



Admissions
Policy

2017-2018



AIMS

We seek to fulfil the needs of learners in a caring, happy environment, enabling them to realise their true potential as young people and citizens.

We aim to enable our learners to:-

PREPARE for adult life in a happy, caring and purposeful environment

ACHIEVE their full potential regardless of individual need

CARE for everyone and encourage respect and tolerance

ENJOY education and rejoice in success



The Whitby High School is an 11-18 foundation school. The Governing Body is the admissions authority and the admission limit for September 2017 is 270 places.

1. The Governor's admission policy on the allocation of places at The Whitby High School follows the Local Authority model. Advice on the appeals procedure should the parents not be satisfied with the allocation, appears in the booklet "**Transferring to Secondary School in Cheshire.**" The booklet is sent in September to the parents of Cheshire children in the secondary transfer age group and is available to other parents on request. Appeals forms for the school are available from the school directly on request.
2. In prioritising applications from parents expressing a preference for the school, the following criteria are used:
 - 2.1 Cared for children'. A 'cared for child' is a child who is in the care of the local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority (as defined in section 22 of the Children Act 1989).
 - 2.2 **Children for whom there are particular medical or social reasons, which, in the Governors' view, justifies admission to a particular school.** Supporting evidence from a registered professional, such as a medical practitioner, psychologist or social worker, must be provided which sets out the particular reasons why the school in question is the most suitable school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. A panel of Governors will consider the information presented and will determine whether the evidence is sufficiently compelling to apply this criterion to the application. The Governors, if it is considered appropriate, will seek the views of the School Doctor or Educational Psychologist in the event of parents requesting admission on medical or psychological grounds. This criterion cannot be considered if the required documents have not been received. Few applications fall within this category.
 - 2.3 Siblings – pupils with brothers or sisters, step-brothers or step-sisters, half-brothers and half-sisters living together as part of one household, already attending the preferred school, and expected to continue at the school in the following school year.
 - 2.4 **Children resident within the designated catchment zone of the school** Children will be classed within this category if they and their parents/carers are resident within the area served by the school on the closing date for applications.
 - 2.5 Pupils not resident within a school's local catchment area but attending a school designated as a partner/feeder school for admissions purposes, as out-of-area pupils.

The designated partner/feeder schools are:

Capenhurst CE Primary
Ellesmere Port Christchurch CE Primary
Meadow Primary
Sutton Green Primary School
Whitby Heath Primary School
William Stockton Primary
Woodlands CE Primary

2.6 Pupils for whom there are exceptional personal/domestic circumstances presented by the parents that justify at the time of application, in the school's view, admission to the school (few applications fall into this category.)

2.7 Pupils living nearest to the school (Distance) are measured using Ordnance Survey mapping in conjunction with Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) to identify each property and each school. A straight line measurement in miles is taken from the place of residence to the preferred school to calculate the distance.'

Where the school can accommodate some, but not all pupils qualifying under one of the preceding criteria, priority will be given to pupils having regard to the subsequent criteria.

Late applications for places will be considered after all applications received on time.

Repeat applications will not be considered within the same school year, unless the parents' or the school's circumstances have changed significantly since the original application was made.

Section 324 of the Education Act 1996 requires the governing bodies of all maintained schools to admit a child with a statement of special education needs that names their school.

3 PARENTAL PREFERENCES

3.1 The law requires that the Governing body at The Whitby High School must comply with an expressed parental preference unless they can establish that to do so would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources.

3.2 The law allows the Governors at The Whitby High School to decide their own oversubscription criteria, which determine the rank order in which children will be admitted until the Published Admission Number is reached.

3.3 The Governors at The Whitby High School have included in their oversubscription criteria ***residence in a designated catchment zone*** but this does not mean that residence in the designated catchment zone **guarantees** a place at The Whitby High School. Places cannot be 'reserved' for children who may move into the catchment zone after the allocation date has passed.

4. NET CAPACITY

In order to ensure consistency in available teaching space and therefore, the number of pupils that any given school should be admitting, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has provided guidelines for assessing the net capacity of schools. The following gives the assessment of net capacity under the formula, which gives the indicative admission number.

Sufficiency Assessment Net Capacity	1598
Indicative Admission Number	270
Published Admission Number	270

a. ADMISSION NUMBER

Section 1.21 of the School Admissions Code from the DCSF states that:

“Admission authorities are required to consult before setting or amending a published admission number. Once an admission number has been set by the admission authority Pupils should not then be admitted above the published admission number unless exceptional circumstances apply or as part of in-year fair access protocols.”

5. SIXTH FORM

The external admission number for places in Year 12 is 30. Pupils wishing to join Whitby High School in Year 12 must however, meet the academic criteria set for their intended courses. (A level courses require a minimum of 5A*-C grades at GCSE except in exceptional circumstances e.g. illness in which case regard will be made of prior achievement. Individual subjects may set a minimum requirement grade which is indicated in the sixth form prospectus.)

