



Wonder
Learning Partnership
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Admissions Policy: 2025 2026 - DETERMINED

This policy is applicable to: Pocklington Junior School as part of the Wonder Learning Partnership (WLP)

This Policy was determined at the WLP Trust Board meeting on 22 February 2024

Version 1.1

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Name of Responsible Committee/Individual:	LGB Board of Trustees
Implementation Date:	February 2024
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Target Audience:	Parents/Guardians

Pocklington Junior School - Admissions Policy 2025-2026

Unless otherwise stated, applications under this policy will be for admission to start in Year 3 in September 2025

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This policy details the admission arrangements for applications and preferences for Pocklington Junior School. The admission authority for Pocklington Junior School is the Wonder Learning Partnership. The admission authority is responsible for determining the school's admissions arrangements (including this policy) and deciding who can be offered a place in accordance with it. All Admissions Authorities are required to act in accordance with the Department for Education's School Admissions Code and the relevant legislation and regulations.
- 1.2 This policy complies with and operates within relevant the East Riding of Yorkshire Coordinated Admissions Schemes and related protocols, including the East Riding Fair Access Protocol.
- 1.3 Pocklington Junior School maintains a catchment area and parent/carers are advised to consider their 'catchment' school when making an application. If the place a child is allocated is at a school which parent/carers are not in the catchment area for, or if they move out of the catchment area they now reside in, then they may have less chance of being successful when applying for any younger siblings. A copy of the map of the catchment area for this school is attached to this policy.
- 1.4 This policy details the admission arrangements for applications and preferences in the normal junior admissions round; that is when applying for a place in advance for Year 3 as the year of entry to start junior school for the first time. Details of the application process for the junior admissions round are available in Section 2 of this policy.
- 1.5 This policy also details the admission arrangements for 'in-year' applications and preferences outside the normal admissions round; that is when applying either during the school year, outside the period of coordination in the junior admissions round, or for admission into a year group other than the normal year of entry. Details of the application process for in-year admissions are available in Section 7 of this policy.
- 1.6 Advice and information for parent/carers on school admissions, including key information that applies to all applications as well as some frequently asked questions are available in the East Riding Guide for Parents which is available at www.eastriding.gov.uk/school-admissions or upon request from the East Riding School Admissions team. It is recommended that all applicants consider the information in the Guide for Parents before making an application. If East Riding of Yorkshire Council is not an applicant's home local authority, they should contact their home local authority for details of how to access the correct admission processes.
- 1.7 The admission of children with an Education, Health and Care plan are covered by different admission regulations. Where Pocklington Junior School has been named, a place will be allocated for these children before considering other applications.

2. Admissions into Year 3

- 2.1 The Published Admission Number (PAN) is the number of pupils it is intended to admit into Year 3. For Year 3 in the 2025-2026 school year this number is 90. The PAN remains in force until the end of the year of entry.
- 2.2 Children will normally be admitted into the year group relevant to the child's age and will start in the school year they turn eight.

- 2.3 Where parent/carers would like to request admission outside the normal age group for their child, so their child is educated into a year group other than that relevant to their child's age, parent/carers should contact the school at an early stage to discuss their intentions and what the best approach might be. Parent/carers deciding to formally request this should do so in writing, together with any supporting information by no later than 31 October 2024. The admission authority will then consider their request, if necessary, in conjunction with other schools, the local authority and other professionals.
- 2.4 The admission authority will make decisions on requests for admission outside the normal age group on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned and in accordance with any agreed co-ordinated Local Authority procedure in place. This will include taking account of:
- the parent's/carer's views.
 - any information provided about the child's academic, social, and emotional development.
 - where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional.
 - whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
 - where applicable, whether they may naturally have fallen into a higher age group if it were not for being born early or late.
- 2.5 The admission authority will also take account of the views of the head teacher in assessing the request. When informing the parent/carer of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to, the admission authority will set out clearly the reasons for the decision.
- 2.6 Where a request for admission outside the normal age group is approved, parent/carers should then submit an application for the year group it has been agreed is the most appropriate for the child. Parents/carers should make it clear in their application that an application out of the usual year group has been agreed. The application will then be considered in accordance with this admissions policy. The admission authority will not give the application lower priority on the basis that the child is being admitted out of their normal age group.
- 2.7 Where a request for admission outside the normal age group is rejected, parent/carers should apply in the usual way for their child to join their correct age group. Should parents/carers disagree with a decision to refuse their request, they should put their complaint in writing and follow the admission authority's complaints policy.
- 2.8 Applications should be made by the closing date for applications which is 15 January 2025. For residents of the East Riding of Yorkshire, applications can be made online at www.eastriding.gov.uk/school-admissions. Residents of other local authority areas should instead apply to their 'home' local authority. It is expected that most applications will be made online, but where applicants cannot apply online, they may request support from the school, or a paper application form. There is no additional 'Supplementary Information Form' required to apply for a school place at Pocklington Junior School.
- 2.9 When making an application, parent/carers are advised to supply any additional information that may be required by the admission authority by providing this information in writing direct to the school or by emailing schooladmissions@eastriding.gov.uk with the child's details. It is advised that parent/carers submit any additional information that may be relevant to the oversubscription criteria contained in Section 4 of this policy.
- 2.10 Any school's resources, such as teachers and classrooms, have to be used carefully to ensure the best possible standards for education and a safe environment. If no limit were set on the number of children that can go to a school each year these standards could not be maintained.

3. Late applications

- 3.1 Applications received after the closing date for applications in the junior admissions round of 15 January 2025 may be treated as 'late' applications – that is processed after all 'on-time' applications.
- 3.2 Where possible, 'late' applications and changes of preference and/or circumstances will be treated as 'on-time' applications if:
- a) this is accompanied by a satisfactory reason provided at the time of application; and
 - b) it can be accommodated within the timescales of the coordinated scheme and/or admission authority's processes.
- 3.3 Late applications received after the offer day will be processed using the same criteria as 'on-time' applications, although the availability of places will depend on where places are still available as well as the preferences of applicants. Late applications may be considered as 'in-year' applications. However, these preferences, if unsuccessful, will be held on a waiting list until the end of the first term in line with 'on-time' applications as set out in Section 5 of this policy.

4. Oversubscription Criteria

- 4.1 Some schools will be oversubscribed – that is where the number of applicants exceeds the relevant admission number. Where this is the case, priority is given to certain categories of children. The oversubscription criteria set out below will be used by the admission authority to prioritise all applicants who have applied for a place at Pocklington Junior School in these circumstances in the following priority order:

Criterion (i) – Places will first be allocated to children who are looked after by a local authority and to children who were previously looked after including (i) those who ceased to be looked after as they were immediately adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order; and (ii) those who were in state care outside of England and ceased to be following adoption.

A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a local authority or is provided with accommodation by that authority (see section 22 of the Children Act 1989). Any application submitted for a child who is looked after by a local authority should be supported by the authority's Children's Services Department. An 'adopted child' is a child adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or Adoption Act 1976. A 'child arrangements order' is an order made under the terms of the Children and Families Act 2014. 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).

Criterion (ii) - Places will next be allocated to children of members of staff of the school.

The member of staff must have been employed by the school for two years or more at the time the application for admission to the school is made or have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Criterion (iii) - Places will next be allocated to children who live in the school's designated catchment area.

Information about catchment areas can be obtained from the School Admissions Team or from the school. A map of the catchment area is attached to this policy. The child concerned must be resident in the catchment area by 26 February 2025 to qualify under this criterion in the normal junior admissions round.

Criterion (iv) - Places will next be allocated to children who will have a sibling either: attending the school in years 3-6 at the time of admission; or attending a named feeder school in years 1 and 2 at the time of admission.

Criterion (v) - Places will next be allocated to children who attend the school's named feeder infant school (Pocklington CE Infant School).

Attending a feeder school does not guarantee a child a place at the junior school.

Criterion (vi) - Places will next be allocated to those children who live closest to the school. The distance from the child's home to the school will be measured and priority will be given to those living nearest to the school.

If the school is oversubscribed, children in each criterion are ranked according to subsequent criteria in order. If the measurement of the distance from home to school above does not distinguish between two or more applicants with equal priority, random allocation will be used as the final tiebreaker, and independently verified.

- 4.2 It is the responsibility of parent/carers or the relevant social care professional, to include with their application any details or documents that would allow the admission authority to consider the relevance of Criterion (i), for example by providing the name of the relevant care authority and or copies of the relevant orders.
- 4.3 A child is normally deemed to be resident with their parents/carers. If a child has more than one home address, the applicant must use on the application form the address at which the child lives for the majority of school nights (Sunday-Thursday). Documentary evidence may be required to show that the child is resident at the address, which may include both 'entry' proofs of the current address and 'exit' proofs of any previous addresses.
- 4.4 It is the responsibility of parent/carers to include with their application the name of any sibling(s) for consideration under the oversubscription criteria. For the purposes of these school admission arrangements, the term 'sibling' refers to children living as part of the same family unit at the same address. A family unit consists of children and their parents/carers. The term 'parent/carer' includes any person who is the birth parent, person with parental responsibility, special guardianship or who has care of that child.
- 4.5 If applications are submitted for siblings in the same year group and a place is available for one or more but not all of the siblings from the same family, the published admission number/number of available places will be exceeded wherever reasonably possible to allow them to be placed at the school.
- 4.6 The only named feeder school for Pocklington Junior School is Pocklington CE VC Infant School.
- 4.7 Where distance from the child's home to school has to be measured, the admission authority, or another body acting on their behalf, uses a computer GIS mapping system using Ordnance Survey information, to measure the distance and adopts the address points for the child's home and the school as recorded on the Local Land & Property Gazetteer, (LLPG). The actual distance measured is a straight line from the LLPG recorded address point for the child's home to the LLPG recorded address point for the school.

5. Waiting list

- 5.1 Where a school is oversubscribed in the normal admissions round, a waiting list will be held from when offers have been made until 31 December 2025. After 31 December, no waiting list is held. No waiting lists are held after 31 December in Year 3, or for any other year group.
- 5.2 A child's position on the list will be determined by the oversubscription criteria set out in Section 4 of this policy and will reflect their current circumstances where these circumstances have been provided to the admission authority. The list will also contain all other on-time and late preferences that have been refused or are requested. Should a place become available while the waiting list is in operation, a place will be made available to the applicant on the top of the waiting list on the day the place became available.

- 5.3 Applications may only be made once for each school year unless there has been a significant and material change in the circumstances of the parent/carer, child, or school, which the admission authority agrees requires a new application.
- 5.4 Being on a waiting list does not affect a parent's/carer's right of appeal against an unsuccessful preference.

6. Timetable for applications

by 12 September 2024	Opening date for applications
15 January 2025	Closing date for 'on-time' applications
from 16 January 2025	Applications received may be treated as 'late'
16 April 2025	National Offer Day for junior schools
23 May 2025	Deadline for return of appeal papers for 'on-time' applicants
June - July 2025	Admission appeals for 'on-time' applicants
September 2025	Start of the school year
31 December 2025	Waiting lists close

7. In Year Admissions

- 7.1 In-year admissions are those that are made either during the school year, outside the period of coordination in the normal admissions round(s), or for admission into year groups other than the normal year of entry. Where applications for an in-year place are received, whether a place can be offered will depend upon the availability of places in the relevant class/year group, that is whether prejudice to the provision of efficient education or use of resources would arise as a result of the admission of an additional pupil. If there are more applications for a place than places available, then the oversubscription criteria as in Section 4 of this policy will be applied to ascertain which child is most entitled to a place.
- 7.2 The school will maintain a current admission number for each year group according to whether prejudice to the provision of efficient education or use of resources would arise as a result of the admission of an additional pupil. When a cohort of pupils progresses to a higher year group, the admission number previously determined for that year group will be reviewed afresh and applicants can only normally be refused a place if the number on roll is equal to or greater than the admission number. This can only be where prejudice to the provision of efficient education or use of resources would arise as a result of the admission of an additional pupil.
- 7.3 The school will when setting a current admission number take into account the number of pupils currently on roll, their needs, and the current organisation of classes in the school, in determining where prejudice to the provision of efficient education or use of resources would arise as a result of the admission of an additional pupil.
- 7.4 The school may review the current admission number at any time should their determination change as to where prejudice to the provision of efficient education or use of resources would arise as a result of the admission of an additional pupil. This will be at least for each year group every year in the summer term before the start of the new school year, and where a change is proposed, communicate the new number and the reasons for this change (including details of any accommodation changes, class organisation and relevant financial information) to the East Riding School Admissions team for the purposes of coordination and to ensure the local authority's sufficiency requirements.

- 7.5 The school may seek to vary the current admission number from the Published Admission Number (PAN) that was set for the corresponding normal year of entry, and in doing so will take into account the number of pupils currently on roll, their needs, and the current organisation of classes in the school.
- 7.6 The school may review the current admission number for each year group every year in the summer term before the start of the new school year, and where a change is proposed, communicate the new number and the reasons for this change (including details of any accommodation changes, class organisation and relevant financial information) to the East Riding School Admissions team for the purposes of coordination and to ensure the local authority's sufficiency requirements.
- 7.7 The operation of this policy is subject to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's Fair Access Protocol. This Protocol is agreed with schools within the East Riding to ensure that – outside the normal admissions round – unplaced children, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. It also requires local authorities to ensure that no school is required to take a disproportionate number of children with challenging behaviour. The Fair Access Protocol will take priority over this policy.
- 7.8 Where parent/carers would like to request admission outside the normal age group for their child, so their child is educated into a year group other than that relevant to their child's age, parent/carers should contact the school at an early stage to discuss their intentions and what the best approach might be. Parent/carers deciding to formally request this should do so in writing, together with any supporting information. The admission authority will then consider their request, if necessary, in conjunction with other schools, the local authority, and other professionals.
- 7.9 The admission authority will make decisions on requests for admission outside the normal age group on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned and in accordance with any agreed co-ordinated Local Authority procedure in place. This will include taking account of:
- the parent's/carer's views.
 - any information provided about the child's academic, social, and emotional development.
 - where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional.
 - whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
 - where applicable, whether they may naturally have fallen into a higher age group if it were not for being born early or late.
- 7.10 The admission authority will also take account of the views of the head teacher in assessing the request. When informing the parent/carer of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to, the admission authority will set out clearly the reasons for the decision.
- 7.11 Where a request for admission outside the normal age group is approved, parent/carers should then submit an application for the year group it has been agreed is the most appropriate for the child. Parents/carers should make it clear in their application that an application out of the usual year group has been agreed. The application will then be considered in accordance with this admissions policy. The admission authority will not give the application lower priority on the basis that the child is being admitted out of their normal age group.
- 7.12 Where a request for admission outside the normal age group is rejected, parent/carers should apply in the usual way for their child to join their correct age group. Should parents/carers disagree with a decision to refuse their request, they should put their complaint in writing and follow the admission authority's complaints policy.
- 7.13 Applications can be made at any time in the current school year, by application form available from the school or from the East Riding School Admissions team. Residents of other local authority areas should instead apply to their 'home' local authority. Applicants may request support from the school

in making an application. There is no additional 'Supplementary Information Form' required to apply for a school place at Pocklington Junior School.

- 7.14 When making an application, parent/carers are advised to supply any additional information that may be required to the admission authority by providing this information in writing direct to the school or by emailing schooladmissions@eastriding.gov.uk with the child's details. It is advised that parent/carers submit any additional information that may be relevant to the oversubscription criteria contained in Section 4 of this policy.
- 7.15 Applications will be considered in order of the date on which the application is received. If more than one in-year application for the same year group is received at the same time, the oversubscription criteria will be used to prioritise the children if places cannot be offered to all applicants.
- 7.16 Any school's resources, such as teachers and classrooms, have to be used carefully to ensure the best possible standards for education and a safe environment. If no limit were set on the number of children that can go to a school each year these standards could not be maintained.

8. Appeals

- 8.1 Applicants refused a place at the school have a statutory right of appeal. If a preference for a place at the school is refused, the applicant will be informed of the reasons and of their right of appeal. This right does not apply if they are allocated a place, but it is not in their preferred year group.
- 8.2 The admission authority subscribes to the East Riding of Yorkshire Council's independent appeals procedure and any decision made under this admissions policy can be appealed using that process. Appeals are heard by an independent appeals panel and their decisions are legally binding in line with the School Admission Appeals Code. Applicants who wish to appeal should contact the East Riding School Admissions team to request the correct appeal form.
- 8.3 Applicants will only be able to appeal once in any one school year unless, in exceptional circumstances, the admission authority has accepted a second application because of a significant and material change in the circumstances of the parent/carer, child or school.

9. Withdrawing a place

- 9.1 Applicants are strongly urged to complete the application as accurately and fully as possible. Where an offer of a place at the school has been made on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application which effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim, then under the School Admissions Code the admission authority is able to withdraw the place.
- 9.2 In the event that a place is withdrawn, the application will be considered afresh by the admission authority.

10. Contact details for correspondence

The Chair of Trustees
Wonder Learning Partnership
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01759 302395
office@wlp.education
www.wlp.education

[Appendix 1 – Map of the catchment area of Pocklington Junior School](#)