

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

Nursery Admissions Policy 2021-2022

St. Joseph's is a Catholic Primary 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.

For the school year commencing September 2021, the Governing Body has set its Nursery admissions number at 60.

Admissions to the Nursery class will be made by the Governing Body following the set admissions criteria forming a priority order where there are more applicants for admission than the school has places available.

1. Looked after children – a 'looked after child' is a child who is in the care of the local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority (as defined in section 22 of the Children Act 1989) or a child who was previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order).
2. Baptised Catholic children from the parish of St. Joseph's, Winsford who intend to continue their child's education with St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School
3. Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of admission.
4. Baptised Catholic children from other parishes who intend to continue their child's education within St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School.
5. Non-Catholic children whose parents wish them to have a Catholic education and who wish to continue their child's education within St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

Notes:

- a. Applications for each intake will be considered at the same time.
- b. Places are allocated in date of birth order.
- c. All Catholic applicants will be required to produce baptismal certificates.
- d. Siblings are defined as all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.
- e. A parent is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child.
- f. If category 2 is oversubscribed, children who satisfy 2 and 3 will have priority

over children who satisfy 2 only. Subsequently if in this or any other category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of distance from home to school. Distances are measured using Ordnance Survey mapping in conjunction with Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) to identify each property and each school. A straight line measurement in miles is taken from the place of residence to the preferred school to calculate the distance.

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.

- g. The Governing Body reserve the right to admit children with proven and exceptional medical or social needs where admission to the school might best help satisfy those exceptional needs, providing that such application is submitted with appropriate evidence or reports from a doctor or social worker.
- h. For occasional application 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.

Children with Statements

Section 324 of the Education Act 1996 requires the governing bodies of all maintained schools to admit a child with a Statement of Special Educational Needs that names their school.