

### **Random Allocation – How does the Randomiser work?**

The randomiser is an oversubscription *tiebreaker* and only comes into play if there are more applications than places available within the relevant criterion of our primary admissions criteria. (Applicants living within the linked area without an older sibling attending and continuing in the primary phase of CCS, being criterion 4 for 2014/15 and 2015/16 admissions and criterion 3 for 2016/17 admissions onwards.)

All applicants falling within the criterion are listed alphabetically and given a number relevant to their position within this list. These numbers are then randomised using an electronic randomiser which denotes the order in which the applicants will be considered.

Example:

Alphabetical Number	Applicant's Name	The randomiser places the numbers in the following order:	The 1 <sup>st</sup> available place is offered to Frieda Girl (No. 5), followed by Fred Example (No. 4), Anton Student (No. 7), Ann Example (No. 3), Edward Boy (No. 1), Sam Pupil (No. 6), and finally Georgina Child (No 2).
1	Edward Boy	5,4,7,3,1,6,2.	
2	Georgina Child		
3	Ann Example		
4	Fred Example		
5	Frieda Girl		
6	Sam Pupil		
7	Anton Student		

It should be noted that twins do not necessarily stay together in the randomiser, as shown here by Ann & Fred Example.

### **The Randomiser at the time of Reception Class Admissions (Co-ordinated Scheme).**

When applying for a place in reception during the normal round of admissions, allocations for ALL schools are done simultaneously. The applicants for CCS will be pre-ordered before the allocation process runs at the Local Authority. Each child is allocated a school at the highest preference available to them, so if a child placed 1<sup>st</sup> within the randomiser had CCS as their second preference school and was eligible for a place at their first preference school, their placing within the randomiser would be discounted. This process is called 'equal preferencing'. A further explanation of how this occurs at the time of allocation, with further examples can be found on Northamptonshire county Council web-site at [www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/admissions).

Parents should always place their three schools in order of preference.