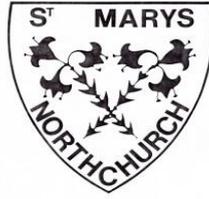


Excellence Together, Learning through Faith



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

Admissions Policy and Application Procedure for Academic Year 2021/22 Extracted from Department of Education Summer Born Advice September 2020

The government agrees that, in general, children should be educated in their normal age group, with the curriculum differentiated as appropriate, and that they should only be educated outside their normal age group in very limited circumstances.

Parental requests for summer born children to be admitted to reception rather than year one at the age of five are different from any other parental request for admission out of the normal age group. This is because parents have the right to decide whether their child will start school before compulsory school age and these parents must be able to make this decision confident that, if they decide not to send them to school until age five, the decision about the year group they should be admitted to at that point will be made in the child's best interests.

If a parent of a summer born child makes this request, the admissions authority is responsible for making the decision about whether the child should be admitted out of their normal age group.

This will require the admission authority to take account of the child's individual needs and abilities and to consider whether these can best be met in reception or year one. In effect, this means that the authority is making a decision about whether it would be in the child's best interest to miss the reception year. It will also involve taking account of the potential impact on the child of being admitted to year one without first having completed the reception year. The views of the head teacher will be an important part of this consideration.