



Admissions Policy 2025/26

Version 2 ~ April 2024

Approved by:	GFM Board	Date:	April 2024
Maintained by:	Becky Brice (AHT)	Next review due:	July 2024

Gosport and Fareham Multi Academy Trust
Bay House School, Brune Park School, Gomer Junior School and Rowner Junior School
Admissions Policy 2025 - 2026

This policy will apply to all admissions from **1st September 2025**, including in-year admissions. The link school criteria will only apply to main round applications. Pupils will be admitted, normally at the age of 7 or 11 dependent on school phase, without reference to ability or aptitude. The MAT board of trustees is committed to trying to ensure that the admissions arrangements will not disadvantage unfairly, either directly or indirectly, a child from a particular social, racial or faith group, or a child with a disability or special educational needs and that other policies around, for example, school uniform or school trips do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child. The Mat board of trustees will allocate places up to the published admissions number. Applications for schools within the GFM are made to an individual school and not the GFM body. Where the number of applications exceeds the PAN (Gomer Junior – 60, Rowner Junior – 60, Brune Park – 300, Bay House – 350) for the school of application the following over-subscription criteria will be used to prioritise applications. The PAN applies to each individual year group.

School refers to the school of application – not the GFM. E.g. Bay House, Brune Park, Gomer Junior or Rowner Junior.

1. LAC & Post-LAC:

Looked after children or children who were previously looked after, including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. {i}.

2. EHCP:

Any pupil whose Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP) names the school. For in-year transfers, where possible such children will be admitted within the PAN.

3. Children of Staff:

Children of members of staff of GFM Academies {ii} who have been employed at the school of application for two or more years at the time of application or have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

4. Children in Catchment:

Children living in the School's designated catchment area. Should applications in this category exceed the number of places available, the order of priority will be:

- a. for KS3 & KS4 Admissions; children who have a sibling {iii} on the 11-16 roll of the school of application and who will still be on the 11-16 school roll at the time of admission or for KS2 children; those who have a sibling {iii} on the 7-10 roll of the school of application and who will still be on the 7-10 school roll at the time of admission or the roll of the linked infant school; Gomer Infant or Rowner Infant School who will still be on the roll at the time of admission. (**Catchment Siblings**)
- b. children who are attending a Linked school {iv} at the time of application for 7-10. 11-16 linked school criteria for main round admissions only (**Catchment Link**)
- c. children living closest to the School {v} (**Catchment Only**)

5. Children outside of Catchment

Other children living outside the School's designated catchment area. Should applications in this category exceed the number of places available, the order of priority will be:

- a. for KS3 & KS4 Admissions; children living outside the School's designated catchment area who have a sibling {iii} on the 11-16 roll of the school of application and who will still be on the 11-16 school roll at the time of admission or for KS2 children; those living outside the school's designated catchment area who have a sibling {iii} on the 7-10 roll of the school of application and who will still be on the 7-10 school roll at the time of admission or the roll of the linked infant school; Gomer Infant or Rowner infant school who will still be on roll at the time of admission. (**Sibling only**)

To be greater and to aspire further

- b. children who are attending a Linked School {iv} at the time of application for 7-10. 11-16 linked school criteria for main round admissions only. **(Link only)**
- c. children living closest to the School {v} **(Distance only)**

If applications within any of the above categories exceed the number of places available, the distance measurement criterion {v}, as detailed in this Policy, will be used to prioritise applications.

DEFINITIONS

{i} This criterion provides priority for children who are (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). It can also be used for children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976. Child arrangements orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 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. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).]

{ii} Children of members of staff who are on the payroll of the school of application and have been employed at the school of application for two or more years at the time of application or have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. The member of staff must be the natural parent, the legal guardian or a resident step parent.

{iii} Criterion includes children who at the time of application have a sibling for whom the offer of a place at the preferred school has been accepted, even if the sibling is not yet attending. 'Sibling' refers to brother or sister and also half-brother/sister, adoptive brother/sister, step brother/ sister and foster brother/sister where these children are living as siblings in the same family unit.

{iv} Linked schools refer to:

Gomer Junior – Gomer Infant School.

Rowner Junior – Rowner Infant School.

Bay House - Alverstoke C of E Junior School, Gomer Junior School, Leesland C of E Junior School, Lee-On-The-Solent Junior School and Haselworth Primary School.

Brune Park – Brockhurst Primary School, Alver Valley School, Elson Junior School, Leesland C of E Junior School, Newtown C of E Primary School, St Mary's Catholic School., St John's C of E Primary School

{v} If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the above categories, straight line distance will be used to prioritise applications; applicants living nearer the school have priority. Hampshire County Council's Geographic Information Systems (GIS) will be used to determine distances (normally from the Ordnance Survey home address point to the School. Distances to multiple dwellings will give priority to the ground floor over the first floor and so on. On individual floors, distances will be measured to the stairs leading to the communal entrance. If it is still not possible to decide between two applicants who are equidistant then a random allocation will be made to allocate the final place. An explanation of the method of making random allocations is available on the Hampshire County Council Website.

Permanent Residence:

The permanent residence of children who spend part of their week with one parent and part with the other, at different addresses, will be the address at which they spend most of their time. Where a child's time is evenly divided between the parents, parents must agree which address they would like to be considered for the purposes of the application. In the event of a dispute, in the absence of a relevant court order, the admission authority will make a judgement about which address applies, taking into account the address registered with the child's current school, nursery, preschool or childminder, the address registered for child benefit and the address registered with the child's GP.

To be greater and to aspire further

Multiple births:

Where a twin or child from a multiple birth is admitted under this policy then any further twin or child of the same multiple birth will be admitted, if the parents so wish, even though this may raise the number in the year group above the school's PAN.

Admission of children outside their normal age group:

Parents can seek places outside their normal age group. Additional supporting documentation may be required for requests of this nature. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case; parents may be offered a place in another year group at the school.

False and or Misleading Applications

Where parents/carers are found to make a false or misleading application for a school place, for example, by providing an incorrect address the school may withdraw that offer of a school place in accordance with the school admission regulations and the School Admissions Code. Where parents/carers are found to make a false or misleading application for a school place and the School decides not to withdraw that place in the best interest of the child, should a school place be sought for any other sibling or siblings the criteria that provides a priority for a school place for siblings will not be applied.

Waiting Lists

When all places have been allocated for admission to the School in Year 3 or Year 7, the School will operate a waiting list to be established fourteen days after the single notification date in April or March. A child will automatically be placed, by Hampshire County Council (HCC), on the waiting lists of any schools that were higher preference on their application form than the School they have been allocated. Any places that subsequently become available will be allocated to pupils on the waiting list according to the School's Admissions Policy criteria, with no account being taken of the length of time on the waiting list.

Where an application is made for admission in a year group that is already in the School and there are no places available in the relevant year group, as well as being informed of their statutory right of appeal, parents will be given the opportunity to place their child's name on a waiting list for the relevant year group. As and when places become available these will be offered to pupils on the waiting list, according to the Admissions Policy criteria.

The School will periodically write to all parents whose child is on the waiting list requesting that they return the 'request to remain on the waiting list' slip otherwise their child's name will be removed. Parents may keep their child's name on the waiting list of as many schools as they wish and for as long as they wish.

Legislation

This policy takes account of all relevant legislation including the legislation on sex discrimination, race relations, and disability, together with all relevant regulations and the School Admissions Code (published by the DfE in September 2021).