

ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS CRITERIA (*September 2022*)

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

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

COMPASSION

FORGIVENESS

FRIENDSHIP

HOPE

WISDOM

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

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 2022 is 60 and in Year 7 for September 2022 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.
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 and in the unlikely event that two or more children 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 the place.

******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.

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 choose 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.

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

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apply the distance 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.