

Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School 	Policy No:S2	Revision No:	2
		Date Issued:	April 2019
Admissions Policy	Committee:	Resources	
	Author:	DCC	
	Date Adopted:	May 2013	
	Minute No:	18/66	
	Review Date:	April 2020	

The admission criteria set out below are as previously defined by Derbyshire County Council.

Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School Admissions Information

In community schools and voluntary controlled schools, Derbyshire County Council decides the rules for getting places.

The rules are known as 'admissions criteria'.

Under the 1996 Education Act, parents/carers have a legal right to express a preference for which school they want their child to attend. The county council and school governors have a general duty to meet this preference – as long as it does not “prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources”.

In law there is no automatic right to a place in any particular school

Derbyshire County Council will offer one place, at the highest priority school possible. Where it is not possible to offer a place at any of the chosen schools, a place will be allocated at the normal area school – if places are still available – or the next nearest school with places available. School admissions to Year 7 are considered on an annual basis – so it is not possible to confirm that a place is available at a school any earlier than 1st March in the year before a child will join. Each year secondary schools have to admit eligible pupils on request up to their published admission number which takes account of the amount of accommodation available. In the case of offers for places in schools in neighbouring councils, they make the decision and DCC make the offer on their behalf.

Community and voluntary controlled schools

Individual pupils who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or/and Education, Health and Care Plan which names the school will be admitted.

In deciding on admissions to all community and voluntary controlled secondary schools in Derbyshire, the following order of priority will be adopted.

Looked after children and children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

1. Children living in the normal area served by the school at the time of application and admission who have brothers or sisters attending the school at the time of application and admission. (For a definition of living in the normal area, see note 1 under 'Definitions').
2. Children living in the normal area served by the school at the time of application and admission.

3. Children not living in the normal area served by the school but who have brothers or sisters attending the school at the time of application and admission (see note 2 under 'Definitions').
4. In the case of voluntary controlled church schools, children whose parents request a place on religious grounds.
5. Other children whose parents have requested a place.

Where, in the case of 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, choices have to be made between children satisfying the same criteria, those children living nearest to the school (measured by the standard straight line) will be given preference. See note 3 under 'Definitions'.

Please note, attendance at a particular primary school gives no priority for admission to a particular secondary school.

Notes

Note 1

'Living in the normal area', is defined as the child having settled residence in a property which is the child's only or main residence. Documentary evidence including proof of actual permanent residency at the property concerned may be required, for example, council tax / utility bills, sale / rental agreements.

Derbyshire County Council reserves the right to withdraw any offer of a school place which has been obtained as a result of misleading or fraudulent information.

Note 2

The term brother or sister includes:

- (a) a half-brother and/or a half-sister
- (b) a legally adopted child being regarded as a brother or sister
- (c) a step-brother and/or step-sister residing in the same family unit

Note 3

Derbyshire County Council have a Geographic Information System (GIS) to measure the straight line route. It is measured by a standard straight line distance calculated to within two metres.

This measurement is taken from the postal address file, normally the house front door. For schools the grid reference is taken from the nearest gate or entrance to the school. Footpaths that are known and assessed as suitable by the council when places are allocated will be used in distance calculations.

Not all footpaths are recorded on the GIS system and not every route is assessed as suitable. If you are seeking to rely on a footpath or a newly developed route as your nearest available route, you may wish to check with us that the route is one recognised by DCC for school admission purposes before making your application as this could impact on the place your child is offered. You can email: admissions.transport@derbyshire.gov.uk to check if a route is recognised. Routes which are brought to the attention of the council will be added to the GIS system if they are assessed as suitable. However, new routes recognised after school places have been allocated during a normal admissions round will not be taken into account during the same admissions round.

Residence - in all categories

The home address used for school admission purposes is the address where the child is residing at the time of both application and admission. Where an application includes more than one

address due to shared parental responsibility, we will use the address where the child resides for the majority of the school week (where they usually or mainly sleep between Monday and Friday).

Parents and carers are required to submit full details with supporting information to enable us to determine which address to use for the purpose of admission.

Where parents provide evidence that the child resides equally at both addresses during the school week, and we are unable to reach a decision based on the information received, parents will be asked to notify us of the mutually agreed address to be used for the purposes of school admissions. Please note the same address will be used in the assessment of eligibility for home to school transport assistance.

Where we have reasonable grounds for believing the home address is not the child's only or main residence we reserve the right to carry out investigations which may include visits to the property.

Please note

In situations where late applications are received and the school's admission number has been reached, but subsequently a place becomes available - if choices need to be made between normal area applications, those children living nearest to the school (measured by the nearest available route) will be given preference.

N.B. Derbyshire County Council operates a Fair Access Protocol (available at **www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions**) to ensure that children without a school place who find themselves in challenging circumstances are admitted to a school as quickly as possible.