

## **DETERMINED ADMISSIONS POLICY**



***Becoming  
reflective, independent and aspirational learners for life***

### **Confirmation of ratification by Governing Body:**

**Governor: Mrs C Atherton**

**Date: December 2018**

**Headteacher: Miss S Cale**

**Date: September 2020**

**Review date: January 2021**

## ADMISSIONS POLICY 2020 - 2021

The Education Act of 1980 confirms the right of parents to express a preference regarding the school at which they wish their child to be educated; but, as a Voluntary Aided School, the Governors of Amberley Parochial School have set the Indicated Admission Number at 15 and a maximum number of 30 pupils in each key stage 1 class.

This policy and criteria should be read in conjunction with the Guide for Parents and Carers sent to you by the County Council and the online application form at [www.goucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/schooladmissions).

If you have not received a letter about starting school by the end of November 2019, please contact the Admissions and Transport team, Shire Hall, Gloucester GL1 2TP.

### ADMISSIONS CRITERIA

#### Admission of Summer Born Children for Reception Entry for Amberley Parochial school

The Governing Body of Amberley Parochial school acknowledges the updated advice from the Department of Education that, parents/carers of “summer born” children (born between 1 April and 31 August) may request to start the Reception Class of a school a whole academic year later. The Governing Body will make a decision on behalf of Amberley Parochial School. We follow the Local Authority process which states that parents can only apply for a Reception place at a school once and must apply for a place during the standard application process timeline for their chronological year group, stating their reasons for requesting deferred entry to the following year. The Governing Body will decide whether the deferred entry can be approved for the school.

#### Normal Admission Round

The term ‘normal admissions round’ refers to all applications for admission to the main year of entry of the school i.e. Reception for Infant and Primary Schools. Applications made during the normal admissions round will be made in advance of the academic year in which the child is due to start at the new school. Children are entitled to a full-time place, however, may attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

#### Admissions Priority

In considering admissions all preferences are given equal consideration and the following criteria are taken into account in this priority order:

1. Children in Public Care (Looked After Children).

Looked After Children/previously Looked After Children.

*Definition - A ‘looked after child’<sup>(1)</sup> or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption<sup>(2)</sup>, child arrangements order (residency order)<sup>(3)</sup> or special guardianship order<sup>(4)</sup>.*

<sup>(1)</sup> 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. In Gloucestershire, such children are referred to as Children in Care.*

- (2) This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).*
  - (3) Under the provisions of s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014, which amend section 8 of the Children Act 1989, residence orders have now been replaced by child arrangements orders.*
  - (4) See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).*
2. Children who have siblings attending the school and who will continue to do so when the younger child is admitted. *For this purpose, sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address.*
  3. Children living in the Ecclesiastical Parish of Holy Trinity Church Amberley. A map showing the parish boundary is available for viewing in the school office.
  4. Children of parents who are regular members of Amberley Church congregation. We define regular members as parents who attend Holy Trinity Church, Amberley at least once a month for twelve months to be verified to the governors in writing by members of Amberley Church Council.
  5. Children for whom only one particular school is appropriate due to an exceptional medical condition. Applications under this criterion will only be considered if they are supported by a written statement from the child's doctor which must demonstrate that there is a very specific connection between the medical need and the facilities or resources of the school.
  6. Children with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey Address Point of the School to the Ordnance Survey Address Point of the applicant's home using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority.

Where any particular category at points 1-5 is oversubscribed, criterion 6 (strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance) will be used to determine which child will be offered a place.

In the event of a tie between two or more children when applying criterion 6 (strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance) where there are not enough places available to offer all children a place at the school, a process of random allocation will be followed by the Governing Body.

In the event of a child being refused a place there is a right of appeal to an independent appeal process. Governors will inform parents of the reasons for refusing a place by letter and details of the appeals procedure will be included with this. Parents are then required to write a Notice of Appeal to the Local Authority which will be heard by an independent panel after which a decision will be made. Further details on the appeals process are available from the School Office.

Any applications for applications made outside the normal year of entry must be made directly to the school in the first instance.

In the event of the school being oversubscribed a Waiting List will be held for the first term, i.e. until the December break. The Waiting List will be prioritised

according to the school's oversubscription criteria. The school has signed up to the In-Year Fair Access Protocols and Equality Impact Assessments held by the Local Authority. Should a vulnerable child within these Protocols require a place at the school, they will take precedence over any child on the Waiting List.

The school is required to admit a child with a statement of Special Educational Needs Educational Health Care Plan EHC (Educational Health Care Plan) that names the school, even if the school is full.