Governing Body of Walney School

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2025-2026

Statement as to where and to whom this policy is available

School Staff Responsible for Maintaining this Policy:	**Mr J Richardson**
Governing Body Committee Responsible for Approving this Policy:	**Full Governors**

Date Approved:	**September 2024**
Review Cycle Length:	**12 months**
Next due for Review:	**September 2026**

Signed (Chair of Committee): _____

Admission Arrangements for Walney School for 2025/26

In line with the School Admissions Code of Practice on School Admissions, Walney School issues the following information relating to admission arrangements for 2025/26.

The school has set a Published Admission Number of 180 for 2025/256 for Year 7.

Admission arrangements will follow those of Cumbria LA in so far as use of the Cumbria LA common application form (SA3), preference arrangements and application deadlines are concerned. The forms will explain how parents apply, how they express their preferences and the deadlines which they need to abide by.

Admission criteria, which will be applied to all applications for a place at Walney School if applications exceed the Published Admission Number, are:

First
Looked after children, previously looked after children and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order)."

Second
Children whose sibling attends Walney School at the time of the admission (this includes step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently at the same address).

Third
Children living in the catchment areas of South Walney Junior School, Vickerstown School, North Walney Junior School, Barrow Island Community Primary School and St Columba's Primary School. Children living in the catchment area of other Barrow primary schools, provided that Walney School is their nearest secondary school.*

Fourth
Children of current employees of Walney School (in the following circumstances: a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage).

Fifth
Other children.

Priority
If the school reaches its planned admission limit within any of these criteria then, for those in that criteria, priority will be given to those who live nearest to the school, that distance being measured in a straight line on a map from the front entrance of the school to the front door of the house.

Admission Arrangements for Walney School for 2025/26 (cont'd)

However, a child will be admitted where, under the LA's arrangements for the education of children with special needs, a child holds a statement of SEN or an Education Health and Care Plan, which names Walney School. An exception will also be made where a child is currently being assessed and has been identified as having physical/medical difficulties, and it is considered that attendance at Walney School is necessary to meet those needs. Admission in these circumstances would be subject to the maximum limit of 8 at any one time (and to the limit of 2 in any one year group).

If the school is oversubscribed, applications will be prioritised according to the criteria explained above. In addition, the Admission Authority for Walney School will maintain a waiting list for the reallocation of any places that become available later in the academic year, ranking children in the same order as the published oversubscription criteria.

After allocation, any admissions appeal should be addressed to the Clerk to the Governors, c/o Walney School.

Arrangements for Appeals

Parents/Carers will have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of the school. The arrangements for Appeals will be in line with the Code of Practice on School Admission Appeals published by the Department for Education

(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/275897/school_admission_appeals_code_1_february_2012.pdf)

The LA have asked us to include the following statement:

LEA statement on entitlement to free home-to-school transport

> *"Under the Authority's current policy, pupils are entitled to free home-to-school transport if they are attending their catchment area school, and the distance between that school and their home address exceeds three miles (in the case of children of secondary school age). The catchment area school is that determined by the Authority for home-to-school transport purposes.*
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> *In addition, the Authority is obliged to provide free transport to the nearest maintained school to the pupil's home, if this is other than the catchment area school. The same qualifying distance applies. Distances are measured by the most direct route using roads adopted and maintained by the Highways Authority."*

For further information and information on admissions other than in Year 7, please contact Mr J Richardson, Headteacher, Walney School, Sandy Gap Lane, Barrow-inFurness, Cumbria. LA14 3JT. Tel: 01229 471528.