

Admissions Policy for Al-Noor Voluntary Aided Primary School

For September 2020 admission

Mission Statement

“Individuals, families and communities that truly understand and accept their purpose of being in this world, confidently live and work together for a just, responsible and compassionate society”

About the school

Al-Noor Voluntary Aided Primary School offers, to children between the ages of 4 and 11 years, a high quality education within an Islamic ethos which embraces diversity, nurtures compassion for all and requires good citizenship and collective work for the common good with all members of society, as part of the teachings of Islam.

The school opened in September 2018 and is phasing in year groups on an annual basis until all year groups are present. The school accepted applications for Reception and Year 1 in September 2018 and applications for Reception classes each September thereafter.

The school has a published admissions number of 60 for Reception and 60 for Year 1 [and Year 2]. If a year group is undersubscribed, all applicants for that year group will be admitted.

30 places will be reserved in each year group for Muslim children (see the definition below) and the remaining places will be open to any other applicants.

Oversubscription criteria

If the school is oversubscribed after the admission of pupils with a statement of special educational needs where the school is named in the statement, priority for admission to each category (i.e. the places reserved for Muslim children and the open places) will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below in order:

1. In relation to the places reserved for Muslim applicants, Muslim looked after children or Muslim children who were looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.

In relation to the 30 places that are not reserved for Muslim Children, any other looked after child or a child who was previously a looked after child.

A “looked after child for the purposes of this policy 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 definition in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989).

2. Children of members of staff employed directly by Al-Noor Voluntary Aided Primary School:
 - a. where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made: and/or
 - b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
3. Children with a sibling attending the school at the time of the application and who will still be on the school roll when the child is admitted. "Sibling" is defined in the arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.
4. Children by distance to the school with priority for admission given to children who live nearest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre of the pupil's main home to the designated main entrance on Green Lane using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority. For shared properties (e.g. flats) the centre will be taken from the centre of the building.

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break if any of the above categories are oversubscribed. This process will be independently verified.

If an applicant applies for one of the 30 places reserved for Muslim pupils but is unsuccessful because the category is oversubscribed, the applicant will automatically be considered for one of the open places in accordance with the above oversubscription criteria.

Muslim children

Places will be awarded to Muslim applicants who are committed to the Islamic faith. Muslim applicants will need to ask an Imam to confirm their commitment in the Supplementary Information Form (SIF).

Children of staff

If you are applying under over-subscription criteria 2, 'Children of members of teaching staff', please attach a letter to the Admissions Officer confirming the start date of your employment.

Procedure for admission to Reception

You must complete the Common Application Form (CAF) supplied by your Local Authority and name the School as one of your preferences. You must send the CAF to your Local Authority and not to the School. You will also be able to do this online.

If you wish to claim priority based on the oversubscription criteria you should complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) for the School and send it directly to the School no later than the date by which the CAF has to be returned to your Local Authority. The SIF must be marked for the attention of the Admissions Officer at the School. It is not compulsory to complete a SIF but we cannot give your child priority consideration without it. The School is under no obligation to advise parents on or before the applicable closing date that the application is in any way deficient.

The School decides the order in which places are to be offered in accordance with the Admissions Policy but the London Borough of Redbridge will make the offers, via your home Local Authority, through the co-ordinated admissions process.

Children of multiple birth

In the event that the school has one place to offer and the next child on the waiting list is a twin or sibling from a multiple birth, the school will offer those children a place even if this means going over the Infant Class Size limit.

Shared residence

Where parents have shared residence of a child and the child lives for part of the week with each parent the Governing Body will take the home address to be the address at which:

- (a) the child lives most of a school week; or
- (b) where the child lives at each address for equal parts of a school week, then the address nearest to the School as determined by the Local Authority distance measuring system.

Deferred Entry

The School is required to provide for the admission of all children in the September following their fourth birthday. Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to school is deferred until later in the academic year or until the term in which the child reaches compulsory school age and can also request that their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Waiting List

Parents of applicants who do not receive a place must inform the School if they would like their child's name to be included on the waiting list. Places are offered from the Waiting List in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

In year-applications

Applications received after the start of the academic year of normal entry should be made directly to the School. Application is by completion of the CAF and the SIF which is available from the School on request.

Applications for other year groups

Where an application is made outside the normal admission rounds, the Governing Body will admit the candidate if a place is available. If more applications are received than there are places available then applications will be ranked by the Governing Body in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Right of appeal

Unsuccessful applicants have the right to appeal. Parents wishing to appeal must write to the Clerk to the Governors at the School address within 20 school days of receiving the notification that your application was unsuccessful. The appeals procedure will be explained in the notification letter from the School.

False information

Places can be withdrawn after an offer has been made if the Governing Body determines that the offer was made on the basis of false or intentionally misleading information.

For further information, please contact the school Admissions Officer on va.admissions@al-noorprimary.org.uk.