

Holymead Primary School Admissions 2024-25

AIM OF THE POLICY

This policy is intended to ensure consistency of practice in aspects of admissions to school by:

- Following the agreed Local Authority's admissions procedure
- Following the agreed Equality Policy

AGREED PROCEDURES

- The school follows Bristol Local Authority's admissions criteria, please refer to their website for the most up to date criteria.
- Applications can be made using the primary application form on Bristol City Council's website
- Address: School Admissions, School Admissions (City Hall) PO Box 3399 BRISTOL BS1 9NE
- Tel: 0117 903 7694.

Further details on admissions can be found on Bristol City Council website:

BCC Admission Arrangements for Primary Schools, Co-ordinated Scheme 2024-2025

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/schools-learning-and-early-years/school-admissions/school-admission-arrangements/coordinated-schemes-for-admissions-2024-to-2025>

Additional Information

Starting School at Holymead Primary- the school's position on delayed entry

The school promotes children starting school in their chronological age group. It is important for children to go through their school with their peers of the same age. Every year group has children with a range of birthdays and children who are born later in the school year will be educated with peers of the same or similar age.

The school does not automatically support or agree to late admission requests to the school from parents on the sole grounds of a late birthday in the school year.

Applications based on the following circumstances will be considered by the school head and the governing body on the following grounds:

- Medical circumstances
- Special needs or developmental concerns
- Special circumstances

The school only rarely agrees to admit children out of their chronological age year group because:

- The school adheres to the nationally defined academic year ie 1st September to 31st August (inclusive)
- Our experience shows that all children make progress from their starting point regardless of the month of their birth (there are many children born at the end of the academic year in each year group)
- In order for the child to remain in the year in which they had been admitted and stay with their friendship group and not have to jump to their chronological year, secondary schools/academies would need to agree to keep the child in their non-chronological year
- A child out of their chronological year will reach school leaving age the year before their contemporaries and may choose to exercise this right ie leave secondary school, before taking any recognised qualifications; for example, before sitting any GCSEs.

Ensuring the best start for reception children

The school takes a holistic view of every child and this starts from the moment they start their school career in reception. As part of our settling in process which has been tried and tested for many years we operate a staggered start to the reception year. This means a reception child will not actually be in full time school for several weeks and in some cases until after the end of the first term.

This approach gives children and parents the chance to get used to the school day and means that they feel comfortable, secure and happy about attending school. Our reception teachers are highly trained in identifying each child's specific needs and there are many opportunities for parents to discuss their child's progress and welfare throughout each school year.

All children must be in full time compulsory education by the prescribed date after their 5th birthday (see information on the Gov.Uk website.)

ASSOCIATED POLICIES

Bristol Local Authority's admissions <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/files/documents/5509-bristol-city-council-coordinated-scheme-for-primary-schools-2024-to-2025/file>

Department for Education: Advice on the admission of summer born children.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission/admission-of-summer-born-children-advice-for-local-authorities-and-school-admission-authorities>

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