



# Queen's Park Academy

## Admissions Policy 2020/2021

## OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

The Published Admission Numbers for Queen's Park Academy for the year 2020/21 are:

120 places for pupils in Year 3.

Arrangements for applications for places at Queen's Park Academy operate within the Bournemouth agreed scheme for coordinated admission arrangements 2020/21.

The Academy Trust will consider all applications for places at Queen's Park Academy. Where fewer than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year groups are received. The Academy Trust will offer places at Queen's Park Academy to all those who have applied.

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. (After the admission of young people with Education, Health and Care Plans where Queen's Park Academy is named on the Plan) the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was a previously 'looked after child' (as defined by the school admission code)
2. 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.
3. Children transferring from Queen's Park Infant Academy at the normal age of transfer.
4. Children of staff at Queen's Park Academy where the member of staff has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
5. Children *Living Inside The Area Served by The School* who at the time of application have a sibling on the roll of *The School*.
6. Children *Living Inside The Area Served by The School*.
7. Children *Living Outside The Area Served by The School* who at the time of application have a sibling on the roll of *The School*.
8. Children *Living Outside The Area Served by The School*.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 1. Distance Measurements

Where there are not enough places for applicants within a criterion listed above, distance measurement will be used with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority.

Distance will be measured in a straight line by the Local Authority's computerised measuring system from the designated point of the child's home address to the designated point of the school (as designated by the Local Authority measuring system).

### 2. Young persons of equal priority

If there are insufficient places to accommodate all applicants and the distance criterion is used, the Academy will use random allocation for applicants living an equal distance from the school (up to three decimal points) or at the same address or in the same block of flats who are eligible for the remaining place(s). The person drawing the names will be an employee of the Academy who has no involvement in the school admissions process.

### **3. Looked after children**

A 'looked after child' means any child who is in the care of a local authority in accordance with Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989. A child who was 'previously a Looked After Child' means a child who after being Looked After became subject to an Adoption Order under the Adoption Act 1976 or under Section 8 of the Children Act 2002, a Residence Order or Child Arrangement Order under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989 or Special Guardianship Order under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989. Applicants can be asked to provide additional evidence in order to verify the previously looked after status of a child. It is at the discretion of the Academy what evidence is required. The final decision will be made by the academy. If any information supplied by an applicant is judged by the Academy to be fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the academy may refuse to offer a place, or if already offered, may withdraw the offer.

### **4. Children who appear to have been in state care outside of England**

A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. Applicants can be asked to provide additional evidence in order to verify the previously looked after status of a child. It is at the discretion of the Academy what evidence is required. The final decision will be made by the Academy. If any information supplied by an applicant is judged by the academy to be fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the Academy may refuse to offer a place, or if already offered, may withdraw the offer.

### **5. In Year Fair Access**

All the admission authorities in Bournemouth have established an In-Year Fair Access Protocol. The purpose of the Protocol is to ensure that – outside the normal admission round – unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. Cases are considered by a Panel comprising Head Teachers and /or their representatives. Decisions of the Panel may mean that the Academy might have to admit young people which could result in the Published Admission Number being exceeded.

### **6. In year applications**

The allocation of any places which may become available during the year will be made on the basis of the Oversubscription Criteria. There are no deadline dates for in year applications.

### **7. Addresses**

Home address is considered to be a residential property that is the address where the child usually lives.

### **Applications from separated Parents/Carers**

Only one application can be considered for each child. Where parents/carers are separated it is essential that agreement is reached by both parties concerning the nominated preferred schools. Where a child spends part of their week with one parent and part with the other, only one address can be used. This must be the address which the child spends most of their time during term time. Applicants can be asked to provide additional evidence in order to verify addresses and/or other details provided. It is at the discretion of the local authority what evidence is required (evidence may include, but is not limited to, Child Benefit, GP registration, evidence of home ownership/tenancy etc.) The final decision on the home address of the child is judged by the local authority. If any information supplied by an applicant is judged by the local authority to be fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the local authority may refuse to offer a place, or if already offered, may withdraw the offer.

### **8. Withdrawing of a school place**

Places are withdrawn every year because parents give a false 'home address' on application forms. This includes cases where parents take out a short-term let or buy a property solely to use its address on the application form without any intention of taking up permanent residence there.

In fairness to all parents, all allegations of fraudulent practice brought to The AAC (Academy Advisory Committee) attention will be investigated. The AAC reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if fraudulent or intentionally misleading information has been used on an application.

### **9. Definition of siblings**

"Sibling" means:

- A full brother or sister who lives with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
- A half-brother or half-sister who lives with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
- An adoptive brother or sister who lives with parents or carers in the same property during the school week.
- Non-blood related children who, together, all live with one or both parents or carers in the same property during the school week.

### **10. Waiting List**

When all available places have been allocated, The School will adopt the Local Authority waiting list. Parents should confirm with the school that their child's name is included on the list or if they want their child's name removed from the waiting list.

Any places that become available will be allocated by the AAC according to the criteria of the admissions policy with no account being taken of the length of time on the waiting list or any priority order expressed as part of the main admission round. The waiting list will be reviewed and revised

- each time a child is added to, or removed from, the waiting list;

- when a child's changed circumstances will affect their priority;
- at the end of each half term, when parents with a child on the waiting list will be contacted and asked if they wish to remain on the list for the following term.

### **11.Appeals**

Parents whose children are unsuccessful in gaining a place to the Academy have a right of appeal to an independent appeals panel. Parents will be notified in the refusal letter from the Local Authority of how an appeal can be lodged.