



St Aloysius Catholic Primary

In Jesus we learn, love and grow together

Nursery Admissions Policy 2017-18

Policy Revised: April 2017

Review Date: February 2018

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

In Jesus we learn, love and grow together.

School Context

St. Aloysius is a Catholic Nursery under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Westminster and is intended for the education of children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with the Diocesan Trust Deed and instrument of government, and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity in pursuit of academic excellence. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. All applicants are therefore expected to give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school.

30 Hours Per Week Funded Nursery Provision Offer

The Government has proposed changes to the funding of Early Years provision for 3 and 4 year olds from 2017. As a result of these changes, Camden Local Authority will no longer fund full-time (30 hours per week) Nursery provision from September 2017. Instead, schools will receive funding for only the 15 hours of free Nursery entitlement and the children of working parents who meet the criteria will become eligible for an additional 15 hours funded childcare.

The Governing Body of St. Aloysius Catholic Primary School has agreed that the school will continue to offer all applicants full-time(30 hour week) provision in Nursery in the academic year 2017-2018 and the school will fund the cost of the additional 15 hours. In order to try and support the school meeting the cost of the full time provision offered to all children, working parents who are eligible for the additional 15 hours of funded Nursery hours will be asked to apply for this funding. The school office will provide details with more information on whether or not they are eligible to apply for this additional funding and how to apply.

Nursery children are non-compulsory school age and the following procedures

and criteria will apply.

Application Procedures and Timetable:

To apply for a place at St. Aloysius Nursery you will need to complete and return the **Supplementary Information Form (SIF)** attached to this policy and return it, in person, to the school office, accompanied by the child's Certificate of Baptism and proof of residence by 8 May 2017.

The Governors intend to admit up to thirty children in September 2017 for the school year 2017-2018 set out as follows:

Places for the school year will be allocated at the end of May 2017. In the event of places becoming available during the school year, allocations will be made at such times as vacancies arise in accordance with the arrangements set out below.

Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the order of priority:

1. Catholic looked after children and Catholic children who have been adopted (or made subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately after having been looked after.
2. Baptised Catholic children, with a Certificate of Catholic Practice, who are resident in the Parish of St. Aloysius and who have a sibling at the school at the time of admission or a sibling who has attended the school in the past.
3. Baptised Catholic children who are resident in the Parish of St. Aloysius and who have a sibling at the school at the time of admission or a sibling who has attended the school in the past.
5. Baptised Catholic children who are resident in the Parish of St. Aloysius.
6. Other baptised Catholic Children.
7. Other looked after children and children who have been adopted (or made subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately after having been looked after.
8. Children who have a sibling at the school at the time of admission or a sibling who has attended the school in the past.
9. Christians of other denominations supported by a letter from a minister/religious leader, showing membership of the faith community.
10. Children of other faiths supported by a letter from a minister/religious leader, showing membership of the faith community.
11. Any other children.

Brothers and Sisters:

In any category, if an applicant child has a brother or sister who will be attending the school at the proposed time of admission, governors will give priority to that

child ahead of children in the same category who do not have brothers or sisters at the school.

Twins:

In cases where multiple siblings tie for the last available place, then all will be offered a place, even if this exceeds the planned admission number.

Tie Breaker:

Where the order of priority is otherwise equal, a tie-breaker will apply and preference will be given to a child who lives the shortest distance to the school. Distances is measured in a straight line from the child's home to the centre of the school, using the local authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority.

The distances are measured by the Local Authority. Proximity to school is measured on a computerised mapping system of the area, measured in a straight line ('as the crow flies') between the property address to the centre of the school. For the purposes of this policy, the address given must be the one in which the child resides for 50% or more of the school week. Offers of a Nursery place:

Offers of places will be sent at the end of May 2017.

Waiting List:

Unsuccessful candidates will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will be maintained in order of the admissions criteria set out above, and not in the order in which the applications are received or added to the list.

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria):

'**Looked after child**' has the same meaning as in Section 22 of the Children Act 1989, and means any child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by them (for example: children with foster parents).

'**Parent**' means the adult or adults with legal responsibility for the child.

'**Family**' includes the Catholic or Catholics who have legal responsibility for the child.

'**Catholic**' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a Certificate of Baptism in a Catholic church or a Certificate of Reception into full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this Policy this includes a looked –after child who is part of a Catholic family where a priest's reference demonstrates that the child would have been baptised or received if it were not for their status as a looked-after child (that is a looked-after child in the process of

adoption by a Catholic family).

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

Applicants applying under criterion 2 must submit a Certificate of Catholic Practice by the closing date. The Certificate is available from your parish (or the parish where you normally worship) or from the diocesan website. It is the parent's duty to ensure that the Certificate of Catholic Practice is submitted to the school in good time. The priest will only give you the Certificate if he knows you. You will need to get a separate Certificate signed for each Catholic school that requires one.

'Adopted'. An adopted child is a child who is adopted under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 s.46 (adoption orders).

'Child Arrangements Order' A Child Arrangements Order is an order under the terms of the Children Act 1989 s.8 which defines it as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

'Special Guardianship Order'. A special guardianship order is an order under the terms of the Children Act 1989 s.14A which defines it as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian(s).

'Christian' for the purposes of this policy, means a member of one of the Churches affiliated to 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland'.

'Resident'. A child is deemed to be resident at a particular address when he/she resides there for more than 50% of the school week.

'Brother' includes step-brother, half-brother and adopted brother.

'Sister' includes step-sister, half-sister and adopted sister.

'Sibling' refers to brothers, sisters, step/half brothers or sisters or adopted brothers/sisters.

Acceptance at St. Aloysius' Catholic School's Nursery class does not guarantee a place at St Aloysius Catholic Primary School. The criteria for the admission to the Primary School are set out in its own admission policy, which can be found on the school website.