



Archdiocese of
Birmingham

St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy

Admission Policy 2017-2018

POLICY

Approval and review

Committee to approve policy	Admissions Committee
Date of Board / Academy Committee Approval	
Chair of Board / Academy committee – Name	Mr Ray Chadwick
Signature	
Chair of Board / Academy Representatives	
Head teacher	Mrs Margaret Yates
Signature	
Policy review period	
Date of policy review	November 2015

MISSION STATEMENT

**With respect for God and united in faith, we place service before self to inspire hearts and minds.
By achieving together through our love and faith, we place Christ at the centre of all we do.**

Introductory Statement

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Appendix 1 – Definition of a “Baptised Catholic

Version Control			
Version	Date Approved	Changes	Reason for Alterations
1		Whole policy review	Update for new legislation



ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

ST MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC ACADEMY ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2017-18

Name of School: St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy, Bucknall, Stoke-on-Trent

The admissions process is part of the Stoke-on-Trent local authority co-ordinated scheme.

The Admission Policy of the Directors of St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy is as follows:

The ethos of this academy is Catholic. The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its Board of Directors as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its articles of association and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

The Academy's Admission Number for the school year 2017/18 is 30.

If the number of applications exceeds the admission number, the Board of Directors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the Board of Directors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made (see Note 1 below). A map of the parish boundary is available at the academy and parish church or by post on request.

1. Baptised Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
2. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below) living within the Parish of St Maria Goretti Bucknall who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission
3. Baptised Catholic children living within the Parish of St Maria Goretti Bucknall.
4. Other Baptised Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
5. Other Baptised Catholic children
6. Non-Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
7. Children of staff currently employed at St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy (see Note 5 below).
8. Non-Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
9. Non-Catholic children

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION

If there is over-subscription within a criterion, the Directors will give priority to children living closest to the school determined by shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight line measurement from the child's home address point to the front gate of the academy.

The local authority uses a computerised system, which measures all distances in miles. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system (See Note 4).

In a very small number of cases it may not be able to decide between the applicants of those pupils who are qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria.

For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, blocks of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the children would cause the legal limit to be exceeded, the local authority will randomly select the child to be offered the final place. As an exception, the Board of Directors will give careful consideration to offering places above the Admission Number to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places

Note 1

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health and Care (EHC) plan that names the school must be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available to other applicants.

Note 2

In all criteria, for a child to be considered as a Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. For a definition of a Baptised Catholic see the Appendix. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception should contact their Parish Priest. Parents making an application for a Catholic child should also complete the school's supplementary information form (SIF).

Failure to provide evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception may affect the criterion the child's name is placed in.

Note 3

The definition of a brother or sister is:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- Half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;
- Step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- Step-brother or step-sister;
- Adopted or fostered children

The children must be living permanently in the same household

Note 4

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a child. The address must be the child's only or main residence for the majority of the school week. Documentary evidence may be required.

If a child lives with **parents with shared responsibilities**, each for part of the week, the 'home address' will be the one at which the child is resident for the greatest part of the school week. Where this is equally shared, the home address will be the one used when applying for child benefit.

Note 5

Reference to staff means full-time or part-time employed in the following roles:

- Teaching Staff-
- All other staff employed at the Academy or in contract at the Academy who are not teachers.

The member of staff must have been employed at St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy for two or more years at the time of application for admission, or the member of staff has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

SCHOOL ENTRY

Children must, by law, start school by the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. A parent may defer a child's entry to the school, but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which the application was made. Parents may discuss this with the principal.

Parents can request that their child attends part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN TO BE ADMITTED INTO A CLASS OUTSIDE THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP

If parents wish for their child to be considered for admission to a class outside of their normal age group, they should make an application for the normal age group in the first instance. Parents should then submit a formal request to the Board of Directors. This request should be in the form of a written letter of application outlining the reasons why you wish for your child to be considered for admission into a class outside of their normal age group, and enclosing any supportive evidence and documentation that you wish to be taken into account as part of that request. The Board of Directors will consider applications submitted and advise the parents of the outcome of their application before the national offer day, having taken into account the information provided by the parents, the child's best interests and the views of the Head Teacher.

If parents are considering submitting an application for their child to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group, it is strongly recommended that they also read the DFE Guidance, which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission>.

APPLYING FOR A PLACE

Parents must apply on the LA form for a place in Reception Class. Attendance at a nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered in main school.

APPEALS

Parents who wish to appeal against the decision of the Board of Directors to refuse their child a place in the school may apply in writing to Chair of Directors. Appeals will be heard by an independent panel. There is no right of appeal in relation to nursery applications.

REPEAT APPLICATIONS

Any parent can apply for a place for their child at any time outside the admissions round. Parents do not have the right to a second appeal in respect of the same school for the same academic year unless, in exceptional circumstances, the admission authority has accepted a second application from the appellant because of a significant and material change in the circumstances of the parent, child or school but still refused admission.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Late applications will be dealt with according to the LA co-ordinated scheme.

WAITING LISTS

Waiting lists for admission must remain open until the end of December 2017. To facilitate In-Year transfers, children can remain on the waiting list until the end of the academic year when the list will be discarded. The waiting list will be kept by the Board of Directors in admission criteria order. This means that a child's position on the waiting list could go up or down. Inclusion of a child's name on the waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

Children who are the subject of a direction by a local authority to admit or who are allocated to a school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol take precedence over those on a waiting list.

APPLICATIONS OTHER THAN THE NORMAL INTAKE TO RECEPTION CLASS (In-year applications)

An application should be made to the Board of Directors at the school.

IN YEAR FAIR ACCESS POLICY

The Board of Directors have adopted the LA fair access policy for admission of previously excluded or hard to place children.

There is no charge or cost related to the admission of a child to this school.



DEFINITION OF A “BAPTISED CATHOLIC”

A “Baptised Catholic” is one who:

- has been baptised into full communion (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 837) with the Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome (i.e. Latin Rite, Byzantine Rite, Coptic, Syriac, etc, Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1203). Written evidence* of this baptism can be obtained by recourse to the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the baptism took place (Cf. *Code of Canon Law*, 877 & 878).

Or

- has been validly baptised in a separated ecclesial community and subsequently received into full communion with the Catholic Church by the *Rite of Reception of Baptised Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church*. Written evidence of their baptism and reception into full communion with the Catholic Church can be obtained by recourse to the Register of Receptions, or in some cases, a sub-section of the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the *Rite of Reception* took place (Cf. *Rite of Christian Initiation*, 399).

WRITTEN EVIDENCE OF BAPTISM

The Directors of Catholic schools will require written evidence in the form of a Certificate of Baptism or Certificate of Reception before applications for school places can be considered for categories of “Baptised Catholics”. A Certificate of Baptism or Reception is to include: the full name, date of birth, date of Baptism or Reception, and parent(s) name(s). The certificate must also show that it is copied from the records kept by the place of Baptism or Reception.

Those who would have difficulty obtaining written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception for a good reason, may still be considered as baptised Catholics but only after they have been referred to their parish priest who, after consulting the Vicar General, will decide how the question of Baptism/Reception is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.

Those who would be considered to have good reason for not obtaining written evidence would include those who cannot contact the place of Baptism/Reception due to persecution or fear, the destruction of the church and the original records, or where Baptism/Reception was administered validly but not in the Parish church where records are kept.

Directors may request extra supporting evidence when the written documents that are produced do not clarify the fact that a person was baptised or received into the Catholic Church, (i.e. where the name and address of the Church is not on the certificate or where the name of the Church does not state whether it is a Catholic Church or not.)

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

Supplementary Information Form

School Name: St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy, Bucknall

The ethos of this school is Catholic. The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its Board of Directors as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its articles of association and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

Child's Surname	
Child's First Name(s)	
Address	
Contact Number	

Please tick the appropriate box:

Is the above named child a Baptised Catholic?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the certificate of Catholic Baptism attached?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>

A certificate of Catholic Baptism should be provided in order for the application to be considered in a Catholic category. Failure to provide evidence of Catholic Baptism may affect the criterion the child's name is placed in.

Please note that you must complete a local authority application form. This supplementary information form is only for school use to enable the Board of Directors to rank applicants using the published criteria.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

ST MARIA GORETTI CATHOLIC ACADEMY NURSERY ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2017-18

Name of School: St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy, Bucknall, Stoke-on-Trent

The admissions process is part of the Stoke-on-Trent local authority co-ordinated scheme.

The Admission Policy of the Directors of St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy is as follows:

The ethos of this academy is Catholic. The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its Board of Directors as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its articles of association and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

The Academy's Admission Number for the school year 2017/18 is 26.

If the number of applications exceeds the admission number, the Board of Directors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the Board of Directors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made (see Note 1 below). A map of the parish boundary is available at the academy and parish church or by post on request.

1. Baptised Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
2. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below) living within the Parish of St Maria Goretti Bucknall who have a brother or sister (see Note 3 below) in the school at the time of admission
3. Baptised Catholic children living within the Parish of St Maria Goretti Bucknall.
4. Other Baptised Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
5. Other Baptised Catholic children
6. Non-Catholic children who are in the care of a local authority (looked-after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
7. Children of staff currently employed at St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy (see Note 5 below).
8. Non-Catholic children who have a brother or sister in the school at the time of admission
9. Non-Catholic children

OVER-SUBSCRIPTION

If there is over-subscription within a criterion, the Directors will give priority to children living closest to the school determined by shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight line measurement from the child's home address point to the front gate of the academy.

The local authority uses a computerised system, which measures all distances in miles. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system (See Note 4).

In a very small number of cases it may not be able to decide between the applicants of those pupils who are qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria.

For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, blocks of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the children would cause the legal limit to be exceeded, the local authority will randomly select the child to be offered the final place. As an exception, the Board of Directors will give careful consideration to offering places above the Admission Number to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places

Note 1

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health and Care (EHC) plan that names the school must be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available to other applicants.

Note 2

In all criteria, for a child to be considered as a Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. For a definition of a Baptised Catholic see the Appendix. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception should contact their Parish Priest. Parents making an application for a Catholic child should also complete the school's supplementary information form (SIF).

Failure to provide evidence of Catholic Baptism/Reception may affect the criterion the child's name is placed in.

Note 3

The definition of a brother or sister is:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- Half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;
- Step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- Step-brother or step-sister;
- Adopted or fostered children

The children must be living permanently in the same household

Note 4

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a child. The address must be the child's only or main residence for the majority of the school week. Documentary evidence may be required.

If a child lives with **parents with shared responsibilities**, each for part of the week, the 'home address' will be the one at which the child is resident for the greatest part of the school week. Where this is equally shared, the home address will be the one used when applying for child benefit.

Note 5

Reference to staff means full-time or part-time employed in the following roles:

- Teaching Staff
- All other staff employed at the Academy or in contract at the Academy who are not teachers.

The member of staff must have been employed at St Maria Goretti Catholic Academy for two or more years at the time of application for admission, or the member of staff has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

APPLYING FOR A PLACE

Parents must apply on the LA form for a place in the Nursery Class. Attendance at a nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered in main school.

APPEALS

There is no right of appeal in relation to nursery applications.

REPEAT APPLICATIONS

Any parent can apply for a place for their child at any time outside the admissions round.

LATE APPLICATIONS

Late applications will be dealt with according to the co-ordinated scheme.

APPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN TO BE ADMITTED INTO A CLASS OUTSIDE THEIR NORMAL AGE GROUP

If parents wish for their child to be considered for admission to a class outside of their normal age group, they should make an application for the normal age group in the first instance. Parents should then submit a formal request to the Board of Directors. This request should be in the form of a written letter of application outlining the reasons why you wish for your child to be considered for admission into a class outside of their normal age group, and enclosing any supportive evidence and documentation that you wish to be taken into account as part of that request. The Board of Directors will consider applications submitted and advise the parents of the outcome of their application before the national offer day, having taken into account the information provided by the parents, the child's best interests and the views of the Head Teacher.

If parents are considering submitting an application for their child to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group, it is strongly recommended that they also read the DFE Guidance, which can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission>.

WAITING LISTS

Waiting lists for admission must remain open until the end of March 2018. To facilitate In-Year transfers, children can remain on the waiting list until the end of the academic year when the list will be discarded. The waiting list will be kept by the Board of Directors in admission criteria order. This means that a child's position on the waiting list could go up or down. Inclusion of a child's name on the waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

APPLICATIONS OTHER THAN THE NORMAL INTAKE TO NURSERY CLASS (In-year applications)

An application should be made to the Board of Directors at the school.

There is no charge or cost related to the admission of a child to this school.

DEFINITION OF A “BAPTISED CATHOLIC”

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- has been baptised into full communion (Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 837) with the Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome (i.e. Latin Rite, Byzantine Rite, Coptic, Syriac, etc, Cf. *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1203). Written evidence* of this baptism can be obtained by recourse to the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the baptism took place (Cf. *Code of Canon Law*, 877 & 878).

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ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC COLLEGIATE

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Child's Surname	
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Please tick the appropriate box:

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