

South Wolds Community School

ADMISSION POLICY 2009-2010

The proposed admission number for September 2009 is 180.

South Wolds Community School is a Specialist Language College and Foundation School with Trust Partners. The 7 feeder schools for South Wolds are Bunny Primary, Crossdale Primary, Keyworth Primary, Kinoulton Primary, Tollerton Primary, Willoughby Primary and Willowbrook Primary.

Over-Subscription

Not all those pupils who apply for places will be able to be accommodated. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to decide which children to admit once places have first been allocated to pupils who have a statement of special educational needs which names the school.

- Children in public care who are 'looked after' at the time of application for admission is made and who the local authority can confirm will still be looked after at the time of admission to the school.
- Children who live in the catchment area on the closing date for applications as part of the co-ordinated admissions scheme in the preceding admission to secondary school.
- Places will be allocated in the first instance to children, who at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the school in years 7-11.
- Children who live outside the catchment area and who are attending one of the feeder schools listed above.
- Other children who live outside the catchment area.

If applications exceed the number of places available the school will operate a waiting list in which priority for places will be given on the basis of the above criteria. Proximity to the school will be measured 'as the crow flies' from the home address to the main reception office. Those living nearer to the school will be given priority.

The closing date for applications for the September 2010 intake is 16th October 2009. Places will be allocated on 2nd March, 2010.

Special Circumstances

Special consideration will be given to children with an exceptional level of need with regard to a physical disability. Written evidence from a registered health professional such as a doctor is required at the time of the application. The school has excellent access for students with a physical disability.

Children of nomadic travellers that live within the catchment area will be given special consideration.

Requests from the local area pupil placement panel for 'hard to place children' will be given special consideration. The governors of the school will consider each application on its merits in consultation with the local authority.

The right to withdraw an offer

The school has the right to withdraw the offer of a place if any of the information given on the application is found to be inaccurate. This would include fraudulent applications, applications found to be intentionally misleading and false claims to residence in the catchment area.

Admission to the Sixth Form (including admission number for those admitted for the first time)

The admission number for the Post-16 centre will be 200, of which we anticipate that the minimum number of applications to Year 12 from outside the school will be 30.

Students will be accepted on to Post 16 courses if they meet the entry requirements listed below:

To study AS or A Level Pathway

Students should have a minimum of 2 grade 'B' and 3 grade 'C' passes at GCSE level. A grade 'B' pass in subjects the students wish to take would be an advantage.

To study the International Baccalaureate Pathway

Students should have a minimum of 2 grade 'B' and 3 grade 'C' passes at GCSE level. A grade 'B' pass in subjects the students wish to take would be an advantage.

To study GCE Applied Business Studies Pathway

Students should have a minimum of 2 grade 'B' and 3 grade 'C' passes at GCSE level. A grade 'B' pass in subjects the students wish to take would be an advantage.

To study the one year Sixth Form Vocational Pathway

Students should have a minimum of 3 grade 'C' passes at GCSE

Over-subscription for the Post-16 centre

Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit:

- Children who already attend the school and meet the entry criteria
- In the event of an over-subscription of the above criteria proximity to the school will be used with those living nearer being given priority. Distance measurements to be made 'as the crow flies' from the home address to the main reception office of the school.

Definitions:

Looked After

The term "looked after" refers to children who are cared for by the Local Authority, and looked after by a foster family or live in residential care.

Parent

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines 'parent' to include; all natural parents whether they are married or not, any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or a young person; and any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person.

Having parental responsibility means assuming all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority that a parent of a child has by law. People other than a child's natural parent can acquire parental responsibility.

Siblings

For school admissions, sibling (brother or sister) includes half-brother or half sister or legally adopted child living at the same address as the child. It also includes a child looked after by a local authority placed in a foster family with other school age children. It also includes stepchildren or children who are not related but live as a family unit, where parents both live at the same address as the child. Where one child of a multiple birth can be admitted, the other children will also be admitted, unless this would create an infant class of more than 30 pupils.

Residence

This is defined as the child's permanent place of residence which is deemed to be the residential property at which the child normally and habitually resides with the person/persons having parental responsibility for the child at the time of completion of the application form. Proof of permanent residence and evidence regarding parental responsibility may be required. If parents live at separate addresses, whichever of the two addresses the child spends at least 3 school nights permanently i.e. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday will be classed as their place of residence. An address of other relatives or friends will not be considered as a place of residence even when the child stays there for all or part of the week.

Late applications

Late applications are those submitted after the closing date for the co-ordinated admissions scheme and will be dealt with in accordance with that scheme. Late applications will be considered up to the date in late December specified in the co-ordinated scheme providing the applicant can produce evidence that they have moved into the area after the closing date for applications or can establish at the time of completing the form that there were exceptional reasons for missing the closing date. Examples include family bereavement, hospitalisation. Supporting evidence may be required.

Waiting list

If, after the offer of places has been made, the school is over-subscribed, all unsuccessful applications will be put onto the waiting list, which is administered by the governors of the school in partnership with the local authority for the duration of the co-ordinated admissions scheme. Once the co-ordinated scheme is closed, the waiting list will remain open and will be administered by the governors of the school.

Independent Appeals

Parents have the right to an independent appeals panel if you are not happy with the outcome of your application. Any repeat applications for the same academic year will not be considered unless there is a significant and material change in circumstances. Parents wishing to appeal

should write to the Clerk to the Governors at the usual school address, **within 14 days** of notification.

Catchment area

The schools defined catchment area can be found on the school's web site at www.southwolds.co.uk

Co-ordinated admission scheme

All applications for places in the normal year of entry are made on the common application form. For entrance to the school in September 2010 the closing date of the co-ordinated admission scheme is 16th October 2009 preceding admission to secondary school. Places are allocated on 2nd March 2010.

Applications outside the normal year of entry

In the event of a place being available in the appropriate year group for a mid term application an offer of a place at the school will be made. If no places are available the child's name will be placed on the school's waiting list. The position on this waiting list will be determined by the school's published over-subscription criteria. Parents have the right of appeal to the refusal for a place.

Measuring distance 'as the crow flies'

For applications in the normal year of entry which are managed under the co-ordinated admissions arrangements distance is measured using Local Authority software (currently ArcView) and the school governor's use this information to rank order applications.

For applications outside of the normal year of entry or for those applications held on the waiting list after the (date to be confirmed) the governors of the school use the above software to measure distance.