

8th October 2019

To whom it may concern,

The Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust and the Red Kite Learning Trust would like to consult on amending the admission criteria of Oatlands Infant School (OIS) and Oatlands Junior School (OJS) at the request of, and with the support of, the Governors of both schools.

The Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust and the Red Kite Learning Trust are the admission authorities for OIS and OJS respectively.

The changes are designed to reflect the close relationship between the two schools and the way in which they co-operate to provide 4 to 11 primary education to children in the Oatlands area.

The proposed changes are:

Oatlands Infant School (OIS)

- 1) Extension of the 'Sibling' rule to apply to siblings of children at Oatlands Infant School **and** Oatlands Junior School.

Oatlands Junior School (OJS)

- 1) Extension of the 'Sibling' rule to apply to siblings of children who currently attend-Oatlands Junior School **and** Oatlands Infant School.
- 2) Nomination of Oatlands Infant School as a designated feeder school so that children who are currently attending Oatlands Infant School are given priority in admission to year 3 at Oatlands Junior School.

The consequent changes to the wording of the over subscription admission criteria for both schools are shown in the Appendix to this letter.

Any changes to admission criteria of a school should be consulted on, in line with the Schools Admission Code. The consultation process runs from Tuesday 8th October 2019 to 6pm on Tuesday 19th November (42 days). You are invited to respond in writing with your comments or queries to:

admin@oatlandsinf.ycway.uk and admin@oatlands-jun.n-yorks.sch.uk

Please label any correspondence 'Admission Consultation'. At present there are no proposals to hold a public meeting on the consultation, but this will be kept under review depending on the range of responses received.



Chris Burt
Executive Leader
Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust



Richard Sheriff
Chief Executive Officer
Red Kite Learning Trust



Oatlands Infant School

7th October 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

We are very pleased to share with you the attached/enclosed letter regarding a consultation on changes to the admission criteria for Oatlands Infant School (OIS) and Oatlands Junior School (OJS).

The governors have responded to feedback from parents and the community about existing admission arrangements and we truly believe that the proposed changes better reflect the relationship and co-operation between the two schools.

The staff and governors of both schools are working together to foster close working relations and to deliver great and seamless educational provision for your children.

We believe that these changes reflect the commitment of OIS and OJS to continue to work together in this way and to provide assurance to our children, families and the community that there will be a continuity of education in the Oatlands Schools until the age of 11.

We welcome the opportunity to continue to support, nurture and educate your child in our schools and feel that this is a positive and sensible way forward for admissions at both OIS and OJS.

Rachel Hartley

Chair of Governors, Oatlands Infant School

Chris Tulley

Chair of Governors, Oatlands Junior School

Zoe Anderson

Headteacher, Oatlands Infant School

Estelle Scarth

Headteacher, Oatlands Junior School

ADMISSION POLICY FOR OATLANDS INFANT SCHOOL

All governing bodies are required by section 324 of the Education Act 1996 to admit to the school a child with a statement of special needs that names the school. This is not an oversubscription criterion. This relates only to children who have undergone statutory assessment and for whom a final statement of special educational needs (SEN) has been issued.

If the number of applications exceeds the Published Admission Number (PAN), after the admission of children where the school is named in the statement of special educational needs (SEN) or Education Health & Care Plan the following oversubscription criteria will apply:

Priority 1	Looked after children and all previously looked after children for whom the school has been expressed as a preference. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order.
Priority 2	Children the Authority considers have special social or medical reasons for admission.
Priority 3	Children living within the normal area of the school
Priority 4	Children living outside the normal area of the school

Children in higher numbered priority groups will be offered places ahead of those in lower numbered priority groups.

All applications within each priority group will be considered equally (i.e. all applications, regardless of order of preference).

Tie break:

If there are not enough places for all the children in one of these priority groups, we will give priority first to those with a sibling at Oatlands Infant School or Oatlands Junior School at the time of allocation (in all cases sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent / carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is permanently living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling) and then to those living nearest the school.

If within a priority group there are not enough places for all those with a sibling at the schools at the time of allocation, we will give priority to those children with a sibling at a) Oatlands Infant School, then b) Oatlands Junior School. If within these priority groups, there are not enough places we will give priority to those children with a sibling living nearest the school.

ADMISSION POLICY FOR OATLANDS JUNIOR SCHOOL:

The Red Kite Learning Trust is required by section 324 of the Education Act 1996 to admit to the school a child with a statement of special needs that names the school. This is not an oversubscription criterion. This relates only to children who have undergone statutory assessment and for whom a final statement of special educational needs (SEN) has been issued. If the number of applications exceeds the Published Admission Number (PAN), after the admission of children where the school is named in the statement of special educational needs (SEN) the following oversubscription criteria will apply:

Priority 1	Children and young people in Public Care for whom the school has been expressed as a preference and previously looked after children, that is children who were adopted (or subject to residence orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after. This applies to all looked-after children, including those who are in the care of another local authority. In the case of previously looked after children, a copy of the relevant documentation will be required in support of the application.
Priority 2	Children the RKLTL believes have special social or medical reasons for admission. We will only consider applications on social or medical grounds if they are supported by a professional recommendation from a doctor, social worker, or other appropriate professional. The supporting evidence should set out the particular social or medical reason(s) why the school in question is the most suitable school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. Panels of professionally qualified people will consider all applications made under priority group 2.
Priority 3	Children attending Oatlands Infant School at the time of the application to attend Oatlands Junior School.
Priority 4	Children living within the normal area of the school
Priority 5	Children living outside the normal area of the school

All applications within each priority group will be considered equally (i.e. all applications regardless of order of preference).

Tie Break:

If there are not enough places for all the children in one of these priority groups, we will give priority first to those with a sibling at Oatlands Junior School or Oatlands Infant School at the time of allocation (in all cases sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister step brother or sister or the child of the parent / carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is permanently living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling), then to those living nearest the school.

If within a priority group there are not enough places for all those with a sibling at the schools at the time of allocation, we will give priority to those children with a sibling at a) Oatlands Junior School, then b) Oatlands Infant School. If within these priority groups, there are not enough places we will give priority to those children with a sibling living nearest the school.



Oatlands Infant School

Oatlands Infant School and Oatlands Junior School – Admission Criteria Consultation

Frequently Asked Questions

Why am I being consulted?

The Schools Admissions Code governs how a school determines its admission arrangements. When a school wishes to make changes to those arrangements they must consult interested parties on the change to allow them to give their views on the proposals.

What happens next?

At the end of the consultation period the trustees of The Yorkshire Causeway Schools Trust and the Red Kite Learning Trust will review the responses received and decide whether to amend the admission criteria. These will be published on the schools' websites.

When will the changes come into effect?

The changes to OIS admission criteria will apply to children applying to start OIS in Reception in September 2021.

The changes to OJS admission criteria will apply to children transferring to Junior School in September 2021 – those children are currently in year 1.

What will happen to my child, currently in year 2, when they transition in September 2020?

The Junior School has made a commitment that, using discretion available to them under existing admission rules, they will take all children from OIS who apply to OJS for September 2020.

What will the impact be for my child, due to start in Reception in September 2020?

The current admission criteria will continue to apply for September 2020 starters. This can be found on the school website <http://www.oatlandsinf.ycway.uk/admissions/>. If you have any questions about current admission criteria, please contact the school.

Why are you doing this now?

The governors of both schools have listened to concerns that people felt they could not be sure of a place at the Oatlands Schools for the duration of their children's primary education. These changes mean parents and carers can choose the right school for their child based on factors other than worrying about the likelihood of securing a year 3 place.

How will the application process change?

The North Yorkshire School Admissions Service will continue to administer admissions as they do now. Applications are made using their online service and they will allocate places based on the schools' criteria.

Will I still have to apply for a Year 3 place at OJS?

Yes. Parents and carers of children in OIS will still have to formally apply, in the autumn term of Year 2, via North Yorkshire School Admissions for a place for their child at OJS.

Are OIS pupils guaranteed a place at OJS?

OIS pupils will be prioritised in Year 3 admissions to OJS. As the admission numbers of the two schools are the same, we would expect that all OIS pupils that would like to transfer to OJS will be offered a place.

Does the catchment area still apply?

OIS and OJS share the same catchment area (shown on NYCC's website). The catchment area is not changing. At OIS, admission priority is given to children applying from within the catchment area before those outside it, however historically the school has always taken a large number of children from outside its catchment area. The increase in the Pupil Admission Number in recent years will continue to allow this.

At OJS, admission priority will be given to children attending OIS before catchment area is considered.

Can children who haven't been to OIS still go to OJS?

Yes. Attendance at OIS will be a priority over-subscription criteria, but applications from other children are welcome and will be considered where spaces exist.