
Determined Admissions Criteria 2026/27

St Wulstan's and St Edmund's Catholic Academy was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is conducted as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and articles of association, and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with these admission arrangements.

St Wulstan's and St Edmund's Catholic Academy's Local Governing Body, operating under the Blessed Edward Bamber Catholic Multi Academy Trust (BEBCMAT), is the admission authority and has responsibility for admissions to this school. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round. The admission authority has set the school's Published Admissions Number ("PAN") at 30 pupils to be admitted to the reception year in the school year which begins in September, 2026.

Applications for a place at the school should be made online through:

<https://www.st-wulstans.lancs.sch.uk/admissions/>

If you would prefer to apply using a paper application form, email enquiries@st-wulstans.lancs.sch.uk or telephone 01253 874785.

Parents who wish their application to St Wulstan's and St Edmund's Catholic Academy to be considered against the faith criteria should also complete the supplementary form and return it to the school no later than **16th January 2026**. Each Catholic applicant will be required to produce a baptismal certificate or other evidence of baptism.

Admissions Criteria 2026/27

1. Catholic Looked After Children and adopted Catholic children who were 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.
2. Baptised Catholics and have a relationship including: as brother or sister, half-brother or half-sister, step brother, step sister, fostered or adopted children living at the same address as a pupil already attending the school at the time the application is made and is still at the school in September of admission.
3. Other Baptised Catholic children.

4. 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.
5. Other Baptised children.
6. Other children with siblings in school.
7. Other children

Please note: that if your child is admitted to a nursery class attached to an infant or primary school this **does not** mean that he or she will subsequently be automatically entitled to attend that school's reception class. The primary school admissions process is an **entirely separate procedure** and all parents **must** apply for places in primary schools for each child. Attendance at a nursery class attached to a school **does not** therefore increase a child's priority for a place at that school.

Waiting List

A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and ranked according to the Admissions Criteria until 31st December of the relevant year.

Tiebreaker

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 the cut-off point is for addresses within the same building, then the single measure between address points will apply and the Local Authority's system of a random draw will determine which address(es) receive the offer(s).

Shared responsibility

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, parents may be asked to provide evidence in the form of a copy of a tax credit award or recent bank/building society statement showing child benefit paid into their account.

Twins/Triplets 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 requirement 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.

Arrangements for Admission

Parents must complete the local authority Application Form and return it to them by the date stated. This form **should not** be returned to the school, only the Supplementary Form should be returned to the school. If the school is under subscribed late applications will be considered – see below.

Part-time Admission

Parents may request that their child attends school part-time until she/he reaches compulsory school age.

Deferred entry to Primary school

The Local Authority **allows** parents of children who are offered a place at the school before they are of compulsory school age to defer their child's entry until later in the school year. Where entry is deferred, admission authorities **must** hold the place for that child and **not** offer it to another child. Parents are not able to defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the academic year for which the application was accepted.

Late applications

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.

The Admissions Committee of the Governing Body will consider all applications at the same time after the closing date.

Lancashire LA will write to all parents who completed the common application form to inform them of the offer of a school place.

In-Year Admissions

In-year admission is the process of applying for a school place during the school year. Any applications for the intake made after the start of the autumn term will be treated as an in-year application.

The in-year admission process is managed by the school. Parents are required to complete the in-year application form, which is available from the school website.

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-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.



DIOCESE OF LANCASTER

ADMISSION TO LANCASHIRE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SUPPLEMENTARY FAITH REQUEST FORM

St. Wulstan's & St. Edmund's Catholic Academy

If you are applying for a place for your child in St Wulstan's & St Edmund's Catholic Academy on faith grounds please complete this form **in addition** to the Common Application Form available online or issued by the Local Authority

This supplementary information form will assist the Governors of the school in deciding whether your child qualifies for a place. Failure to complete the form may affect where your child is placed within the oversubscription criteria.

This form must be completed by the parent/guardian and signed by a Minister of Religion, where necessary

SECTION A *(To be completed by child/applicant's parent or guardian)*

Name of child/applicant: _____

Address of child/applicant: _____

If a **Catholic**, I confirm that the applicant is a baptised Catholic and enclose proof of baptism e.g., copy of Baptismal Certificate or details of place and date of baptism or letter from a priest confirming applicant's preparation for Catholic baptism or faith membership

Yes ☐ No ☐

If **Christian**, I confirm that the applicant is a baptised Christian and enclose proof of baptism e.g, copy of Baptismal Certificate or details of place and date of baptism

Yes ☐ No ☐

Name(s) of any sibling(s) who will be attending St Wulstan's & St Edmund's at time of the applicant's planned admission in September 2026

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Name _____

Date of Birth _____

Please return form to: (St. Wulstan's & St. Edmund's School Office)