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# **MONKWEARMOUTH ACADEMY ADMISSIONS POLICY 2025/2026 (Proposed)**

## Monkwearmouth Academy – Admission Criteria 2025/2026

The Local Governing Body of Monkwearmouth Academy is the Admissions Authority for this academy.

We intend to admit up to 180 students into Year 7 in September 2025. This arrangement follows consultation between the Trust Board, the Local Governing Body, the Local Authority and all other schools in the area who are their own Admissions Authority.

All applications must be made using the Local Authority application process by the closing date which is determined annually. Applications received after the closing date will only be considered after all those received by the closing date.

The admissions criteria is applied if the number of applications exceeds the number of places available. The admissions authority acknowledges the rights of parents/carers to express a preference for the school. However, parental preferences cannot be considered where the academy is over-subscribed in a particular year.

Children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names Monkwearmouth Academy will automatically be offered a place in the academy.

The admissions criteria agreed if the number of applications exceeds the number of places available is:

1. **A ‘Looked after’ child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residency/child arrangement or special guardianship order** – a child that is looked-after by a Local Authority in accordance with Section 22(1) of the Children’s Act 1989 and a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so, because of adoption (or become subject to a child arrangements order, residence order or special guardianship order) and a **‘Looked after’ child who appears to the Admission Authority 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.
2. **Children selected on the basis of aptitude**  
There are 18 places available in total to learners who fulfil the following criteria on the basis of aptitude.

The individual learner must be identified by a professional football coach who is either employed by the Academy or are a partner provider with Monkwearmouth. A student with aptitude is one who demonstrates a particular capacity to success in playing football. In determining applications the Governing Body will determine if a child has an aptitude for football, a particular capacity to learn or develop the skills in football and will benefit from the expertise and facilities in the Football Academy.

3. **Attendance in Key Stage 2 in a partner primary school**  
Dame Dorothy Primary School  
Fulwell Junior School

Grange Park Primary School  
Redby Academy  
Seaburn Dene Primary School

4. **A sibling link** – an older brother/sister or other child (including adoptive or step sibling) who shares the same parent/carer and lives at the same address, who will still be attending Monkwearmouth Academy at the time of admission.
5. **Exceptional medical or psychological reasons** – you must include a medical or psychological report, prepared by a professional, to confirm information which you include in this section. This report should explain why only this academy can meet your child's medical or psychological needs. Common childhood conditions such as asthma or giving a child's nervousness at starting a new school as a psychological reason for choosing a particular school are unlikely to be accepted as exceptional. If you intend to use this criterion when applying, please contact the School Admissions Team before completing the application form. (Eligibility under this category will be considered by a meeting of a committee of the Local Governing Body).
6. **Pupils for whom preferences are expressed on grounds other than those outlined above.**

Within each of the above, places will be offered on the basis of distance from the centre of the home to the main entrance of the academy, with priority being given to those living closest to the academy. Distance is measured by the shortest safest walking distance, using a geographical information system (GIS).

## Notes

### Preference allocation

The Governing Body will adopt an equal preference system, whereby all applications are considered at the same time irrespective of the order of preference. Therefore, all applications will be considered equally against the admission criteria. If a student qualifies for a place at more than one school, the parent's highest ranked preference will be offered and any lower ranking offers will be disregarded.

In determining allocations, priority will be given to those applications where the parental preference is received by the published deadline date.

Where it is not possible to make an offer at a chosen school, the child will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list is sorted using the admission criteria and will be held until the 31<sup>st</sup> December, after students start Y7 in September.

Parents who are unsuccessful in securing a place have a statutory right of appeal. Information will be included within the notification letter and is also available from the School Admissions Team.