Holy Family Catholic Primary School, New Springs

Admission Arrangements 2017/18

Holy Family is a Roman Catholic Primary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Salford. It is maintained by Wigan 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 co-ordination of admissions arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. For the school’s year commencing September 2017, the Governing Body has set its admissions number at 20.

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, following allocation of places to children with a statement of special educational needs or education health and care plan naming the school, 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. Baptised Roman Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
2. Baptised Roman Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission
3. Baptised Roman Catholic children resident in the Parish of Holy Family
4. Baptised Roman Catholic children resident in other Parishes
5. Other Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
6. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission
7. Other children

Parents must complete the School Supplementary form. If the school is oversubscribed failure to complete the supplementary form may result in your application for a place in this school being considered against a lower priority criteria, as the governing body will have no information upon which to assess the application on the basis of the applicant’s baptism. This form should be returned to the school.

In the event of any over-subscription in the number of applications made under any of the categories above then the admissions committee will offer places first to children living nearest to the school measured in a straight line from the home to the school main entrance door.

NOTES

a) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15 January 2017.
b) A Looked After Child is a child who is (a) in the care of a Local Authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their Social Services functions (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989. A previously Looked After Child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
c) For a child to be considered as a Roman Catholic evidence of such Baptism will be required.
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 in a straight line from the front door of the child’s home address (including the community entrance to flats) to the main entrance of the school using the Local Authority’s computerised measuring system with those living nearer to the school having priority. If the distance is the same for two or more applicants where this would be last place/s to be allocated, a random lottery will be carried out in a public place.

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) Late applications (those received after the closing date) will only be considered after those received by the closing date. The only exception to this is applications for looked after children that are received by 15 February will be included with on time applications.

i) 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.

j) 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. Direct application to the school can now be made under this heading. If there are places available but more applicants than places then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied.

k) 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. Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on all parties.

l) 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.

m) 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.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, to a higher year group if the child is gifted and talented or to a lower year group if the child has experienced problems such as ill health.

The parents of a summer born child (born between 1 April and 30 August) may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than year 1.

A decision is made on the basis of the circumstances of each case.
The process is as follows:

**Stage 1 – request**

Parents make a formal request to the Local Authority School Organisation Team in writing with any supporting evidence they wish to be considered.

- A request for delayed entry to reception class should be made at the same time as applying for a place for normal entry (i.e. by the closing date of 15 January) in order to give sufficient time for the case to be considered prior to the offer of school places on 16 April.
- A request for in year admission outside of the normal age group should be made on the normal in year transfer form.

We do not accept requests for early entry to reception class for children who will not be of statutory school age.

**Stage 2 – decision**

Requests for voluntary-aided, foundation and academy schools will be referred to the school to be considered.

Requests for community and voluntary controlled schools will be considered by the local authority. We will look at the following factors but these are not exhaustive:

- Parent’s views
- The needs of the child and the possible impact on them of being educated out of year group
- The child’s medical history and views of medical professionals if appropriate
- In the case of children born prematurely the fact that they may have naturally fallen into the lower age group if they had been born on their expected date of birth
- Whether delayed academic, social, emotional or physical development is adversely affecting their readiness for school;
- Any other information which the parent requests the local authority to consider.

**Stage 3 – outcome**

Parents are notified of the decision in writing by the School Organisation Team.

**Request agreed:**

If the request is agreed the application will be considered for the year group requested and ranked alongside any other applications. **There is no guarantee that a place will be offered at the preferred school.** Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Where a child has been educated out of their normal age group, the parent may again request admission out of the normal age group when they transfer to secondary school. It will be for the admission authority of that school to decide whether to admit the child out of their normal age group.

**Request refused:**
There is no statutory right of appeal against the refusal of a request for admission outside the normal age group. However, if the parents are dissatisfied they have the right to complain through the Council’s complaints procedure for decisions made by the local authority or under the school's complaints procedure where the decision has been made by the school.
Holy Family Catholic Primary School, New Springs

School Supplementary Form

Thank you for registering an interest in a place for your child at our school. Please complete and return this form to the school office.

SURNAME OF CHILD ________________________________________________
FORENAME(S) ________________________________________________
DATE OF BIRTH ________________________________________________

ADDRESS OF CHILD ________________________________________________

POSTCODE ________________________________________________
YOUR TELEPHONE NUMBER ________________________________________________

IS YOUR CHILD

BAPTISED ROMAN CATHOLIC [ ] NON CATHOLIC [ ]

FOR BAPTISED ROMAN CATHOLICS

MONTH OF BAPTISM ___________________________ YEAR _____________
PARISH ________________________________________________
PARISH LOCATION (TOWN/CITY) ________________________________________________

You are asked to enclose a copy of the baptismal certificate with this form or evidence of formal reception into the Roman Catholic Church. If this is not possible explain below

SIGNED ___________________________ NAME (please print) ___________________________
RELATIONSHIP ___________________________ DATE ___________________________