

# Consultation: Changes to Admissions from 2019



We are proposing some changes in the admissions criteria and definitions for Caroline Chisholm School for the academic year commencing September 2019 for both the primary and secondary phases of the school. Children in our primary phase will continue to automatically transfer to secondary phase at the end of Year 6.

Caroline  
Chisholm  
School



## Principles

Three principles underpin our approach to admission:

**Continuity of learning from primary to secondary phase** – children’s learning is enhanced and they make better progress if the curriculum is coordinated between phases and the primary and secondary schools concerned work together to plan the transition from Year 6 to Year 7

**Community cohesion** – schools can have a powerful positive influence in fostering a sense of community and bringing together diverse groups within the community

**Family cohesion** – it is helpful for families and supports good relationships between siblings if

### *Why make changes?*

Two changes are being proposed for 2019 admissions:

1. Giving priority to all siblings in the same phase of the school. Northamptonshire County Council and many academy schools are considering giving priority to all siblings requesting admission into the school. We at CCS wish to promote family and community cohesion by facilitating the admission of both younger and older siblings.
2. Adding a staff criterion to our primary phase criteria and changing the secondary staff criterion to include staff recruited to fill a skills shortage. We have previously added children of staff employed for two years to our criteria for secondary admissions and wish to also give this priority to staff for admission of their children into our primary phase. We now propose to include children of staff employed to fill a skills shortage to aid the recruitment of the best staff to our school.

### *Who benefits from the changes?*

1. Families who have one child admitted to CCS and have an older child in the same phase (primary/secondary) of the school on the waiting list or with an application pending.
2. Children of staff employed by Caroline Chisholm Education Trust.

### *Why are we making these changes?*

Our families and staff are important to us. We wish to support family cohesion for all our families. There are occasions where families move and are unable to gain admission for all their children, if the younger child of a family is admitted, the older sibling does not currently benefit from a sibling link. Our staff are vitally important to the whole school community. To support family cohesion and staff recruitment, we wish for members of staff to be able to have their children educated here either phase of the school.

***The consultation will be available between 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 and 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 inclusive.***

## Proposed wording of sibling link definition, both primary and secondary criteria for September 2019:

### Siblings defined as:

- Brothers or sisters sharing the same parents.
- Half-brothers or half-sisters, where two or more children share one common parent.
- Step-brothers or step sisters, where two or more children are related by a parent's marriage or partnership. (Partners must have lived together in a permanent exclusive relationship - as though they were husband or wife or civil partners - for at least two years.)
- Children adopted to parents with other children.
- For the sibling link to apply, a brother or sister must live at the same address when the application is made. If siblings live between two addresses, applicants must provide proof to show that the main address is the same for both children.
- **For the sibling link to apply, the sibling must be in attendance at Caroline Chisholm School and must still be in attendance in the same phase of the school at the time of admission of the sibling being offered a place.**

## Proposed Primary Phase Admissions Criteria for September 2019 (staff children criterion added & amended sibling wording):

Places will be allocated to pupils who have a statement of Special Educational Needs/Education Health Care Plan that names the school as appropriate provision.

If the number of applications exceeds the number of places remaining, priority will be given to children in the following order:

1. Children in public care (looked after children) or previously in public care.
2. ***Pupils with a brother or sister continuing at the primary section of the school at the time of the admission of the child AND who live in the linked area of Grange Park, Wootton, Wootton Fields, Courteenhall, and Quinton associated with the school.***
3. Pupils who live in the linked areas of Grange Park, Wootton, Wootton Fields, Courteenhall, and Quinton associated with the school.
4. ***Pupils who will have a brother or sister continuing at the primary section of the school at the time of admission of the child.***
5. ***Children of staff who have been directly employed by Caroline Chisholm Education Trust (formerly Caroline Chisholm School) for a period of not less than 2 calendar years at the time of the child's admission and continuing to be in direct employment at the time of the child's admission AND children of staff recruited to fill a vacant post within Caroline Chisholm Education Trust where there is a demonstrable skills shortage.***
6. Other pupils.

## Proposed Secondary Phase Admissions Criteria for September 2019 (sibling wording only changed):

Places will be allocated to pupils who have a statement of Special Educational Needs/Education Health Care Plan that names the school as appropriate provision.

If the number of applications exceeds the number of places remaining, priority will be given to children in the following order:

1. Children in public care (looked after children) or previously in public care.
2. ***Pupils with a brother or sister continuing at the secondary section of the school at the time of the admission of the child AND who live in the linked area of Grange Park, Wootton, Wootton Fields, Courteenhall, and Quinton associated with the school.***
3. Pupils who live in the linked areas of Grange Park, Wootton, Wootton Fields, Courteenhall, and Quinton associated with the school.
4. Pupils attending the designated contributory primary schools (i.e. Preston Hedges Primary School, Woodland View Primary School and Wootton Primary School) and continuing in attendance until the final offer of places is made.
5. ***Pupils who will have a brother or sister continuing at the secondary section of the school at the time of admission of the child.***
6. ***Children of staff who have been directly employed by Caroline Chisholm Education Trust (formerly Caroline Chisholm School) for a period of not less than 2 calendar years at the time of the child's admission and continuing to be in direct employment at the time of the child's admission AND children of staff recruited to fill a vacant post within Caroline Chisholm Education Trust where there is a demonstrable skills shortage.***
7. Other pupils.

### **What is not changing?**

- **Our admissions area for both primary and secondary phases will not change.** Children who live in Wootton, Wootton Fields, Grange Park, Quinton and Courteenhall will still have priority for admission over children who do not live in these areas.
- **Priority into the secondary phase for children attending a cluster primary who do not live in the linked area.** Children who do not live in our admissions area but attend a cluster primary school will still have priority over children who do not live in our area or attend a cluster primary school.
- **Children in attendance at Caroline Chisholm primary phase** will continue to transfer automatically into the secondary phase of the school regardless of their address or any sibling link.

### **Over-subscription tie-breakers.**

- The over-subscription tie-breaker for admission of staff children into primary phase will be distance to school:  
“If the admission number is exceeded within any other criterion, priority will be given to those who live closest to the school.”
- All other **oversubscription tie-breakers** will remain the same for both phases.

### **When will these changes take place?**

- The proposed changes will take effect for the academic year 2019/20 commencing on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.

### **Who will be affected by the proposal?**

- Families who have a child already attending Caroline Chisholm School with a sibling on the waiting list for the same phase (primary/secondary) of the school.
- Families coming onto the waiting list for a place at the school. These families will have the reassurance that they will have the benefit of the sibling link whichever of their children gains a place first. Currently, the family must gain entry for the older child in the same phase of the school to have the benefit of a sibling link.

- There will be a minimal effect on those children who have no siblings. The table opposite shows the number of families with siblings and applications pending from the end of the academic year 2016/17 and the total number of children on the waiting list.

School phase	Linked area families with siblings.	Non linked area families with siblings.	Total number of children on the waiting list (all criteria)
Primary	21	7	171
Secondary	2	14	77

- We must already have a child from a family admitted to the same phase of the school in order for them to gain the benefit of a sibling link. Families coming onto the waiting list with no child already in the same phase of the school will not benefit from this change until they have a child admitted.
- Families without siblings will see minimal effect, the FIRST child from ANY family (those with our without siblings) will continue to gain admission via our admissions criteria without the benefit of a sibling link.
- The sibling change will have no effect on admissions at the normal entry points of the school (co-ordinated admissions for September entry for reception and year 7). This is due to the children being admitted at these points in the school will only have older siblings in the same phase at the time of admission. These children currently have the benefit of a sibling link into the school.
- The amendment of the staff criterion for secondary to include of staff recruited to fill a vacancy will only affect staff who currently have a child on the waiting list (of which there are currently none) and children with no existing connection to the school.
- The staff criterion addition for primary phase will only affect those children who do not live in our linked area who do not have a sibling already in the primary phase of our school.
- Children affected by these criteria changes will be added to the waiting list in cases where there is no place available at the time of application.

Any child applying to our school for a year group where no space is currently available can be placed on our waiting list for a place should one become available. Children on the waiting list are ordered in accordance with the admissions criteria applicable at the time of allocation, the child at the top of the ordered list is offered the space first.

**To respond to this consultation, please write to the Admissions Officer at Caroline Chisholm School, The Wooldale Centre for Learning, Wooldale Road, Wootton Fields, Northampton, NN4 6TP. Alternatively, email: [admissionsconsultation2019@ccs.northants.sch.uk](mailto:admissionsconsultation2019@ccs.northants.sch.uk) putting ‘Admissions Consultation 2019’ in the subject line.**

For a paper copy of this information, please contact the Admissions Officer.

**All responses must be received by the school by 5pm on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at the latest.**