



# **St Anne`s Admissions Policy 2017 - 2018**

**Last Reviewed by Governing Body : July 2017**

**Date of next review : July 2018**

## Mission Statement

With God's love at our roots, we will nurture and guide every unique individual, to grow in a caring and secure Christian environment.

### **Please Note:**

St. Anne's C. E. Lydgate Primary School Academy has determined to operate admissions on the same basis as that used by the Local Authority.

All Local Authority admission arrangements can be found on the Oldham Council Website and should be followed when making application for a place at St. Anne's.

*'Any parent who is considering deferring or delaying entry to primary and infant school reception classes should refer to Oldham LA's policy available on the Oldham Council website ([www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.oldham.gov.uk/admissions))'*

## **1. Statutory Framework**

1.1 St. Anne's C E Primary School as an academy takes on the role of the admission authority.

1.2 The statutory requirements of the school admission legislation and related regulations are published in the School Admission Code 2014. The code details the mandatory requirements and refers to the statutory requirements (i.e. those imposed by primary or secondary legislation) with which all admission authorities must comply.

1.3 The acts relevant to school admissions and appeals are:

- a) Equality Act 2010;
- b) Human Rights Act 1998;
- c) School Standards and Framework Act 1998; and
- d) Education Act 1996.

1.4 The Regulations relevant to school admissions and appeals are the:

- a) School Admissions (Admission Arrangements and Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2014;
- b) School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 2012;
- c) School Admissions (Appeals) (England) Regulations 2012; and
- d) School Information (England) Regulations 2008.

## **2. Infant Class Size Legislation**

2.1 Infant classes (those where the majority of children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) must not contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher (as defined in Section 4 of the SSFA 1998). Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an

'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit.

2.2 Subsequent guidance has made it clear that local authorities are expected to ensure that older children who have experienced the benefit of restricted class numbers should continue to benefit from a similar limit on the size of junior classes.

### **3. Duty To Comply With Parental Requests**

3.1 Section 86 of the School Standards & Framework Act 1998 states the following: Subsection 1) A local education authority shall make arrangements for enabling the parent of a child in the area of the authority; to express a preference as to the school at which he wishes education to be provided for his child in the exercise of the authority's functions; and to give reasons for his preference.

Subsection 2) Subject to subsection (3), a local education authority and the governing body of a maintained school shall comply with any preference expressed in accordance with arrangements made under subsection (1).

Subsection 3) The duty imposed by subsection (2) does not apply if compliance with the preference would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources."

### **4. Planned Admission Numbers**

4.1 The PAN is set for each 'relevant age group'.

4.2 The planned admission numbers for St. Anne's C E Primary Academy is 30

### **5. Application Procedures**

5.1 Oldham residents will apply for a reception school place using the Oldham on-line facility. The application period will run from 01 September 2017 to 17 January 2018.

5.2 Applications received after the appropriate closing date will be regarded as late unless, in St. Anne's C E Primary Academy's judgment, there are significant and exceptional reasons for the lateness. Proof of special circumstances will be required.

5.3 Late applications are not considered until all on-time applicants have been allocated places.

5.4 A child's name will be automatically placed on St. Anne's C E Primary Academy's waiting list where they have been refused a place in the school's normal year of entry.

5.5 Oldham residents, who wish to apply for a place in the first year at school after the first school day in September 2018, or to any other age group at any time, will apply on the Common Transfer Application Form.

### **6. Oversubscription criteria for St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy.**

6.1 The duty to comply with parental preferences requires that all applicants will be offered a place providing there are enough places in the school for everyone who applies.

6.2 If the number of applications exceeds the admission number it will be necessary to determine which pupils can be offered a place by applying the following oversubscription criteria in priority order.

6.3 All schools are required by section 324 of the Education Act 1996 to admit to the school a child with a statement of special educational need that names the school. This is not an oversubscription criterion and all children with statements naming a school will be admitted before other children are offered a place.

6.4 For all other applications the following criteria will be applied to prioritise children for admission to St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy:

**Criterion 1.**

Children in care or children who have previously been looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order will be given the highest priority for admission.

**Criterion 2**

Those children who are considered to have exceptional medical or social reasons as to why they should attend a particular school. Parents will be required to submit evidence to support their application under this criterion (see note (a) below).

**Criterion 3**

Those children who already have a sibling at the St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy and who will still be attending when their brother/sister starts in reception. (see note (b) below).

**Criterion 4**

Geographical proximity to school, with those families living nearest to the school having higher priority. Distance is measured in a straight line between the home postcode (see note (c) below) and the schools postcode, measured electronically by GIS software within the admission database using Post Office data and Ordnance Survey data.

**Notes**

(a) Exceptional reasons for priority over other applicants - Decisions must be consistent and based on objective evidence, which must be provided in writing by an appropriate professional e.g. a doctor or a social worker.

(b) Siblings – St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy accepts that in some family units (1 or 2 parents/carers and children), the children may not be natural brothers and/or sisters. Other children from the same family unit can be considered as a sibling link under this criterion provided that proof is available to demonstrate that the children are permanently resident at the same address and part of the same family unit.

(c)Tie breaker - Should it be necessary to distinguish between applicants with equal priority within any of the above criteria, the distance is measured as a straight line from the child's home address to the school property measured between the two central data points of the home postcode and school post code. Measurements are calculated using Geographical information System mapping software based on Ordnance Survey and Postcode data.

## **6. Permanent Address**

7.1 The only address St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy can consider is the address of the adult with whom the child is permanently resident. Where a child stays with another parent for part of the week, further enquiries may be made in order to determine where the child is permanently resident.

7.2 If a childminder, grandparents or another member of the family cares for the child on a daily basis at another address, St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy cannot consider this address for the purpose of its admission process to school.

7.3 St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy will undertake any necessary investigations and an allocated place may be withdrawn if a false address is given or one where the child is not actually living when s/he is not at school.

## **7. Intention To Move House**

8.1 An intention to change address cannot be considered by St. Anne's C E Primary School Academy until such a move has actually taken place and proof is available to substantiate the change of address. Proof of change of address will be accepted up until the latest reasonable date prior to the final allocation of school places on 16 April 2016.

## **8. Twins or Triplets**

9.1 In cases where twins, triplets, or other multiple birth siblings are split when allocations take place, they will be allocated a place over the Published Admission Number and will remain excepted pupils for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit.

## **9. Flats**

10.1 In the event of two or more children living equal distant from the school, e.g. blocks of flats, the place will be decided by drawing lots, the first name drawn will be offered the place.

## **10. Appeals**

11.1 All parents have the right to appeal against the refusal of a school place by submitting an appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel. If parents wish to appeal they can do so by completing a School Admission Appeal Form and returning it to Constitutional Services. A decision by an Admission Appeal Panel is binding on the school governors and parents.

## **Monitoring and Evaluation**

This Admissions policy will be evaluated on an annual basis.