



## St John the Baptist C of E VA Primary School

# Admission Policy 2024-2025

St John the Baptist is a two form entry Church of England primary school with a nursery. The governors welcome applications for admissions from all parents, knowing that this is a Church of England school, and hoping that they will support the ethos of the school.

### The 2021 School Admissions Code and the Schools Admissions Criteria

The 2021 School Admission Code determines the content of the schools Admissions Criteria.

As per the 2021 School Admission Code, it is important to note the following points:

### Children Entering Reception Classes

#### Entry to Reception Classes

- Pupils will be offered a full time place from the September which follows the child's fourth birthday.
- Where a child's birthday falls between 1<sup>st</sup> Sep and 31<sup>st</sup> March, parents have the right to delay their child's start until the child turns compulsory school age (the term after their fifth birthday). The school will ensure that the place is held open.
- Parents may request that their child attend part time until the child reaches compulsory school age (the term after their fifth birthday). The request is at the schools discretion and will be considered depending on the individual circumstances.

#### Admissions to Reception for Summer Born Children

- For children whose fifth birthday falls between 1 April and 31 August, parents who do not wish them to start school in their allocated school year, but to be admitted in the following September, should discuss this with the school at an early stage. This request must be put in writing to the governors; reasons to support your request must be provided within this request and parents should include details as to why they believe this would be of benefit to their child. The Headteacher will discuss any such requests with the child's parents or carers and options of part-time attendance during this period may be explored.
- Parents can decide not to apply for a Reception place in the school but to apply in the second half of the summer term for a Year 1 place starting in the following September. Parents should be aware that the Year 1 cohort may have no vacancies as it could be full with children transferring from the Reception Year group.
- Alternatively, parents have the right to apply in the normal round (no later than 15 January) for a Reception Year place for the following September, but you would need to provide strong supporting reasons for seeking a place outside of the normal year group via the protocol outlined above.

## **Proposed Determined Admissions Criteria 2024-2025**

The school will admit 60 children to the reception classes each year. Priority will be given to children in public care. The governors have decided that 31 places will be foundation places and 29 places will be open places or the same ratio following admission of children in public care.

*Please note: The following criteria will also be used by the governors, in order of priority if a year group is over-subscribed; this has been determined in line with the 2021 School Admission Code.*

- 1.** A looked-after child or a child who was previously looked after, but ceased to be so because, immediately after being looked after, they became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order. This includes those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted<sup>3</sup>.
- 2.** Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or for whom the school has been named in an Education, Health and care plan will be admitted to the school and will count against the planned admission number.

### **Criteria for 31 Foundation Places:**

- 3.** Children of parents who are practising<sup>1</sup> Anglicans and attend St John the Baptist Church, Hoxton and St Leonard's Church, Shoreditch. <sup>4</sup>
- 4.** Children whose parents are practising<sup>1</sup> Anglicans and attend Holy Trinity Church, Hoxton; St Anne's Church, Hoxton; St Chad's Church, Haggerston; and St Peter's Church, De Beauvoir. <sup>4</sup>
- 5.** Children whose parents are practising members and attend other Christian denominations<sup>2 & 4</sup>

### **Criteria for 29 Open Places:**

- 3.** Children who have a sibling attending the school at the time they would attend.
- 4.** Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:
  - a. where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
  - b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- 5.** Children who live locally\*\*
- 6.** Children whose acute medical or social needs justify the allocation of a place at the school. Supporting evidence from a doctor or social worker must be provided at time of application setting out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another.
- 7.** Children whose parents belong to another world faith or no faith and wish to attend St John the Baptist School because of its Christian tradition and education based on Christian values.
- 8.** All other applications

## **In-Year Admissions**

Applications for In-Year admissions are made in the same way as those made during the normal admissions round. If a place is available and there is no waiting list then the local authority will communicate the governors' offer of a place to the family. If more applications are received than there are places available, then applications will be ranked by the governing body in accordance with the oversubscription criteria with children without an offer of a school place are given priority immediately after other 'looked after' children.

The school has an admission limit of 60 places in each year group from Reception to year 6. For Nursery there are 52 part time places or equivalent full time places or mix of both.

## **Notes**

- If there is a vacancy in the Foundation Place category which cannot be filled by pupils who meet the criteria for Foundation Places, governors will consider children for these places using the criteria for Open Places.
- In all categories children who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of their proposed entry will be given priority.
- When deciding between applicants who appear to have equal entitlement to admission under any criteria, the governors will offer the place to the applicant who lives nearest to the main entrance to the school in Crondall Street measured by a straight line. If two applicants live exactly the same distance the allocation of the place will be determined by lottery which will be carried out by the Admissions Committee in the presence of an independent witness.
- If a place cannot be offered at this time then you may ask the school for the reason(s) and you will be informed of your right of appeal. You will be offered the opportunity of being placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained by the Governing Body in the order of the oversubscription criteria and not in the order that the applications were received.
- When a place becomes available the Governing Body will decide who is at the top of the list so that the Local Authority can inform the parent that the school is making an offer. Names are removed from the list at the end of each academic year.
- The school maintains a waiting list. Children are ranked in the waiting list in accordance with the school oversubscription criteria. Admissions outside the normal admissions round will be considered in accordance with the school's In-Year Admissions criteria.
- **In Year Admissions** are made via Hackney Learning Trust using the In Year application form. If a place is available and there is no waiting list the child will be admitted. If there is a waiting list, then applications will be ranked by the Governing Body in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Offers will be made by Hackney Learning Trust on behalf of the Governing Body.
- It should be understood by parents that a place in the nursery does not give a child automatic entry to the reception class.

- Late applicants will be added to the waiting list if the year group they are applying for is over-subscribed. In the event of a place becoming available, all applicants currently on the waiting list are considered in line with the school's admission criteria and a place is offered accordingly.
- In the event that multiple birth applicants (twins, triplets etc.) apply but are not all successfully offered a space due allocation limitations, spaces will be allocated to children in alphabetical order. The child/ren whose name appears first in alphabetical order will be offered the available spaces while the unsuccessful applicants will be placed on the schools waiting list.
- **Sibling** refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address
- **Parent/family member** A parent is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child. Where admission arrangements refer to parent's attendance at church it is sufficient for just one parent to attend. 'Family members' include only parents and siblings.
- **Adopted Order** - An adoption order is one made under the Adoption Act 1976 (section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (section 46).
- **Child Arrangement Order**- is an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live (Children Act 1989, Section 8, as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 14).
- **Special Guardianship Order** - is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian/s (Children Act 1989, Section 14A). Applications under this criterion should be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (e.g. a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order). Applications under this criterion must be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (e.g. a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order)."

**Footnotes:**

1. **Denomination:** Church of England, Roman Catholic, Methodist, Baptist, Orthodox or a member of the Evangelical Alliance or Church Together in Britain & Ireland
2. **Practising:** attending church regularly, as defined as attends church at least fortnightly for at least 1 year
3. **Looked After Child** A "looked-after child" is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of its social services function (c) subject to an adoption order made under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46) (d) subject to a 'child arrangements order is one settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live (Children Act 1989, Section 8, as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 14) (e) subject of a 'special guardianship order' where one or more individuals are appointed to be a child's special guardian/s (Children Act 1989, Section 14A). This includes those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
4. Please submit a **supplementary form**. These are used to share information as this has a direct bearing on the decisions about oversubscription criteria.