



Secondary Schools Admissions Policy 2023-2024

1. Introduction

This policy applies to admissions to secondary schools within the Kent Catholic Schools Partnership ("the Trust") from 1 September 2023. It has been agreed by the Trust Board, as the admissions authority, after due consultation including with the Archdiocese Education Commission and Kent County Council. The schools included are:

St Anselm's Catholic School, Canterbury

St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover

St Gregory's Catholic School, Tunbridge Wells

St Simon Stock Catholic School, Maidstone

The Ursuline College, Westgate

These schools are part of the Archdiocese of Southwark. Their mission is to provide a Catholic education for all Catholic children in their area and for any other child whose parent or carer wishes their child to have such an education.

2. Planned Admission Numbers

The Trust plans to offer the following number of places in year 7 in each school:

School	Planned Admission Number
St Anselm's Catholic School, Canterbury	180 places
St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover	120 places
St Gregory's Catholic School, Tunbridge Wells	210 places
St Simon Stock Catholic School, Maidstone	180 places
Ursuline College, Westgate	150 places

3. Oversubscription criteria

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)

The admission of pupils with with an EHC Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. The procedure is integral to the making and maintaining of EHC plans by the pupil's home local authority. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the SEND code of practice. All children whose education, health and care (EHC) plan names one of the schools will be admitted before any other places are allocated.

In the event that any of the schools receives more applications than the planned admission number, places will be offered in rank order set through the following criteria:

1. Looked after Catholic children or looked after children in the care of Catholic families, previously looked after Catholic children who have been adopted or who become the subject of a residence or guardianship order, and Catholic children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A copy of the baptismal certificate or evidence of reception into the Catholic Church must be given to the school. *See notes 1 and 2.*
2. Baptised Catholic children. A copy of the baptismal certificate or evidence of reception into the Catholic Church must accompany the Supplementary Information Form. *See note 2.*
3. Other looked after children, previously looked after children who have been adopted or who have become the subject of a residence or guardianship order, and and children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. *See note 1*
4. Children who will have siblings at the school at the date of entry. *See note 3*
5. Children currently in the listed Catholic feeder primary schools at the time of application. *See note 4*
6. Children of staff. *See note 5*
7. Children enrolled in the catechumenate and children whose families are members of other Christian denominations and catechumens. *See note 6*
8. Children of other faiths. *See note 7*
9. Other children.

The following order of priorities will be applied when applications within any of the above categories exceed the places available and it is necessary to decide between applications within each category.

- i. Priority will first be given to children with a sibling in the school at the time of admission (see note 3).
- ii. **For Category 7 and 8:** If the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, priority will be given to those applicants who have shown commitment to their faith for at least three years. This evidence must be provided by completion of the Supplementary Information Form by the child's parents/carers, endorsed by a minister or faith leader of the faith community where the family normally attends. If the family has moved very recently, the form can be signed by a minister or faith leader at their previous place of worship
- iii. The proximity to the school from the applicant's home address, the distance measured in a straight line from the school entrance by the Local Authority. Distance for the purposes of these criteria is measured 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 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. Evidence of residence will be required. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. In the unlikely event that there are two or more applications of equal eligibility for the last available place at the school a random selection will be applied.

3.1 Notes

Note 1

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 arrangement 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.

Note 2

Catholic children includes members of the Ordinariate and the Latin and Oriental Rite Churches that are in union with the Bishop of Rome. A baptismal certificate or evidence of reception into the Catholic Church must be provided.

Note 3

Siblings are defined as natural and adopted brothers and sisters, and children who live as a brother and sister in the same house, including stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.

Note 4

The feeder primary schools for each secondary school are:

St Anselm's Catholic School, Canterbury:

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School Hythe; St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Aylesham; St Mary's Catholic Primary School Whitstable; St Simon of England Catholic Primary School, Ashford; St Teresa's Catholic Primary School, Ashford; St Thomas Catholic Primary School, Canterbury and Stella Maris Catholic Primary School, Folkestone.

St Edmund's Catholic School, Dover

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Hythe; St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Deal; St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Aylesham; St Richards Catholic Primary School, Dover; and Stella Maris Catholic Primary School, Folkestone.

St Gregory's Catholic School, Tunbridge Wells

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Tunbridge Wells; St Margaret Clitherow Catholic Primary School, Tonbridge; St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Crowborough; and St Thomas' Catholic Primary School, Sevenoaks.

St Simon Stock Catholic School, Maidstone

St Francis Catholic Primary School, Maidstone; Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Maidstone; and More Park Catholic Primary School, West Malling.

The Ursuline College, Westgate

St Ethelbert's Catholic Primary School, Ramsgate; St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Broadstairs; St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Whitstable; and St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Margate.

Note 5

Children of staff applies in either or both of the following circumstances:

- 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,
- Where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.

Note 6

Other Christian denominations are denominations that are members of Churches Together in England or the Evangelical Alliance. Evidence of membership of the church or faith community must be provided by a minister or faith leader of the faith community on the supplementary information form.

Catechumens refer to a person who is preparing to become a Catholic usually by way of the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults and children of catechetical age. Younger children may be initiated through an adapted version sometimes referred to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC). Evidence should be provided by a parish priest (or equivalent) and should state when the preparation started and when baptism or reception into the Catholic church will take place. The date of baptism or reception must be set and be prior to the date of admission.

Note 7

Children of other faiths will require evidence of membership of the faith provided by a minister or religious leader of the faith community on the supplementary information form.

Proof of address will be requested at the time of acceptance of a place.

4. Supplementary Information Form

In addition to applying online through a local authority website or on a paper Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF), all applicants must complete a Supplementary Information Form (available on the school website or from each school's Admissions Officer), and send this to the Admissions Officer at the school by no later than 31 October 2022. Not doing so may lead to your child being placed in a lower priority category than they should.

EVIDENCE OF BAPTISM: For Catholic, Other Christian or Other Faith children, a copy of a baptismal certificate or evidence of membership must accompany the Supplementary Information Form.

5. Application Procedure

All applications for entry to year 7 will be processed through the Kent County Council Co-Ordinated System see www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions

In Year or Casual Applications

Applications made too late for the Kent co-ordinated system, In-year applications for year 7 and applications for entry to years 8-11 must be made on the IYAF (In -Year and Casual application Form) available on school websites. The same policy and procedure (apart from the timetable) applies to these applications. This form must be sent to the school's Admissions Officer with a supplementary information form. They will be considered under the same policy set out above.

6. Appeals

Parents (or students over 16) whose applications for places are unsuccessful, may appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel set up in accordance with sections 88 and 94 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing and must set out the reasons on which the appeal is made. Appeals should be sent to the Admissions Officer at the school address. Appellants have the right to make written and oral representations to the Appeal Panel.

7. Waiting List

Parents of children who have not been offered a place at the school may ask for their child's name to be placed on a waiting list. The criteria listed on Page 1 will be used to rank children on the waiting list. Placing a child's name on the waiting list does not prevent parents from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place.

All schools participate in the Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol to allocate places to vulnerable and other children in accordance with the School Admission Code. Admitting pupils under the protocol may require the school to admit above the published admission number for the relevant year group and may mean that a child directed to the school by the Local Authority will take precedence over those children already on the waiting list.

The waiting list for Year 7 will remain operational until the end of December of the year of application.

8. Entry to years other than anticipated

The expectation is that children will be admitted in-year with their peers of the same age. Only in exceptional circumstances will this not apply. If an application is made for admission other than to the child's expected year group, the Executive Principal has the discretion to agree but only if this is educationally the best option for the child. The application will then be considered against the number on roll for that year group using the

standard policy.

9. Admissions to Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13)

Students in Year 11 at St Anselm's, St Gregory's, St Simon Stock and The Ursuline have the right to continue their Catholic education into the sixth form at their school provided they meet the entry requirements for a course of study they wish to undertake. Students who do not meet that requirement will be supported to obtain a place at another institution of their choice.

Students at St Edmund's who wish to join the sixth forms at St Anselm's or Ursuline College will have priority over all other external applicants if they meet the entry requirement for the course they wish to undertake.

We welcome applications from students at other schools who will support the Christian ethos of our school communities. The number of external applications we receive varies from year to year and school to school. We do not expect to admit more than the following numbers to Year 12 in each school but will exceed this number if the preferred courses of study are not oversubscribed and the external applicant has met the relevant entry requirements.

School	Planned Admission Number
St Anselm's Catholic School, Canterbury	120
St Gregory's Catholic School, Tunbridge Wells	115
St Simon Stock Catholic School, Maidstone	120
The Ursuline College, Westgate	120

9.1 Oversubscription criteria

In the event of there being more external applicants than places available, preference will be given to current year 11 students in each school. If necessary external applications will be ranked, subject to availability of courses, and entry criteria being met, by:

1. Looked after Catholic children or looked after children in the care of Catholic families, previously looked after Catholic children who have been adopted or who become the subject of a residence or guardianship order, and Catholic children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A copy of the baptismal certificate or evidence of reception into the Catholic Church must be given to the school. *See notes 1 and 2 above.*
2. Baptised Catholic children and catechumens. A copy of the baptismal certificate or evidence of reception into the Catholic Church must be given to the school. *See note 2 above.*
3. Other looked after children and other previously looked after children who have been adopted or who have become the subject of a residence or guardianship order. *See note 1 above.*
4. Other children

9.2 Tie break

If it is necessary to decide between applicants within these categories, applications will be ranked by the distance from home to school (measured in a straight line using National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point data supplied by Kent County Council. Where two or more children live at an equal distance, random selection will be used to establish which is ranked ahead of the other.

9.3 Entry Criteria

There are specific entry requirements for all subjects and these are listed in the 6th Form Prospectuses available on the school websites and Kent Choices.

To enrol on any A-Level/Level 3 course in Year 12 students will normally have gained at least five GCSE passes of grade 4 or above. They will also need to meet any specific criteria for the subjects they wish to study. Please refer to the 6th Form Prospectus for the specific entry requirements for the chosen subjects.

Please consult the prospectuses or Kent Choices for the entry requirements for **other courses**.

Students who have not achieved a level 4 in English and or Mathematics will need to continue with this GCSE until they have achieved it.

Courses offered may not be run if there are insufficient qualified applicants. Any applicant affected will then, if possible, be offered another course for which they are qualified and on which there is a place.

9.4 Offers

All offers are conditional on students meeting the grade criteria specified and will only become firm offers upon confirmation of actual GCSE results, and the pupil's chosen subjects being accommodated on the timetable, in feasible group sizes. Where students have achieved better results than the predicted grades they will be considered based on the grades achieved and ranked according to the school's admissions criteria.

9.5 Sixth form admission procedure

Students currently attending a Kent school should apply for a Sixth Form course via Kent Choices. Internal applicants will receive support with the online application process. External applicants need to contact the relevant school on how to apply and complete the Sixth Form Application Form and the Supplementary Information Form which should be returned to the school office.

Applications for September 2023 will open on the Kent Choices website on 24th January 2023. Please submit your application before the deadline, 1st March 2023.

Late applications will be considered if course places are available after all other applications have been considered.

Conditional offers based on predicted GCSE grades will be sent to applicants by the end of March 2023.

External applicants must give evidence of their achieved grades to the school by GCSE results day.

The offer of a place will be confirmed by 31st August 2023.

9.6 Appeals see Section 7 above.

9.7 Waiting Lists are not maintained for sixth forms.

KENT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' PARTNERSHIP
ADMISSION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM

This form should be completed and returned to: Click or tap here to enter text.

(insert academy address and telephone/email contact details)

CLOSING DATE for applications for entry into Year 7 in September 2023: **31st October 2022**

Please note failure to submit a completed Supplementary Information form when applying for a Catholic school place may result in your application not being placed in the correct category and could result in you not receiving an offer of a place.

Please complete this form **and** the KCC online process at www.kent.gov.uk/ola or by completing a paper form called a Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF).

In Year or Casual Applications

Applications made too late for the Kent co-ordinated system, In-year applications for year 7 and applications for entry to years 8-11 must be made on the IYAF (In -Year and Casual application Form) available on school websites. The same policy and procedure (apart from the timetable) applies to these applications. This form must be sent to the school's Admissions Officer with this supplementary information form.

Before completing this form, please read the Admissions Policy and Procedure for 2023/2024 which can be found on the academy's website **here** (insert weblink).

Please also ensure that you have read the academy's Privacy Notice, which can be found on the academy's website **here** (insert weblink).

SECTION 1: CHILD'S INFORMATION

Child's Surname:		Child's Forename:	
Date of Birth:		Preferred Forename: (if different from above)	
Child's Home Address:		Post Code:	
		Religious Denomination: e.g. Roman Catholic	

SECTION 2: PARENT/CARER INFORMATION (please print clearly)

	Parent/Carer 1	Parent/Carer 2
Title:		
Full Name:		
Relationship to Child:		
Telephone No.:		
Mobile No.:		
Email Address (Please print clearly):		
Address (if different from child's address):		
Post Code:		

SECTION 3: FURTHER INFORMATION

Is your child a baptised Catholic? Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please detail the date and place of the baptism: _____

You must enclose a copy of your child's baptism certificate with this form. Photocopies are acceptable but will be retained by the academy.

To obtain a copy of your child's baptism certificate, please contact the parish priest of the Catholic Church where your child was baptised or received into the church. If you cannot obtain a copy of your child's baptism certificate please contact the Admissions Officer for advice (insert contact details for academy's Admissions Officer).

Catechumens

If your child is not yet baptised but is enrolled in a programme and has a date for their baptism confirmed, please state the date here: _____

You must also obtain a letter from the parish priest confirming this information and your child's baptism date.

SECTION 3 (CONTINUED):

Are you a current member of staff and been employed at the academy for the last two years?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If yes, please confirm your full name and employment start date:

If you are not a Catholic family

Are you a member of another Christian denomination (please see note 6 of policy for the definition)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Are you a member of another Faith (see note 7 of the policy)?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Please ensure that you include a copy of the child's baptism certificate or proof of dedication (if applicable) with this form

Has your child and at least one parent/carer been a committed member of another Christian denomination or another faith for at least three years?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have ticked yes, please ask your minister or other senior figure in your faith community to complete the "Reference for Faith Membership" form on page 5.

SECTION 4: PRIMARY SCHOOL INFORMATION

Please tick if your child attends one of the following primary schools:

(Insert list of relevant feeder primary schools/academies as set out in academy's policy)

YOU MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION

I confirm that the information I have provided on this form is accurate and truthful:

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer)

Full name of Parent/Carer (please print) _____

Date: _____

- Please return this Supplementary Information Form **in full** to the Admissions Officer at **(name of academy)** (not Kent County Council)
- For Year 7 entry in 2023 please return no later than 31st October 2022 in order that we may rank your application.
- Remember to send a copy of your child's baptismal certificate and/or faith leader's reference (see last page), *if applicable*, to the Admissions Officer at **(name of academy)** along with this completed form.
- You must also complete the Kent County Council (or Medway Council) Secondary Common Application Form (SCAF) and **either return that to your child's primary school or make an electronic application at: www.kent.gov.uk/ola by 31st October 2022**
- **In Year or Casual Applications**
Applications made too late for the Kent co-ordinated system, In-year applications for year 7 and applications for entry to years 8-11 must be made on the IYAF (In -Year and Casual application Form) available on school websites. The same policy and procedure (apart from the timetable) applies to these applications. This form must be sent to the school's Admissions Officer with this supplementary information form. Please note that if you are not offered a place and submit an appeal, a copy of this form will be submitted to the Appeal Panel.

Thank you for completing this

For office use only:

Date Supplementary Form received by Admissions Officer: _____

Copy of Baptismal Certificate received: Yes ☐ No ☐

Reference for Faith Membership: Yes ☐ No ☐

(Insert name of academy) uses a computerised administration system and is registered under the Data Protection Act. Access to information is strictly limited and protected. For further information, please read the Privacy Notices at (insert academy's website address)

Reference for Faith Membership

(Name of academy) gives a degree of priority in admissions to children from families who are committed members of a denomination or faith other than the Roman Catholic Church (or a Catholic Church in communion with the See of Rome). We define committed as meaning that the child and at least one Parent or Carer, has been participating in the worship or communal prayer services or activities of the faith community for at least three years. The purpose of this reference is for that practice to be confirmed by a minister or other senior figure within the faith community. Attending another faith centre can be included as part of the three years if the referee is satisfied of such participation in that other faith community.

Name of child:	
Name of Parent(s)/Carer(s):	
Address:	

I confirm that the child and parent/carer named above have been active participants in worship or communal prayer services or activities within our faith community for at least three years prior to the date of the person giving this reference:

Yes ☐ No ☐

Signed:	
Full name of referee:	
Position in church or faith centre:	
Address of church or faith centre:	
Email or mobile contact number:	

Please comment below, if appropriate, only to clarify the participation in worship or other church activities over the last three years:

*Please return this form to the Parent/Carer who will send it to the Admissions Officer
(academy to insert address and contact details)*