

St Mary's Roman Catholic Primary School, Sabden

Admission Policy 2021/2022

St Mary's Sabden is a Roman Catholic Primary School provided by the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by Lancashire Local Authority as a voluntary aided school.

The school's Governing Body is the Admission Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admission. For the school year commencing 2021/2022 the governing body's planned admission number is 12.



Applications for a place in reception for September 2021 should be made via the online admissions system which can be accessed via www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools then click on 'Apply for a school place'. Parents who wish to seek priority for baptised Catholic children should also complete the school's Supplementary Information Form (SIF) and return it at the same time. The SIF can be downloaded from the Lancashire County Council website in the 'Apply for a primary school place' section or from the school website. The closing date for applications is **15 January 2022**.

As required by law all children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) or Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school will be admitted before the application of the oversubscription criteria.

Where more applications are received than the planned admissions number for the school the oversubscription criteria will be applied in the following order:

- 1) Looked after children and previously looked after children.
- 2) Children with an exceptional social, medical, educational or religious need which can best be met, or only met, at this school.
- 3) Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
- 4) Baptised Roman Catholic children resident in the former parish of St Mary Queen of Peace (Sabden), the former parish of St Philip the Apostle (Padiham) and the parish of English Martyrs' (Whalley).
- 5) Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
- 6) Other baptised Roman Catholic children.
- 7) All remaining applicants.

Tie break

Where there are more applicants for the available places within a category, then the distance between the Ordnance Survey address points for the school and the home measured in a straight line will be used as the final determining factor, nearer addresses having priority over more distant ones. This address point is within the body of the property and usually located at its centre. Where two addresses have the same distance, or the cut off point is for addresses within the same building, then the Local Authority's system of a random draw will determine which address(es) receive the offer(s).

Admissions Policy 2021/2022 – Notes

- a) The governing body is the admissions authority. The admissions committee is comprised of the following governors: chair of governors, parish priest, head teacher, parent governor and independent clerk.
- b) In the autumn term all parents who have expressed an interest in a school place will be advised to apply for a school place online at www.lancashire.gov.uk/schools. The Local Authority produces a limited number of the 'Primary Admission Booklet' for parents who are unable to access the internet. These are available from Local Authority offices, public libraries and primary schools.
- c) Parents must complete a common application form and express three preferences for primary school admission. The closing date is **15 January 2022**. All applicants will be considered by the governors at the same time in a fair way according to the published criteria.
- d) Parents will be informed of the governors' decision by Lancashire County Council on **16 April 2022**. An offer of a place does not guarantee a place for brothers and sisters in subsequent years.
- e) Each Catholic applicant will be required to produce a baptismal certificate.
- f) Parents should check carefully whether they are resident within the the former parish of St Mary Queen of Peace (Sabden), the former parish of St Philip the Apostle (Padiham) and the parish of English Martyrs' (Whalley), and the head teacher will be able to advise.
- g) All applicants resident in the parishes of St Mary Queen of Peace, Sabden, St Philip's, Padiham and English Martyrs, Whalley will be required to provide proof of address, by supplying an original up-to-date utility bill or child benefit statement.
- h) It is the duty of governors to comply with class size limits at Key Stage One. This means that the school cannot operate classes in Key Stage One of more than 30 children other than in exceptional circumstances (as governed by recent DfE/Lancashire recommendations).
- i) Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility e.g. where the parents live at different addresses, and there is shared parenting, the address will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of Monday to Friday mornings. If there is any

doubt about this, then the address of the Child Benefit recipient will be used. Parents may be asked to show evidence of the claim that is being made for the address used.

- j) The term 'brothers and sisters' will be taken to include step brothers and sisters, foster children and children of partners living in the same household. The governing body reserves the right to give special consideration to twins or triplets etc to prevent breaking the sibling link.
 - k) If the school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be maintained for the full autumn term in the academic year of admission. This will be ordered according to the admission over-subscription criteria.
 - l) Late applications will be considered in accordance with the published criteria. If the school is over subscribed, late applications will be placed on a reserve list in priority order according to the published admissions criteria. Parents will be notified if a vacancy subsequently arises.
 - m) The governing body reserves the right to admit children with proven and exceptional medical and social needs where admission to the school might best help satisfy those exceptional needs, providing such application is submitted with appropriate evidence from a doctor, social worker or qualified professional indicating why our school is most suitable.
 - n) If an application for admission has been turned down by the governing body parents can appeal to an independent appeals panel. This appeal should be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 14 days of notification of refusal. The date of notification will be 2 working days after posting by first class post. The parents must give their reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the appeals panel is binding on all parties.
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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM (SIF)

ST MARY'S ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL SABDEN

Admission to Primary School – September 2022

SCHOOL APPLIED FOR:

Name of school: _____

Address of school: _____

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Name of parent(s)/guardian(s): _____

Address: _____

CHILD INFORMATION:

Name of child: _____

Address of child: _____

(if different from above)

Is the child a baptised Catholic? Yes No

If 'yes', give the parish and date of baptism:

***** Please attach a copy of the baptismal certificate with this form** Yes

In which parish does the child currently live:

NOTES FOR INFORMATION:

1. Supplementary Information Form (SIF)

If you are applying for a place at any Catholic primary school in Lancashire and wish to have your admission request considered against that school's faith/denomination criteria then you should complete this SIF. This is in addition to the common application form. You should complete a SIF for each Catholic primary school and return it direct to that particular school.

2. Evidence of Baptism – Catholic

If you are applying to St Mary's and wish to be considered for priority under our Admissions Policy due to your child being a Catholic then we need evidence of baptism through a copy of your child's baptismal certificate. School will retain this for use when your child takes the Sacramental Programme (normally in Y3) as a copy is required then. A copy will also be required by your child's high school if this is a Catholic school. Once your child has left St Mary's then we will destroy any copies of the baptismal certificate held in school together with this SIF. We are asking in which parish your child resides because this information is requested as part of the annual Census carried out by the Diocese.

PLEASE RETURN THIS SUPPLEMENTARY FORM DIRECT TO ST MARY'S RCP SCHOOL. THIS IS IN ADDITION TO THE LOCAL AUTHORITY APPLICATION FORM.