



Admission Criteria for Thornhill Academy (2025/26)

- 1. A 'Looked-after' child who was previously looked after, but immediately after becoming looked after became subject to an adoption, residency/child arrangement or special guardianship order.**

A child that is looked-after by a Local authority in accordance with Section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989 and a child who was looked-after, but ceased to be so, because of adoption (or became subject to a child arrangements order, residence order or special guardianship order).

- A 'Looked-after' child who appears to the Admissions Authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as result of being adopted.**

A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

- 2. Attendance in Key Stage 2 (age 7-10+) at a designated cluster junior or primary school**
- 3. A sibling link.**

An older brother/sister or older child (including adoptive, foster or stepchildren) that shares the same parent/carer and lives at the same address, who will still be attending the preferred school at the time of admission.

- 4. Exceptional medical or psychological reasons.**

(A medical or psychological report, prepared by a professional, must be included, to confirm information that you submit in this section. This report should explain why only this school can meet your child's medical or psychological needs. Common childhood medical conditions such as asthma or giving a child's nervousness at starting a new school are unlikely to be accepted as exceptional). If you intend to use this criterion when expressing a preference, please contact the School Admissions Team before completing the application form. (Eligibility under this category will be considered by a meeting of Senior Local Authority Officers.

- 5. Pupils for whom preferences are expressed on grounds other than those outlined above.**

Notes

At the first stage of allocations there will be no distinction between 1st, 2nd, 3rd preference applications. Therefore, all applications will be considered equally against the admission criteria. If a pupil then qualifies for a place at more than one school, the parent's highest ranked preference will be offered, and any lower ranking offers will be disregarded.

In determining allocations, priority will be given to those applications where the parental preference is received by the publishing deadline date.

Where it is not possible to offer at a school, the child will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list is sorted using the admissions criteria and will be held until the 31st December, after the children start in Year 7, in September.

Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right to appeal. Further details of the appeals process will be included with the notification letter but are also available from the School Admissions Team.

Where a pupil has an Education, health and Care Plan need naming a school, a place will be offered at that school (subject to confirmation by the SEN Unit).