

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SECONDARY ADMISSION POLICY FOR COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED SCHOOLS

The County Council has delegated to the governing bodies of individual community and controlled schools the decisions about which children to admit. Every school must apply the County Council's oversubscription criteria shown below.

In accordance with the 1996 Education Act the allocation of school places for children with a statement of special educational needs will take place first. We will then allocate the remaining places in accordance with this policy.

For entry into year 7 in September we will allocate places to parents who return an application before we consider any parent who has not returned one.

The oversubscription criteria are listed in order. Words marked with a number, for example 1, 2 and 3 are explained separately in the definition and notes section.

Oversubscription criteria

- A. The child is in the care of the local authority or had previously been in care. (1)
- B. There is a brother or sister (2) on roll at the school at the time of application.
- C. The distance from the home to the school. Priority will be given to the child living nearest the school, as defined in note 3.

Grammar schools

Children who want a place at grammar school must firstly have qualified under the selection arrangements. They must also fill in the common application form or apply online. In the event of the school being oversubscribed by qualified applicants governors of community and voluntary controlled grammar schools will allocate places using the criteria listed above.

The majority of grammar schools have agreed a qualifying standard. This is normally an aggregate standardized score of 220 in a verbal reasoning test and a non-verbal reasoning test. This standard is intended to identify the top 25% of children by ability that live in an area of Lincolnshire served by a grammar school. This means the percentage pass rate may vary from one area to another and from one year to another, depending on the abilities of the children in a local area in any one year.

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Sixth form admissions

All applicants need to meet the school's overall academic standards for admission to the sixth form and any specific requirement for the particular subject. If there are more applicants than places available then applicants will be offered places in the following order:

1. Students in public care.
2. Students with a statement of special educational need.
3. The grade achieved in the relevant subject or subjects, or for those subjects not available at GCSE, a relevant subject specified in the school's sixth form brochure.
4. The average points score achieved across all GCSE subjects taken by the applicant.
5. Driving distance from home to school, with the applicant living nearer to the school having priority. This would be the tie-breaker if necessary.

Definitions and notes

1. A child in the care of the local authority is provided with accommodation by them in accordance with section 22 of the Children's Act 1989 at the time of application. This includes any child that has previously been in care and who is now adopted or who is subject to a residence order or special guardianship order
2. Brother or sister.
 - A full brother or sister, whether or not resident in the same household.
 - Another child normally living for the majority of term time in the same household, where an adult in the household has parental responsibility as defined by the Children Act 1989. Or any child in the household where an adult in the household is defined as a parent for the purposes of Section 576 of the Education Act 1996.

Twins and other siblings from a multiple birth

In these cases all the children will be considered together as one application. If one or more can be admitted within the published admission number the school will be allowed to go above its admission number as necessary to admit all the children. The government's school admissions code makes an exception to the infant class limit in this situation.

Brothers and sisters in the same year group

Where there is only one place available in the school the children will be considered together as one application. The school will be allowed to go above its admission number as necessary to admit all the children except in cases where infant class regulations prevent this from happening. If this happens we can only legally offer one place because the government's school

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admissions code makes no exception to the infant class size limit in this situation. We will offer the parent one place for one child and a different school for the other child or children. Alternatively we could offer all the children a place in another school and if this school qualifies for free transport we will provide it for all of them.

3. The nearest address to the school is found by measuring the distance from your address to the school by driving distance along public highways. We measure electronically along public highways using the post office address point of the home to the post office address point of the school.

By home we mean the address where the child lives for the majority of the school term time with a parent who has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act 1989. Or any child in the household where an adult in the household is defined as a parent for the purposes of Section 576 of the Education Act 1996. This could include a person who is not a parent but who has responsibility for her or him.

It could include a child's guardians but will not usually include other relatives such as grandparents, aunts, uncles etc unless they have all the rights, duties, powers and responsibilities and authority, which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and their property.

Where your child lives normally during the school week with more than one parent at different addresses, the home address for the purposes of school admissions will be that of the parent who lives closest, as measured by driving distance, to the school in question.

If you have more than one home, we will take as the home address the address where you and your child normally live for the majority of the school term time.

5. If any of the oversubscription criteria have too many applicants then the tie-break will be by distance using the method in note 4.
6. For admission into year 7 the governors will keep a waiting list which we call a reserve list. If you do not get a place at your first preference school your child is automatically put on the reserve list for any schools above the one you were offered. This list is in the order of the oversubscription criteria. Names can move down the list if someone moves into the area and is higher placed on the oversubscription criteria. The list is kept by the Schools Admission Team until the end of August. After this schools will keep the reserve list until the end of the autumn term and possibly longer, you should contact the school for information about the reserve list.

Schools are not required to keep any lists for any other year groups. If you wish your child to join the school at other times you can ask if the governors keep a reserve list. If they do it will be kept in the order of the oversubscription criteria. The time you have been on the list is not taken into account.

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7. If the distance criterion is not sufficient to distinguish between two applicants for the last remaining place then a lottery will be conducted by an independent person.

8. In order to meet the government's military covenant aimed at helping service personnel, and Crown Servants returning from abroad we have adopted the following arrangements. For late co-ordinated applications and mid year applications we will aim to remove any disadvantage to UK service personnel (UK Armed Forces) by applying the schools oversubscription criteria to their address. We will check to see if the address is within the distance of the last child admitted in the last admission round that was oversubscribed on offer day. If the address is within the distance the governors will be asked to consider admitting providing all children in public care and siblings have already been admitted. This will be irrespective of the fact that the school has had appeals or appeals are scheduled.

It maybe that the governors still cannot admit because of organisational or curriculum difficulties within the school. If this is the case, the Local Authority will approach the second and third preferences stated. For grammar schools the child must have qualified as well as live within the distance.

We will need the notice of posting or official government letter and posting address before we can consider an application under these arrangements. We allocate a school as soon as possible by applying the policies and practices that we normally follow.