



## Admissions Policy

Admissions criteria for 2016

P.A.N.30

A child reaches statutory school age at the start of the term after he/she celebrates his/her fifth birthday. It is our policy to admit rising fives in the Autumn term of the academic year in which they will be five, ensuring at least eight full terms of infant education. Although parents have the right to defer their child's school place until the start of the term following their fifth birthday, we do have the facilities to admit these children in the Autumn term of the academic year in which their birthday falls. A child enrolled into a Reception Class will follow an induction programme including a home visit.

St Mary of Charity is a Church of England Voluntary Aided School, forming part of the Aquila Multi Academy Trust and the governing body is the admissions authority. The governors will consider the admission of children in accordance with the following criteria in order of priority:

1. Children in the care of the Local Authority or who were previously Looked After Children.\*
2. A brother or sister attending the school when the child starts. In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural siblings, adopted siblings, step siblings or foster siblings. \*\*
3. Children with medical or compassionate needs (the governors may ask for supporting correspondence from another agency, for example a doctor's practice). 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. 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 the particular school.

4. Children whose parents or carers attend St Mary of Charity Church at least once a month and have done so for a period of not less than 1 year. (Please note you will need to have the supplementary information form signed by the church minister and return this to the school - this information sheet can be viewed by parents on appeal.)

5. Children whose parents or carers attend any other Christian Church affiliated to Churches affiliated to Churches together in England and have done so for a period of not less than 1 year. (Please note you will need to have the supplementary information form signed by the church minister and return this to the school - this information sheet can be viewed by parents on appeal.)

6. Any other children

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of special educational needs which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.

Within each of the criterion above places will be ranked in accordance to distance \*\*\*

#### Additional Guidance for Parents

\* Children 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 is the subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act. This applies equally to children who immediately after being looked after by the local authority became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. (As defined by Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or Section 8 or 14A of the Children Act 1989)

\*\* The sibling link is maintained as long as the family lives at the same address as when the first child applied, or has moved closer to the school than when the first child was offered a place, or has moved to an address that is less than 2

miles from the school using the distance measured by the method outlined in the distance criterion.

\*\*\* A pupil's home address is considered to be the residential property that is the **child's only or main residence** and not an address at which your child might sometimes sleep or stay due to your own domestic or special arrangements. The address must be the pupil's home address on the day you completed the application form which is either

- Owned by the child's parent or guardian, OR
- Leased to or rented by the child's parent, parents, guardian under a lease or written rental agreement.

If you live separately from your partner but share responsibility for your 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 the weekdays.

A block of flats has a single address point reference, so applicants living in the same block will be regarded as living the same distance away from the school. In the unlikely event that two or more children live in the same block and in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the school, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given a place.

A waiting list will be maintained until the end of Term 2, in accordance with the over subscription criteria and should a place become available the child ranked highest on the list will be offered the place.

In accordance with the Education Reform Act 2002, parents have the right of appeal to the Independent Appeal Committee against the decision of the governing body not to admit their child(ren) to the school.

After a place has been offered the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances.

1. When a parent has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time;  
or
2. When a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information;  
or
3. the admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or

intentionally misleading application from a parent.