



School Admission Policy 2020 - 2021

Policy Type	Policy Number	Prepared By (Job Title) and Date
Statutory	SPOL9	SBM and Admissions Committee Spring 2019
Approval Date	Review Frequency	Review Due Date
12/02/2019	Annually (Statutory Frequency)	Autumn 2019

Signed on behalf of the Full Governing Body:

St Patrick's and Shrewsbury Cathedral are Catholic Primary Schools under the Trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. Telford & Wrekin Council (LA) maintains St Patrick's and Shropshire Council (LA) maintains Shrewsbury Cathedral. As Voluntary Aided Schools, the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions to the schools. The Local Authorities undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements for their respective school.

The Catholic Faith and the Teachings of the Catholic Church have an essential role in school life and influence every aspect of the Curriculum. We ask all Parents and Carers applying for a place for their child(ren) at our schools to respect this ethos and its importance to the federation community. This does not affect the right of Parents and Carers whose children are not of the Faith of these schools to apply for and be considered for a place at either of them.

To apply for a place at St Patrick's in the normal admission round, you must complete an online application via the Local Authority's Website:

http://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20026/school_admissions/14/starting_school.

You must also complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) attached to this policy. The SIF and proof of baptism should be returned to St Patrick's school office by **15th January 2020**.

To apply for a place at Shrewsbury Cathedral in the normal admission round, you must complete an online application via the Local Authority's Website: <http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/starting-or-transferring-school/starting-infant-or-primary-school/> You must also

complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) attached to this policy. The SIF and proof of baptism should be returned to Shrewsbury Cathedral's school office by **15th January 2020**.

If you do not provide the information required in the SIF and return it by the closing date, together with all supporting documentation to the respective school, your child will not be placed in criteria 2 to 3 and this is likely to affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

All applications which are submitted on time will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is **15th January 2020**. Applications received after this date will be treated as late applications and will not be considered until after the main allocation of places has taken place.

For the school year commencing September 2020 the Governing Body has set its Admission number at 30 at St Patrick's and 30 at Shrewsbury Cathedral.

Admission to St Patrick's or Cathedral School will be made by the Governing Body. Children who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP), which names St Patrick's Catholic Primary School or Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School as the appropriate school to meet those needs (after a thorough consultation and discussion with the school), will be offered places regardless of the following criteria (see note 1).

After that, all applications will be considered on an equal basis with the following set of Oversubscription Criteria, forming a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available:

Oversubscription Criteria for St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

1. Looked after and previously looked after children who are baptised catholic. (See note a/b)
2. Catholic children who are resident in the parish of St Patrick's, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire. (See note b)
3. Catholic children who are resident in other parishes. (See note b)
4. Looked after and previously looked after children who are not baptised catholic. (See note a)
5. Any other children.

Oversubscription Criteria for Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School

1. Looked after and previously looked after children. (See note a)
2. Catholic children who are resident in the Cathedral parish including Our Lady of Pity, St Winefride's, Monkmoor, Our Lady Help of Christians and St Peter of Alcantara. (See note b)
3. Catholic children who are resident in other parishes. (See note b)
4. Looked after and previously looked after children who are not baptised catholic. (See note a)
5. Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order:

- (i) The attendance of a sibling at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note d).
- (ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note e).

Notes:

- a) 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 (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989. A previously Looked After Child is one who immediately moved on from that status, either in the UK or overseas, after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
- b) For a child to be considered as a Catholic evidence of a Catholic Baptism is required at time of application. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required at time of application. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest [who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church].
- c) Home Address is considered to be the address where the child normally lives. Where care is split and a child moves between two addresses, the household in receipt of the child benefit would normally be the address used, but the admission authority body reserves the right to request other evidence as fits the individual circumstance. Applicants should not state the address of another relative or person who has daily care of the child.
- d) 'Sibling' is defined in these arrangements as full, half or stepbrothers and sisters, adopted and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address and are part of the same family unit. This does not include cousins or other family relationships.
- e) This applies 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, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- f) In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful children will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out above and **not** in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until the last day of the summer term 2021
- g) For 'In Year' applications received outside the normal admissions round, if places are available they will be offered to those who apply. If there are places available but more applicants than places then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied. Application should be made to the school by contacting the school office.
- h) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents may appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents must be allowed at least twenty school days from the

date of notification that their application was unsuccessful to submit that appeal. Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.

- i) The Governing Body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to the application.
- j) It is the duty of Governors to comply with regulations on class size limits for children aged between rising five and seven. The Governing Body may exceed the regulations for twins and children from multiple births where one of the children is the 30th child admitted. This also applies to in-year applicants who are Looked After/previously Looked After Children of UK service personnel or children who move into the area for whom there is no other school available within a reasonable distance.
- k) All children are entitled to start in a Reception class in the September after their fourth birthday. Children do not however, have to start school in September, if it is felt that they are not ready. The statutory school age, by which a child must start school, will remain as the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. Parents should be aware that if they choose to delay a child's entry to school until the following September, the child could go straight into Year 1 rather than Reception. If a parent wishes their child to be educated out of their normal school year (kept back a whole year), they must discuss this with the school before applying.
- l) For children attending nursery class at the school, application to reception class of the school must be made in the normal way, to the home local authority. Attendance at the school's nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered at the school.

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of the straight line distance between a central point in the school building and a central point in the child's home. The distances will be measured using the Local Authorities Geographical Information Systems. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

ADMISSION TO [ST PATRICK'S/SHREWSBURY] CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

[please delete]

Supplementary Information Form

Surname of Child:		Forename(s):	
Address of child:		Name of any siblings currently attending the school you are applying to:	
Date of Birth:			
Date from which you wish your child to attend school:		Year group into which you wish your child to be admitted:	
Your Name:		Relationship to Child:	
Your Telephone Number(s):			
Your email address:			
Is your child a Baptised Catholic: Yes / No		<u>For Baptised Catholics:</u> Month and Year of Baptism: Parish: Parish Location (Town/City):	
<i>All Catholic applicants are required to produce a baptismal certificate or a letter from the parish priest from the parish where baptism took place to confirm they are baptised Catholic. This evidence must be provided at the time of the application to the school and before the application deadline.</i>			
Signed:			
Name (Please Print):		Date:	

Checklist for Reception Class Applications:

- ✓ Deadline - 15 January 2020
- ✓ Supplementary Information Form and Baptismal Evidence submitted to School
- ✓ School Place Application made to Local Authority

School use only:

SIF Received	Date.....	Signed.....
Evidence of baptism received & copied	Date.....	Signed.....
Evidence of DOB received & copied (if applicable)	Date.....	Signed.....