

DETERMINATION

Case reference: ADA/2300

Objector: Nottingham City Council

Admission Authority: The Governing Body of The West Bridgford School, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire

Date of decision: 19 July 2012

Determination

In accordance with section 88H (4) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (the Act) I uphold the objection to the oversubscription sub-criterion which refers to the period of time a pupil has attended a linked primary school which forms part of the admission arrangements determined by the Governors of The West Bridgford School. This sub-criterion should be removed from the oversubscription criteria.

I have also used my power under section 88I (5) of the Act to consider the admission arrangements as a whole and determine that they do not comply with the School Admissions Code. They do not include a clear statement that all children whose statement of special educational needs (SEN) names the school will be admitted. Also, they do not clearly indicate that looked after, or previously looked after, status must be the first oversubscription criterion.

By virtue of section 88K (2) the adjudicator's decision is binding on the admission authority. The School Admissions Code requires the admission authority to revise its admission arrangements as quickly as possible.

The referral

1. An objection has been referred to the adjudicator by Nottingham City Council (the objector) about the admission arrangements for The West Bridgford School (the school), an Academy, for September 2013. The objection is based on the decision taken by the school's governing body to include an oversubscription sub-criterion which refers to the continuous length of time a pupil has been on the roll of a linked primary school. This sub-criterion gives priority to those children who have been on the roll of the relevant school for the longest period of time.

Jurisdiction

2. The terms of the Academy agreement between the proprietor and the

Secretary of State for Education require that the admissions policy and arrangements for the Academy School are in accordance with admissions law as it applies to maintained schools. These arrangements were determined by the proprietor, which is the admission authority for the Academy school, on that basis on 19 March 2012. The objector submitted its objection to these determined arrangements on 21 June 2012. I am satisfied the objection has been properly referred to me in accordance with section 88H of the Act and that it is within my jurisdiction.

3. In addition to investigating the matters raised by the objector I have also used my power under section 88I (5) of the Act to review the admission arrangements as a whole and considered whether they comply with the School Admissions Code (the Code).

Procedure

4. In coming to my conclusions, I have had full regard to all relevant legislation and the Code.

5. The documents I have considered in reaching my decision include:

- the objection form submitted by the objector council dated 21 June 2012;
- letters from the objector to the school dated 20 January 2012 and 8 May 2012;
- letters from the headteacher of the school to the objector dated 24 January 2012 and 11 May 2012;
- the school's agreed admission arrangements for 2013-14;
- Nottinghamshire County Council's (the council) composite prospectus's for admissions to secondary schools for September 2011 and 2012;
- an email from the council dated 4 July 2012 with attachments providing a range of relevant data;
- minutes of the Nottinghamshire Schools Joint Admissions Forum of 5 December 2011 and 26 March 2012;
- minutes of the meeting of the school's governing body on 19 March 2012;
- an email exchange between the school and the council concerning the consultation on the proposed admission arrangements on various dates in November and December 2011;
- maps provided by the objector;
- an email response to the objection from the school's headteacher dated 6 July 2012 which includes a range of background data; and,
- the most recent Ofsted inspection reports on the work of the school.

The Objection

6. This objection is to two of the school's oversubscription criteria (criteria 1.0 and 4.0) which both include a reference to priority being given to applicants according to *"the continuous length of time on the roll of the linked school with preference given to those having the longest time on roll."* I later refer to time on roll as a sub-criterion. Extracts from the school's oversubscription criteria are included at appendix 1. While the objector does not refer to any specific breach of the Code, it believes this element of the relevant oversubscription criteria *"could unfairly discriminate against pupils and families who have recently moved into the area and are seeking a place at their local secondary school."*

Background

7. Although the school, a co-educational academy school catering for pupils aged 11-18 in the West Bridgford area, is within two miles of the centre of Nottingham City, it lies within the administrative area of Nottinghamshire County Council. It has specialisms in mathematics, science and design technology and became an academy on 1 April 2011. The Ofsted inspection report of May 2007 described the area served by the school as *"a mixed but largely advantaged catchment area."* The school's funding agreement with the Department for Education (DfE) does not set out any specific admission arrangements, instead requiring the school's governing body to determine its own admission arrangements in line with the requirements of the Code.

8. The school has a current Year 7 admission number of 226 and is oversubscribed. Council data shows that the school received 352, 372 and 358 first preferences in 2012, 2011 and 2010 respectively. The school has determined a reduced Year 7 admission number of 210 for the 2013/14 academic year. This change was included in the overall consultation on the school's admission arrangement and follows a reassessment of the school's net capacity triggered by the decommissioning of temporary classrooms. This assessment was undertaken by the council using their standard methodology in December 2011. The new capacity assessment shows an indicated admission number of 203. The school reports that no objections were received to the decrease in admission number and it does not form part of the objection.

9. In a letter to the objector dated 11 May 2012 the school's headteacher stated that there has been an increase in the number of primary aged pupils who live in the area and that, as a result, *"we will not have the capacity to offer all of the parents who live in our catchment area a place in the next few years unless we are able to expand."* The school has a catchment area which is made up of the aggregated catchment areas of four named linked schools, Greythorn Primary School, Heymann Primary School, Jesse Gray Primary School and West Bridgford Junior School. All four are within a mile of the school. The school regards these linked schools as part of their family of

schools and states that they have “*always prioritised these schools in our admission arrangements.*”

10. The school has made significant changes to its admission arrangements for September 2013. (See appendices 1 and 2) It undertook the necessary consultation exercise and the objector responded by letter on 20 January 2012 when it first raised the issue of the inclusion of a reference to continuous time on the roll of a linked school in the oversubscription criteria. In a reply dated 24 January 2012 the school’s headteacher stated that the governing body would consider this matter although the determined arrangements did not incorporate any related changes.

11. The objector wrote to the school again on 8 May 2012. This time it reiterated its earlier point concerning the time on roll issue whilst making an additional point about the absence of any reference to the rights of children with statements of special educational needs (SEN) which name the school, a reference which had been included in the school’s arrangements for 2012/13. The school’s headteacher replied on 11 May 2012 but the letter did not address the SEN related point raised by the council. This issue is not referred to in the council’s objection.

The Response of the School

12. The school believes that it has met all the requirements of the Code and that it took all relevant factors into account in determining its admission arrangements.

13. The school previously used distance from the school to rank applications within particular oversubscription criteria. As the number of primary aged pupils in the catchment area has increased it believes that the use of distance could “*disadvantage the parents in one of our family of schools (West Bridgford Junior School) in a disproportionate manner*” and that these parents may well “*not secure a place with us.*” The school states “*we have always prioritised these schools in our admission arrangements*” and that the changes they have made are designed to enable them to continue to do so. The school notes that the linked primary schools all support the changes to the school’s admission arrangements. The support of West Bridgford Junior School for the new time on roll sub-criterion was restated in a letter dated 29 June 2012 to me from that school’s headteacher.

14. The school contends that “*there has been a significant increase in the number of children living in our catchment area who are of primary school age*” leading to an increased demand for secondary school places within its catchment area. This means that it will not be able to offer all the parents who live in the catchment area a place for their child “*in the next few years*” unless the school is able to expand. This is made more acute by the school’s decision to reduce its admission number from 236 to 210 from September 2013. The school’s demand analysis is based on the council’s data (dated

December 2011) which projects that demand for places at the school will increase to 261 by 2018/19. I also note that the catchment areas have not been reviewed for at least eight years.

15. The school further contends that:

(i) without the reference to time on roll, a parent could “*parachute*” into a linked primary school at the time the common application form is submitted and that their child could potentially gain priority over a child who had attended a linked school for a longer period of time but who lives a relatively long distance from the school; and,

(ii) “*a number of parents rent accommodation in our catchment area on a short term lease at the time of the deadline for the common application form in order to secure a place with us.*”

16. The school believes both of these practices are common and that the time on roll sub-criterion will give priority to “*genuine families who have resided in our catchment area for a number of years.*” By introducing the time on roll sub-criterion the school believes it can “*keep families and friends together and build on the curricular and pastoral links we have made with our feeder schools*” and that this reflects its primary focus of serving its local community. The school concludes that using time on roll rather than distance is fairer as it is “*less prejudicial to local residents.*”

The Response of the Objector

17. The objector set out its position in the objection form dated 21 June 2012. While it did not identify any breach of a specific requirement of the Code it believes that reference to continuous time on the roll of a linked primary school “*could unfairly discriminate against pupils and families who have recently moved into the area and are seeking a place at their local secondary school.*”

18. The objector asked the school to remove reference to continuous time on roll from its oversubscription criteria and to replace it with pupils on roll of a linked primary school on the day of the common application form deadline. The objector accepts that, as the school is not located within its boundaries, it does not have the data necessary to model the impact of the changed arrangements.

19. The objector’s concerns were shared with the Nottingham City Admission Forum at its meeting on 11 June 2012 and the Forum recommended that the Nottingham City Council should submit an objection to the adjudicator.

The Response of the Council

20. In an email dated 4 July 2012 the council states that it does not have an objection to the school's admission arrangements and that it *"respects the role of governors in outstanding schools to make decisions based on the best interests of their communities and the families they support."*

21. The council recognises the pressure on school places in the West Bridgford area and this matter has been discussed at meetings of the Nottinghamshire Joint School Admissions Forum on 5 December 2011 and 26 March 2012. The minutes of the December meeting record that *"A detailed review of school capacity issues in the West Bridgford area was taking place, including catchment areas and admissions criteria."* The minutes of the March meeting record that *"Support would be offered to West Bridgford Academy and Rushcliffe to look at their future needs. The possibility of a review of catchment areas within West Bridgford was still under consideration."* The minutes of a Forum meeting held on 25 June 2012 were not available at the time of this determination.

22. During the statutory consultation period, the council commented on the school's proposed admission arrangements in an undated letter to the school from the council's access and admissions strategy lead officer. This letter included a statement that the inclusion of the time on roll of a linked primary school sub-criterion *"would unfairly discriminate against pupils and families who have recently moved into the area."* In a letter to the Adjudicator dated 4 July 2012 the corporate director for children, families and cultural services states that he sought the advice the council's solicitor on this matter and, having considered that advice, decided to *"monitor the situation"* rather than to object to this sub-criterion as the solicitor had been unable to identify any breach of the Code.

Consideration

23. The objector states that it does not believe there has been a breach of any specific requirement of the Code but that the new arrangements could be unfair to pupils and families who have recently moved into the area and are seeking a place at their nearest school.

24. Paragraphs 1.42 to 1.45 of the Code set out certain requirements relating to consultation on proposed admission arrangements. The evidence from the council and the school shows that the school's consultation exercise met these requirements.

25. Paragraph 1.15 of the Code permits the use of feeder schools (or linked schools as they are locally known) in oversubscription criteria as long as their selection is transparent and made on reasonable grounds. The relationship with the school's four linked primary schools is clearly stated, well established and widely known and all four are within a short distance of the

school. The school states that well established curriculum and pastoral links are in place with these schools. The evidence suggests that the selection of the four linked schools is based on reasonable grounds.

26. Paragraph 1.14 of the Code permits the use of a catchment area in oversubscription criteria providing such an area is reasonable and clearly defined. In this case, the school's catchment area is the aggregate of the catchment areas of the four linked schools and the school provides a list of all the streets within the catchment area. This is a well-defined area immediately around the school. Its definition is entirely reasonable.

27. I have therefore considered this case against the requirements set in paragraph 14 of the Code which states, "*In drawing up their admission arrangements, admission authorities **must** ensure that the practices and criteria used to decide the allocation of places are fair, clear and objective. Parents should be able to look at a set of criteria and understand easily how places for that school will be allocated*" and paragraph 1.8 which says, "*Oversubscription criteria must be reasonable, clear, objective, procedurally fair, and comply with all relevant legislation, including equalities legislation.....*"

28. The oversubscription criteria are straightforward to understand and clearly stated. All the sub-criteria are subject to either measurement (length of time on roll (although see below re definition), technological aptitude and distance) or proof (place of residence, sibling, attendance at a linked school). I therefore conclude that the oversubscription criteria are objective. I will now consider the degree to which they are fair.

The Changes to the Oversubscription Criteria

29. Appendices 1 and 2 set out extracts from the school's oversubscription criteria for 2012/13 and 2013/14 respectively. After meeting the Code's requirements in relation to looked after children, the first priority oversubscription criterion for 2012/13 has become the second priority criterion for 2013/13, being replaced by a new first criterion which requires both residence in the catchment area and attendance at a linked primary school. Priority within the new first criterion will be determined initially by whether the applicant has a sibling at the school and then according to length of time on the roll of a linked primary school. In 2012/13, straight line distance from the school was used for this purpose, rather than length of time on roll. A similar approach is applied to pupils living outside the catchment area (criterion 3 in 2012/13 which became criterion 4 in 2013/14).

30. At this time, it is impossible to be precise about the number of potential applicants who will be disadvantaged by the new criteria although it would be reasonable to conclude that the groups most likely to be so disadvantaged are those living in the catchment area whose child does not attend a linked school, those whose child attends a linked school but who live outside the

catchment area, and those moving into the catchment area towards the end of Key Stage 2. The applicants who are likely to benefit are those living in the catchment area and whose children have attended a linked primary school for several years, but who live a relatively far from the school.

31. The school has also changed the criteria relating to aptitude for technology. In 2012/13, this criterion applied only to applicants from outside the catchment area whilst in 2013/13 it applies to any pupil. This change will potentially benefit pupils who live within the catchment area.

The Pattern of Demand for Places

32. The numbers on roll (as at January 2012) at the school's four linked primary schools are shown below.

School	Admission Number	R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Greythorn	45	42	45	43	45	41	46	43
Heymann	50	44	53	53	49	60	59	54
Jesse Gray	90 in 2011/12 60 in previous years	88	60	58	85	59	61	60
West Bridgford Junior	80				81	79	76	83
TOTAL	235				260	239	242	240

33. This data shows that all four schools are operating at, or very close to, their admission number. This data, coupled with the school's decreased admission number of 210, indicates that the school will remain oversubscribed for the foreseeable future with the result that the oversubscription criteria will be applied. This will almost certainly result in many pupils who have attended the linked schools for several years not being offered a place at the school. This shows how difficult it is for the school to achieve its stated objectives by the introduction of the time on roll sub-criterion.

34. The school states that demand from within its catchment area is inflated because pupils are being "parachuted" into the later year groups of the feeder primary schools. It presents the following unvalidated data to support this assertion.

Greythorn Primary

Leaving Year	Additional children arriving in Year 4	Additional children arriving in Year 5	Additional children arriving in Year 6
2012	4	1	1
2011	1	2	3
2010	0	0	5

Heymann Primary

Leaving Year	Additional children arriving in Year 4	Additional children arriving in Year 5	Additional children arriving in Year 6
2012	6	2	1
2011	3	2	5
2010	5	5	5

Jesse Grey Primary

Leaving Year	Additional children arriving in Year 4	Additional children arriving in Year 5	Additional children arriving in Year 6
2012	3	2	2
2011	1	4	1
2010	0	2	1

West Bridgford Juniors

Leaving Year	Additional children arriving in Year 4	Additional children arriving in Year 5	Additional children arriving in Year 6
2012	2	2	3
2011	Not Available	Not available	Not available
2010	6	3	0

35. If the school's concerns about parachuting in are well founded, this should be apparent in the data for new arrivals into Years 5 and 6. The above data shows that a total of seven pupils entered the four schools during Year 6 in 2011/12, at least nine in 2010/11 and 11 in 2009/10. For Year 5 the equivalent numbers are seven for 2011/12, at least seven for 2010/11 and 10 for 2009/10. Out of a combined year group roll of some 240, the new arrivals represent a maximum of 4.5 percent of a year group's total roll. These figures do not suggest, without further analysis of the circumstances of the individual pupils and their families, that there is any unusually high turbulence in Year 5 and 6 rolls at the feeder primary schools when compared, in my experience, with other schools. I am therefore not persuaded that the number of pupils the school believes to be parachuting in is any more than might be expected from normal demographic changes in a similar area elsewhere in the country.

36. The council has supplied data about admissions to the school in recent years. This shows that whilst the overall demand for places at the school is relatively stable, demand from within the school's catchment area has increased from 202 in 2010 to 223 in 2011 and 2012. Despite this increase, the same data shows that 90 per cent of pupils living in the catchment area who stated the school as their first preference obtained a place in Year 7, a figure which is higher than in the two previous years (84 per cent in 2010 and 89 per cent in 2011). The number of pupils living in the school's catchment area who did not obtain their preferred choice of a place at the school was five in 2010, 13 in 2011, and ten in 2012. In contrast only 10 per cent of applicants (24 pupils) who lived outside the catchment area obtained a place at the school. These places are likely to have been awarded to pupils who either demonstrated an aptitude for technology or attended a linked primary school.

37. The other non-denominational secondary school serving the area is Rushcliffe Comprehensive School (RCS) which is also oversubscribed. In September 2012, only 14 per cent of applicants who lived outside the school's catchment area obtained a place at the school. This figure shows a slight increase in recent years, being 9 per cent in 2010 and 12.5 per cent in 2011. In the case of both schools, the evidence shows that relatively few pupils who live outside their respective catchment areas obtain a place at the school. A pupil who lives in the West Bridgford area is therefore unlikely to obtain a place at the local alternative school if they fail to obtain one at the school serving the catchment area in which they live.

38. The school's main rationale for changing its oversubscription criteria is to enable it to offer places to all pupils who live in its catchment area and attend a linked primary school. There were ten such pupils who met these criteria but were not offered places in September 2012 and the school predicts, rightly, that this number will increase in subsequent years.

39. In the letter from the school's headteacher dated 11 May 2012, he states that the changes to the oversubscription criteria have been influenced

by the fact that West Bridgford Junior School “*has always complained to us regarding the use of the distance criteria as their parents are disadvantaged by virtue of their geographical location.*” I have noted that the furthest straight line distance from any residential area within the catchment area to the school is some 1.5 miles. The school believes that this group of parents will face further disadvantage if the demand for places at the school rises. The school has changed its oversubscription criteria with the aim of treating these parents more fairly. Given the fact that the school is oversubscribed, this will clearly be at the expense of other parents, although it is likely to be more difficult to ascertain who these parents are. The school itself accepts that the change from distance from home to school to time on roll is likely to have adverse consequences for established families in other parts of its catchment area, justifying this effect by stating “*no one school will be disproportionately disadvantaged.*”

40. I have noted that the number of pupils moving into the feeder primary schools in Years 5 and 6 is similar to the number of pupils who live within the catchment area and attended a feeder primary school but who did not obtain a place at the school. I have no evidence about why the individual pupils in the latter group did not obtain a place at the school but accept the local analysis that this is due to the distance of their homes from the school. However, I do not have evidence about the number of pupils who moved into the feeder primary schools during Years 5 and 6 who obtained a place at the school nor the reasons why they moved primary schools. Because of the absence of detailed data on the circumstances of individual pupils and their families, and the fact that there is no relevant historical data on which to draw, it is more difficult to identify who will and who will not benefit from the changes than the school suggests.

41. Given the primary school roll data set out above, the school’s decision to reduce its admission number and the allocation of places to pupils with an aptitude in technology, it is entirely conceivable that pupils must join a linked primary school in reception in order to obtain a place at the school under the time on roll sub-criterion. Viewed in this way, the new sub-criterion could prove unfair for all families moving into the area over a period of up to six years, a much larger number than those who the school fears are parachuting in. It is also likely to be unfair to pupils placed in a linked primary school either through the operation of the local fair access protocol or a direction.

42. The use of the time on roll sub-criterion is likely to have unclear implications for many parents. As things stand, it is clear that certain parents in the West Bridgford Junior School catchment area have a clear view that they will have difficulty accessing a place at the school. In contrast, I have seen no data which illustrates to parents how long a pupil will have needed to attend a linked school to obtain a place at the school. The time on roll sub-criterion will replace a disappointing certainty for some parents with uncertainty for many, especially in the initial years of the new arrangements. I therefore do not believe that parents will be able to look at the

oversubscription criteria and understand easily how places for the school will be allocated and that, therefore, the inclusion of the time on roll sub-criterion does not meet the requirements of paragraph 14 of the Code.

43. Furthermore, although time on roll is objective, the school does not define how it will be measured (for example, it could be related to the start of the school year of entry, the start of the term of entry or the precise date of entry) or how, and by whom, such information will be requested. It implies the use of a supplementary information form but no such form is referred to.

44. The school and the council both accept that the key issue that needs to be addressed is the mismatch between the supply and demand for secondary school places. This requires structural solutions such as the redesign of catchment areas and/or the provision of more school places. Given this context, the school's decision to reduce its admission number at this time seems at odds with its objective of serving local families. This decision has made the problem the school is seeking to solve even more acute.

45. The school has introduced the changes to its oversubscription criteria to address the needs of a particular group of parents living in the West Bridgford Junior School catchment area who have recognised that it will be increasingly difficult for their children to obtain a place at the school. In seeking to treat these families more fairly the school has introduced the time on roll sub-criterion which it believes to be fair but which I believe is likely to result in a larger number of families facing uncertainty and unfairness. The latter include families moving into the area for good reason after their child has started school; long established families who live in the catchment areas of Greythorn, Heymann and Jesse Gray Primary Schools but who live a relatively long distance from the school itself; and children who are placed at a linked school for other reasons such as through the local fair access protocol or a direction.

(iv) Other Matters

46. In its letter to the school of 8 May 2012, the objector rightly pointed out that the Code (at paragraph 1.6) states that "*All children whose statement of special educational needs (SEN) names the school must be admitted.*" A similar point was made by the council. The school's previous admission arrangements made this clear but those determined for 2013/14 do not. They must be revised so that they do so.

47. Oversubscription criterion five refers to siblings whilst criteria one, two and four refer to brother and sister. It would be clearer if the same term was used throughout the oversubscription criteria. As the Code uses the term sibling, this is the term that should be used throughout rather than brother or sister.

48. The oversubscription criteria clearly state that priority, in the first

instance, will be given to looked after, and previously looked after, children. The arrangements then go on to list further oversubscription criteria numbered 1.0 to 5.0. Paragraph 1.7 of the Code states that looked after and previously looked after children must be given the highest priority in the oversubscription criteria. To avoid any confusion and to ensure compliance with the Code, the oversubscription criteria should be renumbered so that looked after, or previously looked, after status is numbered criterion one and that the other criteria are renumbered accordingly.

Conclusion

49. For the reasons set out above I uphold the objection to the school's oversubscription criteria. I have concluded that the time on roll sub-criterion does not meet the requirements of paragraph 14 of the Code as it is unfair. This is because it is unclear how time on roll will be defined and how, and by whom, this information will be collected; because the new arrangements will therefore not enable parents to look at them and understand easily how places at the school will be allocated; and because a change designed to create more fairness for an identified group of families is likely to result in unfairness for a larger, but harder to identify, group of other families. The time on roll sub-criterion should be removed from oversubscription criteria 1.0 and 4.0.

50. There is clearly a mismatch between the demand for, and supply of, school places in the area and both the school and the council are aware of this. The school is likely to remain oversubscribed until such time as these wider considerations are addressed.

51. I have considered the new arrangements as a whole and have concluded that the arrangements must include a clear statement that all children whose statement of SEN names the school will be admitted. To avoid possible confusion, the admission arrangements should use the term sibling, rather than brother or sister, throughout and the oversubscription criteria should be renumbered so that looked after, or previously looked, after status is numbered criterion one and that the other criteria are renumbered accordingly.

Determination

52. In accordance with section 88H (4) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (the Act) I uphold the objection to the oversubscription sub-criterion which refers to the period of time a pupil has attended a linked primary school which forms part of the admission arrangements determined by the Governors of The West Bridgford School. This sub-criterion should be removed from the oversubscription criteria.

53. I have also used my power under section 88I (5) of the Act to consider the admission arrangements as a whole and determine that they do not

comply with the School Admissions Code. They do not include a clear statement that all children whose statement of special educational needs (SEN) names the school will be admitted. Also, they do not clearly indicate that looked after, or previously looked after, status must be the first oversubscription criterion.

54. By virtue of section 88K (2) the adjudicator's decision is binding on the admission authority. The School Admissions Code requires the admission authority to revise its admission arrangements as quickly as possible.

Dated: 19 July 2012

Signed:

School Adjudicator: John Simpson

Appendix 1

Oversubscription Criteria for 2012/13

Priority in the first instance is given to children in public care who are looked after at the time the application is made and who the local authority can confirm will still be looked after at the time of admission to the school.

Children with a statement of special educational needs that names West Bridgford School will be admitted.

Subsequently, where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below.

- 1.0 Children who live in the catchment area on the closing date for applications as part of the co-ordinated admissions scheme in the year preceding admission to secondary school. Places will be allocated in the first instance to children, who at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the school in years 7-11.
- 2.0 For children outside the catchment area up to 22 (10%) of places will be offered to those who can demonstrate an aptitude for Technology and could therefore benefit from the distinctive education offered by the West Bridgford School as a specialist technology school.

The parents of those students whose entry is to be based on technological aptitude will be required to present their child for the Assessment (one hour) at The West Bridgford School in the year preceding entry, details of which will be published within the school's prospectus.

- 3.0 Children who live outside the catchment area and who are attending a linked primary phase school on the closing date preceding admission to secondary school. The linked primary schools are Greythorn, Heymann, Jesse Gray and West Bridgford Junior.
- 4.0 Other children who live outside the catchment area.

Appendix 2

Oversubscription Criteria for 2013/14

Priority in the first instance is given children in public care who are looked after at the time of an application for admission is made or who the local authority can confirm has been looked after but has ceased to be so because they were adopted, or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order, immediately following being looked after.

Subsequently, where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below

- 1.0 Children who live in the catchment area and who attend a linked school at the time of the closing date for applications in the year preceding admission to secondary school. Places will be allocated in the first instance to children, who at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the West Bridgford School in years 7-11 and then subsequently according to the continuous length of time on the roll of the linked schools, with preference given to those having the longest time on roll.
- 2.0 Children who live in the catchment area at the time of the closing date for applications in the year preceding admission to secondary school. Places will be allocated in the first instance to children, who at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the school in years 7-11.
- 3.0 21 (10%) of places will be offered to those who can demonstrate an aptitude for Technology and could therefore benefit from the distinctive education offered by the West Bridgford School as a specialist technology school.

The parents of those students whose entry is to be based on technological aptitude will be required to present their child for the Assessment (one hour) at the West Bridgford School in the year preceding entry, details of which will be published within the school's prospectus.

- 4.0 Children who live outside the catchment area and who are attending a linked school on the closing date for applications in the year preceding admission to secondary school. Places will be allocated in the first instance to children, who at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the West Bridgford school in years 7-11 and then subsequently according to the continuous length of time on the roll of the linked schools with preference given to those having the longest time on roll.

5.0 All other children who do not qualify for any of the above criteria with priority given to those who live the nearest to the school. No priority is given to siblings.