

## **NORTH WEST LONDON JEWISH DAY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY**

### **For entry into the Nursery for the Academic Year 2024/2025**

#### **Preamble**

The School will admit as a priority children whose parents are able to demonstrate commitment to Orthodox Jewish observances and practices (if the School is oversubscribed) This will be assessed from the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and verification by way of a reference form to be completed by the Rabbi of an Orthodox synagogue at which the parents are regular worshippers, indicating commitment to Orthodox Jewish observances and practices.

#### **Published Admission Number (PAN)**

Children will be admitted at the beginning of the Academic Year following their third birthday. We will admit 30 children to the Nursery class in September 2024. In the event that the School has one place to offer and the next child on the waiting list is one of twins, triplets or other children of multiple births, the Admissions Committee will grant a place or places in excess of the Planned Admission Number, when one of the siblings is the 30th child.

#### **Timing**

The closing date for all applications will be 30th November 2023. All applications for admission will be considered thereafter. All places will be allocated by 20th February 2024 and parents will be notified as soon as possible thereafter.

#### **Application Form**

Parents who wish their child to be considered for admission into the Nursery must complete an application form. Parents should return the application form to the School by 30th November 2023.

#### **Supplementary Information Form (SIF)**

Parents who wish their children to be considered for priority admission to the Nursery should also complete a SIF and obtain a Rabbi's reference. The SIF must be returned directly to the School by 30th November 2023.

The SIF asks for information to establish what level of priority the applicant is entitled to. It is not compulsory but without it an applicant cannot be given priority and will be disadvantaged.

The information on the SIF must be verified by way of a reference form to be completed by the Rabbi of an Orthodox Synagogue at which the parents are Regular Worshippers, indicating commitment to Orthodox Jewish observances and practices.

#### **Nursery Transfer**

The Admission arrangements for entry into Nursery are entirely separate from those into Reception and Years 1-6. Admission to the Nursery does not guarantee admission to the School for primary education.

There is no automatic transfer from Nursery to Reception.

All Parents, including Nursery Parents, must complete the CAF (Common Application Form) and SIF (Supplementary Information Form) for their children to be considered for admission to Reception.

### **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

We will admit all children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities or an Education, Health and Care Plan which names the School, before other applicants. The School will participate in the local authority's fair access protocol and places may be given in accordance with that protocol, even if this exceeds the PAN

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

In the event of the number of applications for admission exceeding the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit (capitalised terms are as explained below):

- 1 Looked After and Previously Looked After Priority children.
- 2 Priority children with Siblings at North West London Jewish Day School at the date of application.
- 3 Priority children of members of staff who have been employed at the school for a minimum of two years or who have been recruited to fill a post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
- 4 Priority children of Regular Worshippers at Orthodox Synagogues within a three mile radius of the Schools main gate who have scored a minimum score of 34 points on the SIF.
- 5 Priority children of regular worshippers of Orthodox Synagogues.
- 6 Priority children with a Sibling who has previously attended the school for a minimum period of five years, provided the child is residing within three miles of the school.
- 7 Other Priority children
- 8 Other Looked After and Previously Looked After children
- 9 All other children

Priority applicants within each of the above numbered bands will be ranked according to the points achieved on the SIF.

In the event of applicants receiving identical scores on the SIF an additional tiebreaker will be applied as follows:

1. Proximity of the child's home to the School's main gate, as measured in a straight line, with the child whose home address is nearer the School being accorded the higher priority.

Measurements will be taken from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the School, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system.

Where a child regularly lives with one parent for part of a week and with the other parent for the rest of the week, the child's home address will be the address at which the child lives for the greater part of the school week, i.e. Monday to Friday.

2. Where the Distance Tie-Break does not produce a clear outcome (i.e. two children live precisely the same distance from the school), the place will be determined by random allocation supervised by a person independent of the school.

This tie-break will apply in the case of non - Priority children as well.

**Explanation of terms used in the Oversubscription Criteria:**

"Priority children" means children of families who achieve a minimum of 28 points on our SIF. For an explanation of how points are calculated please see our SIF. Note: for certain of the Oversubscription Criteria more points are required and/or applicants with a higher points score are given higher priority.

"Looked After Child" means a child who is in the care of the Local Authority in the exercise of its social services functions.

"Previously Looked After Child" means a child who was a Looked After Child but no longer fulfils that definition because he/she has been adopted or is now subject to a special guardianship order or a child arrangement order.

"Siblings" include step or half brothers or sisters and an adopted child's relationship with a parent's natural or adopted child, provided in each case that they reside at the same address.

"Regular Worshippers" means those worshippers attending an Orthodox Synagogue or place of worship at least four times per month for a minimum period of the 12 months preceding the date of application.

"Orthodox Synagogue" means a member Synagogue of The United Synagogue,

S & P Sephardi Community, The Federation of Synagogues, The Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, and Chabad/Lubavitch or such equivalent place of Orthodox Jewish worship as determined by NWLJDS's Principal, Dayan Binstock.

Waiting List Those applicants who have not been allocated a place will be placed on a waiting list ranked in accordance with the Oversubscription Criteria.

The waiting list will remain in operation from the day the original places are awarded and will be used to allocate places which become available before the start of the school year.

Parents will be notified of where their child has been placed on a waiting list but will not be given an indication of the likelihood of being offered a place as their position on the waiting list may change if families having a higher priority, who apply for places for their children, move into the neighbourhood of the School.

Further Information about the admissions process can be obtained from the Admissions Officer, at North West London Jewish Day School, 180 Willesden Lane, London NW6 7PP.