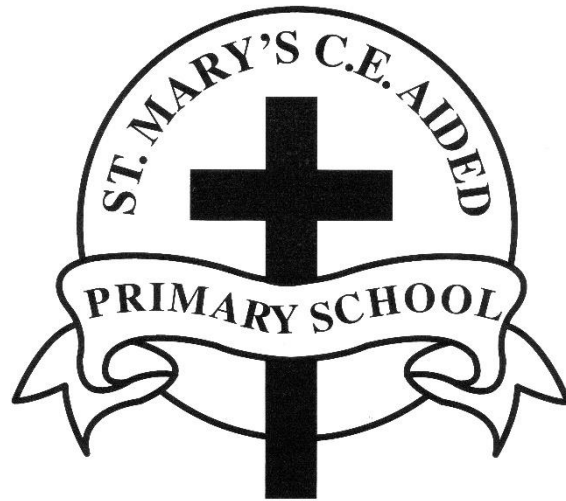


ADMISSIONS POLICY
ST MARY'S CE (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL
NURSERY



There have been no changes to this policy from the previous version 2022.

October 2023

Let the children come to me and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.” (Luke 18:16)

This policy is based upon our Christian values of thankfulness, respect, honesty, love and resilience.

St Mary's CE (VA) Primary School and Nursery accepts pupils into Nursery from their 2nd birthday. There are currently three classrooms for two, three and four year olds; with two year olds having separate and age appropriate provision from the older children in Nursery. This ensures we develop all pupils in their learning, physical, social and emotion development -providing opportunities that are appropriate to their age.

Please note that application to the Reception class at St Mary's CE (VA) Primary School is a separate process, and places are not guaranteed in Reception for pupils currently attending Nursery. Application to the main school is managed by the local authority (Kent County Council). This document should be read in conjunction with the admissions policy for St Mary's CE Primary School. The website for admissions to the main school in the Reception class 2024 can be found at:

<https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/primary-school-places>

ADMISSIONS POLICY AND OVER SUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA 2023-2024

St Mary's CE Primary School admits 24 children into the 2 year old classroom (12 pupils in the morning session, and 12 pupils in the afternoon session). Children are admitted into this class after their second birthday.

The school admits 26, 30 hour pupils into it's 3 and 4 year old classes; and an additional 52 pupils into the 15 hour class (separated into two sessions).

The school will implement its oversubscription criteria where appropriate, but before the application of this process, children with an EHCP (education and health care plan) which names the Nursery, will be admitted. As a result of this, the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.

In the event of oversubscription to any class, the following criteria will be applied, in priority order:

- 1 Looked After Children / Children in Local Authority Care, ie a child under the age of 18 years for whom the Local Authority provides accommodation by agreement with their parents / carers (Section 22 of the Children's Act 1989) or who is the

subject of a care order under Part IV of the Act. This applies equally to children who immediately after being looked after by the authority become subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. (As defined by Section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or Section 8 or 14a of the Children Act 1989).

- 2 Children with brothers or sisters attending St Mary's School at the time of entry. Brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters. The sibling link is maintained as long as the family live at the same address as when the first child applied, or has moved closer to the school than when the first child was offered a place, or has moved to an address that is less than two miles from the school using the distance measured by the method outlined in the distance / nearness of children's home to school criterion.
- 3 Children with medical, health social or special needs which make the school particularly suitable for the child. 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.
- 4 Any other children not included in the categories above.

The school maintains waiting lists for all year groups and classes, which are updated on a regular basis.

Allocations within each category will be based on distance from home to school. A pupil's home address is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main residence, and not an address at which your child might sometimes stay or sleep due to your own domestic or personal arrangements. The address must be the pupil's home address on the day you completed your application form and which is either owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian or leased to or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardians under a lease or written rental agreement. If you live separately from your partner but share responsibility for your child, and the child lives at two separate addresses during the week, we will regard the home address as the one at which the child sleeps for the majority of weekdays.

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 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.

After a place has been offered, the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- 1 When a parent has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time, or
- 2 When a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information, or
- 3 The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent

Queries about the Admissions Policy should be addressed to the Chairman of Governors
c/o St Mary's CE (VA) Primary School.

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