

Temple Ewell Church of England Primary School

Admissions Policy (For September 2016)

As a school founded by the Church of England and part of The Diocese of Canterbury, Temple Ewell Church of England Primary School has a distinctive Christian ethos at its heart.

Our **Christian Values** are:

Forgiveness

Acceptance

Inspiration

Trust

Hope

These Christian values support the spiritual and moral development of our children and wider community as we grow and learn together, in a happy, safe and secure environment.

We create and foster a genuine love of learning. Children enjoy high-quality learning experiences in which they develop their knowledge and understanding, thinking skills, self-confidence, and social and emotional skills.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. Parents have the right to withdraw their children from the daily Christian act of worship and Religious Education. We welcome applications from all members of the community, and we ask all parents to respect the Christian ethos of our school and its importance to our community.

The Governing Body is responsible for the admission of pupils to the School and admits 20 pupils per year. This admission's number has been agreed between the Governing Body and the Local Authority and applies to the year 2015 - 2016

The Governors have set a maximum class size of 30 pupils in Key Stage 1 and 30 pupils in Key Stage 2.

Where parents wish to be given preference on the grounds of their faith within their application for a place at this school, they should complete the school's supplementary information form which is available from the school office.

Oversubscription Criteria

In line with the DFE **School Admissions Code**, children with Statements of Special Educational Need that name Temple Ewell Church of England Primary School in the statement will be allocated a place at the school before the oversubscription criteria are applied.

Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the places available, all applications will be considered in accordance with the over-subscription criteria below:

1. Looked after Children / Children in Local Authority Care

Children who are in Public Care or who have been adopted but were formerly in Public Care. A child in public care is defined as a child who is looked after by the Local Authority within the meaning of section 22 of the Children's Act 1989.

2. Sibling / Current Family Association

A brother or sister is attending the school when the child starts and will continue to do so when the sibling is admitted.

In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

3. Vulnerable Children

I. Children of families with confirmed refugee status

II. Children with physical or medical need where written evidence is available from a senior clinical medical officer and the child's general practitioner or specialist showing that it would be detrimental to the child's health not to admit him/her to the school. Details of this must accompany the initial application.

III. Children where one or both parents have a disability that would make travel to a different school very challenging. Evidence from a registered health professional such as a doctor or social worker will need to be provided. Details of this must accompany the initial application.

3. Practicing Christian

Children, who along with their parents or guardians, regularly attend public worship scheduled and advertised within the pattern of services of the Parish Church of St Peter's and St Paul's Church, Temple Ewell. For casual admissions, i.e. families moving into the area, evidence of regular attendance at public worship within the pattern of services at an Anglican church in the family's previous home area will be required.

Regular attendance is taken to mean at least once a month, for a period of at least twelve (12) months.

4. Location

Children who live within the designated area of the parish of Temple Ewell and live nearest to the school measured in a straight line from the school to the home address. The home address is the place where the child resides permanently with their parent or parents or legal guardians.

Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility each part of the week, the "home address" will be considered to be the address of the person who receives Child Benefit for the child (proof of this will be required).

Explanations

Where any of the above criteria are oversubscribed Children will be ranked within each category on the following basis:-

(a) Medical / Health and Special Access Reasons

Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Equally this priority will apply to children whose parents'/guardians' physical or mental health or social needs mean that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend a particular school. Written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or another practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and the particular school will be required.

(b) Distance / Nearness of children's home to school

We use the distance between the child's permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using Ordnance Survey address point data. Distances are measured from the point defined as within the child's home to the point defined as within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody.

Parental Right to Defer Entry (Primary and Infant schools only) (Para 2.16)

Parents have the right to request that their child defers entry into Reception year (until the term following their fifth birthday, but not beyond the beginning of the final term). Parents also have the right to request that the child started part time (until the term following their fifth birthday).

Equally, every child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday.

The only restriction on this is that children must secure the offered place by starting school on the prescribed day following his or her fifth birthday (or on his or her fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day), but not beyond the beginning of the final term. The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.

This means that children born between the 1 April and 31 August (also known as “summer born”) must start school at the beginning of the April term if they wish to keep their offer. Where parents wish for their summer born child to defer entry until the start of Year 1, they must refuse their offered place, which may be offered to a different child, and then reapply through the In Year process. These applications should be made during the last month of Reception Year.

Summer Born Children and Admission Outside of Expected Year Group

Requests for admission outside of the normal age group should be made to the Headteacher of each preferred school as early as possible in the admissions round associated with that child's date of birth. This will allow the school and admissions authority sufficient time to make a decision before the closing date. Parents are not expected to provide evidence to support their request to defer their application, however where provided it must be specific to the child in question. This might include medical or Educational Psychologist reports. There

is no legal requirement for this medical or educational evidence to be secured from an appropriate professional, however, failure to provide this may impede a school's ability to agree to deferral. Parents are required to complete an application for the normal point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined. This application can be cancelled if the school agrees to accept a deferred application for entry into Year R the following year. Deferred applications must be made via paper CAF to the LA, with written confirmation from each named school attached. Deferred applications will be processed in the same way as all applications for the cohort in the following admissions round, and offers will be made in accordance with each school's oversubscription criteria.

Appeals Procedure

Parents have a right of appeal to an independent panel against the decision of the Governing Body to refuse application for a school place. Details of the appeals procedure are sent out with all refusal letters.

The school will provide procedures relating to waiting lists, appeals and late applications.

In accordance with the requirements of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, the Governors will make arrangements for parents to appeal against the refusal of the Governors to offer a place for their child in the school. Details of the procedure will be supplied by the Headteacher on request.

Queries about the Admission Policy should be addressed to the Headteacher or Chair of Governors, c/o the School Office. The school will establish an independent Appeals Panel in accordance with the relevant Education Act, or will use the services of the Local Authority Independent Appeals Panel.

Arrangements for Admissions and appeals will be reviewed and published each year.

March 2015