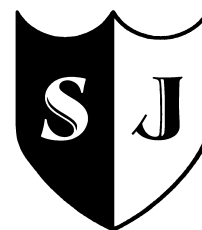


St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

'Growing in Faith, Faith in Growing'



St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School **Admissions Policy 2015 / 2016**

The admissions process is part of the Walsall Local Authority co-ordinated scheme.

For entry into Reception Class for the start of the academic year

- Parents must apply on the Local Authority form for a place in Reception Class.
- Applications for children who are baptised Catholic should be accompanied by a copy of their Baptismal Certificate. This certificate is used for the purpose of determining that correct priority is given to applications from children who have been baptised into the Catholic Church.
- Attendance at St. Joseph's Nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered in the Reception Class.
- Governors have agreed to participate in the Co-ordinated Primary Admission Scheme administered by Walsall Children's Services who will offer places on behalf of all Walsall Schools.
- Walsall Children's Services detail their Late Application Policy and their Waiting List Policy in the published Scheme for Co-ordinated Admissions available to all parents.
- The School works with Walsall Children's Services on the Local Authority 'Hard to Place Pupil Protocol' that has been agreed by the Walsall Admission Forum.

The Admission Policy of the Governors of St. Joseph's School is as follows:

The ethos of this school is Catholic. The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. 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 faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

The School's Admission Number for the school year 2015/16 is 30

If the number of applications exceeds the admission number, the governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the governors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made (see Note 1 below). Maps of the parish boundaries are available at the school and parish church or by post on request.

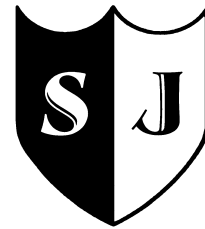
1. Baptised Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
2. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below) living within the Parishes of St Joseph's, Darlaston and St Mary's, Willenhall who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission



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3. Baptised Catholic children living within the Parishes of St Joseph's, Darlaston and St Mary's, Willenhall]
4. Other Baptised Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
5. Other Baptised Catholic children
6. Non-Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
7. Non-Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
8. Non-Catholic children

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION

If there is over-subscription within a criterion, the Governors will give priority to children living closest to the school determined by shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the applicant's home address and the front door of the school. The local authority uses a computerised system, which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system (See Note 4).

In a very small number of cases it may not be able to decide between the applicants of those pupils who are qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria. For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the children would cause the legal limit to be exceeded, the local authority on behalf of the governing body will draw lots to randomly select the child to be offered the final place. In case of blocks of flats priority will be given to the lower flat. As an exception, the governing body will give careful consideration to offering places above the Admission Number to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places.

Note 1

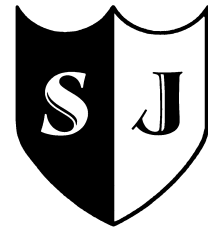
Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school must be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available to other applicants.



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Note 2

In all categories, for a child to be considered as a Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. For a definition of a Baptised Catholic see the Appendix. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest.

Parents making an application for a Catholic child should also complete the school's supplementary information form (SIF). Failure to complete the SIF may affect the criterion the child's name is placed in.

Note 3

The definition of a brother or sister is:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- Half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;
- Step-brother or step-sister,
- Step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- Adopted or fostered children

The children must be living permanently in the same household.

Note 4

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a child. The address must be the child's only or main residence for the majority of the school week. Documentary evidence may be required.

Where care is split equally between mother and father, parents must name Where care is split equally between mother and father, parents must name which address is to be used for the purpose of allocating a school place

SCHOOL ENTRY

Children must, by law, start school by the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. A parent may defer a child's entry to the school, but not beyond the academic year for which the application is accepted. Parents may discuss this with the headteacher.

Parents can request that their child attends part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN TO BE ADMITTED INTO A CLASS OUTSIDE OF THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP

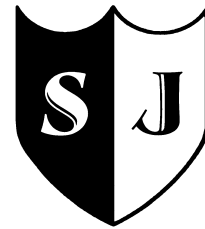
If parents wish for their child to be considered for admission to a class outside of their normal age group, they should make an application for the normal age group in the first instance. Parents should then submit a formal request to the Governing Body. This request should be in the form of a written letter of application outlining the reasons why you wish for your child to be considered to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group, and enclosing any supportive evidence and documentation that you wish to be taken into account as part of that request. The Governing Body will consider applications submitted and advise the parents of the outcome of their application before the national offer day, having taken into account the information provided by the parents, the child's best interests and the views of the



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Head Teacher. If parents are considering submitting an application for their child to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group, it is strongly recommended that they also read the DFE Guidance, which can be found at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission>

NURSERY

Parents must apply on the local authority form for a place in Reception Class. Attendance at a nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered in main school.

APPEALS

Parents who wish to appeal against the decision of the Governors to refuse their child a place in the school may apply in writing to Chair of Governors. Appeals will be heard by an independent panel.

REPEAT APPLICATIONS

Any parent can apply for a place for their child at any time outside the admissions round. Parents do not have the right to a second appeal in respect of the same school for the same academic year unless, in exceptional circumstances, the admission authority has accepted a second application from the appellant because of a significant and material change in the circumstances of the parent, child or school but still refused admission.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Late applications will be dealt with according to the local authority co-ordinated scheme.

WAITING LISTS

Waiting lists for admission will remain open until the end of December 2015 and will then be discarded. Parents may apply for their child's name to be reinstated until the end of the academic year when the list will be discarded. The waiting list will be kept in admission criteria order. This means that a child's position on the waiting list could go up or down. Inclusion of a child's name on the waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

Children who are the subject of a direction by a local authority to admit or who are allocated to a school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol take precedence over those on a waiting list.

APPLICATIONS OTHER THAN THE NORMAL INTAKE TO RECEPTION CLASS (In-year applications)

An application should be made to the governing body at the school..

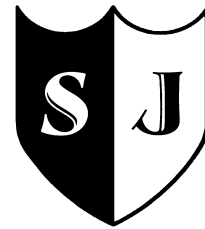
IN YEAR FAIR ACCESS POLICY

The governing body have adopted the LA fair access policy for admission of previously excluded or hard to place children.

There is no charge or cost related to the admission of a child to this school.



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APPENDIX

DEFINITION OF A "BAPTISED CATHOLIC"

A "Baptised Catholic" is one who:

- Has been baptised into full communion (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 837) with the Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome (i.e. Latin Rite, Byzantine Rite, Coptic, Syriac, etc, Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1203). Written evidence* of this baptism can be obtained by recourse to the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the baptism took place (Cf. *Code of Canon Law*, 877 & 878).

Or

- Has been validly baptised in a separated ecclesial community and subsequently received into full communion with the Catholic Church by the *Right of Reception of Baptised Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church*. Written evidence of their baptism and reception into full communion with the Catholic Church can be obtained by recourse to the Register of Receptions, or in some cases, a sub-section of the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the *Rite of Reception* took place (Cf. *Rite of Christian Initiation*, 399).

WRITTEN EVIDENCE OF BAPTISM

The Governing bodies of Catholic schools will require written evidence in the form of a Certificate of Baptism or Certificate of Reception before applications for school places can be considered for categories of "Baptised Catholics". A Certificate of Baptism or Reception is to include: the full name, date of birth, date of Baptism or Reception, and parent(s) name(s). The certificate must also show that it is copied from the records kept by the place of Baptism or Reception.

Those who would have difficulty obtaining written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception for a good reason, may still be considered as baptised Catholics but only after they have been referred to their parish priest who, after consulting the Vicar General, will decide how the question of Baptism/Reception is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.

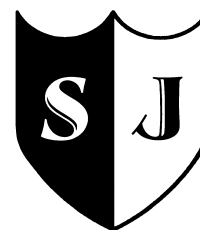
Those who would be considered to have good reason for not obtaining written evidence would include those who cannot contact the place of Baptism/Reception due to persecution or fear, the destruction of the church and the original records, or where Baptism/Reception was administered validly but not in the Parish church where records are kept.

Governors may request extra supporting evidence when the written documents that are produced do not clarify the fact that a person was baptised or received into the Catholic Church, (i.e. where the name and address of the Church is not on the certificate or where the name of the Church does not state whether it is a Catholic Church or not.)



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DIOCESAN EDUCATION SERVICE

Supplementary Information Form

School Name: St. Joseph's Primary School, Darlaston.

The ethos of this school is Catholic. The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. 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 faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

Child's Surname	
Child's First Name(s)	
Address	
Contact Number	

Please tick the appropriate box:

Is the above named child a Baptised Catholic?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the certificate of Catholic Baptism attached?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

A certificate of Catholic Baptism should be provided in order for the application to be considered in a Catholic category. Failure to provide evidence of Catholic Baptism may affect the criterion the child's name is placed in.

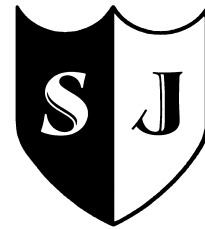
Please note that you must complete a local authority application form. This supplementary information form is only for school use to enable the governing body to rank applicants using the published criteria.



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Nursery Admission Policy **St. Joseph's Catholic School** **For admission during the academic year 2015 - 2016**

The Governor's Policy for admissions to the Nursery is as follows:

The Nursery Admission Number is 26. Places are offered on a part time basis.

An offer of a place in Nursery does not guarantee a place in the main school. A separate application, administered through the Local Authority, would need to be made for consideration by the Governors against the School Admission Criteria.

Parents who request a place for their child will be forwarded an application form for completion and this must be returned by a specified date.

The Governors of St. Joseph's Catholic School intend to match the admission timetable as issued by the Local Authority, once these dates are made available.

All applications should be accompanied by a copy of the child's Birth Certificate.

Applications for children who are baptised Catholic should be accompanied by a copy of their Baptismal Certificate. This certificate is used for the purpose of determining that correct priority is given to applications from children who have been baptised into the Catholic Church.

If the number of applications exceeds the admission number, the governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the governors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made (see Note 1 below). Maps of the parish boundaries are available at the school and parish churches.

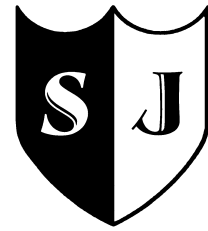
1. Baptised Catholic brothers and sisters of children in the school at the time of the September admission who live in the Parishes of St Joseph's, Darlaston and St Mary's, Willenhall.
2. Other baptised Catholic children who live in the Parishes of St Joseph's, Darlaston and St Mary's, Willenhall.
3. Baptised Catholic brothers and sisters of children in the school at the time of the September admission who live outside the Parishes of St Joseph's, Darlaston and St Mary's, Willenhall.
4. Other baptised Catholic children.
5. Non-Catholic children who have brothers and sisters in the school at the time of the September admission
6. Other Non-Catholic children up to the limit of the admission number.



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If there is over-subscription within a criterion, the Governors will give priority to children living closest to the school determined by shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the applicant's home address and the front door of the school. The local authority uses a computerised system, which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system.

Governors will notify parents as to the outcome of their application in line with the Local Authority Timetable for Admission Arrangements.

Please note there is no right of appeal against the refusal of a nursery place.

The allocation of places does not guarantee places for brothers and sisters in subsequent or other year groups within the main school

Unless there are significant and material changes in the circumstances of a parent's application for their child or the school, the governors will not consider a repeat application in the same academic year.

The home address of a parent is considered to be the permanent residence of a child in a residential property when a place is offered. The address must be the child's only or main residence and is either:

owned by a child's parent, parents or guardian

leased or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardian under lease or written rental agreement of no less than six months duration

The definition of a brother or sister is:

A brother or sister sharing the same parents;

Half –brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;

Step-brother or step-sister;

Step brother or step sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;

Adopted or fostered children

The children must be living permanently in the same household.

A waiting list will be drawn up for children who are unsuccessful in obtaining a place in the nursery, where parents have requested that their child's application be reconsidered in the event of a place becoming available. The waiting list will be kept in criteria order. The child's name will remain on the waiting list until the parents write to request its removal.

Late Applications- any application received after places have been allocated will be considered by the Governors and places offered where they are available. Applications will be considered in criteria order along with other applications previously received.

Applications from outside the normal admission time will be considered by the Admission Committee within a month of receipt of the application.



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