



St. Ethelbert's R.C.P. School, Bolton
Admission Policy
2022-2023

St. Ethelbert's is a Roman Catholic Primary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by Bolton Local Authority. As a Voluntary Aided primary school, the school's Governing Board is the Admission Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. For the school year commencing September 2022, the Governing Board has set its admission number at 30.

Admission to the school will be made by the Governing Board. 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 admissions than the school has places available:

1. Catholic Looked After and previously Looked After children.
2. Catholic children who will have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission and who are resident in the parishes of St. Ethelbert's or St. Vincent's.
3. Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of St. Ethelbert's or St. Vincent's.
4. Catholic children who will have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission and who are resident in another parish.
5. Other Catholic children
6. Other Looked After and previously Looked After children.
7. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church
8. Non-Catholic children who have a sibling in school at the time of admission
9. Other children.

Notes

1. All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions as provided by the Local Authority.
2. It is the duty of the governors to comply with class size limits at Key Stage One. The Governing Board may exceed the regulations for twins and children from multiple births where one of the children is the 30th child admitted.
3. If in any category, there are more applications than places available; priority will be given on the basis of distance from home to school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child's home address (including the community entrance to flats) to the main entrance of the school with those living nearer to school having priority. The RAC Route Finder measuring system, which measures to two decimal places, will be used for this purpose. In the event of distances being the same for two or more applicants, where this distance would be the last place allocated, a random lottery will be carried out in a public place. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.
4. 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.
5. A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making application to the school.
6. A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the governing body) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted

7. Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.
8. For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. All Catholic applicants will be required to produce baptismal certificates. These must be provided as evidence **before the closing date**. Children baptised after the closing date will remain in their original category for admissions.
9. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
10. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
11. 'Brother or sister' includes:
 - all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address;
 - the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.
12. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
13. 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.
14. 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. If there are places available but more applicants than places then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied. 'In year' and late applications will be treated as per the coordinated arrangements published by the Local Authority.
15. 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 appeal was unsuccessful to submit that appeal. Parents must give reasons for their appeal in writing and the decision of the appeals panel is binding on the governors.
16. 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.

Parents may also find out about our school's admission arrangements through the Local Authority:

Tel: 01204 332143 (Pupil & Student Services)

Reviewed and agreed by the Governing Board of St. Ethelbert's RCP School -21st July 2021