

Admissions Policy



‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’

Luke 10:27

Approved by: SLT and Governors

Date: November 2020

Last reviewed on: September 2023

Next review due by: September 2024

CRC Links

Article 28 (Right to education): Children have the right to a good quality education. They should be encouraged to go to school to the highest level they can.

Article 29 (Goals of education): Children's education should help them use and develop their talents and abilities. It should also help them learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

INTRODUCTION

The governing body of **St. Bridget's C of E Primary** School applies the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school.

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and statutory guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Equality Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998
- School Standards and Framework Act 1998
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2022) 'School Admission Appeals Code'

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

We are an inclusive school that welcomes children from all backgrounds and abilities.

All applications will be treated on merit and in a sensitive manner.

The only restriction we place on entry is that of number. If the number of children applying for entry exceeds the places available, we enforce the procedure set out below in order to determine whether a child is accepted or not. It is our wish to allow parents the right to have a place at the school of their choice. However, this is not always possible, due to the excess demand on the school places available.

The level of ability of a child or any special needs that s/he may have plays no part in the admissions policy of this school.

HOW PARENTS CAN APPLY FOR THEIR CHILD TO BE ADMITTED TO OUR SCHOOL

As our school is a community school, the school determines the admission arrangements in agreement with the LA. The LA is therefore the 'Admissions Authority' for our school. The regulations for entry to each

school, where the Admissions Authority is the LEA, are published each year by the LEA. Parents can receive a copy of these regulations directly from the LEA.

The LA publishes a composite admissions prospectus each year, which gives information about how parents can apply for a place in the school of their choice. Parents have a right to express a preference for the school of their choice and they should do so on the application form. Expressing a preference does not, in itself, guarantee a place at this school. Application forms can be obtained from the Education Department of the LA and should be completed by the date stipulated on the forms. The school notifies parents about the school place as soon as all the applications have been considered.

In this area, children enter school in the academic year they become five. There is one admissions date per year, early in September (i.e. at the start of the school year). Therefore, parents who would like their child to be admitted to this school during the year their child is five should ensure that they complete the necessary application form by January (to the authority)

ADMISSION APPEALS

If we do not offer a child a place at this school, it is because to do so would prejudice the education of other children by allowing the numbers of children in the school to increase too much.

If parents wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by applying to the LA. An independent appeals panel then meets to consider all appeals by parents who have been refused a place at our school and who wish to appeal against this decision. An appeals panel's decision is binding for all parties concerned. If the appeals panel decides that we should admit a child to our school, then we will accept this and continue to do all we can to provide the best education for all the children at our school.

The procedures outlined within this section will apply to all appeals lodged on or after 1 October 2022. Appeals lodged on or before 30 September 2022 will be heard in accordance with the 'School Admissions Appeals Code' 2012.

The governing board will be aware of, and assist the LA where relevant with regard to, the below admissions appeals procedure.

The LA will publish an appeals timetable on their website by 28 February each year. The timetable will comply with section three of the 'School Admission Appeals Code'. Appeals will be lodged and heard for the normal admissions round within 40 school days of the deadline for lodging appeals.

For late applications, appeals will be heard between 30-40 school days of the appeal being lodged. For in year admissions, appeals will be heard within 30 days of the appeal being lodged.

THE STANDARD NUMBER

The standard number is the number of children the school can accommodate. The standard number for our school is **60 per year group**. We keep this number under review and the governors will apply to change the number if circumstances allow. We teach infant children (aged five to seven) in classes that have a **maximum** number of **30** children.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed as and when necessary.

The Headteacher and staff will review this policy in accordance with the development priorities stated in the School's Development Plan. Any suggested amendments will be presented to the governing body for discussion.