

St Dunstan's, Cheam, Church of England Primary School

NURSERY ADMISSIONS POLICY 2020/21

St Dunstan's, Cheam, Church of England Primary School has a very strong Christian ethos which is at the heart of everything that we do and provides a high quality of care and education for every member of our School Community, including all children in our Nursery. Christian values are promoted through the whole curriculum and we aim to motivate everyone to engage fully in the broad range of educational opportunities provided to develop their potential. We welcome applications from all members of the community. Many parents apply to this School and Nursery because of its strong Christian ethos and we ask all parents to support our ethos and respect its importance to our school community.

The Nursery will admit up to 26 children to each of the morning and afternoon sessions. Of these sessions the Governors intend to admit up to eight government-funded '30-hours free childcare' places. (Eligibility for the free extended 30-hours government funding can be checked on the London Borough of Sutton's website, <https://www.sutton.gov.uk/>, under Childcare Funding, or alternatively on the Department for Education's website.)

Entry to the Nursery is in the Autumn Term for those who will become four years old between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021.

Applications should be on the School's Nursery Application Form and must be received in the School Office by the 15th January 2020 for the academic year beginning in September 2020. Applications will only be accepted after 1st September 2019 and must be on the relevant Nursery Application Form, available from the School Office or from our website after 1st July 2019 (<http://www.stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk/Forms-to-download-admissions>). Late applications will be considered if there is space. Following receipt of the application forms, the Governors will review the applications and, in the event of oversubscription, will apply the following criteria and order of priority.

- (i) Looked after children or previously looked after children (see Note 1). Confirmation by a social worker from the relevant Local Authority will be required.
- (ii) Children with an exceptional and professionally-supported medical or social need for a place at St Dunstan's, Cheam C of E Primary School. At the time of application, the supporting evidence from a specialist health professional, social worker or other care professional must set out the particular reasons why this School is the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.
- (iii) Children of families who have been faithful and regular worshippers for at least two years (see Note 2) at St Dunstan's Church, Cheam, St Alban's Church, Cheam, or St Oswald's Church, Cheam, and live in the Parish of Cheam or within half a

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mile of the Parish boundary (see Note 4). Written evidence of an applicant's commitment to their place of worship will be required in the form of a clergy reference.

- (iv) Children who have a sibling (see Note 3) attending the School at the time when Governors are considering the application.
- (v) Children of permanent teaching staff who will have been employed at the School for two or more years at the time of expected admission and/or have been recruited to fill a vacant post at the School for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- (vi) Children living nearest the School as measured in a straight line from the School entrance in Anne Boleyn's Walk to their home address (see Note 5).

Note 1 A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see definition in section 22(1) of the Children's Act 1989) at the time of making an application to the School. A previously looked after child is a child who was adopted, or who became subject to a residence order (now termed child arrangement order under the Children and Families Act 2014), or special guardianship order immediately following having been looked after. The Governors will require written confirmation that the child is looked after, or previously looked after, and will be so at the time of making an application to the School.

Note 2 Faithful and regular worship means attendance by at least one parent at a main Sunday service and/or a weekday Eucharist at St Dunstan's, St Alban's or St Oswald's Churches, at least averaging twice a month for not less than two years before the closing date of 15th January 2020. This has to be confirmed by a written Parish of Cheam clergy reference.

If a family has moved into the Parish or the area bounded by half a mile from the Parish boundary (see Note 4) less than twenty four months before the closing date of 15th November 2018 and has started faithful and regular worship at St Dunstan's, St Alban's or St Oswald's Churches, then faithful and regular worship at their previous Church of England Church will count provided it is supported in writing by their former clergy. It is the parent's responsibility to obtain confirmation of faithful and regular worship from their previous Church of England Church.

Note 3 Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, step brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, foster brother or sister or the child of the parent's/carer's partner, who share the

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same home. Siblings must also have been admitted to the school prior to the current admissions round.

Note 4 Parish boundary map available on the School's website at <http://www.stdunstans.sutton.sch.uk/> ; alternatively, a copy is available from the School Office on request.

Note 5 The child's home address excludes any business, relative's or childminder's address, and must be the applicant's normal place of residence. If there is a genuine equal share custody arrangement between the two parents, the address that will be used will be the address of the parent who is claiming Child Benefit for the child.

The address to be used for the initial allocation of places to the Nursery will be the child's address at the closing date for application. The address to be used for waiting lists, after the initial allocation, will be the child's current address. Any offer of a place is conditional on the child living at the appropriate address provided by the applicant. Parents have a responsibility to notify the School of any change of address.

In the category where oversubscription occurs, priority will be given to the child living closest to the School as measured in a straight line from the child's home to the school entrance in Anne Boleyn's Walk. In the rare cases where two applicants live equidistant from the School then admission will be determined by the drawing of lots.

Letters giving the outcome of the applications will be sent out by mid February 2020.

Please note that admission to St Dunstan's, Cheam, CofE Primary School Nursery does not guarantee your child a place in the Main School.

February 2019