Lowther Endowed School
Determined Admissions Arrangements
2027 - 2028

1. Introduction

Lowther Endowed School extends a warm welcome to children aged from statutory school age, 4 – 11, from the surrounding area and further afield. We are an "Achieving, Caring and Enjoying" community of learners based in beautiful rural surroundings in the village of Hackthorpe on the Lowther Estate. We are a Voluntary Aided school which means that our Governing Body determines the school's admission arrangements.

Lowther Endowed School has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 15 which applies to the normal year of entry. We will admit up to 15 children into Reception.

Our catchment area includes the villages of Askham, Great Strickland, Hackthorpe, Helton, Lowther, Melkinthorpe, Thrimby, Whale and settlements on the fells between. A map is available on request.

2. The procedure for making an application for Admissions in 2027

Our Local Authority, Westmorland and Furness, co-ordinates admissions for reception on behalf of the school. The parent/carer of every child eligible to start school in September 2027 will receive details of how to apply for a place in Reception. Applications must be made using the Local Authority's common application form "SA1: Admission to infant/primary school" which is available online and submitted to Westmorland and Furness electronically **by 15th January 2027**. Parents are strongly encouraged to use the online application system. Paper copies are available both from the Local Authority and the School office. All applications, electronic or paper **must** reach the local authority by 15th January 2027. Parents will be notified by email, if they have applied online, of the allocation of places by the Local Authority on the 16th April 2027. If they have applied on a paper form then a letter will be sent 1st class on 16th April. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place and a right of appeal by the Authority.

3. Late Applications

Late applications will be treated in accordance with the procedures laid out in the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme of the Local Authority.

4. Appeals

If your child is not offered a place at Lowther Endowed School you have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. The appeal should be made in writing to the clerk of the governors at Lowther Endowed School within 20 school days of receipt of notification that no place is available for your child. The grounds on which the appeal is based will need to be stated, and the appeal will be heard as soon as possible thereafter.

5. Waiting Lists

Under the admission process, once places have been allocated, children refused a place will be placed on a waiting list and will continue to be considered for any vacancies that become available. At the point when a vacancy arises, the oversubscription criteria will be applied to all outstanding applicants, including any late ones, to determine priority for the allocation of any

places. Length of time on the waiting list will not be a factor. Children will be retained on the waiting list unless the school is advised otherwise.

6. Policy for In year admissions

On occasions it may be necessary for a child to move school during the academic year, this is termed an in-year admission. If you wish to apply for a place at the School outside of the admissions round in the Reception year then you should do this by contacting the school directly.

The school is full at 105, and until this threshold is reached the Governors reserve the right to admit a pupil in cases where the year group or class is already full, but there is capacity elsewhere in the school. However, the Governors will only admit a child in these circumstances where there is no breach of infant class size legislation, and where they judge that the admission will not have a detrimental effect on the overall quality of teaching and learning.

Lowther Endowed School Oversubscription Criteria

PLEASE NOTE: If a child has an Education, Health and Care Plan which names Lowther Endowed School, the Governing Body will admit the child.

Otherwise, in the event of over subscription, the following criteria, in conjunction with the explanatory notes which form part of the policy, will be applied to all applications, to determine priority for the 15 available spaces:

1. Children looked after, i.e. in public care, giving priority, if necessary, to the youngest child(ren); children who were previously looked after; and children who were previously looked after outside of England - see note 1.

2. Children living in the catchment area who have siblings in the school at the time of admission, giving priority to those children with the youngest siblings - see note 2.

3. Other children from within the catchment area, giving priority to those living closest to the school measured by the shortest walking route by public footpath or road between the main school gate and their home – see note 3

4. Children from outside the catchment area who have siblings in the school at the time of their admission, giving priority to those children with the youngest siblings.

5. Children from outside the catchment area, giving priority to those who live closest to the school, measured by a straight line on the map between the main school gate and their home – see note 4.

Explanatory Notes - These notes are part of the policy

Note 1: A child looked after (CLA) is a child in public care, who is looked after by a local authority within the meaning of Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. Children previously looked after are children who were looked after but have ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002) or became subject to a Child Arrangements Order or Special Guardianship Order (Children Act 1989). Advice issued by the Department for Education (DfE) in July 2021 states that a child previously looked after outside of England is one that was looked after, outside England, by a public authority, a religious organisation or another provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society. For a previously looked after child to be considered under criteria 1, the parent or carer must provide appropriate written evidence to support the application. Without this evidence it will not be possible to consider the application under category 1

Note 2: In criteria 2 and 4, priority will be given to those children with the youngest siblings. Siblings are those living at the same address and includes step and foster children. Priority will only be given where it is known at the time of allocating places that a sibling will be attending the school at the time of admission.

Note 3: Walking distance will be measured using google maps.

Note 4: Distance will be measured using OS mapping.

Enquiries about this policy:

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