



IRONSTONE ACADEMY TRUST

IAT

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

2026 2027

ANNUAL

POLICY APPLIES TO:	ALL STAFF
ISSUE DATE:	DECEMBER 2025
REVIEW DATE:	SEPTEMBER 2026
AUTHOR:	CARL FAULKNER

IAT Admission Policy and arrangements for Academic Year 2026- 2027

**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;
- Comply 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

In order to meet these requirements, the Trustees have agreed the following IAT ADMISSION POLICY FOR 2026-2027 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 to the Trust admission policy for 2026-2027.

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 2026/ 2027

CRITERIA (in priority order)	EXPLANATORY NOTES
i) Looked after children in local authority and previously looked after children.	<p>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</p>
ii) Children who are permanently resident in the admission zone defined for the school.	<p>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.</p>
(iii) Children not living in the admission zone who have elder brothers or sisters attending the school in the 2024/ 25 school year.	<p>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.</p>
(iv) Children not living within the admission zone who have exceptional social and/or medical reasons for attending a particular school, professionally supported by an independent third party and sustained by the Authority's professional advisors.	<p>Social reasons generally do not include domestic circumstances such as parents' working commitments, childcare arrangements, or separation from friends.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

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:

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 2026

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists for both 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.

CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND TIMETABLE – 2026/27

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 2026/27.

Admission Numbers

Appendix 1 shows the proposed published admission numbers for Nunthorpe Primary Academy, Normanby Primary School, Ormesby Primary School, Overfields Primary, Riverdale Primary School, Zetland Primary School; Ironstone Academy Trust for which Redcar & Cleveland LA is the Admissions Authority for September 2022 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 2026/27 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>

