

## **St James' CofE Primary**

### **Admission Arrangements - Oversubscription Criteria for 2021 / 2022**

#### **St James' CofE Primary School**

**Tyrer Avenue, Worsley Mesnes, Wigan, WN3 5XE**

#### **Admission Limit 2021 - 30**

When the school receives more applications than places available, the following oversubscription criteria will be applied once places have first been allocated to pupils who have a statement of special educational need or education health and care plan which names the school:

1. Children in public care and previously looked after children.

This includes any "looked after child", "previously looked after children" and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (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.

This criteria also includes looked after children and all previously looked after children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

2. Children whose older brothers or sisters attend the school and will still be there at the time of admission

3. Children who live closest to the school.

#### **Notes:**

##### **Tie-breaker**

Where there are more children in one particular criterion than the number of places available, places will be allocated to the children who live nearest to the school. The distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home address to a central point at the school using a Geographical Information System (GIS) which is based on Ordnance Survey.

If we offer the last place available at a school to one of twins (or triplets, or so on), our policy is to admit the other twin or triplets too.

Occasionally, the distance from home to school is the same for more than one child (for example, if more than one child lives in the same block of flats). In these cases we will use a system to randomly pick who will be offered a place. A copy of the policy is available on request from the local authority.

## **Notes to the oversubscription criteria**

### **Child's home address**

When considering your child's application, we will use the permanent home address we have for you at the closing date for applications. If parents are separated and the child spends time at each parent's address, the address we use for admission to school is that of the main carer. The address of the parent who receives Child Benefit will normally be used, but the Local Authority reserves the right to request other documentary evidence as fit the individual circumstances.

### **Brothers and Sisters**

We will include:

- Half-brothers and half-sisters;
  - Stepbrothers and stepsisters; and
  - Foster brothers and foster sisters;
- who live at the same address as part of the same family unit.

### **Children with a statement of special educational need or education health and care plan**

Children with a statement of special educational need or education health and care plan which names the school will be offered a place without using the oversubscription criteria. This is a legal requirement.

### **Late applications**

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.

### **Nursery Applications**

If your child goes to a nursery attached to the school:

- They do not have an automatic right to a place in a reception class at the school
- You must send in your application form or apply on-line by the closing date for applications.

### **Deferred Entry**

Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to the school is deferred until later in the school year or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that school year. Where entry is deferred, the place will be held open and not offered to another child. Parents cannot defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the academic year for which the original application was accepted.

### **Part-time Attendance**

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

### **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 (born between 1 April and 31 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 in January) in order to give sufficient time for the case to be considered prior to the offer of school places in 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 will be referred to the school to be considered.

Requests will be considered by the local authority. Who will look at the following factors, but these are not exhaustive:

- Parents 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.

### **Waiting lists**

Places may become available at the school after the offer date. We will:

- Put all children who we refuse a place on the waiting list for the school;
- Keep the list in priority order, decided by the oversubscription criteria for the school only;
- Offer any place that become available to the next child on the waiting list; and
- Maintain the waiting list until the end of the autumn term.

We must keep the waiting list in order of the oversubscription criteria for the school. This is a legal requirement. We cannot take into account the date the application was received or the length of time a child's name has been on the waiting list. This means that both on time and late applications are treated the same for waiting list purposes. Your child's position on the waiting list may change if another applicant is refused a place and their child is ranked higher in the school's oversubscription criteria.