St Francis Catholic Primary School,
Highcliffe Road, Morley, Leeds, LS27 9LX

Admission Policy for the school year 2013-14

Saint Francis Catholic Primary School was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for baptised Catholic children. The school is run by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Instrument of Government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ.

If the number of preferences received is less than the admission number then all preferences will be met. However, when there are more applications than places available, priority will always be given to Catholic applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. By applying to this school parents, or carers, are declaring their support for the aims and ethos of the school.

The governing body has responsibility for admissions to the school and intends to admit 22 pupils to reception in the school year which begins in September 2013.

Oversubscription criteria

At any time where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered in the following order of priority:

1. Looked after children from Catholic families or children from Catholic families who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order
2. Baptised Catholic children who live in the parish of St William of York embracing the former parishes of St Francis, Morley and St Brigids, Churwell.
3. Other baptised Catholic children.
4. Other looked after children or other children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order
5. Children of other Christian denominations or of other Faiths whose application is supported in writing by a minister of religion or an appropriate religious leader.
6. Other children.

Catechumens are to be given priority next after baptised Catholics in each of the above categories.

Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the categories listed above would lead to over-subscription the following terms will be applied.

The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time when the younger child starts school will increase the priority of an application within each category. (see notes)

Tie Break

Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the categories listed above would still lead to oversubscription, the available places will be offered to those living nearest to the school. 'straight line distance' will be used as the measure. The distance measured will be from the middle of the applicants house to the centre of the main school building.

Application Procedures and Timetable
Failure to provide a Common Preference Form (CPF) would mean that the application is not valid and failure to provide a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) could mean that the applicant is placed in the last criteria.

A standard application form, known as the Common Preference Form must be completed and returned to the Local Authority by 15th January 2013. The Supplementary Information Form attached to this policy should be submitted by 15th January 2013 to the school. Parents or carers will be advised of the outcome of their applications on 16th April 2013. Unsuccessful applicants will be given reasons related to the over-subscription criteria listed above and advised of their right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Deferred entry to primary schools
Parents of children who are offered a place at the school before they are of compulsory school age can defer their child's entry until later in the school year or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that school year. Where entry is deferred, the school will hold the place for that child and not offer it to another child during the remainder of the school year. Parents cannot defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the academic year for which the original application was accepted. Parents can also request that their child attends part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Application outside the normal admission time and for other year groups In-Year applications
From September 2013 parents will be able to apply directly to the school at any time for an in-year transfer. An application form is available from the school or from the Local Authority and you will be notified by the school of the outcome of the application.

Where a family has moved into the area from abroad, another part of the country or city, and the child is effectively out of education, the application will be considered for an immediate start in the school, if there is a place available.
Where parents simply wish for their child to change schools, the application may be considered for the start of the following term.

Waiting Lists
As well as their right of appeal, unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will follow the order of the oversubscription criteria set out above. Names are normally taken off the list at the end of the academic year.

Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs
The admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. This procedure is set out in the 1996 Education Act. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice*.

Notes (these notes form part of the over-subscription criteria)

Catholic means a member of a church in communion with the See of Rome. A certificate of baptism in a Catholic church, or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church, will normally evidence this. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches.

Catechumens are those children who have given an explicit desire to be baptised into the Roman Catholic Church and who are currently preparing to receive the same by regular participation in Sunday worship and a recognised programme of preparation. A letter from the Catholic priest preparing the child is required.

Looked After Child has the same meaning as in section 22 of the Children Act 1989, and means any child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents).
Siblings (Brothers and Sister) includes children with brothers and sister (including step-siblings, adoptive siblings and foster siblings) of statutory school age, living at the same address, in attendance at the same school on the date of admission.

Twins or Triplets - where a family of twins or triplets request admission and if one sibling has been offered the 30th or last place the 'excepted pupil' rule comes in and the other twin/triplets are offered a place.

Live - In all categories "live" means the child's permanent home address. A child is normally regarded as living with a parent or guardian and we will use the parent or guardian's address for admission purposes. You cannot lodge a child with a friend or relation in order to gain a place at a school. For admissions purposes only one address can be used as a child's permanent address. When a child lives with more than one parent/carer, at different addresses, we will use the preference expressed by the parent/carer at the address where the child lives the majority of the time during the school week as the main place of residence.

Where there is more than one application from a postal address contained within a block of flats, places will be decided by random allocation. If two or more pupils live equidistant from the school, the distance each pupil lives by road from the preferred school will be measured and the place offered to the pupil who lives nearest by this means. In the event of this being equal, places will then be decided by random allocation.

Straight Line Distance - in all categories, when decisions have to be made between children satisfying the same criterion, children living nearest to the school, using a straight line measure, have priority.

Admission Appeal – Clerk to the Aided Appeals Panel
4 West
Civic Hall
LEEDS
LS1 1UR

- Please see school website www.stfrancismorley.org.uk for timetable