

TADDINGTON/PRIESTCLIFFE C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

May 2014

This policy is subject to changes in law regarding pupil admissions.

As Governors, Staff and Parents our collective aim for the School is that all pupils and staff should have the opportunity and encouragement to fulfil their own individual potential. We aim to offer a safe and pleasant environment for learning which stimulates high personal expectations through strong and focused leadership.

Whilst the School is eager to embrace new ideas and technology and give pupils every advantage of those innovations available, traditional educational values remain, and are underpinned and influenced by the strong Christian ethos of our Voluntary Aided Church of England School. These values are further strengthened and encouraged by continuing and essential links and support for and from the local community, which all help to inspire our pupils into becoming respectful, caring and committed individuals.

The Local Authority is required to co-ordinate admissions to all Derbyshire Primary, Infant and Junior Schools. Essentially the Authority acts as a 'clearing house' for all admissions and enables parents to express a preference for one, two or three schools and to place those preferences in rank order. The school will follow the Coordinated Scheme for matters such as waiting lists, late applications, appeal dates and in-year applications. Individual pupils who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs which names the school, will be admitted. Parents must make their application on a common application form, to be returned direct to the Local Authority, and give reasons for their preferred schools.

The County Council will provide information to all Derbyshire Infant and Primary schools to alert parents of the need to apply for a Reception school place. In addition the Council mounts a County wide publicity campaign to raise awareness of the application procedure.

Parents can apply online at <http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions> or by ringing Call Derbyshire on 08456 058058.

Further information about the co-ordinated admissions scheme is available in the Authority's Parents' Information Booklet – 'How to apply for a place at Primary School – A guide for parents'

The admissions policy follows the guidelines given by the Derby Diocesan Board of Education and is the responsibility of the governing body. The Governors have approved the admission limit of 8 reception children each year. Where the numbers are consistent with the places available a blanket acceptance will be given. Where the numbers exceed the places available acceptance will be strictly determined by the following admission priorities: -

1. Looked after children and children who were looked after but ceased to be because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
2. Residence within the catchment area – a map is available in school
3. Siblings of pupils attending the school at the time of admission, including step-brothers and sisters, adopted children, and other children living permanently in the household. (Places cannot be allocated on the basis that a sibling is a former pupil, including siblings who were on roll at time of application but will have left by the time the child starts school.)
4. Children of whom at least one parent or carer has regularly worshipped at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Taddington for a period of at least one year prior to the date of the application.
 - (1) Regular means an average attendance of once per month.
 - (2) Church attendance must be verified by a letter from the relevant priest, minister or churchwarden.
5. Other children whose parents have requested a place.

Where in the case of 2, 3, 4 and 5 above, choices have to be made between children satisfying the same criteria, those children living nearest to the school (measured by the nearest available route) will be given preference. Derbyshire County Council and Younger Adults Department uses a Geographic Information System and this will be used to measure the nearest available route.

We have a one point entry system for reception children. This means that all children whose 5th birthday falls within the academic year can be admitted full time from September if parents and the Head teacher so wish. If parents wish to defer the place until later in the school year, they may do so. If they want to defer their child's admission to a later academic year, they will have to reapply during the appropriate admissions round.

The closing date for applications for 2015/16 admissions will be 15th January 2015.

Any parent who has an application for admission to the school rejected has the right to appeal. Parents wishing to appeal will have the option of either contacting Call Derbyshire on 08456 058 058 to obtain an appeal pack or logging onto www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions. Any appeals need to be lodged within 20 school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful.