

Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 001074
Date 20 April 2017

School Admissions - St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School

Request:

In response to your questions below, it is important that you are aware of the admission arrangements for St Bartholomew's Church of England Primary School.

The school is oversubscribed as there were more applications received than places available. As a result places are allocated in accordance with the oversubscription criteria as detailed below.

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children

Priority will be given to a child who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority or a child who has been adopted (or is subject to a residence order or special guardianship order) immediately following being in the care of a Local Authority.

Supporting Evidence

If the child is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority this must be indicated on the common application form and evidence (e.g. evidence of child in care from the placement authority) to support this claim must be submitted with the preference form.

If the child has previously been in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by them and has subsequently been adopted, or is subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order this must be indicated on the common application form and evidence (e.g. adoption certificate/copy of court order) to support this claim must be submitted with the common application form.

2. Medical/Social

Whether there are specific medical or social circumstances that can be met only by the child's attendance at the preferred school.

Supporting Evidence

If parents believe there are specific reasons, medical or social, for claiming priority for their child to attend a particular school these special factors must be indicated on the form and evidence (e.g. a letter from a registered health professional such as a doctor or a social worker) to support this claim must be submitted with the common application form. The information submitted must state clearly the effects of the condition/illness and why the preferred school is the **only** school that can meet their child's needs. This is necessary because parents would be asking the Authority to assess their child as having a stronger case than many other children, even some who live closer to the school in question than they do. The information provided will be used to prioritise the request for a particular school. Please note that only in exceptional cases are places prioritised in respect of a child's/parent's medical/social grounds.

3. Siblings

Whether siblings attend the school (or the associated Infant/Junior School) and will still be attending the school in September 2017.

4. Religious Reasons

To a child and family who has religious reasons for attending the preferred voluntary controlled school and for whom it can be demonstrated by the faith leader that s/he has current strong religious connections. This reason will **only** be taken into consideration if the preferred school is the nearest Church of England (voluntary controlled or voluntary aided) school to the child's home address (measured by a straight line from the home address to the school).

Supporting Evidence

A Supporting Evidence form will be provided for parents and your faith leader to complete, to enable them to demonstrate your child and family's current strong religious connections.

5. Distance

How close the child lives to the school requested with those living closest to the school getting the highest priority. The measurement between home and school will be determined by the straight line measurement from the home address to the preferred school carried out by the LA's software.

1. Out of the 24 people who got in on religion how many of them live further away
As you will ascertain from the oversubscription criteria above, places are allocated for religious reasons before distance. The admission limit is 45 and places were allocated as follows:

2 Looked After Children

19 Siblings

24 Religious Reasons

The last place was allocated based on religious reasons and was to an applicant that lives 0.680 miles from the school. Even though this is further away than your address it is not relevant as religious reasons are higher in the oversubscription criteria than distance

2. Out of the 24 people who got in on religion how many were non faith
The 24 applicants that received a place based on religious reasons did so by completion of the supplementary information form and the faith leader demonstrated that they had a current strong religious connection.
3. Out of the 24 people how long had they been going to church before and what grounds of religious connection were deemed "strong"
This is for determination by the relevant faith leader. The supplementary information form requires the faith leader to answer yes or no as to whether they believe the child and family have demonstrated strong religious connections.
4. Last year or so I have been lead to believe it was done on distance so why is distance last
Last year the school operated a 'bulge class' where the admission limit was 60. Last year the final place allocated was based on distance. The admission limit of 60 was only for the previous 2 years, and the usual admission limit was 45. The admission limit for September 2017 is 45.
5. What was the measuring distance from the school
The measuring distance from the school to your home address is 0.339 miles as a straight line.