



St Peter-in-Thamet

Church of England Junior School

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2017 - 18

As a school founded by the Church of England and part of The Diocese of Canterbury, St Peter-in-Thamet Church of England Junior School has a distinctive Christian ethos at its heart.

At St Peters we believe that all our Christian values stem from Love. The Love that God has for us, that we have for God and that we show each other.

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 90 pupils per year. This admission's number has been agreed between the Governing Body and the Local Authority and applies to the year 2017-2018.

This policy aims;

- To provide clear, succinct information for parents on the criteria for admissions.
- To give parents a timescale for each stage of the admission process.
- To give children and parents information about St. Peter-in-Thamet Church of England Junior School and the education we provide.
- To provide a smooth transition.
- To establish a partnership with parents that will be lasting.

Procedures

An annual Open Day takes place at the end of Term 2 and parents are invited to contact the school for further information and to receive a copy of the school prospectus.

Parents are also invited, should they wish, to make an appointment to see the Headteacher in order to view and learn more about the school (with or without their child) prior to making their application.

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Applications should be made directly to the local authority and parents are encouraged to apply on-line at www.kent.gov.uk/ola

How places will be allocated

Where the school is named in a child's Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education Healthcare plan, the child will be admitted to the school and the Published Admission Number (90) will be reduced accordingly before others are considered for the remaining places available.

The following over-subscription criteria for St Peter-in-Thamet Junior School will be applied in the following order to rank pupils and identify which children are eligible to be offered places:

1. **Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care** – a child under the age of 18 years for whom the local authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents/carers (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) or who ceased to be so because they became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order under Part IV of the Act.
2. **Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:**
 - i) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or
 - ii) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post in the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage for the requirements of the post
3. **Attendance at a Callis Grange Nursery and Infant School** – Children who are attending Callis Grange Nursery and Infant School are given priority for admission to **St Peter-in-Thamet Junior School**.

Although there is a formal admissions link between the two schools, parents must complete an official admissions application (JCAF) to be considered for entry to the school.

4. **Current Family Association** - a brother or sister in the same school at the time of entry where the family continue to live at the same address as when the sibling was admitted – or – if they have moved – live within 2 miles of the school, or have moved to a property that is nearer to the school than the previous property as defined by the 'Nearness' criterion' (below).

Callis Grange Nursery and Infant School and St Peter-in-Thamet Church of England Junior School are linked for the purposes of school admissions and considered to be the same school for this criterion. If sibling priority is lost (as above), it will not be reinstated when a child transfers from the infant school to the junior school.

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

5. **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

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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 St Peter-in-Thamet Junior 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. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and St Peter-in-Thamet Junior School.

6. Nearness of children's homes 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 a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by Ordnance Survey. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for St Peter-in-Thamet Junior School, these straight line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school.

Tiebreaker

If any category is oversubscribed, applicants will be ranked by straight line distance [as defined above] and those closest given priority. Where distance is found to be equal, children will be ranked in alphabetical order, surname first and then by alphabetical order of first name on birth certificate.

If siblings from multiple births (twins, triplets, etc) apply for a school and the school would reach its Published Admission Number (PAN) after admitting one or more, but before admitting all of those siblings, the LA will offer a place to each of the siblings, even if doing so takes the school above its PAN.

Clarification of the Child's Home Address

A child's home address is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main residence (not an address at which the child may sometimes stay or sleep) and which is either owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian or leased or rented to them under a lease or written rental agreement. Where partners live apart but share the responsibility for the child, and the child lives at two different addresses during the week, we will regard the home address as the one at which the child sleeps for the majority of week days.

Waiting List, Appeals and Late Applications

The school will follow the Local Authority procedures relating to waiting lists, appeals and late applications, further details are available from the local authority website www.kent.gov.uk where parents can access the 'Admission to Primary Schools in Kent' booklet.

Waiting list will be held in oversubscription criteria order.

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.

In Year Admissions

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Parents of children already in schools in the area are asked to discuss a possible move with the Headteacher of the school which their child is already attending. We do not encourage parents to move their children from a local school without good reason; unless it is in the child's best interest. As of September 2013 schools handle their own admissions rather than having to go through KCC. A waiting list is kept by the school, and should a place become available, it will be offered to the child who meets the highest priority, according to our Admissions Criteria. Parents have the right of appeal to KCC should the required year group be full.

Further information is available on the school's website, www.st-peters-broadstairs.kent.sch.uk

Reviewed:

Arrangements for admissions and appeals will be determined by the Governing Body and reviewed annually.

Signed (Chair of Governors/Headteacher) Date