



St Michael's Junior Church School 2021/22 School Admission Arrangements

These Admission Arrangements reflect the statutory requirements of the 2014 Department for Education School Admissions Code and the 2012 School Admissions Appeals Code www.education.gov.uk issued by the Department for Education under Section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and are reviewed and published annually by the Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust which is the statutory Admission Authority for the School.

The administrative practices described in these arrangements are designed to be fair and reasonable and are administered by an Admissions Committee comprising of the School Governors. All data submitted in connection with a school admission application is handled according to the requirements of the General Data Protection regulation UK (2018).

Objections concerning the compliance, fairness or reasonableness of published Admission Arrangements may be lodged with the Office of the Schools Adjudicator

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-of-the-schools-adjudicator>

Please contact the school if you would like to discuss these Admission Arrangements or your particular requirements in more detail.

If you are considering submitting an application for your child to start or transfer school you are advised to refer to your local authority's website.

Documents of particular importance for families living within the Bath and North East Somerset (BaNES) Local Authority area include:

- The BaNES Local Authority Coordinated Admissions Scheme(s)
- The BaNES Composite Prospectus (this will include detailed information about how to apply for a your child to transfer from Infant to Junior school)
- The BaNES Local Authority School Transport policy
- The BaNES Local Authority Fair Access Protocol (this document only applies for In-Year applications to join the school during the academic year) www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/schools-colleges-and-learning/admissions-schools

A statutory Published Admission Number (PAN) applies for Year 3 which indicates the minimum number of places that will be offered if sufficient applications are received. This is currently 60. A non-statutory admission limit applies for all year groups other than Reception, which is set and periodically reviewed by the Admissions committee according to the level of resource available to support the year group concerned. The governors' Admissions Committee will consider all admission applications in accordance with these admission arrangements and places will be offered until the Published Admission Number or agreed admission limit is reached. Applications will be refused when all available places have been offered.

If there are more applications received at the same time than there are places available within the requested year group, the Governors' Admissions Committee will apply the following oversubscription criteria in order to rank every application in priority. A place will be provided for any child issued with a Local Authority Education Health & Care Plan which names St Michael's Junior Church School as the appropriate educational setting before the oversubscription criteria are applied and any other application is processed.

Over Subscription Criteria

1. 'Looked after children' or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions.

The definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 applies.

2. When there are siblings in attendance at the school, who will still be in attendance on the admission date. If a parent wishes a sibling connection to be taken into account, a sibling's details must be provided on the admission application form and he/she must qualify as a full, half, step or adoptive brother or sister, or a child living for the majority of his/her school time (more than 2.5 school days per week) within the same family unit and at the same home address. The PAN or admission limit will be exceeded, where necessary, in order that multiple birth siblings of the same family (twin, triplet etc.) can all be offered places, where otherwise one or more of these children would be refused

3. Children living closest to the school and/or furthest from an alternative school. These places will usually be allocated to children who live closest to the school.

Measurements will be computed using the BaNES Local Authority Geographical Information System (GIS) to calculate the straight line distance between the address point of the School and the address point of the child's home. In the case of a multi-dwelling building such as a block of flats, the same distance will apply for all occupants. Where two or more distances are exactly the same and it is necessary to prioritise these applications the order will be determined by the drawing of lots, to take place at the school and be supervised by a person entirely independent of the Admissions Authority and the school.

Home Address For admission purposes, the Admission Authority will consider the home address to be:

The address at which the child concerned is living, at the time of application, for more than 2.5 school days per week, with the person(s) who has legal responsibility for this child. The home address should be clearly stated on the application form. Where the child will be moving to a new home address and the parent wishes this to be taken into account, one of the following documents, depending on the circumstances of the case, must be made available at the time of application.

- A legal 'exchange of contract' which confirms the purchase of the property
 - A copy of a formal tenancy agreement (minimum six month term) signed and dated by the applicant and the Landlord for the property
 - Where the child will be living at an address other than the parental family home, for more than 2.5 school days per week (for example; with an extended family member, or in emergency or other public accommodation): A formal written letter, signed and dated by the person responsible for the address in question. This must explain the living/care arrangements for the child and state how long these arrangements are expected to remain in place.
 - For Children of UK service personnel with a confirmed posting to the area or Crown servants returning from overseas, an official letter confirming a relocation date and Unit postal address or quartering area address
4. After application of the first three criteria, any remaining places will be allocated to those children not satisfying a higher criterion
Priority is given to first preference applications.

Waiting Lists

The names of all children refused admission to St Michael's Junior Church School will be entered onto a waiting list for the year group concerned, which will be maintained by the Admissions Committee until the end of the school year and then shut down. Names on waiting lists are ranked in strict order according to the child's compliance with the oversubscription criteria and each time a name is added the waiting list concerned will be re-ranked. If a place becomes available in the required year group, this will be offered for the child ranked highest on the waiting list at that time. A child's name will be removed from the waiting list if a place is offered and accepted or offered and declined, or the parent requests the school, in writing, to remove his/her child's name.

Should the Admission Authority become aware that a place was secured for a child at the school on the basis of misleading or false information it will withdraw the offer, or where a child has already started to attend the school may remove the child from the school roll. The circumstances of the case will be fully discussed with the parent and the admission application will be considered afresh, taking account of any new information.

Applying to Transfer from an Infant to Junior School in September 2021 (admission to Year 3)

For a child to transfer to Year 3 in September 2021, the child's parent must complete the Common Application Form (CAF) available from the home local authority (the authority in whose area the child resides). In order for the application to be considered as 'on time' the CAF must be submitted to the Local Authority by 23:59 hours on 15 January 2021. The CAF can be completed and submitted using the home Local Authority's 'on line' procedure, or using a paper version of the form. Full details about the application process and information about local schools are set out in a 'Composite Prospectus' document which each local authority must make available annually on 12th September. For families living in Bath and North East Somerset area the home local authority is Bath and North East Somerset Council Council.

The number of places that can be offered in Year 3 will be determined according to the level of resources available at the time applications are administered. This will be the level at which the PAN is set (currently 60), or at a higher limit if this would not impact negatively on the planned use of resources.

If an application form is submitted to the home local authority after the application deadline of 15th January 2020 it will be considered as a 'late' application and will not be administered until all on time applications have been processed, at which point there may no longer be a place available at the preferred school(s).

Parents will receive an admission decision in writing from the home local authority on or about 16 April 2020, according to the procedure set out in the Local Authority's Composite Prospectus.

Applying to transfer to St Michael's Junior Church School during the 2021/22 school year (In-Year application)

The In-Year application form is available to download from the School website. This may be completed and submitted directly to the school at any time, but will only be administered during school term time and within six school weeks of the place being required. However (in accordance with statutory requirement), if the application relates to a child of a Service family or the parent is a Crown Servant returning from overseas, the application may be considered further in advance providing an official letter is provided with the application, which confirms a relocation date and a Unit postal address or quartering area address.

On receipt of the signed and dated In-Year Application Form, the Admission Authority will determine whether a place can be made available within the required year group without prejudicing 'the efficient delivery of education or the efficient use of resources'. The admission decision will be notified to the applicant in writing within ten school days of receipt of the In-Year Application Form.

The In-Year application will usually be submitted for the year group associated with the child's age (the relevant year), however, a parent may apply for a different year group if he/she feels this would be in the best educational interests of the child concerned. In these circumstances, the application must be accompanied with as much information as possible to support the case for 'retaining' or 'accelerating' the child. It is then for the Admissions Committee to consider the application according to the circumstances of the case and determine what would be educationally most appropriate for the child concerned. If an application for a retained or accelerated placement is refused, the Admission Authority will consider whether a place can be offered in the relative age year group. The parent has the right to appeal the decision where a place cannot be offered at the school. Retained and accelerated places secured through the in-year admissions process will be reviewed annually.

Where a place is offered, the parent will be asked to confirm acceptance in writing (by letter or email) within ten school days of receipt of the offer letter, following which the place will remain available for the remainder of six school weeks from the date of this letter. If the child concerned is not attending school within this school six-week time frame, the Admission Authority reserves the right to withdraw the offer.

Each local authority must publish an In-Year Fair Access Protocol (FAP) setting out criteria to help identify and support children who are not on the roll of any school and who cannot secure a school place via the In-Year admissions process. The Admissions Committee will consider all refused applications (where the child is not on the roll of any school at the time of application) against the criteria set out in the BaNES Local Authority FAP. If the child concerned satisfies any of the published criteria, the refused In-Year application will be referred to the local authority, which may then decide to engage with the family in order to provide support and help identify a suitable educational placement. The applicant's right of appeal against the decision to refuse admission still applies. 4.6 If a child is the subject of a Local Authority Education Health and Care Plan which names a particular school, his/her parent should consult the local authority that issued the EHCP before applying for the child to change school via the In-Year admissions process.

Lodging an appeal

The administration of school admission appeals is subject to statutory procedure set out in the 2012 School Admission Appeals Code issued by the Department for Education. A parent whose child is refused admission to the school is legally entitled to lodge an appeal against this decision with an independent appeal panel. The refusal letter issued by the Admission Authority will explain how to complete this process using the Appeal Form which is available to download from the school website, or from the School Office.

The Admission Authority is required to publish an Appeals Timetable on the school website before 28 February each year. This sets out the statutory time frame within which an appeal must be heard as well as the administrative timeframe within which the Admission Authority will process any appeal lodged with the school.

The decision of an independent appeal panel is binding on all parties. However, if there is concern that the appeals procedure has not been administered in accordance with the 2012 School Admission Appeals Code, a complaint may be raised with the Education Skills and Funding Agency.