

SIR JOHN  
THURSBY



COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE

# Determined Admissions Policy

**Dated:** For the academic year 2023/2024  
**Date ratified by Governors:** November 2021  
**To be reviewed:** Annually  
**Person responsible:** Mr R. Browning



## **UNICEF Rights Respecting School Award**

As a UNICEF Rights Respecting School we aim to teach our students that they have rights under the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

By putting the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child at the heart of our school's ethos and culture we seek to improve well-being and develop every student's talents and abilities to their full potential.



The school works in liaison with Lancashire County Council Admissions Team. Parents/carers seeking a place at the school should, in the first instance, contact the Admissions Team.

Our admission number for the academic year 2023 to 2024 will be 225.

If the school is oversubscribed, then the following admission criteria will be applied to decide which children should be offered the available places. The criteria below are in priority order:

- (a) All looked after children and previously looked after children must be considered/offered a place at the time when preferences are expressed (see note (vii) below); then
- (b) Children for whom the Governors accept there are exceptionally strong medical, social or welfare reasons for admission, which are directly relevant to the school (see note (i) below); then
- (c) Children living within the school's geographical priority area with older brothers and sisters in attendance at the school at the time of transfer (see note (ii) below); then
- (d) Children living within the school's inner geographical priority area (see notes below); then
- (e) Children living in the school's outer geographical priority area (see notes below); then
- (f) Children living outside of the school's geographical priority areas (see notes below) with older brothers and/or sisters in attendance at the school at the time of transfer (see note (ii) below);
- (g) Children living outside of the school's geographical priority areas (see notes below)

### **Notes**

- (i) The medical, social and welfare criterion will consider issues relevant to the child and/or the family. This category may include children without a statement who have special needs. Children who have a statement for special needs will have their applications considered separately.
- (ii) Brothers and sisters includes step children, half brothers and sisters, fostered and adopted children living with the same family at the same address (consideration may be given to applying this criterion to full brothers and sisters who reside at different addresses). The priority does not apply to siblings whose brothers and sisters transferred into a sixth form at 16<sup>+</sup>.
- (iii) Where there are more applicants for the available places within a category, then the distance between the Ordnance Survey address points for the school and the home measured in a straight line will be used as the final determining factor, nearer addresses having priority over more distant ones. This address point is within the body of the property and usually located at its centre. Where the cut off point is for addresses within the same building, then the single measure between address points will apply and the Local Authority's system of a random draw will determine which address(es) receive the offer(s).
- (iv) Children will not normally be able to start at the school other than at the beginning of a term, unless they have moved into the area, or there are exceptional circumstances.

The Local Authority will keep waiting lists for all Lancashire schools until 31 August 2023. These are kept in priority order using the school's published admission criteria. From 1 September 2023 until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 waiting lists will be retained by individual admission authorities.

- (v) Applications for school places which are received late will not necessarily be dealt with at the same time as those received by the set deadline. The reasons for a late application may be requested and where these are not exceptional the relevant admission criteria will be initially applied to all others received on time. The late application will be dealt with after this process.
- (vi) Where a child lives with one parent/carer for part of the week and another for the rest of the week only one address will be accepted for a school admission application. This will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of school days (Monday to Friday). Proof of residence may be requested at any time throughout the admissions process.
- (vii) The highest priority **must** be given to looked after children<sup>[1]</sup> and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted<sup>[2]</sup> or became subject to a residence order<sup>[3]</sup> or special guardianship order<sup>[4]</sup> or those children who appear to the school to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
- (viii) Further references to previously looked after children in the Code means children who were adopted (or subject to residence orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after.
- (ix) Dates and details of applications can be obtained from Lancashire County Council.

## **The Geographical Priority Area for Sir John Thursby Community School**

### **Outer Geographical Priority Area**

This area includes the civil parishes of Briercliffe, Worsthorne with Hurstwood, Cliviger and Habergham Eaves

### **Inner Geographical Priority Area**

This area includes central Burnley, including the Lowerhouse, Rosegrove, Rosehill, Burnley Wood, Stoneyholme, Danehouse, Burnley lane and Heasandford districts.

A map showing the Inner and Outer Geographical Areas is available on the school website.

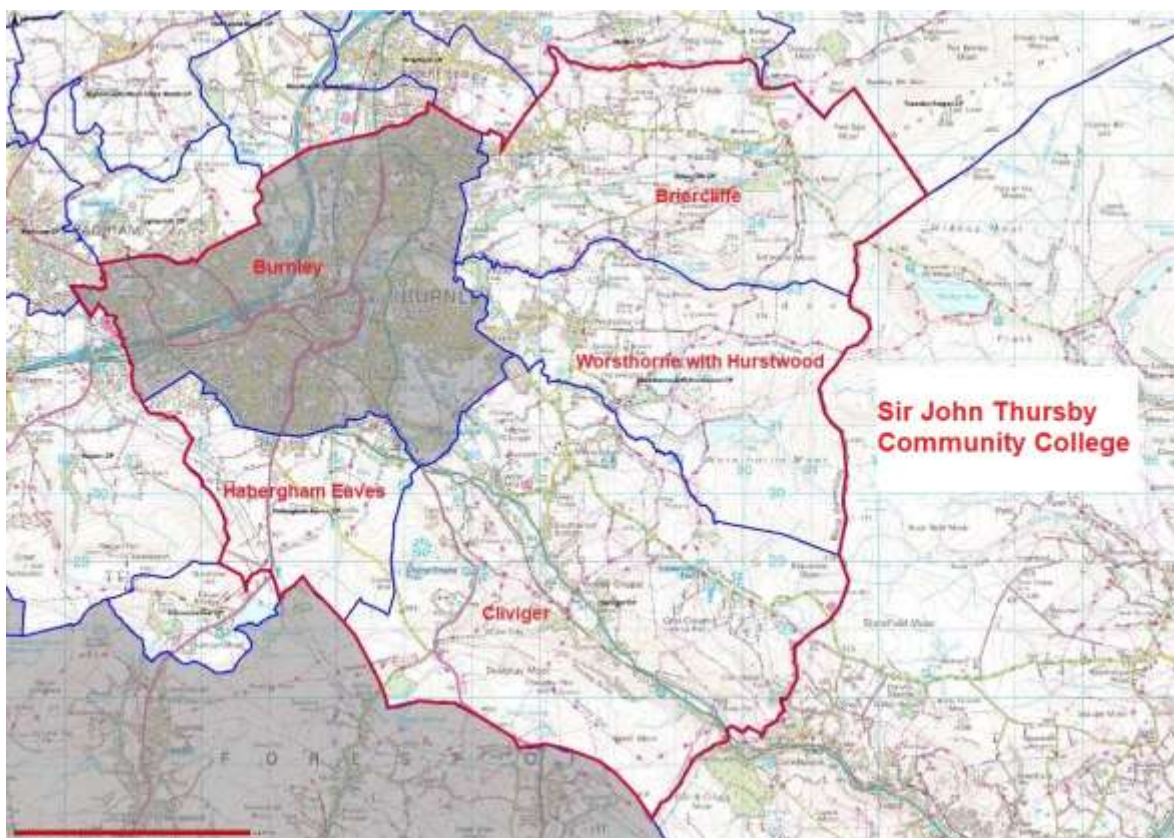
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<sup>[1]</sup> A 'looked after child' is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

<sup>[2]</sup> Under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. See section 46 (adoption orders).

<sup>[3]</sup> Under the terms of the Children Act 1989. See section 8 which defines a 'residence order' as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

<sup>[4]</sup> See section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).



### **Transport**

Students may be entitled to travelling expenses to this school provided they reside three miles or more from the school, measured by the shortest walking route. If you are in doubt over the distance between your home and school, please check with the Area Education Office:

### **Admission Times**

Students new to the area will be admitted during term time at the earliest convenience. Students moving from other schools within the Burnley Learning Partnership will be admitted at the beginning of the new academic term.

### **In Year Admissions**

If you would like to apply for a place at Sir John Thursby (in year admissions only) you will need to contact school to complete our admission enquiry form. If a place becomes available and your child is priority on the waiting list, we will contact you. Students on the waiting list will be prioritised in accordance to the criteria stated in this policy. Please note that the date an admission enquiry is received does not prioritise a place on the waiting list.

### **Related Documentation**

- LCC Admissions Policy.
- Hard to Place and Managed Moves Protocol.

This policy will be reviewed annually in the autumn term.