IRONSTONE ACADEMY TRUST

IAT

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

2027 2028

ANNUAL

Policy applies to:	All Ironstone Schools
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IAT Admission Policy and arrangements for Academic Year 2027- 2028

Normanby Primary School,

Nunthorpe Primary Academy,

Ormesby Primary School,

Overfields Primary School,

Riverdale Primary School,

Zetland Primary School;

Statement of Intent

To ensure equity and fair access, the Admissions Code states that in drawing up admission arrangements, admission authorities must ensure that the practices and the criteria used by Nunthorpe Primary Academy, Normanby Primary School, Ormesby Primary School, Overfields Primary School Riverdale Primary School, Zetland Primary School; Ironstone Academy Trust decide on the allocation of school places are:

Clear in the sense of being free from doubt and easily understood;

Objective and based on known facts. Admission authorities and Governing Bodies must not make subjective decisions or use subjective criteria;

Procedurally fair and also equitable for all groups of children and actively promote equity across all social groups and communities;

Enable parents' preferences for the schools of their choice to be met to the maximum extent possible;

Provide parents or carers with easy access to helpful admissions information;

Compliant with relevant legislation, including infant class sizes and equal opportunities, which have been determined in accordance with the statutory requirements.

ADMISSION POLICY

We will work with Redcar and Cleveland Local Authority

To meet these requirements, the Trustees have agreed the following IAT ADMISSION POLICY FOR 2027-2028 will apply at:

Normanby Primary School,

Nunthorpe Primary Academy,

Ormesby Primary School,

Overfields Primary School,

Riverdale Primary School,

Zetland Primary School;

who are part of the Ironstone Academy Trust.

The Schools will work openly with Redcar and Cleveland Local Authority and follow the system that they have in place.

Trust expansion

Should further schools join the Academy Trust, due consideration will be given to Admission arrangements for the predecessor school, but the Trust Policy will take precedence when it is legal to do so.

Have we made any changes for this year?

There are no changes, beyond clearer explanation of our legal responsibility, to the Trust admission policy for 2027-2028.

Request for admission outside the normal age group

Parents or carers are entitled to request a place for their child outside of their normal age group.

Parents or carers may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal age range for instance where the child is gifted or talented or where a child has suffered from particular social or medical issues impacting on their schooling.

Decisions on requests for admission will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and the best interest of the child concerned in accordance with the School Admissions Code. This will include:

- taking account of parents or carers views
- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development
- if relevant their medical history and the views of a medical professional
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely
- Head teacher views

Wherever possible the request for admission outside a child's normal age group will be processed as part of the main admissions round; they will be considered on the basis of the arrangements laid out in this policy, including the relevant over subscription criteria.

Applications will not be treated as a lower priority if parents or carers have made a request for a child to be admitted outside the normal age group. Parents or carers will always be informed of the reasons for any decision on the year group child should be admitted to.

Parents or carers do not have a right to appeal, if they are offered a place but it is not in their preferred age group.

OVER SUBSCRIPTION

Where there are more applications for a school than there are places available, it is proposed that places will be allocated using the over subscription criteria shown in the table below.

OVER SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA 2027/ 2028

CRITERIA **(in priority order)**	**EXPLANATORY NOTES**
i) Looked after children in local authority and previously looked after children.	Children who are looked after; or who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence 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 (Section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989). This category includes children who are in care / previously in care from other countries
ii) Children who are permanently resident in the admission zone defined for the school.	For the purposes of determining whether a child lives within the admission zone, only the address at which the parent / guardian ordinarily resides and with whom the child normally lives will be taken into account. If parents are separated and the child lives for periods of time with both parents, the address used will be of the parent who receives child benefit for the child (if eligible). If neither parent is eligible for child benefit, the address used will be that on the child's medical registration card (proof may be required). Short term tenancies entered into with the prime objective of securing admission for a child at a particular school will not qualify as places of ordinary residence. The local authority will take action should false information be submitted in order to secure a place at a particular school.

(iii) Children not living in the admission zone who have elder brothers or sisters attending the school in the 2026/ 27 school year.	Brothers and sisters and step brothers and sisters will qualify under this criterion as long as they both live at the same permanent address and the elder sibling is still attending the preferred school in the 2026/27 school year. 'Sibling' refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent / carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.
(iv) Children not living within the admission zone w ho have exceptional social and/or medical reasons for attending a particular school, profession ally supported by an independent third party and sustained by the Authority's professional advisors.	Social reasons generally do not include domestic circumstances such as parents' working commitments, childcare arrangements, or separation from friends. In the case of medical reasons, evidence would need to demonstrate the exceptional long-term nature of the condition. All mainstream schools are able to cater for a wide range of medical needs which may be encountered by children. You are strongly urged to provide independent third party information (e.g. from a professional person who knows or is involved with your child) in support of any exceptional long-term medical or social reason why you think your child should be given special consideration for placement in a particular school. This written support must make clear why the preferred school is the **only** school which could meet your child's needs. The submission of independent information will not automatically guarantee a place under this criterion. However, the evidence will be carefully considered by the local authority's professional advisors as to whether or not your application falls into this category.
v) Children living closest to the school	The distance from home to school will be measured by computer on a straight line basis using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the school.

Tie-Break

The Trust will follow the process applied by the Local Authority. If it is necessary to distinguish between children within categories (i)-(v), places will be offered using the criteria listed above in priority order and determined by criteria (v) – measurement on a straight line basis using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the school.

In the case of a tie break in category (v), the final allocation will be determined using the shortest walker route using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the school.

Admission Applications

Parents will receive applications from their local councils between directly, in November.

Parents will be advised of school allocations in April 2027

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists for Reception will be maintained by the LA until the end of the Autumn Term.

Any places that become available will be allocated in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria.

Late Applications

Forms received after the closing date will be dealt with after all the other applications unless there is a good reason for their lateness, e.g. if a family moves into the area. In these cases the application can be considered along with all of those that came in on time, providing the allocation of places has not already been completed.

Multiple births

For multiple births where only 1 place remains, infant classes will be allowed to exceed the statutory limit where the 31st child is a twin or from multiple births.

IAT September 2026

The 'excepted' pupil will be allowed for the time in Key Stage 1 or until the class numbers fall back to current class size limit.

Fair Access Protocol

We participate in our local authorities' Fair Access Protocol.

This helps make sure that all children, including those who are unplaced and vulnerable, or having difficulty in securing a school place in-year, get access to a school place as quickly as possible.

Deferred entry or admission of children below compulsory school age

Children are entitled to a full-time school place in the September following their fourth birthday Requests to defer a child's start date or attend part-time until a child's compulsory school age not beyond the beginning of the final term of the academic year, will be considered by the school on a case-by-case basis after the Local Authority has allocated a place as part of the normal admissions round.

It is recommended that parents/carers visit the school before deciding to delay a child's entry to school. The school will be able to explain the provision on offer to children in the reception class, how it is tailored to meet the needs of the youngest pupils and how the needs of these pupils will continue to be met as they move up through school. They may also be able to allay any concern parents/carers may have about their child's readiness for school.

**A child reaches compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their fifth birthday. (Or on fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.*

CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND TIMETABLE: 2027-2028

The LA is responsible for administering a co-ordinated scheme for its area in relation to all maintained (community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided and foundation) schools and academies. The purpose of the co-ordinated admission scheme is to ensure that, as far as is reasonably practicable, every parent of a child living in the LA area who has applied for a school place in the normal admission round receives an offer of one school place on the same day.

Parents should consult the Local Authority for details of the timings for the admissions process in 2027/28.

Admission Numbers

Appendix 1 shows the proposed published admission numbers for:

Nunthorpe Primary Academy,

Normanby Primary School,

Ormesby Primary School,

Overfields Primary School,

Riverdale Primary School,

Zetland Primary School;

Who are part of Ironstone Academy Trust, for which Redcar & Cleveland LA is the Admissions Authority for September 2027 entry.

Conclusion

The Admissions Code underpins the Government's aim to create a school system shaped by parents which delivers excellence and equity, developing the talents and potential of every child, regardless of their background; a system where all parents feel they have the same opportunities to apply for the school they want.

The Code states: 'A fair system needs to provide parents with access to good information about admissions in order to support those parents who find it hardest to understand the system.'

Within Ironstone Academy Trust we aim to ensure that the admission arrangements comply with the School Admissions Code of Practice and offers fair access to all schools to all pupils in the Borough.

APPENDIX 1

ADMISSION NUMBERS FOR 2027/28 YEAR FOR SCHOOLS FOR WHICH REDCAR & CLEVELAND IAT IS THE ADMISSIONS AUTHORITY

Admission numbers are set with regard to the assessed capacity of schools. However, these numbers may vary dependent upon future plans and developments which impact on the physical capacity of the schools.

Normanby Primary School admission number is 65 pupils per class

Nunthorpe Primary Academy admission number is 30 pupils per class

Ormesby Primary School admission number is 30 pupils per class

Overfields Primary School, admission number is 30 per class

Riverdale Primary School admission number is 30 pupils per class

Zetland Primary School admission number is 30 pupils per class

Complaints

If you are unhappy about the decision of the Admissions Appeals Panel, complaints can be made to the Education Funding Agency.

https://form.education.gov.uk/service/Academy_admission_appeal_complaint_form