

*'...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

Reculver Church of England Primary School



Admissions Policy 2020-2021

Date adopted by Local Governing Body: September 2019

Date of next Review: September 2020



Introduction

Reculver CE Primary School became a member of Aquila the Diocese of Canterbury Multi Academies Trust on the 1st July 2015. Our ethos and our values are based upon our school Bible verse: "We show love and compassion for others by truly helping them, and not merely talking about it." 1 John 3:18

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 20/21, we will retain the same criteria adopted by the Local Authority. Our Published Admissions Number (PAN) for the academic year 2020-21 is 75.

Before the application of oversubscription criteria, children with a statement of special educational need or Education, Health and Care Plan, which names the Academy and its Specialist Resource Based Provision, will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly. We currently have 13 places within our SRBP with the capacity for 15 places.

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:

✦ Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children:

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 organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

- ✦ **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).

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** – 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 Reculver Primary School, as part of our SRBP. 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 Reculver Primary 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.

- ✦ **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 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 site is used for everybody.

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: September 2019

Next Review Date: September 2020

