**Admissions Policy for the Nursery Class**

**2022/2023**

SS John Fisher and Thomas More is a Roman Catholic Primary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. As a Catholic Voluntary Academy the Wythenshawe Catholic Academy Trust is the Admissions Authority.

All decisions relating to admissions applications will be taken by the Governing Body of this school.

Admission to the **3-4 year old Nursery class at SS John Fisher and Thomas More** **Catholic Primary School** will be on a full time basis \* and made by the Governing Body in accordance with the stated parental preference subject to the following set of Admission Criteria forming a priority order where there are more applications for admission than the Nursery has places available.

For the school year commencing September 2023 the Governing Body has set its admissions number for 3-4 year olds at 52.

1. Baptised Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children.
2. Children already attending our Nursery in the 2 year old provision
3. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the Primary school at the time of admission.
4. Baptised Catholic children resident in the parish of **SS John Fisher and Thomas More as defined in its historical boundaries up to 2010.**
5. Baptised Catholic children from other parishes as defined in **their historical boundaries up to 2010.**
6. Other Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
7. Other children who have a sibling in the Primary school at the time of admission.
8. Other children.

Notes:

* 1. 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 under section 22 (1) of the Children's Act 1989. A previously looked after child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
  2. All Catholic applicants will be required to produce baptismal certificates.
  3. **Admission to the Nursery classes does not necessarily secure admission to the Primary school.**
  4. If in any other category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of distance from home to school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the front door of the child’s home address (including the community entrance to flats) to the main entrance of the school using the Local Authority’s computerised measuring system with those living nearer to the school having priority. In the event of distances being the same for 2 or more applicants where this distance would be last place/s to be allocated, a random lottery will be carried out in a public place.
  5. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the child’s “permanent place of residence” will be determined as the address of the parent who normally has responsibility for the majority of school days in a week.
  6. Sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer’s partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.
  7. The Governing Body reserve the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to baptism, sibling connections or place of residence.

**\* Full time places will be dependent on Local Authority funding for 2022/2023.**

**Admission dates**

Parents seeking a Nursery place for a September start should submit their application no later than 31st March 2022. ***Any applications received after 31st March will be considered as ‘a late application’ and will be allocated a place once all other applications have been processed.*** If places are available, there will be a further intake of Nursery pupils in January 2023 and April 2023, places will be allocated using the above criteria.

**Provision for 2 Year Olds**

The Nursery offers 16 part time places for children aged 2-3 years old. There are 8 places available in the mornings and 8 places available in the afternoons. If eligible for Two Year funding, children will be allocated a morning or afternoon place (3hrs per day) Monday-Friday. Places are usually offered for five mornings or five afternoons but, if necessary, exceptions will be made to accommodate children for their full 15 hour entitlement using a mixture of morning and afternoon sessions. For example, if there are only 4 morning sessions available, parents may be offered an afternoon session on the 5th day. **Children are not currently able to attend for more than 3 hrs per day.** Please contact the office if you are unsure if you meet the criteria for a funded place.

Parents who are not entitled to two year funding are able to pay for a Nursery place through Parent Pay. A 3 hour daily session is charged at £15.00 and parents can choose how many sessions their child will attend to suit their budget. Please refer to the Nursery’s charging policy for more information.

When a child turns 3 years old, if a place is available in our 3-4 year old class and staff feel your child is ready to transition, they will move up to our full time Nursery class the following term. If no places are available your child will remain in the 2 year old provision and any charges (if applicable) for their place will cease the following term.

If our 2 year old provision is oversubscribed the above criteria (1-8) will be applied to allocate places.