

Woodland Academy Trust
Lime Wood Primary School
Admissions Arrangements
2023-2024

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Woodland Academy Trust is committed to inclusion, diversity and promoting equal opportunity for all. All schools within the Trust share this commitment, providing an inclusive environment. This objective applies to all policies and procedures and the Trust will at all times adhere to the requirements of the Equalities Act 2010 and any other associated guidance.

1. Introduction

This document sets out the admission arrangements for Lime Wood Primary School (LWPS) for entry in 2023-2024 as approved by the Board of Trustees.

We understand how important the choice of school for your child is for you, and we want to do everything we can to support you and give you all relevant and helpful information, so please do contact us for clarification if you require this.

We can offer your child every opportunity to develop into happy and fulfilled adults and pride ourselves on the quality of education that we can offer all of our children with well-resourced and safe learning environments.

Lime Wood Primary School is a new school situated in Erith on the Erith Hills quarry development. The unique circular, three storey primary school will play a key part in supporting the local community, and we look forward to welcoming your child on their first day at Lime Wood Primary School.

Whenever changes to these admission arrangements are proposed (except where the change is an increase to the agreed admission number), the Board of Trustees will publicly consult on these changes.

2. Admission number(s)

The school has an admission number of 60 for entry in Year R.

The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils into Year R if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

3. Application process

The school 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 this school should be sent to: LWPAdmissions@watschools.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 15th January 2023.

Offers will be made on 15th April 2023. 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 from the Trust's website:
www.woodlandacademytrust.co.uk.

4. 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 special guardianship order, ¹, including those 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.²
2. Priority will next be given to the siblings of pupils attending the school at the time the application is received. 'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, a step-brother or sister or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place.
3. Priority will next be given to children based on their exceptional medical or social needs. Each application must include evidence, from a medical specialist or social worker of the child's need and why they must attend this school rather than any other, based on those needs. If evidence is not submitted to the school with the application, a child's medical or social needs cannot be considered. 'Social need' does not include a parent's wish that a child attends the school because of a child's aptitude or ability or because their friends attend the school. 'Medical need' does not include mild medical conditions.
4. Other children: the applicant living closest to the school will have priority (in the event of one or more applicants tying after application of criteria 2-3) and measurement will be on the same basis as set out in the tie-break information below.

5. Tie-break

If in categories 2- 4 above a tie-break is necessary to determine which child is admitted, the child living closest to the school will be given priority for admission. Distance is measured from the child's home to the front gates of the school in a straight line. 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.

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).

² 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. Section 23ZZA(8) of the Children Act 1989 (inserted by Section 4 of the Children and Social Work Act 2017).

Random allocation undertaken by the Local Authority will be used as a tie-break in categories 2-4 above to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between a child's home and the school is equidistant in any two or more cases.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins and triplets etc) from the same family tied for the final place. We will admit them all, as permitted by the infant class size rules, and exceed our Published Admission Number (PAN).

6. 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.

7. Deferred entry for infants

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.

8. Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested.

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 Head Teacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

9. Waiting lists

The school will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term after the beginning of the school year. 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.

Children'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.

10. 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.

Appellants should contact LWPadmissions@watschools.org.uk by 15th May 2023 for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website at www.woodlandacademytrust.co.uk.