

Darite Academy Admission Arrangements for 2021/22

The Trust

[Bridge Multi-Academy Trust](#) is the Admissions Authority for Darite Academy.

The Trust participates fully in Cornwall Council's Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme for starting school and applying for a place during the school year.

Published Admission Number (PAN)

The number of places available in Reception Class (and all other year groups) is 12.

Applying for a place

If you are applying for a place in Reception Class commencing September 2021 and live in Cornwall you should complete Cornwall Council's Common Application Form, available electronically at [Cornwall Council](#) or in paper form in their reception class prospectus.

Completed forms should be returned to Cornwall Council by the date required on the form. Applicants from outside Cornwall should complete the form provided by their own council.

How places are allocated

If you apply for a place in the school and the number of applications is not greater than the PAN (*the number of places shown above*) then you will be automatically offered a place. However if this number is exceeded then after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school then the criteria below will be applied in the following order of priority:

Oversubscription criteria:

1. **Children in care and children who were previously in care** but immediately after being in care became subject to an Adoption, Child Arrangement, or Special Guardianship Order.
2. **Children with siblings** who will still be attending the school at the time of their admission.
3. **Children of a member of staff** who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. **Children who live in the designated area** of the school, or whose parents/carers can provide evidence that they will be living in the designated area of the school by the date from which admission is required.
5. **All other children.**

Tie-breaker

If any of the criteria outlined earlier leave more children with an equal claim than places available, priority will be given to the child who lives nearer to the preferred school.

Final tie-breaker

Should the tie-breakers above still leave children with an equal claim because distances are exactly the same, random allocation will be used to decide on priority. The school will use the Local Authority's Random Allocation Protocol, supervised by an independent person, which is available on request.

Notes and definitions

Children in care and children who were in care

A 'child in care' is also referred to as a 'looked after child' and 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).

A 'child arrangement order' is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under Section 8 of the Children Act 1989. 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).

For further information see the full [Admissions Code](#).

Siblings

'Siblings' means brothers and sisters. They are defined as children with at least one natural or adoptive parent in common, living at the same or a different address. Children living permanently in the same household at the same address would also be counted as siblings, regardless of their actual relationships to each other.

To qualify as a sibling a child must be on the roll of the school in question at the date of application, allocation and admission.

Multiple birth siblings

Where applications are received on behalf of twins, triplets, etc. or brothers and sisters whose dates of birth place them in the same chronological year group, every effort will be made to offer multiple places at the school, but an offer cannot be guaranteed.

Designated area ('catchment' area)

Cornwall Council has divided Cornwall into geographical areas called 'designated areas' (or 'catchment areas' which are each served by a specific school or schools. Designated areas assist the Council in ensuring there are enough school places and are also used to determine entitlement to home to school transport. Please note that the designated school for an address may not always be the one nearest to that address.

Maps are available for all designated areas online at: www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions

Distances

Home to school distances used for tie-breaking will be established using a straight-line measurement as determined by Capita One and supported by Cornwall Council's nominated Geographic Information System software. Measurements will be between the home address (the centre of the main building of the property) and the main gate of the school (as determined by Cornwall Council).

Distances used to determine nearest school with room (i.e. where it is not possible to offer a place at a preferred school) and for establishing transport entitlements will be measured by the nearest available route as determined by Cornwall Council's nominated Geographic Information System software.

Home address

Each child may have one registered address only for the purposes of determining priority for admission. This should be the place where the child is normally resident. If there is shared residence of the child or a query is raised regarding the validity of an address, it may be necessary to use the address of the person receiving child benefit for the child. If this is inconclusive, the registered address would be considered to be the address at which the child spends the majority of days during the school week.

If there is shared residence of the child or a query is raised regarding the validity of an address, the Trust will consider the home address to be with the parent with primary day to day care and control of the child. Residency of a child may also be clarified through a child arrangement order where it is shown who has care of the child. Evidence may be requested to show the address to which any Child Benefit is paid and at which the child is registered with a doctor's surgery.

It is expected that parents will submit only one application for each child - any disputes in relation to the child's home address should be settled before applying, the Trust will not become involved in any parental disputes, if agreement cannot be obtained before an application is made then parents/carers may need to settle the matter through the courts. Where no agreement is reached or order obtained the Trust will determine the home address.

Applications for children of Service Families will be processed and places allocated based on the proposed address (with supporting evidence) or, if the family are not able to confirm a proposed address and a unit or quartering address is provided, an allocation will be made based on the unit or quartering address.

Late Applications

Late applications will be processed at a later stage so it is possible that all places will have been filled. For further information please see the council's website.

In-Year Admissions / Waiting lists

If the school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be held and parents/carers can request that their child is added to this list. A pupil's position on the list will be determined by the over-subscription criteria set out above.

The waiting list is for the whole of the academic year for all year groups. Children's places on a waiting list are subject to change according to additional information received about applications or children being added to the list.

No priority is given to the length of time that a child has been on the list.

Part-time or deferred entry to school and admission of children outside their normal age group (early or delayed entry to reception)

All children are entitled to start school full-time in the September following their fourth birthday. However, parents may choose deferred or part-time entry to the reception year for their child, bearing in mind that by law, children have to be in full-time education by the start of the term following their fifth birthday – when they reach ‘compulsory school age’. Parents of summer-born children may also seek a place for their child outside their normal age group i.e. entry to reception a year later than normal, for example if the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. Parents choosing part-time or deferred entry must contact the school they have been allocated or hope to be allocated to arrange this. Those wishing to delay entry to the reception year or request a place outside the normal year group must contact the School Admissions Team.

Appeals

If an applicant is not allocated a place at their preferred school/s they will have the right to appeal to an independent panel. The refusal letter will explain how to do this. For refusals in the normal admissions round parents will have 20 school days after they receive the notification to appeal the decision. Appeals must then be heard within 40 school days of this deadline. Further details and a timeline can be found in the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme for September 2021 entry to infant, junior and primary schools or Co-ordinated In-year Admissions Scheme 2021/22.

Bridge Multi-Academy Trust recommends that any parent considering an appeal arranges an informal discussion with the Headteacher before proceeding.