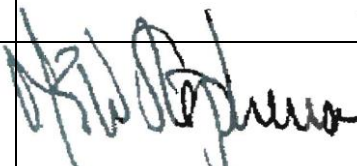




WISE
ACADEMIES
We Inspire Success and Excellence

Admissions Policy

Croftway Academy

Date Agreed	Autumn Term 2024
Date to be Reviewed	Autumn Term 2025
Signed	

The Trust Board of WISE Academies will be the Admission Authority for this academy. This policy gives regard to the "School Standards and Framework Act 1998, as amended by the Education Act 2011, "School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admissions Arrangements (England) Regulations 2012" and "School Admission Code May 2021."

Reception applications must be made on the Common Application Form (available from the Local Authority) by the determined closing date and an offer will be made by the Local Authority on behalf of the school on the National Offer date. Applications received after the closing date will only be considered after all those received by the closing date have been considered. Parents should provide supplemental evidence in support of the application where applicable. The Local Authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements.

The Planned Admission Number to the reception year group in September for this Academy is 60.

Priority for admission must be given to:

1. Children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan where the academy is named as the most appropriate educational setting for the child will be admitted.
2. Children in the care or previously in the care of a Local Authority ("Looked After Children" and "Previously Looked After Children"¹).

As the Academy Trust will be the admission authority, it will reserve the right, in the event of over-subscription, to apply the selection criteria outlined below in order of priority.

a) children on whose behalf written evidence of exceptional medical or social need is presented, such evidence being supplied by a professionally involved, independent third party and which must set out the particular reasons why the Academy is the most suitable school;

No assumptions should be made that the submission of the relevant evidence will, in itself be sufficient to allocate a place.

NOTE: You will not be allocated a place under this criterion if you omit to send to the Local Authority School Admissions Manager a written statement from a professional third party by the determined closing date.

¹ A 'Looked-after' child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residency/child arrangement or special guardianship order – a child that is looked-after' by a Local Authority in accordance with Section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989 and a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so, because of adoption (or become subject to a child arrangements order, residence order or special guardianship order) and a 'Looked-after' child who appears to the Admission Authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as result of being adopted – a child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society

- b) children who have attended the nursery at the Academy in the preceding academic year²;
- c) children who have a sibling(s)³ who is already in the Academy;
- d) children who live in the published Catchment Area⁴ for the Academy;

Should it prove necessary, because places are limited, to distinguish between children in any given category priority will be given to those who live nearest to the school, measured in a direct line ('as the crow flies') when measured from the front door of the child's home address⁵ to the main gate of the school. Distance measures will be undertaken using the Local Authorities computerised Geographical Information System (GIS). This measures a straight-line measure from the front door of the home to main gate of the school. Distance checking is an integral function within the school admissions software ensuring consistency in measurement.

Parents will have the right to an independent appeals panel if you are not happy with the outcome of your admission application. Appeals will be carried out in accordance with the Admission Appeals Code. Any decision of the independent appeals panel will be binding on all parties. Appeals should be directed to The Secretary to the Trust, WISE Academies Head Office, Borodin Avenue, Sunderland SR5 4NX.

In addition to their right of appeal, applicants will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list via the academy office. This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out below and not in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. If any vacancies arise, places will be offered from the waiting list. The waiting list will be in place until 31st December each year, in case any vacancies arise. Looked after children or previously looked after children allocated a place at the school in accordance with the fair access protocol will take precedence over those on the waiting list.

Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until the last day of the summer term. Inclusion on the academy's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

In-Year Applications - The academy is able to accept in-year admission applications directly from parents. An in-year admission application is one that is made outside of the normal time

² **Please note that attendance at the Academy's nursery does not guarantee admission to the reception year group and a separate application for admission to the reception year group will have to be made.**

³ "Siblings" is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, step brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

⁴ Details of the Catchment Area can be obtained from the School.

⁵ For these purposes the child's home is defined as his/her ordinary place of residence which is deemed to be the residential property where he/she normally and habitually resides with the person or persons having parental responsibility for him/her at the time of completion of the application form. If a child regularly lives at more than one address, the Academy will have to reach a conclusion about which should be counted as the main address when allocating places. This will normally be the address where the child permanently spends at least three school nights or, if arrangements are variable, where the child is registered with a GP. The Academy may require evidence demonstrating where the child resides.

of transfer between schools, for example when a family moves house part way through a school year.

In-year applications will be determined by the academy on the basis of this policy. A school transfer application form must be completed. The school is part of the local authority's in year co-ordination scheme. Information can be found at www.northumberland.gov.uk Local authorities are still required to co-ordinate admission applications in the normal admissions round. Parents will be advised of the outcome of their application in writing.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria will be applied. If there are no places available, a request can be made that the child is added to the waiting list.

Fair Access Protocol - The school is committed to taking children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the Trust Board is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol that has been agreed by the Trust Board for the current school year. The Trust Board has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number.

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