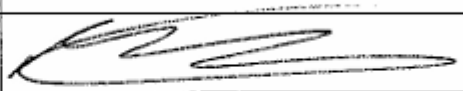
Miserden C of E Primary School

Together we thrive

Admissions Arrangements 2027-2028

This policy was adopted at the meeting of	FGB
Held on	22nd September 2026
Approved on behalf of the governors	Mark Taylor
Signature	
Review cycle	Annually

Introduction
"Together we thrive"
A rich learning environment where individuals are valued and flourish.

Our vision is for a caring and supportive school where every individual feels valued and our children flourish. We gather together and celebrate people from scattered neighbourhoods and with a great variety of interests, needs and gifts to create a strong school community. Our rich curriculum combines our fine local environment with an outward looking, worldwide focus, designed to prepare each child for their unique role in the world in years to come.

This vision is based on 1 Corinthians 12:4-26 where Paul explains how God has given each of us unique but equally valued gifts and abilities which, when brought together enable a community to perform at its best. This is just like our own body with many different parts that come together to help us function well. This is summed up in 1 Corinthians 12:14 where Paul says "The body is not made up of one part but of many".

Likewise at Miserden the members of the school community are many and varied. We value and respect everyone and all that you bring. Working together and supporting each other, we make it possible for our children to receive the very best education.

Admissions
The Governors, who are responsible for admissions to the school, welcome applications from all members of the community without reference to ability or aptitude, and irrespective of whether they are of the Christian faith, another faith or no faith. However, we expect parents to respect the Christian ethos of our school.

We would like to admit all pupils whose parent's request places for their children at the school no matter which year group they require a place for. However, this policy sets out a number of criteria and statutory requirements that inform governors' decisions.

Criteria for admissions
The planned admission number is 10 children per year group. Traditionally the school has served the communities of Miserden, Whiteway, Camp, Sudgrove, Edgeworth, Winstone, Caudle Green, Syde and the Duntisbourne Valley but we also welcome children from the wider area.

In the event that there are more applications than there are places available, the school will admit pupils according to the following criteria, which are listed below in order of priority. Please note that all received preferences for this school will be given equal consideration.

1. **Looked after children/previously looked after children**: There are five categories of 'looked after child'.

    a. 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.

b. A child who was adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and a child who was adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders).
c. A child under the provisions of s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014.
d. A child under the provisions of 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).
e. A child who 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. **Siblings**: Children who have siblings attending the school when the younger child is admitted. NB. We define siblings as brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, stepbrother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner as well as children who are brought together as a family by a same sex civil partnership. In every case, the child must be living in the same family unit at the same address, at the time of application. Where a child lives with both parents on a 50/50 (equal) basis, both parents must agree and confirm the pupil's address, which must be the same address as the preference school has registered for the sibling connection to apply. The parents' agreement and application must be made before the closing dates in order for the sibling connection to apply.

3. **Medical reasons**: Children who have an authenticated medical reason for attending Miserden School. The governors require evidence from a doctor that demonstrates a very specific connection between the medical needs of the child and the facilities or resources of this school.

4. **Distance**: Children with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a straight line from the ordnance survey address point of the child's permanent 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.

Tiebreaker: Places are offered on the basis of those living closest to the school's front gate measured by the shortest route using roads maintained by the highway's authorities. Where a tie remains, lots will be drawn and overseen by a representative from the diocesan education team.

Children with special needs and children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP)
The school successfully includes children with specific physical, emotional and learning requirements. A wide range of professional advisory and support staff are available through the local education authority. Governors will support the admission of children having special needs where it is considered that, with the support of the local education authority, those needs can be met. Parents who suspect that their children may have special educational needs are asked to contact the head teacher in the first instance.

Children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are placed in schools through the arrangements set out in the SEN Code of Practice and not through any admissions criteria. Governing bodies are required by Section 324 of the Education Act 1996 to admit a child with

an EHCP that names the school, even if the school is full. Parents of children with an EHCP should contact their child's casework officer for any further information.

Age of admission and requests for places
In Gloucestershire children usually begin school at the start of the autumn term prior to their fifth birthday. All admissions for reception are co-ordinated by Gloucestershire local authority. Parents need to complete the form available at the following web page: https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions/

In year school applications
Parents who would like their child to join the school in Reception to year 6 are welcome to contact the school and request places for their children at any time. We will encourage parents and children to look around the school in the first instance.

Deferment for Summer Born Children
(For Summer born children whose parents wish for them to be educated out of their normal age group – starting school the September after their 5th birthday).

The governing body of Miserden 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 Miserden Church of England Primary 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.

Fair Access Protocols
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 precedent over any child on the waiting list. All fair access protocols are highlighted within the Gloucestershire co-ordinated schemes for reception and in year admissions. Full details of all of these protocols can be found at www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-admissions-scheme-criteria-and-protocol/school-admission-protocols/

Making an appeal
If the governors are unable to offer your child a place due to oversubscription, you have a right to appeal. You should notify the clerk to governors clerk@miserden.gloucs.sch.uk within 20-days of receiving the letter refusing your child a place. As a parent, you will have the opportunity to submit your case to an independent appeals panel. You must set your grounds for the appeal in writing. You will normally receive at least 10-days' notice of the time and venue of the appeal hearing where you will be able to be present your case in person. Decision letters will be sent within 5-days of the hearing where possible.