



DETERMINED CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2027/28

Date effective from	February 2026
Date approved by Trustees	February 2026
Policy Prepared by	Mrs T Jones, AVP, Director of Business and Finance

Admission Application 2027/28

LOSTOCK HALL ACADEMY DETERMINED CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS – 2027/28 Published Admission Number (PAN) 155 students

The criteria to be used to allocate places when the Academy is oversubscribed are:

1. Looked after children or a child who was previously looked after, but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangement order, or special guardianship order or those children who appear to the Academy to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted; then
2. Children for whom the Trustees accept, based on the written opinion of professional experts that there are exceptional medical, social or welfare reasons associated with the child or family that are directly relevant to Lostock Hall Academy; then
3. Children of staff who are employed by Lostock Hall Academy on either a full or part time basis when:
 - a) the member of staff has been employed by Lostock Hall Academy for 2 years or more
 - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
4. Children with older brothers or sisters (including adopted and fostered siblings, step siblings and those living as siblings in the same family unit) attending the Academy at the date of the younger child's admission.
5. Higher priority will be given to the children living within the District Council wards of Coupe Green and Gregson Lane that lie within the geographical priority area (super GPA) up to a maximum of 15 students.
6. Children living within the Academy's geographical priority area (GPA) (see note (i) below).
7. Children living outside the Academy's geographical priority area (see note (i) below).

If there are more children in any of the individual categories than there are places remaining, then those children who live nearest to the Academy by a straight line (radial) measure will have priority. The distance is measured using a geographical information system and the measurement is taken from the centre point of the Academy to the centre point of the home (see note (i) below).

If the Trustees are unable to distinguish between applicants using the published criteria places will be offered via a random draw.

NOTES

(i) RESIDENCE

A child's permanent address is the one where they normally live, sleep and go to school from. Where a child lives with one parent 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, including after admission.

(ii) LATE APPLICATIONS

Applications for places at the Academy that are received late will not necessarily be dealt with at the same time as those received by the set deadline. The reasons for the 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 has been completed.

(iii) **WAITING LIST**

Our Waiting List is compiled in accordance with our Admissions Criteria. Parents of children who are not admitted can request to have their names placed on the waiting list. This waiting list will operate to 31 December before being abolished.

(iv) **TWINS, TRIPLETS AND MULTIPLE BIRTHS**

Where there are twins, triplets or other multiple-birth children applying for admission and there is only one place available within the PAN, the Trustees and Local Authority will apply flexibility and offer places to all the children and in these circumstances, the PAN will be exceeded.

(v) **IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS**

In-year admission is the process of applying for a school place during the school year. Any applications for the intake made after the start of the autumn term will be treated as an in-year application. The in-year admission process is managed by the Academy. Parents are required to complete the in-year application form, which is available upon request.

Where a place cannot be secured, parents will be offered a legal right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Lancashire County Council administers the appeals process on behalf of the Academy. Parents can complete the appeal form that is available on request from the academy. All enquiries should be directed to: admin@lostockhallacademy.org

(vi) **ADMISSION OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP**

Parents may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal chronological age. Such requests may arise where a child is gifted and talented, has experienced ill health, was born prematurely, or where other exceptional circumstances apply.

All requests will be considered on an individual, case-by-case basis by the Trustees and will be determined strictly in the best interests of the child. In reaching a decision, the Academy will take into account:

- parental views;
- information relating to the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- medical history, where relevant;
- any previous education outside the child's normal age group;
- whether the child was born prematurely.

Parents will be notified in writing of the decision and the reasons for it.

Where a request is agreed and the child is permitted to apply for admission to a year group outside their normal age group:

- the application will be processed strictly in accordance with the Academy's determined admission arrangements;
- the oversubscription criteria will be applied in full and in exactly the same way as for all other applicants;
- agreeing to consider an application outside the normal age group does not guarantee the offer of a place;
- no priority or advantage will be given as a result of a child being educated outside their normal age group; and
- applications will not be given lower priority solely on this basis.

Parents have the right of appeal against the refusal of a school place, but there is no right of appeal where a place is offered in a different year group.

Where a child has been educated out of cohort in primary school, including summer-born children who started Reception later than usual:

- an out of cohort application must be made at the normal point of transfer to secondary school;
- the application will normally be made while the child is in Year 5 rather than Year 6;
- parents must complete **both**:
 - an online application for a place in Year 7; and
 - the form Application for a Lancashire secondary school place for children placed out of cohort in primary school

Failure to submit both applications may result in the application being invalid or delayed.

(vii) **APPEALS PROCESS**

The Academy will follow the School Admission Appeals Code and the Admission Code, ensuring compliance with legislation and statutory guidance.

GEOGRAPHICAL PRIORITY AREA (See Appendix 1)

Starting at the point where the M6 motorway crosses the Preston boundary (River Ribble); Follow the M6 motorway south to the A675;

Follow the A675 east until the B5256 (Sandy Lane);

Follow Sandy Lane until it meets Marsh Lane;

Follow Marsh Lane, until it crosses the M65 motorway;

Follow the M65 motorway heading west, until meeting the M6 motorway;

Follow the M6 motorway south until it crosses Lydiate Lane;

Follow Lydiate Lane in a clockwise direction until it meets Stanifield Lane;

Follow Stanifield Lane in an anticlockwise direction until you meet Centurion Way;

Follow Centurion Way, until you meet Wheelton Lane;

Follow Wheelton Lane as far as the Farington Parish Boundary;

Follow the Farington Parish boundary in a clockwise direction, as far as Penwortham Way;

Follow Penwortham Way in an anticlockwise direction until the end of the Southbound/Eastbound layby.

Follow the footpath from the layby to the end of Bee Lane;

Follow Bee Lane in a clockwise direction until it meets the train line;

Follow the train line until it meets the River Ribble;

Follow the River back to the start point.

TRANSPORT

For students from non-low-income families (Note A) Lancashire County Council has a statutory duty to meet the cost of travel for those students who reside three miles or more (measured by the shortest walking route) from the Academy and where an admission to a closer school is not available. For students from low-income families travel costs will additionally be paid by Lancashire County Council if our Academy is one of the three nearest schools to your home and the distance is between two and six miles. If you are in doubt over the distance between your home and the Academy or your entitlement to travelling expenses, please email the transport team at Lancashire County Council - School.TransportSouth@lancashire.gov.uk. This allowance is the sole responsibility of Lancashire County Council and may be subject to change by them. In respect of home to school journeys, the Academy is not liable to make any payments for travelling expenses or to provide transport.

NOTE A

Low-income families are deemed to be those families receiving the maximum amount of working tax credit or the children are eligible for free school meals.

ADMISSION INFORMATION

For admissions information, please refer to www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools.

Please note that the closing date for applications to Lancashire County Council Admissions, for a September 2027 start is **31st October 2026** and offers will be made on **1st March 2027**.

The Lancashire County Council application form is available by following this link - [LCC School Admissions Application](#).

APPENDIX 1

Lostock Hall Academy GPA

