



**PROPOSAL  
TO ESTABLISH A NEW  
VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOL**

**NOAM PRIMARY  
SCHOOL**

**October 2018**

## **PROPOSAL DOCUMENT**

This document sets out the proposal for the establishment of a new voluntary aided school to be known as Noam Primary School (the “school”) and which will replace the existing independent school, known by the same name. It is being sent to the decision maker, the London Borough of Barnet.

### **Contact Details**

**1. The name of the proposer or proposers and a contact address.**

The Trustees and Governors of The Noam Primary School  
8-10 Forty Avenue  
Wembley  
Middlesex HA9 8JW

[governors@noamprimary.org](mailto:governors@noamprimary.org)

### **Implementation**

**2. The date on which it is proposed that the school be opened or, where it is proposed that the opening be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.**

It is proposed that the new school be opened on 1 January 2019 (being the start of the 2018/9 academic year). As the school is already well established as an independent school (since 1999), it is proposed that the opening be implemented in one stage.

**3. Where the proposals are to establish a voluntary, foundation or foundation special school, a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local authority or by the proposers, and if the proposals are to be implemented by both, (a) a statement as to the extent that they are to be implemented by each body, and (b) a statement as to the extent to which the capital costs of implementation are to be met by each body.**

The proposals are to be implemented by the proposers. All capital costs are to be met by the proposers.

### **Reason for the new school**

**4. A statement explaining the reason why the new school is considered necessary and whether it is to replace an existing school or schools.**

The proposal is for the existing co-educational, independent school, Noam Primary School, to enter the maintained sector by becoming a voluntary aided school and nursery catering for pupils from Nursery through to Year 6. The new voluntary aided school will be 1FE (as is the case with the current independent school) with spaces for 240 pupils in total. The present school is located at Wembley Synagogue in the London Borough of Brent. Since its foundation in 1999, however, the school has had as its objective the provision of education to pupils resident in Barnet and substantially all pupils are Barnet resident, with only a small number of pupils resident outside the

borough. The present location of the school in Wembley is due to the shortage of suitable sites within Barnet. A new site for the school in Barnet has now been secured and, on entry to the maintained sector, it is proposed that the school will be relocated to a new purpose-built building presently being constructed at that site on East Road, Burnt Oak HA8 0AJ.

The current independent school was established in 1999 to meet an increasing demand for additional school provision which follows the National Curriculum but that was tailored to the needs of the Orthodox Jewish community in North West London. The current school aims to achieve the highest educational standards in both secular and religious studies. It seeks to provide this education in a warm and caring environment, where children are happy and can grow into valued members of the community. It is intended that the current school's successful approach will be continued within the maintained sector as a voluntary aided school.

The new school, which will replace the existing independent school, is necessary as there is currently a well-recognised need for additional primary school places in the maintained sector at schools serving the needs of the Orthodox Jewish population of North West London. This reflects a generally recognised wider requirement for additional primary school provision in London. The shortage of places in the maintained sector is evidenced by the current popularity of the existing independents school which has been over-subscribed in many of its recent admission years notwithstanding its present location at some distance outside of Barnet and the requirement to pay fees. It is well-recognised by the current school that its present popularity is due to a lack of suitable equivalent provision within the maintained sector.

Becoming a maintained school will also support the diversity of provision within the Barnet maintained sector reflecting the religious, ethnic and cultural diversity of its population. By entering the maintained sector Noam will also increase the number of maintained school places that can be provided by Barnet Council to meet the current demand for such places that exists both for the Orthodox Jewish population and more generally for the wider Barnet population. Further, by entering the maintained sector, the governors of Noam believe that the school's ability to provide high quality education will be enhanced by providing the school with greater access to the skills, knowledge and resources available to schools in the maintained sector and by allowing the school to benefit from the experience and expertise of other schools in Barnet by allowing the school to become an active participant in the network of maintained schools, to the benefit of Barnet-resident pupils who choose to attend the school.

### **Category**

**5. The category of school that it is proposed be established (a foundation or foundation special school and, if so, whether it is to have a foundation, a voluntary school, a community or community special school, or a local authority maintained nursery school) and, if required by section 10, a statement that the Secretary of State's consent has been obtained to publish the proposals.**

It is proposed that the new school will be voluntary aided. It was not necessary to gain the Secretary of State's consent to publish the proposal.

**Ethos and religious character**

**6. A short statement setting out the proposed ethos of the school, including details of any educational philosophy, which it is proposed that the school will adhere to.**

The governors intend that Noam will be an Orthodox Jewish school providing the Orthodox Jewish community in North West London with access to a high quality general education that meets the National Curriculum as well as excellent religious education in accordance with Orthodox Jewish law and practice.

The ethos of Noam is reflected in its mission statement which states that Noam's aim is to:

*Provide children with the tools, skills and confidence to go out into the world as responsible members of society.*

Noam seeks to achieve this by ensuring that its students succeed academically. But in addition Noam seeks to develop the whole child by imbuing in each child a love of Orthodox Jewish practice and Torah values with its focus on developing positive personality traits. Jewish prayer and the study of Orthodox Jewish sources, including Chumash, Mishnah and Talmud as well as programmes that aim to encourage positive character traits are therefore integral to the overall programme followed at the school. In addition Noam places a high value on developing pupils as well-rounded individuals who can play a part in British society. Teaching British values and preparing them for life in modern Britain is therefore integrated into the curriculum and is an important part of the pupils' education.

Noam therefore will:

- provide an outstanding and inspiring Jewish studies curriculum that is integrated with an excellent secular education
- create a warm and friendly school for the local community
- work in partnership with parents to help their children learn and develop
- add to the life and well-being of the school's local community
- foster a safe, supportive and nurturing learning environment
- ensure that all children have equal access to a broad and balanced curriculum
- encourage children to have respect for themselves and for others
- offer care and support to children with special educational needs

**7. If it is proposed that the school is to have a religious character, confirmation of the religion or religious denomination in accordance with whose tenets religious education will, or may be required to be provided at the school; and a statement that the proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.**

The school will have a Strictly Orthodox Jewish religious character. The proposer intends to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

**8. Where it is proposed that the school—**

- (a) has a religious character, evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion; or**
- (b) adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with that philosophy that is not already met in other maintained schools or academies in the area.**

See section 4 above. The London Borough of Barnet includes one of the largest populations of residents who are Orthodox Jewish. In the 2011 Census 15.2% of Barnet residents gave Judaism as their religion and a large proportion of this group will be Orthodox Jewish. There are a number of primary schools in Barnet that seek to provide education in accordance with the tenets of strictly Orthodox Judaism, which are regularly over-subscribed, evidencing the high demand for places at schools in the area for this type of education. Present trends indicate that this demand will continue to grow requiring further places to be created in the maintained sector.

The current demand for places at the existing independent Noam Primary School, notwithstanding the requirement to pay fees and its location at some distance from where most of the pupils are resident is itself evidence of the demand for this type of educational provision.

**Pupil numbers and admissions**

**9. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is to be made at the school.**

It is proposed that the school will have 240 day pupils, both boys and girls. This will consist of a Nursery with an admission number of 30 and a primary school for years Reception through to Year 6 with an admission number of 30 to Reception.

**Admission Arrangements**

**10. Except in relation to proposals for special schools, the proposed admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school including, where the school is proposed to be a foundation or voluntary school which is to have a religious character—**

- (a) the extent to which priority for places is proposed to be given to children of the school's religion or religious denomination; and**
- (b) the extent, if any, to which priority is to be given to children of other religions or religious denominations or to children having no religion or religious denomination.**

As a faith school, it is proposed that the school will give priority to Orthodox Jewish children. Any priority given, however, will be subject at all times to meeting the requirements of the School Admissions Code. The decision as to whether or not an applicant qualifies for priority consideration will be based on the information provided by the applicant in the Supplementary Information Form ("SIF"). Verification of Orthodox Jewish practice will be obtained from the Rabbi of the orthodox synagogue

where the applicant family regularly attends. Evidence will be sought of active orthodox synagogue worship and observance of Orthodox Jewish laws and practice.

Accordingly, in the event that the school is oversubscribed priority will be given as follows:

- Looked After and Previously Looked After Orthodox Jewish children
- Orthodox Jewish children with siblings who are currently at Noam Primary School (or, in the case of the nursery, are currently at Noam Primary School or Nursery) at the time of the application.
- Other Orthodox Jewish children
- Other Looked After and Previously Looked After children
- Other children

Children with a statement of special educational needs or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan that names the school will be admitted. This is a separate process to the normal admission procedure.

The full proposed admissions criteria for the school can be found at Annex A.

### **Early Year Provision**

- 11. Where the proposals are to include provision for pupils aged two to five—**
- (a) details of how the early years provision will be organised, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number of places, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;**
  - (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services, and how the proposals for the establishment of the school are consistent with the integration of early years provision with childcare;**
  - (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;**
  - (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school; and**
  - (e) the reasons why schools and settings outside the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school and which have spare capacity, cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the numbers of such children.**

The school proposal includes the provision for a Nursery:

- (a) Early years provision will be provided through the school Nursery (3 – 4 years old) and Reception (4 – 5 years old) which will each offer 30 full-time places. The nursery will offer two sessions per day (morning and afternoon) five days per week. The site currently under development for the school in East Road, Burnt

Oak is designed to be fully compliant with the legal requirements for disabled provision but the School and Nursery do not offer specialist provision for disabled children. The school will seek to provide the necessary services and provision for disabled children on request.

- (b) The school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services by offering parents the full early years curriculum covering all seven areas of learning as required. The school will offer parents the 15 or 30 hours free childcare in line with government policy. The proposals for the establishment of the school are consistent with the integration of early years provision with childcare as the school will offer a broad and balanced early years curriculum with qualified staff. Staff have undergone training and attended moderation sessions to ensure all assessments are in line with national requirements. The school intends also to continue to work with Local Authority Early Years experts to continually develop solid integration of the early years provision.
- (c) See sections 4 & 8 for which discusses demand for educational provision in Orthodox Jewish schools. The proposed Nursery will replace the existing independent Nursery operated by the school. This is highly popular and has been over-subscribed in many recent admission years. The school expects this demand for Nursery places to continue. Pupils who attend the Nursery invariably seek to continue at the School in Reception (although the admission criteria to Reception do not give priority to pupils who attend the Nursery). The school therefore offers parents the possibility of Nursery through to Y6 education at the same school which is highly attractive to many parents.
- (d)&(e) Of the schools and settings outside the maintained sector, which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school and which have capacity, the majority are not tailored to provide education for the Orthodox Jewish community. The proposers believe that the demand in the Orthodox Jewish community for Early Year Foundation Stage places is at maintained schools that offer the possibility of remaining at the same school through to Year 6. This is evidenced from the number of highly popular and over-subscribed Nursery places provided by other voluntary aided schools providing for Orthodox Jewish pupils. As part of the process to become Voluntary Aided, the school has consulted with all primary schools within two miles of the proposed site and all Early Year Foundation Stage providers within Barnet. No comments were received from any of these consultees.

### **Sixth Form Provision**

- 12. Where it is proposed that the school will provide sixth form education, how for 16 to 19 year olds in the area the proposals will—**
- (a) improve the educational or training achievements;**
  - (b) increase participation in education or training; and**
  - (c) expand the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.**

It is not proposed to provide secondary education at the school and accordingly there will be no Sixth Form provision.

### **Special educational needs provision**

**13. Whether the school will have provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs and, if so, the nature of such provision.**

The school will adopt an inclusive approach to all children with SEN and disabilities but will not offer any specific reserved provision.

**14. Details of the proposed policy of the school relating to the education of pupils with special educational needs.**

The school aims to offer equality of opportunity and diversity to all groups of pupils within school such as children:

- from both sexes;
- who have Special Educational Needs;
- who are looked after;
- who are gifted and talented;
- who are at risk of disaffection;
- who are young carers;

The school aims to provide a happy, healthy and safe school by providing high quality pastoral care, support and guidance by listening to the concerns of children and parents.

The school will work to ensure that all its pupils feel valued, are secure and are given opportunities to learn by providing a differentiated curriculum that caters for the needs of all pupils in both the religious and secular curriculum. The school aims to ensure that all pupils have access to all the school's resources and that they have the opportunity to experience success, are treated fairly and that their individual needs are met.

The school recognises the importance of early identification and assessment of children with special educational needs and it promotes a multi-disciplinary approach. The school believes that it has a duty to bring together and include all groups within the school and the local community and to invite them to use the school facilities for additional learning opportunities.

The school's approach to SEN concentrates on raising the aspirations and expectations for all pupils. The school provides a focus on outcomes for children and young people and utilizes the expertise of support staff to meet their learning social and emotional needs. The school actively analyses data to track and monitor pupil progress and to ensure that interventions are effective and have a sustainable and noticeable impact. The school recognizes that it is working in partnership with parents and it is receptive to their views, concerns and contributions regarding their children.

For the benefit of all pupils the school works closely with the health service, social care, the learning and behaviour support team, and the education social worker.

The school's full SEND and Inclusion Policy is available to download from the school website at <http://www.noamprimary.org/our-school/our-policies>.

- 15. Where the school will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs—**
- (a) a statement on how the proposer believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and range of educational provision for these children;**
  - (b) details of the improvements that the proposals will bring in respect of—**
    - (i) access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local authority's Accessibility Strategy;**
    - (ii) access to specialist staff, both education and other professionals, including any external support or outreach services;**
    - (iii) access to suitable accommodation; and**
    - (iv) supply of suitable places.**

This school will not be replacing existing education provision for children with special needs.

### **Single Sex School**

- 16. Where the school is to admit pupils of a single sex —**
- (a) evidence of local demand for single sex education and how this will be met if the proposals are approved; and**
  - (b) a statement giving details of the likely effect the new school will have on the balance of provision of single sex education in the area.**

It is not proposed that the school will admit pupils of a single sex only. The school will admit both boys and girls.

### **Curriculum**

- 17. Confirmation that the school will meet the general requirements in relation to the curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002 and an outline of any provision that will be in addition to the basic curriculum required by section 80 of EA 2002, in particular any 14-19 vocational education.**

The Proposers confirm that the school will meet the general requirements in relation to the curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002.

The school will provide for a curriculum that offers secular studies and Jewish studies with the aim of delivering excellence in both. To deliver this, the school will be teaching a timetable with 50% that is allocated to deliver the National Curriculum. The balance of the timetable 50% is allocated to additional Jewish Studies educational provision that is in addition to the requirements of the National Curriculum. The school ensures that the two parts of the curricula are integrated where possible to enhance the effectiveness of the educational provision.

### **Relevant experience of proposers**

**18. Evidence of any relevant experience in education held by the proposers including details of any involvement in the improvement of standards in education.**

The school is being proposed by the Trustees and Governors of the existing Noam Primary School, who collectively have developed extensive experience in education through the successful operation of the current independent school. The present governing body includes individuals with the following expertise – these individual have all indicated their intention to continue as governors on entry of the school into the maintained sector:

- Two trustees/governors with over 15 year's involvement each as governors of the current school, taking leading roles in establishing and developing the school.
- The school already operates with a full complement of experienced and qualified teachers. The Head Teacher, who also sits as a governor of the school is highly experienced in education having joined the school from a school which is in the maintained sector. The Head Teacher brings to the school a proven track record of working to raise standards.
- A governor with specialist SEND and safeguarding expertise in an educational context, including as governor of Kisharon, which provides education for children with learning disabilities
- A governor with professional accounting expertise for schools
- A governor with professional expertise as a lawyer, who has served as a governor of the school for over 10 years.
- A governor (and chair of the Education Committee) with professional experience as a teacher at a school in the maintained sector.

### **Effects on standards and contributions to school improvement**

**19. Information and supporting evidence on —**  
**(a) how the school will contribute to enhancing the diversity and quality of education in the area; and**  
**(b) how the school will contribute to school improvement.**

- a) The proposed school will increase parental choice and diversity of provision by increasing the maintained primary school options available to Orthodox Jewish parents in the local area. The school will provide access for Orthodox Jewish children to Jewish religious and secular education within the maintained sector, in response to considerable demand for such education including in the London Borough of Barnet. The school will increase the diversity of provision within maintained sector reflecting the religious, ethnic and cultural diversity of the area. The new purpose built building, which is currently under construction, will allow the school to expand provision to 30 pupils per class, providing much needed additional education provision that is tailored to meet the requirements of the local Jewish community.

The current school has an established track record of excellent results and on entry to the maintained sector the school will be able to offer access to pupils without the need to charge fees, allowing a greater diversity of access. An important focus of this school is the integration of the secular (National

Curriculum) and Jewish Studies with the aim of raising achievement and achieving excellence in both.

- b) The school is already a high performing independent school and was judged Outstanding in one category (Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare) with an Overall Effectiveness of Good by Ofsted at its most recent inspection, which was conducted in February 2018. The school's most recent KS2 SATS results found the school to be well above the national average. The school's contribution to school improvement is expected to increase once the school has become maintained, receives delegated funding for school improvement activities and has access to challenge and support from the wider partnership of Barnet schools. This will also be supported by the improved educational environment that will be provided by the new purpose built premises, currently under construction.

Approval of these proposals will contribute to the overall quality of education and school improvement in Barnet. In particular:

- Standards of achievement are currently above the national average and the school expects the standards of educational provision to continue to rise in the new primary school.
- The most recent Ofsted report for the school (February 2018) judged the school as Outstanding in one category (Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare) with an Overall Effectiveness of Good.
- The whole school ethos, policies and schemes of work will ensure the continuity and progression in the National Curriculum and provide opportunities to improve further teaching and learning and the raising of standards across the primary school age range. The school will work in partnership with other schools to share good practice and learn from their successes within and beyond the curriculum.

### Location and costs

20. **A statement about—**
- (a) the area or particular community or communities which the new school is expected to serve;**
  - (b) the location of the site or sites including, where appropriate, the postal address or addresses;**
  - (c) the current ownership and tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease;**
  - (d) whether the site is currently used for the purposes of another school and if so why the site will no longer be required by the other school;**
  - (e) the estimated capital costs of providing the site and how those costs will be met (including the extent to which the costs are to be met by the proposers and the local authority) and how the proposers intend to fund their share of the costs of implementing the proposals (if any);**
  - (f) whether planning permission is needed under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and when it is anticipated that it will be obtained;**
  - (g) confirmation from the Secretary of State or local authority (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any**

**necessary site purchase).**

- a) The school will serve primarily the Orthodox Jewish community of Barnet, but may attract strictly Orthodox Jewish families with children from neighbouring Boroughs.
- b) On completion of the new school building, which is currently under construction, the school will occupy a single site at East Road, Burnt Oak HA8 0AJ.
- c) The freehold of the permanent site is owned by Noam Educational Trust (NET) (a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity). NET is currently constructing a new purpose-built school building on the site for use by the school which NET will make available to the school on a permanent basis.
- d) The site is not currently used for the purposes of another school and had been unused for some time prior to its acquisition by NET.
- e) The budgeted capital costs of providing the site is presently around £4m (exclusive of professional fees) which is the cost of constructing the proposed building. These costs will be met entirely by NET which has secured donations and loans for the full amount required.
- f) All necessary planning permissions required for the proposed new school building have been obtained.
- g) No funding will be required from the Secretary of State or the Local Authority for capital costs of providing the new site.

**Travel**

**21. The proposed arrangements for travel of pupils to the school.**

In accordance with its planning consent, the school has developed a School Travel Plan. Its aim is to maximise the use by pupils and teachers of public transport and walking and to significantly minimise private car use. Car sharing is encouraged where possible.

**Federation**

**22. Details of any proposals for the school to be established as a federated school.**

There are no proposals for the school to be established as a federated school.

**Voluntary aided schools**

**23. Where the school is to be a voluntary aided school—  
(a) details of the trusts on which the site is to be held; and  
(b) confirmation that the governing body will be able and willing to carry out their obligations under Schedule 3 to SSFA 1998.**

- a) The proposed permanent site is wholly owned Noam Educational Trust which will make the site available to the school.
- b) The governing body is able and willing to carry out its obligations under Schedule 3 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

### **Foundation schools**

- 24. Where the school is to be a foundation or foundation special school, confirmation as to —**
- (a) whether it will have a foundation and if so, the name or proposed name of the foundation**
  - (b) the rationale for the foundation and the particular ethos that it will bring to the school;**
  - (c) the details of membership of the foundation, including the names of the members;**
  - (d) the proposed constitution of the governing body; and**
  - (e) details of the foundation's charitable objects**

The school will not be a foundation or foundation special school.

### **Independent schools entering the maintained sector**

- 25. Where a school is an independent school entering the maintained sector-**
- (a) a statement that the requirements of section 11(3) are met;**
  - (b) a statement as to whether the premises will meet the requirements of the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012 and, if not,**
    - (i) details of how the premises are deficient; and**
    - (ii) details of how it is intended to remedy the deficiency**

- a) The requirements of section 11(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 are met.
- b) The premises at the proposed permanent site will meet the requirements of the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012

## **Annex A – Part 1: Proposed admissions criteria for Noam Primary School when it enters the Maintained Sector**

This is the comprehensive admissions policy and procedure for entry into Noam Primary School.

Noam Primary School was founded to provide a sound Jewish religious and secular education and priority for admission is given to those children of families where both parents are members of orthodox synagogues and whose doctrines, principles and practices are in accordance with strictly Orthodox Judaism as determined by the Rabbinical Authority of the school. The decision as to whether or not an applicant qualifies for priority consideration will be based on the information provided by the applicant in the Supplementary Information Form ("SIF"). In this policy those who qualify for priority are referred to as Orthodox Jewish Children and in the event of any dispute as to whether a child is an Orthodox Jewish child the ruling of the Rabbinical Authority of Noam Primary School is final.

### **Admissions**

- The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 30 children.
- In the event that the school is oversubscribed priority will be given as follows.
  - Looked After and Previously Looked After Orthodox Jewish children
  - Orthodox Jewish children with siblings who are currently at Noam Primary School at the time of the application. For these purposes "siblings" shall include half-siblings, step-siblings and adopted siblings who are Orthodox Jewish Children and who are living at the same address.
  - Other Orthodox Jewish children
  - Other Looked After and Previously Looked After children
  - Other children
- If in any category there are more qualifying applicants than there are available places, a random ballot will be used to determine which children will be admitted under the criterion in question, in the presence of an independent observer.
- A "Looked After child" is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. A "Previously Looked After child" is a child who was in public care, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order immediately after being in public care. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.
- Verification of Orthodox Jewish practice will be obtained from the Rabbi of the orthodox synagogue where the applicant family regularly attends. Evidence will be sought of active orthodox synagogue worship and observance of Orthodox Jewish laws and practice.

### **Admissions Procedure**

- All applications for places at the school must be submitted on the Barnet CAF form and, if the applicant seeks consideration for priority admission, the applicant should provide a completed SIF. This must be sent to the school at the same time as the CAF is completed.
- The closing date for all applications to the Reception class will be a date set each year in line with nationally set dates for the making of offers for admission in the school year (1 September to 31 August) in which the child will attain four years of age. Late applications will be dealt with in accordance with the London Borough of Barnet Coordinated Admissions Scheme.
- Parents will be notified by the London Borough of Barnet in accordance with its Coordinated Admissions Scheme. Parents must indicate in writing within 10 days their intention to take up a place

### **Waiting List**

- When all available places have been filled, children not allocated places will be placed on a waiting list ranked in descending order according to the published admissions criteria. The waiting list will remain in operation from the day the original places are awarded and will be open until the end of the academic year. Those who wish to remain on the waiting list after this period should notify the school each year in writing.

### **Applications on behalf of Twins or Triplets (Multiple Births)**

- If only one place is available at the school and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth siblings, those children will be admitted in excess of the Published Admission Number to avoid a situation where the children have to attend different schools. The children admitted over the PAN will be “excepted pupils” until the class size falls back to 30 pupils.

### **Request to delay entry to school (known as deferred entry)**

- Children reach compulsory school age at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday. Where a child has been offered a place at the school, that child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following the child’s fourth birthday. Parents of children below compulsory school age may, however, defer their child’s entry to a Reception class until later in the school year. However, a Reception class place must be taken up by the start of the summer term. Where parents wish, children may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age. If parents want their child to take up a Year 1 place in the following academic year a fresh application must be made.

### **Summer-born children**

- Parents of summer born children may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that their child is admitted out of their normal age group – to Reception rather than Year 1.
- If parents wish to apply for their summer-born child to join a Reception class, instead of Year 1, in September of the following year, they must complete an application for Reception of the current admission year **and** must submit a separate written request

to the Governing Body. Summer-born children are those born between 1 April and 31 August.

### **Requests for admission outside the normal age group**

- Children are educated in school with others of their age group, with the curriculum differentiated as necessary to meet the needs of individual children. However, parents may request that their child is exceptionally admitted outside their age group, for example if their child is gifted or talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. The Governing Body will decide whether or not the individual circumstances make this appropriate on educational grounds and in the best interests of the child. This will include taking account of the parents' views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The Governing Body will also take into account the view of the Head Teacher of the school.

### **Special Needs**

- Children with a statement of special educational needs or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan that names the school will be admitted. This is a separate process to the normal admission procedure.

### **Incorrect or Misleading Applications**

- If the information given in the application form is not accurate or up to date, your child may lose priority. In such a case, the Governing Body will have discretion to refuse the offer of a place. The Governing Body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place where it is found that the place was offered on the basis of fraudulent or misleading information.

### **Appeal Procedure**

- If a place is not offered, parents will be advised as to their right to appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel and will be advised on the process for appeal.

## **Annex A – Part 2: Proposed admissions criteria for Noam Primary School nursery when it enters the Maintained Sector**

Noam Primary School nursery was founded to provide a sound Jewish religious and secular education and priority for admission is given to those children of families where both parents are members of orthodox synagogues and whose doctrines, principles and practices are in accordance with strictly orthodox Judaism as determined by the Rabbinical Authority of the school. The decision as to whether or not an applicant qualifies for priority consideration will be based on the information provided by the applicant in the Supplementary Information Form ("SIF"). In this policy those who qualify for priority are referred to as Orthodox Jewish Children and in the event of any dispute as to whether a child is an Orthodox Jewish Child the ruling of the Rabbinical Authority of Noam Primary School is final.

### **Admissions**

- The nursery has a Published Admission Number of 30 children.
- In the event that the nursery is oversubscribed priority will be given as follows.
  - Looked After and Previously Looked After Orthodox Jewish children
  - Orthodox Jewish children with siblings who are currently at Noam Primary School or Nursery at the time of the application. For these purposes "siblings" shall include half-siblings, step-siblings and adopted siblings who are Orthodox Jewish Children and who are living at the same address.
  - Other Orthodox Jewish children
  - Other Looked After and Previously Looked After children
  - Other children
- If in any category there are more qualifying applicants than there are available places, a random ballot will be used to determine which children will be admitted under the criterion in question, in the presence of an independent observer.
- A "Looked After child" is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989. A "Previously Looked After child" is a child who was in public care, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order immediately after being in public care. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.
- Verification of Orthodox Jewish practice will be obtained from the Rabbi of the Orthodox synagogue where the applicant family regularly attends. Evidence will be sought of active Orthodox synagogue worship and observance of Orthodox Jewish laws and practice.

### **Admissions Procedure**

- All applications for places at the school must be sent to the Noam Primary School nursery. If the applicant seeks consideration for priority admission, the applicant should provide a completed SIF. This must be sent to the school at the same time as

the application.

- The closing date for all applications to the nursery class will be a date set each year (in line with nationally set dates for the making of offers for admission, if any) in the school year (1 September to 31 August) in which the child will attain three years of age. Late applications will be placed at the end of the waiting list.
- Parents will be notified by Noam Primary School nursery and must indicate in writing within 10 days their intention to take up a place.

### **Waiting List**

- When all available places have been filled, children not allocated places will be placed on a waiting list ranked in descending order according to the published admissions criteria. The waiting list will remain in operation from the day the original places are awarded and will be open until the end of the academic year. Those who wish to remain on the waiting list after this period should notify the school each year in writing.

### **Applications on behalf of Twins or Triplets (Multiple Births)**

- If only one place is available at the nursery and the next child who qualifies for a place is one of multiple birth siblings, those children will be admitted in excess of the Published Admission Number to avoid a situation where the children have to attend different nurseries. The children admitted over the PAN will be “excepted pupils” until the class size falls back to 30 pupils.

### **Incorrect or Misleading Applications**

- If the information given in the application form is not accurate or up to date, your child may lose priority. In such a case, the Governing Body will have discretion to refuse the offer of a place. The Governing Body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place where it is found that the place was offered on the basis of fraudulent or misleading information.

### **Places at Noam Primary School**

- Admission to Noam Primary School nursery will not guarantee the child a place in Reception.