Purbrook Park School

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Admissions Policy Consultation 2026 for Admissions Policy 2028-2029

This policy will apply to all admissions from 1 September 2028, including in-year admissions. The authority's Fair Access protocol will be applied alongside the policy to secure the admission of vulnerable pupils from specific groups. It will be used during 2027-28 for allocating places for September 2028 as part of the main admission round for Year 7.

Admission Criteria

As a foundation school with a Trust, Purbrook Park School are our own admissions authority. Admission arrangements are determined by the Trust, after statutory consultations.

The Governors of Purbrook Park School consider and rank applications (by our admissions officer), which are co-ordinated on our behalf by Hampshire County Council (HCC). HCC will co-ordinate first all those applications received by the published deadline of **midnight on 31 October 2027**. Applications submitted after **midnight on 31 October 2027** will be considered after all on-time applications have been fully processed unless exceptional circumstances merit consideration alongside on-time applications. **Notifications to parents offering a secondary school place will be sent by the County Council on 1 March 2028**.

The published admission number (PAN) for Purbrook Park School for 2028-2029 is **174.**

For the main admission round, all preferences will be considered simultaneously and ranked in accordance with the admission criteria. If more than one school can offer a place, the parent's highest stated available preference will be allocated.

If the school is oversubscribed, places will be offered up to the published admission number (PAN) in the following priority order. Places for applications received after the deadline will be allocated using the same criteria.

1. Looked after children or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangement, or special guardianship order. [A looked after 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). An adoption is an order under section 46 of the Adoption Act 1976 or the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A 'child arrangement order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989. 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). Previously looked after children also includes those 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. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole main purpose is to benefit society.

2. Children or families who have a serious medical, physical or psychological condition which makes it essential that the child attends Purbrook Park School rather than any other. (Appropriate medical or psychological evidence must be provided in support.)

3. Children living in the catchment area of Purbrook Park School who, at the time of application, have a sibling on the roll of Purbrook Park School, who will still be on roll at the time of the sibling's admission.*

4. Children of staff *who have (1) been continuously* employed at the school *for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made*, (staff are defined as all staff on the payroll of the school), *or (2) been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. "Children of staff" refers to situations where the staff member is the natural parent, the legal guardian or a resident step parent.*

5. Other children living in the catchment area of Purbrook Park School.

6. Children living outside the catchment area of Purbrook Park School who at the time of application have a sibling on the roll of the preferred school who will still be on roll at the time of the sibling's admission.*

7. Children living outside the catchment area of Purbrook Park School who, at the time of application, attend one of the linked primary schools including Purbrook Junior School and Morelands Primary School.

8. Other children living outside the catchment area of Purbrook Park School.

*This includes children who at the time of application have a sibling for whom the offer of a place has been accepted, even if the sibling is not yet attending. 'Sibling' refers to brother or sister, half-brother or half-sister, adoptive brother or adoptive sister, step brother or step sister, foster brother or foster sister *living as one family unit at the same address.* ~~and includes children living as siblings in the same family unit.~~

Permanent Residence

The permanent residence of children who spend part of their week with one parent and part with the other, at different addresses, will be the address at which they spend most of their time. Where a child's time is evenly divided between the parents, parents must agree which address they would like to be considered for the purposes of the application. In the event of a dispute, in the absence of a relevant court order, the admission authority will make a judgement about which address applies, taking into account the address registered with the child's current school, nursery, preschool or childminder, the address registered for child benefit and the address registered with the child's GP.

Distance Measurement

If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the above categories, straight line distance will be used to prioritise applications; applicants living nearer the school have priority. Hampshire County Council's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) will be used to determine distances (from the Ordnance Survey home address point to the point for the school). Distances from multiple dwellings will give priority to the ground floor over the first floor and so on. On individual floors, distances will be measured to the stairs leading to the communal entrance. Where two or more applicants are equidistant, random allocation will be used to allocate the place. An explanation of the random allocation procedure is available on HCC's website.

Multiple Births

Where a twin of child from a multiple birth is admitted to school under this policy then any further twin or child of the same multiple birth will be admitted, if the parents so wish, even though this may raise the number in the year group above the school's PAN.

Pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)

The governors will admit any pupil whose final Education, Health and Care Plan names the school. This is not an oversubscription criterion. Where possible such children will be admitted within the PAN.

Applying for a place outside of your child's normal age group

The governors will consider applications for children outside of their normal age group, for example if a child is gifted and talented, or has experienced problems such as ill health. In the first instance, parents should meet the headteacher to discuss their child's individual needs.

Waiting List

When all available places have been allocated, a waiting list will be operated by the school, and co-ordinated on our behalf by the local authority. Any places that become available will be allocated according to the criteria of the admission policy with no account being taken of the length of time on the waiting list or any priority order expressed as part of the main admission round. Fair Access admissions and school closure arrangements will take priority over the waiting list.

The waiting list will be reviewed and revised:-

- each time a child is added to, or removed from, the waiting list;
- when a child's changed circumstances will affect their priority;
- at the end of each school year, when parents with a child on the waiting list will be contacted and asked if they wish to remain on the list for the following school year.

At the time of receiving an offer of a school place parents will be advised of the process for having their child's name on a school's waiting list. Parents may keep their child's name on the waiting list of as many schools as they wish and for as long as they wish.

Legislation

This policy takes account of all relevant legislation including the legislation on sex discrimination, race relations, and disability, together with all relevant regulations and the School Admissions Code (DfE September 2021).