

Whitchurch CE Federation Infants

Admissions



Implemented

2027-2028

Whitchurch CE Infant & Nursery Academy

Admissions Policy 2027-2028

Introduction

Whitchurch CE Infant & Nursery Academy is part of the Whitchurch CE Federation and St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust.

We welcome applications from all families, regardless of faith, ethnicity, disability, gender, sexual orientation, family background or socio-economic circumstance.

As a Church of England Academy, we have a distinctive Christian ethos rooted in our vision:

"Learning to love God and your neighbour as yourself." Luke 10:25-37

Parents applying for a place are asked to respect the Christian character of the school. Admission to the school is not dependent upon faith commitment.

Published Admission Number (PAN)

The Published Admission Number for Reception is:

90 pupils

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school will be admitted before all other applicants.

Nursery Applications

Admission to Nursery does not guarantee admission to Reception.

A separate Reception application must be made through Shropshire Council during the normal admissions round.

Reception Admissions

Applications for Reception must be submitted through your home Local Authority.

For Shropshire residents, applications should be made through:

Shropshire Council School Admissions

Applications should normally be submitted by:

15 January 2028

Parents will be notified of offers on National Offer Day in April 2028.



Oversubscription Criteria

Where applications exceed the number of available places, admissions will be allocated in the following order:

1. EHCP

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming the school.

2. Looked After and Previously Looked After Children

Children who are:

- Looked After by a local authority;
- Previously Looked After;
- Previously Looked After outside England and subsequently adopted or made subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

3. Exceptional Medical or Social Need

Children whose specific medical or social needs can only be met at this school.

Supporting professional evidence must be provided.

4. Catchment Area with Sibling

Children living within the designated catchment area who have a sibling attending:

- Whitchurch CE Infant & Nursery Academy; or
- Whitchurch CE Junior Academy

at the time of admission.

5. Other Children Living Within Catchment

Children living within the school's designated catchment area.

6. Out of Catchment with Sibling

Children living outside catchment who have a sibling attending either Federation school.

7. Other Children

All remaining applicants.

Distance Criterion

Where applications within any category exceed available places, priority will be given to children living closest to the school.

Distance will be measured by Shropshire Council using its approved mapping system from the child's home address to the nearest designated entrance gate.



Waiting Lists

Waiting lists will be maintained by Shropshire Council in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria.

A child's position on the waiting list may rise or fall as applications are added or removed.

In-Year Applications

Applications for places outside the normal admissions round should be made through Shropshire Council.

Places will be allocated in accordance with the oversubscription criteria outlined within this policy.

Admission Outside the Normal Age Group

Parents may request admission outside their child's normal age group in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

Each application will be considered individually, taking into account:

- the child's needs;
- professional advice;
- educational evidence;
- the best interests of the child.

The final decision rests with the admission authority.

Summer Born Children

Parents of summer-born children may request:

- deferred entry within the Reception year; or
- admission to Reception outside the normal age group.

Requests will be considered in accordance with national admissions guidance and Shropshire Council procedures.

Appeals

Parents whose application is unsuccessful have the right to appeal to an independent admissions appeal panel.

Information regarding appeals will be provided by Shropshire Council at the time of refusal.

Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually by:

The Local Governing Committee
The Principal
St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

to ensure compliance with:

- Equality Act 2010
- School Admissions Code
- School Admission Appeals Code
- SEND Code of Practice
- Education Act 1996
- Relevant Department for Education guidance



Appendix One

Definitions

Sibling

A sibling is defined as:

- Brother or sister
- Half-brother or half-sister
- Step-brother or step-sister
- Adopted sibling
- Foster sibling

living permanently at the same address and attending either Federation school at the time of admission.

