



Pool Academy

Admissions Policy 2017-18

Policy Devised: February 2012
Adopted on: 10th December 2015 (rev Feb 2016)
Review date: December 2016

The Governing Body of Pool Academy is the Admissions Authority for the Academy.

Pool Academy is a non-selective mixed 11-16 Academy serving the needs of the young people of Pool and the surrounding area.

The school works closely with its partner primary schools to provide a seamless education from the age of 3 to 16. We collaborate closely with our primary schools in aspects of curriculum development, staff training and, in particular, educational philosophy. In order to support continuity and progression, applications from our partner primary schools are warmly welcomed. There is no guarantee of a place for children attending one of the feeder schools. However, historically any child in our partner Primary Schools who wanted a place at the school was allocated a place at the school.

The main principle of admission to Pool Academy is to maintain the character of the school as a comprehensive academy, providing for the needs of young people within the 11-16 age range who live in Pool and the surrounding area, provided that they can be accommodated within the agreed admission limits.

Pool Academy's values – belonging, aspiration and respect – underpin all of our work. As an inclusive school we welcome all applicants who share our values. Our uniform policy encourages a professional appearance and a pride in the school, and also recognises health and safety requirements. We have worked to keep the uniform to a reasonable cost while maintaining a high level of conformity. Admission to our school is not dependent on any "voluntary" contribution and we have a full range of extra-curricular activities available for all students. We have an extensive programme of educational visits for which a contribution is made but again we are pleased to discuss any concerns you may have.

The Governors of Pool Academy hope that all our prospective parents will sign up to the Academy's Home School Agreement (available on the school website).

The school will endeavour to provide places for students who attend our Partner Primary Schools and whose parents wish them to attend Pool Academy provided that they can be accommodated within the agreed admission limits. For more information on "How places will be allocated" please see the "Transfer to Secondary Schools Booklet" which can be found on the Cornwall Council website as above.

The school will adhere to the Local Authority's Admission Policy in line with the current Admission Code. All statutory obligations defined within this code apply, including the operation of an equal preference scheme.

Students will be admitted to Year 7 without reference to ability or aptitude using the procedures detailed in the above document, which includes arrangements and criteria that will be applied in the event of oversubscription. The number intended to admit in September 2017 will be 210.

The Governing Body has arranged for the Local Authority to apply the ranking for transfers to secondary school, on their behalf.

The school participates in the Local Authority co-ordinated scheme and applicants should adhere to all deadlines within that. All applications for places in Year 7 must be made on the common application form (also available on the Cornwall Council Website as detailed above).

If you have any queries about Admissions documents, please contact Cornwall Council Admissions & Transport by calling 0300 1234 101. Below are the criteria against which applications for places will be allocated should there be oversubscription for places at Pool Academy.

Applying for a place

All applications for places in year 7 or during the school year must be made direct to the local authority on the appropriate application form. The application form and supporting information will be available electronically on the local authority website or in paper form on request from the local authority. [There is no supplementary information form required by the Governing Body.]

Allocation of places

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school will be admitted to the school.

Children in Care who are directed to the school by the Secretary of State will be admitted to the school.

The published admission number (PAN) for year 7 in 2017/18 will be 210. Places will be allocated up to this number. In the event that more applications are received than places available, the oversubscription criteria listed later in this document will be used to decide on allocations.

Over Subscription

In the event of there being more than 210 applications for places the following admission criteria will be used (in descending order of priority) to allocate places.

For all other children the following priority order will be used to decide which children should occupy any vacant places at Pool Academy for the 2017/2018 school year:

1. Children in Care/Previously in Care

(A child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, (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).

2. Children with siblings who will still be attending Pool Academy at the time of their admission and who will still have a sibling attend the Academy at the proposed date of admission.

("Siblings" means brothers or sisters (including multiple birth siblings). They are defined as children with at least one natural or adoptive parent in common, living at the same or a different address. Children living permanently in the same household at the same address would also be counted as siblings, regardless of their actual relationship to each other).

3. Children who were on roll of one of Pool's partner primary schools (at the end of the summer term). **(This applies to Year 7 applications only).**

- Illogan School
- Pencoys Primary School
- Portreath Community Primary School
- Rosemellin Community Primary School
- Roskear Primary and Nursery School
- St John the Baptist Catholic Primary School
- Treloweth Community Primary School

4. Where the child is the son/daughter of a permanent member of staff at the school

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

5. Children with an unequivocal professional recommendation from a doctor, school medical officer, educational psychologist, health visitor, education welfare officer or social worker that non-placement at Pool Academy would cause harm to the child and that placement at the school is essential. **Such recommendations must be made in writing and must give full supporting reasons.**

(If you think your child meets this criterion, you must send the relevant written evidence to the Admissions and Transport (Policy) Team, Children, Schools and Families, Cornwall Council, New County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY).

6. All other children.

Tie-breakers

If any of the criteria outlined above leave more children with an equal claim than places available, the following tie-breakers will be used:

i) Where two or more children fulfil the same criterion, priority will be given to the child who lives nearer to Pool Academy.

Distances

- Home to school distances used for tie-breaking for in-year admissions will be measured by a straight-line measurement as determined by the CSA's Geographical Information System (DataMap). Measurements will be between your home address using Ordnance Survey's Point Dataset (usually the centre of the main building of the property) and the main gate of the school (as determined by the CSA).
- Distances used to determine nearest school with room (ie where it is not possible to offer a place at Pool Academy) and for establishing transport entitlements will be measured by the nearest available route as determined by the CSA's Geographical Information System (DataMap).

Home Address

Each child may have one registered address only for the purposes of determining priority for admission and transport entitlement. This address should be the place where the child is normally resident. If there is shared residency of the child or a query is raised regarding the validity of an address, it may be necessary to use the address of the person receiving child benefit for the child or to request a copy of a utility bill in order to make a decision.

Multiple Birth Siblings

Where applications are received on behalf of "multiple birth siblings" (ie twins, triplets, etc) or siblings whose dates of birth place them in the same chronological year group, all their multiple birth siblings who have also applied, will be admitted even if this goes above the Published Admission Number (PAN) for the year group.

**In Year Admissions (Admissions outside the coordinated scheme)
Years 8 – 11 (although applications for Year 11 that are for admissions after 31st October 2017 will be dealt with under the Fair Access Protocol).**

Children who are offered a place are required to take it up within the specified date within the letter allocating the place. If the place is not taken up by that date, it will go back into the pool and may be offered to another applicant.

In the event of a place being available in the appropriate year group an offer of a place at the Academy will be made. If no places are available, the child will be refused a place.

Parents of children who are refused a place at the Academy will be notified of their right of appeal and will receive advice from the Local Authority regarding alternative schools.

Late Applications

Late applications are those submitted after the closing date of the coordinated admissions scheme and will be dealt with in accordance with that scheme.

Waiting List

If, after the offer of places has been made, the Academy is over-subscribed, all parents whose applications have been unsuccessful will be asked whether they wish to be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will be administered by the Academy's Admissions Panel in partnership with the Local Authority for the duration of one term in the year of admission. A child's position on this waiting list will be determined by the Academy's published over-subscription criteria. However, children who are the subject of a direction by the Local Authority, who are subject to a successful admissions appeal or who are allocated to the Academy in accordance with the Fair Access Protocol, will take precedence over any child already on the waiting list. Waiting lists will be maintained for all over-subscribed Year Groups.

Notes

Note 1: A supporting statement from the Local Authority, Social Worker or Foster Carer should be received by the closing date for applications.

Note 2: "Siblings" means brothers or sisters. They are defined as children with at least one natural or adoptive parent in common, living at the same or a different address. Children living permanently in the same household at the same address would also be counted as siblings, regardless of their actual relationship to each other.

Note 3: "Children in Care/Previously in Care" means a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, (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).

Appeals

For admissions relating to 2017-2018, all appeals for Pool Academy will be dealt with by the Local Authority Admissions & Transport Team who can be contacted on 0300 1234 101, by email – schooladmissions@cornwall.gov.uk or by post – New County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY. Further details can be viewed on their website: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions.

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