

St Thomas' Church of England Junior and Infant School

Admission Criteria 2020-21

The admission number for 2020-21 is 30.

Where the school receives more applications than places available, the following oversubscription criteria will be applied once places have first been allocated to pupils who have a statement of special educational need or education, health and care plan which names the school:

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children.
Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order). Applications for previously looked after children must be supported with appropriate evidence i.e. a copy of the adoption order, residence order or special guardianship order.'
2. Children who appear to the Local Authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care because they were adopted. Applications for previously looked after children must be supported with appropriate evidence i.e. a copy of the adoption order, residence order or special guardianship order
3. Children who are baptised and whose parents/carers are involved in the life and worship of St. Thomas' Church, Golborne and attend at least once a month for the twelve months prior to the closing date for applications. A letter from the appropriate clergy must accompany the application.
4. Brothers or sisters of children who will be attending the school at the time of admission. Brother or sister includes full, half, foster and adopted brothers or sisters living at the same address as part of the same family unit and full brothers and sisters living apart.
5. Children whose parents/carers are involved in the life and worship of another Christian church which is a member of Churches Together in England. A letter of support will be required from the church.
6. Children who have been baptised or dedicated.
7. Children with proven Special Educational Needs, medical or social needs who would benefit from a place at St. Thomas'. A supporting letter from a doctor, Social Services, member of the clergy or another profession with knowledge of the family and the needs of the child must accompany the

completed application form. The letter should explain why admission to St. Thomas' is necessary for the child's well-being.

8. Children living closest to the school.

Tie-breaker

Where there are more children in one particular criterion than the number of places available, places will be allocated to the children who live nearest to the school. The distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home to the main entrance to the junior block (double doors from the playground) using the Local Authority Geographical Information System (GIS), which is based on ordnance survey.

If we offer the last place available at a school to one of twins (or triplets, or so on), our policy is to admit the other twin or triplets too.

Occasionally, the distance from home to school is the same for more than one child (for example, if more than one child lives in the same block of flats). In these cases we will use a system to randomly pick who will be offered a place. When considering your child's application, we will use the permanent home address we have for you at the closing date for applications. If parents are separated and the child spends time at each parent's address, the address we use for admission to school is that of the main carer. We use the address of the parents who receives the Child Benefit for this.

Late applications

Late applications (those received after the closing date) will only be considered after those received by the closing date. The only exception to this is applications for looked after children that are received by 15 February will be included with on time applications.

Waiting List

If there are more applications than places, the admissions criteria will be used. A child who is not admitted will have his/her name placed on a waiting list. The names on the waiting list will be in order according to the admissions criteria. As the date of the application cannot be a criterion for the order of names on the waiting list, late applications will be slotted into the order according to the extent to which they meet the criteria. As a result, it is possible that a child who moves into the area later will have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list. 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 the end of the autumn term.

Please note that a child with a statement of Special Educational Needs which names St. Thomas' as the required school for admission will be given priority before the admission criteria are applied.

Child's Home Address

You must give the correct permanent home address. This is where the child and any parent, or the person who has care of the child or parental responsibility, normally live.

If you are separated and your child spends time at each parent's address, the address we use for admission to school is that of the main carer. We use the address of the parent who gets the Child Benefit for this.

Deferred Entry

Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to the school is deferred until later in the school year or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that school year. Where entry is deferred, the place will be held open and not offered to another child. Parents cannot defer entry beyond the beginning of term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the academic year for which the original application was accepted.

Part-time Attendance

Parents can request that their child attends part-time until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, to a higher year group if the child is gifted and talented or to a lower year group if the child has experienced problems such as ill health.

The parents of a summer born child (born between 1 April and 30 August) may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted out of their normal age group – to reception rather than year 1.