

The Radstone Primary Academy admission arrangements for 2017/18

Introductory statement

The Radstone Primary Academy is a member of The Hawksmoor Learning Trust. It is a new school set in the Radstone Fields development in Brackley and will initially accommodate children aged 4-7, in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 only.

We are an inclusive school and welcome all applications. Admission to our school is not dependent on any ability test or voluntary financial contribution.

Admission number(s)

Reception 2018 entry

For September 2018, in the first year of operation, the academy has an admission number of 30 for entry into Reception.

The academy will accordingly admit pupils up to the admission number indicated above if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number for year group is received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the academy to all those who have applied.

Application process

Applications for Reception

For entry into reception the academy participates in the Northamptonshire Co-ordinated Admission Scheme and all dates within that scheme must be adhered to. You should use the opportunity to express a preference to more than one school. Details of how to apply for a place in Reception can be found on the Northamptonshire County Council School Admissions webpage:

<http://www3.northamptonshire.gov.uk/councilservices/children-families-education/schools-and-education/school-admissions/Pages/default.aspx> The closing date for admission applications for Reception places is 15th January 2018.

Offers will be made on 18 April 2018 (National Schools Offer Day). 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.

Home Address

The child's place of residence is the address of the parent or legal guardian with whom the child spends the majority of the time during the school week. *Parents/legal guardians may be asked to produce evidence of residency/home address at any time during the admissions process.*

In – Year application process

Applications for a place at the academy will normally be for the start of reception. If you are moving into the area or wish to change schools during the school year or at the start of the school year but

in a different age group from the reception year i.e Year 1 and Year 2, you will need to make an application for an in-year place. This type of application should be made as soon as possible.

The application form can be obtained from:

<http://www.nicholashawksmoor.co.uk/the-hawksmoor-learning-trust/index.1.html>

Applications should be sent to the Admissions Officer at the following address
admissions@theradstone.academy

All in-year applications will be considered, depending on the availability of places and prioritised according to the oversubscription criteria. If places are over subscribed, applications can be placed on a waiting list. if requested.

If we have not entered into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State opening the school by 1st September 2018 they will be conditional offers and will be confirmed once we have a signed funding agreement.

Oversubscription criteria

When the academy 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
2. Children who will have a brother or sister continuing at the school at the time of admission of the younger child ²
3. Children of Staff ³
4. Children who are eligible for Pupil Premium and/or Service Premium⁴
5. Children who live closer to the The Radstone than any other school
6. Other children

Tie-break

Where it is necessary to choose between two or more applicants within a criterion for a final place, the tiebreaker will be distance, with the child who resides the nearest to The Radstone being given the place. See below for further details of the distance criterion. Where there is more than one applicant at the relevant distance, then the tiebreaker will be random allocation. The random allocation process will be independently supervised. See below for information on Random Allocation.

Late applications

All applications for Reception places received by the 'LA', and Year 1 and Year 2 received by the academy in the first year after the deadlines 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

Children are admitted in the September following their 4th birthday. 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.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. 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, including resource implications, and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

All requests must be submitted in writing to the school admissions officer (details above), including in full your grounds for the request. A decision will be based on the individual circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This includes taking into account 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 been previously educated outside 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.

Waiting lists

The academy will operate a waiting list for each year group, including the Reception year group after entry in September until June 30th in the academic year. Where in any year the academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will be in operation. 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.

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 the appeals officer by 30 April 2018 for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process will also be available on our website.

Distance criterion

'If in categories 2-6 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. The distance used in a 'tiebreaker' for any oversubscribed criterion will be a straight line distance from the child's home to the main entrance of the school. Distances will be determined on a straight line basis using a geographical information system.

Random Allocation

'If in categories 2-6 above a tie-break is necessary to determine which child is admitted, random allocation undertaken by the local authority will be used as a tie-break to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between a child's home and the academy is equidistant in any two or more cases.

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).

²The definition of a brother or sister (sometimes referred to as a 'sibling'):

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. A brother or sister **must** be living at the same address when the application is made.

³ Children of staff who are employed at The Radstone (either full- or part-time) provided that the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

⁴ Proof of eligibility for Pupil Premium and/or Service Premium will be required for places allocated under this criteria. Children given priority under this criterion fall into the following categories:

Pupil Premium

- children currently registered as eligible for free school meals
- children who have been registered as eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years;

Service Premium

- children whose parent(s) are serving in the regular UK armed forces,
- children of ex regular UK armed forces personnel who were serving in the last 3 years.
- children where at least one parent died while serving in the UK armed forces and the child is in receipt of a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme (AFCS) and the War Pensions Scheme (WPS)

⁵ The distance used in a 'tiebreaker' for any oversubscribed criterion will be a straight line distance from the child's home to the main entrance of the academy.