**ALL SAINTS CE FIRST SCHOOL: Consultation on 2026/2027 Admission Arrangements**

All Saints CE First School wishes to formally consult with you regarding the schools admissions arrangements for 2026/2027.

In line with the School Admissions Code, all admission authorities must consult on their admission arrangements every 7 years even if there are no planned changes ([see para 1.45 of the Code](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/60ebfeb08fa8f50c76838685/School_admissions_code_2021.pdf)).  Failure to do so will be in breach of the Code and may result in a referral being made to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator.

We are not proposing to make any material changes to the arrangements.  However, your opinions are important to us, and we are keen to receive your comments on the arrangements before they are formally approved.

A full copy of the proposed admission arrangements are available on our [website](https://www.allsaints.school/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Admissions-Policy-2026-27.pdf).

The consultation will close at 5pm on Monday 16th December 2024.

Please send your comments FAO Mrs Flannagan to: office@allsaints-leigh.staffs.sch.uk

**Proposed admission arrangements 2026/2027**

The normal point of entry for admission All Saints CE First School is Reception where full time places will be available in September of the academic year in which the child becomes five years old.

In accordance with legislation, children who have an education, health and care plan (EHCP) that names the school as being the most appropriate to meet the child’s needs must be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available to other applicants.

**Oversubscription criteria**

If the total number of preferences for admission to a school exceeds the school’s published admission number (PAN) of 12 (To comply with class size legislation there will be a maximum of 30 children in KS1 Classes), the following order of priority will be used to allocate the available places:

1) Looked After Children (LAC), Previously Looked After Children (PLAC) and including Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children (IAPLAC) Please see Appendix 1.

2) Children whose current exceptional circumstances satisfy both of the following tests:

**Test 1:** T**he child is distinguished from the great majority of other applicants either on their own medical grounds which requires regular and sustained medical treatment or by other extreme exceptional circumstances**. Medical grounds must be supported by a medical report (obtained by the applicant and provided at the point of application). This report must clearly justify, for health reasons only, why it is better for the child’s health to attend the academy rather than any other school. Exceptional circumstances must relate and be relevant to the choice of school/academy and the individual child, i.e. the exceptional circumstances of the child, not the economic or social circumstances of the parent/carer. They should be supported by a recent professional’s report (obtained by the applicant and provided when the application is submitted), e.g. social worker. This report must clearly explain why the child’s circumstances are exceptional and why it is considered best that they attend the academy rather than any other school.

and

**Test 2: the child will suffer hardship if they were unable to attend the school rather than any other school/academy.**Hardship means severe suffering of any kind, not merely difficulty, inconvenience or mild to moderate emotional distress, which is likely to be experienced as a result of the child attending a different school. Applicants must provide detailed information both the type and severity of any likely hardship at the time of application.

3) Children who have an elder sibling in attendance at the school and who will still be attending at the proposed admission date; (For the application to be prioritised under this criteria the children must be living at the same home address for the majority of the school week and either: have one or both natural parents in common; are related by a parents marriage; are adopted or fostered by a common parent or are unrelated children who live at the same address, whose parents live as partners.)

4) Children living within the defined catchment area. *See Appendix 2.*

5) Other children arranged in order of priority according to how near their home addresses are to the main gate of the school, determined by a straight-line measurement as calculated by the local authority’s geographical information system.

Where it is not possible to accommodate all children applying for places within a particular category then we will allocate the available places in accordance with the remaining criteria.  If for instance, all the catchment area or cluster area children cannot be accommodated at a school, children who are resident within the catchment or cluster area will be arranged in order of priority according to the remaining criteria.

**Admission of Reception Age Children**

All pupils are admitted at the beginning of the school year following their fourth birthday.

**Admissions Procedure**

In response to a request for a place for a child at All Saints CE First School, Parents will be sent the following: -

1. Information containing the admission criteria. Applications are to be made via: [staffordshire school admissions](https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Overview.aspx). Alternatively, a late application can be made by paper, obtained from the school office or downloaded from and returned to Staffordshire School Admissions
2. Early in the Summer term a letter will be sent by the LA offering a place at the school, or stating that no place is available.

**Immediate/In Year admissions**

When a pupil moves into the catchment area and is transferring from another school, it may be necessary to effect immediate admission. In this event, authority to admit is delegated to the Headteacher, providing a place is available. <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Education/Admissions-primary/Apply/Application-forms-for-admission-to-school.aspx>

**Admissions**

The Headteacher is delegated to admit pupils following the agreed criteria for admissions at the start of the Nursery and Reception year.

**Appeals**

Any Parent has a right to appeal against the decision not to admit. Appeals should be made in writing to the Chair of Governors and should state the child’s name, date of birth and home address, together with the grounds on which the appeal is made. The Governors will refer all appeals to the independent appeals panel. The Appeals Committee will consist of three members appointed by the governors. The decision of the appeals panel is final and binding on all parties.

**Deferred Entry to Reception Class**

Parents may request that their child be admitted to Reception Class on a part-time basis, or that their child be admitted to school later in the same academic year until the child reaches compulsory school age (i.e. beginning of the term after the child’s fifth birthday). The effect is that the place will be held for the child in Reception and is not available to be offered to any other child within the same academic year in which it has been offered.

Before deciding whether to defer their child’s entry to school, parents should visit the school to clarify how we cater for the youngest children in Reception and how the needs of these children are met as they move up through the school.

**Admission Outside of the Normal Age Group**

Parents may seek to apply for their child’s admission to school outside of their normal age group, for example if the child is exceptionally gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of summer born children may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted outside of their normal age group to Reception rather than Year 1.

These parents will need to make an application alongside children applying at the normal age which should explain why it is in the child’s best interest to be admitted outside of their normal age which may include information such as professional evidence as to why this is the case and why an exception should be made in the case of the child. A decision as to whether this is an appropriate course of action will be made by the Governing Body who will take into account the circumstances of the case and views of the Headteacher. Parents do not have the right to insist that their child is admitted to a particular year group.

**Additional notes**

Attendance at our nursery will not prioritise admission to the academy. **Parents must make a separate application for admission to reception at the appropriate time.**

The requirement for the school to meet the infant class size legislation may result in the refusal of catchment area or sibling applications where a class has already reached its limit of 30 pupils. However, as an exception, the school will give careful consideration to offering places above the published admission number to applications from children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted even when there are no other vacant places.

It is expected that parents will agree on school places before an application is made, and it may be necessary to request evidence from you to confirm that this is the case. The school is not in a position to intervene in disputes between parents over school applications and will request that these are resolved privately.

***Appendix 1***

A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. 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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

Looked after children means children who are looked after by a local authority in accordance with section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989 and who is (a) in care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see definition in Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). Child arrangements orders are defined in s.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a special guardianship order as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian (or special guardians). It is the applicant’s responsibility to provide any supportive information required in order for the application to be assessed against the published admissions criteria, the school will not seek to obtain this information on behalf of the applicant.

Appendix 2.

