



ST JOSEPH'S R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL, **RAMSBOTTOM** **ADMISSION POLICY FOR 2020/21**

St Joseph's is a Roman Catholic Primary School provided by the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by the Bury Local Education Authority as a Voluntary Aided School. The school's Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. For the school year commencing September 2020, the Governing Body has set its planned admissions number at 30.

Admissions to the school will be made by the Governing Body. All preferences listed on the Local Authority Preference Form will be considered on an equal basis with the followings set of Admissions Criteria forming a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available.

Special Needs – All children with a statement of special needs naming the school will be admitted before the application of the over-subscription criteria.

1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
2. Children with an exceptional social, medical, educational or religious need which can be best met at this school;*
3. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
4. Baptised Catholic children resident in the parish of St Joseph's RC Church, Ramsbottom.
5. Other baptised Catholic children.
6. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
7. All remaining applicants.

*Exceptional needs of this kind will occur very rarely. It is strongly recommended that a written application is submitted in advance of the normal admissions timetable.

NOTES

- a) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is set by Bury LA.
- b) If in any category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of a 'straw poll'.
- c) All Catholic applicants will be required to produce baptismal certificates.
- d) It is the duty of governors to comply with regulations on class size limits at Key Stage One. The Governing Body may exceed the regulations for twins and children from multiple births where one of the children is the 30th Child admitted. All children with a statement of special needs naming the school will be admitted before the application of the over-subscription criteria.
- e) 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.
- f) 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.
- g) A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admission Criteria. Parents will be informed of their child's position on the waiting list which will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn Term.
 - h) For 'In Year' applications received outside the normal admissions round and if places are available then children qualifying under the published criteria will be admitted. Direct application to the school can now be made under this heading. If there are places available but more applicants than places then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied. All children with a statement of special needs naming the school will be admitted before the application of the over-subscription criteria.
 - i) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Parents must be allowed at least twenty school days from the date of notification that their application was unsuccessful to submit that appeal. Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.
 - j) 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.
 - k) Parents will be informed of the governors' decision by the Local Authority. An offer of a place does not guarantee a place for siblings in subsequent years.
 - l) Parents should check carefully whether they are resident within the parish boundaries of St Joseph's Ramsbottom. If you are unsure please contact Father Frank Thorpe at St Joseph's Church.
 - m) Criteria 2: Professional supporting evidence from eg: a doctor, psychologist, social worker, is essential if admission is to be made under the criterion for special medical or social needs, and such evidence must set out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable school for those difficulties.
 - n) 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 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.

Appeals

Parents of pupils who have not been allocated a place have recourse to an appeal procedure. Appeals should be addressed to:

The Secretary, Appeals Panel,
Roman Catholic Schools,
c/o St Joseph's R.C. Primary School,
Queen Street,
Ramsbottom,
Bury,
Lancashire.
BL0 0JJ