

WHALTON C OF E AIDED FIRST SCHOOL - ADMISSIONS POLICY 2011/12

The Governing body of Whalton C of E Aided First School is the admissions authority for the School and they intend to admit up to 10 pupils in the reception year group in September 2011. If the School has not reached its maximum number of 50 pupils the Governing Body may consider additional applications. This arrangement follows consultation between the governing body the LA, all other schools in the area and all other admissions 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 in the care of the local authority (looked after children) and those with special educational needs whose statement names the school. By law no infant class may contain more than 30 children. In the event of the number of applications exceeding the number of places available at any one time, the selection criteria will be applied in the order of priority below: -

1. Children residing within the LA defined catchment area of the School.
2. Children residing within the Ecclesiastical parish of Whalton, giving preference to children with parents who worship regularly (at least once a month) at St. Mary Magdalene, Whalton.
3. Children whose parents are regular worshippers (at least once a month) at another C of E church.
4. Those children with a brother or sister at the School at the proposed date of admission.
5. Children of parents of another faith who wish their child to attend this School because of its Christian foundation.
6. Children who have special or medical needs, or other special circumstances (supported by medical/professional opinion).
7. Other children.

Tie Break

In the event of more than the allowable number of children meeting the selection criteria at the intake threshold, priority will be given to those children who live nearest to the School as the crow flies (from the front door of the child's home address to the main gate of the school). In the event of children living equidistant from the School, lots will be drawn.

Procedure

- An interest in admission may be registered at the School office at any time. Length of time on the list of those registering an interest in admission and /or those in attendance at Whalton pre-school are not criteria for selection.
- The School will issue application for admission forms to parents of all registered children at the appointed time during the school year prior to admission.
- The completed application for admission form must be sent to the School by the deadline indicated.
- The Admissions Committee of the Governing Body will consider all applications for admissions at its next meeting after the deadline. The School will then inform all parents of the decision made relating to their child.
- If an application is turned down, an explanation will be provided on the selection criteria and tie break described above. Appeals against decisions on applications for admission should be directed to the Chairman of the Governing Body at the School.

Waiting List

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

Notes

- The term "parents" includes either single or two parent families or the legal guardian(s) of children as appropriate to each child.
- A map showing the boundaries of the School Catchment Area and the Whalton Ecclesiastical Parish is available in the School office.
- If applicants are seeking admission under criteria numbers 3 and 4 above they will be asked to provide a letter of recommendation from their vicar/minister/priest. Regular worshippers are those whose parents share in the life of the Church.
- Brother and Sister means blood brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of a parent's/carer's partner – in every case the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address.
- If a place is offered on the basis of false information (e.g. Address of 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 the offer.
- A history of the outcomes of the admissions process is provided in the School Prospectus.
- Requests for further information related to admissions should be directed to the Head Teacher at the School.