

**STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE ADMISSION
CRITERIA FOR HONEYWELL INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS
FOR 2021-22**

Honeywell Infant and Junior Schools are Foundation Schools in the borough of Wandsworth and are the Admission Authority for the two schools.

Following the introduction of a new admission criterion giving priority to the children of school staff at Wandsworth community schools, Honeywell Governors are reviewing their admission criteria in the light of this change.

Wandsworth Council consulted on this additional criterion in October 2018 for introduction in September 2020. The council believes that introducing such a criterion would support community schools with their staff retention and recruitment, especially where there is a demonstrable skills shortage, as this would place them in a similar position to other schools. All adjoining neighbouring boroughs have introduced such a priority for their community schools and many own admission authority schools (academies, foundation schools, free schools and voluntary aided schools) within Wandsworth have also decided to do so.

There was very little opposition to the proposal through the Wandsworth consultation in 2018 and the Council introduced this new criterion for all community school admissions from September 2020.

As a popular, oversubscribed school Honeywell Governors are aware of concern from the local community that the limited places should be offered out in the fairest way possible. However, if the majority of schools prioritise the children of staff in this way, the Governing body feels it is something it should consider in order to remain in line with other local schools.

In line with the requirements of the National Admissions Code (para1.39) and Wandsworth's criteria, the Governing body is proposing to restrict priority to children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:

- a. where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
- b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

To restrict the impact on local families applying for a school place at Honeywell Infant and Junior Schools the Governing body is proposing to place a limit on the number of places offered at each school to one place per Form of Entry. This means a maximum of three places per year group could be allocated to the children of staff. Priority will also be limited to staff working at least 0.6 FTE (Full time equivalent) and employed directly by the school rather than through an agency or third



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part organisation. Priority will be given to Honeywell staff for applications to either Honeywell Infant or Junior school.

It is proposed to add this as criterion (iv) in the Infant school and Priority (v) in the Junior school (after the priority given to children with exceptional medical or social need).

The Governing body would welcome your views on the proposed changes to the admission criteria giving priority to children of staff at Honeywell Infant and Junior Schools, bringing us in line with Wandsworth community schools and many other schools in the borough and across London.

The proposed change:

Admission criterion (iv) Infant School (v) Junior School

Children of staff employed directly at either Honeywell Infant or Junior School. Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for the admission to the school is made and /or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

The member of staff must be employed on at least 0.6 (FTE) and employed directly at the school. The number of places offered under this criterion will be limited to a maximum of three per year group.

Have Your Say

This consultation is for the attention of:

- a) parents of children between the ages of two and eleven years old
- b) other persons in the area who have an interest in the proposed arrangements
- c) all other admission authorities within the local area
- d) the local authority (London Borough of Wandsworth)
- e) any adjoining neighbouring local authorities

The consultation period is open for 7 weeks between **25th November 2019** and **10th January 2020** and responses are invited: Online at

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/57RTPTY>

Alternatively you can download a response sheet from the school website and return to governors@honeywell.wandsworth.sch.uk

Following the consultation period all submitted comments will be considered at a Governors meeting and the final arrangements will be published on the school website in February 2020. **If approved, the changes would be introduced for September 2021 entry.**

PLEASE RESPOND BY FRIDAY 10th JANUARY 2020 when this consultation will close.



Honeywell Infant School Draft Admission Arrangements 2021

If there are more applications than the 90 places available, priority will be given in the following order:

- (i) Looked after children and those who ceased to be looked after children, looked after because they were adopted, or because they became subject to a residence order, child arrangements order or a special guardianship order (note 1);
- (ii) Children with brothers and sisters on the roll of the school on the date of admission living up to a distance of 800 metres from the school. Children with a brother or sister at the school on the date of admission living over 800 metres from the school will also receive priority under this criterion where the family have not moved since the last sibling was offered a place or the last sibling was admitted prior to September 2017 (notes 2 and 3).
- (iii) Children with a professionally supported exceptional medical need or exceptional social need for a place at a particular school, as decided by the Governing Body (note 4);
- (iv) Children of staff employed directly at either Honeywell Infant or Junior school. Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for the admission to the school is made and /or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage (note 7).
- (v) Children in order of straight line distance from home to school as measured by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System (notes 3 and 5).

If there are more applications than places within any category, applications will be considered in order of straight line distance from home to school, as measured by the Council's Geographical Information System.

Notes:

1. *A child looked after is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. An adopted child is defined by section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976. A residence order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989. A child arrangement order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.*
2. *A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister living at the same address, a child who is living as part of the family by reason of a court order, or a child who has been placed with foster carers as a result of being looked after by a local authority. Those children whose siblings have joined the schools through the Fair Access Protocol will NOT be considered as siblings. The parents/carers of these children will be able to apply for a place at the school through the other categories.*
3. *The straight-line measurement used to prioritise applicants for admission to schools in Wandsworth commences in all cases at the location of the property and terminates at the central point of the school site as determined by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. Measurements by alternative systems and/or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random.*
4. *Applications made on exceptional medical grounds must be supported by a current letter from a specialist health professional. Applications made on exceptional social grounds must be supported by a current letter from a social worker or other care professional working with the family. The letters must give reasons why the child's condition or circumstances make it necessary for the child to attend the school applied for, and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend an alternative school. If this information is not provided by the application closing date, the application will not be considered under this criterion.*
5. *The permanent address of the parent/guardian with whom the child is living on the closing date for applications will be used for this purpose and this must be the address where the family normally lives. Parents are not permitted to use a temporary address to secure a school place for the child. A business address, a childminder's address, or any address including a family member's address other than the child's permanent home will not be accepted. Proof of address will be sought and if there is any doubt about the validity of the address given it may be the subject of further investigation.*
6. *There is no automatic right of transfer from the nursery class to the infant reception class within the same primary school. If there are more applications than places available, priority will be based on the above criteria alone.*
7. *The member of staff must be employed on at least 0.6 FTE and employed directly at the school. The number of places offered under this criterion will be limited to a maximum of three per year group*



Honeywell Junior School Draft Admission Arrangements 2021

If there are more applications than the 90 places available, priority will be given in the following order:

- i. Looked after children and those who ceased to be looked after children, looked after because they were adopted, or because they became subject to a residence order, child arrangements order or a special guardianship order (note 1);
- ii. Children currently attending Honeywell Infant School, and who will still be attending the school in July 2019;
- iii. Children with brothers and sisters on the roll of the school on the date of admission living up to a distance of 800 metres from the school. Children with a brother or sister at the school on the date of admission living over 800 metres from the school will also receive priority under this criterion where the family have not moved since the last sibling was offered a place or the last sibling was admitted prior to September 2017 (notes 2 and 3);
- iv. Children with a professionally supported exceptional medical need or exceptional social need for a place at a particular school, as decided by the Governing Body (note 4);
- v. Children of staff employed directly at either Honeywell Infant or Junior school. Where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for the admission to the school is made and /or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage (note 6).
- vi. Children in order of straight line distance from home to school as measured by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System (notes 3 and 5).

If there are more applications than places within any category, applications will be considered in order of straight line distance of home to school as measured by the Council's Geographical Information System.

Notes:

1. *A child looked after is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. An adopted child is defined by section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976. A residence order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989. A child arrangement order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by section 14 of the Children and Families Act 2014. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.*
2. *A sibling is a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister living at the same address, a child who is living as part of the family by reason of a court order, or a child who has been placed with foster carers as a result of being looked after by a local authority. Those children whose siblings have joined the schools through the Fair Access Protocol will NOT be considered as siblings. The parents/carers of these children will be able to apply for a place at the school through the other categories.*
3. *The straight-line measurement used to prioritise applicants for admission to schools in Wandsworth commences in all cases at the location of the property and terminates at the central point of the school site as determined by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. Measurements by alternative systems and/or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random.*
4. *Applications made on exceptional medical grounds must be supported by a current letter from a specialist health professional. Applications made on exceptional social grounds must be supported by a current letter from a social worker or other care professional working with the family. The letters must give reasons why the child's condition or circumstances make it necessary for the child to attend the school applied for, and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend an alternative school. If this information is not provided by the application closing date, the application will not be considered under this criterion.*
5. *The permanent address of the parent/guardian with whom the child is living on the closing date for applications will be used for this purpose and this must be the address where the family normally lives. Parents are not permitted to use a temporary address to secure a school place for the child. A business address, a childminder's address, or any address including a family member's address other than the child's permanent home will not be accepted. Proof of address will be sought and if there is any doubt about the validity of the address given it may be the subject of further investigation.*
6. *The member of staff must be employed on at least 0.6 FTE and employed directly at the school. The number of places offered under this criterion will be limited to a maximum of three per year group*