

# **MADRAS (CHURCH IN WALES) VOLUNTARY AIDED SCHOOL**

## **Admissions Policy**

### **Introduction**

The governing body of the **Madras (Church in Wales) Voluntary Aided School** applies the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 introduced a new framework for school admissions as of September 2000. This policy conforms to the regulations that are set out in that Act and also further explained in the statutory School Admissions Code of Practice and the statutory Appeals Code of Practice.

### **Aims and objectives**

We are an inclusive school that welcomes children from all backgrounds and abilities.

All applications will be treated on merit and in a sensitive manner.

The level of ability of a child or any special needs that he or she may have plays no part in the admissions policy of this school.

The only restriction we place on entry is that of number. If the number of children applying for entry exceeds the places available, we enforce the procedure set out below in order to determine whether a child is accepted or not.

1. Whether the child lives within the Civil Parish of Penley.
2. Whether the child has a brother or sister already at the school.
3. Whether the child has had a brother or sister at the school.
4. Whether the parents desire a school where regular corporate worship is held; where teaching is permeated by Christian standards of faith and conduct; and where there is an active link with a Church.
5. Whether there are particular facilities offered by the school (which are not available at schools nearby) that are especially required.
6. Whether the parents are active worshipping members of an Anglican church.

In the event of there being more applications falling within any of the above criteria than there are places remaining available, priority will be given to those living nearest to the school.

### **How parents can apply for their child to be admitted to our school**

As our school is a Church in Wales school, the Governing Body determines the admission arrangements in agreement with the LEA. The Governing Body is therefore the 'Admissions Authority' for our school. Application forms for admission are available from the school. The school notifies parents about the school place as soon as all applications have been considered.

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Pupils are admitted to the school on a part-time basis at the beginning of the school year after they have reached their third birthday and full-time education in the September following their fourth birthday. Nursery education is not a statutory provision and parents have no right of appeal under the Education Act 1980 if they are unsuccessful in gaining a place. Admission to the nursery class does not guarantee admission to the school.

## **Admission appeals**

If we do not offer a child a place at this school, it is because to do so would prejudice the education of other children by allowing the numbers of children in the school to increase too much. Parents who are dissatisfied with the decision of the Governing Body not to admit a child may appeal. Appeals should be made within fourteen days of receiving the decision of the Governing Body and should be made in writing.

If parents wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by writing to the Clerk to the Governing Body. An appeals panel then meets to consider all appeals by parents who have been refused a place at our school and who wish to appeal against this decision. An appeals panel's decision is binding for all parties concerned. (Details of appeal arrangements are set out in the Code of Practice on School Admissions Appeals, which came into force in September 1999.)

## **The standard number**

The standard number is the number of children the school can accommodate. The standard number for our school is **15**. We keep this number under review and the governors will apply to change the number if circumstances allow.

## **Infant class size**

We teach infant children (aged five to seven) in classes that have a maximum number of 30 children.

## **Review**

This policy will be reviewed annually with the Admissions Authority in the light of any changed circumstances in our school or the local area.