

PENBRIDGE SCHOOL

Thinking Schools Academy Trust

“Transforming Life Chances”

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2022-23

PENBRIDGE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023-24

This policy will apply to all admissions for the academic year 2022/23 including in year applications. The Published Admission Number (PAN) is 150.

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be considered first according to the priorities in the order set out below: -

1. Children who are looked after by a local authority (i.e. in their care or provided with accommodation by the authority for a continuous period of more than 24 hours). Children who were previously looked after but immediately following being looked after became subject to an adoption order, residence or special guardianship order. Please see "Additional Information".

2. Children or families who have a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need. Evidence must be attached. Applications under this criterion must be supported by written evidence from an appropriate professional involved stating clearly why the preferred school is the most appropriate for the child and reasons why other schools in the city are inappropriate. All applications received under this category are considered by a multi-disciplinary team of the local authority. Please see "Additional Information".

3. a) Children who attend the following infant schools run by The Thinking Schools Academy Trust, Penhale Infant, Moorings Way Infant and Meon Infant Schools.

b) Children who attend Manor Infant School.

If the school cannot admit all applications from the named feeder infant schools, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 4i to v) below.

If the school cannot admit all children from the named feeder schools, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with any of the additional priorities below:

I. Catchment

II. Children who have a brother or sister (living in the same household) at the school already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year Note – this category does include step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/siblings living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

III. Children eligible for service premium

Note – service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002.

PENBRIDGE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2022-23

IV. Children of staff employed at the school (or school on an adjacent site)

a. Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made.

b. The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

V. Children who live closest to the school based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Please see 'Additional information'

4. Children living within the school's designated catchment area. (If the school cannot admit all applications from the catchment area, applicants will be ranked within this category in accordance with priorities 5i to v below

5. Children living outside the school's catchment area in the following priority order:

i) Children who have a brother or sister (living in the same household) at the school already on roll and who will still be attending the school the following academic year

Note – this category does include step-brothers/step-sisters, adoptive brothers/siblings living within the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household.

ii) Children eligible for service premium

Note – service premium is paid to eligible children of armed services personnel under S14 of the Education Act 2002.

iii) Children of staff employed at the school (or school on an adjacent site)

a. Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time at which the application is made, and orb. The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

iv) Children who live closest to the school based on the shortest distance from home to school, measured 'as the crow flies'. (This distance will be used where necessary to prioritise applications). Please see 'Additional information' Note – should the school be oversubscribed from within any of the criteria then any additional criteria as given in 5i) to 5v) will be used to prioritise applications within these categories. Should there be two or more identical distances requiring prioritisation, this be done by casting lots (see additional information).

PENBRIDGE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2022-23

Additional Information

Looked after children

These are defined as children who are looked after by a local authority, i.e. in their care or provided with accommodation by the authority for a continuous period of more than 24 hours. Children who were previously looked after *, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or subject to a residence or special guardianship order. A copy of the relevant court order will be required. *A child is considered as 'Looked After' as defined in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989. A child is considered 'Adopted' as defined in section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. Residence order- as defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989. Special guardianship order –as defined in

section 14 a of the Children Act 1989 Medical, physical, psychological or social need If your child or a family member has a significant medical, physical, psychological or social need that you would like taken into account when places are allocated, please tick the relevant box on the application form and attach supporting evidence to your form. All evidence must be sent together with the application form. The evidence must be in writing from your doctor or other appropriate professional involved with your child's health, wellbeing or your specific family circumstances. In all cases evidence must show why it is appropriate that your child attends your preferred school and why other schools in the city are inappropriate. Failure to attach supporting evidence will delay the progress of your application and result in it not being considered under this criterion. It is your responsibility to provide the necessary evidence to support your application. All information given will be treated confidentially. If you are in any doubt about whether or not to include details, please contact the Admissions Team for further advice.

Catchment Areas

A catchment area is a geographical area defined by the council. The idea of having a catchment area is to give some priority for the admission of children living in the local area of the school. Please note: living in the catchment area does not guarantee a place at the school. Your catchment area is determined by your home address (the child's permanent residence). Further details of the individual school's catchment area will be provided on the council's website (<https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk>) or by clicking the link and contacting the Admissions Team.

Sibling links

These are defined as children who have a brother or sister (living in the same household) at the school or at an adjacent infant school in the academic year commencing September 2022. This category includes step-brothers/step-sisters; adoptive brothers/sisters living in the same household or children whose parents are married or cohabiting and live together within the same household. This does not include siblings who live in a different household. If you have twins, triplets or more children in the same household who are due to transfer into the same year group, please be aware that should the admission limit of a school be reached by admitting one child, your other child(ren) will be offered a place at the same school. Please note: a sibling link at the school does not guarantee admission to the school.

PENBRIDGE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2022-23

Distance measurement

Where it is necessary to prioritise applications, the criterion will be prioritised based on the shortest distance from the child's home to school, measured in a straight line 'as the crow flies'. Distances will be measured using the council's Geographical Information System (GIS) department. The Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) unique property reference co-ordinates will be used to represent the school, whilst home coordinates will be primarily derived from the LLPG, with Ordnance Survey's ADDRESSPOINT® product used as support. Only distances measured by GIS will be considered for the purposes of the distance criterion. Should there be two or more identical distances, the prioritisation will be done by casting lots. The Admissions Team will arrange for this to be carried out by the LA's Democratic Services who are independent of the school and the admissions process.

Fair Access Protocol

The Local Authority operates a Fair Access Protocol which prioritises admissions for certain categories of secondary school age children. This protocol relates to admission applications throughout the year (but not the transfer of Year 6 pupils from primary/junior to secondary schools). The protocol takes priority above the school's admission policy for those on a waiting list and the LA may require the school to admit above their published admission number.

Appeals

If a parent is unsuccessful with any of their preferences, they will have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel and will be provided with the relevant documentation.

Waiting lists

All parents who have been refused a place at the school will have the option to indicate their wish to remain on the waiting list – via a tick box on the allocation response form online or on a paper reply slip. Children will be held on the waiting list by order of the criteria in the Admissions Policy. No account can be taken of the length of time a pupil is on the list. A pupil's position can change on the list as new applicants join or other applicants come off the waiting list. Children will remain on a waiting list only until the end of the academic year August 2023, if parents/carers want their children to be on the waiting list for the following academic year, they must reapply.

Admission out of chronological year group Children will usually be admitted into their chronological year group except in significant exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the school (and Local Authority if appropriate). Where children may have missed school, been educated in another country or have been out of education, these problems can usually be addressed by additional support in the child's chronological year group. For gifted and talented pupils parents can discuss directly with a school the way provision is made for these pupils.

Parents should make such requests on application.

PENBRIDGE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023-24

Objections to the OSA (Schools Adjudicator)

Objections to these admissions arrangements can be made to the OSA by 15 May 2022

- see link: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/schools-adjudicator-make-an-objection-appeal-or-referral#objections-toand-referrals-about-determined-school-admissionarrangements> or contact the OSA at : OSA, Bishopsgate House, Feethams, Darlington, DL1 5QE