



Goodrich Church of England Primary School

Admissions Policy
Date: September 2020

Headteacher: Mrs. Karen Miles

Governor: Mrs. Rose Webb

Last reviewed: February 2021
Policy Review date: February 2028

Goodrich CE Primary School

ADMISSIONS POLICY

The Education Act 1996 states that children must be admitted to school at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.

The Local Education Authority has delegated to school governors the power to admit rising fives at the beginning of the academic year in which they will be five. In accordance with this delegation the school's policy is as follows:

- Children will be admitted in the September of the academic year in which they will be five

Application

For children entering the Reception year, forms families will be contacted directly from the Local Education Authority in which the child's GP surgery is with guidance on the application procedure. All applications should be processed via the online portal on the Herefordshire Council website – (https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200144/schools_and_education) Parents are warmly invited to visit the school prior to application. The school and parents will be notified of allocated places on national offer day April 16th (or the nearest week day to it).

Number of places

The pupil admission number is 17

The governors of Goodrich School can agree to oversubscription in the event of applications exceeding 17 dependent on the size of the cohort/s preceding them.

Number of Preferences and Closing Date

All parents will be invited to state three first preferences, in ranked order, on the online application, which will also apply to all voluntary aided and foundation schools and Academies. The National Closing date for primary school applications will be January 15th in the year that the child will start.

Date of Admission

Children reach compulsory school age at the beginning of the term following their 5th birthday. In Herefordshire, however, most children start school at least a term earlier than the law requires. The council's standard admissions policy entitles parents to places for their children, in one of the council's maintained schools, according to the date of their child's 5th birthday, as follows:
In the Autumn term if 5 between 1 September and 31 December inclusive
In the Spring term if 5 between 1 January and 30 April inclusive
In the Summer term if 5 between 1 May and 31 August inclusive

The autumn term begins after the summer holidays, the spring term after the Christmas and New Year holidays, and the summer term after the Easter holidays.

ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2020/2021 OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR ALL COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED PRIMARY & SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN HEREFORDSHIRE

The oversubscription criteria list below applies to all schools where Herefordshire Council is the admissions authority

Children with a Statement of Special Education Needs or an Educational, Health & Care Plan which names a particular school will be allocated places, after which places are allocated according to an agreed set of criteria, in strict order of priority.

Priority 1 - Looked after children and children who were looked after in England, but ceased to be due to being adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order

Priority 2 - Looked after children and children who were looked after outside of England, but ceased to be due to being adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order

Priority 3 - Children living within the **defined catchment area*** of the school;

Priority 4 - Sibling connection - Children who have an **older sibling**** at the preferred school not only at the time of application but also when the younger child is due to start;

Priority 5 - Exceptional circumstances - Children with exceptional **medical, social or compassionate** grounds for admission and whose parents can show that entry to a particular school only is necessary for the wellbeing of their child. Parents are required to produce a medical certificate or other appropriate information preferably from an independent source. Applications on such grounds will not be considered by the Director of Children's Wellbeing's advisory panel unless this supporting information is attached to application forms received by 31st October 2019 (secondary schools) or 15th January 2020 (primary schools);

Priority 6 - Distance*** - Children who live **nearest** to the school by the shortest available walking route.

General Notes

No priority is given to pupils living outside but attending a primary school within the catchment area of the relevant high school, i.e. the determining factor is the child's home address.

Where, at any school, applications exceed the number of places, the priorities will be applied in the sequence indicated above, i.e. after children who either currently are or were in the 'looked after' system it will be catchment area children second, brothers and sisters third, exceptional circumstances fourth, then according to distance, each assessed as indicated above.

If the admission of the top two categories can be satisfied, but there are insufficient places for all out of area brothers and sisters, priorities will be decided first by reference to exceptional circumstances, then according to distance.

Following the allocation of the top category there may be an occasion when it is not possible to offer places for all children living in the catchment area. In this situation the places will be allocated in the sequence of the criteria listed above, i.e. first to children with brothers and sisters who would still be at the school in September 2020, next to pupils with exceptional circumstances, and finally according to distance from the school.

*Living within the defined catchment area is defined as "a child residing with his/her Parent(s)/or carer(s) at his/her normal and genuine place of residence for the majority of the time".

** A sibling connection refers to a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or a child of the parents/carer's partner, and in every case the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address.

*** Distance will be measured by the shortest available walking route using a road and/or made up footpath from the front door of the child's address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school, using the Local authority's computerised digital map measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.