



## **Admissions Criteria for Grove Park Primary School**

Kent County Council is the admission authority for Grove Park Primary School. The school is planning to admit 60 children to year R in September 2019. Children will be admitted without reference to ability or aptitude. Before the oversubscription criteria any child with an Educational Health and Social Care Plan naming the school will be admitted, in which event the Published Admission Number will be reduced accordingly.

### **The criteria for Academies, Community and Voluntary Controlled Schools are as follows:**

- Children in Local Authority Care
- Current Family Association (sibling)
- Health and Special Access Reasons
- Nearness of Children's Homes to School

### **Children in Local Authority Care**

This is the up to date version from Kent A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child 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).

### **Attendance at a linked school**

This is where there is an admission link between an infant and junior school. Children who are attending the infant school are given priority for admission to the junior school. Likewise, children who are applying for a place at the infant school will be given priority for admission if they have an older sibling attending the infant or junior school, at time of entry. (Grove Park is a Primary School and this is not relevant).

### **Current Family Association (sibling)**

A Current Family Association means that the child who wants a place will have a brother or sister attending the same school when they start there. We count linked infant and junior schools as one school. We give priority to brothers and sisters (children who live as brother and sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers or sisters):

Parents can claim a sibling link for their child where an older brother or sister is in the same school at the time when the younger child would start school.

The sibling claim will stand if the family have continued to live at the same house as when the older sibling was admitted into the school.

**OR**

If the family have moved, and they have moved to within 2 miles of the school.

**OR**

If the family have moved nearer to the school from where they were living previously.

Linked schools are considered to be the same school under this criterion and brother or sister means children who live as brother and sister **in the same house**, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted brothers and sisters, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers or sisters. This does not include cousins.

If siblings from multiple births (e.g. twins, triplets etc) apply for a school and the school reaches its published admission number after admitting one or more, (but not all) of the children, Kent County Council will offer a place to all of the multiple birth siblings. This will only be applicable as on the offer date of April 2020. This is in line with the Chief Schools Adjudicator's recommendations made in 2009 and accepted by the then Secretary of State. If doing so, will take the school above its published admission number and possibly result in breaching class size legislation, the children are to be treated as 'excepted' pupils. Unfortunately, if your older sibling is currently attending school in Year 6 and will be transferring to secondary school in September 2019, you cannot claim a sibling link for your younger child, they must still be attending the school at the time of entry.

**Health and Special Access Reasons**

Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally, this priority will apply to children whose parents/guardians physical or mental health or social needs means that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner which can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school that parents feel is **the only school** that can accommodate their child's needs. This must be sent to the Primary Admissions Team before **Friday 25th January 2019** for the school to consider the evidence.

Schools' Admission Criteria are arranged in priority order, and they make sure that certain children will get places, even if they do not live closest to the school. For most children applying for school, this last criterion is the most important one, as those children who are living nearer to the school are usually the ones that Kent County Council will offer to before those who live further away. It is therefore very important that when you complete your RCAF/JCAF that you give your exact address.

Many available maps and internet based measuring tools will give you an indication of the distance from your address to a school, but they often use different reference points. To make sure that we measure the distance from each child's home to the school they want in a fair way, Kent County Council use the distance between the

child's permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school.