



St Nicholas Catholic High School

Admissions Policy 2018-19

Determined Admission Arrangements

The Governing Body Welcomes Applications For Year Commencing September 2018

St Nicholas Catholic High is an 11-18 co-educational Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. It is maintained by Cheshire West and Chester Education Authority. As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. The co-ordination of admissions is undertaken by the Local Authority.

For the schools year commencing September 2018, the Governing Body has set its admissions number at 198.

The Catholic Faith and the Teachings of the Roman Catholic Church have an essential role in school life and influence every aspect of the Curriculum. 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.

ADMISSIONS TO THE SCHOOL will be made by the Governing Body. All preferences listed on the Local Authority Preference Form will be considered on an equal basis with the following set of ADMISSIONS CRITERIA forming a priority order where there are more applications for admission than the school has places available.

1. Looked After Children who are in the care of the Local Authority and previously Looked After Children.
2. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
3. Baptised Catholic children from the Catholic Partner Primary Schools of:

St Wilfrid's, Hartford
St Bede's, Weaverham
St Mary's, Middlewich
St Joseph's, Winsford
St Luke's, Frodsham and
St Vincent's, Knutsford

4. Baptised Catholic children from other Catholic Primary Schools.
5. Baptised Catholic children from non Catholic Primary Schools.
6. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
7. Children of all staff employed at the school for two or more years, at the time at which the application for admission is made or staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
8. Baptised children of another Christian denomination (d) from the Catholic primary schools named in criteria 3
9. Baptised children of another Christian denomination (d) from other Catholic Primary Schools.
10. Baptised children of another Christian denomination (d) whose parents wish them to have a Catholic education.
11. Other children from the Catholic primary schools named in criteria 3.
12. Other children from other Catholic Primary Schools.
13. Other children whose parents wish them to have a Catholic education.

NOTES

a) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 31 October 2017.

b) 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 their Social Services functions under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989. A previously Looked After Child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.

c) For a child to be considered as a Roman Catholic evidence of such Baptism or reception into the Roman Catholic Church will be required.

d) Children of another Christian denominations means: children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledging God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and of CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

e) If in any 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 place of residence to the preferred school to calculate the distance. If the distance is the same for two or more applicants where this would be last place/s to be allocated, a random lottery will be carried out in a public place.

f) Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the child's "permanent place of residence" will be determined as the address of the parent who normally has responsibility for the majority of school days in a week.

g) Sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

h) A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admission Criteria. Parents will be informed of their child's position on the waiting list which will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn Term.

i) For 'In Year' applications received outside the normal admissions round and if places are available then children qualifying under the published criteria will be admitted. Direct application to the school can now be made under this heading. If there are places available but more applicants than places then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied.

j) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents must be allowed at least twenty school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful to submit that appeal.

Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on all parties.

k) The Governing Body reserve the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to baptism, sibling connections or place of residence.

SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY 2018

In addition to places available for students from St Nicholas Catholic High School and St Thomas More Catholic High School the Governing Body will make available further places for external students. All applicants will be required to meet the minimum entry requirements as set out in the Sixth Form Prospectus. If more applications are received from external candidates than the number specified then the criteria applied at Year 7 will be used to determine admissions.

NOTES

a) 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 their Social Services functions under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989. A previously Looked After Child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.

b) If an application for admissions from either internal or external candidates has been turned down by the Governing Body then an appeal can be made to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents and students are able to appeal jointly or separately against any decision refusing a young person admission and, where they appeal separately the appeals must be heard together. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 20 school days of refusal. Reasons for the appeal must be given in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on all parties.

c) The Governing Body expects that all students specifically selecting a Roman Catholic Sixth Form education will wish to be both fully involved in the ethos and spiritual life of the school, and in achieving the aims set out in its Mission Statement.”

Reviewed by: Student Welfare & Progress Committee	Date: 16 November 2016
Ratified by Governing Body	Date: 31 st January 2017
Review of Policy Due By	Date: October 2017