



St Mary's Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School, Northchurch

Admissions Policy and Application Procedure for Academic Year 2020/21

What are the possible implications for my child of being educated Out-of-Year-Group?

St Mary's School follows the Department of Education guidelines on children educated Out-of-Year-Group [Department of Education Summer Born Guidance](#). In keeping with the caring ethos of the school the governors want to ensure that all parents of children considering an Out-of-Year-Group place to be fully aware of the possible implications of education Out-of-Year-Group so that the best interests of each child can be served.

There may be many reasons that parents would want a child to be educated Out-of-Year-Group. Some parents may envisage that as their child moves through the school they will eventually return to education within the normal year group. Other parents may wish their child to remain in an Out-of-Year-Group place throughout their education and into secondary school.

The Governing Body of St Marys wishes all parents to be aware of the following:

1. Once the child is admitted to the school, the Head Teacher can determine which year group best meets the child's needs. Whilst St Marys would always discuss the child's needs with the parents, the year group within the school is ultimately the decision of the Head Teacher and the child may later be moved into the normal cohort. All such decisions will be made for sound educational reasons and in the best interests of the individual child ([Moving children to their normal age group](#)).
2. The Governing Body is the admissions authority for St Mary's School Northchurch only. This means that decisions of St Mary's Governing Body cannot bind other admissions authorities (and vice versa). This could have the following implications:
 - a. When the child reaches secondary transfer the admissions authority of the secondary school is not **bound** to allow the child to continue in the Out-of-Year-Group place.
 - b. If the parent wishes the child to move schools as an In-Year applicant to another primary school, the admission authority of that school is not **bound** to allow the child to continue in the Out-of-Year-Group place.

Although parents should also note that other admissions authorities are obliged by the code to make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the child's best interests, and will need to bear in mind the age group the child has been educated in up to that point [Transfer to junior and secondary school D of E guidance](#)

Parents seeking an Out-of-Year-Group place are required to declare on SIF 3 that they have considered this document and read the Department of Education Guidance [Department of Education Summer Born Guidance](#)

Parents may find this extract useful [Department of Education - Answers to some common questions](#)