Shalom Noam Primary School

Admissions Policy and Procedure

2021 - 22

Admissions Policy

This is the comprehensive admissions policy and procedure for entry into Shalom Noam Primary School.

Shalom Noam Primary School is an orthodox Jewish school providing access to high-quality education that meets the National Curriculum as well as excellent religious education in accordance with orthodox Jewish law and practice.

In the event of the school being oversubscribed, the school will give priority to applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out below. The decision as to whether or not an applicant qualifies for priority consideration will take into account the information provided by applicants in a Supplementary Information Form ("SIF"). Where applicants wish to provide a SIF, the SIF must be signed by a parent or guardian of the child to certify the information provided is correct. A copy of the SIF can be obtained from the school or downloaded from the school's website.

As one of its oversubscription criteria, the school gives priority to Orthodox Jewish children. For these purposes an applicant is considered to be an Orthodox Jewish child if it achieves the requisite number of points as set out in the SIF. Where priority admission is sought on the basis of this criteria, verification of orthodox Jewish practice must be obtained from an orthodox rabbi as provided for in the SIF.

Admissions

- The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 30 children.
- In the event that the school is oversubscribed priority will be given as follows.

    1. Orthodox Jewish Children who are either 'Looked after children' or children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been 'looked after' or who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

    2. Orthodox Jewish children with siblings who are currently at Shalom Noam Primary School at the time of the application. For these purposes "siblings" shall include half-siblings, step-siblings and adopted siblings who are Orthodox Jewish Children and who are living at the same address.

    3. Other Orthodox Jewish children

    4. Other children who are either 'Looked after children' or children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been 'looked after' or who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

    5. Other children

- If in any category there are more qualifying applicants than there are available places, a random ballot will be used to determine which children will be admitted under the criterion in question, in the presence of an independent observer.

- 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 12 of the Adoption Act 1976 and section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. Child arrangements orders are defined in Section.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section12 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. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.

Admissions Procedure

- All applications for places at the school must be submitted by completing a CAF form which must be returned to the local authority in the area that you live. If the applicant seeks consideration for priority admission, the applicant should provide a completed SIF. This must be sent to the school at the same time as the CAF is completed.

- The closing date for all applications to the Reception class will be a date set each year in line with nationally set dates for the making of offers for admission in the school year (1 September to 31 August) in which the child will attain four years of age. Late applications will be dealt with in accordance with the London Borough of Barnet Coordinated Admissions Scheme.

- Parents will be notified by the London Borough of Barnet in accordance with its Coordinated Admissions Scheme. Parents must indicate in writing within 10 days their intention to take up a place

Waiting List

- When all available places have been filled, children not allocated places will be placed on a waiting list ranked in descending order according to the published oversubscription criteria. Each added child will require the list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will remain in operation from the day the original places are awarded and will be open until the end of the academic year. Those who wish to remain on the waiting list after this period should notify the school each year in writing.

Applications on behalf of Twins or Triplets (Multiple Births)

- If only one place is available at the school and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth siblings, those children will be admitted in excess of the Published Admission Number to avoid a situation where the children have to attend different schools. The children admitted over the PAN will be “excepted pupils” until the class size falls back to 30 pupils.

Request to delay entry to school (known as deferred entry)

- Children reach compulsory school age at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday. Where a child has been offered a place at the school, that child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following the child’s fourth birthday. Parents of children below compulsory school age may, however, defer their child’s entry to a Reception class until later in the school year. However, a Reception class place must be taken up by the start of the summer term. 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.

Summer-born children

- Parents of summer born children may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that their child is admitted out of their normal age group – to Reception rather than Year 1.

- If parents wish to apply for their summer-born child to join a Reception class, instead of Year 1, in September of the following year, they must complete an application for Reception of the current admission year **and** must submit a separate written request to the Governing Body. Summer-born children are those born between 1 April and 31 August.

Requests for admission outside the normal age group

- Children are educated in school with others of their age group, with the curriculum differentiated as necessary to meet the needs of individual children. However, parents may request that their child is exceptionally admitted outside their age group, for example if their child is gifted or talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. The Governing Body will decide whether or not the individual circumstances make this appropriate on educational grounds and in the best interests of the child. This will include taking account of the parents' 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 Governing Body will also take into account the view of the Head Teacher of the school. Parents wishing to request admission out of the normal age group should make the request in writing (which includes email) and send the request to the school office. The request should be addressed for the attention of the chair of the Governing Body.

Special Needs

- Children with a statement of special educational needs or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan that names the school will be admitted. This is a separate process to the normal admission procedure.

Incorrect or Misleading Applications

- If the information given in the application form or SIF is not accurate or up to date, your child may lose priority. In such a case, the Governing Body will have discretion to refuse the offer of a place. The Governing Body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place where it is found that the place was offered on the basis of fraudulent or misleading information.

Appeal Procedure

- If a place is not offered, parents will be advised as to their right to appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel and will be advised on the process for appeal.

*[**Note:** This policy was updated on 31 May 2021 to comply with revised requirements to give priority for Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children as set out in the Schools Admissions Code 2021.]*