

Proposed Admission Arrangements 2026/27 - Secondary Academy Oversubscription Criteria

Hall Cross Academy

The proposed admission arrangements for Hall Cross Academy are detailed as follows:

Preferences for each Secondary Academy will be sorted in the order of the criteria outlined below. The remaining criteria are applied in order of priority as tie-breakers, with criterion (d) being the final tie-breaker for Secondary academies.

a) Looked After Children or all Previously Looked After Children

Children who are Looked After Children and all previously Looked After Children A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A looked after child is a child who is (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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989)

b) Children of Staff

Where the member of school-based staff has been employed by the Trust for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

c) Siblings

Children with a sibling who is attending the school. Sibling is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

d) Catchment Area

Children who are ordinarily resident in the catchment area of the preferred school. (Details of Catchment Areas are available from the LA.) For applications for the year of entry, a catchment area school will be determined in relation to the address at which the pupil is ordinarily resident on the date set in the relevant co-ordinated admission scheme. Once a waiting list is formed, a child's place on that list will be updated in light of any new address.

e) Link Pyramid School

Children attending a school which is a linked pyramid school and who have, on the closing date for applications, attended that school continuously for more than one calendar year.

These are as follows: Atlas Academy, Bessacarr Primary, Hatchell Wood Primary, Hawthorn Primary, Lakeside Primary, Willow Primary

f) Trust Schools

Children attending one of Exceed Learning Partnership Trust Schools (Hill Top Academy, Edlington Victoria Academy, Carr Lodge Academy, Sandringham Primary School, Sheep Dip Lane Academy, Bentley High Street Primary School, Rosedale Primary School, The Mallard Academy, Willow Primary School) for more than one academic year, and who have, on the closing date for applications, attended one of these schools continuously for more than one year.

g) Proximity

Children who live nearest to the requested school measured in a straight line from the mid-point of the pupil's place of ordinary residence, to the entrance nearest to the reception point of the school building. In the case of split site schools, 'entrance nearest to the reception point' will refer to the site the pupil attends for the purpose of morning registration. If two or more pupils live equidistant from the school, the distance each pupil lives by road from the preferred school will be measured and the place offered to the pupil who lives nearest by this means. In the event of this being equal (e.g. in the case of flats), places will then be decided by Random Allocation.

Proposed Key Changes for 2026/2027

Updates made to the Oversubscription Criteria

- Introduction of Children of Staff within the Oversubscription Criteria as point (c) where the member of school-based staff has been employed by the Trust for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

The reasoning for the introduction of this is as follows:

Continue to support staff recruitment and retention: Offering priority admission to children of staff will support recruitment and retention, and also support where a member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is demonstrable skill shortage.

- Introduction of criteria to include Trust Schools, whereby criteria (f) would include children attending one of Exceed Learning Partnership Trust Schools (Hill Top Academy, Edlington Victoria Academy, Carr Lodge Academy, Sandringham Primary School, Sheep Dip Lane Academy, Bentley High Street Primary School, Rosedale Primary School, The Mallard Academy, Willow Primary School) for more than one academic year, and who have, on the closing date for applications, attended one of these schools continuously for more than one year.

The reasoning for the introduction of this is as follows:

This change allows the Trust to give preference to pupils who already have siblings attending other schools within the same Trust. This can be beneficial for families, making logistics easier and fostering a sense of community within the Trust. Including other Trust schools in the criteria will encourage a closer relationship between academies within the Trust. This can lead to shared resources, collaboration on teaching methods, and a more consistent educational experience for students across the Trust.

The introduction of the two elements within the Oversubscription Criteria has also meant we have proposed an updated order of priority for each criterion.