

# Great Budworth CE Primary School

## Admissions Policy

Great Budworth is a Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School and therefore RE, collective worship and our whole ethos are based on the teachings of the Church of England.

### **Making an application**

Applications for admission to the school should be made on the common application form enclosed with the Local Authority's brochure. Applications may also be made electronically.

In order for the governors to consider applications under faith criteria it is necessary for parents to also complete the school's supplementary information form for criteria numbers 5 and 6. The common application form and supplementary information form should be completed and returned by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Applications may also be made on-line by using both the common application form and the supplementary information form (available from the LA/school website). It is not normally possible to change the order of your preferences for schools after the closing date. Whether application is made on paper or electronically, the common application form must be completed and the supplementary information form should be completed if the applicant wishes faith criteria to apply.

Letters informing parents of whether or not their child has been allocated a place will be sent out by the Local Authority on the 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021, or the first working day following 16<sup>th</sup> April. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place by the Authority.

### **Admission procedures**

The number of places available for admission to the Reception class will be a maximum of 12. This arrangement follows consultation between the governing body, the Diocesan Board of Education, Local Authorities and other admissions authorities in the area. The governing body 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 thirty children.

The Governing Body operates a system of equal preferences under which they consider all preferences equally and the Local Authority allocates places according to its policy. All children having a statement of special educational needs in whose statement the school is named will be admitted. In the event that there are more applicants than places remaining, the governing body will allocate these places using the following criteria, which are listed in order of priority:

1. Looked after children and children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship) (see note a).

2. Children with special medical or social circumstances affecting the child where these needs can only be met at this school (see note b).
3. Children who have a sibling in school who will still be attending school the following year or who have attended the school in the 3 years prior to admission (see note c).
4. Children resident in the ecclesiastical parish of St Mary's and All Saints, Great Budworth. A map showing the parish boundary is available from the school and on the school website.
5. Children whose parent/s are regular worshippers in a Christian church, that is, a church that is a member of the Churches Together in Britain and Ireland (see note d and e).
6. Children who live nearest to the school. Distances are measured using Ordnance Survey mapping in conjunction with Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) to identify each property and each school. A straight line measurement in miles is taken from the place of residence to the preferred school to calculate the distance.

### **Notes**

- a) A looked after child is a child who is a) in the care of the Local Authority, or b) being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority in the exercise of their social services functions (under section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). A previously looked after child is one who immediately moved on from that status after becoming subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order.
- b) Professional supporting evidence from e.g. a doctor, psychologist, social worker, is essential if admission is to be made under the criterion for special medical or social circumstances, and such evidence must set out the particular reasons why the school in question is the most suitable school and the difficulties which would be caused if the child had to attend another school.
- c) 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 should be living in the same family unit at the same address.
- d) 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.
- e) By "regular" we mean attendance at a minimum of two services per month for at least six months prior to the closing date for applications.

### **Admissions information:**

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

### **Late applications for admission**

Where the Local Authority accepts that 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.

Otherwise, applications which are received after the last date will be considered after all the others, and placed on the waiting list in order according to the criteria.

### **Waiting list**

Where we have more applications than places, the admissions criteria will be used. Children who are not admitted will have their name placed 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.

This waiting list will operate until the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021.

### **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. utility bills of various sorts showing the child'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.

### **In Year Admissions**

It sometimes happens that a child needs to change school other than at the "normal" time; such admissions are known as In Year Admissions. From 2013 onwards parents wishing their child to attend this school may arrange to visit the school. They will be asked to complete an application form and Supplementary information form and will be offered a place by the governors if one is available. The LA will be informed of the offer of a place once it has been accepted. If there is no place available in our school then the admissions committee will inform the applicant in writing, together with the LA and information about how to appeal against the refusal will be provided. Where more than one application is received the oversubscription criteria will be used to rank the applications.

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.

## **Appeals**

Where the governors are unable to offer a place because the school is over subscribed, parents have the right to appeal to an independent admission appeal panel, set up under the Admission Appeals Code 2012 established under the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, as amended by the Education Act, 2002. Parents should fill in an appeals form and return it to The Clerk to the Governors, Great Budworth CE Primary School, School Lane, Great Budworth, Cheshire, CW9 6HQ within 20 days of being notified of the decision. 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.

If your child was refused a place in Reception 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 body 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 body discovers that a child has been awarded a place as the result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent (for example a false claim to residence in the catchment area or of involvement in a place of worship) which effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim, then the governing body 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.

## **Deferred admission**

Children are eligible for a reception place from the beginning of the school year in which they become 5 years old. However they do not become of compulsory school age until the start of the term after their fifth birthday. After a place has been allocated and accepted parents can request that the school place be deferred until later in the school year and if they do this the place will be held for the child. They cannot however defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the school year for which the original application was accepted. Parents can also request that their child attends on a part time basis until the child reaches compulsory school age.

## **Children from multiple births**

Where twins, triplets etc. apply then the governing body will exercise as much flexibility as possible when allocations take place. Where an Infant Class Size of 30 would be breached by the admission of the additional child or children the governors may admit above the limit if it is possible to do so in the current organisation of the school.

## **Armed Services Personnel**

Where Infant Class Size of 30 would be breached by the admission of the child or children of armed services personnel the governors may admit above the limit if it is possible to do so in the current organisation of the school.

Signed:..... Chair of Governors

Signed:..... Headteacher

Date:.....

Review Date:.....

Reported to Governors: