



**NEWENT COMMUNITY SCHOOL
AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE**

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2024 / 2025

Committee Assigned: TRUSTEE BOARD

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ADMISSIONS POLICY

FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 ONWARDS

1. CATCHMENT AREA

Ashleworth, Bromsberrow, Churcham, Corse, Dymock, Hartpury, Hasfield, Highnam, Huntley, Kempley, Longhope (part NE of Luxley Road), Maisemore, Minsterworth, Newent, Oxenhall, Pauntley, Redmarley D’Abitot, Rudford, Staunton, Taynton, Tibberton, Tirley, Upleadon.

As an Academy admissions are the responsibility of the School Governors. The Governors have arranged with the Gloucestershire County Council for admissions procedures to be administered by the County Council but the final responsibility for deciding admissions rests with the Governors.

Pupils will be admitted at age 11 (Year 7) on a non-selective basis.

2. NUMBERS

The Admission Number for pupils starting Year 7 in September 2022 is 239.

3. CRITERIA

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit.

a. A 'looked after child' ⁽¹⁾ or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption ⁽²⁾ child arrangements order (residency order) ⁽³⁾ or special guardianship order ⁽⁴⁾ including those who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted ⁽⁵⁾.

(1) 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 their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. In Gloucestershire, such children are referred to as Children in Care.

(2) This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children’s Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

(3) Under the provisions of s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014.

(4) 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).

(5) A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of 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.

b. Children living in the priority catchment ⁽⁶⁾ area normally served by the school, who will have siblings ⁽⁷⁾ registered at the start of the term in September when the applicant would start year 7.

c. Children living in the priority catchment ⁽⁶⁾ area normally served by the school with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a direct line ⁽⁸⁾

d. Children for whom only one particular school is appropriate due to an exceptional medical condition. *Applications under this criterion will only be considered if they are supported by a written statement from the child’s doctor. This must demonstrate that there is a very specific connection between the medical need and the facilities or resources of the school concerned.*

e. Children who live outside the priority catchment area normally served by the school, who will have siblings attending the school when the younger child is admitted. ⁽⁶⁾

f. Children who live outside the priority catchment area normally served by the school with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a direct line.

Notes:

(6) A map of the catchment area is available on request from the school

(7) A sibling is a 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, and in every case, the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address. Section 576 of the 1995 Education Act defines 'parent' to include:

- *all natural parents, whether they are married or not;*
- *any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person; any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or young person*

(8) Where any particular category of criteria is oversubscribed, criterion (strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance) will be used to determine which child will be offered a place.

In the event of a tie between two or more children when applying criterion 6 the strongest geographical claim [Strongest geographical claim [based on straight line distance - measured in a straight line from the ordnance survey point of the child's home address (including flats) to a central point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system] with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority. Where there are not enough places available to offer all such children a place at the school, a process of random allocation will be followed by the Trustee Board.

4. WAITING LISTS

If the school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be held until the end of December. The waiting list will be prioritised according to the school's oversubscription criteria.

5. FAIR ACCESS PROTOCOLS

The school has signed up to the In-Year Fair Access Protocols held by the Local Authority. Should a vulnerable child within these Protocols require a place at the school, they will take precedent over any child on the waiting list.

6. SEN CHILDREN

Children with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) that name the school in the EHCP will be admitted to the school regardless of their place in the priority order.

7. IN YEAR ADMISSIONS

Where students already in secondary education apply for admission, they will be admitted according to the relevant criteria listed above, providing that the admission would not prejudice the education of existing students or the efficient use of resources.

Where the number of applications exceeds the published admissions number in a year group, a waiting list will be maintained for the duration of the academic year of admission. If a place in the year group becomes vacant, pupils on the waiting list will be offered places in the order defined by the above over-subscription criteria. Priority is not given based on the date that the application for admission was received. Therefore for example, if a child moves to a location near to the school after the normal admissions process has been completed and they have a higher priority based on the above criteria, they will be ranked above those with lower priority already on the list.

Any applications for a school made outside the normal year of entry to the school must be made directly to the school. The school has been delegated the responsibility for the administration of this process. Parents must be in receipt of

either a formal offer letter or a formal refusal letter stating the legal grounds for refusal with clear advice as to how the parent may appeal the decision.

8. ADMISSION APPEALS

Appeals against decisions on admission may be made to an independent Appeals Committee. Details of the name and the address of the clerk of the appeals committee may be obtained from the school and full details of the appeal procedure will be sent upon request.

Appeals are conducted in accordance with the DCSF regulations as to the holding of appeals on Admissions

9. TRANSPORT

Some pupils may be entitled to transport assistance from the Local Authority in which they live; normally

Gloucestershire: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schooltransport>)

Herefordshire: <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/education/schools>)

In addition, transport is available for students at this school from Gloucester and the Forest of Dean Prices start from £830 per year. These prices are liable to change. More information regards these bus routes can be found on the school website.

10. SIXTH FORM

10.1 Applications from External Students.

Each year a number of students join our Sixth Form from other schools. We welcome these applications.

Entry requirements vary according to the courses being studied. For students studying a 2 year pathway (Level 3 courses) the above criteria applies. Students might be eligible to enrol on a transition course and follow a 3 year pathway. (Further details published on our website).

We offer courses in a number of academic and vocational areas including Cyber Security.

Students who do not achieve a level 4 in English or Maths at GCSE must be committed to re-sitting them.

Most students will study 3 subjects over the 2 year programme. We also offer all students the opportunity to complete the AQA Level 3 Extended Project Qualification at AS level and have a variety of extra-curricular activities offered, including the Duke of Edinburgh Award.

The entry requirements are the same for internal and external applications.

Newent Sixth Form Centre will accept external applicants on the basis of meeting Sixth Form and course entrance requirements.

10.2 Entry Requirements and Programmes of Study

Entry requirements vary according to the courses being studied.

Please see Sixth Form prospectus for course outline and specific subject requirements