

REDCAR AND CLEVELAND ADMISSION POLICY FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/27; **COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTARY CONTROLLED (VC) SCHOOLS**

The Redcar and Cleveland School Admission Arrangements for the Academic Year 2026-2027 have now been determined.

1The School Admission Arrangements 2026/27 applies to Schools for which Redcar & Cleveland local authority is the admission authority.

Foundation Schools and Academies as their own Admission Authorities will have determined their own Admission Policies as per the School Admissions Code of Practice.

Where there are more applications for a school than there are places available, the places will be allocated using the over subscription criteria shown in the table below.

REDCAR AND CLEVELAND OVER - SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL ENTRY 2026/27

CRITERIA (In priority order)	EXPLANATORY NOTES
i) Looked after children in local authority and previously looked after children.	Children who are looked after; or who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence 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 (Section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989). This category includes children who are in care / previously in care from other countries
ii) Children who are permanently resident in the admission zone defined for the school.	For the purposes of determining whether a child lives within the admission zone, only the address at which the parent / guardian ordinarily resides and with whom the child normally lives will be taken into account. If parents are separated and the child lives for periods of time with both parents, the address used will be of the parent who receives child benefit for the child (if eligible). If neither parent is eligible for child benefit, the address used will be that on the child's medical registration card (proof may be required). Short term tenancies entered into with the prime objective of

CRITERIA (In priority order)	EXPLANATORY NOTES
	<p>securing admission for a child at a particular school will not qualify as places of ordinary residence. The local authority will take action should false information be submitted in order to secure a place at a particular school.</p>
<p>(iii)</p> <p>Children who have elder brothers or sisters attending the school in the 2026/27 school year.</p>	<p>Brothers and sisters and step brothers and sisters will qualify under this criterion as long as they both live at the same permanent address and the elder sibling is still attending the preferred school in the 2026/27 school year.</p> <p>‘Sibling’ refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent / carer’s partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.</p>
<p>(iv)</p> <p>Children who have exceptional social and/or medical reasons for attending a particular school, professionally supported by an independent third party and sustained by the Authority’s professional advisors.</p>	<p>Social reasons generally do not include domestic circumstances such as parents’ working commitments, childcare arrangements, or separation from friends.</p> <p>In the case of medical reasons, evidence would need to demonstrate the exceptional long-term nature of the condition. All mainstream schools are able to cater for a wide range of medical needs which may be encountered by children.</p> <p>You are strongly urged to provide independent third party information (e.g., from a professional person who knows or is involved with your child) in support of any exceptional long-term medical or social reason why you think your child should be given special consideration for placement in a particular school. This written support must make clear why the preferred school is the only school which could meet your child’s needs.</p> <p>The submission of independent information will not automatically guarantee a place under this criterion. However, the evidence will be carefully considered by the local authority’s professional advisors as to whether or not your application falls into this category.</p>

CRITERIA (In priority order)	EXPLANATORY NOTES
(v) Children living closest to the school	The distance from home to school will be measured by computer on a straight line basis using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the school.

Tie-Break: If it is necessary to distinguish between children within categories (i)-(v), places will be offered using the criteria listed above in priority order and determined by criteria (v) - measurement on a straight line basis using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the school.

In the case of a tie break in category (v) the final allocation will be determined using the shortest walking route using the number and postcode of the house and the postcode of the school.

Late Applications: Applications received after the closing date will be considered after applications that were received on time unless there was good reason for their lateness. An example of this would be a new family moving to the area after the closing date.

Waiting List: Any unsuccessful applicants will be automatically placed on a waiting list and ranked in order as per the oversubscription criteria. Waiting lists will be maintained until the end of the Autumn Term 2026.

Pupils with Education Health and Care Plan / Statement of Special Educational Needs: Pupils with either an Education Health and Care Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Needs will be placed in schools by the Special Educational Needs Team.

Admission of a child outside their normal age group: Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, parents of a summer born child (born between 1st April and 31st August) may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their 5th birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than Year 1. If you wish to request admission of a child outside of their normal year group, you should make an application for the normal time of entry and then put a request in writing to the School Admissions Team asking to defer the entry date and giving your reasons for the request. The request will be considered in consultation with the school concerned and you will be notified of the outcome of your request. If the request is agreed, you should then submit a new application at the time applications are being taken for the new admission date. **Please note – the deferred application will be considered against**

all other applications for entry that year based upon a strict application of the admissions criteria and agreement to deferral does not automatically mean your child will be offered a place at the school in that year.

Requests for mid-year transfer / in-year school admission: Applications will be co-ordinated by the Redcar and Cleveland School Admissions Team on behalf of all schools within the Borough. Any requests for transfer should be made to the School Admissions Team via email at schools_admissions@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk or telephone on 01642 837740.

REDCAR AND CLEVELAND CO-ORDINATED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS AND TIMETABLE – 2026/27

The local authority is responsible for administering a co-ordinated scheme for its area in relation to all maintained (community, voluntary controlled, voluntary aided and foundation) schools and academies. The purpose of the co-ordinated admission scheme is to ensure that, as far as is reasonably practicable, every parent of a child living in the LA area who has applied for a school place in the normal admission round receives an offer of one school place on the same day.

The local authority rolled forward last year's co-ordinated scheme for 2026/27 apart from date changes for the timetables. A copy of the scheme must be forwarded to the Secretary of State by 15th March 2025.

The timetables for co-ordinated admission arrangements 2026/27 are set out in the following tables:

Secondary Schools

W/C1 Sept 2025 5 Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Send out application information.• Online application website opens.
31 October 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Closing date for receipt of online and paper applications.
14 November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Send supplementary forms to VA schools and preference details to foundation schools and academies.• Send application details for schools in other LAs to those LAs.

16 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VA schools, foundation schools and academies to advise LA of pupils who could be offered places.
W/C 26 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA will have compared all lists and allocated places in accordance with the highest expressed preference where possible. LA to inform other LAs of places to be offered to their residents.
1 March 2026	<p>NATIONAL OFFER DAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA sends letters to all parents informing them of the allocated schools. LA informs schools of final offers.
May – July 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appeals to be heard by Independent Panels.
End of Autumn Term 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admission round ends. Waiting lists close.

Primary Schools

W/C 10 November 2025 17 November 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send out application information. Online application website opens.
15 January 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closing date for receipt of online and paper applications.
6 February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Send supplementary forms to VA schools and preference details to foundation schools and academies.
By 27 February 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VA schools, foundation schools and academies to advise the LA of pupils who could be offered places. LA draws up lists of pupils who could be offered places in community and voluntary controlled schools.
By 13 March 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LA to exchange offer information with neighbouring LAs.

By 1 April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LA will have compared all lists and allocated places in accordance with the highest expressed preference where possible
16 April 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LA to send letters to all parents informing them of their allocated schools. • LA to inform schools of allocated pupils.
June/July 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appeals to be heard by Independent Panels
End of Autumn Term 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Admission round ends • Waiting lists close

ADMISSION NUMBERS

The table below shows the published admission numbers for community and voluntary controlled schools for which Redcar & Cleveland Local Authority is the Admissions Authority for September 2026 entry. Admission numbers are set with regard to the assessed capacity of schools. However, these numbers may vary dependent upon future plans and developments which impact on the physical capacity of the schools. The indicated admission numbers shown are based on the assessed net capacity of schools at the present time.

Primary Schools	Admission Numbers for 2026/27 Academic Year
Hummersea Primary School	30
Newcomen Primary School	47

CONCLUSION

The Admissions Code underpins the Government's aim to create a school system shaped by parents which delivers excellence and equity, developing the talents and potential of every child, regardless of their background; a system where all parents feel they have the same opportunities to apply for the school they want.

The Code states: 'A fair system needs to provide parents with access to good information about admissions in order to support those parents who find it hardest to understand the system.'

Within Redcar & Cleveland we aim to ensure that the admission arrangements comply with the School Admissions Code of Practice and offer fair access to all schools to all pupils in the Borough.