

St Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary School

Oversubscription criteria: 2018

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

1. Looked After or Previously Looked After Catholic* Children**. Evidence of Baptism and “looked after” or “previously looked after” status will be required.
2. Baptised Catholic children. Evidence of Baptism will be required.
3. Children enrolled in the catechumenate (preparing to become Catholics). Evidence will be required.
4. Other Looked After Children (see point 1 above).
5. Children baptised or dedicated into other Christian denominations, Churches affiliated to or represented at “Churches Together in England”. Evidence will be required.
6. Children who are members of other faiths, whose parents wish them to receive a Christian education. This should be supported by a letter and evidence of their faith 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.

1. A brother or sister on the school roll at the time of admission. Sibling means children who live as brother/sister in the same house and includes natural siblings, adopted siblings, foster siblings and step siblings. Extended family, for example cousins, living in the same house do not qualify as siblings. Please note that if the older sibling is in Year 6 at the time of application, the link cannot be considered, as they will not be in the school when the younger child would start in September. Evidence of the relationship may be required.
2. Social, pastoral and medical needs which make the school particularly suitable for the child in question. Strong and relevant evidence must be provided by an appropriate professional authority (e.g. qualified medical practitioner, education welfare officer, social worker or priest).
3. The child of a member of staff employed at the school for a minimum of 20 hours a week and where the member of staff has been employed at the school for 2 or more years at the time of application.
4. Distance from home to school. The distance calculated is the shortest available walking route between the child’s home and school using roads and footpaths **known** to the mapping layer used by the Student Services Admissions Team within the Geographical Information Software (GIS).

The start point - The centre point of the nearest road or footpath known to the GIS to the seed point of the child’s home (The seed point is a grid reference for the property taken from Ordnance Survey mapping data). This may not always be the postal address road, in rare circumstances where an alternative road or footpath is actually nearer to the seed point of the property this will be used.

The end point - A pre-defined centre point of the road adjacent the school site or a pre-defined centre point within the school site. The same end point is used for

all distance calculations to the school concerned.

The distance -The distance calculated is the shortest available walking route known to the Medway GIS using the centre point of streets and other available walking routes. The Medway GIS may not know all footpaths that are in existence and certain new roads may not be known. Where a footpath or new road is not known to the GIS an alternative route will be used. Where a child's home is situated on a new road the distance calculation will begin from the nearest available known road plotted in the GIS. New developments may be subject to this.

In certain cases it may not be possible to calculate a distance where the entire route is deemed as a walking route. In these circumstances the distance calculated is used purely to prioritise an application for admission. There is no expectation that the walk should be taken.

Tiebreaker ~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.

**Catholics include members of the Ordinariate and the Latin and Oriental Rite Churches that are in union with the Bishop of Rome.*

*** "Looked after children" are children who are (i) in the care of a local authority or (ii) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (as defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making the application for a school. "Previously looked after children" are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002, Section 46) or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order (under the terms of the Children Act 1989, Section 8 and Section 14A).*

NOTES

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 or EHC plan naming the school will be admitted without reference to the above criteria.