

NURSERY ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR ST. THOMAS MORE R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

As servants of God, we follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ. Through His love, we guide each member of our family on their own spiritual and learning journey to achieve and grow.

We Love, We Learn, We Live with Christ.

St Thomas More R.C. Primary School is established in the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by the Rochdale Local Authority as a Voluntary Aided School to form, in partnership with home and parish, an integral part of that local Catholic faith community which bears the mission of the Church to embrace the gospel of Christ, to live by its values, and to proclaim Christ as the light of all peoples. A key role of the school is to assist parents of baptised Catholics to fulfill the responsibilities taken on at their child's baptism. By striving to be a Christ-centered community providing excellent education, the school will also play its part in the witness and mission of St Thomas More church. The parish of St Thomas More & St Peter's are amalgamated and each school has its own catchment area. The catchment area of St Thomas More is detailed in the Admission notes

The school's Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. For each school year commencing September 2023, the Governing Body has set its planned admission number at 30 for Nursery.

Admissions to the school will be made by the Governing Body in accordance with all preferences listed on the Local Authority preference form. They will be considered on an equal basis following a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available at the time of application.

STATEMENT OF ETHOS

The Catholic Faith and the Teachings of the Catholic Church have an essential role in school life and influence every aspect of the curriculum. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

CRITERIA

1. Baptised Catholic Looked After children and previously Looked After children.
2. Baptised Catholic children, who will have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission and resident in the catchment area of St. Thomas More Primary School. (Sibling shall include stepsiblings, half siblings and children of the family resident with the applicant child).
3. Baptised Catholic children, resident in the catchment area of St Thomas More Primary School.
4. Other baptised Catholic children, who will have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission.
5. Other baptised Catholic children who are resident in the catchment area of St Peter's Primary School or Our Lady of the Assumption Langley.
6. Other baptised Catholic children.
7. Other Looked After children and previously Looked After children.
8. Baptised Catholic children whose parent is a member of staff at St Thomas More School but living outside the catchment area of St Thomas More Primary School.
9. Other children, who will have a brother or sister attending the school at the time of admission, who are resident in the catchment area of St Thomas More Primary School. (Sibling shall include stepsiblings, half siblings and children of the family resident with the applicant child).

10. Other children, who are resident in the catchment of St. Thomas More Primary School.

11. Other children.

NOTES

- a) In each case of the categories priority will be given to Roman Catholic children who are in public care and then other children in public care.
- b) All applicants will be considered by the Governing body during the Spring Term, prior to the September admission.
- c) Each Roman Catholic applicant will be required to produce a Roman Catholic baptismal certificate.
- d) All applicants will be required to provide proof of address, by supplying an original utility bill (within the last 3 months) and photo ID (preferably a driving licence).
- e) Parents should check within which parish they and the applicant child are resident. The Catchment area of the school is: "From the point where Rochdale- Manchester boundary meets Wince Brook river, east along the Wince Brook to the point opposite Greenson Drive on River Irk, by a bee-line to Hall Drive, Alkington Hall Rd North, Manchester New Rd (A664), east along Mount Rd (southern side of the Road), along Roundthorn Rd in a straight line to and then south along Wince Brook to and then south along Rochdale - Oldham boundary; then Rochdale - Manchester District boundary to where it meets Wince Brook. A map illustrating this catchment area of St Thomas More is available for inspection at the school
- f) The school reserves the right to request the proof of the applicant child's place of residence. Failure to provide this evidence or misrepresentation of the place of residence and / or baptismal status may lead to the withholding of any offered place or where a child has been admitted the admitted child shall not rank as an admitted sibling.
- g) If in any category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of proximity to the school. Governors define this as the shortest safest walking distance taken from the main gate of the school to the centre point of the applicant child residence (This is calculated using the LA computer system SCANA).
- h) Admission arrangements to the Reception class are separate to those for Nursery. Attendance at the Nursery does not give a child any guarantee or priority when it comes to consideration by the Governors of applicants for admission to the Reception class.
- i) The school operates a waiting list where applications exceed available places. If a place becomes available because of failure to take up a place or a move from the district then the available place will be allocated by using the Admissions Policy.

This was agreed at the Full Governing Body Meeting on 7th March 2023

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Date: _____

Policy 35 V6