



Jennett's Park CE Primary School

Admissions Policy

For admission from

September 2026

Date of last full consultation	October 2024
Date next full consultation is due	October 2031
Date approved by LGB	4 February 2025
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Empowering our children to flourish and achieve under God's love and Live life in all its fullness, John 10:10.

Jennett's Park CE Primary School is openly inclusive Christian school, welcoming all children from the whole community to a caring and happy environment where they can achieve to the very best of their abilities. At Jennett's Park CE Primary School we believe that all children are unique and we encourage them to develop their strengths and creativity as individuals. We emphasise the development of the whole-learner physically, intellectually, emotionally and ethically.

We promise as a staff and community to try to serve the common good with our work as part of the Church of England and endeavour to enable our children to live life in all its fullness (John 10:10)

Educating for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills	To help grow resourceful, resilient and reflective children who are equipped with the skills, knowledge and tenacity empower themselves, their learning throughout their lives.
Educating for Hope and Aspiration	To inspire and enrich lives beyond current opportunities and experiences in order to open minds to the potential their future holds
Educating for Community and Living Well Together	To be a multi-cultural, inclusive community of individuals loved by God who feel valued and involved where we create qualities of character to enable people to flourish.
Educating for Dignity and Respect	That children might know how much that they are loved and valued by so that they might show dignity and respect for themselves and others by carefully and safely thinking through their actions.

Admission Overview

For the purpose of this policy, the Bonitas Multi-Academy Trust is the admissions authority. As an Academy of the Trust, the Local Governing Body has been delegated responsibility for deciding on admissions to Jennett's Park CE Primary School. The school works closely with Bracknell Forest Council (the Local Authority) to co-ordinate admissions to all maintained schools in Bracknell Forest. The Local Governing Body have made every effort to ensure that these arrangements comply with the School Admissions Code 2021 and all relevant legislation, including that on infant class sizes and equal opportunities, as well as participation in Bracknell Forest Council's Fair Access Protocol. In determining this policy, due consideration was given to the comments received during Consultation and advice taken from both the Local Authority and the Diocese of Oxford.

Jennett's Park CE Primary School is proud of its distinctive Christian ethos which is built around our 'Rainbow Promise' and is at the centre of school life. We provide an inclusive, supportive and caring environment, shaped by Christian values in which children can learn and flourish. We welcome applications from all members of our local community without reference to ability or aptitude, and irrespective of whether they are of the Christian faith, another faith or no faith, but we expect parents/carers to respect and support the Christian ethos of our school.

Jennett's Park CE Primary School participates in the local authority's Co-ordinated Scheme for admissions and details of this can be found in Bracknell Forest Council's booklet "Guide to Primary Education in Bracknell Forest". The booklet explains the timetable for applications, how parents/carers can express a preference for a school and give reasons for that preference, and how they will be informed of the result of their application. It also gives details of how applications received after the deadline and waiting lists will be handled. All applications must be on the Common Application Form of the local authority to which council tax is paid (the home Local Authority (LA)).

The governing board have made every effort to ensure that these arrangements comply with the School Admissions Code 2021 and all relevant legislation, including that on infant class sizes and equal opportunities.

There are 60 places (the published admission number or PAN) available.

Admission arrangements to the Reception Year in September 2026

Even if a child already attends the nursery class at Jennett's Park Primary School, a new application must be made to start Reception year group for the first time.

Pupils are normally admitted at the beginning of the school year (1 September – 31 August) in which they reach their fifth birthday. Parents/carers whose children were born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022 may apply for them to be admitted to the Reception Year in September 2026.

Parents of a child born between 1 September 2021 and 31 March 2022 may defer entry until their child reaches compulsory school age (the term beginning in January or April after his or her fifth birthday). The school will hold the deferred place for the child (provided it is taken up during the school year 2026/27), although children may benefit from starting at the beginning of the school year, rather than part way through it.

For children born between 1 April 2022 and 31 August 2022 (summer born children) parents can defer the date that their child is admitted to school but not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year. Parents should refer to DfE Guidance on requesting a delayed school start for

children born in the summer: [Summer born children: advice for parents](#).

Until the child reaches compulsory school age, s/he may attend part-time. If parents wish to exercise this right, they should discuss detailed arrangements with the head teacher.

Parents (see Note 1) wishing to apply for the Reception [Foundation] Year in September 2026 must complete the common application form provided by their home local authority (the home LA). The home LA is the LA in whose area the parents live at the time of the application. The form must be returned to that LA no later than 15 January 2026. Applications received after this date will normally only be considered after all those received on or before the cut-off date. Offers and refusals of places will be given to parents on 16 April 2026.

Over-subscription criteria

Children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan naming Jennett's Park CE Primary School will always be offered places.

If there are fewer applications than places available, all children will be offered places. If there is greater demand for admission than there are places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below:

- A. Looked-after children and children who were previously looked after, including those children who appear to have been in state care outside England, but ceased to be so as a result of being adopted. (See Note 2)
- B. Families who have exceptional medical or social needs that make it essential that their child attends Jennett's Park CE Primary School rather than any other. These needs must be fully supported by written evidence from the appropriate professional person involved with the family. (See Note 3)
- C. Children of staff [see note 4]
 - a) where the member of teaching or non-teaching staff has held a permanent contract of employment for a minimum of 15 hours per week, for at least 2 consecutive years
 - b) or where the member of teaching or non-teaching staff was recruited to fill a vacant post
- D. Children with a normal home address (See Note 5) in the catchment area (see Bracknell Forest website <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/designated-area-maps>) and with a sibling (see Note 6) on the roll of the school at the time of application or whose parent/carer has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.
- E. Children with a normal home address (See Note 5) in the catchment area (see Bracknell Forest website <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/designated-area-maps>).
- F. Children with a normal home address outside the catchment area and with a sibling on the roll of the school at the time of application or whose parent / carer has accepted an offer of a place at the school and who is expected still to be in attendance at the time of entry to the school.
- G. Other children.

Proximity of the child's home, as measured by the straight-line distance (see Note 7) between the home and the school with those living nearer being accorded the higher priority, will serve to differentiate between children in criteria A to G should the need arise. In the event that two distance measurements are identical, the school will use random allocation to decide which child should be offered the place. The process will be conducted in the presence of a person independent of the school.

All Other Admissions

Admission to the school during the school year depends on whether or not there are places available. Bracknell Forest Local Authority administer all "in year" applications. Parents / carers should contact Bracknell Forest LA Admissions Teams, who will advise you about how to make an application.

If there is a vacancy, and there is no child on the relevant waiting list with a higher priority (according to the over-subscription criteria A-G above), a place will be offered.

In-year admissions or admissions at the beginning of school years other than [Reception/Year 3/Year 7] may be made at any time. The Governing Board will only consider applications up to half a term (using the three-term year) in advance of the desired date for entry. For example, for entry in January, the application will not be considered until after the October half term break.

The child's home address must be the address where they are habitually resident, that is, where they normally live for the majority of the school week with their parent or carer.

If parents/carers are moving house, the school may request evidence to confirm the new address when considering an application. This may include, for example, a tenancy agreement of at least six months or written confirmation of exchange of contracts. (Armed Forces personnel and Crown Servants are exempt from this requirement.) Where a family owns more than one property, the child's main residence will be considered to be the address at which the child sleeps for the majority of school nights. Evidence may be requested to confirm this.

If the family is in the process of moving, allocations will be based on the current address unless sufficient evidence is provided to demonstrate that the move will take place and that the new address will be the child's permanent residence by the time the child would take up the school place.

Where parents are separated, the address used for admissions purposes will be the one at which the child lives for the majority of the school week. If the child spends equal time at two addresses, parents must agree which address will be used for admissions purposes.

The school may request further evidence where necessary to verify the child's home address. The school will not allocate a place based on an address that is determined to be temporary or being used solely to secure a school place.

Admission outside normal age group

Requests from parents for places outside a normal age group will be considered carefully, eg for those previously educated abroad or those who have missed education due to ill health. A parent of a summer-born child who wishes their child to start in the autumn term following their 5th birthday (ie in the Reception Year rather than Year 1) should refer to: DfE Guidance: [Making a request for admission out of the normal age group](#).

Each case will be considered on its own merits and circumstances and a decision made based on what is in the pupil's best interests. It is recommended that parents discuss their wishes with the head

teacher at the earliest opportunity. The governing board may ask relevant professionals for their opinion.

If a place in the requested age group is refused, but one in the normal age group is offered, then there is no right of appeal.

Waiting Lists

The school maintains waiting lists for those children who are not offered a place. For those applying through the normal admissions round for entry, the Waiting List will be maintained from shortly following initial allocation in the year preceding the start of the academic year in September until 31 December following the start of the academic year in their [Reception/Year 3/Year 7] year.

The list will be re-ranked in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria each time that a name is added to or removed from the list.

Multiple births

In cases where there is one place available, and the next child on the list is a twin, triplet, etc., we would admit both twins (and all the children in the case of other multiple births) even if this meant exceeding the agreed admission number.

Fair Access

The school participates in Bracknell Forest Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol. Children qualifying under the Fair Access Protocol may be offered a place even if there are no places available in the relevant year group and also take priority for admission over any child on the waiting list.

Appeals

Any parent not offered a place for their child at their preferred school has the right of appeal to an independent appeals panel. Details of appeals arrangements are available from the school, including the date by which an appeal should be submitted. Appeals will be managed by an independent panel. In the event of an unsuccessful appeal against non-admission to the school, the school will not consider any further application for a child in the same school year (1 September–31 August) unless there has been a material change in circumstances, for example a change of address which results in a move from outside the catchment/designated area to inside it.

Parents/carers who wish their children to attend the school are most welcome to visit. Arrangements can be made through the Admissions Secretary at the school, please see contact details below.

Admissions in September 2025

The school received 81 applications expressing a preference for admission to the Reception Year in 2025 by the closing date in January 2025. These were ranked as follows as per the Admissions Policy for 2025/26:

- 0 Children with EHC plans naming the school
- 0 Criterion A (Looked after children and children previously looked after)
- 0 Criterion B (Families who have exceptional medical or social needs)
- 15 Criterion C (Living in the designated area who have a statutory school aged sibling at the school, who will be expected to still be attending)
- 1 Criterion D (Children of members of staff)
- 38 Criterion E (Children who live in the designated area)

- 3 Criterion F (Children who have a statutory school aged sibling at the school who will be expected to still be attending)
- 24 Criterion G (Other children)

60 places were offered, with the cut-off coming under criterion G.

Further information & contact details

Further information can be obtained from the Admissions Secretary at the school (see below for contact details).

We warmly welcome visits from prospective parents/carers. Open Days will be organised during the Autumn Term 2025 where prospective parents/carers may visit the school, details of these dates will be posted on our website. To arrange a visit or for further details, please contact:

The Admissions Secretary Jennett's Park CE Primary School

3 Tawny Owl Square Bracknell

Berkshire RG12 8EB

Telephone: 01344 301269

Email: admissions@jennetts.bonitas.org.uk

Website: www.jennetts.bonitas.org.uk

Admissions Page: www.jennetts.bonitas.org.uk/school-office/admissions

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Notes

Note 1

“Parent” is defined in law (The Education Act 1996) as either:

- a) any person who has ‘parental responsibility’ (defined in the Children Act 1989) for the child or young person; or
- b) any person who has care of the child or young person.

Note 2

A ‘looked-after child’ is one in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of its functions. Previously looked after children are children who have been adopted, subject to child arrangement orders or special guardianship orders. Adopted children are those for whom an adoption order is made under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46). 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). A ‘special guardianship order’ is one appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian/s (Children Act 1989, Section 14A).

Applications under this criterion must be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (eg a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order). A ‘looked-after child’ includes any child who appears to have been in state care outside England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Note 3

Applications under criterion 2 (exceptional medical or social needs), must be supported by evidence from an independent professional person which clearly demonstrates why the school is the most suitable and must illustrate the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. The person supplying the evidence should be a doctor, health visitor, social worker, etc. who is aware of the circumstances of the case. The school reserves the right to ask for further evidence or clarification where necessary and may seek the advice of appropriate professionals where necessary.

Note 4

The staff member’s normal base of work should have been continuously at Jennett’s Park Primary School. Bonitas Central services staff based at Jennett’s Park Primary School would not (normally) be included under this definition.

The child’s normal place of residence must be with the member of staff.

Please provide a confirmation letter from HR.

Note 5

The home address is where the child normally lives. This will be where the parent or legal carer of the child lives with the child unless it is shown that the child is resident elsewhere with someone else who has legal care and control of them. The address should be a residential property that is owned, leased or rented by the child’s parent/s or person with legal care and control of the child.

Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week or month, the

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address where the child lives will be determined having regard to a joint declaration from the parents stating the exact pattern of residence. If the residence is not split equally, then the relevant address used will be that at which the child spends the majority of the school week. Where there is an equal split or there is any doubt about residence, the home address will be assumed to be the address at which the child is registered with a GP.

Evidence of the normal home address may be requested in the form of a recent bill, for example, the most recent Council Tax bill, utility bill no more than three months old, a current TV licence, buildings and contents insurance, mortgage statement or rent book which shows the address concerned.

If a place at the school is offered, and it later becomes clear that the offer was made on fraudulent or intentionally misleading information (eg a false claim to living in the catchment/designated area), and the school has denied a place to a child with a stronger claim, the school will withdraw the offer of a place. The offer can be withdrawn even after the child has started at the school.

If parents are moving house, evidence of the move will be requested when considering any application for a place. Documentary evidence in the form of a solicitor's letter to confirm exchange of contracts, or a rental agreement for at least a period of six months will be required.

If parents move house after the application has been made, but before any offer of a place has been made, the home LA must be informed.

An address of a second home with the main home being elsewhere will not be accepted. If there are two or more homes, or where a family is returning from elsewhere, evidence will be required of the main home. An allocation of a place based on an address which might be considered only temporary or where the address given is a second home will not be made.

An address where the child was resident other than with a parent or carer unless this was part of a fostering or formal care arrangement will not be accepted.

There are special arrangements for families of service personnel with a confirmed posting or crown servants returning from overseas. If the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares the relocation date, and if there is a place available, it will be offered even though there is not an intended address or the family is not yet living in the area.

Note 6

'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, half-brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step-brother or sister, or the child of the parent's/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling. It is helpful if parents make it clear on the application form where the sibling has a different family name. Where there is more than one sibling at the school, only the youngest should be listed on the application form.

Note 7

The straight-line distance used to determine proximity of the home to the school will be measured by Bracknell Forest LA's Geographical Information System. Distances are measured using direct distance calculations within a computer system. The measurement of each distance has been calculated using Pythagoras' Theorem. The way in which this is done is to calculate the distance in metres between the Easting and Northing co-ordinates for each location. The measurement in metres is then multiplied by 0.000621317 to convert this measurement to miles. The same method of calculation is used for each direct distance measured. This can be to three, four or five decimal places where necessary.