



Iqra VA Primary School

Admissions Policy

2016-2017

Iqra School is a voluntary aided school in the borough of Lambeth. It is in the trusteeship of the Brixton Mosque. The school is conducted by its Governing Body as part of the local mosque in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government.

At a Muslim school, Quran doctrine and practice permeates every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Islamic character of the school's education is fully supported by all families in the school.

The school exists primarily to serve the Muslim community. However, the Governing Body welcomes applications, subject to the availability of places, from those of other denominations and faiths who support the religious ethos of the school. The Governors of Iqra Primary School wish to continue to attract pupils whose parents wish them to attend a primary school with an Islamic ethos. They are keen to ensure that children of non Islamic faith also have an opportunity to attend the school and therefore have agreed to make 15% of places available to this category.

The Governing Body has responsibility for admissions to this school and, having consulted with the local authority and other admissions authorities, intends to admit 30 pupils to the Reception class in the school year which begins in September as follows:

Category A: Faith Places

26 places will be allocated to children of Muslim families*

Category B: Open Places

4 places will be allocated to children of non-Muslim families whose parents desire them to be educated in a school with an Islamic ethos.

Oversubscription criteria

If there are more applications than places in category A or B above, places will be offered in order of the following criteria:

- i. Looked after children
(A 'Looked After Child' is a child who is in the care of the local authority or is provided with accommodation by the authority – according to the Children's Act 1989. All applications under this criteria must be supported by a letter from the local authority)

- ii. Brother or sister already attending **Iqra VA School**
(*A Sibling must be in attendance in the Iqra VA School at the time of admission*)
- iii. Children with Specific needs.
(*Children with a professionally supported medical or social need, whose application identifies Iqra School as being uniquely able to meet their needs*)
Decisions made within this particular criterion will be ratified by the Trustee's Medical/Social Panel.
- iv. Address closest to the school
(*Priority will be given on the basis of distance between the child's home address and the school. The school will use Multi-map to determine the safest walking distance to Iqra School*) The method of measurement will incorporate guidelines within the Local Authorities Safeguarding Children Policy.

Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the categories listed above would lead to oversubscription, the following provisions will be applied:

1. For categories 2 and 3 above, the strength of evidence of the family's Islamic commitment will increase the priority of an application within each category. This evidence must be provided by the parents and can be endorsed by their local Imam or Secretary of their local Mosque.
2. The attendance of a sibling at the school at the time of admission will increase the priority of an application within each category.
3. The Governing Body may increase the priority of an application within a category where evidence is provided at the time of application of an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need of the child which makes the school uniquely suitable for the child in question.
4. In the event of an "Equality of distance" for more than one application for one available space the Trustee's/Governing Body will use the fairest method of selection to all concerned.

Admissions Procedure

To apply for a Reception Class place at this school, you must complete and return two separate forms.

1. The **Common Application Form** available from the Local Authority should be returned to them.
2. The **Supplementary Information** available from the school, must be completed and returned to the school.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application by a common offer date specified by the local authority. This will initially be by letter from the local authority on behalf of the school. If you are unsuccessful (unless your child gained a place at a school you ranked higher on your Common Application Form) you may ask the school for the reasons, related to the oversubscription criteria listed above, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

To apply for a place in Year 1 to Year 6 Class at this school, you must complete and return the school's application form.

3. The **Main school application form** along with evidence as requested.
4. **The Supplementary Information Form** available from the school along with a letter of recommendation from the **Imam or Secretary of their local Mosque**. The letter from the Mosque is only required if there is an over-subscription for the year group requested.

Right of Appeal

If a place at the school is not offered, parents have the right of appeal to our Governors' Appeal panel set up according to the School Admission Appeals Code of Practice. Parents are advised to put their appeal in writing to the Governors.

Details of the procedure will be supplied to such parents by the Clerk to the Governors.

Notes:

- (i) Any unfilled Open Places will become additional Faith places.
- (ii) **For Reception places** - All Applicants must list Iqra School on the Lambeth CYPS Common Application Form.
- (iii) This policy is subject to any changes as seen fit by the Trustee's or Governing Body.