



Admissions Policy: 2023

St. Begh's Catholic Junior School



Walking hand in hand in the footsteps of Christ.

We are His hands; we are His feet.

Adopted by the Governing Body of St. Begh's Catholic Junior School on
8th February 2022.

Signed: *Lois Anderson*

(Interim Chair of Governors)

Reviewed: February 2022

Anticipated Review Date: January 2023



St. Begh's Catholic Junior School is a Roman Catholic Primary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Lancaster. It is maintained by Cumbria Local 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 arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. For the school's year commencing September 2022, the Governing Body has set its admissions number at **75**.

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 admissions than the school has places available.

1. Baptised Catholic children in public care, previously looked after children who have been adopted or have become subject to a child arrangements or special guardianship order.
2. Baptised Catholic children who live in the parishes of St. Begh's Whitehaven and St. Benedict's Whitehaven with a sibling in the school at the time of expected admission.
3. Other Baptised Catholic children who live in the parishes of St. Begh's Whitehaven and St. Benedict's Whitehaven.
4. Other Baptised Catholic children with a sibling in the school at the time of expected admission.
5. Other Baptised Catholic children.
6. Other children who are in public care, previously looked after children who have been adopted or have become subject to a child arrangements or special guardianship order.
7. Baptised Christian children with a sibling in school at the time of expected admission.
8. Baptised Christian children.
9. Other children.

If a Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN) or Education, Healthcare Plan name our school, they must be admitted.

NOTES

- a) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15th January.
- 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, child arrangements or special guardianship order.
- c) For a child to be considered as a Roman Catholic evidence of such Baptism will be required.
- d) Clarification of Christian denominations recognised by the Catholic Church will be sought if necessary.
- 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. 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 using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system with those living nearer to the school having priority. 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.