

Cam Hopton Church of England Primary School



Life in all its fullness

Admissions Policy 2026/2027

If you wish your child to be admitted to Cam Hopton Church of England Primary School, you are invited to place your child's name on the School's admission list. Please note that the date of registration of your child's name on the school's admission list confers no priority.

The School's annual admissions number is 30. The number of intended admissions for the year commencing 1st September 2026 is 30.

If there are more applications than places, the Governors have agreed the following order of priority for admission:

The 2021 School Admissions Code (the Code) requires 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 to be given equal first priority in admission arrangements, alongside looked after children (LAC) and children who were previously looked after by English local authorities (PLAC). This advice refers to these children as internationally adopted previously looked after children – "IAPLAC".

The draft Code and associated regulations were laid before Parliament on 13 May 2021. The Code is laid in Parliament for a 40-day period during which both the House of Commons and the House of Lords have the opportunity to review the Code and any Member can pass a motion to not approve it. This 40-day period is expected to expire on 1 July, and provided there is no such motion, the new Code will come into force on 1 September 2021.

1. A 'looked after child' (1) or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption (2) child care arrangements order (residency order) (3) or special guardianship order (4) including those 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 (5).

(1) 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's 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).

(5) A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

2. Children who have a sibling attending the school and who will continue to do so when the younger child is admitted.

(Definition of sibling: a brother or sister, half-brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent's/carer's partner, and in every case, the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address)

3. Children who have at least one parent/carer who over at least two years prior to **the deadline date for returning the Common Application Form (15th January)** has been committed to the worshipping life of either **St George's Church, Upper Cam** or **St Bartholomew's Church, Lower Cam** ie has attended the principle act of worship on a Sunday at least once a month on average during the two years prior to consideration of the application. In the event that the parents/carers have attended either of the above churches for less than 2 years because they have recently moved to the area they should also submit a reference from their Parish Priest. The school may endeavour to contact the Parish Priest and obtain confirmation of attendance.

Variation to Priority 3:

"In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship".

4. Children with staff at the school.

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.

5. Children with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance Survey Address Point of the child's home address (including flats) to the ordnance survey point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

Tie-Break

Where any particular category at points 1-4 above is over-subscribed, Criterion 5 (strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance) will be used to determine which child is offered a place.

In the event of a tie between two or more children when applying Criterion 5 (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 Local Authority.

Additional Notes

Under coordinated admission arrangements, the places will be offered by the Local Education Authority on behalf of the Governors.

Appeals Procedure:

If the Governors are unable to offer your child a place because of over subscription you as a parent have a right of appeal.

If you wish to exercise this right, appeal forms are available from the School, and must be returned to the School by the last working day in May.

You should notify the Clerk to the Governors of Cam Hopton CE Church of England Primary School within 20 school days of receiving the letter which will give the grounds for refusing a place.

As a parent you will have an opportunity to submit your case to an independent appeals panel. You must set out your grounds for the appeal in writing. You will normally receive at least 10 school days' notice of the time and venue for the appeal hearing where you will be able to present your case in person. Decision letters will be sent within 5 school days of the hearing wherever possible.

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The School may be required to admit a child with an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) that names the school, even if the school is full, providing the school is the most appropriate place for that child.

Waiting Lists

If the school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be held for (at least) the first school term (i.e. until end of December). The waiting list will be prioritised according to the school's admission criteria as listed in points 1-5 above and applied at the time a space becomes available.

The School has signed up to the In-Year Fair Access Protocols 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 (Para 3.21 of new code).

Admission of Summer Born Children for Reception Entry for Cam Hopton Church of England Primary School

The Governing Body of Cam Hopton Church of England Primary 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 Cam Hopton Church of England Primary School. We follow the Local Authority process which states that parents/carers 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 who 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.

In-Year Admissions

Any applications for admission to the school made outside the normal year of entry must be made directly to Cam Hopton Church of England Primary School.

Transport

We regret there is no School transport available.