



STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

School Admissions Policy and Procedures

for 2025/2026

LIST OF CONTENTS

Page	Ref	ITEM
3		Introduction
4	A	Admissions to Reception and Year 7 (i.e. the normal admission rounds) 2025/2026
4	1	Applicable to all maintained schools
7	2	Admissions Criteria (schools with a catchment area) – Community, Church of England and Academy Primary Schools, Community and Academy Secondary Schools
8	3	Admissions Criteria - Voluntary Aided Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools, North Cheshire Jewish Primary School, Stockport Academy and Free Schools.
9	4	Right of Appeal
9	5	Deferred Entry to Primary School
9	6	Request to Enter Secondary Education Early
10	B	In-Year Admissions (i.e. outside the normal admissions rounds for reception and Year 7 in September) 2025/2026
10	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All maintained schools
10	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Schools only
11	3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer between schools

19		Appendix 1 – Definition of different types of schools in Stockport
20-34		Appendix 2 – Glossary of terms used in this document and information for parents / carers and how they are applied during the admissions process
35		Appendix 3 – Appeals
36-70		Appendix 4 – Admissions Policies for schools where the Governing Body are responsible for Admission Arrangements, All Catholic Infant, Junior, Primary and Secondary schools, 2 Church of England Primary schools, North Cheshire Jewish Primary School, Mellor Primary School, St Matthew’s CE Primary School, Gatley Primary School, Hursthead Junior School, Bredbury Green Primary School, Meadowbank Primary School, Bredbury St Mark’s CE Primary School, St Elisabeth’s CE Primary School, Cheadle Hulme Primary School, Woodford Primary School, Cheadle Hulme High School, Laurus Cheadle Hulme, Hazel Grove High School, Reddish Vale High School, The Kingsway School and Stockport Academy, St Anne’s RC Voluntary Academy
71-81		Appendix 5 – Scheme for the Co-ordination of all Admission Arrangements for maintained schools in the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport 2025/2026
83-84		Appendix 6 – Determining a child’s principle parental home, resolving parental disputes and multiple applications

INTRODUCTION

The following is in compliance with the Department for Education's School Admissions Code 2021 and School Admission Appeals Code 2022.

This document refers to admissions policies:

- A** for Reception and Year 7 intakes for **September 2025**
- B** which will operate in Stockport maintained schools for **all** in-year admissions for the **academic year 2025/2026**

There are different types of maintained schools in Stockport, these are detailed in Appendix 1

In terms of admission arrangements there are two distinct types:

- those where the Local Authority are responsible for admissions policy (Community Primary and Secondary schools, Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary Schools)
- those where the Governing Body are responsible for admissions policy (All Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools, Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary Schools, Gatley Primary School (Academy), Hursthead Junior School (Academy), Mellor Primary School (Academy), St Matthews CE Primary School (Academy), Bredbury Green Primary School (Academy), Meadowbank Primary School (Academy), Bredbury St Mark's CE Primary School, St Elisabeth's CE Primary School, Cheadle Hulme Primary School (Academy), St Mary's Catholic Primary Marple (Academy), Woodford Primary School (Academy), Cheadle Hulme High School (Academy), Hazel Grove High School (Academy), Reddish Vale High School (Academy), The Kingsway School (Academy) and Stockport Academy (Academy), St Anne's RC Voluntary Academy (Academy), Laurus Cheadle Hulme (Academy)

A glossary of the terms used and how they are applied during the admissions process, is contained in this document in Appendix 2, they are also referred to in the Local Authority's information for parents.

- **Items in this document marked with an asterisk *** are explained in Appendix 2 – Glossary of terms used and how they are applied during the admissions process
- Reception and Year 7 intake items should be read in conjunction with the Local Authority's information for parents / carers available to view on Stockport Council's website <http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions>
- All policies and admission numbers have been determined through the statutory consultation process with schools, Governing Bodies, parents, other Local Authorities and Diocesan Bodies and approved by the Place Planning Board

Admissions during the normal admissions round (entry to Reception and Year 7) and **all** in-year admissions to primary and secondary schools are administered by Stockport Council's School Places, Admissions and Transport Team based at: Stopford House, Piccadilly,

Stockport, SK1 3XE.

The frontline team at Stockport Council's Contact Centre should be contacted in the first instance by: telephone 0161 217 6022, more complex enquiries may be referred to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team. Admissions information can also be accessed via Stockport Council's website: <http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

A	<u>ADMISSIONS TO RECEPTION AND YEAR 7 (The Normal Admission Rounds *) SEPTEMBER 2025</u>
1	Applicable to all maintained schools
○	Regulations require that places are provided for pupils who have a an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school
	Regulations also determine that looked after children and previously looked after children (see definition in our Glossary of terms) must be given the highest priority in Admissions Policy criteria
	Following this, places will then be allocated in accordance with the published admission criteria for the school (refer to pages 8-10)
○	Places cannot be guaranteed at any school , with the exception of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan* which names the school as referred to above
○	Admission to all Stockport maintained schools is based on the child's principal parental home address* The Local Authority's full policy on how principle parental address will be determined if this is not clear, more than one application is received or there is a parental dispute can be found in Appendix 6.
○	All applications must be made on the common application form via Stockport Council's online service at http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions
○	Up to six preferences can be expressed on the application form, in ranked order, which must be received by the published closing date: Closing date for applications Primary 15th January 2025 Secondary 31st October 2024
○	To maximise their chances of a place at one of their preferred schools, parents / carers are recommended: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to include the name of older siblings* still in attendance at the school when the younger child starts • to consider the inclusion of their catchment area* school <u>if</u> they want to be considered for a place • to list 6 different schools

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to include at least one school where the applicant thinks they have a good chance of gaining a place • to include any particular special circumstances, you would wish to be considered i.e. medical or social exceptional needs* of the child or circumstances of the family. Please note that childcare arrangements do not fall into this category <p>Stockport Council will seek to meet parental preference to the greatest extent possible, subject to the oversubscription criteria, policy and procedures outlined in this document.</p>
○	<p>By law, parents / carers have the right to give their reasons for a particular preference. However, no places can be guaranteed at any school and parents / carers should not make assumptions about entitlement to a place even if the child has been to the attached nursery. In very limited circumstances some applications may be considered as having highly exceptional medical/social reasons* and as such would be placed in a higher admissions category of the oversubscription criteria for a particular school than they would normally be entitled, this is covered in more detail in Appendix 2.</p> <p>Applications where reasons for a particular preference have not been deemed to meet the criteria for highly exceptional medical/social Reasons* will be considered according to the published oversubscription criteria* and Published Admission Number* for the particular school concerned.</p> <p>School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will not (a) respond to applicants who have included reasons for a particular preference (b) seek further clarification of stated circumstances or (c) contact any party which the applicant may suggest.</p>
○	<p>All preferences for maintained schools in Stockport will be treated equally and considered in accordance with the admissions oversubscription criteria* for each school named</p>
○	<p>Where the Governing Body are the Admission Authority* of the school, they will not be informed of the order the school has been ranked before their admissions oversubscriptions criteria* is applied. This is in accordance with the national School Admissions Code 2021</p>
○	<p>Places will be allocated up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school</p>
○	<p>Where there are more applications than places available in any category of the admissions oversubscription criteria*, applicants will be ordered by straight line distance between home and the school starting with those who live nearest to the school. Distance* is measured using Stockport Council's GIS mapping system</p>
○	<p>The ranking a parent has given a school becomes important only where an applicant qualifies for a place at more than one school. This being the</p>

	case the school the parent has ranked the highest will be offered if places are available
○	One school place only will be offered from the local authority
○	Once a school place is allocated, lower ranked preferences will be disregarded
○	Where it has not been possible to allocate an applicant any of the preferred schools indicated, the nearest available school with a place will be allocated. In the case of Catholic pupils who have applied for a Catholic school, a place at the nearest Catholic school with a place available will be allocated. If there are no places in a Catholic school available, a place at the nearest available non-Catholic maintained school will be allocated. Non-Catholic pupils will be allocated a place at the nearest available non-Catholic maintained school with a place. These schools will not necessarily be the nearest schools. Nearer schools may already be full to the PAN* with applicants who expressed a preference for that school
○	Where there are applications for twins, triplets or other multiple births and there are not enough places for all of the children together within the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school, the Admission Authority* will exceed the PAN to provide a place for all the children of the multiple birth
○	The names of applicants whose preferences have not been met when the PAN* of the school is reached will be retained on a waiting list* based on the admissions oversubscription criteria* and distance*. If there are two or more applications with distances which are exactly the same competing for a final place random allocation will be used to determine which applicant will be allocated the final place. See also 'Applications received after the closing date' below
○	<p>Waiting lists*- If a parent is not offered a place at their preferred school, their child's name will be included in the school's waiting list. The list will be ordered by the published oversubscription criteria of the school. Waiting lists for Nursery, Reception and Year 7 will be maintained until the 31st December. The normal in-year admissions process will take over and any parents wishing to have their child's name included on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year will need to re-apply.</p> <p>Should a vacancy occur in that school before the 31st December, then it will be offered to the parent whose child is at the top of the waiting list. If that parent does not accept the vacancy, it will be offered to the next child on the waiting list. This procedure will be followed until the vacancy is accepted or the waiting list is exhausted.</p> <p>The waiting lists for all other year groups will be maintained for the full academic year.</p> <p>A child granted a place at a school by the Independent Appeal Panel or other permitted exception under the School Admissions Code will count</p>

	<p>as an allocated place above the PAN of the school. This will influence the availability of places accordingly i.e. places will not be offered from the waiting list of a particular school until the number of children allocated falls below the PAN.</p> <p>Parents / carers wishing to have their child's name included in the waiting list the following academic year must make a new application for the relevant year group.</p>
○	<p>Applications received after the closing date* will be considered after all those received by the closing date (see also Appendix 2). The Admission Authority* reserves the right to accept an application as if it were received on time if there are exceptional circumstances i.e. the family have moved into Stockport and could not have applied for a place earlier or there are specific reasons for the application being submitted after the closing date. If this takes place after the offer date and a place is not available at the preferred school(s), applicants will be placed on the schools' waiting list* at the appropriate point</p>
○	<p>Change of preference – If a parent wants to change a preference any time up to the closing date they can do so as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Log into the online system using their existing password, make the changes and re-submit the application. It is essential to re-submit otherwise the changes will not be made <p>If a parent decides they want to change their preferences after the closing date, these cannot be accepted unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so, see 'Change of circumstances'* in Appendix 2</p>
○	<p>Preferences for Stockport maintained schools from applicants who accept a place at an independent school* will be disregarded unless the parent requests otherwise</p>
○	<p>If the circumstances submitted on an application change at any time after the application is submitted the parents /carers must inform the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team immediately. In all cases the application will be re-assessed in the light of the change of circumstances* according to the oversubscription criteria* for each school the parent has named. If the changes occur after places have been offered, the re-assessment of the application using the new details can have a significant effect on the place offered e.g. the offer may become invalid and be withdrawn if the child is no longer entitled to the place - refer to Appendix 2 for further details.</p> <p>Stockport Council reserves the right to seek further information regarding the circumstances/details of the applicant in order to determine the outcome of the application.</p>
2	

	<p>Admissions Criteria (schools with a catchment area) – Community, Church of England and Academy Primary Schools, Community and Academy Secondary Schools</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Catchment areas</p> <p>Each of the above schools has a geographical area around it called the ‘catchment area’*. The catchment areas of secondary schools are made up of the joined catchment areas of the associated primary schools. The catchment area in which the parent lives will determine which is the catchment area school. Residence in the catchment area does not guarantee a place at the school.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>The Schools Adjudicator</p> <p>The Office of the Schools Adjudicator works independently from the Department for Education but is appointed by the Secretary of State for Education. They are appointed on their experience and ability to act impartially, independently and objectively. In the context of this document, they are legally responsible for ruling on objections relating to admissions arrangements determined by an admissions authority.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Admissions Policy for 2025/2026 admissions to Community and Church of England Primary Schools, (Excluding Infant and Junior Schools) Gatley Primary School (Academy) Mellor Primary School (Academy), St Matthews CE Primary School (Academy), St Elisabeth’s CE Primary School (Academy) Bredbury St Mark’s CE Primary School (Academy), Bredbury Green Primary School (Academy), Meadowbank Primary School (Academy)</p> <p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school:</p> <p>NB: Categories A – F refer to applications received by the closing date: 15th January 2025 (primary)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in our Glossary of terms) B. Children considered to have ‘highly exceptional medical/social reasons’ C. Children who live in the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission D. Children who live in the catchment area of the school** E. Children who live outside the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission F. Any other applicants, in order of straight line distance measured between home and the school G. Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A-F above

	<p>Some Church of England Schools may have an additional category based on denomination. Applications meeting this criteria would be considered after those in category E above. There may also be additional supplementary information required by some of these schools.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Admissions Policy for Banks Lane Infant School, Banks Lane Junior School, Great Moor Infant School, Great Moor Junior School, Hursthead infant School, Nevill Road Infant School and Nevill Road Junior School 2025/2026</p> <p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school:</p> <p>NB: Categories A – F refer to applications received by the closing date: 15th January 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in our Glossary of terms) B. Children considered to have ‘highly exceptional medical/social reasons’ C. Children who live in the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the associated* infant or junior school at the time of admission D. Children who live in the catchment area of the school E. Children who live outside the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the associated* infant or junior school at the time of admission F. Any other applicants, in order of straight line distance measured between home and the school G. Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A-F above <p>There may also be additional supplementary information required by some of these schools.</p> <p>*Associated Infant and Junior Schools</p> <p>Banks Lane Infants School is associated with Banks Lane Junior School Great Moor Infant School is associated with Great Moor Junior School Hursthead Infant School is associated with Hursthead Junior School Nevill Road Infant School is associated with Nevill Road Junior School</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Admissions Policy for 2025/2026 admissions to Hursthead Junior School</p> <p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school: NB: Categories A – G refer to applications received by the closing date: 31st October 2024</p>

	<p>A. Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in our Glossary of terms in Policies and Procedures)</p> <p>B. Children considered to have highly exceptional medical / social reasons</p> <p>C. Children in attendance at Hursthead Infants, ranked by categories D - G</p> <p>D. Children who live in the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at Hursthead Infant School or Hursthead Junior School at the time of admission</p> <p>E. Children who live in the catchment area of the school</p> <p>F. Children who live outside the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at Hursthead Infant School or Hursthead Junior School at the time of admission</p> <p>G. Children who are any other applicant, in order of straight line distance measured between home and the school</p> <p>H. Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – G above</p> <p>* definitions of terms can be found at the end of this document</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Admissions to Cheadle Hulme Primary School (Academy)</p> <p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school:</p> <p>NB: Categories A – F refer to applications received by the closing date: 15th January 2025 (primary)</p> <p>A. Looked after children, and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted*</p> <p>B. Children considered to have 'highly exceptional medical/social reasons'*</p> <p>C. Children with a sibling at Cheadle Hulme Primary School at the time of admission</p> <p>D. Children with a sibling at Laurus Cheadle Hulme at the time of admission</p> <p>E. Children of staff who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which application for admission to the school is made and/or the ember of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage</p> <p>F. Other children</p> <p>G. Applications received after the closing date ordered by categories A - F</p> <p>*definitions of terms can be found at the end of this document</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Admissions to Woodford Primary School (Academy)</p>

	<p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school:</p> <p>NB: Categories A – E refer to applications received by the closing date: 15th January 2025(primary)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Looked after children* and previously looked after children* B. Children considered to have ‘highly exceptional medical/social reasons’* C. Children with a sibling at Woodford Primary School at the time of admission E. Children of staff* employed to work at Woodford Primary School who are in a shortage subject. F. Other children G. Applications received after the closing date ordered by categories A - F <p>*definitions of terms can be found at the end of this document</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 	<p>Admissions to Community and Academy Secondary Schools with a Catchment Area (excluding Cheadle Hulme High School)(also excluding Stockport Academy and Laurus Cheadle Hulme who do not have a catchment area)</p> <p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school:</p> <p>NB: Categories A – G refer to applications received by the closing date: 31st October 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in our Glossary of terms) B Children considered to have ‘highly exceptional medical/social reasons’ C Children who live in the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission D Children who live in the catchment area of the school E Children of staff who have been employed at the school for a minimum of two years or are offering a shortage subject/area (See definition in our Glossary of terms) F Children who live outside the catchment area of the school and will have a sibling at the school at the time of admission G Any other applicants, in order of straight line distance measured between home and the school H Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A-G above
	<p>Admissions to Laurus Cheadle Hulme</p> <p>After placement of pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school, places will be allocated in the following order up to the Published Admission Number* (PAN) of the school:</p>

NB: Categories A – F refer to applications received by the closing date: 31st October 2024(secondary)

- A. Looked after children* and all previously looked after children including those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because immediately after, they became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.
- B. Priority will next be given to children based on their exceptional medical or social needs*
- C. Priority will next be given to the pupils attending Cheadle Hulme Primary School at the time the application is received.
- D. Priority will next be given to the siblings of pupils attending Laurus Cheadle Hulme or Cheadle Hulme Primary School at the time the application is received and at the date of admission.
- E. Priority will next be given to the Children of staff* employed by Laurus Cheadle Hulme in either or both of the following circumstances:
 - a. 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
 - b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- F. Other children
- G. Applications received after the closing date ordered by categories A - F

*definitions of terms can be found at the end of this document

3	Admissions Criteria – Voluntary Aided Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools, St Anne’s RC Voluntary Academy (Academy) North Cheshire Jewish Primary School and Stockport Academy
<input type="radio"/>	The Admissions policy for each of the above schools is detailed in Appendix 4
<input type="radio"/>	The Governing Body of Catholic Primary Schools will require sight of the child’s Baptismal Certificate if the parent has declared the child is baptised Catholic on the application.
<input type="radio"/>	School Places, Admissions and Transport Team on behalf of the Governing Body will apply the published admissions oversubscription criteria* (see also Appendix 4) to all applications and advise the Governing Body of the category given to applicants to be considered for places up to the PAN* and in accordance with the equal preference system
<input type="radio"/>	Stockport Council, through the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme* (Appendix 5), administers the application process on behalf of the relevant Governing Body.

4	Right of Appeal
	<p>Parents / carers refused a place at any of their preferred schools have the right to appeal against the decision to an Independent Appeal Panel. A parent cannot appeal more than once for the same school place in the same academic year, unless significant and material changes in the case have taken place which the previous Independent Appeal Panel could not have been aware of at the time of the hearing. Appendix 3 explains the appeal process further.</p>
5	Deferred Entry to Primary Education and Admission outside of Chronological Age Group
	<p><u>Deferred Entry</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deferring entry cannot be done without first applying and being allocated the school place within the normal timescale appropriate to the child's date of birth • A child's entry to primary education as described above may be deferred if the child is under compulsory school age, without loss of the allocated place • A place can be deferred up to the term following the child's fifth birthday, however, not beyond the academic year for which the original application was accepted <p>Application to defer entry should be made in writing at the time of application and in conjunction with the Headteacher.</p> <p><u>Summer Born</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child was born between 1 April and 31 August, you can ask us to delay their reception start date until the September after their fifth birthday. • For Stockport Council schools, the decision is made by us. If the school is an academy or has Voluntary Aided status, they will make the decision on the request but you should still apply to us. • A summer-born children request is different to a deferred admission which allows you to delay starting until the first term after their fifth birthday. • If we accept the request, it does not mean the child has been granted a place. It is an agreement that we'll consider the application for a school place outside of the normal admissions timetable. If we delay the reception start date, your child may not be able to stay in their current nursery while they're waiting to start school. • If the request is granted but your application for a reception place is denied, your child may not be given a summer-born reception

place at another school. This is also true if the child moves to another school during the school year.

- We can only accept requests for schools in Stockport. If the school is in another area, apply to the [relevant local authority](#).

Admission outside of chronological age group

Process:

- Requests should be submitted in writing to the Admissions Authority responsible for the school preferred by the parent.
- Requests should be supported by documentary evidence where necessary
- The Admissions Authority will consider the request based on the information provided, the Admissions Authority reserves the right to request further information or request that the child is assessed by the school's Headteacher.
- Decisions are communicated in writing and are final

Please also consider the points below before submitting a request:

- It is advised that all parents/ carers wishing submit a request, still make an application for a school place at the normal time.
- Requests should be made in writing to the relevant admissions authority for the school the request relates to
- Parents / carers may provide any supplementary documentary evidence to support their request
- Decisions are made by the admissions authority on an individual case basis and will consider:
 - The views and wishes of the parent
 - The views of the prospective Headteacher/Governing Body
 - Evidence indicating academic, social and emotional development to date
 - Where relevant, the child's medical history
 - Whether the child has previously been educated out of age group
 - If the child would have fallen into another age group if it were not for the child being born prematurely
- Decisions will be communicated in writing
- Should a request be granted, it does not indicate a formal offer of a school place instead it is an agreement to consider the child's application for a school place outside of the normal admissions round.
- Should the request be granted, and your child is unsuccessful at obtaining a place at the school requested. The agreement to consider other schools outside of the normal admissions round may not be extended, particularly if the school is under the control of a different admissions authority. This could result in your child being considered for school places in the expected chronological age group.

6	Request to Enter Secondary Education Early
	<p>A request for a child to enter secondary education will only be granted if, in the opinion of the pupil's primary school Headteacher <u>and</u> the relevant secondary Headteacher, early admission to secondary education would be in the interest of the child both educationally and developmentally.</p> <p>In some circumstances the opinion of an Educational Psychologist may be required.</p> <p>Requests should be made in writing to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team. If a request is approved after the closing date for applications for secondary school, the parent's opportunity to obtain a place at their preferred school may be limited.</p>

B	IN-YEAR ADMISSIONS (i.e. outside the normal admission rounds) 2025/2026
1	All maintained schools
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Local Authority administers all applications for school places. Where the Governing Body of a school is responsible for admission arrangements this is done in conjunction with the Headteacher 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application must be made via Stockport Councils' online system at http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All applications are considered in relation to the normal year group for the child's chronological age. 	
	<p>An application can only be refused on the following grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infant Class Size limitations • The school is full to its Published Admission Number* (PAN) for the year group and further admissions would cause prejudice to the provision of efficient education and use of resources • The pupil has been permanently excluded from two schools <p>In the case of multiple applications for a particular year group places will be allocated, or names placed on the waiting list in accordance with the published admissions policy* for the school as determined for 2024/24 admissions.</p> <p>Where an application is refused the parent must be notified, in writing, advising them of the reason for the refusal and their right of appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel (see Appendix 3). A parent cannot appeal more than once for the same school place in the same academic year, unless significant and material changes in the case have taken place which the previous Independent Appeal Panel could not have been aware of at the time of the hearing.</p>
2	Primary Schools only
	<p>Infant classes (those where the majority of children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) must not contain more than 30 pupils with a single schoolteacher. Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances. The excepted children are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children admitted outside the normal admissions round with an Education, Health and Care Plans specifying a school; • looked after children and previously looked after children admitted outside the normal admissions round • children admitted, after initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process • children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance • children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round • children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil • children with special educational needs who are normally taught in a special educational need's unit attached to the school, or registered at a special school, who attend some infant classes within the mainstream school
	<p>In the case of an infant aged child who moves into Stockport and all their preferred schools are full, after the normal admissions round, Stockport Council will identify a school place within a 2 mile walking distance from home, subject to availability, Infant Class Regulations 2012 and an assessment of any prejudice (to the provision of efficient education and the efficient use of resources) that might be caused by the admission of an additional child.</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Transfer Between Schools in Stockport</p> <p>A transfer request for children moving between schools in Stockport should be made on the official three part transfer form available from the school attended.</p> <p>Parents/ carers and pupils should be aware that a request to transfer secondary school will be subject to Stockport Council's Transfer Process and Fair Access Protocol. This can be viewed at https://www.stockport.gov.uk/changing-schools-during-school-year</p> <p>If you are unhappy with your child's school, you should initially make contact with the school and make an appointment to discuss the problems with the Headteacher. Moving schools can cause a great deal of disruption to a young person and it is important to ensure that all avenues have been explored before taking this step. As a last resort, if the parent still wishes to go ahead with the transfer, the school will issue a transfer form to complete having considered all the options. Stockport operates a fair access protocol to ensure that all young people have the best possible opportunity to succeed.</p>

Definitions of different types of schools

ACADEMIES

Academies are publicly funded schools and are independent of the Local Authority. These schools are their own admissions authority and employ their own staff. However, all of Stockport's Academies currently use the LA admissions process; therefore, applications should still be submitted to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team using the online application system. Stockport Academy is a state maintained independent school that is sponsored by the United Learning Trust and although it is not maintained by the LA, the two closely collaborate. Cheadle Hulme High School, Laurus Cheadle Hulme, Cheadle Hulme Primary School, Woodford Primary School and Hazel Grove High school are all sponsored by the Laurus Trust. Reddish Vale High School Kingsway school

FREE SCHOOLS - Free Schools are all-ability state-funded schools set up in response to parental demand. They can be set up by a wide range of proposers, including charities, universities, businesses, educational groups, teachers and groups of parents. For more information visit <https://www.gov.uk/types-of-school/free-schools>

LOCAL AUTHORITY (LA) MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

These are maintained by the LA and can be Community Schools or Voluntary Schools (these two types of school are often referred to as mainstream or ordinary schools). Community Schools are wholly maintained by the LA who are responsible for admissions. In the case of Voluntary Schools, these may be:

- (1) Controlled (VC) schools where the LA provides for all maintenance and running costs, including building improvements and repairs. There are no VC secondary schools in Stockport.
- (2) Aided (VA) schools are maintained by the LA but the voluntary body is responsible for building improvements and repairs to the external fabric of the buildings. The Governors are responsible for admissions to those schools.

The premises of VC and VA schools are owned by the voluntary body.

OTHER LOCAL AUTHORITY (LA) SCHOOLS

These are schools situated outside the Stockport area and are maintained by a LA other than Stockport. Stockport LA has no responsibility for these schools or their admission arrangements.

ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Elective Home Education is a term used by the Department for Education to describe parents' decisions to provide education for their children at home instead of sending them to school. It is different to home tuition provided by a local authority, or education provided by a local authority other than at school. Further information can be found on Stockport Council's website at the following address: <https://www.stockport.gov.uk/home-education>

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Independent schools are ones which are not state run and may run for profit. Parents / carers are usually charged tuition fees, although bursary schemes may be operated. The LA has no responsibility for these schools or their admission arrangements.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN THIS DOCUMENT AND HOW THEY ARE APPLIED DURING THE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

TERM	DEFINITION
Additional / supplementary forms	All parents / carers who list their preferred schools on the Local Authority's Common Application Form are regarded as having made valid applications. Catholic schools will require sight of the child's certificate of Baptism if the parent has declared the child is baptised Catholic. An additional or supplementary form may also have to be completed for applications considered under faith criteria of faith schools, for boarding schools and for selective schools.
Address – Principal Parental Home See also item 'Change of address/ circumstances' below	For the purpose of allocating school places in Stockport, the address to be used should be the principal parental home address . Parents / carers cannot , for example use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a child minder's address, the address of a grandparent or anyone else who may provide childcare • a property they own but do not live in as the principal parental home, this would include business properties with living accommodation <p>The above list of circumstances is not exhaustive, and Stockport Council reserves the right to investigate further before accepting the address for the purpose of allocating a school place.</p> <p>In the event of multiple applications being submitted for the same child, using different addresses, see Appendix 6 for information on how the Local Authority will determine which address and application will be used.</p>
Admissions Authority	An Admissions Authority is the body responsible for formulating, publishing and applying the Admissions policy in accordance with the School Admissions Code and Admission Appeals Code.
Admissions Policy	See Oversubscription criteria below.
Appeal	Parents / carers refused a place at any of their preferred schools will have the right to appeal against the decision to an Independent Appeal Panel (see also Appendix 3). The panel is independent of the Admissions Service. The decision of the panel is binding on all parties.
Application	When a pupil enters primary education (reception class) or transfers from primary to secondary education, the parent will be required to complete an official 'common application form'. Application must be made online via Stockport Council's website http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions
	Parents / carers of children attending non-Stockport maintained primary schools should be aware that the Local Authority does not take responsibility for applications received after the closing date arising because a child was not identified. However, the Authority will contact

	<p>popular neighbouring Local Authority maintained primary schools outside Stockport and independent primary schools for a list of children resident in Stockport known to them as well as issuing a press release inviting Stockport parents / carers to make an application. Other Local Authorities may contact Stockport for similar information.</p> <p>Online applications are receipted automatically when they are submitted. Parents / carers should save a copy of this receipt.</p>
<p>Application received after the closing date</p>	<p>Submitting an application after the closing date is likely to severely affect a parent’s chance of being offered a place at one of their preferred schools, as places will already have been allocated to those parents / carers who applied by the closing date. This applies even if the application would have met the requirements of a higher category had it been received on time.</p> <p>An applicant who fails to submit their application before the prescribed closing date will have their application designated as being ‘received after the closing date’ and processed according to the published oversubscription criteria.</p> <p>These applications will, therefore, be in the last category of the oversubscription criteria and placed on waiting lists for each school, regardless of whether you live in the catchment area of the school and have siblings* at the school. The application will then be processed along with any others received after the closing date using the oversubscription criteria and not using the date the application was received.</p> <p>This designation as being ‘received after the closing date’ will remain up to and including 14 calendar days follow the relevant national offer day after which point the designation will be removed resulting in a reassessment according to the published oversubscription criteria.</p> <p>Stockport Council reserves the right to treat an application as though it were not received after the closing date prior to the relevant national offer days only where there are exceptional reasons for the late return.</p> <p>The online system will close on the appropriate closing date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31st October 2024 Secondary • 15th January 2025 Primary • 31st March 2025 Nursery <p>The system will reopen 2 days after the closing dates to enable parents / carers to submit an application which will be considered as detailed above.</p> <p>During the normal admissions rounds</p>

	<p>Application must be made to the Local Authority where you reside regardless of whether the school you want is in that Authority. They must be made in ranked order on the form provided by that Authority.</p> <p>Application for places in maintained schools in Stockport from outside the catchment area are treated in exactly the same way, regardless of whether the address is in Stockport or not.</p> <p>Applicants resident outside Stockport are advised to apply for a place in a school in their own Local Authority area in case their application for a place in a school in Stockport is unsuccessful.</p> <p>Applications for schools in Stockport outside of the normal admissions rounds should be made directly to Stockport Council, except for applicants who live in Manchester who should make their application to Manchester City Council</p>
<p>Applying for a school outside Stockport</p>	<p>Applications for schools outside Stockport should be included, in ranked order, via the online application system from Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council. In accordance with Stockport Council's Scheme for Co-ordinated Admission Arrangements, information will be exchanged with neighbouring Authorities regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The success of applications naming other Local Authority Schools • The offer of a school place (depending on the ranking of the school on the application form) • Waiting lists and subsequent offers of a school place. <p>Applications for schools outside of Stockport outside of the normal admissions rounds should be made directly to the Admissions Authority of the school, except for schools in Manchester.</p>
<p>Associated Parishes and schools</p>	<p>Admissions to Catholic High Schools in Stockport are based on criteria which include attendance at associated primary schools and current residency within associated parishes (see also the item 'address' above). Details of primary schools and parishes that are associated with each of the 3 Catholic High Schools can be found on page 67-68.</p>
<p>Catchment or Associated Area of the school</p>	<p>Currently every Community Secondary and Primary School, along with C of E Primary Schools, Gatley Primary School (Academy), Hursthead Junior School (Academy), Mellor Primary (Academy), St Matthews CE primary (Academy), Bredbury Green Primary School (Academy), Meadowbank Primary School (Academy), Bredbury St Mark's CE Primary School (Academy), St Elisabeth's CE Primary School (Academy) Reddish Vale High School, Hazel Grove High School, The Kingsway School and Cheadle Hulme High School (Academies) has a geographical area around them known as the 'catchment area'.</p> <p>Every address in Stockport falls within the catchment area of only 1 primary and secondary school. You can check your catchment school by visiting www.stockport.gov.uk/find-your-catchment-area, alternatively</p>

	<p>maps of these areas can be obtained upon request by emailing admissions.support@stockport.gov.uk</p> <p>The catchment area school may not always be the nearest school (although it will be in your locality).</p> <p>In Catholic secondary schools areas based on parish boundaries are known as 'associated areas'</p> <p>Residency inside or outside these areas will determine the order in which school places will be allocated along with other criteria as outlined on page 8 & appendix 2 & 4.</p> <p>National Legislation stipulates that parents / carers are not guaranteed a place at the catchment school or any other school. Being resident within the catchment area of a school would place an applicant within one of the higher categories of the oversubscription criteria of the school.</p>
<p>Change of address / change of circumstances</p>	<p>Parents / carers must notify the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team immediately of a change of address or other circumstances including changes to custody arrangements which occur at any time during the process of a child entering primary education or transferring from primary to secondary education. All changes will be applied to the oversubscription criteria for each school where application has been made. If the change of address or circumstances occur after the allocation of places has been made it may result in one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The offer is confirmed because the child is still entitled to the place using the oversubscription criteria • The child's name is placed higher or lower on the waiting lists for the preferred schools based on the new circumstances • The original offer made based on the old circumstances is withdrawn because the child no longer qualifies for the place offered using the new circumstances and the oversubscription criteria for the school. In which case the offer of a new place will be made. The child's name will be placed on waiting lists at the appropriate point <p>If the change of circumstances mean that the schools applied for are no longer appropriate it is the responsibility of the parent to bring this to the attention of the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team. This being the case, the parent will be given the opportunity to revise their preferences and the implications of this will be discussed individually by the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team. Preferences will be applied to the oversubscription criteria for each school as referred to in part A of this document. N.B. The number of available places is likely to be limited once offers have been made on the published offer date.</p>

Before offering a place to a child in a school in Stockport, the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team may require verification of the principal parental home address based on the following circumstances:

1 Change of address / Removal into Stockport

Parents / carers will be required to complete a Declaration of Residency form and provide the documentary evidence detailed below. The Authority reserves the right to investigate further in complex circumstances or where it believes a parent has given a false address:

- a) Solicitor's letter confirming that contracts have been signed and exchanged on the property specifying the completion date – (a school place may not be offered until residency in the property has taken place)
- or**
- b) A copy of the tenancy agreement (for not less than 6 months)
- plus**
- c) Documentary evidence of disposal of the previous property
- and**
- d) Copy of the Council Tax registration
- may be required**
- e) Other documentary evidence to confirm residency at the relevant address

2 Change of custody arrangements

Parents / carers will be required to complete a Declaration of Residency form and provide the following documentary evidence, where applicable:

- a) Court Order
- or**
- b) Residence Order or other documentary evidence of parental responsibility (see Parent and Parental Responsibility on page 31)
- may be required**
- c) Copy of the Child Benefit notification indicating the name and address of the parent receiving benefit and the name of the child(ren) for whom the benefit is made

Where parents are separated and/or have shared responsibility for a child **only 1** address will be used. Stockport Council reserves the right to request further information to assist with determining the principal parental home address. This may include seeking receipts for child related benefits and utilising the address to which benefit payments are directed and proof of parental responsibility (see Parent and Parental Responsibility on page 31).

If the child goes to live with a friend or relative for reasons other than legal guardianship, it is still the parent's principal home address that will be used to determine eligibility for the purpose of allocating a school place.

	<p>3 Information has come to light regarding details declared on an application that Stockport Council wishes to verify Occasionally the Authority may receive information which could affect how an application has been considered. Stockport Council reserves the right to contact the applicant to verify relevant details which may include items listed under 1 & 2 above. The source of information will be considered confidential between Stockport Council and the informant.</p> <p>The above is not an exhaustive list and Stockport Council reserves the right to investigate further in complex circumstances or where it believes a parent has given false information resulting in the use of an address other than the Principal Parental Home address. This may require the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team to seek additional documentary evidence, may include a home visit and/or contact with other services of Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council before offering a school place.</p> <p>A Declaration of Residency form is available from the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team by emailing admissions.support@stockport.gov.uk. The document will include a declaration for parents/guardians to sign to indicate that the information given is correct and that any place offered is based upon the information given and may be withdrawn if circumstances are subsequently found to be other than those declared and the child is no longer entitled to the place offered. In order to detect and prevent fraud of public funds parents / carers are also required to sign a declaration that they agree to the information given on the form being shared with other organisations involved with public funds. In certain circumstances it may be considered a criminal offence to give false information.</p> <p>Any school place allocated on the basis of false information or undisclosed changes to information already declared, may be withdrawn by the Authority and legal action may be taken against the parents.</p>
Change of preference	<p>If parents / carers change their minds about their preference before the closing date, they can log into the online system using their password and amend their preferences. NB the application must be for the changes to be received. The new preference(s) will be treated in the same way as the original so long as it is received by the close of business on the relevant closing date. Changes in preference after the closing date will not be accepted, unless there are exceptional reasons for doing so.</p>
Children of Staff	<p>Children of staff at the school are defined by either or both of the following circumstances:</p> <p>a) 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</p>

	<p>b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.</p> <p>At the point of application, the Headteacher of the relevant school will be asked to verify the circumstances of the child/member of staff.</p>
<p>Children with Special Educational Needs</p>	<p>Schools may not refuse to admit a child because they feel unable to cater for their special educational needs. Schools cannot refuse to admit a child on the grounds that they do have an Education Health & Care (EHC Plan) or are currently being assessed.</p> <p>There is a clear expectation under the Education Act 1996 that pupils with special educational needs will be included in mainstream schools. A parent's wishes to have their child with a Education, Health and Care plan educated in a mainstream school should only be refused in the small minority of cases where the child's inclusion would be incompatible with the efficient education of other children. It is Stockport Council's policy to educate children in mainstream schools, if this is the parent's wish, wherever possible.</p> <p>If a pupil has a disability, the school must not treat him/her less favourably than other pupils because of the disability and must take reasonable steps to avoid putting the pupil at a substantial disadvantage compared to pupils without disability. This requirement applies to the full range of school activities in and outside the classroom. Where a pupil needs auxiliary aids and services, these will usually be provided through the pupil's Education, Health and Care Plan. However, the requirement to take reasonable steps does not include adaptations to school buildings. There is an expectation that, over time, schools and the LA will increase physical access for disabled pupils. However, to make all schools physically accessible will take a long time and therefore the Authority has adopted a policy of making a number of schools accessible, with at least one school in each area, adapted to meet the needs of physically disabled pupils. The authority is developing a new strategy and plan to gradually increase physical and curricula access of schools. These schools are accessible to pupils in wheelchairs with specialist facilities and staff experienced in working with disabled pupils.</p> <p>If a pupil requires or is likely to require in the future, wheelchair access or specialist facilities such as a disabled toilet or changing facilities, a place will usually be provided in one of the designated schools.</p> <p>A parent of a pupil due to transfer to secondary school and who has an Education, Health & Care Plan (EHC plan) will be able to express a preference for a secondary school during the review process taking place in the Summer of Year 5 or Autumn term of Year 6. Parents / carers should be aware that if their child is not allocated a place at their preferred school, they have a right to appeal to the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal.</p>

	<p>The Authority maintains a range of special schools for children whose needs cannot be met in mainstream schools or whose parents / carers prefer specialist provision.</p> <p>Under the Children's and Families Bill 2014, from September 2014 the statementing process (used to assess, describe and plan for a child's special educational needs) have been replaced by an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan.</p>
Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme	<p>There is a statutory single Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme which covers primary and secondary school admissions both during the normal admissions round (reception and Year 7). The scheme requires all admission authorities to work together so that parents / carers living in the area of a Local Authority can apply for any school (in or outside that area) to their home authority and receive the offer of a single school place. The scheme can be viewed at http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions</p>
Crown servants	<p>A Crown servant is a person holding office or employment under the Crown.</p>
Declaration of Residency Form (see also Address above)	<p>Form used to accompany applications to assist with determining principle parental home address, see also address / change of circumstances above.</p>
Distance	<p>For the purpose of allocating school places, distances will be measured consistently and will be measured as a straight line between the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) address points for the respective home address and school, using the Easting and Northing for each address point.</p> <p>Applicants will be ordered starting with those living closer to the school within each of the appropriate published criteria categories.</p> <p>If there are two or more applications with distances which are exactly the same competing for a final place random allocation will be used to determine which applicant will be allocated the final place.</p> <p>For the purpose of determining eligibility for free school travel the shortest available walking route is used to measure distance. The Free School Travel policy can be viewed at http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions</p>
Elective Home Education	<p>The responsibility for a child's education rests with their parents. In England, whilst education is compulsory, school is not.</p> <p>The Education Act 1996 states that 'parents have a duty to secure an efficient full-time education for their child, suitable to his/her age, ability and aptitude, and to any special educational needs he/she may have, either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.' Children whose parents elect to educate them at home are not registered at mainstream schools, special schools, independent schools, academies, Pupil Referral</p>

	<p>Units, colleges, children's homes with education facilities or education facilities provided by independent fostering agencies.</p> <p>Parents who choose to educate their children at home assume financial responsibilities for their children's education, including bearing the cost of any public examination and assessment of work by an accredited person.</p> <p>For further information please visit https://www.stockport.gov.uk/home-education</p>
<p>Highly exceptional medical and/or social reasons</p>	<p>By law, parents / carers have the right to give their reasons for a particular preference. However, no places can be guaranteed at any school and parents / carers should not make assumptions about entitlement to a place. The School Admissions Code does not require the oversubscription criteria for a school to include a category for highly exceptional reasons, it is at the discretion of the Admissions Authority to decide. If an Admission Authority includes this category in their oversubscription criteria it should be made clear how applications will be considered. Stockport Local Authority has included a category for highly exceptional medical/reasons in the oversubscription criteria for its schools and in very limited circumstances, some applications may be considered as having highly exceptional medical/social reasons. In such instances, applications in this category would be placed higher in the admissions oversubscription criteria for a particular school.</p> <p>Where applicants feel this may be the case, they must indicate this by ticking the boxes provided on the application and state the nature of the condition and/or circumstances. The applicant must subsequently provide written evidence from a recognised professional such as a consultant, doctor or social worker in support of their application. The supporting evidence must relate specifically to the child or family and the school for which the application is being made and must clearly demonstrate why it is the only school that could cater for the child's specific requirements/needs. It should also explain any difficulties that would arise if the child had to attend an alternative school. This evidence must be submitted along with the application to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team by the closing date for applications <u>at the latest</u>.</p> <p>If the required evidence is not provided, the Local Authority will not give further consideration to any un-submitted circumstances.</p> <p>This category is not intended to replace or supplement the well-established system in Stockport for identifying, supporting and providing for families with children who have varying degrees of Special Educational Needs. As such, very few applications are considered under this category in any one year, those that have been, have for example, been situations related to the sudden death or terminal illness of a parent or similar life changing/traumatic event.</p> <p>Applications will initially be considered by the Service Manager (Admissions) within the Corporate Support Service at the Town Hall.</p>

	<p>Decision or consideration of particularly complex cases will be scrutinised by the lead officer in charge of Admissions or Service Director.</p> <p>Applications where reasons for a particular preference have not been deemed to meet the criteria for highly exceptional medical/social reasons will be considered according to the published oversubscription criteria for the particular school concerned.</p> <p>The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will not (a) respond to applicants who have included reasons for a particular preference (b) seek further clarification of stated circumstances or (c) contact any party which the applicant may suggest.</p>
Independent/boarding education	Stockport Council does not administer applications for these schools, nor will it provide assistance towards the cost of education for pupils gaining places at independent/boarding schools.
IAN	<p>Indicated Admission Number for the year group – see also Net Capacity Assessment (NCA) below. The IAN is found by taking the NCA figure and dividing it by the number of year groups at the school:</p> <p>NCA divided by 5 for secondary schools (year groups 7 – 11) 7 for primary schools (year groups reception – 6) 3 for infant schools (year groups reception – 2) 4 for junior schools (year groups 3 – 6)</p>
Infant Class Size Regulations	By law, children cannot be taught in an infant class of more than 30 pupils to one teacher. There are a few, very limited exceptions to this, mainly relating to circumstances where a child has an Education, Health & Care Plan which names the school, these are detailed on page 10 of this document.
Looked after child (ren)	<p>Regulations require that looked after children are given the highest priority in admissions criteria (after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school). The definition of children in this category is contained in the Department for Education's School Admissions Code as follows:</p> <p>Looked after children – 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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.</p> <p>Children previously 'looked after' are children who were 'looked after' as defined above, but immediately after being 'looked after' became subject to an adoption*, residence**, or special guardianship order***.</p> <p>This element includes children who have been adopted from abroad.</p>

**An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) or under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).

**A 'residence order' 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.

***Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

Admissions policy criteria are outlined on page 8 & appendix 2

The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team require verification of a child's legal status. This can be evidenced as follows:

Looked after child

The application for a school place should be made by the social worker responsible for the child.

In the absence of an application made by the responsible social worker; A letter from the responsible Local Authority confirming the legal status of the child. The letter should include a date when the legal status came into effect and the date of the next hearing when the legal status may be changed.

Previously Looked after children

Documentary evidence fulfilling the following:

At least one of the following:

- Copy of full care order issued by the relevant local authority which confirms legal status up to the point at which the adoption/residence/special guardianship order was made

AND/OR

- Copy of placement order issued by the relevant local authority

AND/OR

- Court document indicating disposal of previous parents PR

AND/OR

- Letter from relevant local authority on letter headed paper indicating the legal status of the child up to the point at which the adoption/residence/special guardianship order was made

	<p>AND the following document (whichever is relevant)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) or under the Adoption and Children’s Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). • Residence Order made under S.8 Children Act 1989 • Special Guardianship order made under S.14A Children Act 1989
NCA	Net Capacity Assessment – The Government have introduced a formula for ensuring consistency when assessing the amount of teaching space available within a school. Under this formula the Net Capacity of the school is determined, from which an Indicated Admission Number is derived. This is then used to inform the Published Admission Number.
Normal Admissions Round	Pupils entering primary education in reception classes at age 4+ and when they transfer at the age of 11+ from primary to secondary education in September. The process of allocating school places commences the September prior to the year of admission.
Oversubscription criteria	<p>All schools must have a method of allocating school places in case there are more applications for the school than there are places available, up to the Published Admission Number (PAN) see also PAN below. Regulations require that places are provided for pupils who have an Education, Health & Care Plan* which names the school and has also determined that looked after children and previously looked after children (See Glossary of Terms for definition) must be given the highest priority in Admissions Policy criteria.</p> <p>Following this the Admission Authority can determine the order in which pupils are taken into the school this is known as the ‘Oversubscription criteria’ or ‘Admissions Policy’. Items 2 & 3 (pages 7 & 8) and appendix 4 refer to the oversubscription criteria for schools in Stockport.</p>
Parent and Parental Responsibility	<p>For the purpose of allocating school places Parental Responsibility is taken into account.</p> <p>In England and Wales, if the parents of a child are married to each other at the time of the birth, or if they have jointly adopted a child, then they both have parental responsibility. Parents do not lose parental responsibility if they divorce, and this applies to both the resident and non-resident parent.</p> <p>This is not automatically the case for unmarried parents. According to current law, a mother always has parental responsibility for her child. A father, however, has this responsibility only if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • he is or was married to the mother when the child was born • from 1 December 2003 by jointly registering the birth of the child with the mother • Has acquired <u>legal responsibility</u> for his child

	<p>More detail is available at http://www.gov.uk/parental-rights-responsibilities/what-is-parental-responsibility</p> <p>A “parent” is not only anyone who has “parental responsibility” for a pupil, whether the pupil lives with them, or not, but also anyone who has care of the child. In addition to the above, the following people will be considered to have parental responsibility:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Legal Guardian of the child • A Local Authority which has a care order or Emergency Protection Order • Person(s) who hold a Residence Order. • Any Person(s) who has adopted the child (birth parents will only lose “parental responsibility” if the child is adopted). <p>In addition, any person who has care of a child, i.e. the person with whom the child lives and who looks after the child, irrespective of the relationship, can also be treated as parents for education purposes, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmarried fathers who do not have one of the orders outlined in above. • Step-parents • Foster-parents • Grandparents <p>If there are others, apart from the parents, who fit the above categories in relation to the child, the school should be advised of their name and address. It is important for the school to obtain this information, as they are required by law to treat all those who come within the definition of “parent” equally. All parents are entitled to receive copies of school reports, attend parents’ meetings and vote to elections for parent governors or ballots concerning school status.</p>
Parental Preference	<p>The law gives parents the right to express a preference for a school for their child. However, it does not entitle the child to a place at the school. The Admission Authority of the school must make every attempt to meet parental preference within the criteria that has been agreed and published up to the Published Admission Number. In Stockport parents can express up to six preferences.</p>
Previously looked after children	<p>See Looked after child</p>
Published admission Number (PAN)	<p>Published Admission Number – The School Admissions Code requires that local authorities and admission authorities must consult as part of the process for formulating and determining admission arrangements, including admission numbers, and work together to ensure that schools’ arrangements meet the needs of all parents and children. If there are changes to admission arrangements policy/ criteria, then consultation must take place in every year where</p>

	<p>changes are made. If no changes are made consultation need only take place once every 7 years.</p> <p>All schools must have an admission number for each relevant year group. Once an admission number has been set and published by the admission authority, children should not be admitted above that published number unless exceptional circumstances apply.* See Strategic Commissioner of School Places below. Every school is required to set the number of pupils who will be admitted to the school in reception for primary and Year 7 for secondary. The number set will follow that year group as it progresses through the school and will be the number used to assess applications for places throughout the year.</p>
Random Allocation	<p>In the event of two applications being identical in terms of discriminating features that apply to oversubscription, a random allocation will take place.</p> <p>A random allocation will be carried out in a public place. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.</p>
Service personnel	<p>Service personnel are people employed under the Armed Forces of the Crown.</p>
Siblings (Brother and Sisters)	<p>A sibling for the purpose of allocating a school place means one who is still in attendance at the school (this includes associated infant or junior school*) at the time the younger child starts.</p> <p>The sibling must be of statutory school age (Year 1 to Year 11 but includes Reception – <u>this does not extend to children in attendance at sixth form provision if at the same school</u>)</p> <p>Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted 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.</p> <p>This means that step or half brothers and sisters will be treated as siblings if they are living together, but full brothers and sisters living apart will not qualify.</p> <p>*Associated Infant and Junior Schools- see Infant and Junior Oversubscription criteria</p> <p>Banks Lane Infants School is associated with Banks Lane Junior School Great Moor Infant School is associated with Great Moor Junior School Hursthead Infant School is associated with Hursthead Junior School Nevill Road Infant School is associated with Nevill Road Junior School</p>
Strategic Commissioner	<p>In the case of maintained schools, the local authority, as the strategic commissioner of school places, has the final decision as to whether a school can admit above its Published Admission Number. Admitting</p>

of School Places	above the admission number does not amount to an increase in the school's admission number which can only be changed via the determination of admission arrangements or once determined, for a maintained school, via a referral to the Schools Adjudicator.
Under aged pupils	In exceptional cases a child can transfer from primary to secondary education a year earlier than would normally be the case. Reports will be required from the child's primary school Headteacher, the Headteacher of the community/Catholic High school or Academy before a request for an early transfer will be considered. Requests received after the closing date for applications will not normally be considered.
Waiting Lists	<p>If a parent is not offered a place at their preferred school, their child's name will be included in the school's waiting list. The list will be ordered by the published oversubscription criteria of the school. Applicants in the normal admissions round for Nursery, Reception and Year 7 will stay on the waiting list until 31st December. The normal in-year admissions process will take over and any parents wishing to have their child's name included on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year will need to re-apply.</p> <p>Should a vacancy occur in that school before the 31st December, then it will be offered to the parent whose child is at the top of the waiting list. If that parent does not accept the vacancy, it will be offered to the next child on the waiting list. This procedure will be followed until the vacancy is accepted or the waiting list is exhausted.</p> <p>The waiting lists for all other year groups will be maintained for the full academic year.</p> <p>A child granted a place at a school by the Independent Appeal Panel or other permitted exception under the School Admissions Code will count as an allocated place above the PAN of the school. This will influence the availability of places accordingly i.e. places will not be offered from the waiting list of a particular school until the number of children allocated falls below the PAN.</p> <p>Parents / carers wishing to have their child's name included in the waiting list the following academic year must make a new application for the relevant year group.</p>

Appeals

If a parent is not allocated their preferred school, they have a statutory right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. The Appeal Panel is independent of the Local Authority and is usually made up of 3 persons. An appeal can be lodged online at stockport.gov.uk or paper forms are available from the Secretary to the Independent Appeal Panel (Tel: 0161 474 3216) or e-mail to admission.appeals@stockport.gov.uk

When an appeal has been lodged the Secretary to the Independent Appeal Panel will send a formal invitation 14 days before the date of the Independent Appeal Panel Hearing. Approximately 7 school days before the appeal, the Admissions Authority will provide the parent with a statement of the reasons why a place has not been offered.

Appeal forms during the normal admissions round must be returned to the Secretary to the Independent Appeal Panel by the published date or within 21 days of receipt of the refusal.

An appeal form received after the due date will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances.

The following is a summary of the current procedure:

- **Parents who wish to appeal must be in receipt of a written refusal to admit their child to a school of their preference.** They are advised to contact the Secretary to the Independent Appeal Panel (Tel: 0161 474 3216) for an appeal request form and advice about the appeal process.
- The Appeal must be submitted on the appeal request form setting out the grounds on which it is made.
- An Appeal Panel must give a parent the opportunity of appearing and making oral representation. The parent can be accompanied by a friend or be represented.
- At the Appeal, both the Local Authority and the parent will be offered the chance to speak about the case which will be decided on the basis of the information provided by the Panel.
- The Secretary of the Independent Appeal Panel will notify the parent of the Appeal Panel's decision, in writing, which is binding on both the Local Authority and the parent.
- A request for a re-appeal will not be granted unless there have been significant and material changes in the circumstances already considered by the Panel. Any such requests should be made, in writing, to the Secretary to the Independent Appeal Panel, Democratic Services, Town Hall, Stockport SK1 3XE.

VOLUNTARY AIDED CATHOLIC, CE PRIMARY SCHOOLS AND ACADEMY SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS POLICIES

Any parent wishing to clarify any points relating to the following information is advised to contact the school direct.

Unless otherwise stated the following arrangements will be administered on behalf of and in conjunction with the Headteacher/Principal by Stockport Council's School Places, Admissions and Transport Team:

- All applications **must** be made using Stockport Local Authority online system via <http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions>
- Regulations require that children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan naming the school, must be allocated a place. Following the allocation of places to these children the school's admissions oversubscription criteria will be used to allocate places up to the Published Admission Number of the school
- Looked After Children and previously looked after children (including children adopted from abroad)- All schools must give looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in our **Glossary of terms**) the highest priority in their oversubscription criteria. In the case of faith schools, the Governors may give priority to looked after children and previously looked after children of the appropriate faith ahead of other looked after children and previously looked after children (including children adopted from abroad).
- The Governing Bodies of the above schools have adopted Stockport Local Authority's definitions and admissions processes/procedures outlined in this document unless otherwise stated
- All processes and procedures are compliant with the School Admissions Code
- Parents **must** indicate on the online application if their child is baptised Catholic or not
- All Catholic children will be required to produce a baptismal certificate
- The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team **will not** (a) respond to applicants who have included reasons for a particular preference (b) seek further clarification of stated circumstances or (c) contact any party which the applicant may suggest Appendix 2 refers – Highly exceptional medical/social reasons
- The address to be used for the purpose of allocating school places is the child's principal parental home address (see Appendix 2)
- If there is competition for places within any category, applicants will be measured by straight line distance between home and school using Stockport Local Authority's mapping system (Appendix 2 refers)
- Any parent refused a place at their preferred school has the right to appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. Arrangements for appeals are mainly administered on behalf of the Governing Body by Stockport Local Authority (see Appendix 3)
- Parents can request that their child attends part time until the child reaches compulsory school age. A child begins to be of compulsory school age at the beginning of the term following his/her fifth birthday
- Local Authorities are required to have Fair Access Protocols in order to make sure that unplaced children who live in the home Authority, especially the most vulnerable, are offered a place at a suitable school as quickly as possible. This includes admitting children above the Published Admission Number to schools that are already full.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Cheadle Catholic Infant School	
Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)	
The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.	
<i>Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.</i>	
A	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 and 3)
B	Baptised Roman Catholic children from the Parishes of Christchurch, St. Ann's, St Chad's and that part of St Vincent's formerly in St. Ann's and that part of St. John's Parish that lies within Stockport boundary
C	Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
D	Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
E	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4 and 5)
F	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
G	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
H	Any other children
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – H above.
<i>Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.</i>	
(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 after children in (1) above (see note 8).	
The children of staff of Cheadle Catholic Infant and Junior School will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 10).	
Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)	
1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.	
2. 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.	

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. 'catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
- A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
 - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. '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 lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.
9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
10. 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.

Cheadle Catholic Junior School

Where there are more applications than the school's Published Admission Number, places will be allocated to pupils in the following published admissions criteria order:

A	Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children (See note 2)
B	Registered pupils currently in attendance at Cheadle Catholic Infant School
C	Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of Christ Church, St Ann's, St. Chad's and that part of St Vincent's formerly in St Ann's and that part of St John's Parish that lies within Stockport boundary (see notes 3 and 11).
D	Other Catholic children (see note 3).
E	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church (see notes 4 and 5).
F	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion (see note 6).
G	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader (see note 7).
H	Any other children
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by categories A-H

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

- (ii) 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 after children in (1) above (see note 8).

The children of staff of Cheadle Catholic Infant and Junior School will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 10).

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. 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.

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "Children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
 - A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
 - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. 'brother or sister' includes:
 - (iii) 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
 - (iv) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.
9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

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.

Our Lady's Catholic Primary School	
A	Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children
B	Catholic children who are resident in the Parish of Our Lady and the Apostles, Edgeley, Stockport
C	Catholic children who are resident in the parish of Our Lady and the Apostles for whom Our Lady's Catholic Primary School is the nearest Catholic school.
D	Other Catholic children.
E	Other looked after and previously looked after children.
F	Catechumens and member of an Eastern Christian Church.

G	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion.
H	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader.
I	Any other children. Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order. <i>(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 after children in (1) above (see note 8).</i> <i>(ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 10.)</i>

St Ambrose Catholic Primary School

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan(see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

A	Looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 and 3)
B	Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of St Ambrose and St Vincent's. (see note 3)
C	Catholic children who are resident in the parish(es) of St Ambrose and St Vincent's for whom St Ambrose is the nearest Catholic school]. (see notes 3 and 11)
D	Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
E	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4 and 5)
F	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
G	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
H	Any other children.
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – H above.

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 after children in (1) above (see note 8).

- (ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 10).

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. 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.

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. 'catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:

- A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and

- A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. 'brother or sister' includes:

- 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
- the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.

9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

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.

St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

A	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children and other looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 and 3)
B	Catholic children who are resident in the parish(es) of St Bernadette's (see note 3)
C	Catholic children who are resident in the parish(es) of St Bernadette's for whom St Bernadette's is the nearest Catholic school]. (see note 3)
D	Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
E	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4 and 5)
F	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
G	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
H	Any other children.
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – G above.

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 after children in (1) above (see note 8).

(ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

2. 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

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.

5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.

6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "Children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:

- A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
- A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. 'brother or sister' includes:

- (iii) 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
- (iv) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.

9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

10. 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.

St Christopher's Catholic Primary School

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

A	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 and 3)
B	Catholic children who are resident in the parish of Our Lady and St Christopher.
C	Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
D	Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
E	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4 and 5)
F	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
G	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
H	Any other children.
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – G above.

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

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. 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.

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. 'catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
 - A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
 - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. 'brother or sister' includes:

- (v) 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
- (vi) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.

9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

10. 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.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Reddish)

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a Catholic School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Salford. It is maintained by Stockport Local Authority. As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governing Body is the Admission Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admission. The co-ordination of admission arrangements is undertaken by the Local Authority. For the school year commencing September 2024, the Governing Body has set its Published Admission Number at 70.

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 following set of admissions criteria forming a priority order where there are more applications for admissions than the school has places available.

A	Baptised Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Children with an exceptional social, medical, educational or religious need which can be best met, or only met at this school;
C	Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling attending the school at the time of admission and reside within Stockport and in the contributory parish(es) of St Joseph's Reddish and the Holy Family Denton.
D	Baptised Catholic children who reside within Stockport and in the contributory parish(es) of St Joseph's Reddish and the Holy Family Denton
E	Baptised Catholic children from other parishes who will have a sibling attending the school at the time of admission
F	Non- Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked after Children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
G	Other Baptised Catholic children who are resident in another parish
H	Non-Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission
I	Other children
J	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – I above.

NOTES

1)	All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15th January 2024
2)	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.
3)	<p>For a child to be considered as a Catholic evidence of a Catholic Baptism or reception into the Catholic Church is required. Written evidence of reception into the Catholic Church can be obtained by referring to the Register of Receptions, or in some cases a sub-section of the Baptismal Registers of the Church in which the Rite of Reception took place. If, for example, a child has been baptised in the Church of England and the parents are subsequently admitted to the Catholic Church through the RCIA programme, the child must also be admitted to the Church by the Rite of Reception.</p> <p>The Governing Body will require written evidence in the form of a Certificate of Reception before applications for school places can be considered for categories of 'Baptised Catholics'. A Certificate of Reception is to include full name, date of birth, date of reception and parent(s) name(s). The certificate must also show that it is copied from the records kept by the place of reception.</p> <p>Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism for a good reason, may still be considered as baptised Catholics but only after they have been referred to the parish priest who, after consulting with the [appropriate diocesan authority] will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.</p>
4)	Home Address is considered to be the address where the child normally lives. Where care is split and a child moves between two addresses, the household in receipt of the child benefit would normally be the address used but the admission authority body reserves the right to request other evidence as fit the individual circumstance. Applicants should not state the address of another relative or person who has daily care of the child.
5)	'Sibling' is defined in these arrangements as full, half or stepbrothers and sisters, adopted and foster brothers and sisters who are living at the same address and are part of the same family unit. This does not include cousins or other family relationships
6)	A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admission Criteria. The waiting list does not consider the date the application was received, or the length of time a child's name has been on the waiting list. This means that a child's position on the list may change if another applicant is refused a place and their child has higher priority in the admissions criteria.
7)	For 'In Year' applications received outside the normal admissions round, if places are available, they will be offered to those who apply. If there are places available but more applicants than places, then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied.
8)	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 after the 31 st December for

	Reception, all other year groups will remain on the waiting list for the full academic year.
9)	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. If there are places available but more applicants than places, then the published oversubscription criteria will be applied.
10)	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.
11)	The Governing Body reserve the right to withdraw the offer of a school place where false evidence is received in relation to the application.
12)	It is the duty of governors to comply with regulations on class size limits for children aged between rising five and seven. The Governing Body may exceed the regulations for twins and children from multiple births where one of the children is the 30th child admitted. This also applies to in-year applicants who are looked after/previously looked after, children of UK service personnel or children who move into the area for whom there is no other school available within a reasonable distance.
13)	If a child is a "summer born child", parents may request that the date their child is admitted to school is deferred to later in the school year. However, the child must start school before the end of that school year. If a parent wishes their child to be educated out of their normal school year (kept back a year), they must discuss this with the school before applying. However, the final decision on this rests with the admission authority for the school. Information on making summer born requests can be viewed online at: https://www.stockport.gov.uk/summer-born-children
14)	Parents may request that their child attend school part-time until he/she reaches his/her fifth birthday.

St Joseph's RC Primary School (Stockport)

The school was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of catholic families. The school is conducted 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.

The school's Published Admission Number is 25. If the number of applications exceeds the admission number, governors will consider applications according to the following order of priority (see note 1 below):

A	Baptised Roman Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Baptised Roman Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
C	Baptised Roman Catholic children resident in the parish of St. Joseph's RC Church.
D	Baptised Roman Catholic children resident in other parishes.
E	Other looked after children and previously looked after children.
F	Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
G	Other children.

H	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – G above.
<i>If any information given on the application form is found to be false, any place offered will be withdrawn.</i>	
OVER-SUBSCRIPTION	
If there is over-subscription within a category, the Governors will give priority to children living closest to the school determined by shortest straight line distance.	
Note 1	
Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. This will reduce the number of available places to applicants.	
Note 2	
Evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. A definition of 'Baptised' can be obtained from the school. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest.	
Note 3	
Entry to St Joseph's R.C. Primary is not automatic and at the age of transfer to the school parents will be asked to complete an application form.	
School entry	
Children must, by law, start school by the beginning of the term after their fifth birthday. A parent may defer a child's entry to the school. Parents may discuss this with the Headteacher.	
Appeals	
Parents who wish to appeal against the decision of the Governors to refuse their child a place in the school can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal will be conducted by the Council Secretariat on behalf of the Governing Body and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors and parents.	

St Mary's RC Primary School (Stockport)	
The maximum number of pupils admitted to each age group is 24. This is the school's Published Admission Number.	
Reception age children are admitted to the Foundation Stage Unit in the September after their fourth birthday.	
Admission to St. Mary's R.C. Primary School is the responsibility of the Governors who consider applications in the following order of priority:	
A	Baptised Catholic Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Children with an exceptional social, medical, educational or religious need which can be best met, or only met at this school;*
C	Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling attending the school at the time of admission and reside within Stockport and in the contributory parish of St Mary's, Heaton Norris
D	Baptised Catholic children who reside within Stockport and in the contributory parish of St Mary's, Heaton Norris.
E	Baptised Catholic children from other parishes who will have a sibling attending at the time of admission
F	Non Catholic Looked After children and previously Looked After children
G	Other Baptised catholic children who are resident in another parish
H	Non catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
I	Other children.
J	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – I above.

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School (Marple Bridge)

The school's published admission number is 30.

St Mary's Catholic School is under the Trusteeship of the Diocese of Nottingham and belongs to the Nottingham Diocesan family of schools. The school is founded by and is part of the Catholic Church and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. Religious education and worship are in accordance with the teachings and doctrines of the Catholic Church. This does not affect the right of parents or carers who are not of the faith of the school to apply for and to be considered for places. We ask all parents or carers applying for a place to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community.

The Governing Body is the admission authority and is responsible for determining the admissions policy and for all decisions relating to admissions. The admissions process is coordinated by Stockport Local Authority on behalf of the school governors.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

A	Catholic looked after or previously looked after children including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (See Notes 2 and 3).
B	Catholic (see Note 2) children living in the parish(es) served by the school
C	Catholic (see Note 2) children living outside the parish(es) served by the school
D	Other looked after or previously looked after children including those children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (see Note 2).
E	Catechumens, Candidates and members of Eastern Christian Churches (see Notes 3, 4 and 5)
F	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion (see note 7)
G	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader (see note 8)
H	Any other children not within categories A-G.

First priority within each Oversubscription Criteria will be given to applications from children who will have siblings (see note 9) attending the school at the proposed time of admission.

Notes

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), is a plan made by the Local Authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

2. 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 (see the definition in s.22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A "previously looked after child" is a child who:

(a) ceased to be looked after because they were adopted (this includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 [see s.12 adoption orders] and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 [see s.46 adoption orders], or

(b) became subject to a child arrangements order (under the terms of the Children Act 1989 s.8, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014 - an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live), or

(c) became subject to a special guardianship order (see S.14A of the Children Act 1989 - an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian [or special guardians]).

3. '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 with the Catholic Church signed by a Catholic Priest and stamped with the parish stamp. 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 (i.e. a looked after child in the process of adoption by a Catholic family).

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest.

4. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.

5. 'Candidate' means a candidate for reception into the Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a letter from the Parish Priest.

6. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.

7. 'Children of other Christian denominations' means children who are members of a Church or religious community that practises Trinitarian baptism recognised by the Catholic Church and is normally evidenced by a Baptism Certificate or a Certificate of Dedication. In cases of doubt please check with the Catholic Diocese in which the school is located.

8. 'Children of other faiths' means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definitions 3-7 above. This will normally be evidenced by a letter from the religious leader of the community.

9. 'Siblings' means a child who lives as a brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, or the child of a parent'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. [It also includes natural brothers or sisters where the child for whom the school place is sought is not living in the same family unit as the same address as that sibling.]

10. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

11. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries are as shown on the map available on the school website.

12. Place of Residence: The governors of the school use the same definition as used by the Local Authority within which the school is located.

St Peter's Catholic Primary School

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

A	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 and 3)
B	Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of St. Peter's and St. Vincent's Bramhall (see notes 3 and 7)

C	Other Catholic children (see note 3)
D	Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2)
E	Any other children.
F	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – E above.

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 after children in (1) above (see note 4).

(ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 6).

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

2. 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.

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. '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 lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.

5. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

6. 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.

St Philip's Catholic Primary School

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

A	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children.
B	Catholic children who are resident in the parish of St. Philip's
C	Catholic children who are resident in the parish of St Philip's [for whom St Philip's Catholic Primary School is the nearest Catholic school]. (see notes 3&11) .
D	Other Catholic children.
E	Other looked after and previously looked after children
F	Catechumens and members of an eastern Christian Church.
G	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
H	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
I	Any other children
J	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – G above.

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 after children in (1) above

(ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

2. 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.

3. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

4. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no creedal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

5. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 4 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:

- A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
- A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

6. '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 lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.

7.A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

8. 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.

St Simon's Catholic Primary School

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

A	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2 & 3)
B	Catholic children who are resident in the parish of St Peter's. (see notes 3 & 11)
C	Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of [for whom St Simon's is the nearest Catholic school]. (see notes 3 & 11)
D	Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
E	Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
F	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4 & 5)
G	Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
H	Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
I	Any other children.
J	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – I above.

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

- (iii) 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 after children in (1) above (see note 8).

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

10. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
11. 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.
12. '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 Catholic 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 law of the Church].

13. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
14. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
15. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

16. "Children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
 - A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
 - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

17. 'brother or sister' includes:
 - (vii) 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
 - (viii) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same address as the applicant.
18. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
19. 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.

St Winifred's RC Primary School

St. Winifred's R.C. Primary School provided by the Diocese of Salford is maintained by Stockport Local Authority as a voluntary aided primary school. The school's Governing Body is the admission authority and

is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admission. The Governing Body's Published Admission Number is 60.

Admission to the school will be made by the Governing Body in accordance with the stated parental preferences it receives subject to the following set of admissions oversubscription criteria. These criteria form a priority order when there are more applications than the school has places available. It is a requirement that a child's Baptism be verified prior to admission.

Priority will be given to all Roman Catholic looked after children and previously looked after children (see definition in **Glossary of terms**) over all other Roman Catholic applicants. Then priority will be given to all looked after children and previously looked after children (see definition in **Glossary of terms**) who are not Roman Catholic over all other applications for children who are not Roman Catholic.

A	Baptised Roman Catholic Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Baptised Roman Catholic children with proven and exceptional medical or social needs where admission to the school might best help to satisfy those exceptional needs
C	Roman Catholic children resident in the parish who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of admission
D	Other baptised Roman Catholic children resident in the parish
E	Other Roman Catholic children who have a sibling(s) at the school at the time of admission and are resident in another parish
F	Other Roman Catholic children who are resident in another parish
G	Other Looked after children and previously looked after children (PLAC) and International Adopted Previously Looked After children (IAPLAC) (See definition in Glossary of terms)
H	Other children with proven and exceptional medical or social needs where admission to the school might best help to satisfy those exceptional needs
I	Other children with a sibling(s) attending school at the time of admission
J	Other children
K	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – J above.

If any of the above categories are oversubscribed, a place will be allocated according to proximity, taking into account the availability of alternative Roman Catholic and maintained schools.

Mellor Primary School (Academy)

Where there are more applications than the school's Published Admission Number, places will be allocated to the published admissions criteria i.e. pupils will be allocated places in the following order:

A	Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Children considered to have highly exceptional medical/social reasons*
C	Children resident within the catchment area* of the school with a sibling* at the school at the time of admission
D	Children resident within the catchment area* of the school
E	Children resident outside the catchment area* with a sibling at the school at the time of admission
F	Other children
G	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A –F above

North Cheshire Jewish Primary School

Admission

North Cheshire Jewish Primary offers a highly motivating and academic atmosphere where children are encouraged and supported to reach their full potential. Its children are confident and proud about their Judaism and have a strong identity regarding their own community and the State of Israel.

Moral and ethical values are developed in order that children become good citizens and are taught to have understanding of different religions, races and ways of life.

The school prides itself on its caring and inclusive policy.

The school's ethos¹ demonstrates orthodox Jewish belief and practice, embodied in the principles of Torah and Halachah, in a modern setting. These include creating a sense of belonging, encouraging and preparing for lifelong Jewish learning, spiritual growth and practice, mutual responsibility within the Jewish community and the wider world, and the importance of Israel in Jewish life. Jewish belief and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activities and are intrinsically linked to its secular curriculum. The school welcomes families from any synagogue denomination or none.

In the case of oversubscription, the school will give priority to applicants who meet a religious practice test based on guidelines from the Chief Rabbi. Those applicants wishing to be considered a priority for available places must complete a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²) based on criteria such as the family's synagogue service attendance (irrespective of the religious affiliation) commitment to Jewish education and voluntary work within the community. Four points are required in accordance with the Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²).

The school admits children aged four to 11 and all children must attend full-time schooling by the term in which they reach their fifth birthday (compulsory school age). The School's Published Admission Number (PAN) is 30. Additional children may be admitted under limited exceptional circumstances³.

The school will admit children at any time to all year groups, provided a place is available.

Parents are invited to visit the school prior to applying. Individual visits are welcome by prior arrangement. Please contact the school for details.

The school is not permitted by law to interview parents, or children, with a view to selection.

All children whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school (in compliance with the Children & Families Act 2014) will be admitted⁵.

Oversubscription

If the School is oversubscribed, after the admission of children with an EHC Plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria as set out in the order of 1 to 6 listed below.

In order to be eligible for a place, you will need to complete a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²). The form is available from the school office or website and must be returned to the school by 15th January 2025.

NB. Categories A – F refer to applications received by the closing date 15th January 2025

A	Children who are looked after ⁵ by a local authority, or children who were previously looked after ⁶ , and who are entitled to be treated as priority applicants having obtained four points in accordance with the Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP ²).
B	Siblings of pupils ⁸ who will be attending North Cheshire Jewish Primary School at the time such siblings enter the school and who

	are entitled to be treated as a priority applicant having obtained four points in accordance with the Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP ²).
C	Siblings of former ⁸ pupils of North Cheshire Jewish Primary School who are entitled to be treated as a priority applicants having obtained four points in accordance with the Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP ²).
D	Other children who are entitled to be treated as priority applicants having obtained four points in accordance with the Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP ²).
E	Other children who are looked after ⁵ by a local authority, or other children who were previously looked after ⁶ by a local authority.
F	Other children
G	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – F above

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED OUTSIDE THE NORMAL ADMISSIONS ROUND

Children will be accepted into school on the normal procedures set out above taking into consideration the statutory oversubscription criteria.

Tie-Breaker

In the event of there being more applicants than places available within each of the above criteria 1 to 5, priority will be given to those children or parents/ carers whom exceed more than 4 points on the CRP.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

1 When to Apply

Children will be admitted to Reception in the September following their fourth birthday. Applications should be made by 15th January 2025. Forms are available from August each year. All applications received on time will be processed together. By law, priority **must not** be given to children based on the date their application is received or their name is added to the list.

2 How to Apply

Application for a place in Reception is by completion of your Local Authority's online education Portal by 15th January 2025.

In order to be eligible for a place, you will need to complete a Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²). The form is available from the school office or website and must be returned to the School by 15th January 2025.

Application for a child whose Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan which names the school⁴ is made by a separate process.

3 Offer Date

A letter to parents offering, or refusing, a place will be sent by the local authority where the child lives on or about the national offer date.

4 Response by Parents

A parent who does not respond to the offer of a place may have the offer withdrawn if the deadline quoted in the letter is not met.

5 Waiting List

For those applicants who do not receive an offer of a place, parents must advise the school, in writing, if they wish the child's name to be included on the waiting list. The school's waiting lists for all years will be kept open indefinitely and the School may check with parents, from time

to time, to establish whether they wish their child to remain on the waiting list. The child's place on the waiting list will be determined at all times in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Following the application procedure for Reception places, and once initial offers have been made, the waiting list will be adjusted to include late applications. A child's position on the waiting list will not depend upon when the application was made but will be determined by how the oversubscription criteria are met. This means that a child's position on the list can go down as well as up, depending on the circumstances of all applicants. In the event of a vacancy occurring, the place will be offered to a child on the waiting list starting with the one at the top, at the time, and working downwards until the vacancy is filled.

Parents are asked to inform the school when they no longer wish their child's name to remain on the waiting list.

6 Late Applications

Applications for Reception received after the 15th January 2025 deadline will be processed in accordance with the oversubscription criteria

In order to be eligible for a priority place, the Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²) must also be completed. The form is available from the School Office or website and must be returned to the School without delay.

Late applications will be processed after those that have been received on time.

7 In-Year Applications

Application for Reception received after the start of the academic year of normal entry should be made directly to the school. In order to be eligible for a priority place, the School's Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²) must be completed. Both forms are available from the School Office or website and must be returned to the School without delay, together with proof of address¹³.

8 Applications Outside the Normal Admissions Round

Places may be available in years other than Reception. Application for a school place outside the normal admissions round should be made directly to the school. The Certificate of Religious Practice (CRP²) must be completed. The form is available from the School Office or website and must be returned to the School without delay, together with proof of address⁹.

9 Right of Appeal

Parents who receive a letter to say that their application has not been successful have the right to appeal.

10 Children from Overseas

Applications for children coming from overseas must be treated in accordance with European Union law or Home Office rules for non-European Economic Area nationals. Non-statutory guidance on this should be available on the website of the Department for Education.

NOTES

- 1 Whilst priority will be given to those children whose families demonstrate an on-going commitment to the school's ethos, all families will be expected to respect the ethos.
- 2 The requirements of the religious practice test might change from year to year.
- 3 Twins and children from multiple births will be admitted when one of the siblings is the 30th child and, as a result, the School's PAN will be increased.
- 4 An Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan is a statement made by the local authority (see Children & Families Act 2014) specifying the special educational provision required for that child.
- 5 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 (see section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

Applications for looked after children must be made by the person with parental responsibility and/or the child's social worker.

- 6 A previously looked after child is a child who has ceased to be so because they have been adopted (see section 46 of the Adoption & Children Act 2002) or became subject to a residence order (see section 8 of the Children Act 1989), or special guardianship order (see section 14A of the Children Act 1989).
- 7 There is no automatic transfer from the School's Nursery to Reception. Parents must apply via the local authority where the child lives.
- 8 Siblings of pupils attending the school at the time of admission and siblings of former pupils include half- siblings, foster siblings, stepsiblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently in the same home.
- 9 The child's home address shall be determined as at the deadline for application. Where parents reside at separate addresses, the Local Authority supplementary information to determine the principle parental address.

FALSE INFORMATION

Places can be withdrawn after an offer has been made if it is found that the offer was made on the basis of false or fraudulent information.

St George's CE Primary School

Parents should be aware before applying that in this school RE, collective worship and our whole ethos are based on the teachings of the Church of England.

Application for admission to the school must be made on- line by the closing date 15th January 2024. Visit the Council website www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions to apply and view the Local Authority's brochure. Children in Stockport begin school following their fourth birthday.

Letters informing parents of whether or not their child has been allocated a place will be sent out by the Local Authority on 17th April 2024. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place by the Authority.

The number of places available for admission to the Reception class in the year 2024 will be a maximum of 60. This arrangement follows consultation between the governing body, the Diocesan Board of Education, Local Authorities and other admissions authorities in the area. The governing body will not place any restrictions on admissions to the reception class unless the number of children for whom admission is sought exceeds this number. By law, no infant class may contain more than thirty children.

The Governing Body operates a system of equal preferences under which they consider all preferences equally and the Local Authority allocates places according to its policy. In the event that there are more applicants than places, the governing body will allocate places using the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

A	Looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Children considered to have highly exceptional medical/social reasons
C	Children who live in the catchment area* of the school and will have a sibling* at the school at the time of admission
D	Children who live in the catchment area surrounding the school (designated by the Local Authority)
E	Children who live outside the catchment area* of the school and will have a sibling* at the school at the time of admission

F	Children who live outside the catchment area, but whose parents are faithful and regular worshippers in the Parish of St George's, Stockport
G	Children who live outside the catchment area, but whose parents are faithful and regular worshippers in a Christian Church that belongs to Churches together in Britain and Ireland
H	Other children based on distance between home and school, measured by straight line distance, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – H above.
Notes	
(1)	By "faithful and regular" we mean attendance at a minimum of two services per month for at least six months prior to the closing date for applications. A letter from your incumbent or minister or other church officer will be required as proof of attendance
(2)	Highly exceptional medical/social reasons would be verified by at least two professionals employed by the LA
(3)	A map showing the boundaries is available from school
(4)	Siblings include step, half, foster and adopted brothers and sisters living at the same address, and full brothers and sisters living apart
(5)	All children with birthdays between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 are admitted to school in September 2024. For children with a birthday after Christmas and Easter parents may defer entry until later in the year and the headteacher should be consulted if this option is being considered
(6)	A parent is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child. Where admission refer to parent's attendance at church it is sufficient for just one parent to attend
(7)	In the case of twins or multiple births, if only one place can be offered 'a random allocation undertaken by an independent body will be used' in order to decide which child is offered a place with parents informed of their right of appeal for the other child/ren
(8)	In the event of a tie in the application of any of the above criteria, the LA measuring system will be used to indicate the child who lives closest to school

St Thomas' CE Primary School (Heaton Chapel)	
Where there are more applications than the school's Planned Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:	
A	Looked after children and previously looked after children (see definition in Glossary of terms)
B	Children considered to have highly exceptional medical/social reasons
C	Children whose normal home address is within the Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Heaton Chapel, and one of whose parent(s)/guardian(s) is in regular attendance at public worship at the Parish of St Thomas
D	Children whose parents/guardians reside within the catchment area of St Thomas' CE VA Primary and are in regular attendance at public worship at the any of the churches within the school's catchment area belonging to the Heaton's Churches Partnership and/or members of the Evangelical Alliance.
E	Children whose normal home address is within the catchment area of St Thomas' CE VA Primary School who will have an older brother or sister attending the school at the time of their admission
F	Other children whose normal home address is within the catchment area of St Thomas' CE VA Primary School.

G	Children whose normal home address is outside the catchment area of St Thomas' CE VA Primary School who will have an older brother or sister attending the school at the time of their admission.
H	Any other children
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – H above.

Regular attendance means a minimum of fortnightly attendance at church at public worship for at least the year prior to 1st September in the year before admission to the school. Evidence of regular attendance of the parent/guardian, or the child, at public worship must be provided by a member of the clergy or other designated church officer/faith leader. **Applicants seeking admission under criteria C and D will need to complete and return the Supplementary Information Form available on request from the school.**

A map of the Parish of St Thomas the Apostle, Heaton Chapel is available from the school office.

A list of local churches (those part of the Heaton's Churches' Partnership and/or members of the Evangelical Alliance) is available to see on request from the school.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Priority of admission to Catholic High Schools in Stockport is based on the categories detailed below for each School, associated primary schools (table b) and associated parishes and part-parishes (table c).

St Anne's Catholic High Schools (Academy)

Catholic looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in **Glossary of terms**) will be admitted in advance of the outlined criteria of Category A. Non-Catholic looked after children and previously looked after children (See definition in **Glossary of terms**) will be admitted in advance of the outlined criteria of Category H.

- ❖ The term Christian will be interpreted as commitment to a belief in the Trinity and in the sacramental nature of baptism.

Table (a) CATEGORIES and QUALIFYING CRITERIA

A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • You live in a parish (or part parish) * which is associated with the secondary school • Your child attends an associated catholic primary school
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • You live in a parish (or part parish)* which is associated with the secondary school • Your child goes to a Catholic primary school • Your child has a brother or sister attending the school
C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • You do not live in a parish (or part parish)* which is associated with the secondary school • Your child goes to a Catholic primary school • Your child has a brother or sister at the school
D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • You live in a parish (or part parish) * which is associated with any of the three Catholic High Schools • Your child goes to a Catholic primary school
E	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • You live in a parish (or part parish)* which is associated with the secondary school • Your child goes to a non-Catholic primary school
F	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • Your child goes to a Catholic primary school
G	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is a Catholic • Your child goes to a non-Catholic primary school
H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is NOT a Catholic • Your child has a brother or sister at the school • You support the Catholic ethos of the school
I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your child is NOT a Catholic • Your child attends an associated catholic primary school • You support the Catholic ethos of the school

J	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child is NOT a Catholic Yours is a practising Christian* family You support the Catholic ethos of the school
K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your child is NOT a Catholic You want your child to receive a Christian * education You support the Catholic ethos of the school
L	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – K above.

Applications submitted after the closing date:

Applications received after the Secondary closing date will be categorised below Category K of the above oversubscription criteria. Applications in this category will be ordered by the above oversubscription criteria.

Exceptions can apply, see Appendix 5: Section 10.1.

ADMISSIONS POLICY CRITERIA – Harrytown Catholic High School

NB: Categories 1 – 8 refer to applications received by the closing date 31st October 2024

1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic looked after and previously looked after children
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic children who live in an associated parish (or part Parish)
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catholic children who attend a feeder Catholic primary school
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other Catholic children
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other looked after and previously looked after children.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children of other Christian denominations and children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion or other religious leader.
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other children
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at 1 – 7 above.

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) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made.

Please see definitions below relating to Harrytown Catholic High School’s admission policy only.

For the purposes of this admission policy, attendance at a feeder primary school includes those who were prevented from attending a feeder school due to oversubscription of Catholics and whose application to attend was unsuccessful, normally evidenced by a letter of rejection from the feeder primary school.

‘catechumen’ means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.

‘Eastern Christian Church’ includes Orthodox Churches and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.

“children of other Christian denominations” means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God’s revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God’s will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above. All members of Churches Together in England and CYTŪN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

“children of other faiths” means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of ‘other Christian denominations’ above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include: • A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and • A religion which does not involve belief in a God. Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

‘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.

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.

A ‘parent’ means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

ADMISSIONS POLICY CRITERIA – St James Catholic High School

NB: Categories 1 – 7 refer to applications received by the closing date 31st October 2024

1	• Catholic looked after and previously looked after children
2	• Catholic children who live in an associated parish (or part Parish)
3	• Catholic children who attend an associated Catholic primary school
4	• Other Catholic children
5	• Other looked after and previously looked after children.
6	• Other Children who attend an associated primary school
7	• Any other children
8	• Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at 1 – 7 above.

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

- (iii) 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.
- (iv) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made.

Please see definitions below relating to St James' catholic High School admission policy only.

- '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.

A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

- A child's "home address" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or 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 for 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.

Table (b) Associated Primary Schools

Harrytown Catholic High School	St Anne's RC Voluntary Academy	St James' Catholic High School
St Bernadette's	Our Lady's	Cheadle Catholic
St Christopher's	St Ambrose	Our Lady's
St Joseph's (Stockport)	St Bernadette's	St Ambrose
St Mary's (Marple)	St Joseph's (Reddish)	St Peter's
St Peter's	St Joseph's (Stockport)	St Simon's
St Philip's	St Mary's (Stockport)	
St Simon's	St Winifred's	

Table (c) Associated Parishes and part - Parishes

Parishes	Associated Catholic High School
Christ Church	St James'
Holy Family (Denton part)	St Anne's
The Holy Spirit	Harrytown
Our Lady and the Apostles (split parish) and Sacred Heart #	Sacred Heart and specified part of Our Lady's to St James' and other part of Our Lady's to St Anne's
Our Lady and St Christopher's	Harrytown
St Ambrose	St James'
St Ann's	St James'
St Bernadette's # #	Harrytown or St Anne's
St Chad's	St James'
St John's (Benchill part)	St James'
St Joseph's (Reddish)	St Anne's
St Joseph's (Stockport) # #	Harrytown or St Anne's
St Mary's (Levenshulme part)	St Anne's
St Mary's (Marple)	Harrytown
St Mary's (Stockport)	St Anne's
St Peter's (split parish) #	Specified part to Harrytown and other part to St James'
St Philip's	Harrytown
St Vincent's	St James'
St Winifred's	St Anne's

- # The parish is divided between 2 high schools, whereabouts in the parish you live will determine which high school you are associated with.
- ## The parish is associated with 2 high schools, regardless of whereabouts in the parish you live.

Further details about parish associations can be obtained from the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team

Oversubscription

The criteria to be used in the case of oversubscription, i.e. where there are more applications than places available (determined by the published admission limit for the school), is as follows:

Regulations require that places are provided:

- for pupils who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan naming the school.
- In the case of St. James' Catholic High School those Catholic pupils with designated physical difficulties will be guaranteed places.
- In the case of St. James' Catholic High School, should places be available within the Admission Limit, non-Catholic pupils with designated physical difficulties will be allocated places after pupils in Category 5.
- Non-Catholic applicants requesting a place at a Catholic High School are required to attach a letter to their application form indicating why they want a place at the school and place a tick in the box provided on the form.

Cheadle Hulme High School (Academy)

Where there are more applications than the school's Published Admission Number, places will be allocated to the published admissions criteria i.e. pupils will be allocated places in the following order:

A	Looked after children and previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the admissions authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because immediately after, they become subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.
B	Children considered to have highly exceptional medical/social reasons*
C	Children who are currently in attendance at Cheadle Hulme Primary School prior to 1 st September 2024, and still on roll at the time of application, ordered by categories D-H
D	Children resident within the catchment area* of the school with a sibling* at the school at the time of admission
E	Children who live in the catchment area* of the school
F	Children of staff 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 at the school for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
G	Children resident outside the catchment area* with a sibling at the school at the time of admission
H	Any other applicants, in order of straight line distance measured between home and the school
I	Applications received after the closing date ordered by the criteria detailed at A – H above

Stockport Academy

Where there are more applications than the school's Published Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

A	Looked After Children and previously looked after children (see definition in Glossary of terms) - previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).
B	Children who have specific medical needs, social needs and special needs where the application is supported by written professional advice. The Academy reserves the right to request a second opinion if appropriate. The significant specific need which parents may ask to be taken into account must relate directly to the student and be significant to the extent that it will or is likely to have an impact on the ability of the student to access an alternative provision of education.
C	Siblings of pupils who will be attending the Academy on the proposed start date. The term 'sibling' means a full, step, half, adopted brother or sister - cousins will not be taken into consideration. The Academy reserves the right to ask for proof of relationship.
D	Children whose permanent address is nearest to the Academy. The permanent address is that where the student normally sleeps and from where they would travel to and from school. The distance will be determined by the distance between the place of residence and the Academy building. Proof of residence may be requested at any time throughout the admissions process. If false or misleading information is used to gain entry to the Academy the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

STOCKPORT METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
CORPORATE SUPPORT SERVICE

SCHEME FOR THE CO-ORDINATION OF ALL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS
FOR MAINTAINED SCHOOLS IN THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT
AREA 2024/24

1 Scope

1.1 This scheme fulfils the requirements of the School Admissions Code 2021 and the School Admissions (Co-ordination of Admission Arrangements) (England) Regulations 2012 for the area of Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council.

1.2 The scheme applies to arrangements in Stockport whereby children are to be admitted to:

- a) Primary schools during the normal admissions round for the academic year 2024/24 (i.e. children who will be commencing primary education in Reception in September 2025)
- b) Secondary schools during the normal admissions round for the academic year 2025/2026 (i.e. children who will be commencing secondary education in Year 7 in September 2025)
- c) Maintained schools in-year i.e. outside the normal admission rounds (Reception and Year 7) in the academic year 2025/2026

Processes for (a) & (b) are detailed in points 2 – 10 below. Processes for (c) are detailed in points 11 – 15 below.

1.3 Parents of children in the relevant age groups in (a) & (b) above will be identified from the following sources:

Primary

- In-house pupil database and maintained nursery schools and classes within Stockport
- Registered independent and voluntary nursery providers within Stockport
- Information from neighbouring Local Authorities
- Responses to a press release and an advertisement in the local press

Secondary

- In-house pupil database and maintained primary schools within Stockport
- Maintained primary schools outside Stockport where children resident in Stockport are likely to attend
- Independent schools where children resident in Stockport are likely to attend
- Information from neighbouring Local Authorities
- Responses to a press release and an advertisement in the local press

1.4 The following Admission Authorities are covered by this scheme:

Admissions Authority	Number and Type of Schools
Stockport Borough Council	6 Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary Schools 53 Community Infant, Junior and Primary Schools, 4 Community Secondary Schools
The Governing Body of	13 Voluntary Aided Catholic Infant, Junior and Primary Schools and 3 Voluntary Aided Catholic High Schools of which 1 has Academy Status
The Governing Body of	2 Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary Schools
The Governing Body of	1 Voluntary Aided Jewish Primary School
The Governing Body of	10 Academy Secondary and 10 Primary Academy Schools

2 Application – Normal Admission Rounds (Reception & Year 7 intakes)

2.1 All applications from parents/ carers resident in Stockport for a maintained school place must be made on the Common Application Form provided online at <http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions>

If a parent cannot access the online system from home the facility is available from some of the many Information Centres across the Borough

2.2 The online application system provides an opportunity for the parent to:

- State the name, address and date of birth of the child
- State parents' name and address
- Apply for up to 6 schools
- Give reasons for the application and the stated preferences
- Rank the schools applied for in order of preference

2.3 The online application service and the Stockport Local Authority's composite prospectus will be available to parents no later than 1st September via Stockport Council's website. Parents resident in Stockport will be clearly informed that they must use the Common Application Form via the online system to apply for maintained schools outside Stockport.

2.4 Parents resident in the area of another Local Authority must use the Common Application Form supplied by their own home Local Authority to apply for schools inside or outside of their own home Local Authority area.

2.5 Stockport will raise awareness as follows:

Primary

- Stockport Council website and other Council social media channels

Secondary

- Stockport Council website and other Council social media channels
 - For children **attending maintained primary schools** in Stockport, letters will be provided to parents by Stockport Local Authority's School Places, Admissions and Transport Team via post at the beginning of the Year 6 academic year
- 2.6 Parents applying for a school place in the area of another Local Authority may be required to complete supplementary application details upon request from another Local Authority.
- 2.7 In the case of an application for a school designated as having a religious character (faith school), parents/carers will be asked to **state the religious denomination of their child on the application form**. Parents/carers will be required to show evidence at the relevant school, this may be via a supplementary information form, available on the Stockport Council website or direct from the school.
- 2.8 In all cases, application must be made by the parent by the following closing dates:
- **Primary – 15 January 2025**
 - **Secondary – 31 October 2024**
- 2.9 The online application system will automatically send an electronic receipt when an application is successfully submitted.

3 Change of Preference

- 3.1 If a parent/ carer wishes to change their preferences before the closing dates for applications to be received (see 2.8 above), they can log into the system using their password and make their amendments **NB** the application **must** be resubmitted to ensure the changes are recorded.
- 3.2 Applications to change a preference after the published closing dates **will not** be accepted by the Local Authority unless it is determined by the Director of Education or other appropriate Admissions Authority that there are exceptional and genuine reasons for the lateness e.g. a house move.

Full details must be provided to the Local Authority for consideration. In the case of a recent house move confirmation of **disposal of previous property**, exchange of contracts/tenancy agreement and utility bills will be required.

4 Co-ordination of Applications – Parents Resident In Stockport's Area

- 4.1 Applications for Voluntary Aided schools and Academies will be made available to the Admission Authority for each school. In practice the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team, on behalf of the Governing Body,

will apply the Governors' determined admissions criteria for each application for the school. Preference ranking will not be shared with school Admission Authorities prior to consideration of applications as this cannot lawfully be used when applying oversubscription criteria.

- 4.2 The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will rank, by application of Stockport Council's determined admissions criteria, the order of priority for admission to Community schools and Voluntary Controlled schools.
- 4.3 Where the application includes a school maintained by another Local Authority (the maintaining authority) the full details of that application (including any necessary supplementary information and any supporting reasons relevant to the application for that school) will be exchanged with that Local Authority.
- 4.4 The maintaining Authority will determine (as provided for in the maintaining Authority's scheme) whether a place can potentially be offered at that school.

5 Co-ordination of Applications – Parents Resident in the Area of Another Authority

- 5.1 Applications for places in Stockport maintained schools from parents/ carers resident outside Stockport will be forwarded by the home Authority to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team

- 5.2 The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will rank the order of priority for any application received, in accordance with the relevant oversubscription criteria as outlined at 3.1 and 3.2 above.

6 Determination and Notification of Applications

- 6.1 Where the application concerns a child for whom an Education, Health and Care Plan has been issued which names the school, this will have priority over other applications.
- 6.2 Applications for all schools will be determined by application of the each school's published oversubscription criteria
- 6.3 **All** preferences for maintained schools in Stockport will be treated equally as if they were all 1st preferences.
- 6.4 Where a parent resident in Stockport has expressed a preference for a school in the area of another Local Authority, that Authority will advise Stockport's School Places, Admissions and Transport Team of the outcome of that application.
- 6.5 Where Stockport has received a preference from a parent resident in another local authority, Stockport's School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will inform the local authority where the parent is resident of the outcome of that application
- 6.6 If, as a result of this process more than one school place can potentially be offered, the single offer will be for the school the parent has ranked the highest.

6.7 Where it is not possible to grant a place at any of the schools applied for, a parent resident in Stockport will be allocated a place at the nearest available maintained school in the Authority area with a place available, taking account of any reasons submitted for their preferences.

6.8 The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will notify each of the maintained schools in Stockport of the children to be offered places at that school

7 Offers to Parents

7.1 The online system will generate an e-mail notification of the school place offered to their child on:

- **Primary – 16 April 2025**
- **Secondary – 3 March 2025**

All parents/ carers resident in Stockport will also be informed by the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team of the school place allocated to their child by letter on the above dates

7.2 The letter will inform the parent of:

- the school place allocated to their child
- if applicable, the reason their preferred school has not been offered
- their right to appeal against the refusal of a preferred school place to the Independent Appeal Panel and who to contact, if applicable

7.3 Schools must **not** contact parents about the outcome of their application until after the offers have been received. Only the Local Authority can make an official offer.

8 Acceptance of Offers

8.1 Parents / carers will be required to sign into the online system and accept the offer of the school place. The Admissions Support and Advice would appreciate parental responses within 14 days of the school place being offered. Failure to respond may result in a child on the waiting list being disadvantaged.

8.2 The acceptance response provides the parent the opportunity to:

- Accept the place offered
- Accept the place offered **and** for their child's name to remain on the waiting list for a higher ranked school
- Refuse the school place offered, however parents **must** state where alternative education has been secured

8.3 The Local Authority reserves the right to withdraw places not accepted by the date specified.

9 **Waiting Lists**

- 9.1 Waiting lists will be kept in respect of applications for all oversubscribed schools ordered by the published admissions criteria. Where a place becomes available at a school it will be offered to the parent of the child at the top of the waiting list for that school.
- 9.2 Waiting lists for oversubscribed schools will be maintained by the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team until the 31st December 2024 for Nursery, Reception and Year 7 or the full academic year for all other year groups. Where appropriate, offers to parents will be made in conjunction with the relevant Admission Authority.
- 9.3 After the 31st December the normal in-year admissions process will take over and any parents wishing to have their child's name included on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year will need to re-apply.
- 9.4 Parents wishing to have their child's name included in the waiting list the following academic year must complete a new application.

10 **Applications received after the closing date**

- 10.1 Applications received after the published closing dates (see 2.8 above) will be dealt with:
- in accordance with published admission criteria and in most cases placed in the last category of the oversubscription criteria i.e. received after the closing date and ranked by the preceding oversubscription criteria.
 - as if it were not late, where it is determined by the Director of Education or other appropriate Admissions Authority that there are genuine reasons for the lateness, i.e. exceptional medical or social reasons preventing an earlier application being made or a recent house move
- 10.2 Applicants moving into the Stockport area after the published closing date will be able to apply online 2 days after the closing date when the online system will re-open.
- 10.3 Applications 'received after the closing date' are considered as such until 14 days after offer day, at which point, all applications received after the closing date will be considered as being 'on-time' applications

11 Summaries of Timetables

11.1	Primary Intake Timetable	
	15 January 2025	Closing Date for applications to be received
	22 January 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockport Local Authority sends applications for schools outside Stockport to the appropriate Local Authority • Other Local Authorities send applications for schools in Stockport to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team
	11 March 2025	Exchange of offer status with other Local Authorities begins
	25 March 2025	Resolution of offer status exchanged with other local authorities
	9 April 2025	Stockport maintained schools informed by Admissions Team of the results, which may include offers to pupils living in other Local Authorities
	16 April 2025	Offers made by Stockport Local Authority to parents/ carers resident in the area. Offers made to parents in other Local Authority areas by their home authority
	Where a vacancy arises, places continue to be offered from the waiting list	
	June – July 2025	Appeals heard
	1 September 2025	Academic Year commences

11.2	Secondary Intake Timetable	
11.3	31 October 2024	Closing Date for Applications
11.3.1	6 November 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stockport Local Authority sends applications for schools outside Stockport to the appropriate Local Authority
11.3.2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Local Authorities send applications for schools in Stockport to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team
11.3.3	8 January 2025	Exchange of offer status with other Local Authorities begins
11.3.4	5 February 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution of offer status exchanged with other Local Authorities
11.3.5		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other Local Authorities reciprocate
11.3.6	25 February 2025	Stockport maintained schools informed by Admissions Team of the results, which may include offers to pupils living in other Local Authority areas
11.3.7	3 March 2025	Offers made by Stockport Local Authority to parents/ carers resident in the area. Offers made to parents in other Local Authority areas by their home Authority
	Where a vacancy arises, places continue to be offered from the waiting list	

	April – May 2025	Appeals heard
	1 September 2025	Academic year commences

12 Application for maintained schools in-year i.e. outside the normal admission rounds (Reception and Year 7)

12.1	General Principles
12.1.1	Applicants are advised to apply for a school place up to two weeks prior to their move into Stockport. Service Personnel and Crown Servants are exempt from this (see 12.4.3 below)
12.1.2	<p>The Local Authority will accept applications from family's resident in and outside of the United Kingdom. Applications will be based on where the child is residing at the time of the application and in accordance with published arrangements.</p> <p>School places cannot be allocated on the basis of an intended change of address. Documentary evidence in the form of a solicitor's letter to confirm exchange of contracts or a rental agreement and disposal of previous property may be required. Stockport Council reserves the right to seek further documentary evidence to support a claim to residence. Further details are contained in the Authority's School Admissions Policy document available to view at www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions</p>
12.1.3	Parents / carers resident in Stockport must apply to Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council for a school place, even if they are requesting a place in a school outside Stockport. Stockport Council's School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will liaise with other Local Authorities to ascertain whether or not a place is available.
12.1.4	Determination of whether or not a place is available will be made by the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team in conjunction with the Headteacher of the particular school.
12.1.5	All maintained schools must provide information on pupil numbers to the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team as appropriate to determine the outcome of applications.
12.2	Application
12.2.1	<p>Parents/ carers of children moving into Stockport or attending a school not maintained by the Local Authority must apply online at: http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions</p> <p>For transfers between Primary Schools and Secondary Schools within Stockport, a three part application form must be obtained and completed at the school the child is currently attending.</p> <p>For parents/ carers who reside under Manchester City Council they must make their application via their Home Authority.</p>

12.2.2	The online form provides an opportunity for the parent / carer to:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give details of the child for whom the application is being made (name, address, date of birth, any relevant medical / social information) • State if the child has an Education, Health and Care Plan • State if the child is Baptised Catholic (for use in faith school applications only) – sight of the Baptismal certificate will be required • Apply for up to 6 schools • Give reasons for the application • Rank the schools applied for in order of preference • Give details of siblings who already attend the preferred school • Name the child's current school • Give details about the person completing the application (name, address, relationship to the child, contact details)
12.3	Determination of Applications
12.3.1	Where the application concerns a child who has an Education, Health & Care Plan, parents/ carers will need to contact to Stockport Council's Special Educational Needs (SEN) Team for consideration. The SEN Team will work with the parents/ carers of the child to secure a place at a school where the specific needs of the child can be met.
	<p>For all other applications the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will ensure that applications will be processed within 10 school days and no longer than 15 school days. Where the application is for a school outside Stockport timescales may be extended. This timescale would only be exceeded in limited and prescribed circumstances.</p> <p>Headteacher's reserve the right to request that an application to Stockport's Fair Access Panel where the application triggers the 'Fair Access Protocol'. The application will be referred to the Education Welfare Service for further consideration (see 12.3.2 below).</p> <p>Applications to transfer schools cannot be made during school holidays.</p>
12.3.2	Fair Access Protocol – ensures that pupils, identified through the protocol as having additional needs, engage in that process for appropriate school placement. All maintained secondary schools in Stockport participate in the protocol, which may in some cases result in schools admitting pupils above the Published Admission Number. The Fair Access Protocol can be viewed at http://www.stockport.gov.uk/schooladmissions
12.3.3	All preferences for maintained schools will be treated equally as if they were all 1 st preferences.
12.3.4	All applications will be considered on the basis of the Published Admission Number of the school, the number of pupils on roll and the effect an unplanned admission would have on the provision of efficient education and use of resources at the school. Parental and pupil circumstances are taken into account in line with each school's oversubscription criteria.

12.3.5	If there are multiple in-year applicants for the same school year and there are insufficient places to satisfy all requests, the oversubscription criteria's will be applied.
	In the case of a preference for a maintained school in Manchester, the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will contact the relevant Manchester City Council to determine the outcome of the application.
	If, as a result of this process, more than one school place can potentially be offered, the single offer will be for the school the parent has ranked the highest.
12.3.6	Where it is not possible to offer a preferred school place to a pupil resident in Stockport, a place at the nearest available school with a place will be offered. In the case of infant aged children moving into the Metropolitan Borough of Stockport area , this will be within a walking distance of 2 miles from the child's home.
12.3.7	If a place at the preferred school is refused, parents / carers are advised of their right to appeal to the Independent Appeal Panel, unless an appeal has already been heard for the same child and school within the same academic year. In the case of Reception and Year 7 applications only , the name of the child will be kept on a waiting list until the 31 st December 2024. The normal in-year admissions process will take over and any parents wishing to have their child's name included on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year will need to re-apply.
	The above criteria apply equally to Stockport residents and to applicants from outside the borough (excluding 12.3.6 above).
12.4	Outcome of Applications
12.4.1	The School Places, Admissions and Transport Team will email a letter to the child's parents/ carers to inform them of the outcome of their application and their right to appeal, if applicable (see also 11.3.7 above) and their child will be placed on the waiting list for their preferred school. For their child to remain on the waiting list for the following academic year they will need to complete a new application.
12.4.2	If a parent / carer wishes to reject the place offered, they must email the School Places, Admissions and Transport Team on admissions.support@stockport.gov.uk
12.4.3	Admission of children of UK service personnel and crown servants
	For children of UK service personnel (see definition in our glossary of terms) with a confirmed position, or crown servants (see definition in our glossary of terms) returning from overseas to live in Stockport, in accordance with paragraph 2.21 of the School Admissions Code 2021, the Local Authority will allocate a school place in advance of a family arriving in the area. This is

	<p>provided that the application is accompanied by an official letter issued by a government department declaring the relocation date. An application can be online as soon as confirmation of relocation is available.</p>
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	<p>In the absence of a future address, the Local Authority will accept a unit address or quartering address (the address of the closest house in the nearest 'quartering area').</p>
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DETERMINING A CHILD'S PRINCIPLE PARENTAL HOME, RESOLVING PARENTAL DISPUTES AND MULTIPLE APPLICATIONS

For the purpose of allocating school places in Stockport, only one address can be used and the address to be used should be the principal parental home address. Parents/ carers cannot, for example use:

- a child minder's address, the address of a grandparent or anyone else who may provide childcare
- a property they own but do not live in as the principal parental home, this would include business properties with living accommodation

Determining a child's principal parental address

Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, the place of residency will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the week (e.g., where the child wakes up the majority of mornings each week). Full details must be submitted in writing to enable the Local Authority to determine which address will be used for the purpose of admission.

Where care is shared jointly, and it is not possible to determine which parent is the principal carer the LA will consider the following information to decide on a main address for the child:

- Address to which child benefit is claimed
- Address held by child's current School or Nursery
- Child's registered GP address
- Child's registered dentist address
- Any other documentation indicating the child's registered address

In the instance that further information is received regarding a conflict to the principal parental address of a child which has been provided, the Local Authority have the right to request both parent/ carers to provide proof of the child's residency at the address.

Resolving parental disputes and multiple applications

Anyone with parental responsibility for a child can make an application for a school place, however, only one application in each admission round can be considered for a child. Parent/ carers should agree on a set of preferences before submitting one application for the child.

In circumstances where two applications are made for one child (and applications differ), both parents will be contacted and asked to confirm which application should be processed and which should be withdrawn.

In circumstances where parent/ carers cannot come to an agreement:

- Where a principal parental address can be determined, the applicant residing at the child's principal parental home will be the application that is processed, and the other application will be withdrawn.
- Where the principal parental address cannot be determined, then neither application will be considered, and the Local Authority will contact parents asking them to agree a single application to go forward for processing and provide a deadline for the final application to be confirmed.

In cases where parents cannot agree on the preferences for their child they should endeavor to do so as soon as possible. If mutual agreement is not possible, ultimately, a Specific Issues Order from the court may need to be obtained. If an agreement on a valid application form to be processed is not received, both applications will not continue to be processed until an agreement is made or a court order is provided.

Where the Local Authority has a duty to offer a child a school place, any school with places available will be randomly selected and offered. This will not be any of the preferences expressed and may be considerable distance from either home.

School and local authority staff must treat all parents equally, unless a court order limits a parent's ability to make educational decisions, participate in school life or receive information about their child.