



SECAT for Bournes Green Junior School

Determined Admissions Arrangements (Policy) – 2025/26

Published Admissions Number (PAN): 66

Bournes Green Junior School is an academy and forms part of the group of schools under Southend East Community Academy Trust. These arrangements are in line with government legislation and guidance and designed to ensure there is a fair, clear and reasonable admissions procedure for all applicants, and to help guide parents through the application process. These arrangements apply to all admissions, including in-year admissions.

Applying for a place

Bournes Green Junior School welcomes all applications. If at the closing date for applications, there are not enough places for all those who have expressed a wish to have their child admitted to the Academy; places will be allocated using the admission criteria as below. This will not apply to children with EHC plans as the plan names the school and therefore the child must be admitted to the named school. The admission criteria are listed below by school with explanatory notes following:

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children;
2. Pupils attending year 2 at Bournes Green Infant school;
3. Pupils who live in the catchment area served by the school and who have a sibling attending the school or attending Bournes Green Infant school;
4. Pupils who live in the catchment area served by the school;
5. Pupils who live outside the catchment area served by the school and who have a sibling attending the school or attending Bournes Green Infant school;
6. Pupils of staff;
7. Remaining applications
(for all criteria see explanatory notes below)

Explanatory notes:

Parents must make a separate application for transfer from nursery to primary school and from infant to junior school. Parents must complete a Southend-on-sea Common Application Form (CAF) for applications to year reception and year 3 between 14th September and 15th January. Pupils cannot be considered under the admission criteria unless an application has been submitted. It is the view of the Trust that no pupils in year 2 at Bournes Green Infant school, during the transfer from year 2 to 3, will be displaced and where necessary due to the admission of LAC/PLAC or children with an EHCP, the school will go over number for these children.

***Pupils in public care and children that were previously in public care (including those children 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 'looked after child' is a 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) at the time of making an application to a school.

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 or main purpose is to benefit society.

This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders).

Child arrangements orders are defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section 12 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. Refer to section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special Guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

Pupils with Education, Health and Care Plans

An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014 specifying the special education, health and social care provision required for that child. All children whose statement of special educational needs (SEND) or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan names the school must be admitted. Children with a statement or a plan will follow a different process for admission. Further information can be found on

[Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) Local Offer](#)

Distance:

In the case of over subscription in any one category "straight line" distance will be used to measure the distance between the pupil's home and the nearest pupil entrance to the school. Distances will be measured using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system. The pupils living closest will be given priority. If the pupil's home is a flat the distance will be measured to the main external entrance to the building.

Tie-Break to be used to decide between two applications that cannot otherwise be separated:

If the same distance is shared by more than one pupil, and only one place is available, the place will be awarded on the basis of a computerised random allocation process (supervised by someone independent of the Council / governing body). In the case where the last child offered is a twin or sibling of a multiple birth sibling both children will be offered and the sibling will be an 'excepted pupil'.

Distance where parents have separated

The distance is measured the same for all applications. The primary admission booklet provides further details, in summary,

Only one application can be received. The Academy or LA should not have the details of both parents or know of the marital status of the parents. If more than one application is received from parents, applications will be placed on hold until such time that:

- 'an application is made that both parents agree to; or
- 'written agreement is provided from both parents; or
- 'a court order is obtained confirming which parent's application takes precedence'.

Details on address checks and which address is relevant are also provided in the admission booklet. In all cases the child's normal place of residence is applicable for the purposes of the application. If the child lives at more than one address, it is the address where the child lives for the majority of the school week that will apply.

Catchment area

The catchment area is provided in the [About school catchment areas – Southend-on-Sea City Council](#) look up facility.

Siblings

Siblings are considered to be a brother or sister, half-brother or half-sister, step-brother or step-sister, adopted brother or sister, living at the same address, who attends the school or Bournes Green Infant School at the time of application with a reasonable expectation that he or she will still be attending at the time of the proposed admission.

In the exceptional situation where one twin or one or two triplets are refused a place, in order to keep family members together and in line with the School Admissions Code 2014, the additional pupil(s) will be admitted even if this results in the admission limit for the year group being exceeded.

Waiting lists

Children's names will automatically be on the waiting list for schools that are higher on the rank list and for which they do not receive an offer (for years Reception and year 3).

Parents will also have the opportunity to appeal against the refusal for schools for which they did not receive an offer. Appeals must be lodged within 20 school days of the date of the letter. Parents can access the information on appeals and also submit an appeal online on the council's web site www.southend.gov.uk/admissions or email admissions@southend.gov.uk to request an appeal application form. All appeals are considered by an Independent Appeals Panel.

Each added child will require the waiting list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria. Waiting lists for all year groups for the school are closed at the end of each school year.

Children of staff

Children will be ranked in this admission criteria if they are children of staff at the school under the following circumstances: -

- where the member of teaching staff (including, staff that are at the school in positions, such as: Senior Leadership Team/level, Head of Year Group, Head of Department, Office Manager or SENCo) that has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
- the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable specialist skill shortage and
- are the children of the member of staff, living permanently with the member of staff at the same address. The member of staff must be working at the school at the time of application and expected to continue with their employment at the school during the application and allocation process.

Over and Under age applications (including children admitted outside normal age group)

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, (usually during the school year and not at the point of admission), for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than year 1.

All other applications for over or under age in-year will be handled in line with the School Admissions Code 2014, 2.17 (a & b).

Such requests for Schools in Southend-on-sea are directly to the school and the school advises the LA of their decision. **Requests for year 3 and 6 must have been submitted by the parent and considered by the admission authority before the closing date for applications to year 7, i.e. 31st October and 15th January for year 3 of any given year.** Admission authorities must ask parents to submit a full request with any relevant documentation and should make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned.

This will include documenting the following:-

- of the parent's 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.
- They must also take into account the views of the head teacher of the school concerned.

When informing a parent of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to, the admission authority must set out clearly the reasons for their decision. (2.17a School Admissions Code 2014).

Parents wishing to be considered for 'out of normal age group' admission can do so in writing to the school. In line with current legislation admission 'out of normal admission' should only be supported in very limited circumstances.

When informing a parent of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to, the admission authority must set out clearly the reasons for their decision.

In circumstances where a child transfers from another school already 'outside of normal age group', the Academy will support any over or under age application where the above has been met and the Academy is satisfied that the child should continue to be educated out of normal age group.

A parent cannot appeal against refusal to the 'out of normal age group' application.

Further details provided in the Admission Scheme 2019/20 and Guidelines on defer entry to school for summer born children on the Council Web site.

The composite prospectus for all schools in the Borough, the scheme (process), admission procedures and all other policies and procedures are available on www.southend.gov.uk/admissions

In-year admissions

- As permitted by law parents can make an application at any time to any school outside the normal admissions. Where places are available applicants will be offered. Where there are no places applicants will be refused and can join the waiting list for the school. Waiting lists are ranked according to the admission criteria for the school. In some cases where a child is already on a school roll locally the place may be offered for the start of the next term.
- To apply for reception after the normal admission cycle or for admission into Years 1-6, parents will need to complete an In-Year application form which is available from the Council's offices and the website, www.southend.gov.uk/admissions and admissions@southend.gov.uk
- Applications in the current school year are processed within a maximum of 15 school days, applications for the next school year are processed in the late summer months and outcomes are communicated in the early Autumn term at the latest.
- Pupils that are refused a place and added to the waiting list and remain on the waiting list until 30 June of any given year. Waiting lists close on 30 June of any given year and new waiting lists are created for the next academic year (from the applications for the next school year). Waiting lists from previous years are not rolled over to the next. Parents wishing to continue on a waiting list for a following year are required to make a fresh application.
- As required by the School Admissions Code parents will be notified within 10 school days of the outcome of their application and will be sent a written outcome, with a reminder of the right of appeal, within 15 School Days. Applications are shared with the allocated school and with a school that is a preference and is its own admission authority.

Right of Appeal

Main round appeals (reception and year 3): Parents can appeal against the refusal for schools for which they did not receive an offer. Appeals must be lodged within 20 school days of the date of the letter. Appeals must be heard within 40 school days of the deadline for lodging appeals. Parents can access the information on appeals and submit an appeal online on the council's web site www.southend.gov.uk/admissions or email admissions@southend.gov.uk to request an appeal application form. All appeals are considered by an Independent Appeals Panel.

Main round appeals (in-year R-6): Parents can appeal against the refusal for schools for which they did not receive an offer. Appeals must be lodged within 20 school days of the date of the letter. For applications for in-year admissions, appeals must be heard within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged. Parents can access the information on appeals and submit an appeal online on the council's web site www.southend.gov.uk/admissions or email admissions@southend.gov.uk to request an appeal application form. All appeals are considered by an Independent Appeals Panel.

Home Address

For all applications, the address used will be the child's habitual normal place of residence as at the closing date for applications, i.e., 15th January (reception and year 3). Changes to address can be accommodated up to a month after the closing date. Where the address change cannot be accommodated within the reasonable period, parents will be advised, and changes will be updated after all on time applications have been processed.

The relevant Coordinated Admissions Scheme and Primary Admission booklets should be read in conjunction to the Determined Admission Arrangements for all schools in the Borough of Southend-on-Sea.

For office use – statutory process: The School Admissions Code	
1 October – 14 November 2023	Formal Public consultation window
January/February 2024	Determination of Admission Arrangements agreed by Board of Trustees.
28 th February 2024	Determined Admission Arrangements sent to the LA. All schools publish Determined admission arrangements on school website
7 th - 15 th March 2024	LA publish composite prospectus.
15 th March – 15 th May 2024	Window for Objections to the School Adjudicator
14 th September 2024	Final arrangements for 2025 published in the Primary booklet