

Dogsthorpe Infant School - Admissions arrangements for September 2026

Applications will be processed through the Peterborough City Council coordinated admissions scheme.

Admission number

The school has an admission number of

- **90** for entry in Reception in 2026
- The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number for the relevant year group are received, the local authority will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, residence, or special guardianship order, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.¹
2. Children living in catchment with a sibling ² on roll at the time of admission.

¹A 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). Children who appear to the Admission Authority to have been in state care (i.e. in the care of or accommodated by a public authority, religious organisation or any other provider whose sole/ main purpose is to benefit society) outside of England but ceased to be so as a result of being adopted only.

² For the purposes of admissions, the definition of a sibling is as follows: children aged between 4 and 16, living in the same family unit, who have a sibling on the roll of the school at the time of application and admission to the school. Sibling includes brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step 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. This does not include children temporarily living in the same household, for example, a looked after child in a short term, or interim, foster placement.

3. Children living in catchment at the time of admission.
4. Children of members of staff ³ provided that they have been employed for a minimum of two years and/or are recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
5. Other children with a sibling on roll at the time of admission.
6. Other children.

Tie-break

Where children of multiple birth (i.e. twins, triplets etc.) or siblings born in the same school year are tied for the final place, we will admit such siblings even if this means exceeding PAN (when they are being considered in relation to the same criterion). For other children, priority will be given to the child living nearest the school as measured by a straight line. Distance is measured in a straight line using the Local Land Property Gazetteer (LLPG) provided from the seed point located at the child's home address to the seed point for the school. The seed point is taken from the Ordnance Survey's (OS) 2.5 Address-Base dataset. It is used to locate individual residential and school addresses using grid references as seed points. It may be necessary to use other Ordnance Survey maps or online resources for any home address outside of the Peterborough local authority area not covered by the council's distance measuring system. In the case of flats, the priority is that of floor level i.e. ground, first, second etc., in that order. In cases of exactly the same measurement where no differentiation can be established, a lottery will be used to decide the allocation of the place.

Late applications

All applications received by the local authority if after 15 January 2026 will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. The local authority will then allocate late places in the same order of priority. In cases of equal merit, priority will be given to the child living nearest the school measured by a straight line as above.

If, following consideration of all applications the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is place on the school's waiting list.

Deferred entry for infants

Parents offered a place in Reception for their child have a right to defer the date their child is admitted, or to take the place up part-time, until the child reaches compulsory school age. Places cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made.

³Staff refers to all employed at Dogsthorpe Infant School as their principal place of work, whose employer is the Hampton Academies Trust.

Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their fifth Birthday (or on their fifth Birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 August, 31 December and 31 March.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal age range, for instance where the child is gifted or talented or where a child has suffered from particular social or medical issues impacting his or her schooling. When such a request is made, the Academy Trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the Head of School and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

If a request is refused, the child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

With the application, parents should request in writing that the child is admitted to another year group (state which one), and the reasons for that request.

Parents will submit any evidence in support of their case with the application, for instance from a medical practitioner, Headteacher etc. Some of the evidence a parent might submit could include:

- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

We will also ensure the parent is aware of whether the request for admission out of age group has been agreed before final offers are made, and the reason for any refusal.

A parent making an in-year request for their children to be admitted to a year group outside of their normal age range, must also request this in writing and submit evidence in support of their case as described above.

Waiting lists and in year admissions

Parents wishing to apply for an in-year admission, should contact Peterborough City Council, who coordinate admissions to the school.

The school will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the academic year. This will be maintained by the Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

Applicants should contact Peterborough City Council's admissions team for information on how to appeal. Appeal requests must be received by Peterborough City Council within 20 school days of the national offer day, or 20 school days after notification of a late place offer. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on the Peterborough City Council website.