

# Soke Education Trust

## Admission Arrangements 2023/24

CEO	Sign and Date	
Chair of Trustees	Sign and Date	
Date for review (this policy will be reviewed annually)		December 2023



SOKE EDUCATION TRUST  
SUSTAIN • EMPOWER • TRANSFORM

In accordance with the Education Act 2002 and the requirements of the School Admissions Code, the Directors of Soke Education Trust are required to consult, determine and notify their admission arrangements for the school for September 2024

### **Determination of admission arrangements for September 2023**

The Board of Directors of Soke Education Trust apply the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to those children who attend Gunthorpe Primary, John Clare Primary, Northborough Primary, Werrington Primary and Wittering Primary.

Soke Education Trust is its own admission authority and is responsible for setting the criteria for admission and for their interpretation. As its own admissions authority, Soke Education Trust has made the decision to use Peterborough Local Authority Admissions Service to co-ordinate the admission arrangements for trust schools.

Soke Education Trust adheres to Peterborough's Fair Access protocol.

### **Soke Education Trust school information**

#### **Gunthorpe Primary School**

Admission Criteria 2023/24 for Gunthorpe Primary

Gunthorpe Primary mainly serves the areas of

Andrews Crescent	Bartram Gate	Beadle Way
Bowness Way	Brendon Garth	Brickenden Rd
Brooker Avenue	Caldbeck Cl	Cambrian Way
Carpenter Close	Cartwright Grove	Chamberlain Way
Cheviot Avenue	Chiltern Rise	Cleveland Court
Cooper Road	Derwent Drive	Freston
Grampian Way	Gunthorpe Ridings	Gunthorpe Rd (evens)
Hallfields Lane	Herald Way	Holmes Way

**The published admission number for September 2023 for Gunthorpe Primary is 60 children John**

#### **Clare Primary**

Admission Criteria 2023/24 for John Clare Primary

John Clare Primary mainly serves the areas of Helpston and Etton

**The published admission number for September 2023 for John Clare Primary is 20 children.**

#### **Northborough Primary School**

### **Admission Criteria 2023/24 for Northborough Primary**

Northborough Primary mainly serves the village of Northborough and surrounding area.

**The published admission number for September 2023 for Northborough is 30 children.**

### **Werrington Primary School**

#### **Admission Criteria 2023/24 for Werrington Primary**

Werrington Primary mainly serves the areas of Werrington Village.

**The published admission number for September 2023 for Werrington Primary is 60 children.**

### **Wittering Primary School**

#### **Admission Criteria 2023/24 for Wittering Primary**

Wittering Primary mainly serves the areas of Wittering, Wansford and Thornhaugh.

**The published admission number for September 2023 for Wittering Primary is 60 children.**

For further information on school catchment areas [www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-admissions/catchment-area/](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-admissions/catchment-area/)

### **Process for Admission**

#### **Admission of Children into the Early Years Foundation Stage – at the start of the academic year**

The Department for Education (DfE) Admissions Code 2014 requires that admissions into the Foundation year group, at the beginning of the academic year, be coordinated by the Local Authority. This is in order to provide a better service to parents and carers. This co-ordination involves a common application form and a common timetable as described in the 'co-ordinated scheme'. Further information can be found on [www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions)

The Local Authority publishes a composite booklet entitled Admissions Information booklet, published each year. This provides parents and carers with information on the admission process, timetable and how parents can apply for a place in the school of their choice.

Parents have a right to express a preference for the school of their choice and they should do so using the common application form. Application forms can be obtained from [www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/admissions)

#### **Admission of Children out of their normal age group**

Soke Education Trust do not believe it is in the best interest of pupils to be deferred to another year. As a Trust with experienced and knowledgeable staff, we are able to provide suitably differentiated and adapted, educational provision for children of all abilities.

It is our belief, based on evidence from the Education Endowment Fund, that children experience negative effects to their education when their schooling is deferred. If children are from disadvantaged backgrounds the negative impact increases further and is even more likely to increase their inequality. The research demonstrates that on average children who are held back a year in their schooling make at least three months less progress than their peers, on top of any current gaps in their learning. The negative effects increase with time and there is an increased risk that children will drop out of school entirely later on. Attempting to reduce the risk of drop out at points prior to the end of statutory schooling can cause social upheaval as the relationships built up over time are split. Furthermore, children can make relationships with others, who are not their chronological peers which can become inappropriate. Joining a school below a child's chronological age may create problems, socially and academically in the Primary phase and can be problematic with the administration of the statutory testing procedures.

Parents requesting admission out of the normal age group will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

### **In Year Admissions**

Soke Education Trust uses Peterborough Local Authority Admissions Service to co-ordinate the admission arrangements for trust schools. Soke Education Trust schools will advise the Local Authority of all available places.

An application must be submitted to the Local Authority. They will respond, in writing, to advise whether an offer of a school place is available.

The Trust does not always have enough places available for every child whose parents have applied for a place. In this case the School will use an order of priority for admissions to the school.

This will be in addition to any specific arrangements to specialist provision. The order of priority for all other children is as follows:

1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence/care arrangements order or special guardianship order. 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).
2. Children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society
3. Children who are both living in the catchment area\* served by the school and have siblings\*\* of compulsory school age still attending the school at the time of their

admission.

4. Other children living in the catchment area\* at the time of admission.
5. Children of members of teaching staff (working within the requested school), 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.
6. Children who do not live in the catchment area\* served by the school, but who have siblings\*\* of compulsory school age attending the school (or are attending an infant or junior school on the same site) at the time of their admission.
7. Other children whose parents have requested a place who live outside the catchment area\* of the school.

\*An alphabetical list of streets and their school catchment areas is available on the Peterborough City Council website.

**\*\* Definition of siblings**

The definition of a brother or sister sometimes referred to as a sibling: - a brother or sister sharing the same parents

- a half brother or half sister where 2 children share one common parent
- a step-brother or step sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage - adopted children
- A child who has been adopted or is fostered by parents/carers who have other children
- A brother or sister must be living at the same address as the child when the application is made.

**Tie-Breaker**

In cases of equal merit, 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) Address-Point® dataset. It is used to locate individual residential and school addresses using grid references.

**Waiting Lists**

Continuing interest lists for all oversubscribed primary schools will be maintained by the Local Authority until co-ordination ends, i.e.31 August. Continuing Interest lists are held in strict oversubscription criteria order. Applicants will be ranked according to each individual school's oversubscription criteria and the Local Authority will continue to coordinate on behalf of Soke Education Trust to allocate places from those lists, if places become available.

After the offer date there will be no distinction between 'on-time' and 'late' applications on continuing interest lists.

Soke Education Trust schools will advise the Local Authority when a place becomes available. The Local Authority will then offer the place to the child who is at the top of the continuing interest list.

Parents will be asked to confirm that they wish to stay on a higher preference school's continuing interest list when accepting an offer of a place at a lower preference school. A child's details will not be added to a school's continuing interest list if a higher preference school has been offered. Refusal of a place when offered a preference school will automatically remove them from the continuing interest list.

If, after a child is offered a place at a lower preference school which they have not yet started, a place becomes available at a higher preference school and their name has been added to the continuing interest list for that school, the original offer will be withdrawn and a new offer is made. The reason for this is that the child will not yet have started or placed on roll at that lower preference school and we are obliged to meet a parent's highest preference. If a parent is happy to accept and keep the lower preferred offer, they must inform the Local Authority to remove them from the higher preference school's continuing interest list, or the offer for the lower preference will be withdrawn and their place (at the lower preferred school) will be offered on to the child who is top of the continuing interest list for that school.

After the offer date, if a parent wishes their child to be considered for an alternative school, a new application form must be completed listing the new order of preferences.

### **Appeals**

For any child subsequently refused a place, parents/carers will have the right to appeal against the decision, to an independent Appeals Panel.

Parents/carers wishing to appeal should contact:

<https://www.peterborough.gov.uk/residents/schools-and-education/school-admissions/school-admissions-appeals>

School Admissions Appeals Service Sand  
Martin House  
Peterborough PE2  
8TY

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