



Archdiocese of  
**Liverpool**

**Consultation on Proposed  
Changes to School Admissions  
Policies  
from September 2024**

## Background

1. The School Admissions Code 2021 requires an admission authority to consult each time it proposes to make significant changes to its admission arrangements or if it has not consulted on its admission arrangements for seven years. Where the admission arrangements have not changed from the previous year there is no requirement to consult.
2. The Archdiocese of Liverpool is co-ordinating a consultation process on behalf of the Governing Bodies that are the admission authorities of the schools listed in paragraphs 7 - 14 of this document (on page 4).
3. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, a consultation period must run for a minimum of six term time weeks and take place between 1 October and 31 January in the determination year. The process allows parents, other schools, other admission authorities, local authorities and other interested stakeholders to raise comments or concerns about the proposed arrangements. This document is particularly for the attention of parents, other admissions authorities, the local authority and other local dioceses. **This consultation will run between 5 December 2022 and 28 January 2023.** Information on how you can respond can be found from paragraph 16 below.

## Catholic Schools in the Trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Liverpool

4. It is expected that all schools within the Trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Liverpool - and those under other trusteeship that wish to do so - adopt a common admissions policy to fulfil the objectives of:
  - Ensuring that all of school Governing Bodies, as admissions authorities, are compliant with the current Admissions Code;
  - Supporting schools in admissions processes;
  - Ensuring that schools provide clear and consistent information to parents seeking a place at a Catholic school for their child, and;
  - Seeking to maximise the opportunities for Catholic siblings to access places in schools.
5. No changes are proposed to the oversubscription criteria in the common policy for admissions to schools in 2024. As such, for primary schools (including those named in paragraphs 7 - 14 of this document unless specifically stated otherwise) the proposed oversubscription criteria remain as follows:
  1. Looked after children and previously looked after children. This includes children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
  2. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
  3. Baptised Catholic children resident in the [designated parish or parishes served by the school].
  4. Other baptised Catholic children.
  5. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.

6. Children from other Christian denominations. Proof of Baptism in the form of a Baptismal Certificate or confirmation in writing that the applicant is a member of their Faith community from an appropriate Minister of Religion is required.
7. Children of other faiths. An appropriate Faith Leader would need to confirm in writing that the applicant is a member of their faith group.
8. Other children.

For secondary schools (including those named in paragraphs 7 - 14 of this document unless specifically stated otherwise) the proposed oversubscription criteria remain as follows:

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children. This includes children who appear to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Baptised Catholic children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
3. Baptised Catholic children resident in [the designated parishes served by the school].
4. Other baptised Catholic children.
5. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
6. Children attending one of the following Catholic Feeder Primary Schools in the parishes named in criterion 3 above [feeder primary schools listed].
7. Children from other Christian denominations. Proof of Baptism in the form of a Baptismal Certificate or confirmation in writing that the applicant is a member of their Faith community from an appropriate Minister of Religion is required.
8. Children of other faiths. An appropriate Faith Leader would need to confirm in writing that the applicant is a member of their faith group.
9. Other children.

For all schools, interested parties are invited to review admissions policies on school websites in case of minor school-specific variations to the common policy. Any such variations have, where appropriate, been subject to prior consultation.

### **Schools Consulting on Changes to Admissions Policy**

6. The Archdiocese of Liverpool is undertaking this statutory consultation process with all interested parties on behalf of the following schools:
  - (i) Archbishop Beck Catholic College, Long Lane, Liverpool, L9 7BF
  - (ii) Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School, Cedar Road, Liverpool, L9 9AF
  - (iii) Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School, Honeysgreen Lane, West Derby, Liverpool, L12 9HZ
  - (iv) Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Grantham Road, Birkdale, PR8 4LT
  - (v) St Basil's Catholic Primary School, Hough Green Road, Widnes, WA8 4SZ
  - (vi) St Lewis' Catholic Primary School, Mustard Lane, Croft, Warrington, WA3 7BD
  - (vii) St Vincent's Catholic Primary School, Finlay Avenue, Penketh, Warrington, WA5 2PN
  - (viii) Christ the King Catholic High School, Stamford Road, Birkdale, Southport, PR8 4EX

## Specific Proposals

7. The Governing Body of Archbishop Beck Catholic College in Liverpool wish to consult on adding the parishes of Our Lady & St Philomena, and Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin to the parish areas listed under oversubscription criterion 3, and adding Our Lady and St Philomena's Catholic Primary School and Our Lady and St Swithin's Catholic Primary School to the feeder primary schools named under oversubscription criterion 6.
8. The Governing Body of Blessed Sacrament Catholic Primary School in Liverpool wish to consult on a reduction in the school's planned admission number (PAN) from 120 to 90.
9. The Governing Body of Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School in Liverpool wish to consult on adding the parishes of St Teresa, St Matthew, and St Albert to the parish areas listed under oversubscription criterion 3, and adding St Teresa of Lisieux Catholic Primary School, St Matthew's Catholic Primary School, and St Albert's Catholic Primary School to the feeder primary schools named under oversubscription criterion 6. The school's planned admission number is proposed to increase from 210 to 240.
10. The Governing Body of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School in Sefton wish to consult on adding the parish of St Teresa to the parish areas listed under oversubscription criterion 3.
11. The Governing Body of St Basil's Catholic Primary School in Widnes wish to consult on a reduction in the school's planned admission number (PAN) from 60 to 30.
12. The Governing Body of St Lewis' Catholic Primary School in Warrington wish to consult on a reduction in the school's planned admission number (PAN) from 30 to 15.
13. The Governing Body of St Vincent's Catholic Primary School in Warrington wish to consult on a reduction in the school's planned admission number (PAN) from 30 to 15.
14. The Governing Body of Christ the King Catholic High School in Southport wish to consult on a reduction in the school's planned admission number (PAN) from 180 to 150.
15. Further information on the individual school proposals can be accessed via the following link and clicking on the school name. If you require a hard copy of the document please ask for one at the school. The document will also be made available on the school's website.

[www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/department/education/admissions-and-appeals](http://www.liverpoolcatholic.org.uk/department/education/admissions-and-appeals)

## **How to Return Your Comments**

16. This consultation is co-ordinated by the Archdiocese of Liverpool on behalf of each of the individual schools named in this document. The consultation period will run between 5 December 2022 and 28 January 2023 and you are invited to submit comments in writing about the proposal above to: The Archdiocese of Liverpool, Education Department, St Margaret Clitherow Centre, Croxteth Drive, Sefton Park, L17 1AA. Alternatively, you may wish to e-mail: [aes@rcaol.org.uk](mailto:aes@rcaol.org.uk). Comments should also be copied to the Chair of Governing Body at the school address.
  
17. Please submit any comments no later than 28 January 2023. Following the consultation period each Governing Body will then need to meet before 28 February 2023 in order to formally determine the Governing Body's admission arrangements for the academic year commencing September 2024. Any subsequent objections will need to be made to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator by 15 May 2023.