

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

St Mary's Catholic Primary 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 the trust deed of the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton, its instrument of government, and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, the governors aim to provide a Catholic education for all pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. The governors ask all parents applying for a place to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community.

Although Catholic children have priority of admission, this does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for a place for their child at the school. The school welcomes applications from those of other denominations and faiths, or of none. The school was set up primarily to serve the Catholic community in the parish of Southwick with Portslade. (parish maps are available with the full version of these arrangements)

Oversubscription Criteria:

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

1. Catholic looked after children or previously looked after children (*see note b. & c.*).
2. Catholic children with a brother or sister (*see note f.*) at the school at the time of admission, resident in the parish of Southwick with Portslade (*see note h.*).
3. Catholic children with a brother or sister (*see note f.*) at the school at the time of admission, who are not resident in the parish of Southwick with Portslade (*see note h.*).
4. Catholic children without a brother or sister (*see note f.*) at the school at the time of admission, resident in the parish of Southwick with Portslade (*see note h.*).
5. Catholic children without a brother or sister (*see note f.*) at the school at the time of admission, who are not resident in the parish of Southwick with Portslade (*see note h.*).
6. Other Catholic children (*see note c.*).
7. Other looked after children or previously looked after children (*see note b.*).
8. Catechumens, Candidates for Reception into the Church and children who are members of an Orthodox Church (*see note d. & e.*).
9. Other children with a brother or sister (*see note f.*) at the school at the time of admission.
10. Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion (*see note k.*).
11. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader.
12. Any other children.

*** The priest concerned would be the priest of the church where the parent/carer normally worships or, if they do not practise their faith by attending Mass, the parish priest in the parish in which they are resident.

Final Tiebreaker:

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance (*see note j.*).

The school's **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM** (SIF) is available from the school and the school website and allows the governors to put all applicants in order of priority for admission in line with the published admission policy.

If you are expressing a preference for a place for your child at this school and wish to apply in connection with one of the faith criteria, you need to complete the SIF.

If you do not complete the SIF and return it to the school with all supporting documents by the closing date, your child may not be placed in the appropriate faith criterion. This is likely to affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

For a Reception Year admission in the normal admissions round for the year 2018-19, the completed SIF, together with all supporting documents, should be returned to the school by **15 January 2018**. Note: If the school receives an incomplete SIF, this might affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

Please read the notes and definitions in the full policy available from the school or at www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/schooladmissions. The school's supplementary information form is also available here.