Admissions Policy 2026/27

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INTRODUCTION

North Chadderton School is an Academy for students aged 11 – 18 years and the Local Advisory Committee is the Admission Authority.

The number of places available for admission into Year 7 for September 2026 will be 270. Admission arrangements follow the procedures appropriate to the Local Authority who co-ordinate all admissions across the borough and applications, made using the application process and timelines set out by Oldham Local Authority.

The Local Advisory Committee are unable to refuse admission to a child with a statement of special needs or an Education, Health and Care plan that names North Chadderton School in the statement. (Section 324 Education Act 1996 and paragraph 1.50 School Admission Code) This is not an oversubscription criterion and all children with a statement of special needs or Education, Health and Care Plan that name the school will be admitted prior to offers made via co-ordination.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

Where the school is over-subscribed, admissions will take place in the following order:

Criterion 1

1. Children who are in public care or children who have previously been looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order.

2. Those children who are considered to have an exceptional medical or social reason as to why they should attend a particular school (Parents/carers will need to submit a case supported by appropriate professional evidence from a doctor, social worker or similar professional that sets out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable and the difficulties that could be caused if the child were to attend another school. The evidence must not be more than six months older than the application date).

Criterion 2

Children living within the prescribed geographical priority area who have a sibling attending the school in Year 7 to 13 when the child is admitted.

Criterion 3

Children of staff employed working at North Chadderton School, who permanently reside with that member of staff. That member of staff must have been employed for a minimum of two years or was recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.

Criterion 4

Children applying from one of the named partner primary schools in The Oak Trust (Cathedral Road, Chadderton, Oldham, OL9 0RR) which is situated within the geographical priority area.

Criterion 5

Children living within the prescribed geographical priority area who do not have a sibling at the school.

Criterion 6

Children who live outside the geographical priority area with a sibling who will be attending the school in Year groups 7-13 when the child is admitted.

Criterion 7

Children who live outside the geographical priority area who do not have a sibling in the school who attend a primary school situated within the geographical priority area.

Criterion 8

Children who live outside the geographical priority area who do not have a sibling in the school and attend a primary school situated outside of the geographical priority area.

TIE BREAK CRITERION

It is possible that at some stage of applying the above criteria, the school becomes oversubscribed with requests for places. In these cases, children who live closest to the school will be offered the remaining places. These distances will be calculated using the two data points of home postcode and school postcode using a straight-line measurement.

EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL OR SOCIAL REASONS

If parents are claiming that there are exceptional medical or social reasons why their child should be prioritised above other applicants, they must give reasons for this claim which must be supported by evidence from a registered professional, such as a doctor or social worker. The evidence must demonstrate the reasons why North Chadderton is the most suitable school, why an alternative school would not meet the child's needs and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. That evidence will be assessed by the Local Advisory Committee and must be no more than six months older than the application date.

The School Admission Code states that admission authorities must not give higher priority to children under this criterion if the required documents have not been produced.

SIBLING LINK

The Local Advisory Committee accept that in some family units (1 or 2 parents/carers and children), the children may not be natural brothers and/or sisters. Step siblings and adopted siblings living permanently at the same address, will be considered as a sibling link under this criterion.

Checks will be made with the relevant schools that siblings do live at the same address.

PERMANENT ADDRESS

The only address the Local Advisory Committee can consider is the permanent home address of the child. The permanent home address is considered to be the address of the adult/s with whom the child is permanently resident. Where a child stays with another parent for part of the week, further enquiries may be made in order to determine where the child is predominantly resident.

CHILDCARE ARRANGEMENTS

If a childminder, grandparents or other family member cares for the child on a daily basis at another address, the Local Advisory Committee cannot consider this address for the purpose of the school admission process**.**

INTENTION TO MOVE HOUSE

An intention to change address cannot be considered by the Local Advisory Committee until such a move has actually taken place and proof is available that the new address is the permanent residence. Proof of change of address will be accepted in line with the procedures appropriate to the Local Authority.

FRAUDULENT INFORMATION

The Local Advisory Committee will take strong action and the place offered may be withdrawn if a false address is given or one where the child is not actually living when they are not at school.

PROXIMITY TO SCHOOL

When measuring the distance between the home address and the school requested, the Local Advisory Committee will measure the distance between the two data points of home postcode and the school postcode using a straight-line measurement.

GEOGRAPHICAL PRIORITY AREA

The geographical priority areas are Royton, Crompton, Shaw and North Chadderton nearest the school. Maps detailing the geographical priority area can be viewed at the school.

THE APPEALS PROCESS

Where the Local Advisory Committee are unable to offer a place because the school is oversubscribed, parents have the right to appeal to an independent admission appeal panel, set up under the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, as amended by the Education Act, 2002. Parents will have the opportunity to submit their case to the panel in writing and also to attend in order to present their case.

Please note that this right of appeal against the Local Advisory Committee's decision does not prevent parents from making an appeal in respect of any other school.

WAITING LIST

Subject to any provisions regarding waiting lists in Oldham Local Authority's coordinated admission scheme, North Chadderton School will operate a waiting list.

Where North Chadderton School receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate.

This will be maintained by North Chadderton School and it will be open to any parent to ask for their child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

A child's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant, they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

CHANGES TO THE ADMISSION CRITERIA

This policy is to be reviewed annually.