



***St Joseph's
Catholic and Anglican
High School***

Admission Policy

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High School**

In recognition of the spirit of harmony and partnership that has characterised the growth of this shared school, it has been agreed that there will be one Admissions Panel set up to deal with all admissions. Representatives from both denominations will form this Panel.

Admission Policy

The school's admission number is 135 for each Year group.

The Governing Body proposes to admit 135 pupils without regard to ability or aptitude.

The Governors will consider applications, and allocate 135 places, in accordance with the evidence of commitment by parents and children to the comprehensive denominational education offered at St. Joseph's. Places will be allocated according to the basic ratio established at the foundation of the school: 60% of pupils admitted will be from the Roman Catholic tradition and 40% of pupils admitted will be from the Anglican tradition. The Governors recognise that members of other church communities have been, and continue to be, part of the life of St. Joseph's and they are committed to maintaining this within the constraints of the actual numbers applying to the school in any given year.

Applications for one of the 135 places available are considered by the Governors in the order of priority stated below.

First priority is given to applications received by the published closing date which is November 12th 2010. If places are still available, applications received after the published closing date will then be considered. Consideration will be given to applications received after this date where an exceptional reason for failing to meet the deadline can be proven.

All applications received by the closing date which express parental preference for comprehensive denominational education at St. Joseph's on the common application form will be considered in the following order of priority:

A1

Catholic	Church in Wales
1. Baptised Catholic Looked After Children	1. Looked After Children who are actively involved in local Church in Wales Communities.
2. All other Looked After Children	
<p>3.</p> <p>(a) Baptised Catholic children in Catholic primaries.</p> <p>(b) Baptised Catholic children within the Diocesan catchment area of the school.</p> <p>(c) Other children who attend Catholic primary schools.</p> <p>Total places available: 81 Children</p> <p><i>Should the numbers exceed the number of places available in each category, the following criteria will be applied, in order, to decide who can be admitted;</i></p> <p>1. <i>Evidence of sacramental involvement*</i></p> <p>2. <i>Evidence of active involvement in the church community*</i></p> <p>3. <i>The number of years the child has attended a Catholic feeder school*</i></p> <p>4. <i>The number of years the family has been involved in the supporting church*</i></p>	<p>3.</p> <p>Children of families who are actively involved in local Church in Wales communities.</p> <p>Total places available: 54 Children</p> <p><i>Should the numbers exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in order, to determine who can be admitted:</i></p> <p>1. <i>Evidence of the family's significant active involvement in the supporting church*</i></p> <p>2. <i>Evidence of some active involvement in the supporting church*</i></p> <p>3. <i>The number of years the family has been involved with the supporting church*</i></p>
<p>*Evidence and information must be supplied by the parents / guardians and (if applicable) the family Minister, and these details must be recorded on the form supplied by the school.</p>	

A2 Children of families who are actively involved in local Christian church communities of other denominations.

For available places the following criteria will be applied, in order, to decide who can be admitted;

1. *Evidence of significant active involvement in the supporting church**
2. *Evidence of some active involvement in the supporting church**
3. *The number of years the family has been involved with the supporting church**

*Evidence and information must be supplied by the parents / guardians and (if applicable) the family Minister, details must be recorded on the form supplied by the school.

A3 Children of other faiths.

For available places the following criteria will be applied, in order, to decide who can be admitted;

1. *Evidence of commitment to a faith community**

*Evidence and information must be supplied by the parents / guardians and (if applicable) the family Minister, details must be recorded on the form supplied by the school.

A4 Children of families who are members, but not active members, of local church communities with particular reasons advanced by parents which, in the view of the Governing Body, deserve priority. This includes consideration of children with special circumstances, including medical reasons and additional learning needs.

For available places the following criteria will be applied, in order, to decide who can be admitted;

1. *Evidence of some involvement in the supporting church**
2. *Number of years the family has been involved with the supporting church**

*Evidence and information must be supplied by the parents / guardians and (if applicable) the family Minister, details must be recorded on the form supplied by the school.

A5 Children who are not able to be admitted under categories 1 – 4, but who have a sibling* attending at the time of admission.

For available places the following criteria will be applied;

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1. *The greater the number of years the siblings would be together, as part of the school community, will be the deciding factor.*
- **Definition of Sibling is as follows.** *Brothers and sisters whether full, half, step or foster will be considered relevant where living together in the same family unit in the same family household and address and where an older child will still be registered at the school when the younger child would be eligible to attend. Children residing in the same household as part of an extended family, such as cousins, will not be treated as siblings.*

A6 Other children for whom the Governors are satisfied that the religious teaching and distinctive nature of the school are of prime importance to those making the application.

A7 Children whose application does not fall in to any of the above categories.

Tie Breaker

In the event of a tie breaker being required, the Governors will admit those applicants who live nearest to the school. The 'Home Address' will be the address used for correspondence and relates to where 'Child Benefit' is paid. In cases where there is doubt of the home address or where a child lives between two homes (split families) or other relevant circumstances, proof of the home address must be provided to the Governors to confirm the address used on the application form. Home address will be the address that complies with the above at the closing date for applications set by the Governors. Families who are due to move house should provide:

- a) a Solicitor's letter confirming that completion has taken place on the purchase of a property; or
- b) a copy of the current rental agreement, signed by both the Tenants and the Landlords, showing the address of the property; or
- c) in the case of serving H.M. Forces personnel, an official letter confirming their date of posting from the MOD, FCO or CHQ

Proximity will be measured by the Governing Body Admissions Panel using a specified web based mapping system. Measurements will be from the front door of the home to the nearest school gate, using the safest walking route. In the case of equal distances, such as a flat in a block of dwellings, the ground floor flats would be regarded as nearer than flats on higher floors.

Notes:

STATEMENTS OF SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS: In accordance with the DfES Special Educational Needs Code of Practice, the Governors are legally required to admit a child with Special Educational Needs where there is a statement issued by a Local Education Authority naming the school. This may reduce accordingly the number of places available. Prior consultation with the school governors is part of this process before the school is named on the statement.

APPEALS: If the Governors send a letter stating that they are unable to offer a place, a parent may appeal. This appeal must be made in writing by a parent to the Clerk of the Governors of the school within 14 days of the letter of notification being received. An independent Appeals Panel, set up on behalf of the Diocese of Wrexham and the Diocese of St. Asaph, will then hear the Appeal.

OTHER YEAR GROUPS: Admissions are subject to places being available and to the same admissions criteria.

WITHDRAWING OFFERS OF PLACES BY THE GOVERNORS: Parents should note that should the Governors find evidence of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent, which effectively denied a parent with a stronger claim an offer of a place, the offer could be withdrawn. Where a place is withdrawn on the basis of misleading information, the application will be considered afresh, and a right of appeal offered if the place is refused. This statement is made in accordance with 'School Admissions Code, Statutory Code Document No. 002/2009, page 36 paragraph 3.34 & 3.35.