

St. Anthony's Church of England Primary School

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2011-12

Vision for our School

At St Anthony's we believe that God loves us and we are made in God's image.

We work together to provide a safe and happy school where the Christian values of love, respect and forgiveness surround us and every child is valued.

Everyone will have the confidence to make good choices, achieve beyond their expectations and share the riches of God's creation.

The Governing Body of St Anthony's Voluntary Aided Church of England School is the Admissions Authority for the school and they intend to admit up to 30 pupils to the reception year group in September 2011/12. This arrangement follows consultation between the governing body, the LA, all other schools in the area and all other Admission Authorities in the area.

The school is open to receive applications for admissions from the parents of all children. We must give priority to children with statements of special educational needs that names the school. In the event of the number of applications exceeding the number of places available priority will be given to applications in rank order indicated below

1. Children in care. (The definition of a "child in care" is a person under the age of 18 who is provided with accommodation by a local council, acting in its social services capacity, for a continuous period of more than 24 hours, by agreement with the parents or is the subject of a relevant court order under Part 1V of the Children's Act 1989. Children looked after under an agreed series of short term placements (respite care) are excluded)
2. Children who have special medical needs or other special circumstances supported by medical/professional opinion – **see note 3**
3. Children who have a sibling on the role of the school at the time of admission (*A sibling refers to 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 the sibling*)
4. Children who live in the Parishes of: Byker St Anthony, Byker St Martin and Walkergate St Oswald, Byker St Michael with St Lawrence, Byker St Silas, Newcastle St. Gabriel, Newcastle St. Francis, or Walker Christ Church in the Diocese of Newcastle upon Tyne
5. Children of parents/carers worshipping regularly and frequently at the Parish Church of St. Anthony's, Byker. (Regularly and frequently is defined as attendance at least once per month over the last twelve months. It is sufficient for just one parent/carer to attend. **See note 2**)

6. Children of parents worshipping in another Christian Church who wish their child to attend this school because of its Christian foundation. (Applications should be supported by a letter from the minister of the relevant church)
7. Children who have compelling medical or social needs (supported fully in writing by medical/professional)

NB A parent is any person who has parental responsibility for, or who is the legal guardian of, the child. Where admission arrangements refer to "parents' attendance at church" it is sufficient for just one parent to attend. "Family members" include only parents, as defined above, and siblings

Tie Breaker

When deciding between applications with otherwise equal entitlement to a place, the Governors will take into account where applicants live and give priority to applicants whose home address is nearest to the school when measured in a straight line 'as the crow flies from the front door of the child's home address to the main gate of the school'. Those living closer to school will receive the higher priority.

Waiting List

The school office will maintain a waiting list of applicants that will be kept until 31st December. In the event of a place becoming available in the appropriate class during the year and there being more applicants on the waiting list than places available, the selection criteria and tie breaker indicated above will apply.

Notes

1. Parents are asked to let the head teacher know at the time of application whether their child has a disability. Parents should be assured that the nature of the disability is not grounds for refusing the application. The school will make every reasonable adjustment to ensure that disabled children are not put at a substantial disadvantage in accessing a full curriculum and that they will not be treated less favourably, without reasonable justification, than their able-bodied peers.
2. If applicants are seeking admission under criterion of living in the Parish or worshipping regularly and frequently at a Parish Church as above, they will be asked to provide evidence that they worship regularly and frequently, e.g. a letter from the incumbent.
3. If applicants are seeking admission under criterion of special medical needs or other special circumstances, they will be asked to provide appropriate evidence, e.g. a letter from a doctor or specialist. The governors must be satisfied that there is a specified medical reason which makes attendance at this school essential.
4. Nursery admissions are separate and parents are asked to note that attendance at the school's nursery does not guarantee a place in the reception class.
5. Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process are available by writing to the Chair of Governors at the school address.
6. If a place is offered on the basis of false information (e.g. address or Church attendance) or if parents do not respond within the stated timescale to the offer of a place the governing body reserves the right to withdraw their offer.

Please note: Detailed information about nursery schools and nursery classes in first and primary schools, including numbers of places, are included in the information for Parents Handbook obtainable from the Local Authority.

It must be stressed that formal written applications for admission must be made on the form provided by the Local Authority and returned to the Local Authority by the stated date. Places will then be allocated by strict application of the above criteria, with no reference to the date of application. Parents will be notified as to whether or not their child has been allocated a place by the Local Authority as specified by them.

_____ Chair of Governors

_____ Date.