



*We Learn, We Lead, We Inspire*

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Head Teacher  
Dr M Maher

# **IQRA SLOUGH ISLAMIC PRIMARY SCHOOL (ISIPS)**

## **Admissions Policy 2024/2025**

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Review Date..... 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024 ...

Approved by the Governing Body

Frequency of Review .....Annual.....

Next Review Date ..... 17<sup>th</sup> July 2025 ...



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## **Iqra Slough Islamic Primary School Admissions Policy** **School Year 2024/2025**

Our governing body applies the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 introduced a new framework for school admissions as of September 2000. This was later revised in the Education Act of 2002. Our admissions policy conforms to the regulations that are set out in that Act and are further explained in the statutory School Admissions Code of Practice and the statutory Appeals Code of Practice. These were revised in January 2003 and came into force in September 2004 which was revised in September 2021.

### **Reception Admission Arrangements**

**Published Admission Number** - The School's Published Admissions Number (PAN) agreed for admission to the Reception Year is 90. If no more than 90 applications are received for admission to the Reception Year, all applicants will be offered places.

#### **Applying for places**

Children will be admitted to the Reception Year at the beginning of the Autumn Term before their fifth birthday. Parents must apply online to the LA. Go to <https://www.slough.gov.uk/school-admissions> and follow the instructions on screen. The application must be submitted to the LA to meet the published deadline. Details of all the applications made will be submitted to the school by the LA

Admission Policy – Slough Islamic Primary School 2024/2025

Where a pupil has a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school, the school will admit the pupil whether there are places available or not. All other applicants will be allocated according to the published Admissions Policy.

### **Oversubscription criteria**

When the number of applications received is greater than the number of remaining places available (after the admission of any pupils with an EHCP naming the school), the Governors will allocate places according to the Admissions Criteria below, which will be applied in the order of priority shown, and will advise the Local Authority (LA) of the children that they propose to admit.

1. Looked after children  
Please note that adopted children must be looked after by an English or Welsh Local Authority. Places will be allocated under this criterion when places are first offered.
2. Children of staff members
3. Children from a Muslim background (up to 75% of the intake)
4. Children from a non-Muslim background (up to 25% of the intake)



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Within categories 2 & 3 applicants will be prioritised as follows:

- (a) Children who have brothers or sisters attending at the school at the time of entry.

Brothers and sisters include half-brothers and sisters and stepbrothers and sisters who share the same permanent home address on the date of their entry to Iqra Primary School; this also includes legally recognised foster or adopted brothers or sisters.

- (b) Medical

Children who have medical or social needs and whose application can be supported in writing by the relevant professional such as a social worker GP

Where professional evidence indicates that there are particular psychological, medical or social needs which the School's Learning Support Faculty agrees only Iqra Primary School has the capability of addressing or meeting and significant difficulties would arise were the applicant to attend a different school (*see Note 8*)

**Note 8**

*Evidence provided of particular psychological, medical or social needs of the applicant must explain why Iqra Primary School is the most suitable or only school capable of meeting all of their needs and the difficulties that would arise were the child to have to attend a different school. This evidence must be substantiated by at least two relevant qualified professionals who are currently providing direct care/support/treatment to the child on an ongoing basis in their professional capacity, according to the stated medical, psychological or social need e.g. a child or educational psychologist, a child psychiatrist, a general practitioner, an orthopaedic consultant or social worker. Evidence from non-specialist teachers or professionals not qualified in the relevant area would not normally be deemed admissible without compelling supplementary documentation. Supporting evidence to substantiate that the child has an exceptional medical, psychological or social need must be less than six months old and be provided at the time of application in a written format.*

- (c) Children who live in the catchment area of the school, which includes all Slough wards  
**Distance:** Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority
- (d) All other applicants



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## **Tie – breaker**

Children who live nearest from home to school will receive priority for any criteria that are oversubscribed. If the distance between home and school is the same, which includes the same geographical property reference (such as a block of flats), random allocation is used as a tie breaker.

## **In-Year Applications**

In year applications are welcome and are co-ordinated by Iqra school. Parents must apply online. Please go to: <https://iqraprimary.applicaa.com/enquiry> and follow the instructions on screen. The admissions criteria detailed in this policy remain the same for in-year admissions.

## **Waiting List**

The LA maintains a waiting list (when appropriate) for those children whose applications for a reception place have not yet been considered and for those who are not offered a place. All other waiting lists are maintained by the school. The order of priority on the waiting list is determined using the admissions criteria given above. No account will be taken of length of time on the waiting list. It is possible for a child who moves into the area later to have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list for some time.

A new waiting list will be created at the start of the new Academic School Year and parents must apply on line at the beginning of the new academic year.

## **Admission of children outside their normal age group**

To enable the school to consider if the request for admission outside the normal age group is in the best interest of the child concerned, the school will consider:

- Parent's view.
- Information about the child's academic, social and emotional development.
- Where relevant the child's medical history and views of the medical professional.
- If the child was born prematurely, what age group would the child have fallen in if the child had been born on time.
- Views of the headteacher.
- Any evidence from a health or social care professional who is involved in the care or treatment of the child, for example speech and language therapist, occupational therapist, social worker or paediatrician.

The school will make their decision based on the circumstances of each individual case and in the best interests of the child concerned. The school will inform the parents of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to and will provide the reasons for the decision.



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## **A Guide to Iqra Slough Islamic Primary School Admissions Appeals.**

### **How do I submit an appeal?**

Given the current Coronavirus epidemic Iqra school is mindful of the Department for Education's advice on how to conduct appeals. The DFE advise schools to consider virtual hearings or written representations. The Governing body of Iqra has decided to offer appellants the choice as to which option they wish to use. The DFE temporary regulations allow for appeals to be conducted in the follow manner:

- (a) appeal hearings to be conducted remotely (that is, by telephone or video conference)
- (b) appeals to be determined on the basis of written submissions only

You will need to select either option (a) or (b) above and confirm which of the options you have selected when you submit your appeal.

### **Deadline for Appeals**

**Reception Appeals:** 20 days from the "National offer date"

### **In-Year appeals (appeals outside the co-ordinated admission round)**

Appeals lodged outside the normal admission round will be heard within **30 school days**, following the receipt of the appeal form.

The clerk will acknowledge receipt of your appeal form within 15 working days.

If you do not hear anything within that time, please telephone 01753 520018, to check that the form has been received.

A copy of your appeal form will then be sent to the admission authority (Iqra School) who will prepare a statement detailing how the school's admission criteria have been applied and the reasons for not offering your child a place at your preferred school.

The admission authority also supplies to the Clerk copies of any relevant previous correspondence, including your application form, if applicable. All this information will be circulated to you and the Panel before the hearing. You can submit written material in support of your appeal up to the appeal date, although it would be helpful if you submit the material as early as possible.

You will receive 10 school days' notice of the date and time of your appeal. You will be informed of the venue and the procedure to be followed at the appeal. You will also be sent a copy of the admission authority's statement before the hearing.



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### **Who sits on an Appeal Panel?**

Panels are made up of three members. None of the Panel will have any connection with the school you are appealing for, the school that you have been allocated or will have been involved in the original allocation decision.

If one of the three panel members withdraw the panel can continue the hearing and conclude with two.

### **Who attends the appeal?**

You have a right to attend the hearing and it is very helpful if you can attend to put your case. A friend or another family member may also attend to support you or help you put your case. Legal representation is seldom required and you should be aware that the Panel is unable to pay any of your costs.

If you decide not to attend the hearing and do not request an alternative time or date, your appeal will be heard in your absence based on the written material you have submitted.

A representative from the admission authority Iqra School, sometimes supported by the school's Head teacher, attends to put the school's case.

The clerk to the Appeal Panel will be present throughout the hearing. The Clerk has no role in the decision-making process but is an independent source of advice and takes a note of proceedings.

### **What will happen at my appeal?**

Hearings should be as informal as possible but the normal procedure is as follows:

The chair will welcome you to the appeal, outline the procedure and introduce to you the other Panel Members, the admission authority's representative and the Clerk.

The admission authority's representative will begin by explaining why your child has not been offered a place at your preferred school. If you or the Panel wish to ask a question on what has been said this is the time to do so. The Chair will then ask you to put your case. You will be given as much time as you need and it is important that you tell the Panel everything that is relevant to your case. The Panel and the admission authority's representative will then ask you questions on what you have said.

The Chair will give both parties the opportunity to sum up their case before being asked to leave the room. The Panel will then discuss the appeal in private and come to a decision which will be recorded by the Clerk. Appeals are timetabled and every effort is made to keep to your appointed time. Please note that there is occasionally some delay if previous appeals have taken longer than expected.



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## How is the decision made?

### *Infant class size appeals - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2*

The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 states that there cannot be more than 30 pupils in an infant class (Reception, Year 1 or Year 2). In most cases, the admission authority will have refused to admit your child because to do so would cause a class to breach the legal limit of 30. If yours is an infant class appeal, this will be explained in the papers circulated before the hearing. If you are unsure, contact the Clerk.

It is important to note that for this type of appeal, the powers of the Appeal Panel are extremely limited and Panel Members are only allowed to consider strict criteria as set out by the Appeals Code.

An infant class appeal may only be allowed if any of the following criteria apply:

1. The admission of your child would not breach the legal limit
2. The admission criteria were not lawful
3. The admission criteria were incorrectly or impartially applied and your child would have been offered a place if they had been correctly and impartially applied.
4. The decision to refuse was not one which a reasonable admission authority would have made in the circumstances of the case.

The threshold for finding that the decision to refuse admission was not one that a reasonable authority would have made.

To find a decision 'unreasonable', the panel would consider that, given all the information available to the admission authority at the time *"no sensible person who had applied his mind to the question could have arrived at it"*.

It is only in rare cases that an Infant Class Appeal is allowed.



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**SCHOOL STANDARDS AND FRAMEWORK ACT 1998  
APPEAL AGAINST ADMISSION DECISION  
VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOLS**

FOR OFFICIAL USE	ACK. SENT
DATE REC	APPEAL NO
SCHOOL	

Please complete the form using **black** ink if possible.

PUPIL'S SURNAME (Family name)		DATE OF BIRTH	
PUPIL'S FIRST NAMES(S)		SEX	MALE/FEMALE
PRESENT OR LAST SCHOOL			
ALLOCATED SCHOOL			

Do you have any other children? If so, please indicate their names, ages and school they attend or are allocated.

Name	Date of birth	School attending/allocated

Does your child have a statement of special educational needs? YES/NO

If your child has been permanently excluded more than once, please give date of last exclusion.	
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**PARENT/GUARDIAN**

TITLE		FIRST NAME		SURNAME	
RELATIONSHIP TO CHILD					
CURRENT ADDRESS					
TELEPHONE NUMBERS	HOME				
MOBILE		WORK			
EMAIL					

**IF YOU ARE MOVING HOUSE**

If you are in the process of moving house and this forms part of the reason for your appeal you should forward proof of change of contracts for your new property or proof of residence for your new address to the clerk as soon as possible.

ADDRESS	
TELEPHONE NUMBER	
EXPECTED MOVING DATE	





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**GROUND/REASONS FOR SUBMITTING THE APPEAL**

Please indicate below your reasons for appealing. You may attach additional sheets to this form. Any letters you have already sent to the clerk concerning your appeal will be attached to this form and circulated to the Appeals Panel. If medical or social grounds form part of the reason for your appeal it will be helpful to your case if you could provide written evidence from the professional person involved. The School cannot contact Doctors, Education Welfare Officers or Social Workers in these matters.

DATE		SIGNATURE	
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Please select either hearing option (a) or (b).

- (a) appeal hearings to be conducted remotely (that is, by telephone or video conference)
- (b) appeals to be determined on the basis of written submissions only

**Please return this form marked private and confidential to:**

Clerk to the Appeal Panel  
Iqra Primary School  
Fernside  
Off Wexham Road  
Slough  
SL2 5FF

**Appeals Monitoring Data – Iqra Primary School Admission Appeal**

Ref: \_\_\_\_\_

The School is committed to ensuring that its services are delivered fairly to everyone in the town. For this reason, you are asked to provide the information below so that statistical data can be gathered for monitoring purposes. The information will be treated as confidential, will be separated from the rest of the form on receipt and will not be seen by the Panel hearing your appeal.

I would describe my child’s ethnic origin as:

Black African       Black Caribbean       Black Somali

Indian       Pakistani       Mirpuri Pakistani

Bangladeshi       Sri Lankan       Mixed Ethnic Origin

White and Pakistani       White UK European       Other European

My child is registered disabled:      Yes       No

My child is a:      Boy       Girl