

**Weston Infant and Junior Academy**  
**Admissions Policy**  
**(For Implementation from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020)**

Weston Infant and Junior Academies welcome children from all backgrounds, faiths and those of no faith. The Governors of the Academy are committed to developing an inclusive school that reflects the diversity of the local community

As well as being an inclusive academy, the Infant school and Junior school have a distinctive ethos and character. All parents applying for a place at our Academy are asked to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. It is hoped that all children who attend our Academies will actively participate in the life of the school.

**Admissions Process**

Parents wishing to apply for a place at Weston Federation can apply online at [www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.stoke.gov.uk/admissions) or complete the Admission Application Form, which is available from the academy. This should then be returned directly to the academy or to the Local Authority by the published closing date. **Paper forms are only available for late applicants or those with additional needs that preclude the use of the on-line system.**

The admission of pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) / statement of Special Educational Needs, are dealt with by a separate procedure. These children will be admitted to the Academy if our school is named on the EHCP/statement and will be placed first. This is a statutory entitlement under S.324 of the Education Act 1996.

Children who attend Weston Infant Academy and apply for a place at Weston Junior Academy will be allocated a place before the oversubscription criteria operates.

The maximum number of children we can accept into each cohort each year is 75. If there are more applicants than places available, the Governors, who are the admissions authority for the Academy, will operate the following oversubscription criteria:

- a) Children who are in the care of a local authority (looked after children) or provided with accommodation by them (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order), immediately following having been looked after.
- b) Children living in the catchment area of the Academy, who (at the time of application) have an elder brother or sister in attendance at the Academy and who will still be attending at the proposed admission date then following that criteria, children with no sibling in school but living in the catchment area.

Siblings are considered to be those children who live at the same address and either:

- Have one or both natural parents in common  
OR
- Are related by a parent's marriage or related by parents living as partners at this address  
OR
- Are adopted or fostered by a common parent  
OR
- Children not adopted, fostered or related by a parent's marriage or with one natural parent in common, who are brought together as a family by a same sex civil partnership and who are living at the same address, are also considered to be siblings.

We do not include cousins within our definition of siblings.

If a child lives with **parents with shared responsibilities**, each for part of the week, the 'home address point' will be the one at which the child is resident for the greatest part of the school week. Where this is equally shared, the home address point will be the one used when applying for child benefit.

- c) Children living within the catchment area of the academy.

