



Admissions Policy

2017-2018

Approved/Reviewed: October 2015	Next review due: October 2016
Governing Body Committee: CIC	CLT contact: Jeremy Plumb
Policy adopted by the Full Governing Body on:	

Torpoint Community College is a Trust School and the governors are the admitting authority. Torpoint Community College is a mixed 11-18 comprehensive school serving Torpoint and surrounding villages on the Rame peninsula.

Children with a statement of special educational needs and EHCP that names Torpoint Community College will be admitted to the school, regardless of the number on roll in the year group.

Children in care who are directed to the school by the Local Authority will be admitted to the school, regardless of the number on roll in the year group.

The school will participate fully in the Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol and this was recently updated in 2015.

The school will participate fully in the Local Authority's co-ordinated admission schemes for secondary transfer and in-year admissions. Details of these schemes are available on the Council's website (www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions) or on request from the Local Authority (0300 1234 101). Closing dates, deadlines and timescales (including those relating to late applications) will be as stated in those schemes.

The published admission number (PAN) for year 7 in 2017/18 will be 175.

In the event of there being more than 175 applications for places in year 7 for the 2017/18 academic year the following oversubscription criteria, in descending order of priority, will be used to prioritise applications, after the admission of students with an Educational Health Care Plan where the school is named.

1. Children in care and children who were in care but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a Child Arrangement Order or special guardianship order) immediately after being in care.
2. For applications considered under the co-ordinated admission scheme for transfer to secondary school:

Children who live in the designated area of Torpoint Community College, or whose parents can provide evidence that they will be living in the designated area of Torpoint Community College by the beginning of the autumn term of the 2017/18 school year.

If there are more designated area children wanting places at the school than there are places available, criteria 3 to 5 below will be used to decide which of these children should have priority for admission. If there are still places available after all the designated area children have been allocated places, criteria 3 to 5 will be used to decide which of the remaining children should have priority for any spare places.

3. Children with an unequivocal professional recommendation from a doctor, school medical officer, educational psychologist, health visitor, education welfare officer or social worker that non placement at Torpoint Community College would cause harm to the child and that placement at Torpoint Community College is essential. Such recommendations must be made in writing and must give full supporting reasons.

4. Children with siblings who will still be attending Torpoint Community College at the time of their admission.
5. All other children.

Oversubscription criteria for Years 8 to 11 (after the admission of students with an Educational Health Care Plan where the school is named)

1. Children in care and children who were in care but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a Child Arrangement Order or special guardianship order) immediately after being in care.
2. Children who live in the designated area of Torpoint Community College, or whose parents can provide evidence that they will be living in the designated area of Torpoint Community College by the requested date of admission.

If there are more designated area children wanting places at the school than there are places available, criteria 3 to 5 below will be used to decide which of these children should have priority for admission. If there are still places available after all the designated area children have been allocated places, criteria 3 to 5 will be used to decide which of the remaining children should have priority for any spare places.

3. Children with an unequivocal professional recommendation from a doctor, school medical officer, educational psychologist, health visitor, education welfare officer or social worker that non placement at Torpoint Community College would cause harm to the child and that placement at the preferred school is essential. Such recommendations must be made in writing and must give full supporting reasons.
4. Children with siblings who will still be attending Torpoint Community College at the time of their admission.
5. All other children.

Sixth Form

The admission number for Torpoint Community College Sixth Form (Year 12) is 10 (external candidates). Candidates who currently attend Torpoint Community College and who meet the entry criteria for the appropriate level of study will be admitted to the Sixth Form College.

Applications should be made on the Torpoint Community College Sixth Form application form available from the College.

To study any Level 3 qualifications:

- 5 or more GCSE passes at A*-C, including English and Maths (students who have not achieved this will be required to re-sit the examination).

- To study the current facilitating subjects (English Language, English Literature, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Computing, History, Geography, French and Spanish) a guideline of a minimum of 4 B's at GCSE including Maths and English is strongly recommended.

The same minimum entry qualifications apply to internal and external applicants.

Where the number of eligible external applicants exceeds the places available then priority for admission will be determined according to the following oversubscription criteria:

1. Children in care and children who were in care but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a Child Arrangement Order or special guardianship order) immediately after being in care.
2. Children who live in the designated area of Torpoint Community College, or whose parents can provide evidence that they will be living in the designated area of Torpoint Community College by the requested date of admission.

If there are more designated area children wanting places at the school than there are places available, criteria 3 to 5 below will be used to decide which of these children should have priority for admission. If there are still places available after all the designated area children have been allocated places, criteria 3 to 5 will be used to decide which of the remaining children should have priority for any spare places.

3. Children with an unequivocal professional recommendation from a doctor, school medical officer, educational psychologist, health visitor, education welfare officer or social worker that non placement at Torpoint Community College would cause harm to the child and that placement at the preferred school is essential. Such recommendations must be made in writing and must give full supporting reasons.
4. Children with siblings who will still be attending Torpoint Community College at the time of their admission.
5. All other children.

NOTES and DEFINITIONS

Children in Care

“Children in care” are also referred to as “looked after children” and they are children who are in the care of the Local Authority.

Designated Area

The Children’s Services Authority (CSA) has divided the county into geographical areas. Each of these areas is served by a specific secondary school (or schools). These areas are called “designated areas”. (Parents may also have heard these areas referred to as “catchment” areas.) A child’s designated school will not always be the one nearest to his/her home address.

Maps of designated areas, including the map for Torpoint Community College, will be provided on the Council's website (www.cornwall.gov.uk/admissions). Please note, however, that these maps are, of necessity, small scale and if a property is near a border it is advisable to check the designated school with the Admissions and Transport (Policy) Team. Larger scale maps are available for all designated areas on request. Parents can also ask to be notified of the designated school(s) for any address. These requests should be made to: Cornwall Council, Admissions and Transport (Policy), Children, Schools and Families, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY. Tel: 0300 1234 101, email: admissionsandtransport@cornwall.gov.uk

If you are planning to move into the designated area of Torpoint Community College, your application for a place for your child will not be given the priority accorded to designated area pupils without firm evidence of your new address and moving date, such as a copy of a signed and dated tenancy agreement or confirmation that contracts have been exchanged.

Professional Recommendation for Admission

If you think your child meets this criterion, you must send the relevant written evidence to Cornwall Council, Admissions and Transport (Policy), Children, Schools and Families, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY for students for entry at the beginning of Year 7. All other admissions should be made direct to Torpoint Community College.

Siblings

“Siblings” means brothers or sisters. They are defined as children with at least one natural or adoptive parent in common, living at the same or a different address. Children living in the same household at the same address would also be counted as siblings, regardless of their actual relationship to each other.

To qualify as a sibling a child must be on the roll of Torpoint Community College at the date of application, allocation and admission.

Primary schools whose designated areas are contained within or form part of the designated area of Torpoint Community College are as follows:

- Anthony CE School
- Carbeile Primary School
- Furlanesend
- Millbrook
- St Nicholas

Tie-Breakers

If any of the criteria outlined above leave more children with an equal claim than places available, the following tie-breaker will be used:

Where two or more children fulfil the same criterion, priority will be given to the child who lives nearer to Torpoint Community College.

Final Tie-Breaker

Should the tie-breaker above still leave children with an equal claim because distances are exactly the same, random allocation (in accordance with I.34 and I.35 of the School Admissions Code) will be used to decide on priority.

Distances

Home to school distances used for tie-breaking will be measured by a straight-line measurement as determined by CAPITA One (formerly known as Education Management System or EMS) and supported by the CSA's Geographical Information System (currently dataMap or another Geographical Information System selected by Cornwall Council). Measurements will be between the child's home address using Ordnance Survey's Point Dataset (usually the centre of the main building of the property) and the main gate of the school (as determined by the CSA).

Admissions Outside The Normal Age Group

Although most children will be admitted to the school with their own age group, from time to time parents seek places outside their normal age group for gifted and talented children or those who have experienced problems or missed part of the year, often due to ill health. While it would not normally be appropriate for a child to be placed in a year group that is not concurrent with their chronological age, the school will consider these requests carefully, and will make a decision based on the particular circumstances of each case.

Home Address

Each child may have one registered address only for the purposes of determining priority for admission and transport entitlement. This address should be the place where the child is normally resident. If there is shared residency of the child or a query is raised regarding the validity of an address, it may be necessary to use the address of the person receiving child benefit for the child or to request a copy of a utility bill in order to make a decision.

Multiple Birth Siblings

Where applications are received on behalf of "multiple birth siblings" (ie twins, triplets, etc) or siblings whose dates of birth place them in the same chronological year group, every effort will be made to offer both or all the children places at Torpoint Community College, which may mean allocating places above the Published Admission Number (PAN) where that is possible. However, where this is not possible, parents will be invited to decide which of the children should be allocated the available place(s).

Waiting Lists

The governing body of Torpoint Community College, in partnership with the LA, will maintain waiting lists for all oversubscribed year groups at the school throughout the school year relating to the processed application only. During the autumn term 2015 the governing body will ask parents with children still on the school's waiting list for year 7 whether they wish them to remain there. For all year groups, parents will be reminded during the summer holidays that the

waiting lists have now ceased and that they will have to submit a further application for the next year group if they wish their request for a place at Torpoint Community College to be ongoing.

A child's position on the waiting list will be determined by the oversubscription criteria stated above. However, children who are the subject of a direction by the Local Authority or who are allocated to the school in accordance with the Fair Access protocol will take precedence over any child already on the waiting list.

Appeals

All parents who are refused a place for their child at Torpoint Community College will be advised of their right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Such appeals will be administered by the Local Authority on behalf of the governing body.