




Rugby Free

Primary School

RFPS Admissions Policy

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www.rugbyfreeprimary.co.uk

Address and Registered Office: Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow Trust (LT2), Rugby Free Secondary School, Anderson Avenue
Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 5PE

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1. Introduction

Rugby Free Primary School is a 4-11 primary school established via the free school programme. It aims to provide a high-quality education for local children and prepare them for secondary school and beyond in a safe and welcoming environment. Our inclusive admissions process will at all times be open, transparent and fair, and will meet the requirements of the national Schools Admissions Code, the Appeals Code and admissions legislation.

2. Published Admission Number and Oversubscription Criteria

The published admission number is 60 places in each year of entry into Reception from September 2015. The school will admit up to this number each year to its Reception classes and when full the school will have 420 pupils on roll.

In accordance with the law, children with statements of Special Educational Need (or with an Education Health and Care Plan) will be admitted to the school where the Local Authority has specifically named Rugby Free Primary School as the most appropriate placement.

In the event of there being greater demand than there are places available to the school, places will be offered using the following oversubscription criteria in keeping with the Admissions Code 2014:

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children. This category includes children in the care of the Local Authority as defined in the Children Act 1989 or children who have previously been looked after and immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, residence or a special guardianship order. Applications made under this criterion must be accompanied by details of circumstance and professionally supported evidence.
2. A child subject to a Child Protection Plan for whom Rugby Free Primary School is their nearest school.
3. Children of a staff member within the Learning Today Leading Tomorrow Trust.
4. Children with a sibling at the school at the time of admission. The term 'sibling' includes an adopted, half or stepchild permanently living in the same family unit or a foster child permanently living in the same family unit whose place has been arranged by the social service department of the Local Authority.
5. Proximity to the school. This will be measured in a straight line from the Address Point of the child's home (OS Address Point) to the Address Point of the school site using GIS [Software](#).

2.1 Notes

6. A child looked after is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. An adopted child is defined by section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976. A child arrangement orders is defined by section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.

7. Priority to children of staff within the LT2 Trust will be given in either or both of the following circumstances:
 - (i) Where the member of staff has been employed by the trust for one or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made; and/or
 - (ii) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
8. Proximity of the child's home to the school, with those living nearer being accorded the higher priority, will also serve to differentiate between pupils in criteria 2-5 if there are more applicants than available places under each criterion. Proximity to the school will be measured in a straight-line measurement. Applicants will be prioritised by distance (starting with the nearest). For the purpose of calculating distances, GIS Software will be used. If a postcode is not recognised, e.g. in the case of new build properties, parents will need to request that the building company provide a full address and identifiable postcode within 7 days of the application; a site plan featuring road names and location may also be required. The child must be permanently resident at the address at time of application, 'off-plan' purchases cannot be accepted until resident, a council tax statement will be required as proof of residence.
9. Blocks of flats are treated as one address. In blocks of flats, where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random by an independent person of good standing drawing lots in a supervised process, see below (**Tie Breaker**).
10. For families living on boats, distance will be measured from the authorized mooring point. If the family is itinerant, the mooring point will be that used on the closing date for the receipt of applications.
11. Where parental responsibilities are equally shared, the home or residential address will be considered to be with the parent/carer with whom the child spends the majority of time and nights Monday to Friday. This will normally be expected to be with the parent/carer that receives the Child Benefit. This address must be used for all preferences.
12. Children residing in the same household as part of an extended family, such as cousins, will not be treated as siblings. Proof of the sibling relationship will be required
13. In cases of multiple births where there is only one place available, and the next child on the list is a twin, triplet, or other example of multiple birth, we would admit both twins (and all the children in the case of other multiple births) even if this meant exceeding the agreed admission number of 60 for Reception 2020/21 or the number of places in other year groups.
14. Any changes to the policy are subject to a separate external consultation and this would be for the 2022/23 academic year.

3. Tie Breaker

In the event that two or more children live at the same distance from the school, the tie breaker will be random allocation, where the drawing of lots by a member of the Warwickshire Admissions Team (in the presence of an independent responsible person of good standing) will be used to decide the allocation the remaining place(s).

4. Method of Applications for Reception

The school will be participating in coordinated admission arrangements administered by Warwickshire County Council. Parents/carers must apply on Common Application Form of the local authority where they live. This can be completed online via the [Warwickshire local authority website](#) or a paper form available from their local council's School Admissions Team.

The closing date for reception class applications will be 15th January 2020. Notification letters will be sent out on 16th April 2020 by the Warwickshire County Council. Applications received after the set closing date will be accepted, but will not normally be considered for a place at the school until after the initial offer date.

5. Waiting List

Unsuccessful applicants (including any applications received after the closing date) will be included on the school's waiting list ranked in order of priority under the published oversubscription criteria, without regard to the date that the application was received. Please note a child's position on the waiting list can go down as well as up. For example, if a new application is received which meets higher priority selection criteria, the waiting list may need to be revised.

The offer of a place does not depend on the length of time on the waiting list. Waiting lists will be held for one school year after the Year of entry, unless parents specifically request to have their child's name remain on the list.

6. Appeals

Parents who are not offered a place for their child have the right to appeal and may do this through Warwickshire County Council appeals service.

7. In Year Admissions

For in year admissions, parents/carers should contact our school office directly. Applications will be considered in accordance with above oversubscription criteria. In the event that it is not possible to offer a place the waiting list and appeals procedures described above will apply.

8. Date of Admissions/Deferred Entry

Children will normally be admitted to the Reception year in the September following their fourth birthday.

In line with the Admissions Code, parents can defer their child's entry to the reception year until later in the school year, where they have been offered a place at a school to start before they are of compulsory school age. Where



entry is deferred, the school will hold the place for that child and not offer it to another child. However, entry cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the beginning of the final term of the Reception Year. Parents can also request that their child attends part-time until he/she reaches compulsory school age.

9. Admission of children outside their normal age group

Children will normally be admitted to the Reception year in the September following their fourth birthday and the vast majority of pupils are educated within their normal chronological age group. Any request for admission outside of the child's chronological year of entry will be considered in accordance with paragraphs 2.17-2.17B of the Admissions Code. Such requests would normally apply to children that are summer born and there are significant reasons that would benefit the child's academic, social and emotional development by starting Reception in the following year as opposed to Year 1.

The Trust board will consider requests on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of 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; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The Headteacher's views will also be taken into account. Each case will usually be supported by a letter from a professional (e.g. GP, Hospital Consultant, Social Worker) that provides the reasons for admissions outside of the chronological year group. If the request is approved, the application will then be considered in accordance with the school's oversubscription criteria in the event of oversubscription.

Requests for out of year group admissions to year groups other than Reception will be considered in a similar way to the above and the individual circumstances presented to the Trust board in order that a fully informed decision can be made.

Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at the school but this right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.