

Darlington Local Authority Admissions Oversubscription Criteria
Primary Education 2013/14

- (i) **Public Care**
For definitions see Section 22(1), Section 8, Section 14A of the Children's Act 1989 and Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.
- (ii) **Medical Reasons**
Children with very exceptional medical factors directly related to the school placement. Applications under this criterion should be supported by written evidence from a doctor (see explanation).
- (iii) **Family Links**
Children who have a brother or sister already attending the school and who are expected to be on the roll at the time of admission.
In the case of associated schools (see below) a family link would exist if a brother or sister would be expected to be on roll of either school at the time of admission.
- (iv) **Associated Schools**
Pupils who are transferring from Mowden Infant to Mowden Junior school will be given priority over pupils from other schools.
- (v) **Rural**
Children living within the Rural Wards of the Borough of Darlington who have been unsuccessful in obtaining a place at one of their preferred schools AND for whom the nearest alternative school would otherwise be more than two miles from their home will be given priority over other children for places at certain schools (see "Rural Wards" explanation).
- (vi) **Distance**
Urban Wards of Darlington Borough Council - Pupils who live nearest the preferred school measured from the front door of the home address (including flats) to the main school gate, by the shortest walking route. This will be based on the home address of the child. To remain consistent the Authority uses a Geographical Information System to measure all distances. The Authority's priority when measuring a route is to identify the shortest route judged to be safe (safe is lit at regular intervals, paved/tarmaced).
Rural Wards of Darlington Borough Council - Pupils who live nearest the preferred school measured from the front door of the home address (including flats) to the main school gate, via the shortest route which is paved/tarmaced*. This will be based on the home address of the child. To remain consistent the Authority uses a Geographical Information System to measure all distances.
- *In the rural wards, the Council is aware that the shortest route may not be a safe route to walk. Therefore, if a child living in a rural ward, is successful in gaining a place at a school; where the route taken when measured by the Local Authority, is paved/tarmaced but not also lit at regular intervals, then the Local Authority will provide assistance with transport, even if it is less than the statutory duty for a child of the appropriate age.

Tie Break

In the event of a tie-break in any oversubscription criteria, distance will be the deciding factor, which may involve an officer walking the route using a pedometer.

Multiple Births

For multiple births where only 1 place remains, infant classes will be allowed to exceed the statutory limit where the 31st child is a twin or from multiple births. The 'excepted pupil' will be allowed for the time in Key Stage 1 or until the class numbers fall back to current class size limit.

Medical Criterion

If a parent states a preference for a school and indicates their reason for doing so is 'medical', then they will be required to send a supporting letter from a professional practitioner. The supporting evidence should set out the particular reasons why the school in question is the most suitable school and the difficulties it would cause if their child had to travel to another school. The Authority reserves the right to make contact with the District Medical Officer for independent information regarding the child's condition.

The LA may also seek advice from other qualified professionals, e.g. Psychologists or other specialists where necessary.

Family Links

Children have a family link if:

- They are half brother or full brother or sister.
- They are adoptive brother or sister.
- Their parents are co-habiting and children live together in the same household.

The Rural Wards of Darlington are:

Heighington & Coniscliffe, Sadberge & Whessoe, Middleton St George and Hurworth.

Area A on Map

Children living in the area to the north of the A68 road AND within the Ward of Heighington and Coniscliffe in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Alderman Leach Primary School.

Area B on Map

Children living in the area to the south of the A68 road, north of the B6279 road AND within the Ward of Heighington and Coniscliffe in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Mount Pleasant Primary School.

Area C on Map

Children living in the area to the west of the East Coast Main Railway Line AND within the Ward of Sadberge and Whessoe in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Harrowgate Hill Primary School.

Area D on Map

Children living in the area to the south of the B6279 road AND within the Ward of Heighington and Coniscliffe in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is The Federation of Mowden Schools (Mowden Infant School and Mowden Junior School).

Area E on Map

Children living in the area to the east of the East Coast Main Railway Line, north of the A66 road AND within the Ward of Sadberge and Whessoe in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Whinfield Primary School.

Area F on Map

Children living in the area to the south of the A66 road AND within the Ward of Sadberge and Whessoe in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Heathfield Primary School.

Area G on Map

Children living within the Ward of Middleton St George in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Heathfield Primary School.

Area H on Map

Children living in the area to the SOUTH of the A66 road (Darlington Bypass) only AND within the Ward of Hurworth in the Borough of Darlington the alternative school is Firthmoor Primary School.

The map will be made available on the internet.