



# Bolton-le-Sands C of E Primary School

## ADMISSION POLICY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

### MISSION STATEMENT

*“With God at the centre, we reach out to support each other in learning, growth and community”*

As a ‘Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School’, we aim to ensure that God is at the centre of our life in school. It is our goal to ensure that all the members of our school community are given the opportunity to get to know God and thank Him for His goodness to us. We are the village school and are at the heart of this village community, **all** members of this community are made very welcome in our school.

### MAKING AN APPLICATION

Applications for admission to the school for September 2024 should be made on-line at [www.lancashire.gov.uk](http://www.lancashire.gov.uk) (search for School Admissions) between 1 September 2023 and 15 January 2024. It is not normally possible to change the order of your preferences for schools after the closing date. A link to the ‘Apply for a School Place’ website can be found on our School Website.

Parents **must** complete the Local Authority electronic form, stating three preferences. Parents who wish their application to this Church school to be considered against the faith criteria **should** also complete the supplementary form. If the school is oversubscribed, a 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 Board will have no information upon which to assess the worship attendance.

**Applications should be made on-line on the common application form; the Diocesan Supplementary Form is available from the school via the school website within the admission policy document.**

Letters informing parents of whether or not their child has been allocated a place will be sent out by the Local Authority on 16 April 2023. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place by the Authority.

### ADMISSION PROCEDURES

Arrangements for admission have been agreed following consultation between the governing body, the Diocesan Board of Education, Local Authorities and other admissions authorities in the area.

**The number of places available for admission to the Reception classes in the year 2024 will be a maximum of 45.**

The Governing Board will not place any restrictions on admissions to the reception class unless the number of children for whom admission is sought exceeds their admission number. By law, no infant class may contain more than thirty children. The Governing Board operates a system of equal preferences under which they consider all preferences equally and the Local Authority notifies parents of the result. In the event that there are more applicants than places, after admitting all children with a Statement of Educational Need or

Health and Care Plan naming the school, the governing body will allocate places using the criteria below, which are listed in order of priority.

**1. (a) Children in public care and previously looked after children.**

This includes any looked after children or a child who was previously looked after, but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangement order, or special guardianship order or those children who appear to the school to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. 'Looked after' means that the child was (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.

**(b) Children with special medical or social circumstances affecting the child where these needs can only be met at this school.**

Professional supporting evidence from a professional, e.g. a doctor, psychologist, social worker, is essential if admission is to be made under the criterion for special medical or social circumstances, and such evidence must set out the particular reasons why the school is question is the most suitable school and the difficulties which would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

**2. Children who have a sibling attending the school on the date of application and on the date of admission.**

Siblings (brothers and sisters) include step children, half brothers and sisters, fostered and adopted children living with the same family at the same address (consideration may be given to applying this criterion to full brothers and sisters who reside at different addresses).

**3. (a) Children whose parents live within the ecclesiastical parish of Holy Trinity, Bolton-le-Sands and worship regularly at a church in full membership of 'Churches Together in England ([www.cted.org.uk](http://www.cted.org.uk))' or the 'Evangelical Alliance ([www.eauk.org](http://www.eauk.org))' or the 'North West Partnership' ([www.northwestpartnership.com](http://www.northwestpartnership.com)).** Lists are taken on 1 September 2023. Regular worship is defined as 'a minimum of once per month for a period of at least 6 months prior to the application being made'.

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

**(b) Other children whose parents live within the ecclesiastical parish of Holy Trinity, Bolton-le-Sands.**

**4. Children whose parents live outside the parish:**

**(a) Children with a parent/guardian who worships regularly at a church in full membership of 'Churches Together in England ([www.cte.org.uk](http://www.cte.org.uk))' or the 'Evangelical Alliance ([www.eauk.org](http://www.eauk.org))' or the 'North West Partnership' ([www.northwestpartnership.com](http://www.northwestpartnership.com))**

Regular worship is defined as 'a minimum of once per month for a period of at least 6 months prior to the application being made'.

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of

these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

**(b) Children of staff who have been employed in the school for the whole of the two years prior to the closing date for applications.**

This applies to all staff, full or part-time, who have been employed by the Governing Body.

**(c) Other children.**

**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 INFORMATION**

In 2023, there were 100 applications for 45 places (this includes 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> preferences)

**LATE APPLICATIONS FOR ADMISSION**

Where there are extenuating circumstances for an application being received after the last date for applications, and it is before the governors have established their list of pupils to be admitted, then it will be considered alongside all the others.

Otherwise, applications which are received after the last date will be considered after all the others, and placed on the waiting list in order according to the criteria.

**WAITING LIST**

Where we have more applications than places, the admissions criteria will be used. Children who are not admitted will have their name placed on a waiting list. The names on this waiting list will be in the order resulting from the application of the admissions criteria. Since the date of application cannot be a criterion for the order of names on the waiting list, late applicants for the school will be slotted into the order according to the extent to which they meet the criteria. Thus it is possible that a child who moves into the area later to have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list for some time. If a place becomes available within the admission number, the child whose name is at the top of the list will be offered a place. This is not dependent on whether an appeal has been submitted.

This waiting list will operate until 31 December 2024.

**ADDRESS OF PUPIL**

The address used on the school's admission form must be the current one at the time of application, i.e. the family's main residence. If the address changes subsequently, the parents should notify the school. Where the parents live at different addresses, and there is shared parenting, the address used 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, e.g. identity cards of various sorts showing the child's address as the one claimed. Where there is dispute about the correct address to use, the governors reserve the right to make enquiries of any relevant third parties, e.g. the child's GP, Council Tax Office, Electoral Registration

Officer, utilities provider. For children of UK Service personnel and other Crown Servants returning to the area proof of the posting is all that is required.

### **NON-ROUTINE OR IN-YEAR 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 are required to complete an in-year application form, which is available from our school website. [CLICK HERE](#). If there is a place in the appropriate class, then the governors will arrange for the admission to take place. Where a place cannot be secured, parents will be offered a legal right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. Lancashire County Council administers the appeals process on behalf of the school. Parents can complete the school’s [APPEAL FORM](#) on Lancashire County Council’s website.

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

### **FRAUDULENT APPLICATIONS**

Where the governing body discovers that a child has been awarded a place as the result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent (for example a false claim to residence in the catchment area or of involvement in a place of worship) which effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim, then the governing body is required to withdraw the offer of a place. The application will be considered afresh and a right of appeal offered if a place is refused.

### **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. You may also request that your child attend school part time until he/she reaches his/her fifth birthday.

### **ADMISSION OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE OF THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP**

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if a child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child<sup>1</sup> may choose not to send that child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to Reception rather than Year 1.

The Governing Board will make decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent’s views; information about the child’s academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. They **must** also take into account the views of the Headteacher of the school concerned. When informing a parent of their decision on the year group the child should be admitted to, the Governing Board will set out clearly the reasons for their decision.

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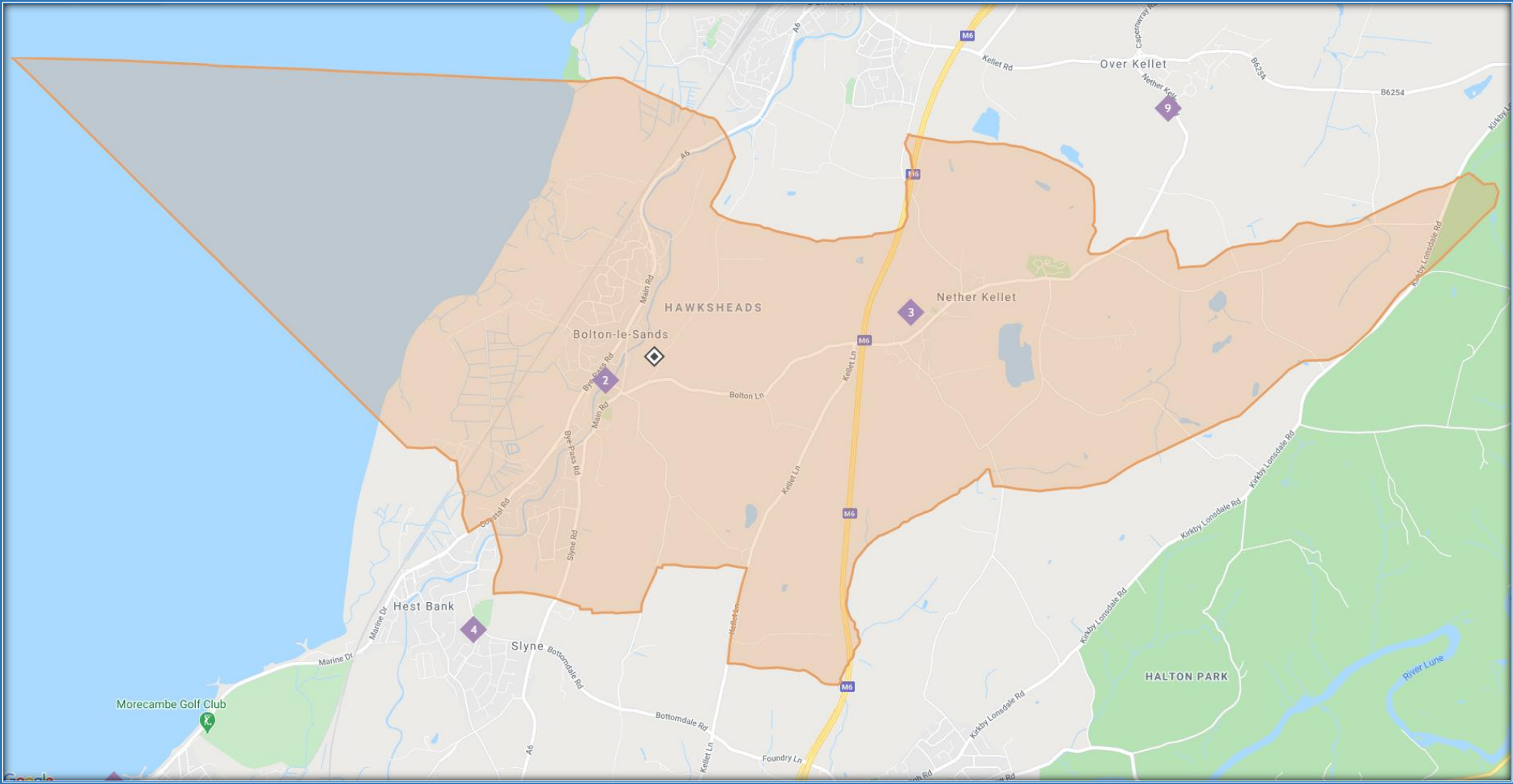
<sup>1</sup> The term summer born children relates to all children born from 1 April to 31 August. These children reach compulsory school age on 31 August following their fifth (or on their fifth birthday if it falls on 31 August) It is likely that most requests for summer born children admitted out of their normal age group will come from parents of children born in the later summer months or those born prematurely

Where a Governing Board agrees to a parents' request for their child to be admitted out of their normal age group and. As a consequence of that decision, the child will be admitted to a relevant age group (ie the age group to which pupils are normally admitted to the school) the local authority and Governing Board will process the application as part of the main admissions round, unless the parental request is made too late for this to be possible, and on the basis of their determined admission arrangements only, including the application oversubscription criteria where applicable. The Governing Board will not give the application lower priority on the basis that the child is being admitted out of their normal age group. Parents have a statutory right to appeal against refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

### **TWINS, ETC**

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.

Ecclesiastical Parish Boundary for Bolton-le-Sands





**Diocesan Supplementary Information Form  
Bolton-le-Sands Church of England Primary School**

**Admission to Primary School 2024**

**Name of Child:**

**Surname** ..... **Christian Names** .....

**Date of Birth** .....

**Name of Parent/Guardian** .....

**Address** .....

.....

**Post Code** .....

**Contact telephone number** .....

**If you are applying to this school on faith grounds, please complete the following sections:**

**Place of worship** one of parents / guardians regularly attends:

**Name of Place of Worship** .....

**Address** .....

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**Name of vicar / priest / minister / faith leader / church officer:**

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**Address** .....

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.....

**Post Code** ..... **Telephone** .....

**Your faith leader will be contacted in order to provide the information.**

Return this form directly to the school before 15 January 2024

Bolton-le-Sands Church of England Primary School, Mount Pleasant Lane, Bolton-le-Sands, LA5 8DT

*This form is for use of the School; it will be sent to the appropriate faith leader, to be returned direct to the school.*



**Clergy Reference Form  
Admission to Primary School, 2024  
Bolton-le-Sands Church of England Primary School**

**Name of Child:**

**Surname** ..... **Christian Names** .....

Date of Birth .....

**Name of Parent/Guardian** .....

Address .....

Post Code .....

**Contact Telephone** .....

This parent has given your name as a reference for his/her commitment to the church/place of worship.

Our criteria require the parent to have attended their place of worship once a month for 6 months prior to 1 September 2024.

Has this been the pattern for this parent? YES / NO

Signed .....

Name ..... Date: .....

Position .....

Church .....

This church is a part of (please tick):

Churches Together in England     Evangelical Alliance     North West Partnership

Please return this form to: The Office Manager, Bolton-le-Sands Church C of E Primary School, Mount Pleasant Lane, Bolton-le-Sands LA5 8DT or [a.joel@bolton-le-sands.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:a.joel@bolton-le-sands.lancs.sch.uk) by 14 February 2024