



ST SAVIOUR'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY and NURSERY SCHOOL PRIMARY ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023/24.

St Saviour's is a Catholic Primary and Nursery School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. It is maintained by Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority. As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions.

The Catholic Faith and the Teachings of the Catholic Church have an essential role in school life and influence every aspect of the Curriculum. 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 Catholic Faith to apply for and be considered for a place here.

The co-ordination of admissions arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. For the school's year commencing September 2023, the Governing Body has set its admissions number at 30.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan

(This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with a Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Admissions to the school will be made by the Governing Body. All preferences listed on the Local Authority Preference Form will be considered on an equal basis with the following set of ADMISSIONS CRITERIA forming a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available:

- 1) Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children.
- 2) Baptised Catholic children resident in the parishes of the Roman Catholic Churches of St. Saviour's and St. Mary of The Angels.
- 3) Baptised Catholic children from other parishes.
- 4) Children who have attended St Saviour's Foundation Stage 1.
- 5) Other children.

Within each category listed above, the following provision will be applied:

The attendance of a sibling at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1)

- a) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15th January 2023.
- b) A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with

foster parents) at the time of making application to the school. A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the governing body) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

- c) For a child to be considered as Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism will be required, before offers are made.
- d) It is the duty of governors to comply with regulations on class size limits at Key Stage One. The Governing Body may exceed the regulations for twins, siblings in the same year group and children from multiple births where one of the children is the 30th child admitted.
- e) If in any category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of distance from home to school. Distance will be measured using the Local Authority's Ordnance Survey address point data system, for measuring straight line distances from the address point of the school to the address point of the home in miles; with those living nearer to the school having priority. In the event of distances being the same for 2 or more applicants where this distance would be last place/s to be allocated, a random lottery will be carried out in a public place. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.
- f) Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the child's "permanent place of residence" will be determined as the address of the parent who normally has responsibility for the majority of school days in a week.
- g) Sibling is defined as a 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.
- h) A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admission Criteria. Parents will be informed of their child's position on the waiting list which will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn Term.
- i) For 'In Year' applications received outside the normal admissions round, and if places are available, then children qualifying under the published criteria will be admitted. If there are places available but more applicants than places then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied.
- j) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents must be allowed at least twenty school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful to submit that appeal:

The Clerk to the Governors
St Saviour's Catholic Primary and Nursery School
Seacombe Drive
Great Sutton
Ellesmere Port
CH66 2BD

Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.

- k) Parents can request that the date their child, if below compulsory school age, is admitted to school is deferred to later in the school year or until the term when they reach compulsory school age.
- l) The Governing Body reserve the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to baptism, sibling connections or place of residence.

Reviewed October 2022