



19th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Each year, schools must decide on their admission arrangements for the coming year. If the arrangements change, there must be a public consultation before the arrangements are decided upon.

The admission arrangements include details such as; how places are allocated, the number of places schools have and how they will decide how to prioritise applications if there are more applications for the school than there are places available. We are required by law to consult on this policy if amendments are made.

We propose that our admission arrangements are amended for entry into Reception in September 2022.

In accordance with the requirements of the School Admissions Code, the school must go out to consultation on this for a full six-week period.

The proposed change is to include a staff criterion (as permitted by the School Admissions Code) within the oversubscription criteria of the admissions policy.

Current oversubscription criteria

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

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

1. Looked After Children and previously looked after children
2. Children with a sibling attending the school
3. Children living in the priority admission area
4. Remaining applications

Proposed oversubscription criteria

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

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

1. Looked After Children and previously looked after children
2. Children with a sibling attending the school
3. Children living in the priority admission area
4. Children of staff at the school:
 - a) 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, and/or

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- b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage
- 5. Remaining applications

We are now holding a consultation for the admission arrangements for 2022 from Monday 19th October 2020 until Monday 30th November 2020. The consultation invites you to give your views about the proposed admission arrangements for Merrylands Primary School and Nursery.

A draft version of the admissions arrangements is attached and we would welcome any feedback by the end of the consultation on Monday 30th November 2020. If you would like to send your feedback, please email Mr Tobin at **office@berlesduna.co.uk**.

The draft policy will be on our website during this period. You can find this here:
<http://www.merrylandsprimaryschool.co.uk> and <https://berlesduna.co.uk/>

After the close of the consultation, Berlesduna Academy Trust will take account of any responses received to the proposed policy and will determine final admission arrangements which will be published on our website.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Tobin
Chief Executive Officer