

AKAAL PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS 2016

1 The admissions authority for the Akaal Primary School is the Akaal Academy Trust Derby (the Trust). The Trust will meet the requirements of paragraphs 2.25 to 2.39 of the funding agreement for the school, including adherence to the School Admissions Code and School Admission Appeals Code.

ADMISSIONS NUMBER

2 Akaal Primary School will have the following agreed admissions number for the year 2016/17 and subsequent years:

- a) 60 pupils in the Reception Year (Foundation Stage 2)

3 The Trust will consider all applications for places at Akaal Primary School. Where 60 or fewer applications are received, places will be offered to all those who have applied.

4 Where more than 60 applications are received, 50% of places (30) will be available to pupils who are practising members of the Sikh faith if 30 or more applicants are of the Sikh faith. The remaining places will be available to pupils from any faith or none.

APPLICATIONS TO THE RECEPTION YEAR (age 4+)

Process of application

5 Each application for places in the Reception Year at the school will be made in accordance with the co-ordinated admission arrangements in the local authority area in which the prospective pupil lives. Applications must be made on the relevant Common Application Form (CAF) provided and administered by the relevant local authority. Late applications will be considered after on-time applications and will be considered under the same admissions criteria if places are still available.

6 Applicants for Sikh faith places (*see paragraph 22*), in addition to completing the Common Application Form, must complete a supplementary information form and ensure it is signed by the President or Secretary of the Gurdwara that the child normally attends. The supplementary information form can be downloaded from the school's website or obtained from the school. It must be sent directly to the Akaal Academy Trust Derby at the school.

7 The school will normally admit pupils at the beginning of the school year in which they reach the age of 5. Parents can choose to delay entry until later in the same school year, but must ensure their child begins school by the time they are of compulsory school age (the start of the term after their fifth birthday). Parents may also request that their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age. Any parent considering either option should contact the

school to discuss the arrangements before applying.

8 The school will normally admit pupils in to the designated year group for their age. It will, however, consider applications from summer-born children (born after 1 April) to begin school in Year R in the September when they are five, rather than with their designated age group. Each application will be dealt with individually to ensure all the circumstances are taken into account when making a decision. In coming to a conclusion, the academy will consider a range of evidence as set out in the School Admissions Code. Any parent considering this should contact the school to discuss the implications of this arrangement before applying.

Catchment area

9 Akaal Primary School does not have a designated catchment area.

Oversubscription criteria for the Reception Year

10 Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, the Trust will split the applications in two categories: Sikh faith places and community places. The Trust will consider the applications in each category according to the oversubscription criteria set out below.

11 If the school is oversubscribed overall but there are 30 or fewer Sikh faith applicants, all the Sikh faith applicants will be admitted and the school will fill all of its remaining places using the criteria for community places.

12 If the school is oversubscribed overall and there are more than 30 applicants for Sikh faith places, 30 places will be allocated using the Sikh faith criteria. All other applicants taken together will then be considered using the criteria for community places, taking no account of any applicant's faith.

13 In each category Akaal Primary School will first accept all pupils with an education, health and care (EHC) Plan or a statement of special educational needs which names the school.

14 After the admission of pupils with an EHC plan or a statement or, the criteria below will be applied for the remaining places in each category, in the order in which they are set out below:

Criteria for Sikh faith places

(up to 30 places)

1 Children of the Sikh faith that are looked after, or were previously looked after (*see paragraph 23*).

2 Sikh children who are siblings of pupils on the roll of the school at the time of the application (*see paragraphs 24-25*).

Criteria for community places

(remaining places)

1 Children of any faith or none that are looked after, or were previously looked after (*see paragraph 23*).

2 Children of any faith or none who are siblings of pupils on the roll of the school at the time of the application (*see paragraphs 24-25*).

3 Sikh children who live nearest to the school as the crow flies from the school's main entrance to the child's home (see paragraphs 26-28).

4 As allowed under the School Admissions Code, children of staff in shortage areas recruited after 16th April in the year of admission may be considered as exceptional admissions.

3 Children of any faith or none who live nearest to the school as the crow flies from the school's main entrance to the child's home (see paragraphs 26-28).

4 As allowed under School Admissions Code, children of staff in shortage areas recruited after 16th April in the year of admission may be considered as exceptional admissions.

15 In the event of more applicants than places under criterion 2 above, in either category, children living nearest to the school have priority, using criterion 3.

16 In the event that two or more applicants under criterion 3 in either category live the same straight-line distance from the school, the place or places will be allocated at random by an independent person

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMITTING PUPILS TO OTHER YEAR GROUPS AND TO ANY YEAR GROUP OTHER THAN AT THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

17 The school will consider all applications to year groups in which the school provides education and, if the year group applied for has a place available, will admit the child. Any requests for admission outside of the normal year group for the child's age will be considered individually in accordance with the School Admissions Code. We aim to remove any disadvantage to UK service personnel (UK Armed Forces) by admitting the pupil, regardless of the size of the year group, unless it causes insurmountable organisational or curriculum difficulties.

OPERATION OF WAITING LISTS

18 The school will operate a waiting list for each year group until 31 December. The list will be maintained by the school and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list for the relevant year, following an unsuccessful application.

19 Children's position on a waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out for the relevant year group above. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in the order determined by the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria every time there is a new applicant or someone leaves the waiting list.

RIGHT OF APPEAL

20 The parents of all unsuccessful applicants will have a right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. The appeal panel is set up under the School Admission Appeals Code. Details of how to make an appeal will be provided when a parent is informed of a decision to refuse their child a place at the school.

FAIR ACCESS PROTOCOL

21 The Akaal Primary School will participate fully with the Derby City local authority's *Fair Access Protocol*, which makes sure that unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable children, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible.

DEFINITIONS

Sikh faith

22 *Members of the Sikh faith recognise the existence of one immortal being and have a belief in the teachings of the ten Sikh gurus and Guru Granth Sahib. They have no allegiance to any other faith. This will be confirmed on the supplementary information form by the President or Secretary of the Gurdwara the applicant normally attends.*

Looked after children

23 *Looked after children are children who are (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. This definition includes previously looked after children, but ceased to be so because they were subject to an adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. Evidence that a child has been in care, for example a letter from a local authority confirming the child was in care will be required. The length of time in care has no bearing on the decision.*

Siblings

24 *A sibling is defined as:*

- *a natural brother or sister resident in the same household*
- *another child normally in residence for the majority (more than 50%) of term time in the household for whom the adult in the household has parental responsibility as defined in the Children Act 1989 (for example, adopted siblings, half-brothers and sisters, step-brothers or sisters, and foster brothers or sisters; but not including cousins, nieces or nephews)*
- *any child in the household where the parent of one child is defined as a parent of the other for the purposes of section 576 of the Education Act 1996.*

25 *In the case of twins or other children from multiple births (or two or more siblings in one cohort) and where there is only one place available, the applications will be considered together as one application.) The school may then exceed its published admission number.*

Distance and home address

26 *The school uses the Derby City Council measuring system, measuring in a straight line (as the crow flies) from the child's home to the school's main entrance using the national Ordnance Survey set points).*

27 *The home address is the residential 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 where an adult in the household is defined as a parent for the purpose of section 576 of the Education Act 1996. This is normally the parent who receives child benefit. This could include a person who is not a parent but who has parental responsibility for her or him. It will not usually include other relatives such as grandparents, uncles, aunts etc. unless they have all the rights, duties, powers and authority which by law a parent of a child has in relation to the child and their property.*

28 *In the case of families of service personnel with a confirmed posting in the area (or Crown Servants returning from overseas to live in the area) the school will accept an application in advance of a move to the area provided it is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and a Unit postal address or quartering area address (or the equivalent in the case of Crown Servants).*