

## **The 2021 School Admissions Code and the Schools Admissions Criteria**

The 2021 School Admission Code determines the content of the schools Admissions Criteria.

As per the 2021 School Admission Code, it is important to note the following points:

### **Entry to Reception Classes**

- Pupils will be offered a full time place from the September which follows the child's fourth birthday.
- Where a child's birthday falls between 1<sup>st</sup> Sep and 31st March, parents have the right to delay their child's start until the child turns compulsory school age (the term after their fifth birthday). The school will ensure that the place is held open.
- Parents may request that their child attend part time until the child reaches compulsory school age (the term after their fifth birthday). The request is at the schools discretion and will be considered depending on the individual circumstances.

### **Admissions to Reception for Summer Born Children**

- For children whose fifth birthday falls between 1 April and 31 August, parents who do not wish them to start school in their allocated school year, but to be admitted in the following September, should discuss this with the school at an early stage. This request must be put in writing to the governors; reasons to support your request must be provided within this request and parents should include details as to why they believe this would be of benefit to their child. The headteacher will discuss any such requests with the child's parents or carers and options of part-time attendance during this period may be explored.
- Parents can decide not to apply for a Reception place in the school but to apply in the second half of the summer term for a Year 1 place starting in the following September. Parents should be aware that the Year 1 cohort may have no vacancies as it could be full with children transferring from the Reception Year group.
- Alternatively, parents have the right to apply in the normal round (no later than 15 January) for a Reception Year place for the following September, but you would need to provide strong supporting reasons for seeking a place outside of the normal year group via the protocol outlined above.

**Determined Admissions Criteria 2026-2027**

The school will admit 30 children to the reception class each year. Priority will be given to children in public care. The governors have decided that 15 places will be foundation places and 15 places will be open places or the same ratio following admission of children in public care.

The following criteria will be used by the governors, in order of priority if a year group is over-subscribed; this has been determined in line with the 2021 School Admission Code.

1. A looked-after child or a child who was previously looked after, but ceased to be so because, immediately after being looked after, they became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order. This includes those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or for whom the school has been named in an Education, Health and care plan will be admitted to the school and will count against the planned admission number.

**Criteria for 15 Foundation Places:**

1. Children whose parents attend at least twice a month\* for 12 months at either the church of St John at Hackney, St James' Clapton or St Luke's and who live locally\*\*

**Criteria for 15 Open Places:**

1. Children who have a sibling attending the school at the time they would attend.
2. Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - a. where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
3. Children who live locally\*\*
4. Children whose acute medical or social needs justify the allocation of a place at the school. Supporting evidence from a doctor or social worker must be provided at time of application setting out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another.
5. Children who live outside the parishes of St John's Hackney, St James' Clapton, the Hackney Marsh Team and St Luke's Homerton

Notes:

\*Attendance confirmed by the Rector of Hackney, the Vicar of St James' or St Luke's

\*\* Within the parishes of St John's Hackney, St James' Clapton, St Luke's and the Hackney Marsh Team and St Luke's Homerton (see map attached)

### **General Principles:**

If there is a vacancy in the Foundation Place category which cannot be filled by pupils who meet the criteria for Foundation Places, governors will consider children for these places using the criteria for Open Places.

If there is a vacancy in the Open Place category which cannot be filled by pupils who meet the criteria for Open Places, governors will consider children for these places using the criteria for Foundation Places. If two applicants live exactly the same distance the allocation of the place will be determined by lottery which will be carried out by the Admissions Committee in the presence of an independent witness.

When deciding between applicants who appear to have equal entitlement to admission under the criteria, the governors will offer the place to the applicant who lives nearest to the main entrance to the school in Isabella Road measured by a straight line. In the event that multiple applicants are considered to be of equal distance as per this measurement, numerical values from lowest to highest door number will be implemented.

In the event that multiple birth applicants (twins, triplets etc.) apply but are not all successfully offered a space due allocation limitations, spaces will be allocated to children in alphabetical order. The child/ren whose name appears first in alphabetical order will be offered the available spaces while the unsuccessful applicants will be placed on the schools waiting list.

Late applicants will be added to the waiting list, if the year group they are applying for is over subscribed. In the event of a place becoming available, all eligible applicants currently on the waiting list are considered in the light of the school's admission criteria and a place offered accordingly.

**Sibling** refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address

**Parent/family member** A parent is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child. Where admission arrangements refer to parent's attendance at church it is sufficient for just one parent to attend. 'Family members' include only parents and siblings.

**Looked After Child** 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 its social services function (c) subject to an adoption order made under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46) (d) subject to a 'child arrangements order' is one settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live (Children Act 1989, Section 8, as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 14) (e) subject of a 'special guardianship order' where one or more individuals are appointed to be a child's special guardian/s (Children Act

1989, Section 14A). This includes those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Applications under this criterion must be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (e.g. a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order).”

**In Year Admissions** are made via Hackney Learning Trust using the In Year application form. If a place is available and there is no waiting list the child will be admitted. If there is a waiting list, then applications will be ranked by the Governing Body in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Offers will be made by Hackney learning Trust on behalf of the Governing Body.



**ST JOHN & ST JAMES C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL  
PROPOSED ADMISSIONS CRITERIA 2026-2027**

**Parish Map of St John's, Hackney; St James', Clapton; St Luke's and the Hackney Marsh**

