



St Mary & St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
ADMISSIONS POLICY 2019/2020

- 1.0 Each year an admission figure for the Reception Class is fixed. The planned admission figure for 2019-20 is 30.
- 2.0 Children are admitted into school in the September which follows their fourth birthday. They attend school full-time.
- 3.0 The Governors' priority is to support parents in securing a well-rounded academic, physical, spiritual, moral and religious education for their children so that every pupil is able fully to develop his or her talents.

Applications for places are welcomed by the Governors. In the event of oversubscription, as measured against the Published Admission Number of 30, places will be allocated according to the following priority order:-

1. 'Looked-after' children. That is a child who has a care order (full or interim) or who is accommodated under Section 22 of the Children Act 1989
 2. Children who are Catholics (or children one of whose parents at least is a member of the Roman Catholic Church) who are resident within the catchment area of Wool, Bovington, Lulworth or Wareham.
 3. Children who are Catholics (or children one of whose parents at least is a member of the Roman Catholic Church) who are resident outside the catchment area.
 4. Christian children resident within the said catchment area who have a brother or sister already a pupil in the school at the time of admission
 5. Children, one of whose parents at least is a practising member of a recognised Christian Church, or whose parents value and request a Christian education. (Evidence of commitment may be sought from their Minister of Religion).
 6. Children of no particular faith background whose parents wish them to have a faith-based education
 7. Children whose parents express a preference for the school (submission of an application form that includes St Mary & St Joseph's among its preferences).
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- 5.0 Where this school is named in a child's Statement of Special Education Needs, the Governing Body recognises a duty to admit the child to the school.
 - 6.0 Equal Opportunities – it is intended that this policy does not discriminate against applicants on the grounds of sex, race, colour, nationality or national origins.

- 7.0 If too few places are available to satisfy preferences expressed within any of the priority order categories above, places will be allocated on the basis of the child's closeness to the school (defined by straight line measurement using a Geographical Information based system which identifies an Easting and Northing for the home address and the school building and calculates the distance between the two locations.
- 8.0 The Local Authority's Coordinated Admissions Scheme will determine the deadline date for receipt of applications, the date when applicants will be notified of the outcome of their applications and the programme for dealing with late applications i.e. those received after the deadline for the normal admissions round.
- 9.0 If parents are refused a place at their preferred school, they have the right of appeal to an independent Appeal Committee. This is arranged through the Governors with the Democratic Services Unit of the County Council, where each case is heard by an independent panel of members. The committee members in a voluntary aided school must include:
- Lay members, who have no personal experience of the school
 - People appointed by the Authority (and may include one or more Governors)
- 10.0 Any problems regarding admissions should be addressed to the Clerk to the Governors and sent to the school.

Footnote

The admission of children with statements of special educational needs is covered by Sections 324 to 328 of, and schedule 27 to, the Education Act 1996. Guidance on the Admission of Statemented pupils is given in the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice.