

*'...those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength.
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,
they will walk and not be faint.'* Isaiah 40:31

connect | nurture | aspire | learn | excel | hope



Kennington Church of England Academy



Admissions Policy Year 2021 - 22

...'Everyone who uses what he has will get more. He will have much more than he needs. But the one who does not use what he has will have everything taken away from him.'
Parable of the Talents. (Matthew 25:14- 30)

Introduction

Kennington CE Academy became a member of Aquila the Diocese of Canterbury Multi Academies Trust on the 1st November 2014. Our ethos is:

“We believe that every individual in our Academy should have the opportunity to develop a sense of their own self-worth, potential and wellbeing as independent and resilient learners who empathise with others and are always ready to challenge themselves.”

As an Academy, we are responsible for our admissions and can set our oversubscription criteria as a result. For the purpose of admission to the in year 2020/21, we will retain the same criteria adopted by the Local Authority. Our Published Admissions Number (PAN) for Year 3 in 2020/21 is 90.

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of special educational need or Education, Health and Care Plan, which names the Academy, will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.

Oversubscription Criteria

If the number of preferences for the academy is more than the number of spaces available, places will be allocated in the following priority order:

- **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.
- **Attendance at a linked school** – For the purposes of admissions Kennington CE Academy has a linked admissions arrangement with Downs View Infant School.
- **Current Family Association** - a brother or sister in the academy 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 Academy, or have moved to a property that is nearer to the Academy than the previous property as defined by the ‘Nearness’ criterion’ (below).

Our linked Infant School is 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 linked infant school to the Academy.

Where a child is transferring from Year 2 and would not be attending the infant school from the start of the next academic year, but applied for the Academy, the sibling link would not be broken for a child applying for the infant 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.

- **Health and Special Access Reasons** – Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the Academies 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/academy. 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/academy. 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/academy.

- **Nearness of children's homes to the academy** - we use the distance between the child's permanent home address and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. 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 site 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.

In the event of any of the above criteria being oversubscribed, priority will be given based on distance as described above with those closest being given higher priority. In the unlikely event that two or more children in all other ways have equal eligibility for the last available place at the academy, the names will be issued a number and drawn randomly to decide which child should be given the place.

Requests for admission outside of the normal age group

In special circumstances, and in accordance with the Department for Education's School Admissions Code, parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group - for example, if the child is gifted and talented, or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Such requests should be discussed with the Headteacher as early as possible in the admissions round associated with that child's date of birth. This will allow the Academy sufficient time to make a decision regarding the request before the closing date for applications and national offer day. Decisions to admit a pupil outside of their normal age group will be based on the circumstances of each case and based on what is in the best interests of the child concerned. We may request supporting professional evidence to assist in the decision-making. 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 our ability to make an informed decision.

If the request is agreed, the application will be considered for the year group sought and ranked alongside any and all other applications. There is no guarantee that a place will be offered at this stage. Parents should complete an application for the usual point of entry at the same time, in case their request is declined, or they do not receive a place in the year group requested. This application can be cancelled if the academy agrees to accept an application for entry into a different year group. Applications must be made via paper Common Application Form to the Local Authority, with written confirmation from the Academy 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 the oversubscription criteria specified for that round.

Where a child has been educated out of their normal age group, it is important for the parent to consider that this is not binding when they transfer to secondary or any other school/academy. It will be for the admission authority of that school/academy to decide whether to admit the child out of their normal age group.

Additional Information

The Academy will follow the Local Authority procedures relating to waiting lists, appeals and late applications, further details are available on 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 Academy. Details of the procedure will be supplied by the Headteacher on request. This right does not apply if your child is refused admission for a place in a year group, which is outside their normal age appropriate group.

This policy will be reviewed **annually**, and we will enter a formal consultation should changes to the oversubscription criteria be deemed necessary.

Agreed by the Local Governing body on 18th March 2019

Next Review Date: 9th July 2019 for 2020-21

Signed:

(Headteacher)

(Date)

(Chair of Governors)

(Date)

Background

- Our vision is to ensure that every child and young person in the Diocese is at the heart of mission, having the opportunity of a life-enhancing encounter with the Christian faith and the person of Jesus Christ; that they reach their God-given potential and are an integral part of church life.
- We believe that schools remain at the centre of the Church's mission to the nation, the heart of local communities, for children of all faiths and none. We aim to promote distinctive, inclusive communities of learning that seek to be underpinned by Christian values sourced in the Gospel narrative, enriching the whole educational experience.
- We believe that all human beings are made in the image of God and are precious and valued in God's sight. In schools, we commend a distinctive approach, serving young people in ways that relate to their humanity in all its fullness.
- By enabling leaders in Christian schools to interpret faith for their communities, we acknowledge and confront our responsibility to safeguard the vulnerable, those marginalised by society, living out Kingdom values of justice and mercy.

Principles

- The Canterbury Diocesan Board of Education (CDBE) acknowledges the overarching considerations for Admissions to Church of England Schools published as Board of Education/National Society Advice to Diocesan Boards of Education (June 2011). This is placed carefully in the context of church school heritage, mindful of changing times and changing circumstances, in which the CDBE seeks to promote distinctive, inclusive schools.
- The CDBE believes that Church of England schools and academies have a dual purpose; to offer a Christian education to the children of Christian parents whilst fulfilling the Church's historic mission in the practical expression of its pastoral responsibility to all children in the local community, irrespective of faith.
- Given the mission imperative that underpins the Church's provision of schools, each organisation must hold in balance the nurture and service roles, mirroring the Church's own purposes in both building up those of the faith and of serving and reaching out to those not of the faith. In individual schools, the balance will depend on ethos, history, tradition, and local circumstances.
- Church schools must have regard to their responsibility to be living Christian communities, strongly related to the local community and demonstrating wider inclusivity. The CDBE encourages the policy of offering open and foundation places, which ensures that local children who are not connected with the church are able to gain admission.