Respect Reflection Responsibility Resilience

Green Shoots Partnership

Admission Arrangements 2025

Our Vision

Green Shoots Partnership is a nurturing federation with a strong sense of pride and belonging, with the belief that all have the potential to thrive.

Our Purpose

We exist to cultivate a love of learning by broadening horizons and opening minds to new possibilities. Through our Federation Values, we grow confident individuals who aspire to shape the future

Meadowside Primary School

Great Doddington Primary School

Last Updated: September 2025

Green Shoots Partnership

Admission Arrangements

North Northamptonshire County Council is the Admission Authority for Green Shoots Partnership and is therefore responsible for all admissions.
The Published Admission Number (PAN) for Meadowside Primary School is 60 pupils per year group at Meadowside Primary school and 20 pupils per year group at Great Doddington Primary school.

There are several types of Primary schools in North Northamptonshire. A school's type affects the way in which decisions about admissions are made but your application for a Reception place at a Primary school must be made through your home local authority.

Making your application

All applications must be submitted by the published deadline set by North Northamptonshire County Council. Late applications may not be considered until after offers have been made. Parents are encouraged to apply as early as possible to maximise the chance of securing a place at their preferred school.

Important: You must make an application even if you have an older child already attending your preferred school. Places will not be allocated automatically to a younger sibling.
You must apply for a Primary school place for each of your children due to start Reception. You must apply for a Primary school place even if your child already attends a nursery or preschool at one of your preferred schools. A place will not automatically be allocated to a child already attending a nursery or pre-school.
All North Northamptonshire Primary schools are comprehensive and do not allocate places according to ability.

Application Deadlines

The deadline for applications for Reception places in September 2025 is 15 January 2026.
Applications received after this date will be considered late and processed in subsequent allocation rounds, in line with North Northamptonshire Council's procedures.

Late Applications

Applications received after the closing date of 15 January 2026 will be processed as late applications. Late applications will not be considered in the initial allocation round but will be included in subsequent rounds of allocation starting in May 2026, in accordance with North Northamptonshire Council's published timetable.

When is my child legally required to start school?

Children reach Compulsory School Age on the prescribed day after their 5th Birthday. The three prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.

In North Northamptonshire, children are offered a full year in Reception, the school place is available from the beginning of the school year in which the child has their 5th birthday.

Parents/carers may defer their child's entry to their allocated school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age, and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the offer was made when the place will cease to be available for the child. Requests must be made directly to the allocated school. If such a request is made, the school is required to hold the place for the child and it cannot be offered to another child.

Any parent who is considering deferring their child's admission to school until later in the academic year should discuss this with the Headteacher at the school where their child has been offered a place.
Where parents/carers wish, children may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

Summer Born Children

Parents of summer born children (born between 1 April and 31 August) may request that their child's entry to Reception be delayed until the September following their fifth birthday. In such cases, parents should still apply during the normal admissions round and also make a request to the admission authority for out-of-year entry. Each request will be considered individually, taking into account the best interests of the child.

How do I apply?

North Northamptonshire Council is responsible for coordinating the application process for entry into Reception for all children who live in the local authority.
If you live in North Northamptonshire, your application is therefore made to NNC rather than the local authority where your preferred school/s is/are situated.
You must fill a Common Application Form and should notify the local authority of the names of your three preferred schools. You do not apply directly to the schools themselves even if they have an admission authority other than the Local Authority.

1. Oversubscription criteria

When a school receives more applications than there are places available, the school's oversubscription criteria are used to work out which applicants should be offered places. In each case, the criteria are applied in the order of priority stated by the school's admission authority. When the PAN is reached within a criterion, there has to be a way to decide how to prioritise the applicants who fall into that criterion and a way to separate two applications that cannot otherwise be separated once the applicants are in ranked order. This information is outlined for both Schools with in the Green Shoots Partnership below.
The Council will give priority to children with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP), which names the school as appropriate provision.

Great Doddington Primary School

School type	Linked Villages
Primary School – Rural	Great Doddington

Great Doddington Primary School Oversubscription Criteria

When there are more applications for the school than there are places available, priority will be given in the following order:

I. Looked after children and all previously looked after children

II. Children who live in the linked village for the school

III. Children with a sibling continuing at the school at the time of admission of the child

IV. Other children Allocation of places up to Published Admission Number (PAN) If the PAN is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to applicants whose home address is closest to the school. Tie-breaker Where two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated, random allocation will be used to decide who is allocated a place.

Meadowside Primary School

School type
Primary School – Urban

Meadowside Primary School Oversubscription criteria

When there are more applications for the school than there are places available, priority will be given in the following order:

I. Looked after children and all previously looked after children

II. Children with a sibling continuing at the school at the time of admission of the child

III. Children who live closer to the preferred school than any other school

IV. Other children

Allocation of places up to Published Admission Number (PAN)

If the PAN is exceeded within any criterion, priority will be given to applicants whose home address is closest to the school.

2.Tie-breaker

Where two or more applications cannot otherwise be separated, random allocation will be used to decide who is allocated a place.

3. Appeals

You have the right to appeal against a decision not to offer your child a place at your preferred school.

Requests for appeals should be made in writing on the online appeal form on NNC's website. Appeals must be lodged in writing, giving the reasons for appeal, by published deadlines. Appeals received after this date will still be heard, but there is no guarantee they will be heard before the end of the school year in which the application is made.

4. Waiting Lists

All parents who are refused a place at school at any time may wish to place their child's name on a Waiting List. (This does not affect your right of appeal). If a place becomes available at the school, places will be allocated according to the admissions criteria. Parents must contact the Admissions Authority, following instructions outlined in their offer email, and request that their child's name is placed on the Waiting List. If a place becomes available it will be allocated in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria.

5.Equal Preferencing

The Local Authority operates an equal preferencing system. This means that all preferences are considered equally, regardless of whether they are ranked first, second, or third. If a child qualifies for a place at more than one school, the Local Authority will allocate a place at the highest ranked school where a place is available.

6. Children from Multiple Births

In the case of twins, triplets or other multiple birth groups, if the final available place is offered to one child, the Local Authority will admit the other siblings, even if this means exceeding the Published Admission Number (PAN).

4. NNC's Definitions

Definition of Residency or Home address (Child's)

The child's home address is defined as the address at which the child normally resides with their parent/carer on the closing date for applications. When we refer to a child's home address, we mean the permanent residence of the child. This address should be the child's only or main residence. The child's place of residence is the address of the parent or legal guardian with whom the child spends the majority of time during the school week. When we refer to a child's home address, we mean the permanent residence of the child. This address should be the child's only or main residence. When parents live separately and the child spends time with each parent, the home address will be treated

as the place where the child sleeps for most of the school week (i.e., Sunday night –Thursday night inclusive). If the child spends equal amounts of time at two addresses, the parents must agree which address they wish to be the child's main address.

Parents/legal guardians may be asked to produce evidence of residency/home address at any time during the admissions process. If false or misleading information is used to gain a place, this will be classed as a fraudulent application.

Definition of siblings

A sibling is defined as a child's brother or sister. A sibling must be living at the same permanent address and as part of the same family unit (one or two parents plus children) to qualify for a sibling link. For School Admissions purposes, the term sibling includes:

- half-brothers and half-sisters
- step-brothers and step-sisters
- adopted children
- children in foster care 198
- children living in the same family unit, even if they are not biological brothers and sisters – for example when the parents are not married/in a civil relationship.

Cousins are not regarded as siblings.

Definition of Looked After Children

Children who, at the time of making an application to a school, are:

- in the care of a local authority, or
- being provided with accommodation by a local authority in exercise of its social services functions (see definition in Section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school

Definition of Previously Looked After Children

Children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they:
• Were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 or the Adoption and Children Act 2002, or
• Became subject to a child arrangements order (Section 8 of the Children Act 1989, amended by the Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014), or
• Became subject to a special guardianship order (Section 14A of the Children Act 1989)

This includes 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. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Definition of Fraudulent Applications

The admissions authority (or the LA processing an application on behalf of the admission authority) has the right to investigate any concerns we may have about an application and to withdraw the offer of a place if it is considered that there is evidence that an applicant has made a fraudulent claim or provided misleading information.

Definitions

Definitions such as home address, sibling, looked after and previously looked after children, and parental responsibility will be applied in accordance with North Northamptonshire Council's Composite Prospectus 2025. Where disputes arise over parental responsibility or residence, the Local Authority's published procedures will apply.

This policy has been written on conjunction with Applying for a Primary School Place in North Northamptonshire 2025-2026