



## **Admissions Policy** (2016/2017)

*We encourage applicants from non-linked schools and those who live out of our local area to apply; in the last eight years all on time applicants who prioritised us have secured a place at The Cowplain School.*

*As an Academy School we set our own Admissions Policy. If we are full in any year, we use siblings, our linked schools and distance from the school as our key criteria to determine places. As we do not have a catchment area it is much easier for families who live in our community to secure a place.*

### **CRITERIA**

The published admissions number for the academic year 2016/2017 is 216. Six of these places are given to Hampshire County Council to place students in our Dyslexia Unit.

Admission Criteria that all schools use in the event of over-subscription – in priority order:

Any child whose final statement of special educational needs names The Cowplain School. Where possible such children will be admitted within the PAN.

The Cowplain School's admission criteria are:

- 1.** Looked after children or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.
- 2.** *(For applicants in the normal admission round only)* Children or families who have a serious medical, physical or psychological condition which makes it essential that the child attends the preferred school rather than any other. *(Appropriate medical or psychological evidence must be provided in support).*
- 3.** **Brothers/sisters of children who are attending the School *(including children living as siblings in the same family unit)* and will still be on roll at The Cowplain School at the time of the sibling's admission.**
- 4.** **Children of staff who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time of at which the application for admission to the school is made, or have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage**
- 5.** **Attendance at one of our linked schools: Denmead Junior, Hart Plain Junior, Padnell Junior or Woodcroft Primary School.**
- 6.** **Distance from the school based on a straight line from the School Reception front door to the front door of the property.** *For students from the villages of Denmead and Hambledon, distance will be measured from the front door of the property to either Doctors*

*Surgery Bus Stop on Hambledon Road, Denmead or West Street Bus Stop, Hambledon, whichever is the nearer.*

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. Distances to 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. If it still not possible to decide between two applicants who are equidistant, then a random allocation will be made to allocate the final place. An explanation of the method of making random allocations is on the council website.

### **PROCEDURE:**

If you wish to seek admission for your child at The Cowplain School, would you kindly:

Apply online, no later than **midnight on Saturday 31 October 2015**. Applications made after midnight 31 October 2015 will be considered after all on-time applications have been fully processed unless exceptional circumstances merit consideration alongside on-time applications. Entry decisions will be **based on The Cowplain School's Admission Criteria**. On 1 March 2016 Hampshire Admissions Team will inform parents by email, if application was made online or by letter if a paper application was submitted, of the school place their child has secured.

1. All preferences will be considered at the time and ranked in accordance with the admission criteria.
2. Names of late and unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a "Waiting List", if requested, and parents will be informed if and when a place becomes available. The "Waiting List" will be reviewed and revised:
  - When a child's changed circumstances will affect their priority
  - Each time a child is added to, or removed from the "Waiting List"
  - In September 2016 parents of children who are on the "Waiting List" will be contacted and asked if they wish to remain on the list for the current academic year

### **Please Note:**

- Parents must note the Aims of the school and the Rewards and Sanctions Policy, as we will assume that application to join the school demonstrates acceptance of these policies.

### **APPEALS:**

Parents seeking admission for their children, who do not secure a place, have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Details of the procedure will be sent on receipt of written request appeal.

### **MULTIPLE BIRTHS**

Where a twin or child from a multiple birth is admitted to a 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 intake number above the school's PAN. No other pupil will be admitted until a place becomes available within the PAN.

### **IN-YEAR FAIR ACCESS placements by the Local Authority**

The local authority must ensure that all pupils are placed in schools as quickly as possible. It may therefore sometimes be necessary for a pupil to be placed by the local authority, or a local placement panel acting on behalf of the authority, in a particular school even if there is a waiting list for admission. Such placements will be made in accordance with the provisions of the local authority's In-Year Access Protocol. The Protocol is based on legislation and government guidance. If an admission under the Protocol raises the number on roll above the PAN, no further pupil will be admitted until a place becomes available with the PAN.

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

The school prospectus giving information about the school and details of Admissions Procedures will be published in September. Parents are encouraged to visit and view the school with their daughters/sons on the school's Open Evening or by appointment at other times.

Arrangements for admission are determined by the Governing Body, which is the accredited admission authority for the school.

**ADMISSION OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP:**

Parents can seek outside their normal age group. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case; parents may be offered a place in another year group at the school.

**LEGISLATION:**

The 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 Admission Code (DfE 2014).