



# ADMISSIONS POLICY 2026-2027

*'...like a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit...'*

Psalm 1/3

## Bollinbrook CE Primary School Admissions Policy 2026-2027

Recommended by	Cheshire East Council
Approved by	FGB & Cheshire East Council
Approval Date	
Version Number	1
Review Date	September 2024
Legal Status	Statutory

### CHANGE RECORD FORM

Version	Date of change	Date of release	Changed by	Reason for change
				Routine consultation 7 years

## Mission Statement

*... 'a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields it fruit...' Psalm 1v3*

*At Bollinbrook CE Primary the Christian value of 'Love' is at the heart of who we are as a community. We teach our children to be rooted in Jesus Christ so they develop a love of learning that supports their academic, emotional and spiritual growth. If rooted in Christ, children can grow into who they were created to be. Based on Psalm 1v3, 'like a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit...' We are helping our children grow spiritually, emotionally and academically laying firm roots that will provide strong foundations and bear fruit that will help them on the next stage of their educational journey.*

### **DIOCESE OF CHESTER**

#### **BOLLINBROOK CHURCH OF ENGLAND AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY 2026-2027**

This Policy has been written following guidelines from the School Admissions Code 2021.

Parents should be aware before applying that in this school RE, collective worship and our whole ethos are based on the teachings of the Church of England.

Applications for admission to the school should be made on the common application form enclosed with the Local Authority's brochure and also on the School's supplementary form for those applying under criteria 2 and 4 between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2027. The national closing date for primary applications is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2027.

Emails/letters informing parents of whether or not their child has been allocated a place will be sent out by the Local Authority on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2027. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place by the Authority.

The following is a link to the Cheshire East website where all admission arrangements, including key dates, can be viewed

<http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admissions.aspx>

The number of places available for admission to the Reception class in the year 2026-27 will be a maximum of 30. This arrangement follows consultation between the Governing Board, the Diocesan Board of Education, Local Authorities and other admissions authorities in the area. The Governing Board will not place any restrictions on admissions to the reception class unless the number of children for whom admission is sought exceeds this number. By law, no infant class may contain more than 30 children.

The Governing Board operates a system of equal preferences under which they consider all preferences equally and the Local Authority allocates places according to its policy. In the event that there are more applicants than places, the Governing Board will allocate places using the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

1. 'Looked After' and Children who were 'Previously Looked After'
  - A 'looked after child' is a child who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that local authority (as defined in section 22 of the Children Act 1989).
  - Children previously 'looked after' are children who were 'cared for' as defined above, but immediately after being 'looked after' became subject to an adoption, child arrangements order (formerly residence order), or special guardianship order. A child arrangements order is as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989 amended by Children and Families Act 2014. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians). This includes children who appear to (in the view of the Governing Board) have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted."
2. Children for whom there are exceptional medical/personal/domestic circumstances
3. Children with brothers and sisters (siblings) in school and who will still be attending the school at the time of admission
4. Children whose parents are regular worshippers at the supporting church, St Michael and All Angels', Macclesfield.
5. Children living nearest to the school measured using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) which measures straight line distances in miles from the school's coordinate point to the residences coordinate point.

## Notes

- (a) Siblings include step, half, foster, adopted brothers and sisters living at the same address and full brother and sister living apart.
- (b) By 'regular worshippers' we mean attendance at a minimum of one service per month for at least six months prior to the closing date for applications. The supplementary form must be completed and signed by a minister from St Michael's to confirm this.

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship St Michael's 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
- (c) Professional supporting evidence (e.g. from a social worker, health visitor, etc.) will be required in order to define 'exceptional personal/domestic circumstances' and why this school is the most appropriate school.
- (d) Where the above criteria are not adequate to distinguish between requests for admission which cannot all be accepted without exceeding the admission limit, priority will be decided on the basis of pupils living nearest to the school measured using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) which measures straight line distances in miles from the school's coordinate point to the residences coordinate point. In the event of a tie-break a paper draw will be undertaken by an independent body.
- (e) A parent is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child. Where admission arrangements refer to 'parent's attendance at church' it is sufficient for just one parent to attend.

Please indicate which of the above criteria are being used to support your application.

## Children with Education Health and Care Plan

Section 324 of the Education Act 1996 requires the governing bodies of all maintained schools to admit a child with an Education Health and Care Plan that names their school.

## Admissions information

Last year the school was able to admit all pupils whose parents applied.

## Waiting list

Where there are more applicants than places, the admissions criteria will be used. Children who are not admitted will have their name put on a waiting list. The names on this waiting list will be in the order resulting from the application of the admissions criteria. Since the date of application cannot be a criterion for the order of names on the waiting list, late applicants for the school will be slotted into the order according to the extent to which they meet the criteria. Thus, it is possible that a child who moves into the area later to have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list for some time. If a place becomes available within the admission number, the child whose name is at the top of the list will be offered a place. This is not dependent on whether an appeal has been submitted. The waiting list will operate until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2026.

## Repeat Applications

Repeat applications will not be considered unless the circumstances for the School or the applicant have changed significantly since the original application was made.

## Late applications for admission

Where there are extenuating circumstances for an application being received after the last date for applications, and it is before the governors have established their list of pupils to be admitted, then it will be considered alongside all the others. Reasons can include exceptional medical reasons preventing an earlier application or late removal into the area. Reasons must be presented at the time of application and supporting documentation **must** be provided, which must be received by the dates specified in part two.

Otherwise, applications which are received after the last date stated in this policy will be considered after all the others, and placed on the waiting list in order according to the criteria unless the Local Authority confirms that the reasons presented in support of the late submission justify the application being considered alongside on-time applications. Late applications received after the published deadline for the receipt of supporting information will be processed after all on-time applications even if there is a good reason for the late submission.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON MAKING A LATE APPLICATION PLEASE SEE THE 'COORDINATED SCHEME' AT**

**[HTTP://WWW.CHESHIREEAST.GOV.UK/SCHOOLS/ADMISSIONS/ADMISSION\\_ARRANGEMENTS/ADMISSION\\_ARRANGEMENTS.ASPX](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/admissions/admission_arrangements/admission_arrangements.aspx)**

### **Tie Breaker**

In the event of an oversubscription and in the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, all the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out by someone independent of the school.

### **Address of pupil**

The address used on the school's admission form must be the current one at the time of application. If the address changes subsequently, the parents should notify the school. Where the parents live at different addresses, the current-at-the-time-of-application, normal address of the child will be the one used. This will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of Monday to Friday mornings. Parents may be asked to show evidence of the claim that is being made for the address, e.g. a current utility bill showing the applicant's address as the one claimed. Where there is dispute about the correct address to use, the governors reserve the right to make enquiries of any relevant third parties, e.g. the child's GP. For children of UK Service personnel and other Crown Servants returning to the area proof of the posting is all that is required.

### **Non-routine admissions**

It sometimes happens that a child needs to change school other than at the "normal" time; such admissions are known as non-routine admissions. Parents wishing their child to attend this school can arrange to visit the school.

Please note that you cannot re-apply for a place at a school within the same school year unless there has been relevant, significant and material change in the family circumstances.

All 'in year' applications, i.e. those applications made during the academic year and for admission to age groups other than the *normal* year of entry\* for places at Bollinbrook school should be made using the online application form supplied by Cheshire East LA. Additional information may be provided using the supplementary form available on the school website or from the school office. If there are places available then admission will be arranged as soon as possible. If there are more applicants than places available then the admissions criteria will be used to rank the applications. If there are no places available then parents will be advised of their right of appeal. Once an offer has been made parents will be required to complete a registration form.

Parents applying for places at this school for the normal year of entry\* must also complete as part of their application the Governing Board's **supplementary information form**, which is available on request from the local authority or from the school. Copies can also be obtained on the authority's website.

\*The normal year of entry for admission in September is year 7 as a secondary transfer, reception entry to a primary or infant school, and transfer into a year 3 class in a junior school.

Where a place is offered at the school:

- a) The child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday;
- b) The child's parents can defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age
- c) Where the parents wish, children may attend part time until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age.

## Children educated outside their normal age group

Parents who wish to delay entry until the following year due to specific circumstances, such as ill health, specific circumstances which mean they are not ready to start school or summer born children (those between 1st April and 31st August), must speak to the school and Local Authority as soon as possible as this would involve either an in-year application for year 1 or a new application for reception in the following year. The decision as to which year group the child will enter will be made taking into account information from the parents and headteacher and should be in the best interests of the child. Information that parents could include in their request may include details of medical conditions or reports from professionals to support their request.

Parents of summer born children should be aware that agreement by the school to allow a child to enter reception in the following year does **not** guarantee a place in the class. Parents must apply to the school in the normal co-ordinated round and the application will be considered in the normal manner following the oversubscription criteria. Parents may also choose to apply in-year for admittance to year 1 and the child's normal age group.

Parents whose children have been educated outside of their normal age group because of being a summer born child will need to apply once again for an outside normal year group place alongside an application for a school place and should do so when their child's 'correct' cohort are making applications for a school place. This means that for a summer born child who started in reception a year later than is usual, parents will need to apply for a secondary school place and for an out of year group place when the child is in year 5 rather than year 6.

These requests will be considered based on the best interests of the child and will take into account the fact the child has been educated in a different year group up until this point.

For many children, it will be right for them to remain with their adopted year group but it is possible that others may be better off joining their normal year group. All decisions will be made taking the circumstances of the case into account and considering all of the child's needs, including their social and emotional needs.

Unless there are sound educational reasons to do otherwise, the assumption would be that children remain outside their normal year group (that is, in the year which they have been educated so far).

Similarly, if the parents of a gifted and talented child wish to apply for a place outside of their child's normal age group they should speak to the school and the Local Authority. Any application will be considered to ensure any decision is in the best interests of the child and parents informed of the outcome.

## Appeals

Where the governors are unable to offer a place because the school is oversubscribed,

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parents have the right to appeal to an independent admission appeal panel, set up under the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, as amended by the Education Act, 2002.

**Parents should notify the Governing Board of their wish to appeal within 20 days of receiving the letter refusing a place.** Parents will have the opportunity to submit their case to the panel in writing and also to attend in order to present their case. You will normally receive 14 days' notice of the place and time of the hearing. Decision letters will be sent out within 5 school days of the hearing wherever possible. If your child was refused a place in Reception or Key Stage 1 because of Government limits on Infant class sizes, the grounds on which your appeal could be successful are limited. You would have to show that the decision was one which in the circumstances no reasonable Governing Board would have made, or that your child would have been offered a place if the governors' admissions arrangements had been properly implemented.

Please note that this right of appeal against the governors' decision does not prevent you from making an appeal in respect of any other school.

## **Fraudulent applications**

Where the Governing Board discovers that a child has been awarded a place as the result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent which effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim, then the Governing Board is required to withdraw the offer of the place. The application will be considered afresh and a right of appeal offered if a place is refused.

## **Twins/Multiple Births**

Where there are children of multiple births wishing to be admitted and the sibling is the 30th child, the governors may admit over the infant class requirement if it is possible to do so.

## **Fair Access Protocol**

The School participates in Cheshire East Local Authority Fair Access protocol.



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**Bollinbrook CofE (Voluntary Aided) Primary School  
Supplementary Information Form**

**1. Details of Child**

First Names .....

Surname .....

Date of Birth .....

Home Address .....

.....Postcode.....

**2. Parent Information**

Names of parent(s) .....

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.....

Phone no ..... Email .....

**3. Place of Worship**

Where regular worship at St Michael & All Angels' Church is used as a criterion (Criterion 4) this form should also be signed (& name printed) by a member of the Clergy from St Michael's below.

I confirm that at least one of the parents of the above child has attended worship at St Michael's at least once per month for the last six months.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

