

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Seacrest Avenue BLACKPOOL FY1 2SD

ADMISSION POLICY 2011

Holy Family is a Catholic school situated in the Diocese of Lancaster and is maintained by Blackpool Local Authority.

The Governing Body is responsible for admissions within the requirements of the law. In doing so, the Governing Body has a regard for:

- (a) the advice of the Diocesan Trustees on the nature and purpose of Catholic schools;
- (b) the Governing Body's responsibility towards the school and the Catholic community it serves;
- (c) the Catholic character of the school and its Mission Statement.

The Governing Body has set the planned admissions number for 2011 at 30. The Local Authority and other parties required by law have been consulted on this.

No more than 30 children will be admitted to any one Reception or Infant class.

Applications for a place at the school should be made on the Authority's Common application form and returned to the Local Authority no later than Friday 14th January 2011. Parents who wish their application to this church school to be considered against the faith criteria should also complete the supplementary form and return it to the school no later than Friday 14th January 2011.

If the school is oversubscribed, a failure to complete the supplementary form may result in your application for a place in this school being considered against lower priority criteria as the governing body will have no information upon which to assess your faith criteria.

Parents or guardians will be informed of whether their child has been offered a place in writing by the Authority on 26th April 2011.

For unsuccessful applications the letter will give the reason for the decision and will tell parents of their right to appeal. Guidance on how to appeal will also be included.

Children who are admitted will normally enter the school at the start of the Autumn term.

Admissions (over-subscription) criteria

As required by law, all children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school will be admitted before the application of the oversubscription criteria.

The Governing Body will admit 30 children in September 2011. If the number of applications for admission exceeds the places available, children will be admitted in the order of priority A-G set out below.

- A Baptised Catholic looked after children living in the parish of Holy Family or Sacred Heart.
- B Baptised Catholic children living in the parish of Holy Family or Sacred Heart.
- C Other baptised Catholic children.
- D Looked after children who are not Catholic.
- E Children (or an immediate family member) with a specific medical, social or emotional need which is relevant to the school and whose application is supported in writing by an appropriate authority (eg doctor or social worker)
- F Other baptised Christian children
- G Other children

If the number of children in any of the categories A-G is greater than the places available, applications will be further ranked as follows:

- (i) children who will have a sibling* in the school at the time of admission
 - (ii) children living nearest the pre-defined centre point of the two parishes (Gynn Square roundabout) measured in a straight line from this central point on a local street map to the child's front door.
- A sibling means a full, half or step/foster brother or sister living at the same address.
 - Late Applications
Applications received after the closing date of 14th January 2011 will be treated as late applications. Only in exceptional circumstances, and where appropriate evidence is provided, will applications received after the closing date (but before offers of places have been made) be considered alongside those received on time.
 - A waiting list for children who have not been offered a place will be kept and will be ranked according to the Admissions Criteria. Parents may contact the school to ascertain child's position on the waiting list. The waiting list will cease to operate at the start of the Spring Term.

- The address used on the school admission form must be the current one at the time of application. Where the parents live at different addresses the one where the child wakes up for the majority of Monday to Friday mornings will be used. Parents may be asked to provide evidence e.g. family allowance booklet. Where there is a dispute over the current address the Governors reserve the right to make enquiries of a third party e.g. the child's General Practitioner.

In 2009 there were a total of 56 applications for a place in Reception September 2009 and the Governors of Holy Family School admitted 30 children, 18 under categories B and C, 7 under category E and 4 under category F (NB category E and F under the old admissions policy were the same as category F and G under this policy)

NB. Figures for 2010 are not yet available

Holy Family operates an equal preference policy.