Menorah Foundation School
Admission Arrangements for September 2027

Religious Criteria

Menorah Foundation School was created to provide the highest standards of secular and religious education within an Orthodox Jewish environment. Priority in admission is given to children of families who are able to demonstrate the highest levels of commitment to the observance of Orthodox Jewish laws, traditions, practices and ethical standards including:

- Adherence to Jewish laws including Shabbos, kashrus, tefilla, tznius and taharas hamishpacha
- Involvement and participation in Jewish adult education and further studies
- Involvement in Orthodox Jewish communal life.

In order to establish whether your child meets the Religious Criteria, you need to complete our Supplementary Information Form (SIF). If you do not submit a SIF, we cannot establish whether your child meets the Religious Criteria, and if the school is oversubscribed, your child could not be considered for admission until applications from those who do show that they meet the Religious Criteria have been satisfied.

We must receive the SIF by the same date as the Common Application Form (CAF) is required by the Local Authority (usually mid-January of the year before entry to school).

Any dispute with regard to the SIF will be settled by reference to the Union of Orthodox Hebrew Congregations, the School's religious authority.

Application process

The school will participate in the co-ordinated admissions arrangements for Reception entry which will be administered by the Local Authority for the borough in which the child resides (home LA). Further information and a link to the Common Application Form (CAF), is available on the home LA's website. The closing date for 'on time' applications is 15 January 2026. Failure to submit the CAF by this deadline will result in the application being dealt with as a late application, which means that it will not be considered for allocation of a place until all the applications received on time have been considered.

Policy and Numbers

1. The admissions number is 30 for Reception and 30 for Nursery.
2. Children will normally be eligible for admission to the Reception class if they have reached the age of 4 on or before 31st August in the year of desired entry.
3. If you wish your child to be considered for entry outside their normal age group, you must contact the School separately including a clear statement of why you believe this will be in the child's best interests.

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 oversubscription criteria. Each added child will require the list to be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription 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 will need to re-apply.

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.

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 Admissions 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

Children reach compulsory school age at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday. Parents of children below compulsory school age may defer their child's entry to a Reception class school until later in the school year. However, a Reception class place should be taken up by the start of the summer term. If parents want their child to take up a Year 1 place in the following academic year a fresh application must be made.

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 parent's 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.

Summer-born children

Parents of a 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 you wish to apply for your summer-born child to join a Reception class, instead of Year 1, in September 2026, you must complete a CAF application for Reception 2026 and contact the School separately providing a clear statement of why you believe this will be in the child's best interests. Summer-born children are those born between 1 April and 31 August.

Over Subscription

In the event of over subscription by eligible children as defined above, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children who meet the Religious Criteria. "Looked after children" are children who are in the care of a local authority under the provision of the Children Act 1989). "Previously looked after children" are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted, or became subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship immediately following having been looked after as well as those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children who meet the Religious Criteria and have a sibling who, at the date the application is considered, is attending the school and is anticipated to continue attending the school at the start of the academic year in which the child is admitted. Siblings include half, step and adoptive siblings, and foster siblings provided they live at the same address as the applicant.
3. Children who meet the Religious Criteria and have a sibling who previously attended the school.
4. Children who meet the Religious Criteria who are eligible for the Early Years Pupil Premium, the Pupil Premium, or the Service Premium, and have attended Menorah Foundation Nursery.
5. All other children who meet the Religious Criteria.
6. All other looked after children and previously looked after children.
7. All other children.

In the event of there being insufficient places for all applicants within any of the above criteria, 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.

In-Year Admissions

Should places be available during the year, these will be allocated to applicants in accordance with the above oversubscription criteria.

In order to apply, there are two forms which must be completed:

I. The SIF should be completed and returned to the school
II. An online application form must be submitted to Barnet via www.barnet.gov.uk/application_for_in_year_school_admission

Appeals Procedure

If a place is not offered, parents will be advised of their right to appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel and provided with information about the appeals process.

Parents wishing to appeal should contact the school directly. The school will refer the appeal to the appropriate Admissions Governor/Admissions Panel for review. Where applicable, the appeal may then proceed to an Independent Appeal Panel.

Appeal documentation will only be available to complete after National Offer Day in April 2027.