

ST SIMON OF ENGLAND ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Noakes Meadow, Ashford, Kent. TN23 4RB ☎(01233) 623199
Archdiocese of Southwark



Supplementary Information Form

This form should be completed when applying for a place in **St Simon of England RC Primary School** in the Archdiocese of Southwark. Please complete and sign the form below and, if you are Catholic, hand it to your parish priest or the parish priest at the church at which you normally worship. He will add his reference in Part 2. If you are not a Catholic, please hand the form to your priest, minister or faith leader who will add his or her reference in Part 3.

NB You must also complete and return a Common Application Form (available from schools and/or Local Authorities)
Completed documents should be returned to the School by 15th January 2021.

PART 1 (To be completed by all parents or carers)

Surname of child: _____ Date of birth: _____

Christian/forename(s) of child: _____

Religion/Denomination: (eg Roman Catholic) _____ Boy Girl

Date and place of Baptism (if applicable – evidence to be provided i.e. Baptism Certificate):

Parents' names: _____

Parents' religions/denominations: _____

Home address: _____

_____ Postcode _____

Contact numbers: _____ Mother/Father/Carer)

If **Catholic**, indicate which Mass you normally attend: Saturday at _____ (time)

or Sunday at _____ (time)

Parish in which you live (eg St Simon Stock - Ashford) _____

Usual place of worship (if different): _____

How long have you worshipped there? _____ years

How often do you attend Mass? weekly at least once a month less often

Please add here any other information you may feel is relevant to this application in relation to the school's admissions policy in respect of Health and Special Access (Please see point iii. In the Admission Arrangements 2020/2021 document for more information) Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

I understand that St Simon's is a Catholic School and that its ethos and religious teaching reflects the beliefs of the Catholic Community, I am happy for my child to be educated in this tradition.
I confirm that the information we have given on this form is accurate and truthful:

Signed: _____ Parent/Carer Date: _____

PART 2 (To be completed by Catholic priests only)

A. For all schools:

I am satisfied that the child has been baptised or received into the Roman Catholic Church or has been baptised or received into a Church that is in full communion with Rome Yes No

B. For schools requiring evidence of practice:

<u>PARENT/CARER</u>	<u>CHILD</u>
Are the parents known to you? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	Is the child known to you? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Regular attendance at Mass (i.e. weekly) <input type="checkbox"/>	Regular attendance at Mass (i.e. weekly) <input type="checkbox"/>
Occasional attendance at Mass (i.e. at least once a month) <input type="checkbox"/>	Occasional attendance at Mass (i.e. at least once a month) <input type="checkbox"/>
Irregular attendance at Mass (i.e. less than once a month) <input type="checkbox"/>	Irregular attendance at Mass (i.e. less than once a month) <input type="checkbox"/>
How long have the parent(s) attended your church? _____	How long has the child attended your church? _____

Please comment, if appropriate, **only** to clarify the Mass attendance above:

Priest's name: _____ Parish (or ethnic chaplaincy): _____

Address: _____ Tel: _____

Parish stamp or seal

Priest's signature: _____

Date: _____

PART 3 (To be completed only by priests/ministers of other denominations or faiths)

Non-Catholic parents/carers from other denominations or faiths should hand this form to their priest/minister or faith leader who should complete the section below and return it as soon as possible to the school indicated over.

I confirm that this family are members of our faith community The family is not known to me

Name of minister: _____ Denomination/faith: _____

Parish or faith community: _____

Address: _____ Tel.: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

ST SIMON OF ENGLAND ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
SOUTH ASHFORD
Admission Arrangements 2021/2022

St Simon's Catholic Primary School is part of a multi-academy trust known as Kent Catholic Schools Partnership in the Diocese of Southwark. It is in the trusteeship of the Diocese. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government, and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. The school exists primarily to serve the Catholic community and Catholic children always have priority of admission. However, the Governing Body also welcomes applications from those of other denominations and faiths who support the religious ethos of the school.

Having consulted as required by the School Admissions Code with the Diocese, the Local Authority, other admission authorities and parents, the Governors intend to admit into the reception class, in September 2021, up to 30 pupils without reference to ability or aptitude.

Where the number of applications exceeds 30 the Governors will offer places using the following criteria in the order stated:-

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.
2. Children enrolled in the catechumenate. Evidence of enrolment in the catechumenate will be required.
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, 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.
4. Children who are members of Eastern Orthodox Churches. Evidence of Baptism will be required.
5. Children of families who are members of other Christian denominations that are part of Churches Together in England. Evidence of Baptism (or dedication) provided by a priest or minister of a designated place of worship will be required.
6. Children who are members of other faiths. Evidence of membership of the faith provided by a priest, minister or religious leader of a designated place of worship will be required.
7. Any 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.

- i. For Category 2 above - The strength of evidence of commitment to the faith as demonstrated by the level of the family's Mass attendance on Sundays. This evidence must be provided by the parents/carers and be endorsed by a priest at the church(es) where the family normally worship. Applications will be ranked in the order shown on the Supplementary Form; firstly those who attend Mass weekly, then once or twice a month etc.
- ii. A brother or sister on the school roll at the time of admission. Evidence of the relationship may be required.

- iii. 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 a particular 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 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 particular school.
- iv. Nearness of Children's homes to school - 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. Where the last remaining place is to be allocated and two or more children are deemed to live at the same distance from the school the place will be decided by the drawing of lots.

Notes:

- a. Catholics include members of the Ordinariate and the Latin and Oriental Rite Churches that are in union with the Bishop of Rome. Reference to other Christian denominations refers to denominations that are full members of Churches Together in England.
- b. A “brother or sister” means children who live as brother and sister including natural brothers or sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers or sisters. It would not include other relatives eg cousins).
- c. Home refers to the permanent home address at which the child lives for the majority of his/her time and with the parent who is in receipt of child benefit or an acceptable alternative as listed in the KCC Primary Admissions booklet.
- d. 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.
- e. 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.
- f. 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.

Admissions procedure

In addition to the Common Application Form (CAF) supplied by the Local Authority, the Supplementary Information Form (available from the school), should be completed and sent to the admissions secretary at the school not later than the closing date published by the Local Authority. This should be done even if the CAF is completed online. If the Supplementary Information Form is not completed, the governing body of the school will only be able to consider the application after all applicants who have completed a Supplementary Information Form. A Supplementary Information Form is not a requirement for any child that that is ranked using criterion 4. You are advised to make two copies of the forms. You should retain one copy and pass the second copy to the school.

Offers of places will be sent to parents by the Local Authority on the common offer date as notified.

Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan

The admissions of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or with an EHC Plan are dealt with by a completely separate procedure. The procedure is integral to the making and maintaining of Statements and EHC plans by the pupil’s home local authority. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the

SEND code of practice. Pupils with a statement of EHC plan naming the school will be admitted without reference to the above criteria.

Appeals

Parents whose applications for places are unsuccessful may appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel set up in accordance with section 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 made to the Admissions Appeal Clerk at the school address. Parents/Carers have the right to make oral representations to the Appeal Panel.

Infant classes are restricted by the legislation to 30 children. Parents should be aware that an appeal against refusal of a place in an infant class may only succeed if it can be demonstrated that:-

- a) the admission of additional children would not breach the infant class size limit; or
- b) the admission arrangements did not comply with admissions law or had not been correctly and impartially applied and the child would have been offered a place if the arrangements had complied or had been correctly and impartially applied; or
- c) the panel decides that the decision to refuse admission was not one which a reasonable admission authority would have made in the circumstances of the case.

Admission of Children below compulsory school age

The Governors will provide for the admission of all children in the September following their fourth birthday. Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to the school is deferred until later in the school year or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that school year; Parents may also request that their child attends part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Admission of Children outside their normal age group

Parents who are seeking a place for their child outside of their normal age group, eg, the child has experienced problems such as ill health or the parents of a summer born child preferring not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday, may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group - to Reception rather than Year 1.

Governors will make decisions on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent's 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, and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. They will also consider the views of the school's Head Teacher. When informing a parent of the decision which year group the child should be admitted to, the Governors will set out clearly the reasons for their decision.

Where the Governors agree to a parent's request for their child to be admitted out of their normal age group and, as a consequence of that decision, the child will be admitted to the age group to which pupils are normally admitted to the school the local authority will process the application as part of the main admissions round, (unless the parental request is made too late for this to be possible) and on the basis of the determined admission arrangements, including the application of oversubscription criteria where applicable. Parents have a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

In-year (casual) admissions

Applications for a place at the school in-year must be made using the **In-Year Casual Admission Form (IYCAF)** available from the local authority. This form must be completed and returned to the school. The school's supplementary form should also be completed to enable the Governors to rank the application in the event of there being more than one application for a place. The Governors will use the same criteria to rank the application as listed above. Parents/Carers will be notified of the outcome of their in-year application in writing within 15 school days, detailing any reason for refusal and information about the right of appeal. In the event of the Governors deciding that a place cannot be offered parents

will be offered the opportunity of placing their child's name on the waiting list. This does not prevent parents from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place.

Fair Access Protocol

The school participates in the local authority's Fair Access Protocol to allocate places to vulnerable and other children in accordance with the School Admission Code 2014. Admitting pupils under the protocol may require the school to admit above the planned admission number for the relevant year group.

Waiting Lists

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 waiting list, which will be maintained until the end of the academic year in which it was submitted, will be operated using the same admissions criteria listed above. Placing a child's name on the waiting list does not guarantee that a place will become available. This does not prevent parents from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place. It is possible that when a child is directed under the local authority's fair access protocol they will take precedence over those children already on the list.

Late Applications

Any late applications will be considered by the Governors' Admissions Committee, in the event of there being any available places using the above criteria. If all places have been filled, parents will be offered the opportunity of placing their child's name on the waiting list. This does not prevent parents from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place.

This admissions procedure, although primarily relevant to children for whom a place is sought at the normal age of entry to primary education (Year R), applies also to succeeding years, subject to availability of places.

Ref: Admissions Criteria 2021/2022 Governing Body Approved

Variation to Admissions Arrangements for September 2021-2022

Admissions Clarification (Covid-19)

St Simon of England RC Primary School Admission Arrangements 2021-2022

Parents and Carers applying for places in Years R to 6 in the academic year 2021-2022 are asked to note the following statement in relation to the Mass Attendance oversubscription criterion set out in the admission arrangements:

On the advice of the Education Commission of the Archdiocese of Southwark, the Governing Body of St Simon of England RC Primary School has agreed the following statement in order to clarify how its faith-based oversubscription criteria will be interpreted while churches are closed or attendance at church is not possible due to Covid-19. This statement has been shared widely with parishes by the Education Commission in order to ensure that determinations made by parish priests concerning regular practice of the faith are being made on a consistent basis.

The suspension of the obligation to attend Sunday Mass was announced on 18th March 2020 by the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales. If a parent or carer attended Mass at a particular parish (or parishes) prior to 18th March 2020 then they will be considered to have attended Mass in that parish (or parishes) regularly since that time. This will remain the case until the Sunday obligation is reintroduced by the Bishops.

**Marcia Stevens
Chair of Governors
September 2020**