

Our Lady & St Edward's Catholic Primary School Lightfoot Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 3LP Admission Policy and Arrangements for Admission for September 2018

Introduction

Our Lady & St Edward's is a Catholic school situated in the Diocese of Lancaster and is maintained by the Lancashire Local Authority.

The Governors welcome applications from Catholic and non-Catholic parents who would like their children educated within the aims and ethos of Our Lady & St Edward's Catholic School.

In Our Lady & St Edward's School the practice of the Catholic faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church are important aspects of the school's life and work and influence the curriculum.

The Governing Body is responsible for admissions within the requirements of the law. In doing so, the Governing Body has a regard for:

- The advice of the Diocesan Trustees on the nature and purpose of Catholic schools;
- The Governing Body's responsibility towards the school and the Catholic community it serves;
- The Catholic character of the school and its Mission Statement.

The Governing Body has set the planned admissions number for 2018 at 30. The Diocese of Lancaster, the Local Authority and other parties required by law have been consulted on this.

No more than 30 children will be admitted to any one reception or infant class.

Arrangements for Admission

- 1) Applications for a place at the school should be made on the Local Authority form or online and returned to the Local Authority no later than 15 January 2018
- 2) Parents must complete the Local Authority application form. Parents who wish their application to this Catholic school to be considered against the priority faith criteria should also complete the supplementary form attached. If the school is oversubscribed, failure to complete the supplementary form may result in your application for a place in this school being considered against lower priority criteria, as the Governing Body will have no information upon which to assess the application on the basis of the applicant's baptism.

The supplementary form should be returned to the school by 15 January 2018

- 3) Each baptised Christian will be required to produce a baptismal certificate or other evidence of baptism.
- 4) The Admissions Committee of the Governing Body will consider all applications at the same time after the given closing date.
- 5) Parents or guardians will be informed of the outcome of their application in writing by the Local Authority by 16th April 2018.
- 6) For unsuccessful applications, the letter will give the reason for the decision and will tell parents of their right to appeal. Guidance on how to appeal will also be included.
- 7) A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept until the end of the autumn term 2018 and will be ranked according to the admissions criteria. Letters advising of an unsuccessful application will also inform parents/guardians of their child's position on the waiting list.
- 8) Late applications will be considered after all applications received by the closing date of 15 January 2018 have been processed.
- 9) As required by law all children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or EHC plan naming the school will be admitted before the application of the admission/oversubscription criteria.

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Admissions Criteria – September 2018

The Governors will admit up to 30 children in September 2018.

Where the number of applications exceeds the places available, the Governors will use the following criteria to determine priority.

1. Children in Public Care including adopted children who were previously looked after
2. Baptised Catholic children who live in Our Lady & St Edward's parish
3. Siblings of children who are in the school at the time of application.
4. Children of staff at the school 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.
5. Other baptised Catholic children.
6. Baptised children of other Christian denominations
7. Children of other faiths.
8. Other children.

1.39 Admission authorities may give priority in their oversubscription criteria to children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:

- a) 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
- b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

Notes of Clarification

1. Children in Public Care.
This includes any "looked after child" and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
2. The term sibling includes, half-siblings, adopted siblings, stepbrothers and sisters and foster children who reside in the same household as part of a family unit.
3. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the "home" address will be interpreted as that which is closest to the school.
4. If there are more children in any of the individual categories than there are places remaining, then those pupils who live nearest to the school by a straight line (radial) measure, will have priority. The distance is measured using a geographical information system and the measurement is taken from the centre point of the property to the centre point of the school. In the event of a tied distance measurement between address points the Local Authority system of a random draw will determine which address(es) receive the offer(s).
5. Where there are twins, etc wanting admission and there is only a single place left within the admission number, then the governing body will exercise as much flexibility as possible within the requirements of infant class sizes. In exceptional circumstances cases we are now able to offer places for both twins and all triplets, even when this means breaching infant class size limits.

Non Routine or 'In Year' Admissions.

Non-routine admissions

It sometimes happens that a child needs to change school other than at the "normal" time; such admissions are known as non-routine or in-year admissions. Parents wishing their child to attend this school should arrange to visit the school. They will be provided with an application form once they have a definite local address. If there is a place in the appropriate class, then the governors will arrange for the admission to take place. If there is no place, then the admissions committee will consider the application and information about how to appeal against the refusal will be provided. Appeals for children moving into the area will not be considered until there is evidence of a permanent address, e.g. exchange of contracts or tenancy agreement with rent book.

Please note that you cannot re-appeal for a place at a school within the same school year unless there has been relevant, significant and material change in the family circumstances

Deferred admission

If your child is due to start school during the next academic year, it is important that you apply for a place for September. If your child's fifth birthday is between the months of September and December, then, if you wish it, admission may be deferred until January; if it is between January and April, then admission may be deferred until the start of the summer term though it is likely to be in your child's interest to start no later than January.

Part time attendance

Parents can request that their child attends part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

