



## **ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS 2024/2025**

**Determined and agreed by the Board of Trustees**

**09.02.23**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Guy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Julia Guy  
*Chair of the Board*

## Key notes – ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2024/2025

School name	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Beechwood Primary Academy</li> <li>▪ Oakwood Primary Academy</li> <li>▪ Weston Mill Community Primary Academy</li> </ul>	
Admission authority	The Board of Trustees of the Discovery Multi Academy Trust	
Schools' status	Academy	
Catchment area	No	
Supplementary Information Form	<p>Yes - children in receipt of early years premium, the pupil premium or the service premium only (Beechwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Community Primary Academy only)</p> <p>Yes - parents who are members of staff only (all schools)</p> <p>Yes - exceptional medical and social need for admission</p>	
Application forms available online	<a href="http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions">www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions</a>	
	Normal point of entry	In-Year admission
Age range for application	1 September 2019 – 31 August 2020	Any admission other than the normal point of entry in years Reception/Foundation – year 6
Application period	Wednesday 15 November 2023 – Sunday 15 January 2024	From Sunday 1 September 2024
Offer date	Monday 16 April 2024	Within 15 school days of application receipt
Published admission number	See section 4	

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## **ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS: DISCOVERY MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

The Board of Trustees of the Discovery Multi Academy Trust is the admission authority for Beechwood Primary Academy, Oakwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Community Primary Academy. The admission authority will comply with provisions within the School Admissions Code and the School Appeals Code available at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2)

The admission arrangements outlined within this document apply to admissions in the 2024/2025 academic year.

### **SECTION I**

#### **Admission arrangements for Beechwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Primary Academy**

##### **(i) Reception/Foundation admissions (normal point of entry)**

The admission arrangements outlined within this section apply to children starting in the Reception/Foundation Year for the first time in 2024/2025. The published admission number (PAN) for this year group is shown in the school list at Section 4 and in the Starting School guide for parents. The close date for application is 15 January 2024. Allocation results will be notified on 16 April 2024. The admission authority follows Plymouth City Council's coordinated primary admissions scheme available at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

All applicants must:

- (i) Complete the Common Application Form available from, and returnable to their home local authority;
- (ii) In addition, applicants applying under criteria 2 below must complete the exceptional medical or social grounds supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (iii) In addition, applicants applying under the oversubscription criteria applicable to early years premium, the pupil premium or the service premium (criteria 4) must complete the pupil premium supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (iv) In addition, applicants applying under the oversubscription criteria applicable to members of staff (criteria 5) must complete the staff supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

#### **Oversubscription criteria for Beechwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Primary Academy for normal point of entry**

A child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school will be admitted.

At the normal point of entry, where there are fewer applicants than the PAN, all children will be admitted unless they can be offered a higher ranked preference.

In the event that the School is oversubscribed, the admission authority will apply the following oversubscription criteria in order of priority:

1. **Looked after children and all previously looked after children.** 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) at the time of making an application to a school or (c) children who appear 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 in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order);
2. **Children with exceptional medical or social need.** Children with an exceptional medical or social need for a place at this school. Applicants will only be considered under this heading if the parent/carer or their representative can demonstrate that only the preferred school can meet the exceptional medical or social needs of the child. The need must be specific to the school: a child may have very challenging circumstances that require additional support but if that support could be provided at another school, there would be no exceptional need to attend this school. The exceptional need could be due to the parent/carer's circumstances. Evidence provided can be in the form of a testimony from a medical practitioner, social worker or other professional who can support the application on an 'exceptional' basis. Without satisfactory supporting evidence, we will not prioritise an application as demonstrating exceptional need. It is not expected that a parent/carer would seek a claim under exceptional medical or social need for a school that is not the first ranked preference school.

Exceptional medical or social need could include, for example:

- a serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence
- a significant caring role for the child which can be supported by evidence from social services;

Exceptional need for admission here will not be accepted on the grounds that:

- a child may be separated from a friendship group;
- parents wish to avoid a child from the current or previous setting;
- transport arrangements would have to be changed;
- the child has a particular interest or ability in a subject or activity.

3. **Children with a sibling already attending this school at the time of admission.** Children will be classed as siblings if they live in the same household in a single family unit. This includes for example, full, half, step, or adoptive brothers or sisters;
4. **Children attending this school's own nursery who are in receipt early years pupil premium, the pupil premium or the service premium** at the time of application evidence through completion of the pupil premium supplementary information form<sup>1</sup>;
5. **Children whose parent/carer is a member of staff employed on a permanent contract at this school** for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage evidenced by completion of the staff supplementary information form<sup>1</sup>.

(This all covers staff working at the school to which the application relates but does not include staff who work on the school site for other employers);

6. **Other children** not shown in a higher oversubscription criteria.

## **NOTES:**

**Admission out of the normal age group:** Places will normally be offered in the year group according to the child's date of birth but a parent may submit an application for a year group other than the child's chronological year group. A decision will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of 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 previously been educated out 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. The admission authority will also take into account the views of the head teacher of the school(s) concerned. Parents must not assume that the decision of one school will transfer with the child to a different school as the decision rests with the individual admission authority. Where a place is refused in a different year group but a place is offered in the school, there will be no right of appeal

**Appeals:** In the event that an applicant is denied a place at the school, the parent/carer will have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Information relating to the appeal process can be obtained from Plymouth City Council's School Admissions Team<sup>1</sup>.

**Fraudulent applications/withdrawal of allocated places:** The School Admissions Code allows an offer of a school place to be withdrawn if:

- it has been offered in error or
- a parent has not responded within a reasonable period of time or
- it is established that the offer was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application. An example of this would be knowingly using an incorrect home address for a child. In these cases the application would be considered using the information that the local authority believes to be correct, for example using the home address where the local authority considers that the child actually lives.

All suspected fraudulent applications will be investigated and if a case is found, it could lead to criminal prosecution.

**Home address:** Any allegations received by the admission authority of people providing false or accommodation addresses when applying for school places shall be fully investigated and, if found to be true, it could lead to a criminal prosecution and withdrawal of an allocated place. Schools have been advised by Plymouth City Council to ask parents/carers to provide proof of residence (for example utility bills) before admitting a child. Plymouth local authority (LA) will also carry out checks as appropriate<sup>1</sup>. A child's home address is defined as the address at which the child is normally resident or, where a child lives at more than one address, the address at which the child lives for the majority of the time. Where the home address is unclear, the Admission Authority will determine the appropriate address taking into account factors such as the address to which the Child Benefit Allowance or Child Tax Credit is payable, registration for medical services etc.

**Mode of study and start date:** There is a legal requirement that all children begin full time education by the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday, this is referred to as compulsory school age.

Places are offered to children for admission at the beginning of the September term after the fourth birthday. That is before they reach compulsory school age.

Parents 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. September 2024 is the earliest point for admission to the Reception class at a primary school but is not a compulsory start date. All parents can defer admission within the Reception year until the beginning of the term following their child's **fifth** birthday. This is a decision for the parent to make, taking all factors into account including the advice of educational professionals.

Those parents who decide that their child should defer must inform the Headteacher. The place offered for their child **will be held open and will not be offered to another child**. Where a parent does not inform the Headteacher that admission is to be deferred and does not admit the child in September, the place may be withdrawn and offered to another child.

For normal point of entry: the expected point of admission will be September 2024.

**Multiple births:** Defined as the birth of more than one baby from a single pregnancy. We understand that parents/carers would like to keep twins, triplets and other children of multiple birth together. Where one can be admitted within the PAN or Admission Number (AN), schools may admit them all and exceed the PAN or Admission Number (AN), if necessary. In Year's R, 1 and 2, these additional children will be 'excepted pupils' as set out in the School Admissions Code.

**Nursery School:** Beechwood Primary Academy's own nursery school is Beechwood Primary Academy Nursery. Weston Mill Primary Academy's own nursery school is Weston Mill Primary Nursery Academy.

**Response:** Parents/carers must respond to an allocation of a school place within:

- Two weeks of the date of notification of availability of a school place for In-Year admissions
- One week of the date of notification of a school place for Normal Point of Entry

Responses must be made to Plymouth City Council. In the absence of a response, the offer may be revoked and the place may be reallocated to someone else. Parent/carers declining the offer of a place should notify the educational arrangements they plan to provide for their child.

**Tie Breaker:** Where we have to choose between two or more children in the same category as each other, then the nearer to the school the child lives - as measured by a straight line on the map using Plymouth City Council's electronic mapping system - the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from the spatial locator identified by the National Land and Property Gazetteer. The spatial locator is the address point based on a general internal point. Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location. If the tie-breaker is not sufficient to distinguish between applicants in a particular category, there will be a random ballot as set out in the School Admissions Code. This will be undertaken by an officer of Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

**Waiting lists:** If a place cannot be offered at the preferred school at the normal point of entry, the child's name will automatically be added to the waiting list for any school ranked higher than the school allocated at the normal point of entry. Those on a waiting list and late applicants will be treated equally and placed on the same list. Waiting lists will be held in the order of the published admission criteria and will be maintained until the end of the summer holidays 2024 in respect of the normal point of entry. Any vacancies that arise will be allocated to the child at the top of the waiting list.

From 1 September 2024, the in-year admissions scheme applies and the waiting list procedure will change in that parent/carers will be asked if they wish their child to be added to a waiting list and to confirm their wish for their child to remain on a waiting list in order that the list can be kept up to date.

## **(ii) In-Year admissions (admissions outside the normal point of entry)**

The admission arrangements outlined within this section apply to in-year admissions during the 2024/2025 academic year.

An In-Year admission is any entry to school other than at the normal point, for example, transferring school due to a house move or for other personal reason. Requests for admission to Reception made after the normal round of admissions – after 31 August 2024 – and requests for places in other year groups should be made direct to Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

With the exception of a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), all applications will be considered under Plymouth City Council's Fair Access Protocol.

Application should be made via Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions). The primary schools within the Discovery multi academy trust follow Plymouth City Council's local coordinated in-year admissions scheme available at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

All applicants must:

- (i) Complete the Common Application Form available from and returnable to Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (ii) In addition, applicants applying under criteria 2 below must complete the exceptional medical or social grounds supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (iii) In addition, applicants applying under oversubscription criteria 4 must complete the staff supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

Unless otherwise agreed, the published admission number applies to each year group as it moves through the school. The close date for application is the end of each working day. Offers should be made within twenty school days of the application submission date.

## **Oversubscription criteria for Beechwood Primary Academy and Weston Mill Primary Academy for in-year admissions**

A child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school will be admitted.

For in-year admissions where there is space in the school, all children will be admitted unless the school can demonstrate that admission would prejudice provision of efficient education or efficient use of resources.

In the event that the School is oversubscribed, the admission authority will apply the following oversubscription criteria in order of priority:

- I. **Looked after children and all previously looked after children.** 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) at the time of making an application to a school or (c) children who appear 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 in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order);

2. **Children with exceptional medical or social need.** Children with an exceptional medical or social need for a place at this school. Applicants will only be considered under this heading if the parent/carer or their representative can demonstrate that only the preferred school can meet the exceptional medical or social needs of the child. The need must be specific to the school: a child may have very challenging circumstances that require additional support but if that support could be provided at another school, there would be no exceptional need to attend this school. The exceptional need could be due to the parent/carer's circumstances. Evidence provided can be in the form of a testimony from a medical practitioner, social worker or other professional who can support the application on an 'exceptional' basis. Without satisfactory supporting evidence, we will not prioritise an application as demonstrating exceptional need. It is not expected that a parent/carer would seek a claim under exceptional medical or social need for a school that is not the first ranked preference school.

Exceptional medical or social need could include, for example:

- a serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence
- a significant caring role for the child which can be supported by evidence from social services;

Exceptional need for admission here will not be accepted on the grounds that:

- a child may be separated from a friendship group;
- parents wish to avoid a child from the current or previous setting;
- transport arrangements would have to be changed;
- the child has a particular interest or ability in a subject or activity.

3. **Children with a sibling already attending this school at the time of admission.** Children will be classed as siblings if they live in the same household in a single family unit. This includes for example, full, half, step, or adoptive brothers or sisters;
4. **Children whose parent/carer is a member of staff employed on a permanent contract at this school** for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage evidenced by completion of the staff supplementary information form<sup>1</sup>. (This all covers staff working at the school to which the application relates but does not include staff who work on the school site for other employers);
5. **Other children** not shown in a higher oversubscription criteria.

## NOTES:

**Admission out of the normal age group:** Places will normally be offered in the year group according to the child's date of birth but a parent may submit an application for a year group other than the child's chronological year group. A decision will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of 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 previously been educated out 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. The admission authority will also take into account the views of the head teacher of the school(s) concerned. Parents must not assume that the decision of one school will transfer with the child to a different school as the decision rests with the individual admission authority. Where a place is refused in a different year group but a place is offered in the school, there will be no right of appeal

**Appeals:** In the event that an applicant is denied a place at the school, the parent/carer will have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Information relating to the appeal process can be obtained from Plymouth City Council's School Admissions Team<sup>1</sup>.

**Fraudulent applications/withdrawal of allocated places:** The School Admissions Code allows an offer of a school place to be withdrawn if:

- it has been offered in error or
- a parent has not responded within a reasonable period of time or
- it is established that the offer was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application. An example of this would be knowingly using an incorrect home address for a child. In these cases the application would be considered using the information that the local authority believes to be correct, for example using the home address where the local authority considers that the child actually lives.

All suspected fraudulent applications will be investigated and if a case is found, it could lead to criminal prosecution.

**Home address:** Any allegations received by the admission authority of people providing false or accommodation addresses when applying for school places shall be fully investigated and, if found to be true, it could lead to a criminal prosecution and withdrawal of an allocated place. Schools have been advised by Plymouth City Council to ask parents/carers to provide proof of residence (for example utility bills) before admitting a child. Plymouth local authority (LA) will also carry out checks as appropriate<sup>1</sup>. A child's home address is defined as the address at which the child is normally resident or, where a child lives at more than one address, the address at which the child lives for the majority of the time. Where the home address is unclear, the Admission Authority will determine the appropriate address taking into account factors such as the address to which the Child Benefit Allowance or Child Tax Credit is payable, registration for medical services etc.

**Mode of study and start date:** There is a legal requirement that all children begin full time education by the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday, this is referred to as compulsory school age. Places are offered to children for admission at the beginning of the September term after the fourth birthday. That is before they reach compulsory school age.

Parents 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. September 2024 is the earliest point for admission to the Reception class at a primary school but is not a compulsory start date. All parents can defer admission within the Reception year until the beginning of the term following their child's **fifth** birthday. This is a decision for the parent to make, taking all factors into account including the advice of educational professionals.

Those parents who decide that their child should defer must inform the Headteacher. The place offered for their child **will be held open and will not be offered to another child**. Where a parent does not inform the Headteacher that admission is to be deferred and does not admit the child in September, the place may be withdrawn and offered to another child.

For in-year admissions: the expected point of admission will be within two weeks of the date of the allocation or within six weeks of the original application whichever is the later (unless other arrangements have been made with the school).

**Multiple births:** Defined as the birth of more than one baby from a single pregnancy. We understand that parents/carers would like to keep twins, triplets and other children of multiple birth together. Where the admission criteria is applied and it is not possible to offer places to all children of the same multiple birth family we would work with the family to find the best solution for them and their children. Should it transpire that it is not possible to offer place(s) to all children within that multiple birth, there will be a random ballot as set out in the School Admissions Code. This will be undertaken by an officer of Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

**Response:** Parents/carers must respond to an allocation of a school place within:

- Two weeks of the date of notification of availability of a school place for In-Year admissions
- One week of the date of notification of a school place for Normal Point of Entry

Responses must be made to Plymouth City Council. In the absence of a response, the offer may be revoked and the place may be reallocated to someone else. Parent/carers declining the offer of a place should notify the educational arrangements they plan to provide for their child.

**Tie Breaker:** Where we have to choose between two or more children in the same category as each other, then the nearer to the school the child lives - as measured by a straight line on the map using Plymouth City Council's electronic mapping system - the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from the spatial locator identified by the National Land and Property Gazetteer. The spatial locator is the address point based on a general internal point. Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location. If the tie-breaker is not sufficient to distinguish between applicants in a particular category, there will be a random ballot as set out in the School Admissions Code. This will be undertaken by an officer of Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

**Waiting lists:** If a place cannot be offered at the preferred school parent/carers will be asked if they wish their child to be added to a waiting list and to confirm their wish for their child to remain on a waiting list in order that the list can be kept up to date. Waiting lists will be held in the order of the published admission criteria any vacancies that arise will be allocated to the child at the top of the waiting list.

## **SECTION 2**

### **Admission arrangements for Oakwood Primary Academy**

#### **(i) Reception/Foundation admissions (normal point of entry)**

The admission arrangements outlined within this section apply to children starting in the Reception/Foundation Year for the first time in 2024/2025. The published admission number (PAN) for this year group is shown in the school list at Section 4 and in the Starting School guide for parents. The closing date for application is 15 January 2024. Allocation results will be notified on 16 April 2024. The admission authority follows Plymouth City Council's coordinated primary admissions scheme available at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

All applicants must:

- (i) Complete the Common Application Form available from, and returnable to their home local authority;
- (ii) In addition, applicants applying under criteria 2 below must complete the exceptional medical or social grounds supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (iii) In addition, applicants applying under criteria 4 below must complete the staff supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

## **(ii) In-Year admissions (admissions outside the normal point of entry)**

The admission arrangements outlined within this section apply to in-year admissions during the 2024/2025 academic year.

An In-Year admission is any entry to school other than at the normal point, for example, transferring school due to a house move or for other personal reason. Requests for admission to Reception made after the normal round of admissions – after 31 August 2024 – and requests for places in other year groups should be made direct to Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

With the exception of a child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), all applications will be considered under Plymouth City Council's Fair Access Protocol.

Application should be made via Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions). Reach South Multi Academy Trust follows Plymouth City Council's local coordinated in-year admissions scheme available at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

All applicants must:

- (i) Complete the Common Application Form available from and returnable to Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (ii) In addition, applicants applying under criteria 2 below must complete the exceptional medical or social grounds supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>;
- (iii) In addition, applicants applying under oversubscription criteria 4 must complete the staff supplementary information form and return it direct to the School Admissions Team, Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup>.

Unless otherwise agreed, the published admission number applies to each year group as it moves through the school. The close date for application is the end of each working day. Offers should be made within twenty school days of the application submission date.

## **(iii) Oversubscription criteria for Oakwood Primary Academy for normal point of entry and in-year admissions**

A child with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school will be admitted.

At the normal point of entry, where there are fewer applicants than the PAN, all children will be admitted unless they can be offered a higher ranked preference.

For in-year admissions where there is space in the school, all children will be admitted unless the school can demonstrate that admission would prejudice provision of efficient education or efficient use of resources.

In the event that the School is oversubscribed, the admission authority will apply the following oversubscription criteria in order of priority:

1. **Looked after children and all previously looked after children.** 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) at the time of making an application to a school or (c) children who appear 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 in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order);
2. **Children with exceptional medical or social need.** Children with an exceptional medical or social need for a place at this school. Applicants will only be considered under this heading if the parent/carer or their representative can demonstrate that only the preferred school can meet the exceptional medical or social needs of the child. The need must be specific to the school: a child may have very challenging circumstances that require additional support but if that support could be provided at another school, there would be no exceptional need to attend this school. The exceptional need could be due to the parent/carer's circumstances. Evidence provided can be in the form of a testimony from a medical practitioner, social worker or other professional who can support the application on an 'exceptional' basis. Without satisfactory supporting evidence, we will not prioritise an application as demonstrating exceptional need. It is not expected that a parent/carer would seek a claim under exceptional medical or social need for a school that is not the first ranked preference school.

Exceptional medical or social need could include, for example:

- a serious medical condition, which can be supported by medical evidence
- a significant caring role for the child which can be supported by evidence from social services;

Exceptional need for admission here will not be accepted on the grounds that:

- a child may be separated from a friendship group;
- parents wish to avoid a child from the current or previous setting;
- transport arrangements would have to be changed;
- the child has a particular interest or ability in a subject or activity.

3. **Children with a sibling already attending this school at the time of admission.** Children will be classed as siblings if they live in the same household in a single family unit. This includes for example, full, half, step, or adoptive brothers or sisters;
4. **Children whose parent/carer is a member of staff employed on a permanent contract at this school** for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the

school is made or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage evidenced by completion of the staff supplementary information form<sup>1</sup>. (This all covers staff working at the school to which the application relates but does not include staff who work on the school site for other employers);

5. **Other children** not shown in a higher oversubscription criteria.

**NOTES:**

**Admission out of the normal age group:** Places will normally be offered in the year group according to the child's date of birth but a parent may submit an application for a year group other than the child's chronological year group. A decision will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of 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 previously been educated out 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. The admission authority will also take into account the views of the head teacher of the school(s) concerned. Parents must not assume that the decision of one school will transfer with the child to a different school as the decision rests with the individual admission authority. Where a place is refused in a different year group but a place is offered in the school, there will be no right of appeal.

**Appeals:** In the event that an applicant is denied a place at the school, the parent/carer will have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Information relating to the appeal process can be obtained from Plymouth City Council's School Admissions Team<sup>1</sup>.

**Fraudulent applications/withdrawal of allocated places:** The School Admissions Code allows an offer of a school place to be withdrawn if:

- it has been offered in error or
- a parent has not responded within a reasonable period of time or
- it is established that the offer was obtained through a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application. An example of this would be knowingly using an incorrect home address for a child. In these cases the application would be considered using the information that the local authority believes to be correct, for example using the home address where the local authority considers that the child actually lives.

All suspected fraudulent applications will be investigated and if a case is found, it could lead to criminal prosecution.

**Home address:** Any allegations received by the admission authority of people providing false or accommodation addresses when applying for school places shall be fully investigated and, if found to be true, it could lead to a criminal prosecution and withdrawal of an allocated place. Schools have been advised by Plymouth City Council to ask parents/carers to provide proof of residence (for example utility bills) before admitting a child. Plymouth local authority (LA) will also carry out checks as appropriate<sup>1</sup>. A child's home address is defined as the address at which the child is normally resident or, where a child lives at more than one address, the address at which the child lives for the majority of the time. Where the home address is unclear, the Admission Authority will determine the appropriate address taking into account factors such as the address to which the Child Benefit Allowance or Child Tax Credit is payable, registration for medical services etc.

**Mode of study and start date:** There is a legal requirement that all children begin full time education by the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday, this is referred to as compulsory school age.

Places are offered to children for admission at the beginning of the September term after the fourth birthday. That is before they reach compulsory school age.

Parents 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. September 2024 is the earliest point for admission to the Reception class at a primary school but is not a compulsory start date. All parents can defer admission within the Reception year until the beginning of the term following their child's **fifth** birthday. This is a decision for the parent to make, taking all factors into account including the advice of educational professionals.

Those parents who decide that their child should defer must inform the Headteacher. The place offered for their child **will be held open and will not be offered to another child**. Where a parent does not inform the Headteacher that admission is to be deferred and does not admit the child in September, the place may be withdrawn and offered to another child.

For normal point of entry: the expected point of admission will be September 2024.

For in-year admissions: the expected point of admission will be within two weeks of the date of the allocation or within six weeks of the original application whichever is the later (unless other arrangements have been made with the school).

**Multiple births:** Defined as the birth of more than one baby from a single pregnancy. We understand that parents/carers would like to keep twins, triplets and other children of multiple birth together. Where the admission criteria is applied and it is not possible to offer places to all children of the same multiple birth family we would work with the family to find the best solution for them and their children. Should it transpire that it is not possible to offer place(s) to all children within that multiple birth, there will be a random ballot as set out in the School Admissions Code. This will be undertaken by an officer of Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

**Response:** Parents/carers must respond to an allocation of a school place within:

- Two weeks of the date of notification of availability of a school place for In-Year admissions
- One week of the date of notification of a school place for Normal Point of Entry

Responses must be made to Plymouth City Council. In the absence of a response, the offer may be revoked and the place may be reallocated to someone else. Parent/carers declining the offer of a place should notify the educational arrangements they plan to provide for their child.

**Tie Breaker:** Where we have to choose between two or more children in the same category as each other, then the nearer to the school the child lives - as measured by a straight line on the map using Plymouth City Council's electronic mapping system - the higher the priority. Measurement points will be from the spatial locator identified by the National Land and Property Gazetteer. The spatial locator is the address point based on a general internal point. Flats are therefore taken to be the same measurement point regardless of floor of location. If the tie-breaker is not sufficient to distinguish between applicants in a particular category, there will be a random ballot as set out in the School Admissions Code. This will be undertaken by an officer of Plymouth City Council<sup>1</sup> by the operation of an electronic random number generator.

**Waiting lists:** If a place cannot be offered at the preferred school at the normal point of entry, the child's name will automatically be added to the waiting list for any school ranked higher than the school allocated at the normal point of entry. Those on a waiting list and late applicants will be treated equally and placed on the same list. Waiting lists will be held in the order of the published admission criteria and will be maintained until the end of the summer holidays 2024 in respect of the normal point of entry. Any vacancies that arise will be allocated to the child at the top of the waiting list.

From 1 September 2024, the in-year admissions scheme applies and the waiting list procedure will change in that parent/carers will be asked if they wish their child to be added to a waiting list and to confirm their wish for their child to remain on a waiting list in order that the list can be kept up to date.



### SECTION 3

#### (i) PUPIL PREMIUM SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM

#### EARLY YEARS PUPIL PREMIUM, THE PUPIL PREMIUM OR THE SERVICE PREMIUM

**You should only complete this form if:**

- a) You have named Beechwood Primary Academy or Weston Mill Primary Academy on the Common Application Form and your child is currently on roll at the school's own nursery school in the pre-school provision;**
- and**
- b) Your child is in receipt of early years pupil premium, the pupil premium or the service premium at the time of application.**

You will need to take this form to your child's school for the school to complete part B. You then need to return the completed form by 15 January 2024 to be included in the normal point of entry allocations made on 16 April 2024. Forms received after this date will still be considered but will not be included within the first allocation round. For an in-year admission to any year group, the form should be submitted with the application form. Return the form to: School Admissions Team, Education, Participation and Skills, Plymouth City Council, Windsor House, Tavistock Road, Plymouth PL6 5UF.

#### **PART A - To be completed by the parent/carer**

<b>Child's full name:</b>	
Date of birth:	
I confirm that the child named above is in receipt of early years pupil premium, the pupil premium or the service premium	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Name of school currently attended:	
Name of parent/carer:	
Relationship to child:	
Signature:	
Date:	

#### **Data Protection**

The information collected on this form will be processed and may be stored electronically by the school in compliance with the Data Protection Act. The data may be shared with Plymouth City Council or other agents of the school, but only for administrative or other service provision purposes and with Government Departments where there is a legal requirement to do so. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, should information given be found to be fraudulent then the offer of a school place can be withdrawn. If you would like further information about Data Protection, please contact the school. By signing or submitting this form you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agreed to this data processing.

## PART B

To be completed by Beechwood Primary Academy or Weston Mill Primary Academy as appropriate

Child's full name:	
Date of birth:	
I confirm that the child named above is currently in receipt of early years pupil premium, the pupil premium or the service premium:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name of school currently attended:	
Name of person completing the form:	
Position held in school:	
Signature:	
Date:	
Telephone number:	
School stamp:	

### Data Protection

The information collected on this form will be processed and may be stored electronically by the school in compliance with the Data Protection Act. The data may be shared with Plymouth City Council or other agents of the school, but only for administrative or other service provision purposes and with Government Departments where there is a legal requirement to do so. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, should information given be found to be fraudulent then the offer of a school place can be withdrawn. If you would like further information about Data Protection, please contact the school. By signing or submitting this form you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agreed to this data processing.

**(ii) STAFF SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM 2024/2025**

Please note this is a supplementary information form for administration purposes only and is not an application form. It will used to rank a submitted application according to the published admission criteria.

**Only complete this form if you are:**

- a) A member of staff employed on a permanent contract by the school (and working at the school applied for) for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made;**
- or**
- b) A member of staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.**

If you are applying under a) or b) above, you need to take this form to the school of employment for the school to complete part B. You then need to return the completed form by 15 January 2024 to be included in the normal point of entry allocations made on 16 April 2024. Forms received after this date will still be considered but will not be included within the first allocation round. For an in-year admission to any year group, the form should be submitted with the application form. Return the form to: School Admissions Team, Education, Participation and Skills, Plymouth City Council, Windsor House, Tavistock Road Plymouth, PL6 5UF.

**Part A - To be completed by the parent/carer**

<b>Child's full name:</b>	
Date of birth:	
Member of staff employed by the school:	
Name of school of employment:	
Name of parent/carer:	
Relationship to child:	
Signature:	
Date:	

**Data Protection**

The information collected on this form will be processed and may be stored electronically by the school in compliance with the Data Protection Act. The data may be shared with Plymouth City Council or other agents of the school, but only for administrative or other service provision purposes and with Government Departments where there is a legal requirement to do so. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, should information given be found to be fraudulent then the offer of a school place can be withdrawn. If you would like further information about Data Protection, please contact the school. By signing or submitting this form you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agreed to this data processing.

**PART B - To be completed by the school of employment**

Child's full name:		
Date of birth:		
Name of member of staff employed by the school:		
The above named member of staff is employed in the following capacity:	A member of staff employed on a permanent contract by the school (and working at the school applied for) for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	A member of staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage <input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Name of school:		
Name of person completing the form:		
Position held in school:		
Signature:		
Date:		
Telephone number:		
School stamp:		

**Data Protection**

The information collected on this form will be processed and may be stored electronically by the school in compliance with the Data Protection Act. The data may be shared with Plymouth City Council or other agents of the school, but only for administrative or other service provision purposes and with Government Departments where there is a legal requirement to do so. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, should information given be found to be fraudulent then the offer of a school place can be withdrawn. If you would like further information about Data Protection, please contact the school. By signing or submitting this form you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agreed to this data processing.

(iii) **EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL OR SOCIAL NEED FOR ADMISSION**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM 2024/2025**

Please note this is a supplementary information form for administration purposes only and is not an application form. It will be used to rank a submitted application according to the published admission criteria.

**Only complete this form if you are seeking admission priority on the grounds of exceptional need.**

If you wish us to consider whether your child or yourself has exceptional medical or social need to attend this school (criteria 2) you must submit independent professional evidence which explains clearly why it is essential to attend this school and no other school. Please make sure that you have read the description of exceptional medical or social need in the admission policy for the school.

You will need to return the completed form and evidence by 15 January 2024 to be included in the primary normal point of entry allocations made on 16 April 2024. Forms received after this date will still be considered but will not be included within the first allocation round. For an in-year admission to any year group the form and evidence should be submitted with the application form.

Return the form to: School Admissions Team via email to [school.admissions@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@plymouth.gov.uk)

**To be completed by the parent/carer**

<b>Child's full name:</b>	
Date of birth:	
School applied for:	
Nature of the supporting evidence that you are submitting, provided by a relevant professional:	

Evidence is attached:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Name(s) and organisations of the professional(s) providing supporting evidence:	
Name of parent/carer:	
Relationship to child:	
Signature:	
Date:	

### **Data Protection**

The information collected on this form will be processed and may be stored electronically by the school in compliance with the Data Protection Act. The data may be shared with Plymouth City Council or other agents of the school, but only for administrative or other service provision purposes and with Government Departments where there is a legal requirement to do so. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, should information given be found to be fraudulent then the offer of a school place can be withdrawn. If you would like further information about Data Protection, please contact the school. By signing or submitting this form you acknowledge that you have read, understood and agreed to this data processing.

**SECTION 4****Published admission number (PAN)**

<b>School</b>	<b>2023/2024</b>	<b>2024/2025</b>
Beechwood Primary Academy	60	60
Oakwood Primary Academy	60	60
Weston Mill Community Primary Academy	60	60

## **CONTACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

### **Discovery Multi Academy Trust**

Beechwood Primary Academy  
Rockfield Avenue  
Plymouth  
PL6 6DX

[www.discoverymat.co.uk](http://www.discoverymat.co.uk)

[info@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:info@discoverymat.co.uk)

### **Beechwood Primary Academy**

Rockfield Avenue  
Plymouth  
PL6 6DX

Telephone: 01752 706360

[www.beechwood-primary.co.uk](http://www.beechwood-primary.co.uk)

[beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:beechwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk)

### **Oakwood Primary Academy**

Pendeen Crescent  
Southway  
Plymouth  
PL6 6QS

Telephone: 01752 775478

[www.oakwood-primary.co.uk](http://www.oakwood-primary.co.uk)

[oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:oakwood.office@discoverymat.co.uk)

### **Weston Mill Community Primary Academy**

Ferndale Road  
Camel's Head  
PL2 2EL

Telephone: 01752 365250

[www.westonmill.plymouth.sch.uk](http://www.westonmill.plymouth.sch.uk)

[westonmill.office@discoverymat.co.uk](mailto:westonmill.office@discoverymat.co.uk)

### **Plymouth School Admissions Team**

Telephone 01752 307469 (line open 11am to 3pm)

The website at [www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schooladmissions) has information about applying for a place at a school, school appeals, and the coordinated schemes of admission.

### **School Appeals**

Telephone 01752 398164

[schoolappeals@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:schoolappeals@plymouth.gov.uk)



**Inclusion, Attendance and Welfare Service**

Telephone 01752 307405

[www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolsandeducation/attendancebehaviourandwelfare](http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/schoolsandeducation/attendancebehaviourandwelfare)

**The Department for Education Schools (DFE)**

Telephone: 0370 000 2288

[www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk)

**Office of the Schools Adjudicator**

[www.education.gov.uk/schoolsadjudicator](http://www.education.gov.uk/schoolsadjudicator)

**Plymouth Information, Advice and Support for SEND**

Telephone 01752 258933 or 0800 953 1131

[www.plymouthias.org.uk](http://www.plymouthias.org.uk)