

Determined Admission Criteria for Nursery in Haringey Community and VC Schools in September 2026

Children may have a part-time place in a nursery centre, or a class attached to a school in the September following their third birthday. If there are more requests than part-time places available, the admission rules (over-subscription criteria) explained below will be used to decide which children will be admitted. There is no right of appeal against the decision to refuse admission of children to nurseries.

Parents/carers should note that admission to a nursery class in a school does not guarantee a place in the reception class at the same school. Parent/carers must complete their home authority School Admissions Application Form, which will be available online, by 15 January in the academic year their child turns four.

Oversubscription criteria for part time places

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. Children Looked After

Children who are looked after by a local authority or were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order, 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.

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. Social Medical

Children who the Authority accepts have an exceptional medical or social need for a place at one specific school. Applications will only be considered under this category if they are supported by a written statement from a doctor, social worker or other relevant independent professional. The information must confirm the exceptional medical or social need and demonstrate how the specified school is the only school that can meet the defined needs of the child.

3. Brother or Sister (sibling)

Children who will have a brother or sister attending the school (or its associated Infant or Junior school) at the time of admission. A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister, a foster brother or sister or an adopted brother or sister living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made.

4. Children of Staff

- Children of teaching staff of the school where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time of application, and/or
- Children of a member of staff who has been recruited to fill a vacancy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Distance

Children whose home address is closest to the preferred school.

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system.

Tie breakers

Children cannot be considered under more than one criterion. Within each criterion the sole tiebreaker to decide between two applications is children whose home address is closest to the school, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system.

The tiebreaker for two or more applications whose home address is exactly the same distance from the school (and who are not from multiple births) will be random allocation using a computerised system. The random allocation process will be supervised by an independent body.

Multiple births

If only one place is available at the school and the next child(ren) who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth, we will ask community schools to go over their published admission number.

Notes

- (i) Home address is defined as the child's only or main residence. A business address, a childminder's address or any address including a family member's address other than the child's only or main residence will not be accepted.
- (ii) If parents are separated, the application should be made by the parent the child normally lives with. Where a child spends equal time during the school week with each parent, the exact arrangements must be made clear in a letter with a copy of any child arrangements order submitted with the application. It is the parents' responsibility to agree between themselves and make clear which address will be used and to provide supporting evidence in respect of that address. An application can only be processed from one address. The final decision about which address is to be used rests with Haringey Council.

- (iii) Previously looked after children include 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 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.
- (iv) A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister, a foster brother or sister or an adopted brother or sister living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made.
- (v) Priority for children of teaching staff will be limited to one place for each form of entry in any year. Exception to this will apply to children of multiple birth or those born in the same academic year. All such applications must be submitted to the local authority and must be accompanied with the relevant paperwork supporting an application on these grounds. The applicant must take sole responsibility to provide such paperwork. Without the provision of the relevant papers, priority will not be given on these grounds.
- (vi) Haringey measures distance in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the child's home to the Ordnance Survey address point of the school, calculated using a computerised mapping system. Measurements by alternative systems or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random using a computerised system.