



## How many out of zone students is RPS accepting in 2025?

Rutherford Primary is accepting for 2025, up to:

- 10 places for Year 0/1
- 5 places for Year 2/3
- 15 places for years 4/5
- 0 places for year 6

The deadline for receipt of applications for out of zone places is 12pm on the 15th October. If a ballot for out of zone places is required, it will be held on 17th October 2024.

An application form must be completed for siblings of current out of zone enrolled children. This is part of the out of zone procedures set down by the Ministry of Education. Application forms are available from the school office between Monday to Friday, 8.30 am to 3.30 pm or email [office@rutherfordprimary.school.nz](mailto:office@rutherfordprimary.school.nz).

## How does the application process work?

When an out of zone enrolment is received, they are ordered according to prioritisation. This number corresponds with the order in which an enrolment will be accepted. The school is unable to change this order as it is a Ministry of Education mandate.

Applicants are accepted in this order:

1. first priority must be given to any applicant who is accepted for enrolment in a special programme run by the school
2. second priority must be given to any applicant who is the sibling of a current student of the school
3. third priority must be given to any student who is the sibling of a former student of the school
4. fourth priority must be given to any applicant who is a child of a former student of the school
5. fifth priority must be given to any applicant who is either a child of an employee of the board of the school or a child of a member of the board of the school
6. sixth priority must be given to all other applicants.

## **What if there are more applicants than places?**

Rutherford Primary will hold a ballot (draw) to fill the places available, and create a waiting list for applicants who are not successful in the ballot.

The ballot will first be drawn from students who are from the highest priority category, e.g.

If there are three spaces available and there is one application from priority 2, three applications from priority 3, and two applications from priority 4, then the one student from priority 2 will be granted enrolment and the three students from priority 3 will go in the ballot, where the two additional students are drawn.

## **What happens after the ballot is drawn?**

Within three school days of the ballot happening, the school must post letters informing applicants of the outcome of the ballot.

Successful applicants then have 14 days to confirm they accept or reject the offer of a place. If they don't respond within that period, the place will be offered to the first person on the waiting list established by the ballot.

The Secretary of Education's instructions to schools are that siblings at the same year level should be kept together for the purpose of the ballot so that if one sibling's name is drawn, the other is automatically successful also.

## **What if my application isn't successful?**

RPS will put you on a waiting list, and inform you in writing your place on the list. If a place becomes available and you are first on the list, the school will let you know, and you will have the option of accepting or rejecting the offer of the place. The waiting list expires when the next ballot is held. Meanwhile, you will need to enrol your child at another school.

For more information about school zones, enrolments and ballots, please go to

<http://parents.education.govt.nz/primary-school/schooling-in-nz/enrolment-schemes-zoning/#applications>