

Belper School Admissions Policy 2010/11 (approved)

Policy and Numbers

Pupils will be admitted at age 11 without reference to ability or aptitude. Any pupil with a statement of special needs which names Belper School will be admitted. The numbers of intended admissions for the year commencing 1st September 2010 is 245. By the deadline date for admissions in 2009 the number of in area applications stood at 339.

For admission to the school in Year 12 (sixth-form) the Governors have set a limit of 50 over and above the number of students remaining from the preceding year 11 cohort.

For 'in year' admissions the school will use the agreed Local Authority Co-Ordinated Form and apply the criteria below to each application.

The qualification of normal area will be applied to the home address as on the closing date for applications.

Subsequent changes of address, when verified, will be made to the list and the placing on that list altered accordingly. This may result in a previous offer of a place being altered.

Over Subscription

Where applications for admissions exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide on which children to admit.

1. 'Looked After Children' who name Belper School as their choice.
2. All other children who live in the normal area served by the school and who have siblings* already at Belper School both at the time of application and when admitted to school in September of the following year. A map of the normal area is available on request from the school or from the Local Authority Admission and Appeals Team.
3. All other children who live in the normal area.
4. Children who have medical, educational or social grounds, supported by a written statement of professional opinion. This statement should include independent evidence which sets out why the child's needs would be better met at Belper School than elsewhere. This evidence will be assessed by a committee of the school's governing body.
- 5.&6. All others based on whether they have siblings* at Belper School and secondly on the basis of proximity of the child's home to the school measured as the shortest walking distance from the front entrance to the school, determined by DCC's GIS system, with those living nearer to the school accorded the higher priority. This will also operate as a tiebreaker with any of the above criteria if needed.

General

The school will consult all relevant parties on any changes it intends to make to its admissions arrangement by the 1st March in the year preceding the intake via the County Council website. It will establish its own arrangement for appeals against non-admission, which will include an independent element.

**Siblings in this instance are taken as blood brother or blood sister, half brother or half sister (i.e. having a biological parent in common) and stepbrother or sister (i.e. having a parent by marriage in common) or children living in a family where they would be regarded as stepsiblings if their parents were married.*

Application and notification of places offered.

Application for a year 7 place will be via the LA Co-Ordinated Scheme, sent out by the LA to parents in September. The LA on behalf of the school, in accordance with the agreed co-ordinated scheme, will then make an offer of a place. In 2010 this will be on the 1st March.

Appeals.

Parents/Guardians have the right to appeal against an unsuccessful application and in the first instance should use the LA appeals system.

Queries. Please contact Fay Couchman at Belper School on 01773 825281, e-mail: fyc@belperschool.co.uk.