



Homer First School and Nursery School Admissions Policy

Starting School Admission Arrangements

Under the Education Act parents have a right to choose a school for their children. Each school has a 'standard number' of places, which is the minimum number of children who should be admitted in any year.

Accommodation level of the school:-**210**

Admission Number (planned admission level):- **30**

The law states that children have to start school by the beginning of the term after they reach the age of five. The Borough's Admission Policy states that children should be admitted during the school year in which they are 5.

Admission to Homer First School is co-ordinated centrally. Achieving for Children (AfC) provide the School Admissions Service, in partnership with The Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead (RBWM). All parents should apply on-line if possible via an application portal (https://live.cloud.servelec-synergy.com/AFC_RBWM/Synergy/). In exceptional cases, where an on-line application cannot be made following support from the Admissions or Library teams, AfC will issue a paper copy of the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead's CAF. This will be made available by emailing rbwm.admissions@achievingforchildren.org.uk and picking it up from the Town Hall when advised to do so. Parents can list up to 6 schools that they would like their child to attend, and give the reasons for the preference.

The closing date for applications is the January of the year in which the child will start school (e.g. for admission in September 2025, the closing date is January 2025).

The actual closing date and full details of the arrangements are provided in RBWM's Primary Schools Guide, available on their website via this link [Admission into Primary School Guide 2025 26 v3](#)

When demand exists, places are allocated up to a school's Admission number which for Homer is 30. Where applicants for admission to the school exceed places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order of priority set out below:

Admission Criteria. Please refer to the Admission into Primary Schools Guide, via the link above, for full details.

- 1. Looked After Children (a child who is in care of the Local Authority) or a child who was previously looked-after.**
- 2. Children with exceptional medical or social reasons for requiring the school.**

- 3. Children who live in the 'designated appropriate area' of the school and who have a sibling who attends the school.**
- 4. Children who live in the 'designated appropriate area' of the school.**
- 5. Children who have a sibling who attends the school.**
- 6. Children of a member of staff.**
- 7. Children whose parents have any other reason for their preference**

If your child has an education, health and care plan (EHCP) in place, you are not eligible to apply through the School Admissions Team. Further information can be found on the AfC website. Please contact the SEND Team on cypds@achievingforchildren.org.uk and this specialist team will assist you. If your child is undergoing statutory assessment, please contact the SEND Team on 07784 361 267 or 07783 806 246 before making an application.

If a school does not have places for all the children in a particular category, the borough prioritises those applicants who live closest to the school. Proximity to the school will be measured in a straight line from the address point of the pupil's house as determined by Ordnance Survey to the address point of the school using the local authority's GIS system. In the event that two or more children live at the same distance from the school (for example families living in flats) and there are fewer places available then random allocation will be used to decide which child will be allocated the remaining place(s). The names will be drawn and the whole process scrutinised by persons independent of the authority.

Homer First School & Nursery "phases in" Foundation Stage children to the class during the start of the Autumn term. This enables the teacher and the new pupils to get to know each other.

In-Year Applications

An in-year application is when parents or carers want to apply for an RBWM school outside the normal rounds of admissions and differs from a normal phase admission which is when a whole year group of pupils start our school at the beginning of Reception. All parents should apply on-line if possible via an application portal

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Arrangements are made during each term for parents of new entrants to visit the school. Some time will be spent explaining the practices of the school and there will be an opportunity for questions to be asked. Parents will be able to meet their child's teacher and visit the classroom. Children will be invited to visit the school for half a day to meet their teacher and the other children who will also be starting. A Pupil/Parent Guide is available on our website [Parent/Pupil guides | Homer First School & Nursery](#). Pupils with an EHCP or special educational need will be offered a phased admission with a planned programme of visits, known as a Transition Plan.

Please click the link below to see a map of the current designated area for Homer First School & Nursery.

[Prospective parents | Homer First School & Nursery](#)