



St Peter's Elwick Church of England Primary School

Nursery Admissions Policy

2026-27

Reviewed: Autumn 2024

Person in charge: Head of School

Governance: Chair of LGB

Pastoral Care/Spiritual Development

We place the pastoral care of pupils, staff and families at the heart of how we work. This informs our policy framework. The quality of relationships between all members of school staff, pupils and stakeholders, and the relationship with parents and carers is the area that is most commonly associated with the ethos of the schools in our Trust. It is expressed in the terms of sharing and caring.

In the Church schools in our Trust, we follow the teachings of:

‘Love your neighbour as yourself’ – Matthew 22:39.

‘This is my commandment: love each other’ - John 15:17.

In the none Church schools in our Trust, we follow the spiritual ethos of treating others as we would ask to be treated and to care for others with kindness and respect.

In our schools we believe every pupil is an individual who is valued for who they are.

We have a series of overlapping networks of relationships, which includes governors, staff, children, parents, church members, and members of the community, which the school seeks to serve. Our pastoral work will strive to meet the significant challenge to create and maintain such networks including in our Church schools in ways which reflect the Gospel values of love and care. Those who are in leadership roles, which includes all who have a particular responsibility, ensure that by their personal example they set the high standards expected.

It is from this premise that both respect and care will pervade all aspects of life at Northern Lights Learning Trust. A desire for everyone to flourish, knowing that everyone reflects God’s image is pivotal in all of our schools, including our Church schools. This will influence how we reward and teach discipline. It will affect how we value work and the achievements of pupils and staff. It will be seen in the way in which the school environments are created and cared for, in the way in which the needs of pupils, parents, and community are met, and in the way in which teaching and non-teaching staff work together effectively as a team.

Pastoral care pervades all aspects of school life and therefore will be reflected in the way the schools are organised and the policies are written and implemented.

Northern Lights Learning Trust is the Admissions Authority for the school. The Local Governing Body of St. Peter's Elwick C of E Primary School considers the admissions on behalf of the Trust Board.

Initial interest forms are available from the school office and on the school website.

Applications must be made on the school application form 'Admission to Nursery' available from the school office.

The Admission policy is applied if the number of applications exceeds the number of places.

Children who have an Education Health Care Plan, which names St. Peter's Elwick CofE Primary School as the school, will be admitted.

We will admit 15 applications in accordance with the following criteria in the following order of priority:

1. Looked-after children and children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because, immediately after being looked after, they became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order. including children previously in state care outside of England who have ceased to be in that state care as a result of being adopted (see notes at the end of this policy)
2. Siblings - children who have an older sibling attending the school, at the time of their application. Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, (foster brother or sister), or the child of the parent/carer's partner. This applies where the child for whom the place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.
3. Those children who live in the school's admission zone.
4. Other children

Tie Breaker: In all criteria, if there are more applicants than places available then priority will be given to those who live closest to the school as determined by the straight line distance measurement from the (ordnance survey) address point of the child's home address to the (ordnance survey) address point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system). In the event that two distance measurements are identical, the school will use random allocation to decide which child should be offered the place. The process will be conducted in the presence of a person independent of the school.

Notes and supplemental information:

If there is an incomplete application for a child, in circumstances where parents cannot agree on a preferred school or the main address where the child resides, the governing body will suspend the application until parents agree. This will mean that if the closing date has passed, your child will not be considered in the admission round and if all places have been allocated then your child will not be given a place.

Information given by parents which is found to be fraudulent will result in the offer of a place being withdrawn.

The admissions committee is required by law to consider the information supplied on the application form and the supplemental information asked for. It is very important that you take great care to ensure the details you provide are complete and correct before submitting them. Any advice or support you require in completing this form can be sought via the school office.

Parents, who are unsuccessful in securing a place for their child at the School have NO statutory right of appeal for nursery.

Children, who are unsuccessful in securing a place at the School will be placed on a waiting list, which will be held by the School. Should a place become available then the admissions criteria will be applied again to every child on the waiting list at the time of the vacancy.

In some years where there is pressure on nursery admissions the governing body may admit further children. When this happens there will be a reduction in the number of rising 3 places from January.