

St Clare's Catholic Primary School A Voluntary Academy



Admissions Policy 2023-2024

**“I have come that they may have life and
have it to the full”
John 10:10**



**A member of the
Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust**

St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Bradford, A Voluntary Academy

Admissions Policy 2023/2024

St Clare's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy in Bradford was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for baptised Catholic children. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is run by its Academy Council as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Articles of Association 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. At a Catholic school, Catholic Doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust is the admissions authority and has responsibility for admissions to the school and intends to admit **30 pupils** to reception in the school year which begins in **September 2023**.

Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children

Oversubscription criteria

If the number of preferences received is less than the admission number then all preferences will be met.

At any time where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered in the following order of priority:

1. Catholic looked after Children and previously looked after Catholic children or looked after/previously looked after children from catholic families. (see notes 2 & 3)
2. Baptised Catholic children with a sibling(s) who attends St Clare's Catholic Primary School (see note 4)
3. Baptised Catholic children who live in the defined area. (see note 5)
4. Other baptised Catholic children.
5. Other looked after and previously looked after children with a sibling who attends St Clare's Catholic Primary School. (see note 2 & 4)
6. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2)
7. Members of an Eastern Christian Church (see note 6)

8. Other children with a sibling(s) who attends St Clare's Catholic Primary School. (see note 4)
9. Other children.

Tie Break

- Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the categories listed above would still lead to oversubscription, the available places will be offered to those living nearest to the school. 'straight line distance' will be used as the measure (see notes 8 & 9).
- If two or more pupils live equidistant from the school, places will be decided by random allocation (see note 10).
- Where there is more than one application from a postal address contained within a block of flats, places will be decided by random allocation (see note 10).

Application Procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place at this school a standard application form, known as the Common Preference Form must be completed and returned to the Local Authority, Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Admissions Team, Department of Children's Services, Margaret McMillan Tower, Princes Way, Bradford, BD1 1NN by 15 January 2023. Failure to provide a Common Preference Form (CPF) would mean that the application is not valid.

If parents/carers feel that they should be in a specific category i.e. Baptised Catholic, then they are required to complete a Supplementary Information Form and provide the required evidence. The Supplementary Information Form is attached to this policy and must be submitted by 15 January 2023 to the school (The Headteacher, St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford, BD2 3JD). Therefore, failure to provide a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) could affect the category your application is placed in. **Please note that it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to complete all forms and supply evidence – reminders will not be sent.**

Parents or carers will be advised of the outcome of their applications on 17 April 2023, by the local authority, on our behalf. Unsuccessful applicants will be given reasons related to the over-subscription criteria listed above and advised of their right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. (Details of the appeals process can be found on the school website)

Late applications

If you return the Common Preference Form after the deadline we cannot consider your application at the same time as those received on time. Late applications will be dealt with once all other applicants have been considered in accordance with the Local Authority Primary Co-ordinated scheme.

Admission of Children Below Compulsory School Age and Deferred Entry

A Child is entitled to a full time place in the September following their fourth birthday. A child's parents may defer the date at which their child, below compulsory school age, is admitted to school, until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age, or beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which an offer was made. A child may take up a part-time place until later in the school year, but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age. Upon receipt of the offer of a place a parent should notify the school, as soon as possible, that they wish to either defer their child's entry to the school or take up a part time place as above.

Admission of Children outside their Normal Age Group

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child, i.e. a child born between 1st April and 31st August, may request that the child be admitted out of their normal age group, to reception rather than year 1.

Any such request should be made in writing to the Chair of the Academy Council, St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford, BD2 3JD at the same time as the admission application is made to the Local Authority and no later than closing date of 15 January 2023. The Academy Council will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the Headteacher, including the Headteacher's statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the Academy Council will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and educational professionals as appropriate.

Waiting lists In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful children will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained in the order of the oversubscription criteria set out above, and not in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Each time a child is added, the waiting list will be re-ranked in line with the published oversubscription criteria. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. Names are removed from the waiting list at the end of each academic year. **Inclusion on the waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.**

In Year Applications

An application can be made for a school place for a child at any time outside the admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. If you wish to make an application please contact the school office on 01274 637841 or visit the website <https://www.stclares.bradford.sch.uk/Admissions> for details of the application process.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above will be applied. If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above).

You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. (Details of the appeals process can be found on the school website under the Admissions tab).

Fair Access Protocol

The school is committed to taking its share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the Academy Council is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The Academy Council has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number (subject to the infant class size exceptions).

Notes (these notes form part of the over-subscription criteria)

1. **A Statement of Special Educational Needs** is a statement made by the local authority under section 324 of the Education Act 1996, specifying the special educational provision for a child. An **Education, Health and Care Plan** is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. **Looked After Child** has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making the application to the school.

A 'Previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the Academy Council) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

3. **Catholic** means a member of a church in 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 the full communion of the Catholic Church, alternatively a letter from a parish priest confirming membership of a church in communion with the See of Rome.

Looked After Children from Catholic Families – this has a dual meaning. It could be the child themselves who are baptised Catholic or it could be the family who are caring for the child that is Catholic. If it is the child who is a baptised Catholic normal rules apply and a baptism certificate should be seen by the admission authority. However, (in limited situations) this may not always be possible and in these cases the admission authority should seek to ensure that there is evidence that the child has been baptised. If a child is placed with a Catholic family who wish the child to have a Catholic education this should be evidenced by a letter from a priest evidencing the baptism of the parent/ carer.

4. **Sibling(s) (brother or sister)** includes:
 - (i) children with a brother or sister (including siblings, step-siblings, adoptive siblings and foster siblings) of statutory school age, living at the same address, in attendance at the same school on the date of admission.
 - (ii) The child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application
5. **Defined area** is a geographical area for the purposes of this policy as determined by the Diocese of Leeds. Defined area maps available on school website <https://www.stclares.bradford.sch.uk/Admissions>
6. **Eastern Christian Church** includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that church.
7. **Twins or triplets (or multiple births)** - where a family of twins or triplets request admission and if one sibling has been offered the 30th or last place the 'excepted pupil' rule comes in and the other twin/triplets are offered a place.

8. A child's '**home address**' refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer and will be the address provided in the Common Preference Form (CPF). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CPF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.
9. **Straight line distance** - in all categories, when decisions have to be made between children satisfying the same criterion, children living nearest to the school, measured by a straight line, have priority. Straight line distance will be measured from the main entrance of the school building to the main entrance of the home.
10. **Random allocation** – this is only to be used when the last place to be offered would fall into one of the two categories above i.e. children living in a block of flats or children who live equidistant from the school using straight line distance criterion. An independent person will be used to make the random selection.

Date of Policy: 19 January 2022

This policy was determined by the Academy Council of St Clare's Catholic Primary School on 27 January 2022.

Signed:

Chair of the Academy Council

Signed:



Head Teacher

This policy will be reviewed annually during the autumn term.

The Admissions Policy was consulted upon in November 2018.

St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Bradford, A Voluntary Academy



SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM FOR ADMISSION TO A CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2023/2024

The school to which you are applying is a voluntary aided Catholic school. The school is designated as a school with a religious character and as such is permitted to give priority to applicants who are of the faith of the school.

The Academy Council has responsibility for admissions to the school. In order to apply the school's oversubscription criteria, the Academy Council requires additional information that is not collected on the local authority's Common Application Form. This information can be supplied by completing this Supplementary Information Form. ***Failure to complete this form may affect the oversubscription criteria in which your child is placed.***

Full name of child (including surname)	
Date of birth	
Child's permanent address including postcode	
Contact telephone number(s)	

Full name of parent/carer	Relationship to child

If, at the time of admission, you will have other children attending this school, please provide details below:

Full name(s)	Date(s) of birth

CATHOLIC CHILDREN

If you think that your application should be considered under category 1-4 then you must supply the information below and attach the evidence requested.

Date of baptism <i>(You must attach proof of baptism i.e. baptism certificate or a letter from your priest)</i>		Place of baptism and address	
Name of your parish priest			

EASTERN CHRISTIAN CHURCH

If you think that your application should be considered under category 7 then you must supply evidence of baptism as requested in the admission policy.

Date of Baptism <i>(You must attach proof of baptism i.e. baptism certificate or a letter from the authorities of the church)</i>		Place of Baptism and address	
Name of Eastern Christian Church of which you are a member			

I confirm that I have read the Admissions Policy of the school and that the information I have provided is correct. I understand that I must notify the school immediately if there is any change to these details and that, should any information I have given prove to be inaccurate, the Academy Council may withdraw any offer of a place even if the child has already started school.

Signed.....

Date.....

<i>For school use only</i>	
<i>Date SIF received</i>
<i>Verification of baptism</i>	<i>Year Group</i>

Please return your completed form to the school.

In compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018, we wish to ensure that you are aware of the purpose for which we collect and process the data we have asked you to provide on this form.

1. We are

St Clare's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy, Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford, BD2 3JD

We are a member of the Blessed Christopher Wharton Catholic Academy Trust, who are the Data Controller for the data of St Clare's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy.

2. Being a Catholic education provider, we work closely with the School's Diocesan Authority, the School's Trustees, the Local Authority, the Catholic Education Service and the Department for Education, and may share the information you provide on this application form if we consider it is necessary in order to fulfil our functions.

3. The person responsible for data protection within our organisation is the School Business Manager and The DPO Centre. You can contact them with questions relating to our handling of the data. You can contact them by emailing office@stclares.bradford.sch.uk or contacting the school office on telephone number 01274 637841.

4. We require the information we have requested for reasons relating to our functions as the admission authority of the School.

5. It is necessary for us to process personal data for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller (Article 6(1)(e) of the GDPR).

6. To the extent that you have shared any special categories of data this will not be shared with any third parties except as detailed in paragraph 2 above, unless a legal obligation should arise.

7. It is necessary for us to process special category data for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the controller (Article 6(1)(e) of the GDPR). Additionally, processing is necessary for reasons of substantial public interest on the basis of Union or Member State law which is proportionate to the aim pursued and which contains appropriate safeguards (Article 9(2)(g) of the GDPR).

8. If the application is successful, the information you have provided on this form will be migrated to the School's enrolment system, and the data will be retained and processed on the basis of the School's fair processing notice and data protection policies which apply to that data.

9. If the application is unsuccessful, the application form and any documents submitted in support of the application will be destroyed after a period of 12 months. The school may keep a simple record of all applications and their outcome as part of their permanent archives in accordance with the School's data retention policy.

10. To read about individual rights you can refer to the School's fair processing notice and data protection policies.

11. If you wish to complain about how we have collected and processed the information you have provided on this form, you can make a complaint to our organisation by writing to the Headteacher at St Clare's Catholic Primary School, Fagley Road, Fagley, Bradford, BD2 3JD. If you are unhappy with how your complaint has been handled, you can contact the Information Commissioners Office via their website at: ico.org.uk.

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