ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION SCHOOL

"Every moment, every day, every individual counts"



ADMISSIONS POLICY

Last Reviewed: June 2021

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Governors Monitoring Group: Leadership and Management

SLT Responsible: Headteacher

Review Period: Annually

HOPE FORGIVENESS COMPASSION FRIENDSHIP WISDOM

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION SCHOOL "Every moment, every day, every individual counts"

ADMISSIONS POLICY

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1.

Aims

1. AIMS:

This policy aims to:

- Explain how to apply for a place at the school.
- Set out the school's arrangements for allocating places to the pupils who apply.
- Explain **how to appeal** against a decision not to offer your child a place.

2. LEGISLATION AND STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS:

This policy is based on the following advice from the Department for Education (DfE):

- School Admissions Code
- School Admission Appeals Code

The school is required to comply with these codes, and with the law relating to admissions as set out in the <u>School Standards and Framework Act 1998</u>.

3. **DEFINITIONS**:

The **normal admissions round** is the period during which parents can apply for state-funded school places at the school's normal point of entry, using the common application form provided by their home local authority.

Looked after children are children who, at the time of making an application to a school, are:

- In the care of a local authority, or
- Being provided with accommodation by a local authority in exercise of its social services functions

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they:

- Were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 or the Adoption and Children Act 2002, or
- Became subject to a child arrangements order, or
- Became subject to a special guardianship order

A child reaches **compulsory school age** on the prescribed day following his or her fifth birthday (or on his or her fifth birthday if it falls on a prescribed day). The prescribed days are 31 December, 31 March and 31 August.

4. HOW TO APPLY:

For applications in the normal admissions round you should complete the Common Application Form (CAF), you can use this form to express your preference for your chosen schools in rank order. More information and detail can be found in the Primary/ Secondary Admissions Booklet available from Kent County Council at www.kent.gov.uk website. In addition to this, you **MUST** complete the School's Supplementary Forms (Appendix 2), available on the school website or requested from the school.

Applications are considered by the School's Governing Board following the admissions criteria. Within each criteria in a tie break situation, applicants are ranked by distance from the school.

You will receive an offer for a school place directly from the Local Authority and will be asked to return the relevant form to accept or decline the place. Following this letter the school will send you a pack of information, containing an offer letter and various forms that must be returned to the school to accept the place.

All parents of unsuccessful applications can request to go on the school's waiting list by completing the waiting list request form provided by the Local Authority.

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

Please note, pupils attending St George's Church of England Primary School will transfer automatically into the Secondary School, but the application process still needs to be followed by parents.

5. REQUESTS FOR ADMISSION OUTSIDE THE NORMAL AGE GROUP:

Parents are entitled to request a place for their child outside of their normal age group and must follow the school's application process and inform the school that your child is outside the normal age group.

Decisions on requests for admission outside the normal age group will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, this will include taking account of:

- Parents' views
- Information about the child's academic, social and emotional development
- Where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional
- Whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group
- Whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely
- The headteacher's views

Wherever possible, requests for admission outside a child's normal age group will be processed as part of the main admissions round. They will be considered on the basis of the admission arrangements laid out in this policy, including the oversubscription criteria listed in section 6. Applications will not be treated as a lower priority if parents have made a request for a child to be admitted outside the normal age group.

Parents will always be informed of the reasons for any decision on the year group a child should be admitted to. Parents do not have a right to appeal if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

6. ALLOCATION OF PLACES:

6.1 Admission number:

The school has an agreed admission number of 60 for Year R pupils and 217 for Year 7 pupils.

6.2 Oversubscription criteria

All children whose Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) names the school will be admitted before any other places are allocated.

If the school is not oversubscribed, all applicants will be offered a place.

In the event that the school receives more applications than the number of places it has available, places will be given to those children who meet any of the criteria set in Appendix 1, in order, until all places are filled.

6.3 Tie break

In the case of 2 or more applications that cannot be separated by the oversubscription criteria outlined in Appendix 1, the school will use the distance between the school and a child's home as a tie breaker to decide between applicants. Priority will be given to children who live closest to the school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home address to the school's front gates on Westwood Road, Broadstairs. A child's home address will be considered to be where he/she is resident for the majority of nights in a normal school week.

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

Where the distance between 2 children's homes and the school is the same, random allocation will be used to decide between them. This process will be independently verified.

7. IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS:

You can apply for a place for your child at any time outside the normal admissions round. As is the case in the normal admissions round, all children whose Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) names the school will be admitted.

If there are no spaces available at the time of your application, your child's name will be added to a waiting list for the relevant year group. When a space becomes available it will be filled by one of the pupils on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed in section 6.2 of this policy. Priority will not be given to children on the basis that they have been on the waiting list the longest.

Applications for in-year admissions should be sent to the following address:
Admissions
St George's Church of England Foundation School
Westwood Road
Broadstairs
Kent CT10 2LH

admin@st-georgescofe-thanet.kent.sch.uk

8. APPEALS:

If your child's application for a place at the school is unsuccessful, you will be given information about the process for hearing appeals. If you wish to appeal, you must set out the grounds for your appeal in writing and send it to the following address:

Clerk to the Governors St George's Church of England Foundation School Westwood Road Broadstairs Kent CT10 2LH

Email – <u>clerk@st-georgescofe-thanet.kent.sch.uk</u>

You can find details of the school's appeals timetable on the following webpage: http://www.stgeorges-school.org.uk/1004/admissions-1

9. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS:

This policy will be reviewed and approved by the Governing Board every year.

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VISION

"Every moment, every day, every individual counts."

St George's is a caring and inclusive school that enables every individual to flourish spiritually, morally and academically. We are at the heart of our local community, a haven of peace, harmony, respect and aspiration. We nurture each individual's unique God-given potential, equipping pupils with the skills, knowledge and resilience for the future.

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many."

1 Corinthians 12:14

FOUNDATION STONES AND VALUES:

St George's is a place where every individual is valued regardless of their circumstances. Our vision is built on the words of 1 Corinthians 12, where Paul writes about spiritual gifts and the unity of the church. Likewise, at St George's, every individual is encouraged to unlock their full God-given potential, so that they can contribute to both the body of the school and the wider community.

This vision is also informed by the original purpose of the St George's "National School", which opened in 1841 to, "increase the means of providing a moral and religious education according to the tenets of the established Church in England for all the children of the poor of the parishes of Ramsgate and St. Laurence and to engraft therein a suitable course of instruction to their station in life".

It is further shaped by the Church of England Vision for Education, which is 'deeply Christian and healthily plural', promoting 'excellence in education alongside life in all its fullness'.

We are all aware that life provides many challenges and that everyone needs support at various times in their lives. This is why team work and community ('the body') is at the heart of our vision and lived out daily through our school values. These are the Christian values of:

- Hope
- Wisdom
- Forgiveness
- Friendship
- Compassion

St George's provides a broad, stimulating and enjoyable curriculum, which engages, motivates and challenges all pupils, giving them the knowledge, skills and understanding to grow as individuals, preparing them for the next stage in their lives. This is provided within an environment that is safe and secure – reflected in the joy and peace that can be experienced throughout the family atmosphere of the school.

St George's Church of England Foundation School caters for boys and girls of all abilities from ages 4-19 and structured as follows:

- A primary phase
- A secondary phase
- A sixth form

St. George's Church of England Foundation School is normally oversubscribed. To access general information about the school, please contact the school or visit the school's website: http://www.stgeorges-school.org.uk.

APPLICATION PROCESS FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PHASES

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

Applications for admission to St George's Church of England Foundation School should be made on the "Common Application Form" provided and administered by Kent County Council. You will also need to complete the school's supplementary forms which will allow for all places to be allocated using the following criteria which are applied, in the order of priority shown, to assist in the decision making process. More information and detail can be found in the Primary/ Secondary Admissions Booklet available from Kent County Council. Use the contact link on the www.kent.gov.uk website.

St George's Church of England Foundation School will follow the Local Education Authority's timetable for applications.

PRIMARY AND SECONDARY PHASE ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

The Published Admission Number (PAN) in Year R for September 2021 is 60 and in Year 7 for September 2021 is 217. The school is usually oversubscribed and before the application of oversubscription criteria is applied, children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), who name the school, will automatically be allocated a place. Where the number of applications for admission in the Primary or Secondary Phase is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below.

All places will be allocated using the following criteria which are applied, in the order of priority shown, to assist in the decision making process.

1. **Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care** - A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22 (1) of the children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organization, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

2. Pupils from St George's Church of England Primary School. Parents must still complete the online "Common Application Form (CAF)" for the Local Authority and the School's supplementary Form (obtainable from the school).

(CRITERIA 2 IS ONLY RELEVANT FOR YEAR 7 PLACES)

- 3. Children of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admissions to the school is made.
- 4. Children with a sibling attending the school at the time of application. Sibling is defined in these arrangements as children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, step brothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

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- 5. A child who attends a Christian Church with priority given to those who attend more frequently. The local Vicar, Parish Priest or Pastor will be required to provide written evidence to the Governing Board on the schools supplementary clergy form confirming the child's affiliation to the local Christian Church. These will be ranked in accordance with each of the following categories:
 - Child who attends a Christian Church at least fortnightly and have done so for a period of not less than 2 years up to the date of application. (This must be confirmed by the relevant Church representative).
 - Child who attends a Christian Church at least fortnightly and have done so for a period of not less than 1 year up to the date of application. (This must be confirmed by the relevant Church representative).
 - Child who attends a Christian Church on *at least a monthly* basis and have done so for a period of not less than 2 years up to the date of application. (This must be confirmed by the relevant Church representative).
 - Child who attends a Christian Church on *at least a monthly* basis and have done so for a period of not less than 1 year up to the date of application. (This must be confirmed by the relevant Church representative).

*** Please refer to paragraph at the bottom of the criteria in relation to Church closure period.

NB – A Christian Church is one that is a full member of the "Churches Together in England" or the "Evangelical Alliance"

- 6. A child who requires a place on Medical / Health and Special Access grounds. This criterion will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to children under this criterion whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend St George's Church of England Foundation 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 St George's Church of England Foundation School. Medical/Health and Special Access Reasons must be supported with written evidence from an appropriately qualified medical practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between the child's needs and St George's Church of England Foundation School.
- 7. Distance from home to school is measured as follows distance between the child's permanent home address and the school is measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) 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 NLPG. The same address point on the school is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school. The home of the child is established by the fact that they reside there permanently or where parents have shared responsibility for a child following the breakdown of their relationship and the child lives for part of the week with each parent.

If a criteria is oversubscribed distance will be the tie breaker

***In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church or place of worship has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these admissions arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or place of worship or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

The School will hold a waiting list in oversubscription criteria order until the beginning of Term 2 in accordance with the Primary and Secondary Transfer Arrangements.

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Year R Deferred Applications:

Requests for admissions for deferred applications should be made to the Headteacher of the school as early as possible in the admissions round associated with that child's date of birth. Although a child's entry to the school may be deferred (at the parent's request) parents can chose to defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year, but not beyond the start of the term after their child reaches compulsory school age (fifth birthday) and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year. Where parents wish, children may attend part-time until later in the school year, but not beyond the start of the term after their child reaches compulsory school age (fifth birthday). The only restriction 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.

Admissions outside their Normal Age Group:

Requests for admission outside of the normal age group should be made to the Headteacher of the 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 (Local Authority), 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.

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ADMISSION TO ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL

(SIXTH FORM)

Priority will be given to existing pupils transferring from Year 11 who meet the entrance criteria. Admission to the Sixth Form will be as a result of applicants obtaining a minimum of 3 GCSE passes grade 4 and above and Grade 7 in their preferred AS subjects or nearest equivalents. (Further details can be found on the online Sixth Form prospectus). The admission number for external candidates will be flexible depending on the number of internal pupils transferring into Year 12 is less than the overall figure for the year group, which is **100**

Oversubscription

Following the admission of internal pupils transferring from Year 11, all remaining places will be allocated to learners who have met the entry requirements for the particular course of study. Where there are more learners seeking places than the number of places available, the following oversubscription criteria will be applied in the order set out below to rank pupils until the overall figure for the year group is reached:

1. **Children in Local Authority Care or Previously in Local Authority Care** - A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22 (1) of the children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organization, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

- 2. Current Family Association 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 brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sister.
- 3. Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Equalities 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' or guardians' physical or mental health or social needs means 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 school.
- 4. Distance 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

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criterion, these straight line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school.

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

- a. When the parent or learner has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time; or
- b. When a parent or learner has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- c. The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from the parent or learner.

Offers and Appeals

- Offers will be made on the basis of predicted performance at GCSE, with the requirement that the above grades are achieved in the final examinations prior to entry to the Sixth Form and the pupil's 4 chosen subjects being accommodated on the timetable, in feasible group sizes.
- All offers made during Year 11 are conditional on pupils meeting the grade criteria specified and will only become firm offers upon confirmation of actual GCSE results.
 Offer letters will be made before the end of May. Offers will be confirmed once the school has been notified of GCSE results in August.
- Where learners have achieved better result than the predicted grades they will be considered based on the grades achieved and ranked accordingly for any places that become available as a result of other learners failing to meet the required entry levels.
- Parents have a statutory right of appeal, should an application for a place be refused, by writing to The Clerk to the Governors, care of the school.
- Late applications will be considered if places in appropriate subjects are still available after all other applicants have been considered.
- A waiting list will be held, ranked according to the oversubscription criteria.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2021

Appendix 2

Office Use

Only

WOULD PARENTS KINDLY COMPLETE RELEVANT SECTIONS AND RETURN

To, Admissions, St George's Church of England Foundation School, Westwood Road, Broadstairs Kent CT10 2LH

Child's Full Name								
Date of Birth:			Age: Male Female					
Previous Nursery/School								
Home Address:								
DARENTS					Pos	t Code:		
PARENTS								
First Name(s):								
Surname: Mrs/Ms/Mr/Dr/Other								
Address (if different from above):								
Telephone Number:				Relationship to Pupil:		Pupil:		
E Mail Address:								
First Name(s):								
Surname: Mrs/Ms/Mr/Dr/Other								
Address (if different from above):								
Telephone Number:					Relationship to	Pupil:		
E Mail Address:								
CHURCH								
Name of Church normally attended by child								
Name of Clergy								
Address								

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

If you or your child have not been a member of the above church for more than 24 months, please include details of your previous church in the space provided over the page.

CHURCH CONTINUED.

ALCINCII COMMINGEDI			
Only complete if atte	endance at present Church is less than 24	Months	
Name of Church			
Name of Clergy			
Address			
If you complete this s Clergy named in this	<i>,</i>	nal clergy	from the school, to be completed by the
	ATTENDING ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF E		
Name(s) of brother(s) and/or sister(s):	Age:	Year Group/House
Does your child have a Please tick appropriat	n Education Health Care Plan (EHCP)? e box		YES NO
Does your child have a Please tick appropriat	·		YES NO
are you a member of s Please tick appropriat	taff at St George's C of E Foundation Sch e box	ool?	YES NO
Ooes your child attend Please tick appropriat	St George's Primary School (Year 6)? e box		YES NO
	or has a residence or special guardiansh e of this with your application or contact	•	nd was previously in Local Authority Care, a Taft at the school on 01843 861696.
MEDICAL, HEALTH, S	HER INFORMATION WHICH YOU WOULE SOCIAL AND SPECIAL ACCESS REASONS. (ified medical or other practitioner)		TO BE AWARE OF IN RELATION TO tach copies of supporting written evidence
 /We would like to app	ly for a place at St. George's School for m	ny/our chi	ild as above.
ignature of Parent: _	<u> </u>	Date	:

If you wish to apply for a place at the School and you have attended a Church regularly for at least one year, it is in your child's interest for you to ask the priest/minister of your Church to complete the attached form, giving them the form and a stamped envelope address to the school. It is essential that you contact them as soon as possible. It is important that you are aware that the Church does not necessarily have to be a Church of England Church but it must be a member of the Council of "The Churches Together in England" or the "Evangelical Alliance". All forms MUST be

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM/CLERGY'S FORM FOR ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2021

WOULD PARENTS/CLERGY KINDLY COMPLETE THE RELEVANT SECTIONS AS INDICATED AND RETURN

TO: Admissions, St. George's Church of England Foundation School, Westwood Road, Broadstairs, Kent CT10 2LH

TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT:

Child's Full Name(s):		DOB:
Home Address:		
	Post Code:	
	TO BE COMPLETED BY CLERGY:	
Please sign and date one of t	he following boxes: CHURCH ATTENDANCE	
Child who attends a Christia not less than 2 years up to t	n Church at least fortnightly and have done so for a period of the date of application	
not less than 1 year up to th		
period of not less than 2 year	n Church on at least a monthly basis and have done so for a ars up to the date of application.	
period of <i>not less than 1 yea</i>	a Church on at least a monthly basis and have done so for a ar up to the date of application.	
	of the page, in relation to Church closure period. e that is a full member of the "Churches Together in England" or t	the "Evangelical Alliance"
Please add any further comr	nents which you feel may be of use to the School:	
	Office Held:EASE PRINT)	
Church Name in Full:		
C	rch is part of either "Churches together in England" or the "Evangel hurches Together in England vangelical Alliance	lical Alliance":
Signature:	Date:	
Telephone Number:		

In inviting a member of the Clergy to complete this form the Headteacher would like to express his very sincere thanks for the help and co-operation that the School has received in regard to this matter over the past years, and in anticipation, this year too. Should any problems occur please do not hesitate to contact the School. WOULD THE CLERGY PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM DIRECTLY TO THE SCHOOL IN THE PRE-PAID ENVELOPE (PROVIDED BY PARENTS) NO LATER THAN (Date to be advised)

*** In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the

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