



ST. ANTHONY'S SCHOOL
FOR BOYS

Admissions Policy

Policy reviewed by AF

Review date: July 2021

Submission: July 2021

Policy actioned from: September 2021 – August 2022

Next review date: June 2022

Reviewer's Signature: AF

Head Teacher's Signature: RPB

Circulation: This policy has been adopted by the governors, is addressed to all members of staff and volunteers, is available to parents on request. It applies wherever staff or volunteers are working with pupils.

Please note: 'School' refers to St. Anthony's School for Boys; 'parents' refers to parents, guardians and carers.

Aims

The aims of this policy are:

To support the aims of the School which is a Catholic school and is selective for pupils aged 4-13.

To identify and admit children who will benefit from an academic education and who will contribute to and benefit from the ethos and activities of the school community.

Assessment for entry

At assessment, all candidates for admission will be treated equally irrespective of their or their parents' race, colour, language, religion, sexual orientation, political or other opinion, ethnicity or social origin.

Catholic status

The school naturally attracts a high number of Catholic applications but is also well-known for its inclusivity and a wide range of religious backgrounds is evident in the school.

We expect all of our pupils to attend our assemblies, which are fundamental to our ethos. We expect all Catholic pupils to attend Mass whilst welcoming all others to attend.

Special Educational Needs or Disability

We are firmly committed to inclusivity and to giving every child the best possible start in life. Irrespective of their special educational needs or disability (SEND), we consider all children for admission to the school/college who have the ability and aptitude to access an academic curriculum. Pupils whose SEND are suited to the curriculum are welcome provided that we have the appropriate resources and facilities to provide them with the support that they require.

Before a place is offered at the school/college (and preferably prior to application):

Parents must disclose to the school/college any known or suspected circumstances relating to their child's health, development, allergies, disabilities and learning difficulties. The school/college reserves the right to subsequently withdraw any place offered based on incomplete disclosure of known or suspected SEND circumstances.

Based on such disclosure, the school/college will confirm whether or not it is able to fully meet the needs of the child.

Where a child's SEND is identified, or develops, after the child has started at the school/college, we will endeavour to continue to support the child as long as:

- a) we have the appropriate resources and facilities to provide them with the support they require,
- and,
- b) we believe it is in the best interest of the child and of the school/college community to remain at the school/college

Where, in our judgement, either of these conditions no longer apply, we reserve the right to withdraw a place at the school/college. In such circumstances, we will use our reasonable endeavours to support parents in finding alternative arrangements.

English as an Additional Language

We are an academically selective school and we welcome all children who can flourish and make the most of the opportunities that we offer. Treating every child as an individual is important to us, and we encourage parents to identify the languages spoken at home by the child and the family; these details are circulated amongst the child's teachers before they commence. Furthermore, yearly surveys are undertaken to gather this information.

Many of our pupils have English as an Additional Language (EAL) whereby their main language at home is a language other than English.

Teachers take account of these requirements and make provision, where necessary, to support individuals or groups of children and thus enable them to participate effectively in curriculum and assessment activities.

ADMISSIONS PROCEDURE

Entry to the school is by assessment in order to determine those children from the list of registered candidates best suited to work within the school's programme of study.

The majority of places for entry are in Reception for boys who are aged four, becoming five. Pupils will be assessed for around 40 Reception places. Some places do become available in other years and the school tries to be flexible if it can and in the light of family circumstances.

Registration

To register their child for a place at St. Anthony's, parents need to contact the school following their child's birth to record their interest in the school. They will be invited to visit the school during the year preceding entry and may then register for an assessment by completing and returning the Registration Form, together with payment of a £100 registration fee, which is non-refundable.

Assessment

Our admission procedure has three elements -

1. An entry assessment to determine potential, learning and disposition;
2. Consideration of reference from the candidate's previous school;
3. Disability assessments (if applicable).

Assessments for entry will take place in the academic year preceding the child's year of entry. The assessment seeks to determine a child's potential, current level of ability and attitude to learning.

References

In line with the Data Protection Act 2018, the candidate's current school will be asked to write a reference or provide a recent report to give an indication of the candidate's academic ability, attitude and behaviour and any other circumstances such as special educational needs or disability. We may also send references to destination schools or educational establishments as part of the exit process.

Disclosures

Parents must disclose any particular known or suspected circumstances relating to their child's health, allergies, disabilities or learning difficulties as soon as possible.

Following an assessment, parents will be informed in writing of one of three possible outcomes:

The offer of a place.

The offer of a place on the reserve list for entry.

Notification that the application has been unsuccessful.

Deposit

In order to secure a place which has been offered a deposit of half a term's fees is payable within two weeks of the date of the offer letter. This deposit is retained until the pupil leaves the school and will be applied as a credit to the final term's fee invoice. In April, preceding the child's entry, a full term's fees in advance will be payable for the Christmas Term.

Bursaries

The school has a limited number of bursaries available. Applications should be submitted to the Head and will be processed in discussion with the Alpha Plus Group Head Office.

Data Protection

The school complies with the GDPR Regulations 2018. For further information please refer to our Privacy Statement.