

Heathside Walton-on-Thames admission arrangements for September 2022 to August 2023

Introductory statement

Heathside Walton-on-Thames is a 11-16 mixed non selective Secondary Academy which has high expectations and standards in all aspects of school life. It offers a broad curriculum through which children can flourish and develop the skills and knowledge needed to be successful in their next stage of education or training. The school is managed by the ElmWey Learning Trust.

Admission number(s)

The school has an admission number of 120 for entry in year 7.

The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Application process

The school will process applications outside the normal Local Authority (LA) process for coordinating school offers for 2022 admissions,. This means you will need to complete your LA common application form for your other choices of school in addition to a separate application for this school.

Applications for this school should be sent to Mrs S Buroni at the following address: sburoni@heathside.surrey.sch.uk or post to Mrs Buroni, Heathside School, Brooklands Lane, Weybridge, KT13 8UZ.

The closing date for applications is 31/10/2021.

Offers will be made on 01/03/2022. If we have not entered into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State opening the school by that date, they will be conditional offers and will be confirmed once we have a signed funding agreement.

The application form can be obtained from www.elmwey.org.

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Looked After Children and children who were previously looked after but who left that care through adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.¹
2. Children of staff who have been recruited to fill a skill-shortage area.

¹ 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).

3. 50% of remaining places will be allocated to applicants whose permanent home address is within 0.5 miles of the nodal point in Molesey which is set as the front gate of Chandlers Field School from the start point of the permanent home address.
4. Remaining applicants will be allocated on permanent home to school distance from the front main entrance of Heathside Walton-on-Thames school.

Within Criterion 3, priority will be given to children whose permanent home address is closest to the nodal point, measured in metres as the crow flies (i.e. straight line) to the child's permanent home address. If there are more applicants than available places, any unsuccessful applicants will be considered equally against Criterion 4.

Within Criteria 1, 2 and 4 places will be allocated to children whose permanent home address is closest to the school, measured from the front entrance of the school in metres as the crow flies (i.e. straight line) to the child's permanent home address.

Tie-break

If within Criterion 2-4, two or more applicants share priority for a place, priority will be determined by random allocation by another body unconnected with the Academy Trust to decide who will be admitted.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins, triplets etc.) from the same family tied for the final place. We will admit them all and exceed our PAN.

Late Applications

Applications received by the school after Sunday, 31st October 2021 will be treated as late applications. However, applications that are submitted late for good reason, such as a house move, may be accepted as on time up to Friday, 10th December 2021 as long as all evidence is received by this date. If, following consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested.

When such a request is made, the Academy Trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the child's primary school Headteacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

Waiting lists

The school will operate a waiting list. Where the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the academic year. This will be maintained by the Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for their child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admissions Appeals Code.

Appellants should contact Mrs Buroni c/o Heathside School, Brooklands Lane, Weybridge, KT13 8UZ by 01.04.2022 for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website at www.heathsidewalton.org.

Notes:

Permanent home address

Permanent home address is defined as the address of the parent or legal guardian with whom the child lives. In the case of formal equal shared custody, it will be up to the parents/carers to agree which address to use. In other cases, it is where the child spends most of their time. Where a child spends their time equally between their parents/carers and they cannot agree on who should make the application, the address registered at the primary school, at the time of application, will be deemed as the home address and the parent living at that address as the primary contact. Additional evidence of the child's home address may be sought and this may include historical checking with the child's primary school. We will not accept a temporary address if we believe it has been used solely or mainly to obtain a school place when an alternative address is still available to that child.

The address to be used for the initial allocation of places to Year 7 will be the child's address at the closing date for application. Changes of address may be considered if there are exceptional reasons behind the change, such as if a family has just moved to the area. The address to be used for waiting lists, after the initial allocation, will be the child's current address. Any offer of a place on the basis of address is conditional upon the child living at the appropriate address on the relevant date. Applicants have a responsibility to notify the school of any change of address.

Places cannot be allocated on the basis of intended future changes of address.

Distance measure

For Criterion 3 all distances are measured from the front gate of Chandlers Field School to the child's permanent home address in metres as the crow flies (i.e. straight line). For Criterion 4 all distances are measured from the front entrance of the school in metres as the crow flies (i.e. straight line) to the child's permanent home address as set by Ordnance Survey. The Academy Trust uses Esri UK Ltd to facilitate measurements.