

St John's Walham Green Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School Admission Arrangements 2010-2011

Introduction

St. John's School is a voluntary aided Church of England Primary with a Nursery. As a voluntary aided Church of England school, we aim to provide an education based on Christian principles and practice and enjoy close links with our parish church. Governors hope that parents who have chosen the school for their child recognise and are fully supportive of its distinctive ethos. Governors therefore hope that all children will attend acts of collective worship and take part in the religious education curriculum offered by the school. This does not affect the rights parents enjoy under the Educational Reform Act 1988s9(3).

The Governors, who are responsible for admissions to this Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, have agreed with the Local Authority to admit sixty pupils to Reception each year, commencing in September 2010[†]. These arrangements and the admissions criteria (below) are reviewed annually. When there are more applications than there are places available, the Governors will admit pupils according to the following criteria:

- Overriding priority will be given to **Looked after children**, i.e. children in public care.
- The remaining places will be split on the basis of **60% Foundation Places** for those who are practising Christians and **40% Open Places**, where no account will be taken of Christian commitment. Siblings will be placed into the applicable category.

Foundation Places

Places will be offered according to the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

1. Children whose families are committed regular¹ members of the congregation at St. John with St. James, Walham Green.
2. Children whose families are committed regular¹ members of the Church of England in a neighbouring Anglican parish² church, which has no church school of its own.
3. Children who are members³ of another Christian denomination⁴ living nearest the school measured by the straight-line distance from home to school.

The school will seek a reference from the applicant's parish priest or minister. In each category, priority will be given to children with a sibling already attending the school.

An applicant for a Foundation place who is not offered a Foundation place will automatically be considered for an Open place in accordance with the oversubscription criteria for Open places.

Open Places

Places will be offered according to the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

1. Siblings of children who will be on roll at the time of attendance.
2. Children living nearest the school measured by the straight-line distance from home to school.

Notes:

Should there be vacancies in either category the places will be filled in order from the other category.

- 1 by 'regular' we mean a minimum of twice a month for two years.
- 2 neighbouring Anglican parishes are: St Andrew, Fulham Fields; St Alban with St Augustine, Fulham; Christ Church, Fulham; St Dionis, Parsons Green; St Etheldreda with St Clement, Fulham; St Mary, North End; St Matthew, Fulham; and St Peter, Fulham.
- 3 by 'members' in category 3, we mean membership conferred by baptism (or dedication in churches that do not practise infant baptism).
- 4 by 'another Christian denomination' we mean those who are members of or affiliated to *Churches together in Britain and Ireland* (CTBI) or the Evangelical Alliance.

'Sibling'

For the purposes of this policy the word 'sibling' is defined as brother or sister, half brother or half sister, stepbrother or stepsister, or foster brother or foster sister. The child must be living with the same parent/carer at the same address as the child already at St John's School. The older child must still be attending the school when the younger sibling joins the school.

Tie-breaker

In the event of there being insufficient vacancies to admit all applicants in any of the categories listed above, priority will be given to children whose parents/legal guardians' residential address is the shortest distance from the school's main entrance in Filmer Road, when measured in a straight line.

Waiting list

A waiting list will be kept in order under each category. Late applications and those made mid year will placed on the list according to the above criteria. Places will be filled from the appropriate category.

In addition

Parents/carers applying under Foundation places will need to fill in a Supplementary Form to ensure the School has the requisite information to apply the Admissions Criteria. Failure to fill in the Supplementary Form may affect priority afforded to the application. Supplementary Forms will be distributed by the School and must be returned to the School Office by the stipulated date.

[†] The Governing Body is increasing the annual intake to the Reception from 30 pupils (1FE) to 60 pupils (2FE), with effect from 1 September 2010. The total number of places at the school, excluding the children in the nursery, will double over a period of six years.