Turton & Edgworth
C.E.M.P.S.

Admissions Policy

Compiled by:	**Head Teacher**
Presented to staff:	**20th January 2009**
Presented to Governors:	**20th January 2009**
Presented to Parents/Carers:	**February 2010**
To be reviewed:	**Annually**
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Amendments:	**Oct 2024 – no amendments** **Jan 2025 – letterhead updated** **Sept 2025 – no amendments** **September 2026 – no amendments** **September 2027 – no amendments**

1 Introduction

1.1 The governing body of **Turton & Edgworth CE/Methodist Primary School** applies the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 introduced a new framework for school admissions as of September 2000. This policy conforms to the regulations that are set out in that Act and also further explained in the statutory School Admissions Code of Practice and the statutory Appeals Code of Practice.

2 Aims and objectives

2.1 We are an inclusive school that welcomes children from all backgrounds and abilities.

2.2 All applications will be treated on merit and in a sensitive manner.

2.3 The only restriction we place on entry is that of number. If the number of children applying for entry exceeds the places available, we enforce the procedure set out below in order to determine whether a child is accepted or not. It is our wish to allow parents the right to have a place at the school of their choice. However, this is not always possible, due to the excess demand on the school places available.

2.4 The level of ability of a child or any special needs that s/he may have plays no part in the admissions policy of this school.

3 How parents can apply for their child to be admitted to our school

3.1 As our school is a controlled school, the school determines the admission arrangements in agreement with the LA. The LA is therefore the 'Admissions Authority' for our school. The regulations for entry to each school, where the Admissions Authority is the LA, are published each year by the LA. Parents can receive a copy of these regulations directly from the LA.

3.2 The LA publishes a composite admissions prospectus each year, which gives information about how parents can apply for a place in the school of their choice. Parents have a right to express a preference for the school of their choice and they should do so on the application form. Expressing a preference does not, in itself, guarantee a place at this school. Application forms can be obtained from the Education Department of the LA and should be completed by the date stipulated on the forms. The LA notifies parents about the school place as soon as all the applications have been considered.

3.3 In this area, children enter school in the academic year they become five. There is one admissions date per year, early in September (i.e. at the start of the school year). Therefore, parents who would like their child to be admitted to this school during the year their child is five should ensure that they complete the necessary application form by the beginning of December in the year before proposed admission.

3.4 Deferred Admission

Parents may wish to consider delaying their child's admission until the term after their fifth birthday. This is called deferred admission. Further information about deferred admission is included in the Council's admissions booklet for parents and can be provided by the Council's admissions manager.

4 Admission appeals

4.1 If the LA does not offer a child a place at this school, it is because to do so would prejudice the education of other children by allowing the numbers of children in the school to increase too much.

4.2 If parents wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by applying to the LA. An independent appeals panel then meets to consider all appeals by parents who have been refused a place at our school and who wish to appeal against this decision. An appeals panel's decision is binding for all parties concerned. If the appeals panel decides that the LA should admit a child to our school, then we will accept this and continue to do all we can to provide the best education for all the children at our school. (Details of appeal arrangements are set out in the Code of Practice on School Admissions Appeals, which came into force in September 1999.)

5 The Published Admission Number

5.1 The Published Admission Number is the number of pupils in each year group that the admission authority has agreed **will** be admitted without causing problems for the school. The Published Admission Number for our school is **30**. We keep this number under review and the governors will apply to change the number if circumstances allow. This school will *usually* object to appeals when it is over the PAN for each year group.

6 Infant class size

6.1 We teach infant children in classes that have a maximum number of 30 children with one teacher. This necessitates some classes having more than one teacher.

7 Review

7.1 **This policy will be reviewed annually** with the Admissions Authority in the light of any changed circumstances in our school or the local area.

Next review date: September 2028

Appendix 1

Criteria - Primary School Admissions

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school will be admitted first.

If the demand for places at a school is greater than the number of places available, all applicants who have named this school as a 1st, 2nd or 3rd preference will be considered equally against the Council's admission policy, in the priority order given below:

a) 'Looked after' children and children who were previously 'looked after' but immediately after being looked after were adopted or became subject to a residence/child arrangement or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (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.

b) Children with an older sibling (sibling means 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, and in every case, the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address) but not cousins, who will still be attending the preferred school when the younger child is admitted;

c) Children with proven exceptional medical, social or welfare needs which are directly relevant to the school concerned. If you wish to be considered under this category you must provide appropriate supporting evidence with your application from a doctor, social worker or other professional. This evidence must explain why the preferred school is the most suitable and what difficulties would be caused if the child had to attend another school;

d) Children who live nearest the school (geographical proximity). Under this category, the remaining places will be offered to children who live nearest to the preferred school. The distance will be measured in a straight line between the home front door and the main gate of the school using the local authority's computerised mapping system.

Tie-breaker

If category (b), (c) or (d) is oversubscribed, geographical proximity (as set out in category (d)) will be used as the 'tie-breaker' to decide between the remaining cases. If after measuring distances it is still not possible to decide on the child(ren) to be offered admission (for example two children living in the same block of flats or in the same house) the Local Authority will then use random allocation to decide which of the children can be offered a place.

Twins/multiple births
Where there are twins, etc. wanting admission and there is only a single place left within the admission number, then the Council will exercise as much flexibility as possible within the requirements of infant class sizes. In exceptional circumstances/cases the Council are able to offer places for both twins and all triplets, even when this means breaching infant class size limits. This may also apply to siblings who are in the same year group.

Address of pupil
The address used on the application form must be the current one at the time of application, i.e. the family's main residence. If the address changes subsequently, the parent(s)/carer(s) should notify the school. Where the parent(s)/carer(s) live at different addresses, and there is shared parenting, the address used will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of Monday to Friday mornings. If there is any doubt about this, then the address of the Child Benefit recipient will be used. Parent(s)/carer(s) may be asked to show evidence of the claim that is being made for the address, e.g. identity cards of various sorts showing the child's address as the one claimed. Where there is dispute about the correct address to use, the Council reserves the right to make enquiries of any relevant third parties, e.g. the child's GP, Council Tax Office, Electoral Registration Office, utilities provider.

For children of UK Service personnel and other Crown Servants returning to the area proof of the posting is all that is required.

Apply online by 15 January 2024 @ www.blackburn.gov.uk/admissions