



ST JOSEPH'S NURSERY SCHOOL - ADMISSIONS POLICY & CRITERIA

Policy

The principal task of a Catholic school is to assist the parents in the religious upbringing of their children. St Joseph's nursery school is committed therefore to working closely with home and parish for the good of the children who come to the school. For this reason priority is given to the involved members of the local church communities.

The Governors in consultation with the LA have agreed to offer 26 full time equivalent places in the nursery.

Selection Criteria

Admission to St Joseph's nursery school is the sole responsibility of its Governors who use the following criteria to determine priority for admission to the nursery.

1. First priority of admission will be given to baptised children of committed Catholic parents as verified by reference from the Parish Priest of the Parish where the family regularly worship. The normal catchment area is the Parish of St Thomas' West Hill, together with St Gregory's, Garratt Lane and St Mary Magdalen's, East Hill.
2. When the school is oversubscribed with baptised applicants, the following factors will be taken into account when places are offered (in the order of priority shown)
 - (a) A looked after child
 - (b) The presence of a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
 - (c) Pastoral or medical grounds which have been verified
 - (d) Ease of travel from home to school in relation to other Catholic schools
 - (e) Social service grounds which have been verified
3. If there are any places not filled under priority one, any remaining places will be offered in accordance with the following priorities

- (a) Children baptised in the Catholic faith whose parents may not be practising at the time of admission.
- (b) In the event that there are still places available after all applications under 3(a) have been admitted, baptised or enrolled Christians who are practising members of other Christian denominations, up to 10% of the year. All children are normally expected to participate as much as possible in the religious life of the school. When considering applications from children from other Christian denominations, governors will take into account a statement of religious practice produced by the parents and verified by their minister.

Arrangements for admission

- (a) Parents are asked to make an appointment to visit the school.
- (b) The application form for admission should be completed and returned to the school with copies of baptismal and birth certificates.
- (c) On receipt of the completed application form the name of the child will be entered on the list of children seeking admission. This does not guarantee a place in the school.
- (d) The Governors' decisions regarding admissions to the school will be made, usually by the March preceding the academic year in which the child is due to start school.

Please Note

1. The right of appeal does not apply to parents of children refused a place in the nursery
2. Children who gain a place in the Nursery Unit **do not** have priority for Reception Class