
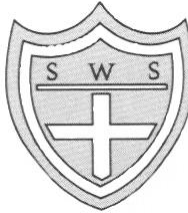


## St. Walburga's Catholic Primary School Admission Policy

	<p><b>As St. Walburga's school family we walk in the footsteps of Jesus by ...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• welcoming all</li><li>• learning to be the best we can</li><li>• joining together in prayer</li><li>• serving God and one another.</li></ul>	
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The Governing Body is responsible for the admission policy for St. Walburga's Catholic Primary School.

In September 2021 the Governing Body will admit 60 children to the school for the 2021/22 academic year, whose fifth birthday falls between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022.

For the purpose of these admission arrangements, a baptised Catholic means a person baptised in a church which is in communion with the See of Rome or a person received into the Catholic Church. It also includes children received into full communion with the Catholic Church after Baptism in another Christian tradition. A list of Catholic churches is available from the school office and can also be found on the school website.

The ethos of this school is represented in our school mission statement. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of the school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

### Children with a Statement of Special Educational Need or Education Health and Care Plan

Children with a statement of special educational need (SEN) or Education Health and Care Plan which has the school named in the plan will be given a place at the school and will count towards the published admission number.

In the case of there being more applications than places available (after any children with a statement of SEN or EHCP have been allocated places) applications will be considered by the Governing Body in the following order of priority:-

1. Catholic children (see note i) who are looked after or who were previously looked after (see note ii).
2. Catholic children with a sibling (see note iii) attending the school whose parents/guardians produce confirmation of **regular** practice (see note v) from the Catholic priest at the church they attend (*i.e. weekly at Sunday or Saturday evening Mass during the last 12 months.*)
3. Catholic children whose parents/guardians produce confirmation of **regular** practice from the Catholic priest at the church they attend (*i.e. weekly at Sunday or Saturday evening Mass during the last 12 months.*)
4. Catholic children with a sibling (see note iii) attending the school whose parents/guardians produce confirmation of **occasional** practice (see note v) from the Catholic priest at the church they attend (*i.e. at least monthly at Sunday or Saturday evening Mass during the last 12 months.*)
5. Catholic children whose parents/guardians produce confirmation of **occasional** practice from the Catholic priest at the church they attend (*i.e. at least monthly at Sunday or Saturday evening Mass during the last 12 months.*)
6. Other Catholic children with a sibling attending the school (see note iii)
7. Other Catholic children.
8. Non-Catholic children who are looked after or who were previously looked after (see note ii).
9. Children of parents/guardians committed to other Christian denominations (see note iv) with a sibling attending the school, whose parents/guardians produce confirmation of religious practice verifying regular attendance from the appropriate minister of religion.

10. Other children with a sibling attending the school.
11. Children of parents/guardians committed to other Christian denominations (see note iv), whose parents/guardians produce confirmation of religious practice verifying regular attendance from the appropriate minister of religion.
12. Other applicants.

**If within any of the above categories, the Governing Body is not able to offer places to all applicants, proximity to the school will be used to determine the order in which offers will be made as set out below. In the unlikely event of the distance between two children's homes and the school being the same, random allocation will be used, which will be supervised by the local authority.**

Higher priority will be accorded to applicants living nearer to the school with the distance being measured by the Authority's Geographical Information System (GIS) in use at the time of allocation (the system at the time of setting the policy takes the measurement between the address mapping points of the school and the applicant's home). If distances are equal, as calculated by the Council's GIS system, for example a flat in a block of dwellings with the same front entrance a random allocation system (supervised by an independent person) will be used to determine the allocation.

#### **Notes**

- i. The term "Catholic children" has the meaning set out at the head of this policy. All applications for baptised children must be supported by a Baptismal Certificate.
- ii. A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a local authority, or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services at the time of making an application to the school. A previously looked after child is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because she/he was adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.
- iii. For the sake of this policy "sibling" refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling. (See also notes vi and vii below)
- iv. For the sake of this policy other Christian denominations means: children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledging God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves : to seek a deepening communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,. An ecclesial community which on principle has no creedal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.
- v. Regular attendance is verified through the completion of the 'Confirmation of Religious Practice' section of the Supplementary Information Form by the appropriate priest or minister of religion who are asked whether the applicants attend their church and fulfil the necessary attendance requirement. For the purpose of this admission policy, regular attendance in the Catholic Church is defined as weekly. The religious leader of other Christian denominations will be asked to confirm the applicant attends regularly in line with the expectations of their particular church.  
  
If parents have attended more than one church in the past twelve months then additional forms can be provided.
- vi. When considering twins, triplets or other multiple births for one remaining place every effort will be made in collaboration with the parents, other schools and the local authority to ensure that they can be educated together. In accordance with Section 2.15 of the Admissions Code they may be considered as an excepted pupil.
- vii. Pupils will only count as siblings at the school if they are still attending the school when the child applying for a place is due to commence.
- viii. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility each part of the week, only one address can be used. This must be the address at which the child spends most of their time during term time.

Applicants can be asked to provide additional evidence in order to verify addresses and/ or other details provided. It is at the discretion of the governing body what evidence is required (evidence may include, but is not limited to, Child Benefit, GP registration, evidence of home ownership/tenancy, council tax or recent utility bill etc.). The final decision on the home address of a child will be made by the governing body. If any information supplied by an applicant is judged by the governing body to be fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the governing body may refuse to offer a place or, if already offered, may withdraw the offer.

#### Starting School and Deferred Entry to Year R

By law, children have to be in full time education by the prescribed day following their fifth birthday, or on their fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day. The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March, and 31 August.

Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to the school Reception class is deferred until later in the school year or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that school year, without affecting the offer of the school place. Application to defer entry should be made direct to the school after the offer of a place has been made and accepted by the parent.

Parents can request that their child takes up the place part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age. Application for their child to go part time must be made direct to the school after the offer of a place has been made and accepted by the parent.

Applicants cannot normally defer entry until the following September which is in a new school year. In that case a new application for entry into Year One for that school year would be necessary. However, parents of children with birthdays between 1 April and 31 August 2017 (inclusive) may wish to request admission to the Reception year in September 2022 rather than admission to Year One. In these circumstances, all relevant factors will be considered in assessing the request; parents would be expected to state clearly why they felt admission to Year R was in their child's best interests. If agreement is reached that a child born between 1 April and 31 August 2017 may start in Reception in September 2022, parents must apply for a place the following year for that year group. If parents have already applied for a place to start in 2021 and subsequently delayed admission is agreed, the application would be withdrawn and they would need to reapply the following year alongside all other applicants. **Places cannot be reserved or held from the previous year.**

It is recommended that parents considering such a request contact the school and the local authority admission team in the Autumn term 2021 to ensure that an informed decision is made. St. Walburga's Governing Body adopts the BCP Policy and Procedure for delayed admission to Reception.

#### Admission of Children Outside of their Normal Year Group

In addition to requests from parents of summer born children, i.e. children born from 1 April to 31 August, those with children who are gifted and talented, or who have experienced problems or missed part of a year, for example, due to ill health, can seek places outside the normal age group. The Governing Body will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case.

Parents do not have a right to appeal if they have been offered a place and it is not in the year group they would like.

#### Timetable for Reception admissions for September 2021

The Local Authority (LA) operates a timetabled coordinated admissions procedure for all Bournemouth Primary Schools in line with government legislation. The LA will manage the process on behalf of this school according to the scheme which they will publish in their booklet 'Starting Primary School 2021-2022' but it is the Governing Body, as the Admission Authority for this school who will allocate the available places in line with this policy.

The closing date for admission application forms to be received by the LA will be as published in the booklet 'Starting Primary School 2021-2022'. Also contained in that booklet will be the dates for notification to parents of admissions decisions and the closing dates for accepting places or lodging appeals. In case of any doubt on these dates, please contact the LA or the school.

#### Applicants for Reception Classes

Applicants for Reception classes are required to complete the local authority Primary Preference Form which can be obtained from schools, nurseries and play groups or completed online at [www.bournemouth.gov.uk](http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk). Completed preference forms should be returned to BCP Local Authority. In addition to the Primary Preference Form parents/carers are asked to complete a separate supplementary information form. The supplementary information form can be obtained from the school or from the Local Authority. The additional information on

this form assists governors in placing applications in the correct oversubscription criteria. If no supplementary information form is submitted governors can only rank the application on the basis of the information contained in the Primary Preference Form. The supplementary information form should be returned directly to school, together with baptismal certificates (where applicable) by **15 January 2021**.

#### Applicants for Other Year Groups

All applications to all Bournemouth schools are co-ordinated by the Local Authority. To apply for a place in other year groups please contact the Admission's Services Team, Children's Services, Bournemouth Borough Council, THE3 Town Hall, Bourne Avenue, Bournemouth, BH2 6DY (01202 456197).

#### Proof of Address:

You may need to provide documentary evidence of the child's home address. The home address where a child lives is considered to be a residential property that is the child's main or only address during term time. Applicants can be asked to provide additional evidence in order to verify addresses and/or other details provided. It is at the discretion of the local authority what evidence is required (evidence may include, but is not limited to, Child Benefit, GP registration, evidence of home ownership/tenancy, council tax or recent utility bill etc.). The final decision on the home address of a child will be made by the governing body. If any information supplied by an applicant is judged by the governing body to be fraudulent or intentionally misleading, the governing body may refuse to offer a place, or if already offered, may withdraw the offer.

#### Waiting Lists

Bournemouth Council operates a formal waiting list for those refused a place. The waiting list is ranked according to the over-subscription criteria. Any places that do become available, if not required for a child with a statement of special educational need or Education Health and Care Plan, or one who is required to be admitted through an In-year Fair Access Protocol, are allocated in accordance with these criteria.

Waiting lists for Reception will cease on 31 December 2021. Previous applicants wishing to continue on a waiting list must re-apply to Bournemouth Council between 1 and 31 December 2021. Waiting lists for other year groups will cease at the end of the academic year 2021/22. Applicants will be required to re-apply (in August 2021) for admission if they wish to continue to be considered for a place. Please note BCP Council may review waiting lists on a regular basis at the end of each term or when a place becomes available at the school.

#### Right to Appeal

In accordance with the school's Articles of Government, parents/guardians whose children are refused admission to the school have the right to appeal. Information on the Appeal Procedure together with an Appeal Form is available from the headteacher at the school.

The completed Appeal Form is to be sent to:-

Appeals Clerk  
c/o St. Walburga's Catholic Primary School  
Malvern Road  
Moordown  
BOURNEMOUTH  
BH9 3BY

***Prospective parents who wish to visit the school are most welcome and appointments should be made through the School Secretary.***