

## **Whipman Woods Flying High Academy**



## **Admissions Policy 2026/27**

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## **Whipman Wood Flying High Academy admission arrangements 2026-2027**

### **Admission number(s)**

The school has a published admission number (PAN) of 30 for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. For other year groups the school will admit up to a maximum of 15 pupils.

The school will admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

### **Application process**

The academy will be responsible for admission decisions, but applications will be processed by the local authority as part of the co-ordinated admissions process. This means that for applications for the intake year (Reception), you will need to complete your home local authority's common application form. For all other year groups, you should contact Nottinghamshire County Council to make an application, either online at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions) or by telephone on 0300 500 8080.

The national closing date for applications is 15 January 2026 and offers for applications made on time will be communicated to parents on 16 April 2026.

A copy of the application form can be found at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/admissions).

### **Oversubscription criteria**

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

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.
2. Children who live in the catchment area for the school at the closing date for applications who will have a brother or sister attending the school at the point of admission.
3. Children living in the catchment area for the school at the closing date for applications.
4. Children who at the time of admission will have a brother or sister attending the school.
5. Other children.

In the event of oversubscription within any criterion, priority will be given to those children living closest to the school by direct distance. Distances are measured using Nottinghamshire County Council's computerised distance measuring software. Distances are measured from the main administrative point at the school campus to an address point (using Eastings and Northings as defined by Ordnance Survey) to child's home address.

### **Tie-break**

Where one child of a multiple birth can be admitted through normal admissions process, the other child/children will also be admitted, as permitted by the infant class size legislation.

If two distances are equal, then lots will be drawn, and the process will be independently verified.

### **Late applications**

All applications received by the LA after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time in line with Nottinghamshire County Council's coordinated scheme. If, following

consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, the child's name will be placed on a waiting list until 31 May 2026 and parents given the right to appeal.

### **Deferred entry for infants**

Parents offered a place in reception for their child have a right to defer the date their child is admitted, or to take the place up part-time, until the child reaches compulsory school age. Places cannot be deferred beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made.

Children reach compulsory school age on the prescribed day following their 5th birthday (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 August, 31 December and 31 March.

### **Admission of children outside their normal age group**

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested and the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place. When such a request is made, the academy trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the headteacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

### **Summer born children**

The parents of a summer born child (born between 1 April and 31 August) may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday. Typically, this means their child will start school in Year 1, forfeiting Reception. If a parent wishes to delay their child's admission to school until compulsory school age, and wants their child to be admitted to Reception, the parent must request that the child is admitted out of the normal age group – to reception rather than year 1. The process is outlined above. Parents should discuss the request with the headteacher of the each of their preferred schools. The admission authority must consider the request in the best interests of the child.

### **Waiting lists**

Where a school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be in operation. The waiting lists will remain open whilst the number of places in the year group is full, or until 31st August each year. A child's position on this waiting list will be determined by the application of the school's published oversubscription criteria.

### **Appeals**

Parents have the right to an independent appeals panel if they are not happy with the outcome of their application. As an academy our appeals arrangements are handled directly by the school as part of Flying High Trust. All appeals received by the school are handled by an independent appeals clerk and panel who will make all the necessary arrangements to ensure all appeals are compliant with statutory guidelines. Repeat applications in the same academic year will not be considered unless there is a significant and material change in circumstances. Applicants wishing to appeal should contact the school within 20 school days of the refusal letter. The necessary forms can be obtained from the school's website.

### **Definitions**

#### **Looked after and previously looked after children**

The School Admissions Code 2021 states that all admission authorities must give highest priority to this group of children and provides the following definition:

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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child-arrangements order or special guardianship order). Further references to previously looked after children means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear (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 outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.
- Children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 and children who were adopted under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.
- Child arrangements orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a ‘special guardianship order’ as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian (or special guardians)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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

**Home address:**

The home address is where a child normally lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared parental responsibility, each for part of a week, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. If a child’s residence is split equally between both parents, then parents will be asked to determine which residential address should be used for the purpose of admission to school. If no joint declaration is received where the residence is split equally by the closing date for applications, the home address will be taken as the address where the child is registered with the doctor. If the residence is not split equally between both parents, then the address used will be the address where the child spends the majority of the school week.

**Sibling:**

‘Sibling’ means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, a step-brother or sister, or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place.

**Parent:**

This includes all those people who have parental responsibility for a child who fall under the definition of “parent” as set out in Section 576 of the Education Act 1996.

The area of development/proposed location of new school is indicated below. The area of the field indicated by the red outline will be the defined catchment area. A more detailed map is in the process of being drawn and will be shared as soon as possible.

