



Buckton Fields Primary School

Buckton Fields Primary School is part of the Preston Hedge's Academy Trust. This school is the fourth school in our trust, alongside Preston Hedge's Primary School, Pineham Barns Primary School and Parklands Primary School.

Buckton Fields Primary School is founded on the Trust's key principles of Fun, Creativity and Achievement, whilst having its own unique curriculum, values, ethos and leadership.

Admissions Numbers

The school has an admission number for September 2021 of 60 for entry into Reception.

The school will admit this number each year if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applications than the Published Admission Number for the relevant year group are received the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Application Process

The Academy Trust will process applications outside the normal local authority process for co-ordinating school offers. This means you will need to complete your LA common application form for your other choices of school in addition to a separate application for this school.

Applications for the school should be sent to the Trust at the following e-mail enquiries@buckton.school or posted to the following address.

Preston Hedge's Primary School
Wootton Hope Drive
Northampton
NN4 6BU



The closing date for applications is Friday 15th January 2021 at 4pm.

Offers will be made on Thursday 16th April 2021 from 9am. If we have not entered into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State opening the school by that date, they will be conditional offers and will be confirmed once we have a signed funding agreement.

The application form can be obtained via the school website

Oversubscription Criteria

When the school is oversubscribed after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below in priority order.

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or a special guardianship order¹.
2. Pupils with a brother or sister continuing at the school at the time of admission of the child.
3. Pupils who live closest to the school on a straight-line basis and live within the defined area.
4. Other children.

Please note: The defined area is the area within the Buckton Fields Housing development marked on the admissions map by a red boundary.

Tie Break Criteria

If in criterion 2-3 above a tie-break is necessary to determine which child is admitted the child living closest to the school on a straight-line basis will be given priority for admission. The Academy Trust will undertake the appropriate measurements. Distances are measured from the address point of your home to the address point of the school on a straight-line basis, using a geographical information system. Each address has a unique address point established by the most valuable elements from the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NPLG), Ordnance Survey Master Map, Royal Mail Postal Address File and The Valuation Office Agency. The address point for a property does not change.

¹ 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).



Where two or more children share a priority for a place in criterion 2 –3 above, e.g. where two children live equidistant from the school, these places will be allocated using random allocation undertaken by an independent body.

However, if children of multiple births are tied for the final place those siblings will be admitted over PAN as permitted by infant class size rules

Late Applications

All applications received by the school after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list.

Deferred Entry for Infants & Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents offered a place in reception for their child have a right to defer the date their child is admitted, or to take the place up part-time, until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Places cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made.

Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their 5th birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 August, 31 December and 31 March.

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. eg if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health (this includes the parents of a Summer born child requesting that their child is admitted to reception rather than year 1 in the September following their 5th birthday). When such a request is made, the academy trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the Headteacher/Principal and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

The parent or carer must make an application for the child's normal age group at the usual time, but also submit a request for admission out of the normal age group at the same time. The request must include information about the child's academic, social and emotional development, where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional and whether the child has been previously educated outside of their normal



age group and whether they may have naturally fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

If the request is agreed, the application for the normal age group may be withdrawn before a place is offered. If the request is refused, the parent must decide whether to accept the offer of a place for the normal age group, or to refuse it and make an in year application for admission to year one for the September following the child's fifth birthday. Where a parent's request is agreed, they must make a new application as part of the main admissions round for reception the following year.

Waiting Lists

The school will operate a waiting list.

Where in any year the academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate during the remainder of the academic year that the request was made.

This will be maintained by the Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

A child's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code. The Academy uses the services of the Local Authority Appeals Team to coordinate its appeal process

Appellants should go to Northamptonshire County Council's website for information about the appeals process and submit an online appeal form. For applications made in the normal admissions round appeals will be heard within 40 school days of the deadline for lodging appeals. For applications for in year admissions, appeals will be heard within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged.

<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/school-admissions/school-appeals/Pages/default.aspx>



Siblings

*Brother or sister (sibling) is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

Home Address

The home address is where a child normally lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared parental responsibility, each for part of a week, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. If a child's residence is split equally between both parents, then parents will be asked to determine which residential address should be used for the purpose of admission to school. If no joint declaration is received where the residence is split equally by the closing date for applications, the home address will be taken as the address where the child is registered with the doctor. If the residence is not split equally between both parents then the address used will be the address where the child spends the majority of the school week.