



Alverstoke Church of England (Aided) Junior School

Admissions Policy from September 2018

Admissions to Year 3

This policy will apply to all admissions from 1st September 2018, including in-year admissions. It will be used during 2018-19 for allocating places for September 2018 as part of the normal admission round for Year 3.

The Governing Body of Alverstoke Church of England Junior School is the admission authority for The School. The admission arrangements are determined by the Governing Body, after statutory consultation.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for Alverstoke Church of England Junior School (The School) is 68. The PAN is the number of places for children available in the year group above.

A guiding principle of admissions to this school is that the school should serve its local community, defined in the trust deed of 1841 as the ecclesiastical parish of St Mary's Alverstoke. The governors also aspire to enable as many children as possible attend their parents' preferred school; that siblings as far as possible can attend this school together; and that children can benefit from continuity between the linked Alverstoke Community Infant School. The policy aims to be clear, fair and objective and to comply with all relevant legislation.

Outside the normal admissions round, the Local Authority's Fair Access protocol will be applied alongside the policy to secure the admission of vulnerable pupils from specific groups.

The governors will admit any pupil whose final statement of special educational needs names the school. Where possible such children will be admitted within the PAN.

If the school is oversubscribed, places will be offered in the following priority order. Places for applications received after the deadline will be allocated using the same criteria:

Admission Criteria

1. **Looked after children or children who were previously looked after.** (see Definition A)
2. **(For applicants in the normal admission round only)** Children or families who have a **serious medical, physical or psychological condition** which makes it **essential** that the child attends the preferred school rather than any other. (Appropriate medical or psychological evidence must be provided in support and must be provided at the time of application.) (see Definition B)
3. Children **living in the catchment area** of the school: (see Definitions C)
 - (i) Children who at the time of application have a sibling (see Definitions D) on the roll of the school or Alverstoke Infant School who will still be on roll at the time of admission. [See 4(i) for additional children who may be considered under this criterion.]
 - (i) Children attending Alverstoke Infant School at the time of application
 - (ii) Other children living in the catchment area of the school.
4. Children **living out of the catchment** area of the school:
 - (i) Children who at the time of application have a **sibling** (see Definitions D) on the roll of **The School or Alverstoke Infant School**.



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- (ii) Children who at the time of application are on the roll of Alverstone Infant school. (see Definition E)
- (iii) Other children.

Definitions

A Looked after children or children who were previously looked after

By a “looked-after child” we mean one in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of its social services function. This criterion provides a priority for children who are (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). It can also be used for children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. An adoption order is an order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 or section 12 of the Adoption Act 1976.. A ‘child arrangement orders’ is as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989 as amended by Section 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.

B Serious medical, physical or psychological condition

Where a place is requested for a child or family who have a serious social or medical, condition, you must supply supporting independent evidence at the time of application confirming the reason(s) why attendance at The School is essential rather than any other school. You must also describe the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. The evidence should be provided by a suitably qualified medical professional. The evidence will be considered carefully in confidence by the admissions committee of The Governing Body, who will endeavour to reach a fair and equitable decision.

C The Catchment Area

The catchment area for Alverstone Church of England Junior School is the Ecclesiastical Parish of St Mary’s Alverstone which includes the Local Authority defined catchment area.. The child’s permanent residence is where they live, normally including weekends and during school holidays as well as during the week, and should be used for the application. The permanent address of children who spend part of their week with one parent and part with the other, at different addresses, will be the address at which they spend most of their time.

Moving home & UK service personnel & crown servants

Places can only be offered on the basis of future moves on the basis of:

- a letter from the solicitor (or equivalent) confirming exchange of contracts to buy a property relevant to the application;
- a tenancy agreement confirming the renting of a specific property relevant to the application;
- a letter from a housing association confirming that the parent(s) will be living at a specific address relevant to the application; or
- in the case of UK service personnel and Crown servants, an official government letter (MOD, FCO or GCHQ) letter declaring a relocation date and a unit or quartering address.



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D Siblings

'Sibling' refers to brother or sister, half brother or half sister, adoptive brother or adoptive sister, step brother or step sister and foster siblings in the same family unit. It will also be applied to situations where a full or half brother or sister are living at separate addresses. Categories 3(i) and 4(i) includes children who at the time of application have a sibling for whom the offer of a place at the preferred school has been accepted, even if the sibling is not yet attending.

E Linked Infant School

The designated feeder school for Alverstoke CE (A) Junior School is Alverstoke Community Infant School.

Tie-breaker

If the school is oversubscribed from within any of the above criteria or sub-criteria, straight line distance will be used to prioritise applications; applicants living nearer the school have priority. Distances will be measured from the Ordnance Survey home address point to the school address point using Hampshire County Council's Geographic Information Systems (GIS). Distances to multiple dwellings will give priority to the ground floor over the first floor and so on. On individual floors, distances will be measured to the stairs leading to the communal entrance. If distances are equal (for example within a block of flats) lots will be drawn by a person independent of the Governing Body in order to determine a place.

Who can apply?

Only a parent can apply for a place at a school. A parent is any person who has parental responsibility for or is the legal guardian of the child, as set out in the Children Act 1989.

How to apply

The Local Authority operates a Co-ordinated Admissions scheme which processes all main round (ordinary) admissions applications. They also publish a Composite Prospectus which details all admission arrangements for schools within the Local Authority. Please see www.LocalAuthority's.gov.uk for the prospectus and details of the scheme.

You must complete a Local Authority Application Form available from www.hants.gov.uk/admissions
Closing date deadline is 15th January 2018 at midnight.

Offering Places

The Governing Body will consider first all those applications received by the published deadline of **midnight on Monday, 15th January 2018**. Notifications to parents offering a junior school place will be sent by the Local Authority on the first working day after **Monday, 16th April 2018**

Applications made after **midnight on Monday, 15th January 2018** will be considered after all on-time applications have been fully processed unless exceptional circumstances merit consideration alongside on-time applications.

For the normal admission round, all on time preferences will be considered simultaneously and ranked in accordance with the admission criteria. If more than one school can offer a place, the parent's highest stated available preference will be allocated.

Pupils with a statement of special educational needs



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The governors will admit any pupil whose Education, Health and care plan (previously a final statement of special educational need) names the school. Where possible such children will be admitted within the PAN.

Multiple births/same cohort siblings

Where a twin, child from a multiple birth or sibling in the same cohort is admitted to a school under this policy then any further twin, child of the same multiple birth or siblings in the same cohort will be admitted, if the parents so wish, even though this may raise the number in the year group above the school's PAN. (Siblings in the same cohort includes step or foster children).

In-year applications (ordinary)

The allocation of any places which may become available during the year will be made on the basis of the current Admissions Criteria. There are no deadline dates for in year applications. Applications must be made using the Local Authority Admission Form available online at www.hants.gov.uk Any parent with parental responsibility can apply for a place for their child at any time to any school. The Governing Body will decide whether a place can be offered at this school.

In-Year Fair Access placements by the local authority

The local authority must ensure that all pupils are placed in schools as quickly as possible. It may therefore sometimes be necessary for a pupil to be placed by the local authority, or a local placement panel acting on behalf of the authority, in a particular school even if there is a waiting list for admission. Such placements will be made in accordance with the provisions of the local authority's In-Year Fair Access Protocol. The Protocol is based on legislation and government guidance.

Waiting lists

When all available places have been allocated, waiting lists will be operated by the school. Parents must request (in writing) that their child is placed on the waiting list. Waiting lists will be maintained for one school academic year.

Any places that become available will be allocated according to the criteria of the admission policy with no account being taken of the length of time on the waiting list or any priority order expressed as part of the main admission round. Fair Access admissions and school closure arrangements will take priority over the waiting list.

The waiting list will be reviewed and revised:

- each time a child is added to, or removed from, the waiting list;
- when a child's changed circumstances affect their priority;
- periodically, when parents with a child on the waiting list will be contacted and asked if they wish to remain on the list for the following school year.

At the time of receiving an offer of a school place parents will be advised of the process for adding their child's name to a school's waiting list. Parents may keep their child's name on the waiting list of as many schools as they wish and for as long as they wish.

Admission of children outside their normal age group



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Parents of a gifted and talented child, or a child who has experienced problems or missed part of a year, for example due to ill health, can request a place outside the normal age group. The Governing Body will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case, informing parents of their statutory right to appeal. This right of appeal does not apply if The School has offered a place in another year group at The School.

Admission Appeals

If you are unsuccessful in gaining a place for your child at The School you will be informed by The Local Authority in writing, be given reasons for the refusal and informed of your right to an independent appeal against the decision.

Warning

Places are withdrawn every year because parents give a false 'home address' on application forms. This includes cases where parents take out a short-term let or buy a property solely to use its address on the application form without any intention of taking up permanent residence there. In fairness to all parents, all allegations of fraudulent practice brought to The Governing Body attention will be investigated. The Governing Body reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if fraudulent or intentionally misleading information has been used on an application.

Legislation

This policy takes account of all Equalities legislation, together with all relevant regulations and the School Admission Code (published by the DfE in 2014).

Further Information

If you require further information about applying for a place at Alverstone Church of England Junior School, please contact The School.

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