

## ADMISSION POLICY

Minera Voluntary Aided Primary School accepts pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 years of age.

Admissions to this Voluntary Aided School are the responsibility of the Governing Body.

The Education Reform Act 1988 requires LEAs and Governing Bodies to admit pupils up to the admission number unless to do so would be inconsistent with preserving the School's distinctive nature. The admission number for this school is 17.

Children from the Gypsy traveller community or travelling groups will be treated in accordance with Welsh Assembly Government Circular No.: 003/2008 'Moving Forward- Gypsy Traveller Education'.

The Governing Body will not discriminate between boys and girls or against applicants on the basis of race, colour, nationality and national or ethnic origin.

In allocating places, members of the Governing Body's Admissions Sub-Committee will use some or all of the following criteria. (The following criteria are in no rank order).

1. Looked After Children who are baptised members of the church in Wales
2. Looked After Children of other Faiths
3. Home is within the parish of Minera
4. The child's parent(s) are actual communicant members of St. Mary's Church
5. The child's parent(s) are actual communicant members of the Church in Wales, attending a church other than St. Mary's, Minera
6. The child's parent(s) attend a Christian church but do not fall within the criteria of 2(a) or 2(b)
7. The child's parents are active members of another faith and also express a desire for a Church School education
8. The child has a brother, sister, stepbrother or stepsister who will continue to be at the school in the next academic year
9. There are specific medical, social or educational reasons why the child should attend this school rather than another one.

[ Within each category those living nearest to the school are accorded higher priority, with the exception of Looked After Children who are accorded highest

priority. The distances are calculated by Wrexham Local Education Authority by use of a Geographical Information System which accurately measures the straight line distance from the home address to the school. If distances are equal, as calculated by the Authority's GIS, for example a flat in a block of dwellings with the same front door entrance, a differentiation by floor level will be used.]

Parents dissatisfied with the decision of the Governing Body not to admit a child may appeal.

Appeal should be made within fourteen days of receiving the decision of the Governing Body.

Appeals should be made in writing to:

The Diocesan Director of Lifelong Learning, Diocesan Office, High Street, St. Asaph, Denbighshire, LL17 0RD.

### **FOUNDATION PHASE/NURSERY PROVISION**

1. Children are admitted to the school on a part-time basis at the beginning of the school year in which they attain their fourth birthday.
2. Admission to the Foundation Phase/Nursery class does not guarantee admission to full-time provision at the school.
3. Nursery Education is a statutory provision, although attendance at nursery level is not compulsory. Parents have no right to appeal under the Education Act 1980 if they are unsuccessful in gaining a place.

### **DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS**

“Actual communicant member of the Church in Wales” means a person who is baptised, is on the electoral role of a Church in Wales parish and has declared him/herself to be a member of the Church in Wales or a church in communion with it, and has received communion according to the use of the Church in Wales at least three times during the twelve months preceding the date of application.

\*Reference to parents includes either or both parents or a sole parent and where only one of two parents satisfies the criterion, the application will be treated equally with applications where the criterion is satisfied by both parents. Where responsibility for a child is ‘shared’, the person receiving Child Benefit is deemed to be the person responsible for completing application forms and whose address will be used for admission purposes. The Governing Body may request written proof confirming the address used on the application form.

\*The expression “parents” includes legal guardians.

## **EVIDENCE**

Applicants falling within criteria 2(a), 2(b), 2(c) and/or 2(d) may be required to submit with their application a letter from their priest, minister, religious leader confirming that the criterion is satisfied.

Parents are reminded that this is a Church in Wales Voluntary Aided School and that Governors and staff endeavour to encourage a particularly Christian ethos in the school. Religious values are an integral part in the life of the school and Collective Worship and Religious Education play a very important part in the school day.

This policy is written in compliance with the following documentation:

- School Admissions Code Statutory Code Document No.: 002/2009 July 2009
- Disability Discrimination Acts 1995 and 2005
- Sex Discrimination Act 1975
- Race Relations Act 1976
- Equality Act 2006
- Education Reform Act 2006
- The School Standards and Framework Act 1988
- The Education (Determination of Admission Arrangements) (Wales) Regulations 2006
- The Education Act 2005 – priority for Looked After Children
- The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (Section 44)
- The Education Act 2002 – repeal of the right to restrict admission based on a proportion of children from outside the faith group.
- Non-statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Assembly Government and the Diocese of St. Asaph/