

The Council has recently reviewed its oversubscription criteria for Community Secondary schools in Monmouthshire. The changes will be implemented from September 2020 intake.

The changes relate to a prioritisation given under the criteria to children residing within the catchment area over those residing outside of the catchment area but with relevant siblings. Within the oversubscription criteria, the Council also now affords priority to those attending a feeder school for the preferred secondary school.

Please take some time to note the revised oversubscription criteria below before completing your application.

ALLOCATION OF SCHOOL PLACES - COMMUNITY SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Attendance at a Primary or Junior school does not guarantee that a place will be made available for your child at the feeder Comprehensive school. Although every effort will be made to accommodate parental preference, where the number of applications for a school exceeds the number of available places, the over-subscription criteria will be applied.

When the number of applications received for a preferred School is less or equal to the number of available places, all children will be admitted assuming that the school concerned can meet the needs of the children concerned.

However, when there are more applications than places in a school, the admission number is exceeded and the over subscription criteria will be applied to select which children are to be offered places at the School concerned. For children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs, the Authority must admit the child concerned to the School specified on their statement.

When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria below. The highest preference school, as listed on the application form, will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

Oversubscription criteria - community secondary schools

Priority rank	Criteria
Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs (statutory requirement for admission)	
1.	Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-9 below. (Please see section 9.0 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
2.	Children with exceptional medical circumstances, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-9 below (please see section 7.5 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
3.	Children residing within the catchment area for the preferred school who have relevant siblings will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 4-9 below (please see sections 7.6 and 7.7 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
4.	Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, but with relevant siblings who will continue to be in attendance at the preferred school due to being unsuccessful in their application for a place at their catchment school. will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 5-9 below (please see explanatory notes below and section 7.6 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
5.	Children residing outside of the catchment area, but with relevant existing siblings enrolled at the preferred school by September 2019, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 6-9 below (please see explanatory notes below, and section 7.6 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
6.	Children residing inside the catchment area for the preferred school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 7-9 below (please see section 7.7 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
7.	Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, with a relevant sibling (who will be in attendance at the preferred school at time of admission) that does not meet criteria points 4 and 5 above, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 8-9 (please see section 7.6 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
8.	Children currently on roll at a primary school that is designated to be a feeder school for the preferred secondary school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling point 9 (please see section 7.8 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
9.	After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription in any of the above categories, priority will be based on closeness to the preferred

	school, measured using the shortest safe walking route. (please see section 7.9 of the School Admissions Policy 2020/21)
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To clarify, any over-subscription in the above criteria will result in the final determination of the allocation of a place being made on distance. So for example, if there are more applications than places available after applying point 6 above, places will be allocated to those children whose home address is determined to be closer to the preferred school.

Explanatory Notes

Priority rank 4 - This criteria would apply only in the event that a parent has been unsuccessful in obtaining a place for their child at their catchment school, and is subsequently attending an alternative school with a younger sibling eligible to attend.

Priority rank 5 - This criteria would be relevant for existing siblings only, placed on roll at the preferred school by September 2019, with younger siblings eligible to transfer from Primary to Secondary in September 2020, September 2021, September 2022, September 2023, and September 2024.