

SAINT CECILIA'S, WANDSWORTH

A Church of England School

Admissions Policy 2009-10

Foundation places:

100 places will be offered to children who themselves or whose families are practising members of a Christian church [see Note (a)] in the following order of priority:

1. Looked After Children
2. those who attend an Anglican church within the deaneries of Battersea, Tooting and Wandsworth
3. those who attend other Anglican churches in the Diocese of Southwark
4. those who attend other Anglican churches
5. those who attend other Christian churches.

Within each of the above criteria, priority will be given in the following order to:

- (i) children with a sibling in the school on the date of admission [see Note (e)];
- (ii) children living nearest to the school measured by the shortest walking route [see Note (g)]

Open places:

50 places will be offered to children irrespective of their religious background. Priority will be given in the following order to:

- (i) Looked After Children;
- (ii) children with a sibling in the school on the date of admission, providing the sibling accepted an Open Place [see Note (e)];
- (iii) children living nearest to the school measured by the shortest walking route [see Note (g)].

Specialist music places:

10 Foundation and 5 Open places will be offered to children who demonstrate that they have the aptitude to benefit from a specialist course in music. Places will be allocated on the basis of an aptitude test carried out in November/December to include performance either as a vocalist or instrumentalist and a test of aural perception and awareness. Applicants will be placed in rank order according to their total score in the aptitude test.

Applicants will need to complete an additional application form if they wish to be considered for a specialist place. Those not offered a specialist place will automatically be considered for a place under the general admission criteria.

Notes:

- a) Attendance at a Christian church which is a full member of “Churches Together in Britain and Ireland” **at least twice a month for three years** is required to be eligible to apply for a Foundation place.
- b) A reference will be sought from the minister or religious leader at the place of worship for applicants for Foundation places.
- c) Any unfilled Foundation places will become additional Open places.
- d) All unsuccessful applicants for Foundation places will be considered for Open places. However, where the applicant does not meet the criteria for eligibility for a Foundation place but has a sibling in the school on the date of admission who accepted a Foundation place, the sibling link will be disregarded.
- e) Siblings are defined as blood relatives, step-siblings, foster and adopted children living at the same address.
- f) The school is organised under one roof with a lift providing access to the upper floors. All classrooms may be accessed without steps and there is a ramp at the entrance to the playground. The school has six toilets designed for use by pupils with disabilities, including one with shower facilities. The school will take all reasonable steps to ensure that pupils with disabilities have the same opportunities as other pupils.
- g) Distance will be measured from home to school using the shortest walking route with street lighting. Measurement will be provided by the Wandsworth Borough Council Geographical Information System, also used by other maintained schools in the borough.

Application Procedure and Timetable:

Saint Cecilia's, Wandsworth participates in the co-ordinated admission scheme of Wandsworth Borough Council, including the use of a Common Application Form (except for applicants for Foundation and Specialist Music places, for whom a supplementary form is required). The school also adheres to the common timetable for admissions, including the arrangements for dealing with applications received after the closing date as set out in Wandsworth Borough Council's scheme.

Waiting List:

Parents who are not offered a place may request to be put on the Waiting List. The Waiting List will be ordered in accordance with the published admissions policy and will be held until 31st October 2009, after which applicants will need to reapply.

Appeal Arrangements:

Applicants refused a place at the school will have the right to appeal against the decision to an independent admission appeal panel established under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.