

# New admissions policy for Blackfen school – September 2023

## Sixth Form

### SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023

All Blackfen students have automatic application to the Sixth Form. They do not need to complete an application form.

Hurstmere students and other external students need to complete a form [which is available from the sixth form section of the school website, which also sets out the application timetable.]

**Published Admission Number: 200** (90 is the number of external children to be admitted to the sixth form – if the number of internal students entering the sixth form is less than the planned number, more external students may be admitted).

#### OVER-SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA AND PRIORITY

If the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan where the school is named in the Plan, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in order:

**Priority 1** - A child in public care ('Looked After<sup>1</sup>') or a child who has previously been in public care (previously Looked After), but has ceased to be so because she/he has been adopted or become subject to a child arrangements or special guardianship order, including children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

#### Priority 2 - Medical

Where a child, sibling or a parent has a medical condition which makes it essential on medical grounds, for the child to attend Blackfen School. Documented social, medical or psychological evidence must be provided from an appropriate independent registered professional. Bexley Council's own medical advisor may be asked for a professional opinion on the case presented.

#### Priority 3 – Students in Year 11 at a Penhill Academies Trust school named here (Hurstmere)

**Priority 4 – Sibling** A child with a sister or brother attending a Penhill Academies Trust school named in the list here (Sherwood Park Primary School, Blackfen School or Hurstmere School). Sister or brother is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister at the same address at the time of application, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and

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<sup>1</sup> A Looked After child is a child who is either in the care of a local authority, or who is being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of application.

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sisters. Where twins or children from a multiple birth apply, if one child is allocated a place, their sibling or siblings from the multiple birth will automatically be allocated a place.

#### **Priority 5 – Children of a member of staff**

Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application was made.

#### **Priority 6 – Distance**

Other children on the basis of proximity to the school measured by reference to the shortest radial distance (direct line distance between the applicants' home address to Blackfen School's main visitor pedestrian entrance). Except in relation to the families of service personnel or crown servants returning from overseas, as set out below, home address will be taken as the student's home address at the time of application. That is the address at which s/he lives with the parent or registered guardian who is the main carer; that is the parent eligible to receive Child Benefit and/or Child Tax Credit or if this does not apply the address where the child spends the majority of the school week (Monday-Friday).

#### **Tie-break**

Distance (as defined above) is used as a tie-breaker in any case where two applicants with the same priority cannot otherwise be separated and random allocation will be used as a tie-break to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between two children's homes and the school is the same. This process will be independently verified.

#### **Children of UK Service Personnel and crown servants**

Children of service personnel with a confirmed posting or of crown servants returning from overseas can be allocated an available place even if they do not yet live in the area at the time of application, provided that the application is accompanied by an official letter setting out the relocation date. In this case the address to be used in applying the oversubscription criteria is the address where the child will live (provided this is supported by suitable evidence) or, if the parents request this, the Unit or quartering address.

#### **Waiting List**

Unsuccessful applicants may join a waiting list which will be ordered in accordance with the above criteria.

**RIGHT OF APPEAL** There is the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel for unsuccessful applicants. Please contact the school to make an appeal.