



Admission arrangements for Westende Junior School Academic year 2024 - 25

1. Introduction

The admission arrangements set out below are for the children born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017.

Westende Junior School is a happy and secure environment that nurtures all aspects of talent and creativity and ensures that everyone has the opportunity to celebrate both their own successes, and those of others. Westende Junior School is a caring place to learn. We have great respect for each other and children enjoy learning and playing together – we are careful to ensure that as a family school everyone feels included, safe and confident.

Westende Junior School is an Academy and part of a multi-academy Trust called The Circle Trust. The Circle Trust is the admissions authority for this school. The Trust works in close collaboration with Local Authorities to manage the admission process for parents and carers.

The Trustees have set the following admission arrangements in accordance with the applicable legislation and the School Admissions Code and after consultation with the relevant local admissions authorities. They conform to the needs of the Wokingham Borough Council's coordinated admissions arrangements.

2. Pupil Admission Number (PAN) for Year 3 September 2024 Westende Junior School

The Circle Trust have determined a pupil admission number for this cohort (2024-2025) of 60.

3. Making an application for Year 3 September 2024 for a place(s) at Westende Junior School

Applications to this school are in accordance with a coordinated scheme determined by the Local Authority (LA) within which the applicant resides. It is to that LA that applications for a place at Westende Junior School should be sent and that LA will advise the applicant of the result of their application. Coordinated admission schemes include procedures for the LA to pass on the application to the admission authorities for the schools concerned when it is not itself that authority. The Circle Trust is the admission authority for Westende Junior School and as such the Trust will receive and consider any applications made for a place at this school. The outcome of that consideration will be communicated to the applicant by, and in accordance with the procedures of, the relevant LA.

Parents wishing to apply for Year 3 in September 2024 must complete the online or common application form provided by their home Local Authority (LA). The home LA is the LA in whose area the parents live at the time of the application. The form must be returned to that LA no later than 15 January 2024. Applications received after this date will normally only be considered after all those received on or before the cut-off date. Offers and refusals of places will be sent by the home LA on 16 April 2024 (or next working day)

There is no automatic transfer from infant to junior school. Parents must still make an application for Westende Junior School even if their child currently attends Wescott Infant School.

4. Late applications for Year 3 place(s) in September 2024 at Westende Junior School

If an application is received after the deadline, this will be considered 'late'. Late applications will be considered after the allocation of places and notified after the main allocation date in line with the LA coordinated admissions scheme.

5. The Criteria for a place(s) at Westende Junior School

The Trustees are required by law to admit all pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan which names Westende Junior School in the Plan.

The Trustees will admit all applicants if it is possible to do so without exceeding the admission number determined for the year. In circumstances where more applications than places are received the following criteria will be used.

A - Looked After Children¹ and all previously looked after children. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted² (or became subject to a child arrangements order³ or special guardianship order⁴) This also includes children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted⁵

B - Children who have a medical or social need as the grounds for their admission to Westende Junior School (see notes). An additional form will need to be completed.

C - Children who are attending Wescott infant school by the deadline for applications.

D - The children of staff at Westende Junior School where that member of staff is the legal parent and guardian of that child, has a permanent contract to work at Westende Junior School and where that member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time of application for the place or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post within Westende Junior School where there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

E – Children who have a sibling who will be attending the school or Wescott Infant School when the child will enter the school (see notes)

F – Children whose permanent home address is within the schools designated area

G - Any other children

¹ A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (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) at the time of making an application to a school.

² This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

³ Child arrangements orders are defined in s.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.

⁴ See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

⁵ A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Tie Break

Priority will be given within any of the oversubscription criteria to the applicant whose permanent home address is nearest to Westende Junior School in terms of radial distance. Distances will be measured consistently and will be measured as a straight line between the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) address points for the respective home address and school, using the Easting and Northing for each address point. These are then used to calculate the distance between the two address points using a 'direct distance mathematical routine' within the system used by the local authority into which the LLPG address points are imported. This calculates the distance from the values created through this process using Pythagoras' Theorem by measuring the distance in metres between the Easting and Northing for each end address point then multiplied by 0.000621317 to convert to miles. It should be noted that this calculation may not be exactly the same as that created by a Geographical Information System (GIS) product as the GIS product may build in a formula to allow for the curvature of the earth. This curvature does not begin to affect distance values until the distance is at least 10 miles.

In the unlikely event that two or more children live at the same distance or additional distance (measured as stated above) from school (including, for example, flats within the same building), and there are fewer places available, random allocation will be used to decide which child will be allocated the remaining place(s). This will be by supervised drawing of lots, carried out by someone independent of the school.

Notes

Looked After Child or Previously Looked After Child or Children who appear to have been in state care outside of England

If a parent or LA (where relevant) wishes to apply under this criterion it is their responsibility to ensure that all relevant paper work is submitted with the application, for example a copy of the relevant order issued by the family court. Should a parent not submit any relevant documentation with their application it will be assumed that the parent does not wish these circumstances to be taken into account.

Social and Medical Grounds

If a child has a social and medical need that would cause significant physical and / or mental hardship, an applicant can indicate that they wish their application to be considered under social and medical grounds.

It is the applicant's responsibility to obtain a Circle Trust Supplementary Social and Medical Information Form which must be completed and returned to the Circle Trust along with supporting written evidence from a professional by the given closing date. The supporting evidence for social and medical grounds should be from the relevant registered professional(s) involved with the child. Examples include registered health professionals, such as Consultant, GP, Psychologist or Psychiatrist. All evidence must be on letter headed paper and reflect the child's current situation.

The completed supplementary Social and Medical Information Form and any supporting evidence needs to be submitted by the national closing date for it to be considered with all on time applications.

This evidence must prove why **Westende Junior School** is the **only** suitable school and why the child cannot attend another school. This evidence must be specific to the school

It is the applicant's responsibility to provide all evidence in support of their request and it is not possible for it to be considered under this criterion if no evidence is supplied.

All schools have the resources to work with special educational needs and common childhood complaints such as asthma.

Requests will be considered in accordance with the Equalities Act 2010.

Staff

Any application submitted under this criterion will be referred to the school for confirmation that the application meets the set criterion. The skills shortage area will be determined by Westende Junior School.

Sibling

A sibling refers to a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

It includes children who at the time of application have a sibling who will still be attending the school when the child will enter the school. It also includes children who at the time of application have a sibling who is attending Wescott Infant School and will still be attending at the time the child would enter Westende Junior school.

Home address

For Year 3 in September 2024 applications will be processed using the home address used on the Common Application Form or online, and as verified by Wokingham Borough Council in line with their coordinated scheme.

6. Accepting or declining the offer of a place at Westende Junior School

Parents/carers are required to accept or decline the allocated place in accordance with their home local authority procedure which will be outlined with their offer.

7. Appeals for a place(s) at Westende Junior School

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

Appellants should contact customer.services@bracknell-forest.gov.uk for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on the school's website.

8. Waiting list for a place(s) at Westende Junior School

The local authority will initially maintain a waiting list for unsuccessful applicants which will be passed to The Circle Trust as the admissions authority for Westende Junior School to maintain from the start of the term in September 2024. Pupils on the list will be placed in order according to the criteria used in considering the original applications. Places, if they become available, will be offered to pupils from this list in strict order. Parents/Carers who are unsuccessful will be asked if they wish their son or daughter to be placed on the waiting list for their year and will be advised, on request, where the pupil stands in the list. It should be remembered that a pupil's position on the list may rise and fall as others are added or removed from the list. At the end of the school year the waiting list will end and parents will need to reapply for a place for the following year. Reminders will be sent. Parents/Carers are requested to notify the Data and Admissions Manager if at any time they no longer wish their pupil to be considered for a place at the school.

9. Admission of children outside their normal age group for Westende Junior School

Children are normally allocated to their chronological year group. Requests from parents for school places outside a normal age group will be considered carefully whether for gifted and talented pupils or for those who have experienced problems, e.g. having missed education due to ill health, etc.

Parents must submit their request alongside their application and include all supporting documentation. Each case will be considered on its own merits and circumstances and will only be agreed by the Headteacher and Trustees of The Circle Trust where there is consensus between the parents, school and any relevant professionals asked for their opinion by the committee, that to do so would be in the pupil's interests. Parents will be informed of their statutory right to appeal. This right does not apply if they are offered a place in another year group at the school.

In-year Admissions applications for a place(s) at Westende Junior School

All applications for admission to the school outside the normal admissions round will be treated as in-year applications.

Pupils admitted under the Wokingham Fair Access Protocol may take priority over children on the Waiting List.

Parents/Carers wishing to apply for a place at this school should obtain a copy of the In-Year application form from the School website or via Wokingham Borough Councils website. This should be completed and returned to School in accordance with its instructions. The Circle Trust will notify the parent/carer of the outcome of the application once the Trustees have advised them of the decision made by the Admissions Committee.

Where there are places available then the Trustees will determine a place can be offered to the applicant. If however at the time of this determination the school has more applications than places available in the same year group, all the applications will be ordered according to the criteria used in determining initial admissions and will be considered in that order and places will be offered accordingly.

Unless they are statutorily obliged to admit the applicant or the application is covered by the Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol, Trustees will, when reaching a decision on an application for admission to a full year group refuse the application

Unsuccessful applicants, upon request, will be placed on the waiting list.

1 The In-Year Application criteria for Westende Junior School

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B - Children who have a medical or social need as the grounds for their admission to Westende Junior School (see notes). An additional form will need to be completed.

C - The children of staff at Westende Junior School where that member of staff is the legal parent and guardian of that child, has a permanent contract to work at Westende Junior School and where that member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time of application for the place or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post within Westende Junior School where there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

D – Children who have a sibling who will be attending the school or Wescott Infant School when the child will enter the school (see notes)

E – Children whose permanent home address is within the schools designated area

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Tie Break

Priority will be given within any of the above oversubscription criteria to the applicant whose permanent home address is nearest to Westende Junior School in terms of radial (straight line) distance. Distances will be measured consistently and will be measured as a straight line between the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) address points for the respective home address and school, using the Easting and Northing for each address point. These are then used to calculate the distance between the two address points using a 'direct distance mathematical routine' within the system used by the local authority into which the LLPG address points are imported. This calculates the distance from the values created through this process using Pythagoras' Theorem by measuring the distance in metres between the Easting and Northing for each end address point then multiplied by 0.000621317 to convert to miles. It should be noted that this calculation may not be exactly the same as that created by a Geographical Information System (GIS) product as the GIS product may build in a formula to allow for the curvature of the earth. This curvature does not begin to affect distance values until the distance is at least 10 miles.

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Staff

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Home address

For in-year admissions, all applications will be processed by the Circle Trust. Evidence will be requested to prove residency, i.e. council tax bill.

2. Offer of a place at **Westende Junior School**

Parents/carers will be contacted by letter if an offer of a place can be made at the school. Parents will then be advised of the process to start their child at the school.

3. Waiting list for a place(s) at Westende Junior School

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Designated Area **Westende Junior School**

Primary School Designated Areas

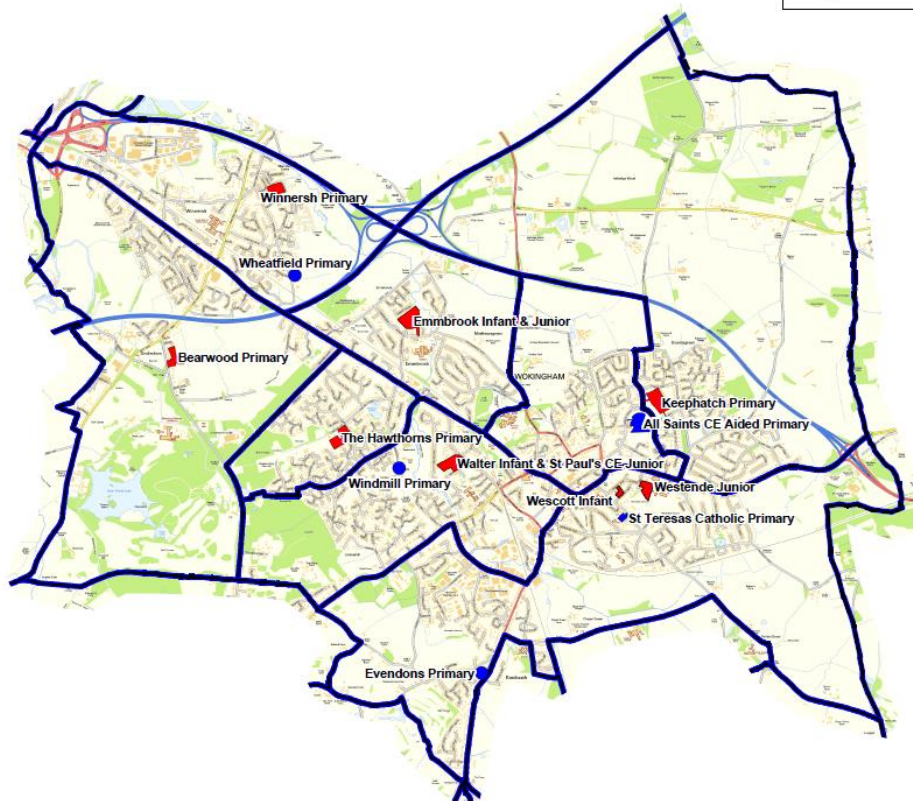
Wokingham Town Neighbourhood



This map gives a guide to the designated areas for Community and Voluntary Controlled schools in the Wokingham Borough that use them in their over-subscription criteria.

If you require any further information, please contact the School Admissions team.

Areas not identified may be part of the designated area of a Voluntary Aided school or Academy. Voluntary Aided schools or Academies are shown in blue for information only - please refer to the policies later in the guide.



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Helpful contacts

All admission documents and copies of admission forms are available on Westende Junior School's website

<https://www.westende.wokingham.sch.uk/>

Any queries can be directed via admissions@thecircletrust.co.uk

The Data and Admissions Manager
c/o The Circle Trust
St Crispin's School
London Rd
Wokingham
RG40 1SS