compulsory school age.

### **Admission of Children outside their Normal Age Group (*non summer born*)**

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. It is important for parents to note that they will have responsibility for providing evidence to support their request.

If parents wish for their child to be considered for admission to a year group which is outside their normal age group, then they must:

- a) Complete the LA common application form or the in-year admission form, as appropriate
- b) Attach a letter outlining reasons for the request and all supporting letters and/or documentary evidence in support of the application.

Thomas Hinderwell Primary Academy will make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned.

This will include taking account of:

- the parent's views;
- any available 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;
- any evidence that the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely;
- the views of the head teacher.

### **Requests for admission out of normal age group (*Summer Born children*)**

Parents/carers who wish to apply for a place in Reception out of the normal age group should make a request to the School. The Trust which is responsible for administering the admission arrangements at the School will then consider the application. The request needs to be accompanied by reasons for such a request and should be made by **1 December** of the year prior to the year the child should enter Reception if they had not requested to defer applying.

The Trust will convene a meeting to consider the request and will make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of:

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

### **What happens next?**

The Trust will inform the parents/carers of its decision on the Year group the child should be admitted to when

they have to start school (i.e. Reception or Year 1) and will set out clearly the reasons for their decision.

If the Trust **agrees** to the parent's/carer's request to defer the application for a Reception place, they will inform the local authority and the parents/carers will then need to make an application for a place in Reception in the normal round of admissions in the following academic year.

**Please note** – in this following normal admissions round, if the School is oversubscribed, all applications (including delayed applications) for the School will be ranked in accordance with the School's oversubscription criteria. If the application is not successful, parents/carers will have the right to appeal but, as the purpose of the appeals process is to consider whether a child should be admitted to a particular school, parents/carers do not have a right of appeal if they have been offered a place and it is not in the year group they would like;

If the Trust does **not agree** to the application being delayed, there is **no right of appeal** against that decision and the parents/carers will need to make an application to the local authority for a place in Reception by **15 January** or make an in-year application for a Year 1 place at the appropriate time.

### **In-year admissions**

Applications should be made via North Yorkshire County Council. Thomas Hinderwell Primary Academy will accept admissions up to the Published Admission Number of the respective year group at the point of entry. In the event that this would cause an infant class to be unlawfully large or would cause prejudice to the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources it may be necessary to refuse a place although the year group has not reached the school's published admission number. If there are more applications than places then the oversubscription criteria will be used to decide who should be offered the place. If it is necessary to refuse a place then you will be informed of your right of appeal. Parents can apply online at <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/changing-schools-and-late-applications>

### **Waiting List**

Any child refused a place at the school will automatically be put on the waiting list unless a higher preference school has been offered. A waiting list will be maintained until the end of the academic year after which it will be cleared. If you would like your child to be placed on the waiting list for the following academic year please contact the school.

The waiting list is maintained in the order of the oversubscription criteria. This means that names can move down the list if, e.g. someone moves into the area and is higher placed under the oversubscription criteria.

### **Appeals**

If your child's application for a place at the school is unsuccessful, you will be informed why admission was refused and given information about the process for hearing appeals. If you wish to appeal, you must set out the grounds for your appeal in writing. You are required to fill out an appeals form, details of which can be found on the North Yorkshire County Council website.

You can find details of the form and the appeals timetable on the following webpage:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/appeal-school-place>

**Policy Determined: tbc**