

Bourne Education Trust school admissions arrangements for 2027-28

School: The Arnewood School

Introduction

The Arnewood School is a secondary school in Bourne Education Trust (BET / the Trust). Bourne Education Trust delegates its role as the admissions authority for The Arnewood School along with the task of determining the school's admissions arrangements to the school's Local Governing Committee (LGC) in line with the Trust's scheme of delegation, with admissions decisions further delegated to a sub-committee of the LGC.

Published admissions number

The Arnewood School has an intake of 180 pupils in Year 7. This is known as the published admission number (PAN). Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school will be offered a place in accordance with the Education Act 1996 before other applicants are considered, reducing the number of remaining places available to the other applicants.

Applications for a place in Year 7 for September 2027

Applications to The Arnewood School for a place in Year 7 for September 2027 will be processed in accordance with Hampshire County Council's co-ordinated scheme for main round admissions. To apply for a place, parents/carers must apply using the application form provided by the local authority in which they live.

Information and the online application form are available on their website, [School admissions | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/school-admissions). Further assistance can be obtained from the County Admissions on 0300 555 1377.

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 the following order (notes may be found in **Appendix A**):

1. Looked after children, or those previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order including those who appear to the admissions authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A looked after child is one who is in care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 (see note 1).
2. Children who have exceptional social or medical circumstances where it is deemed that this is the only school which can meet their needs (see note 2).

3. Children living within the catchment area of The Arnewood School who, at the time of application, have a sibling at school who will still be on roll at the time of the admission (see note 3 and note 4).
4. Other children living within the catchment area of The Arnewood School.
5. Children living outside the catchment area of The Arnewood School who, at the time of application, have a brother or sister (including children living as siblings in the same family unit in the permanent residence) on the roll of The Arnewood School and who will still be on roll at the time of the sibling's admission. Please note that where a sibling was allocated a place at the school in the normal admission round in a previous year because the child was displaced (see note 5) from the catchment school for their address, the application will be considered under 3 above, subject to the siblings still living in the catchment area for the school from which they were displaced. In future normal admissions rounds a younger sibling will be considered to have been displaced where they were allocated a place at the school under this criterion because of their elder sibling's displacement and are still living in the catchment area for the school from which they were displaced.
6. Children living outside the catchment area of The Arnewood School who, at the time of application, attend one of the linked primary schools: Ashley Junior School, Bransgore Church of England Primary School, Hordle Church of England Primary School, New Milton County Junior School and Tiptoe County Primary School. The school will also take children from Sway, Milford and the Christchurch/Bournemouth area where a clear parental preference has been made.
7. Other children living outside the catchment area of The Arnewood School.

Distance Measurement

If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the above categories, straight line distance will be used to prioritise applications; applicants living nearer the school have priority.

Distances will be measured from the Ordnance Survey home address point to the school address point using Hampshire County Council's Geographic Information Systems (GIS).

Tie Breaker

Where two or more applicants are equidistant, random allocation will be used to allocate the place. An explanation of the random allocation procedure is available on the Hampshire County Council website.

Permanent Address

The child's permanent residence is where they live normally including weekends and during school holidays as well as during the week and should be used for the application. The permanent address of children who spend part of their week with one parent and part with the other, at different addresses, will be the address at which they spend most of their time.

Where a child's time is evenly divided between the parents, parents must agree which address they would like to be considered for the purposes of the application. In the event of a dispute, in the absence of a relevant court order, the admission authority will make a judgement about which address applies,

taking into account the address registered with the child's current school, nursery, preschool or childminder, the address registered for child benefit and the address registered with the child's GP.

Multiple births

Where a twin or child from a multiple birth is offered the last place available within the PAN, any further twin or child of the same multiple birth will also be offered a place, if the parents so wish, even though this may raise the number in the year group above the school's PAN.

Late applications

All applications received after the closing date will be treated as late applications and only considered after all on-time applications have been processed. If there are vacancies, places will be offered based on the school's admission criteria. If there are no vacancies, your child may be placed on the school's waiting list.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may choose to seek a place outside their child's chronological (correct) year group. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and what is in the best interests of the child.

The Arnewood School, along with Bourne Education Trust and all its constituent schools, is concerned with the development of the whole child. This includes their physical and emotional maturity, the development of social and interactional skills and the child's ability to respond to a curriculum which is age-appropriate, as well as suited to their individual abilities. In general, in line with the view of the Department for Education, it is the school and Trust's view that most children should be educated in their chronological year group, with the curriculum differentiated as appropriate, and that they should only be educated out of their chronological year group in limited circumstances.

Parents who wish to apply to have their child admitted to The Arnewood School outside their normal age group should contact the school. They will be invited to discuss their application with the school but are not obliged to do so. An application must be made in writing to the Chair of Governors using the school's postal address or the following email address: enquiries@arnewoodhants.sch.uk. The application should specify why admission outside the normal age group is being requested and which year group they wish their child to be admitted to. Parents are encouraged to provide relevant information to support the Local Governing Body in making their decision.

Parents should also make a main round application for their child's normal age group before the closing date.

Waiting lists

Any places that become available will be offered to the child at the top of the list. The waiting list is ordered according to the criteria of the admission policy with no account being taken of the length of

time on the waiting list or any priority order expressed as part of the main admission round. Fair Access admissions and school closure arrangements will take priority over the waiting list.

The waiting list will be reviewed and revised each time a child is added to, or removed from, the waiting list, or when a child's changed circumstances affect their priority.

For entry to Year 7, the waiting list will be maintained by the local authority until 31 August 2028 at which stage it will be transferred to the school. For all other year groups, waiting lists will remain open until 31 August of each year. Parents who want their child to be considered for a place at the school in the following school year must submit a new in-year application in the August preceding the new school year. Schools will send a decision letter within the first 10 days of the new term.

In-year admissions

In-year admissions applications are those that are made to join an existing year group within the school. Applications that will not be considered to be in-year applications are those being made for entry to Year 7 for September 2027 if they are made prior to 1 September 2027.

The Arnewood School manages its own in-year admissions. Applications for in-year admissions can be made by contacting enquiries@arnewood.hants.sch.uk.

If the in-year application also includes a request for a child to be educated outside their normal age group, parents should make this request in writing, including any supporting evidence, to the Chair of the Local Governing Committee in parallel with making their in-year application.

Appeals

If a place is not offered at the school, there is a right to appeal to an independent panel. Guidance and information regarding school appeals can be found on the Hampshire County Council website - [Making an admissions appeal | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/making-an-admissions-appeal).

Parents of students whose applications are unsuccessful will have the right to appeal to an independent Admissions Appeal Committee. Parents who wish to exercise this right should do so in writing within 15 days of receiving the letter indicating a place has not been offered and should be addressed to the Clerk of the school's governing body and sent to the school.

Year 7 appeals will be heard before the 24th May or the first working day afterwards if the 24th is a weekend. All appeals should be heard by the same panel. In year applications for which there is an appeal will be heard by the admission panel normally within 28 working days of the appeal being lodged.

Admissions to Sixth Form

General Principles

The main principal of admission to The Arnewood School Sixth form is to maintain the character as a provider of Advanced level courses at Level 2 and 3 for students living in Hampshire and beyond who meet the general academic entry requirements for the school and the courses upon which the students wish to enrol. Students who attended The Arnewood School as 11-16 students have priority within the admissions policy. There is no requirement to apply through a Local Authority.

There is no guarantee that an applicant who meets the requirements of any course will automatically be offered a place on his/her preferred choices. The Admissions Committee of the governing body will consider all applications and places allocated adhering strictly to the order and the criteria of this policy. The deadline for applications will be the beginning of January, and provisional places will usually be offered by the end of the Spring term. Places are confirmed by the Director of Post-16

Learning at The Arnewood School.

Students will be admitted at the age of 16+ without reference to disability, race, sex, age, religion, philosophical belief, sexual orientation, gender re-assignment, marriage and pregnancy. The admission number for September 2025 and subsequent years will be 180 students but likely to be many more with a view to the national policy for raising the participation age. Group sizes in practical subjects (Science, Physical Education, Photography, Art, Theatre Studies and Technology) will be limited for reasons of health and safety where necessary.

We have very strong curriculum links and teaching and support staff in common with the 11-16 section of The Arnewood School. The governors and senior leadership team are responsible for the 11-19 educational institution, which encompasses both the 11-16 section of the school and the Sixth Form. Therefore, applications from students at the school will have priority provided that the applicant meets the entry requirements.

Applications should be completed online, and all deadlines should be met by applicants. Parents applying on behalf of children who are educated at home or in a fee-paying school are also required to complete the school's online application form.

Admission Criteria

In all categories students must meet the academic entry requirements for the course(s) requested.

Category 1 – Looked after children or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, arrangement, or special guardianship order. See definition (i).

Category 2 – students on roll in Year 11 at The Arnewood School.

Category 3 – students who have special medical needs supported by written information from a registered health professional, which make it important that they attend The Arnewood School Sixth Form.

Category 4 – students who have siblings attending The Arnewood School at the time of the application with a reasonable expectation that they will still be on roll at the start of the new academic year.

Category 5 – All other applicants.

There is no guarantee of a place for applicants living within or outside the school's admission area or attending The Arnewood School.

Entry into Year 12

Entry to the Sixth form is by a combination of student aptitude for appropriate and particular courses, with a requirement of at least 5 good GCSE grades at grades 5 or higher for 4 A/S level study or Level 3 equivalent.

Entry into Year 13

Entry for external applicants into the Upper Sixth will depend on compatibility as determined by the examination board, the courses required, the availability of a place within the groups and the applicant's results from internal or external AS level examinations (modular and terminal), taken in the Lower Sixth. We shall require evidence that the applicant, if offered a place, has the necessary entry requirement for the course.

Appendix A - Definitions to support over-subscription criteria

Note 1 – Looked after children or children who were previously looked after

Looked after children are defined as those who are

- (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).

Previously looked children are those who were looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Previously looked after children also includes those 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 it to benefit society.

An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976.

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 letter from the Children’s Services Department confirming the child’s status must be provided.

Note 2 – Exceptional Social or Medical Needs

Occasionally a very small number of children have exceptional social or medical circumstances which warrant a placement at The Arnewood School. Applicants should make it clear on their application form that they wish their application to be considered under social / medical need.

The exceptional social or medical circumstances might relate to either the child or the parent/carer. Supporting evidence from a professional is required such as a doctor and/or consultant for medical cases or a social worker, health visitor, housing officer, the police or probation officer for other social circumstances.

This evidence must confirm the circumstances of the case and must set out why the child should attend a particular school and why no other school could meet the child’s needs. Providing evidence does not guarantee that a child will be given priority at The Arnewood School and applicants are encouraged to consider whether the evidence does support consideration under this criterion prior to submission. In each case a decision will be made based on the merits of the case and whether the evidence demonstrates that a placement should be made at The Arnewood School above any other.

Common medical conditions and allergies can be supported in all mainstream schools, therefore priority under the exceptional medical criterion will not normally be given for these. Routine child-

minding arrangements or a parent's wish that a child attends the school because of the child's aptitude or ability or because their friends attend the school are not normally considered to be an exceptional social reason for a place to be offered.

Note 3 – Catchment area

A catchment area is a geographical area from which children may be afforded priority for admission to a particular school. A map of the school's catchment area can be viewed on the school's details page on the Hampshire County Council website www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/findaschool.

Note 4 – Siblings

'Sibling' refers to brother or sister, half brother or half sister, adoptive brother or adoptive sister, foster brother or foster sister, step brother or step sister living as one family unit at the same address. It will also be applied to situations where a full, half or adoptive brother or sister are living at separate addresses.

A child will be given sibling priority in criteria 3 and 5 where a sibling who will still be on roll at the time of admission (as defined above) has been made an offer of a place at the school which has been accepted, even if the sibling is not yet attending.

Note 5 – Displaced Child

'Displaced' refers to a child who was refused a place at the catchment school in the normal admission round having named it on the application and was not offered a higher named preference school. To identify the child's catchment school please use:
<https://maps.hants.gov.uk/SchoolCatchmentAreaFinder>.

Note that some addresses are in catchment for more than one school and in this case, 'displaced' refers to a child who was refused a place at any of their catchment schools.

Review date

January 2027