

MARSDEN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DETERMINED ADMISSIONS POLICY

Dated: For the academic year 2016/2017

Date ratified by Governors:

To be reviewed: Annually

Person responsible:

The college works in liaison with Lancashire County Council Admissions. Parents/carers seeking a place at the college should, in the first instance contact the admissions team.

Our admission number for the academic year 2016 to 2017 will be 210.

If the college is oversubscribed then the following admissions criteria will be applied to decide which children should be offered the available places. The criteria below are in priority order:

- a) Looked after children and previously looked after children at the time when preferences are expressed (see note viii below); then
- b) Children for whom the Governors accept there are exceptionally strong medical, social or welfare reasons for admission, which are directly relevant to the college (see note (i) below); then
- c) Children living within the college's geographical priority area with older brothers and sisters in attendance at the college at the time of transfer (see note (ii) below); then
- d) Children living within the college's geographical priority area; then
- e) Children living outside of the college's geographical priority area with older brothers and sisters in attendance at the time of transfer (see note (iii) below); then
- f) Children living outside the college's geographical area (see note (iii) below).

Notes

- i. The medical, social and welfare criterion will consider issues relevant to the child and/or the family. This category may include children without a statement who have special needs. Children who have a statement for special needs will have their applications considered separately.
- ii. Brothers and sisters include step children, half brothers and sisters, fostered and adopted children living with the same family at the same address (consideration may be given to applying this criterion to full brothers and sisters who reside at different addresses). The priority does not apply to siblings whose brothers and sisters transferred into a sixth form at 16*.
- iii. Where there are more applicants for the available places within a category, then the distance between the Ordnance Survey address points for the college and the home measured in a straight line will be used as the final determining factor, nearer addressed having priority over more distant ones.

This address point is within the body of the property and usually located at its centre. Where the cut-off point is for addresses within the same building, then the single measure between address points will apply and the Local Authority's system of a random draw will determine which address(es) receive the offer(s).

- iv. Children will not normally be able to start at the college other than at the beginning of a term, unless they have moved into the area, or there are exceptional circumstances.
- v. The Local Authority will keep waiting lists for all Lancashire schools until 31 August 2016. These are kept in priority order using the college's published admission criteria. From 1 September 2016 for one school term only waiting lists will be retained by individual admission authorities.
- vi. Applications for college places which are received late will not necessarily be dealt with at the same time as those received by the set deadline. The reasons for a late application may be requested and where these are not exceptional the relevant admission criteria will be initially applied to all others received on time. The late application will be dealt with after this process.
- vii. Where a child lives with one parent/carer for part of the week and another for the rest of the week only one address will be accepted for a school admission application. This will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of school days (Monday to Friday). Proof of residence may be requested at any time throughout the admissions process.
- viii. The highest priority **must** be given to looked after children and children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order). Further references to previously looked after children in the Code means children who were adopted (or subject to residence orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following after being looked after.
- ix. Dates and details of applications can be obtained from Lancashire County Council.

The Geographical Priority Area for Marsden Heights Community College

The geographical priority area for Marsden Heights Community College is detailed in the brochure provided by Lancashire County Council for year 6 to year 7 transition. (Available on Lancashire County Council web site).

- A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of the 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).
- Under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. See section 46 (adoption orders).

- Under the terms of the Children Act 1989. See section 8 which defines a 'residence order' as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.
- See section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines ' a special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

Admission Times

Students new to the area will be admitted during term time at the earliest convenience. Students moving from other schools/colleges will be admitted at the beginning of the new academic term; as appropriate to individual circumstances.

Related Documentation

- LCC Admissions Policy
- Hard to place and managed moves protocol

This policy will be reviewed annually in the autumn term.