



Appendix 2: Changes to Priority Order

MIDLOTHIAN COUNCIL
CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIPS
PROPOSED REVISED SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY

Placing in Schools - Primary, Secondary and Special

Catchment areas have been designated for all Midlothian primary and secondary schools. Every residential address has a catchment denominational school and a catchment non-denominational school for both primary and secondary education. The parents/carers of all children known to the Council to be due to enrol for the first time in a primary school or transfer from a primary to a secondary school shall be given information about their catchment school options and notified of their right to request an alternative school.

For all other stages, the onus is on the parent/carer to make enquiries regarding alternative school placement for their child(ren). A parent/carer may submit a placing request for their child in a school at any stage

With the fastest growing population of any local authority in Scotland, Midlothian Council continues to prepare to meet future demand in education. As a result, current school catchment areas may change during this period of growth. For information on open or completed school catchment area reviews, please visit the Council's website at www.midlothian.gov.uk/consultations.

Variation 1 - Enrolment of catchment children.

The Pupil Placement Team will collate the registration information for each school. This will be used to determine whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate all catchment children and all children (catchment and non-catchment) who have been offered a place at a school's Complex Needs Provision by the Education Resource Group (ERG).

Where there is insufficient capacity, priority will be given in the following order:

Non-denominational schools

1. Children who have been offered a place in the school's Complex Needs Provision class by the Education Resource Group (ERG).
2. Catchment children who have been prioritised based on exceptional circumstances.
3. Catchment children who will have siblings attending the school at the same time.
4. Remaining catchment children
5. Out of catchment placing requests.
6. Out of authority placing requests.

Denominational schools

1. Children who have been offered a place in the school's Complex Needs Provision class by the Education Resource Group (ERG)
2. Catchment children who have been prioritised based on exceptional circumstances.
3. Catchment children who are baptised in the Roman Catholic faith and will have siblings attending the school at the same time.
4. Catchment children who are baptised in the Roman Catholic faith
5. Catchment children, who are not baptised in the Roman Catholic faith and will have siblings attending the school at the same time.
6. Remaining catchment children.
7. Out of catchment placing requests.
8. Out of authority placing requests.

If there are more children than places available in any priority group, proximity of home to school will normally be used, measured using an online mapping tool. A sibling attending ELC at the same time will not be taken into account.

Variation 2 - Allocation of Catchment Secondary School Places

The Pupil Placement Team will collate the registration information for each school. This will be used to determine whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate all catchment children and all children (catchment and non-catchment) who have been offered a place at a school's Complex Needs Provision by the Education Resource Group (ERG).

Where there is insufficient capacity, priority will be given in the following order:

Non-denominational schools

1. Children who have been offered a place in the school's Complex Needs Provision class by the Education Resource Group (ERG)
2. Catchment children who have been prioritised based on exceptional circumstances.
3. Catchment children who will have siblings attending the school at the same time.
4. Remaining catchment children.
5. Out of catchment placing requests.
6. Out of authority placing requests.

Denominational schools

1. Children who have been offered a place in the school's Complex Needs Provision class by the Education Resource Group (ERG)
2. Catchment children who have been prioritised based on exceptional circumstances.
3. Catchment children who are baptised in the Roman Catholic faith and will have siblings attending the school at the same time.
4. Catchment children who are baptised in the Roman Catholic faith
5. Catchment children who are not baptised in the Roman Catholic faith and will have siblings attending the school at the same time.
6. Remaining catchment children.
7. Out of catchment placing requests.
8. Out of authority placing requests.

If there are more children than places available in any priority group, proximity of home to school will normally be used, measured using an online mapping tool. A sibling attending ELC at the same time will not be taken into account.

Variation 3 - Restriction or limitation of places.

The Council will give the highest priority to children living in the catchment area of a school. Places remaining after catchment children are enrolled will be available for non-catchment children.

Placing Requests

Non-catchment placing requests will be granted only if there are places available after all catchment children are accommodated and reserved places retained within the agreed intake limit.

Additional classes will not be created for non-catchment children.

Non-denominational Schools

1. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area and have been prioritised based on exceptional circumstances;
2. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area who will have siblings attending the school at the same time. A sibling attending the nursery class will not be taken into account;
3. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area.
4. Children who are resident outside the Midlothian Council area who will have siblings attending the school at the same time. A sibling attending the nursery class will not be taken into account;
5. Then all other applicants.

Denominational Schools

1. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area and have been prioritised based on exceptional circumstances;
2. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area, are baptised Roman Catholic and who will have siblings attending the school at the same time. A sibling attending the nursery class will not be taken into account;
3. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area, are baptised Roman Catholic, who will not have siblings attending the school at the same time.
4. Children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area, are not baptised Roman Catholic, who will have siblings attending the school at the same time. A sibling attending the nursery class will not be taken into account;
5. All other children who are resident in the Midlothian Council area.
6. Children who are resident outside Midlothian, are baptised Roman Catholic, who will have siblings attending the school at the same time. A sibling attending the nursery class will not be taken into account.
7. Children who are resident outside Midlothian and are baptised Roman Catholic.
8. Children who are resident outside the Midlothian Council area, are not baptised Roman Catholic, who will have siblings attending the school at the same time. A sibling attending the nursery class will not be taken into account.
9. Then all other applicants.

Other relevant factors that may be taken into account

Where a family moves out of the Midlothian Council area before the start of the school

year we reserve the right to withdraw a school place in a Midlothian school.

Parents who have made successful placing requests for their children at other schools of their choice have to make their own transport arrangements and meet the costs thereof.

Any pupil who attends a primary school other than the one proposed by the Authority (i.e. as the result of a placing request) and who is due to transfer to a secondary school will be offered a place at the secondary school in whose catchment area they live.

