



SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY

St Mary's Catholic College, Blackpool is an 11-18 voluntary aided comprehensive college

Headteacher: Mr S P Tierney B.Sc. (Hons)

Chairman of Governors: Mr B Leyland



ADMISSIONS TO ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE SIXTH FORM - SEPTEMBER 2011

EXTERNAL APPLICATIONS ADMISSIONS NUMBER: 40

St. Mary's Catholic College is a caring faith community. Our mission is to provide an outstanding whole-person education through which all are challenged to grow in wisdom, understanding, self-esteem and closeness to God.

The Governors of St. Mary's Catholic College are the Admission Authority of the college. Students already educated at St. Mary's Catholic College, during Years 7-11, will automatically be eligible for the Sixth Form so long as they meet the minimum entry requirement of five or more A*-C grades at GCSE including GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics.

Applications are welcomed from students who attended other high schools and wish to apply for a place at St. Mary's Catholic College. To be admitted to St. Mary's Catholic College, students from other schools must meet the minimum entry requirement of five or more A*-C grades at GCSE including GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics. From 2005, to 2009 all students who applied to St. Mary's and met the minimum entry requirement were offered places in the Sixth Form.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

Any student who has a Statement of Special Educational Need, which names the College will be admitted to Yr 12 provided the student also meets the minimum entry requirement of five or more A*-C grades at GCSE including GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics, and s/he will count towards the admission number.

If more external students apply to St. Mary's Catholic College than the agreed Admissions Number the following oversubscription criteria will be used.

- 1. *Catholic students in the care of the local education authority or provided with accommodation by that authority as defined in Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.**
- 2. Catholic students attending Cardinal Allen Catholic High School, Fleetwood or St. Bede's Catholic High School, Lytham.**
- 3. Catholic students attending other Blackpool high schools.**

4. **Students in the care of the local education authority or provided with accommodation by that authority as defined in Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.**
5. **People of faith attending Cardinal Allen Catholic High School, Fleetwood or St. Bede's Catholic High School, Lytham.**
6. **People of faith attending other Blackpool high schools.**
7. **All other students attending high schools.**

Where there are more students seeking admission than places available, within a stated criterion, the Governors will apply the following tiebreakers in order of priority:

1. The highest total point score for the best eight GCSEs achieved by the student including GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics (A*=8, A=7, B=6, C=5, D=4, E=3, F=2, G=1).
2. The distance between an applicant's home and school is measured as a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the home address to the main entrance of the school. The Ordnance Survey address point is a point within the boundary of the property and is usually located at its centre. Distances are measured using the Council's Geographic Information System.

* For admission to this Catholic school a baptised Catholic is

- One who has been baptised into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome (Proof of baptism with a copy of a baptismal certificate or details of the date and place of baptism may be requested).
- A child, baptised in another Christian Faith who has been received into full communion with the Roman Catholic faith. (Proof of baptism and reception from the Register of Receptions or Baptismal Register will be required)
- A child who, with his or her family, is enrolled in a recognised course of preparation leading to Catholic baptism (Proof of enrolment with details of the place and date of enrolment from the appropriate parish records will be required).
- One who is a member of the Eastern Christian Churches and the Orthodox Churches. (Proof of baptism with a copy of a baptismal certificate, details of the date and place of baptism or certificate of reception will be required).

**People of faith are defined as those who can provide proof of active membership of a Faith Community, e.g. a letter from a minister/pastor or baptismal certificate. The letter/baptismal certificate must be submitted with the application form. Alternatively, the term is defined as those making a positive choice and commitment for their child to be educated within the Mission of St. Mary's Catholic College and the values of a Christian education. Parents must provide their supporting statement on either the application form or in a separate letter submitted with the application form.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- The College welcomes interested students to the Annual Sixth Form Open Evening in the Autumn Term. Taster Days will also be arranged for students from St. Mary's Catholic College, Cardinal Allen and St. Bede's. Students from other high schools may attend taster days following receipt of an application form.
- Application forms are distributed with the Sixth Form prospectus, from the college's website (www.st-mary.blackpool.sch.uk) or from Mrs. E. Murray (Head of Sixth Form) on 01253 396286.
- Informal visits are available to external candidates and may be arranged with Mrs. E. Murray.
- Applications are welcomed up to the closing date of the 31st March 2011.
- By the 30th April 2011, conditional offers will be made to applicants subject to them meeting the minimum entry requirement and for external candidates subject to availability. If the oversubscription criteria are required, external candidates will be informed of the number of

external candidates who applied, the oversubscription category they have been placed in and the number of applicants in each category.

- Late applications will not be considered by the Governors but following receipt of GCSE results confirmation students may be admitted to the College if there are places available or placed on the waiting list.
- Following receipt of GCSE results confirmation of admittance to St. Mary's Catholic College will be given to all those students who meet the entry requirement and in the case of external applicants if there is availability.
- If applicable, a waiting list of students will be maintained until the 30th September 2011 with places offered in order of the place determined by the oversubscription criteria.