

Admissions Policy

As a Christian school, we value each child as special and unique in the sight of God, and, through the love, challenge and opportunities we offer, seek to enable them to develop as confident, caring and successful young people within our 'Safe Haven'.

1 Introduction

The governing body of Shalfleet C.E. Primary School applies the regulations on admissions fairly and equally to all those who wish to attend this school. The School Standards and Framework Act 1998 introduced a new framework for school admissions as of September 2000. This policy conforms to the regulations that are set out in that Act and also further explained in the statutory School Admissions Code of Practice and the statutory Appeals Code of Practice.

1 Aims and objectives

- We are an inclusive school that welcomes children from all backgrounds and abilities.
- The only restriction placed on entry by the LA is that of number. It is our wish to allow parents the right to have a place at this school, however this is not always possible, due to the excess demand on the places available. Applications are made directly to the LA.
- The level of ability of a child or any special needs that s/he may have plays no part in the admissions policy of this school.
- The school has a Christian foundation, but factors such as church attendance play no part in the admissions process.

2 How parents can apply for their child to be admitted to our school

- As our school is a Voluntary Controlled school, the school determines the admission arrangements in agreement with the LA. The LA is therefore the 'Admissions Authority' for our school. The regulations for entry to each school, where the Admissions Authority is the LA, are published each year by the LA. Parents can receive a copy of these regulations directly from the LA.
- The LA publishes a composite admissions prospectus each year, which gives information about how parents can apply for a place in the school of their choice. Parents have a right to express a preference for the school of their choice and they should do so on the application form. Expressing a preference does not, in itself, guarantee a place at this school. Application forms can be obtained from the Education Department of the LA and should be completed by the date stipulated on the forms and returned to the LA [This is normally 30th November for admission the following September]. The LA notifies parents about the school place as soon as all the applications have been considered. For

admissions during the school year, parents seeking a school place should contact School Admissions at County Hall.

- In this area, children enter school in the academic year they become five. There is one admissions date per year, early in September (i.e. at the start of the school year). Therefore parents who would like their child to be admitted to this school during the year their child is five should ensure that they complete the necessary application form by the end of November of the previous year to register their child. Once registered with the school it is possible however to vary the date of actual admission according to need and in agreement with our on site Pre-School.

3 Admission appeals

- If a child is not offered a place at this school, it is because to do so would prejudice the education of other children by allowing the numbers of children in the school to increase in an uncontrolled manner.
- If parents wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by applying to the LA. An independent appeals panel then meets to consider all appeals by parents who have been refused a place at our school and who wish to appeal against this decision. An appeal panel's decision is binding for all parties concerned. If the appeal panel decides that we should admit a child to our school, then this decision will be accepted by the school and adjustments made accordingly. (Details of appeal arrangements are set out in the Code of Practice on School Admissions Appeals, which came into force in September 1999).

1 The standard number

The standard number is the number of children the school can accommodate. Our standard number is currently 24 per year group. This number is kept under review by both the Local authority and the governors who can apply to change the number if circumstances allow.

2 Review

This policy will be reviewed annually with the Admissions Authority in the light of any change in circumstances in our school or the local area.

Ratified by the Governors:

Date:

Responsibility:

Review Date: