



Proposed Admissions Arrangements

For admission to Brookdale Primary School from September 2028

Consultation period: 7.10.26 to 18.11.26

Purpose of this consultation

The Leading Learners Multi Trust is the admission authority for Brookdale Primary School. We are consulting on a proposed change to the school's oversubscription criteria for admissions from September 2028.

The proposed change is designed to give greater priority to families who already have a child attending Brookdale Primary School, while retaining catchment priority and distance-based criteria for all other applicants.

What is changing?

The current arrangements give priority to all children living within the school's catchment area before children living outside the catchment area who have a sibling at the school. We propose to move out-of-catchment siblings ahead of other catchment children who do not have a sibling at Brookdale.

Current and proposed order

Priority	Current arrangements (2027-28)	Proposed arrangements (2028-29)
1	Looked-after and previously looked-after children	Looked-after and previously looked-after children
2	Catchment children with a sibling already at the school	Catchment children with a sibling already at the school
3	Other catchment children, by distance	Out-of-catchment children with a sibling already at the school
4	Out-of-catchment children with a sibling already at the school	Other catchment children, by distance
5	Other out-of-catchment children, by distance	Other out-of-catchment children, by distance

Proposed oversubscription criteria for 2028-29

All children whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan names Brookdale Primary School will be admitted before any other places are allocated. If the school is not oversubscribed, all applicants will be offered a place.

If there are more applications than places available, places will be allocated in the following order of priority:

1. Looked-after and previously looked-after children

Highest priority will be given to looked-after children and all previously looked-after children, including children who appear to have been in state care outside England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

2. Catchment children with a sibling at the school

Children who live within the school's catchment area and who have a brother or sister attending Brookdale Primary School at the time they are due to start school.

3. Out-of-catchment children with a sibling at the school

Children who live outside the school's catchment area and who have a brother or sister attending Brookdale Primary School at the time they are due to start school.

4. Other children living within the catchment area

Other children who live within the school's catchment area, with priority determined by distance from the school.

5. Other children living outside the catchment area

All remaining applicants, with priority determined by distance from the school.

Sibling and distance arrangements

The existing definitions and tie-break arrangements will continue to apply unless the final determined policy states otherwise. The final policy will clearly define which relationships count as siblings, the requirement for the sibling to be attending the school when the younger child starts, and the method used to measure distance.

Why are we proposing this change?

- To support families who already have a child attending Brookdale Primary School.
- To increase the likelihood that brothers and sisters can attend the same school.
- To reduce the practical difficulties for families who would otherwise need to manage children attending different primary schools.
- To retain a clear and transparent priority structure in which catchment and distance remain important factors for applicants without a sibling at Brookdale.

No decision has yet been made. All consultation responses will be considered before the Trust determines the final admission arrangements.

Who are we consulting?

The consultation is open to anyone with an interest in the school's admission arrangements. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the admission authority will ensure that the required consultees are given an opportunity to respond. This includes parents and carers, relevant local schools and admission authorities, the Local Authority and other interested members of the local community.

How to respond

Please complete the online consultation response form by the closing date:

Google Form: <https://forms.gle/8jLKodNJzJqgGoiz6>

If you are unable to use the online form, a paper response can be requested from the school office (0151 677 5170). Responses received after the closing date may not be included in the formal consultation analysis.

What happens next?

- The consultation responses will be collated and considered by the admission authority.
- The Trust will decide whether to adopt the proposed change, amend it, or retain the existing arrangements.
- The admission arrangements for September 2028 must be formally determined by 28 February 2027.
- The final determined admissions policy will then be published in accordance with the statutory admissions timetable.

Important note

This consultation relates to the order of Brookdale Primary School's oversubscription criteria from September 2028. It does not affect children who already have a place at the school, and it does not change the requirement to admit a child where an EHC Plan names Brookdale Primary School.

Draft policy wording – Section 5.2

The following wording is proposed for inclusion in the 2028-29 Admissions Policy:

5.2 Oversubscription criteria

All children whose education, health and care (EHC) plan names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated. If the school is not oversubscribed, all applicants will be offered a place.

If there are more applications than there are places available, then eligibility will be determined in accordance with the following scheme of priorities:

1. Highest priority will be given to looked after children and all previously looked after children who apply for a place at the school.

Then children who live in the school's catchment zone in the following priority order:

2. Children who already have older brothers or sisters (including half or step siblings living in the same household) at the school when they are due to start school. If there are more children with older brothers or sisters at the school than there are places available, we will give priority to children with the youngest brothers or sisters at the school. We will also treat a brother or sister at a corresponding junior school as a sibling. Where there is more than one applicant with a sibling in the same year group, priority will be given to those children who live nearest to the school. We measure distances from the child's home to the school gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider to be a safe walking route, using the Council's computerised routing system.
3. Children who already have older brothers or sisters (including half or step- brothers and sisters living in the same household) at the school when they are due to start school. If there are more children with older brothers or sisters at the school than there are places available, we will give priority to children

with the youngest brothers or sisters at the school. We will also treat a brother or sister at a corresponding junior school as a sibling. Where there is more than one applicant with a sibling in the same year group, priority will be given to those children who live nearest to the school. We measure distances from home to the school gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider to be a safe walking route, using the Council's computerised routing system.

4. Children who live nearest to the school. We measure distances from home to the school gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route, unless it is possible to use a footpath which we consider to be a safe walking route, using the Council's computerised routing system.

If places remain available, eligibility for children who do not live in the school's catchment area will be determined in accordance with the following scheme of priorities.

5. Pupils who live nearest to the school. We measure distances from home to the school gate nearest to the child's home using the shortest road route, unless it's possible to use a footpath which we consider to be a safe walking route, using the Council's computerised routing system.