



WOHL ILFORD JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL

Admissions Policy and Procedures

For Admission to Reception – Year 6 from September 2024

Wohl Ilford Jewish Primary School's Foundation Body is the United Synagogue and its religious authority is the Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth.

The School's ethos¹ demonstrates orthodox Jewish belief and practice, embodied in the principles of Torah and Halachah, in a modern setting. These include creating a sense of belonging, encouraging and preparing for lifelong Jewish learning, spiritual growth and practice, mutual responsibility within the Jewish community and the wider world, and the importance of Israel in Jewish life. Jewish belief and practice permeate every aspect of the School's activities and are intrinsically linked to its secular curriculum. The School welcomes families from any synagogue denomination or none.

Wohl Ilford Jewish Primary School will give priority, within the over-subscription criteria, to applicants who meet a religious practice test based on guidelines from the Chief Rabbi such as the family's synagogue service attendance, commitment to Jewish education and voluntary work within the Jewish community. Those applicants wishing to be considered for a priority place must submit a completed and valid Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP)² after the parent(s)/guardian(s) or child have achieved FOUR (4) points on behalf of the child. There is no benefit in obtaining more than four points.

The School admits children aged 4 to 11 and all children must attend full-time schooling by the beginning of the term after they reach their fifth birthday (compulsory school age³).

The School will provide for the admission of all children in the September following their fourth birthday. However, where the School have offered a child a place at the school:

- a) That child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday.
- b) The child's parents can defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which it was made.
- c) Where the parents wish, these children may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

There are 30 places available in 1 class. This is the School's Published Admission Number (PAN). Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. Twins and children from multiple births will be admitted when one of the siblings is the 30th child and, as a result, the School's PAN will be increased.

The School has nursery provision⁴ for children aged from three to four (see separate Admissions Policy).

The School will admit children at any time to all year groups, provided a place is available. Open mornings and evenings for prospective parents are held in the autumn, and individual visits are also welcome by prior arrangement. Please contact the School for details.

The School is not permitted by law to interview parents, or children, with a view to selection.

All children whose Education, Health & Care Plan (EHCP)⁷ names the School will be admitted.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION

If the School is oversubscribed, after the admission of children with an EHCP⁷ which names the School, priority will be given to those children who meet the criteria as set out in the order of 1 to 8 listed below.

Oversubscription Criteria

- 1 Looked after children⁸ and all previously looked after children, including those children 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, with a completed and valid CRP².
- 2 Children currently attending the WIJPS Nursery who are in receipt of early years' pupil premium, with a completed and valid CRP².
- 3 Siblings¹⁰ of pupils attending the School on the date of admission, with a completed and valid CRP².
- 4 Siblings of former pupils¹⁰ of the School, with a completed and valid CRP².
- 5 Other children who have a completed and valid CRP².
- 6 Other children who are looked after⁸ by a local authority, or other children who were previously looked after⁹ by a local authority.
- 7 Siblings of pupils attending the School on the date of admission without a completed CRP.
- 8 Any other children.

Tie-Breaker

In the event of there being more applicants than places available within criteria 1-8 above, priority will be given to children living nearest the School. Distance will be measured from the main entrance of the home address⁶ to the main gate of the School site using the London Borough of Redbridge Council's computerised mapping system. In cases where more than one applicant lives equidistant from the School, and places cannot be offered to all these children, the available place will be determined by random allocation supervised by a person independent of the School.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Reception – for September Entry

1 When to Apply

Children will be admitted to Reception⁵ in the September following their fourth birthday. Applications should be made by 15 January in the calendar year of entry. All applications received on time will be processed together. By law, priority **must not** be given to children based on the date their application is received or their name is added to the list.

2 How to Apply

- a) Application is by completion of a Common Application Form (CAF). The CAF is only available online for Redbridge residents. Those applicants living outside of Redbridge, should seek guidance from the local authority where the child lives⁶. The CAF must be returned by 15 January in the calendar year of entry.
- b) In addition, the School's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) should be completed. In order to be eligible for a priority place within the School's over-subscription criteria, the CRP² must also be completed. Both forms are available from the School Office or website (www.wijpsonline.co.uk) and must be returned to the School by 15 January in the calendar year of entry.
- c) Application for a child whose Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP)⁷ names the School is made by a separate local authority process.

3 Offer Date

An email or letter to parents offering, or refusing, a place will be sent by the local authority where the child lives on the national offer date on 16 April¹¹ or the next working day.

4 Response by Parents

A parent who does not respond to the offer of a place may have the offer withdrawn if the deadline quoted in the email or letter is not met.

5 Late Applications

All applications for Reception⁵ received between 16 January and 31 August, for entry in the September of the same year, will be considered “late” and will be processed after those that have been received on time. The application procedure is the same as paragraphs 2(a)-(c) above, save that all forms should be returned without delay.

Following the application procedure for Reception⁵ places, and once initial offers have been made, the waiting list will be adjusted to include late applications.

In-Year Applications and Applications outside the Normal Admissions Round

Application for Reception⁵ received after the start of the academic year of normal entry or for a place in years other than Reception⁵ should be made directly to the School. Application is by completion of the School’s In-Year Application Form. In order to be eligible for a priority place within the School’s oversubscription criteria, the CRP² must also be completed. Both forms are available from the School Office or website (www.wijpsonline.co.uk), and must be returned to the School without delay, together with proof of address¹².

Waiting List

For those applicants who do not receive an offer of a place, the child’s name will be included on the waiting list. The School’s waiting lists for all years will be kept open indefinitely and the School may check with parents, from time to time, to establish whether they wish their child to remain on the waiting list. A child’s position on the waiting list will not depend upon when the application was made, but will be determined by how the oversubscription criteria are met. This means that a child’s position on the list can go down as well as up, depending on the circumstances of all applicants. For applications where a child moves to a new permanent home, proof of address¹² will be required and the distance will be recalculated and the child’s position on the waiting list may be adjusted. In the event of a vacancy occurring, the place will be offered to a child on the waiting list starting with the one at the top, at the time, and working downwards until the vacancy is filled. Parents are asked to inform the School if they no longer wish their child’s name to remain on the waiting list.

Right of Appeal

Parents who receive a letter to say that their application has not been successful have the right to appeal. Parents wishing to appeal must write to the Clerk to the Governors at the School address, within 20 school days of receiving the letter of refusal. The procedure will be explained in a response by the School and the timetable for the process will be published on the School’s website (www.wijpsonline.co.uk) by 28 February each year. Parents making an appeal will receive at least 10 school days’ notice of their appeal hearing with decision letters being sent within 5 school days of the hearing wherever possible.

Fair Access Protocol

Wohl Ilford Jewish Primary School is committed to taking its reasonable share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in the locally agreed Fair Access Protocol. Accordingly, outside the normal admissions round, the Governing Body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under a local Fair Access Protocol that has been agreed for that school year. The Governing Body has this power even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the PAN.

NOTES

- 1 Whether or not applying for a priority place, all families are expected to respect the school’s ethos.
- 2 The requirements of the religious practice test may change from year to year. In order to be eligible for priority within the oversubscription criteria, the child, or the parent on behalf of the child, will be required to obtain 4 points as evidence of completion of the religious practice test.
- 3 A child reaches compulsory school age on the prescribed day following the fifth birthday (or on the fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.
- 4 There is no automatic transfer from the School’s Nursery to Reception. Parents must apply via the local authority where the child lives.
- 5 Reception is the entry class to primary schools (see section 142 of the School Standards Framework Act 1998).
- 6 The child’s home address shall be determined as at the deadline for application. Where parents reside at separate addresses, but with shared responsibility for the child, it will be the address at which the child spends most of the week.

- 7 An Education Health & Care Plan is made by the local authority (see Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014) specifying the special education provision for that child.
- 8 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 (see section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). Applications for looked after children must be made by the person with parental responsibility and/or the child's social worker.
- 9 A previously looked after child is a child who has ceased to be so because they have been adopted (see section 46 of the Adoption & Children Act 2002), or became subject to a residence order (see section 8 of the Children Act 1989), or special guardianship order (see section 14A of the Children Act 1989).
- 10 Siblings of pupils attending the School at the time of admission and siblings of former pupils include brothers, sisters, half-siblings, foster siblings, step-siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently in the same home.
- 11 'Working day' is defined as any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or a day which is a bank holiday within the meaning of the Banking and Financial Dealings Act 1971. Parents are advised to make any necessary arrangements if the National Offer Day falls during Pesach.
- 12 Proof of address must not include: evidence of personal details about parents and families, such as maiden names; criminal convictions; marital or financial status (including marriage certificates); the first language of parents or the child; details about parents' or a child's disabilities, special educational needs or medical conditions.

FALSE INFORMATION

Places can be withdrawn after an offer has been made if it is found that the offer was made on the basis of false or fraudulent information.

For further information please contact the School Office on: 020 8498 1350