



All Hallows Catholic College

A Voluntary Academy

Aspire not to have more but to be more

ADMISSIONS POLICY SEPTEMBER 2025-26

All Hallows Catholic College was founded by the Diocese of Shrewsbury to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will always be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and (instrument of government)¹ (articles of association)², and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all the families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The governing body is the admission authority and has responsibility for admissions to this school. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round³ (excluding admission to year 12)⁴. The governing body has set its admission number at 210 students to year 7 in the school year which begins in September, 2025.

Oversubscription Criteria

1. A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making application to the school.
A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the governing body) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Catholic children from our Learning Community Primary Schools: St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Macclesfield), St Benedict's Catholic Primary School (Handforth), St Gregory's Catholic Primary School (Bollington), St John the Evangelist Church of England Primary School (Macclesfield), Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School (Congleton), St Paul's Catholic Primary School (Poynton), Christ the King Catholic and Church of England Primary School (Macclesfield)
3. Other Catholic Children
4. Other children from our Learning Community Primary Schools: St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Macclesfield), St Benedict's Catholic Primary School (Handforth), St Gregory's Catholic Primary School (Bollington), St John the Evangelist Church of England Primary School (Macclesfield), Saint Mary's Catholic Primary School (Congleton), St Paul's Catholic Primary School (Poynton), Christ the King Catholic and Church of England Primary School (Macclesfield)
5. Other Children

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.

- (i) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made
- (ii) This applies where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the front door of the child's home address (including the community entrance to flats) and the main entrance of the school using the local authority's computerised measuring system. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

Notes

- a) All applicants will be considered at the same time, and after the closing date which is 31 October 2024.
- b) All Catholic applicants will be required to produce baptismal certificates. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child who is part of a Catholic family where a letter from a priest demonstrates that the child would have been baptised or received if it were not for their status as a looked after child (e.g. a looked after child in the process of adoption by a Catholic family).

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the laws of the Church.

- c) In relation to children of multiple births it may, exceptionally, be necessary to offer places over the published admission number. This is to ensure that, as far as possible that twins, triplets or children from other multiple births can attend the same school.
- d) 'brother or sister' includes:
 - (i) all-natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
 - (ii) the child of a parent's partner where that child for whom the school place is sought lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.
- e) In addition to Catholic applications, applications are particularly welcome from other Christian traditions. Applications are also particularly welcomed from the parents of children attending other local Church schools who wish for their Christian education to continue.
- f) The College has specialist provision for children with hearing impairments who may or may not have a formal EHCP. In such cases a letter or report from a medical or para-medical professional is required if an application is made without a statement.
- g) A waiting list of children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admissions Criteria. Parents will be informed on their child's position on the waiting list which will not be operated for longer than the end of the Autumn Term.
- h) A child's "home address" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent / carer and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.
- i) If an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 20 school days of refusal. Parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.
- j) The Governing Body reserves 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.

¹ Include for a Catholic voluntary aided school and delete for a Catholic voluntary academy.

² Include for a Catholic voluntary academy and delete for a Catholic voluntary aided school.

³ This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year.

⁴ Delete the words in square brackets where the local authority co-ordinates year 12 admissions.

In-Year Applications

An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Applications should be made to the Local Authority, Cheshire East <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/in-year-applications.aspx>. Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied. If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above). You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel if your application is unsuccessful. In-Year applications are normally processed with 10 school days.

Fair Access Protocol

The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The governing body has this power even where admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number.



Signed: Clair Watson
Chair of Governors