



*"Praying together,
Learning for life,
Caring for all"*

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Admissions Policy

For school year 2021-22





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ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL POLICY FOR ADMISSION TO SCHOOL 2021-22

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St Joseph's is a Catholic Primary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. It is maintained by Trafford Local Authority. As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions.

The Catholic Faith and the Teachings of the Catholic Church have an essential role in school life and influence every aspect of the Curriculum. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the Faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

The co-ordination of admissions arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. For the school's year commencing September 2021, the Governing Body has set its admissions number at 60.

Admissions to the school will be made by the Governing Body. All preferences listed on the Local Authority Preference Form will be considered on an equal basis with the following set of admissions criteria, forming a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available.

- 1) Baptised Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
- 2) Baptised Catholic children resident in the parish of St Joseph's
- 3) Baptised Catholic children from other parishes
- 4) Non Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
- 5) Non Catholic children whose parents wish them to have a Catholic education

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order:

- (i) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made, after children in category 1 (see note h).
- (ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made, after children in category (1) (see note k).





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Tie-breaker arrangements

Where two or more applications cannot be otherwise separated, the final place will be determined through a random draw. The draw will be conducted and scrutinised by persons independent from the School, and from the Children, Families and Wellbeing Directorate.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Needs

The admission of pupils with a Statement of Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

NOTES

- a) An EHC Plan (previously a Statement of Special Educational Needs) is a statement made by the local authority under section 324 of the Education Act 1996, specifying the special educational provision for a child. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
- b) A Looked After Child is a child who is (a) in the care of a Local Authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their Social Services functions (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). A previously Looked After Child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
- c) For a child to be considered as a Catholic evidence of a Catholic Baptism will be required.
- d) It is the duty of governors to comply with regulations on class size limits at Key Stage One.
- e) If there are more applications than places available, places will be allocated to children who live nearest to the school, calculated in a direct straight line from the child's permanent place of residence to the school measured using property co-ordinates provided through a combination of the Trafford Local Land and Property Gazetteer (BS7666) and Royal Mail Postal Address Information. In the case of a child living in a block of flats, the distance will be measured in the same way.
- f) Where two or more applications cannot be otherwise separated, the final place will be determined through a random draw. The draw will be conducted and scrutinised by persons independent from the School, and from the Children, Families and Wellbeing Directorate.
- g) Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the child's "permanent place of residence" will be determined as the address of the parent who normally has responsibility for the majority of school days in a week.
- h) Sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.
- i) A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admission Criteria. Parents will be informed of their child's position on the waiting list which will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn Term in which the application was made.



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- j) For 'In Year' applications received outside the normal admissions round and if places are available then children qualifying under the published criteria will be admitted. If there are places available but more applicants than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied.
- k) This applies where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- l) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents must be allowed at least twenty school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful to submit that appeal. Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.

The governing body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place or, where a child is already attending the school, the place itself, where it is satisfied that the offer or place was obtained by deception.



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NIHIL SINE CHRISTO
DIOCESE OF
PARRAMATTA