

**ST ANDREW'S CHURCH SCHOOL
GROVE TERRACE
TAUNTON, SOMERSET TA2 6HA**



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust
'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10



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St Andrew's Church School

School Admission Arrangements – 2017/18

Introduction

These Admission Arrangements comply with the requirements of the 2014 School Admissions Code and the 2012 School Admission Appeals Code issued by the Department for Education under Section 84 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and are reviewed and published annually by the Bath and Wells Multi-Academy Trust (the Admission Authority for the School). Should the Trust propose to alter any aspect of policy or practice, a public consultation will be conducted in accordance with the statutory requirements set out in the School Admissions Code. Day to day admission enquiries and the administration of admission applications is dealt with directly by the School.

In the interests of clarity, this document is set out under the following headings:

- 1.0 - General Information
- 2.0 - Starting School in September 2017 - The 'normal admissions round'
- 3.0 - Changing School - The 'In-Year' application process
- 4.0 - The Oversubscription Criteria
- 5.0 - Lodging an Appeal
- 6.0 - Key contact details

- Appendix A: Glossary and Definitions
- Appendix B: In-Year Application Form
- Appendix C: Supplementary Information Form

If you would like to discuss your particular circumstances or require further help with any aspect of the school admissions process, please contact the School Office - telephone: 01823 275906
It is recommended that you also visit the school website which provides a lot of useful information about the school community and curriculum which will be helpful when choosing a school
www.standrewstaunton.co.uk

Any concern relating to the statutory compliance of these admission arrangements or the fairness and equality of local policy/practice should initially be raised with the School Office. If the issue cannot be resolved locally, a complaint may be raised with the Office of The Schools Adjudicator.

1.0	General information
1.1	The School
	St Andrew's Church School is an inclusive academy affiliated to the Bath and Wells Multi-Academy Trust. The school provides a safe environment within which spiritual, social, cultural and moral development is practised and children are recognised as individuals so that they

	may reach their full potential in all aspects of life. Admissions are prioritised for siblings and children living nearest to the school before offering places more widely.
1.2	Who can apply for a school place?
	A parent, registered carer, or another person(s) who has an assigned responsibility for the child concerned (referred to throughout this document as 'the parent') may submit a school admission application on behalf of that child for any United Kingdom (UK) state funded school.
1.3	The child
	The child must, at the time of application, be a UK citizen, or have European Economic Area Citizenship, or hold an appropriate Home Office Visa entitling him/her to reside in the UK.
1.4	The home address
	<p>For admission purposes, the Governing Body will consider the home address to be: The address at which the child concerned is living, at the time of application, for more than 2.5 school days per week, with the person(s) who has legal responsibility for this child. This address should be clearly stated on the application form.</p> <p>Where the child will be moving to a new home address and the parent wishes this to be taken into account, one of the following documents, depending on the circumstances of the case, must be made available <u>at the time of application</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A legal 'exchange of contract' which confirms the purchase of the property • A copy of a formal tenancy agreement (minimum six month term) signed and dated by the applicant and the Landlord for the property • Where the child will be living at an address other than the parental family home, for more than 2.5 school days per week (for example; with an extended family member, or in emergency or other public accommodation) - A formal written letter, signed and dated by the person responsible for the address in question. This must explain the living/care arrangements for the child and state how long these arrangements are expected to remain in place. • For Children of UK service personnel with a confirmed posting to the area or Crown servants returning from overseas, an official letter confirming a relocation date and Unit postal address or quartering area address
1.5	Siblings
	<p>The oversubscription criteria set out in section 4.2 of these admission arrangements includes a priority for children with a sibling attending the school at the time of application who will still be on roll at the time of admission.</p> <p>If a parent wishes a sibling connection to be taken into account, the sibling's details must be provided on the admission application form and he/she must qualify as a full, half or adoptive brother or sister, or a child living for the majority of his/her school time (more than 2.5 school days per week) within the same family unit and at the same home address.</p> <p>The published Admission Number or admission limit will be exceeded, where necessary, in order that multiple birth siblings of the same family (twin, triplet etc.) can all be offered places, where otherwise one or more of these children would be refused</p>
1.6	Waiting lists
	In accordance with statutory requirement, the Admission Authority will maintain a waiting list for the year of entry (reception) until 31 December, should this year group be oversubscribed with applications. Names will be held in ranked order according to compliance with the oversubscription criteria and each time a child's name is added, the list will be re-ranked.

	Waiting lists are not held beyond 31 December for any year group.
1.7	Misleading or false information
	Should the admission authority become aware that a place was secured for a child at the school on the basis of misleading or false information, it will consider withdrawing the offer, or where a child has already started to attend the school may remove the child from the school roll. The circumstances of the case will be fully discussed with the parent and, if the decision is taken to withdraw the offer of a place, the application will be considered afresh, taking account of any new information.

2.0	Starting School in September 2017 (The 'normal' Admissions round)
2.1	The Published Admission Number (PAN)
	The PAN for Foundation (reception) is 34. This is the number of places that can be provided according to the resources available and the need to maintain the size of infant classes within the requirements of Infant Class Size legislation (30 children to each qualified teacher unless a child qualifies as a permitted exception in accordance with section 2.15 of the 2014 School Admissions Code). If 34 or fewer reception applications are received for September 2017, every applicant will be offered a place for their child, without condition. If more than 34 applications are received, the Admission Authority will apply the oversubscription criteria in order to rank all the applications and identify a priority for the offer of places up to the PAN.
2.2	Submitting an 'on time' application
	For a child to start school in September 2017, the parent must complete the Common Application Form (CAF) available from the <u>home</u> local authority. In order for the application to be considered as 'on time' the CAF must be submitted to this local authority by 23:59 hours on <u>15 January 2017</u> . The CAF may be completed and submitted using the home local authority's 'on line' procedure, or as a paper form. Full details about the application process and information about the schools in the local authority area are explained in the 'Composite Prospectus' document, which each local authority must make available on 12 th September annually. For families living in Somerset, the <u>home</u> local authority is Somerset County Council www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions
2.3	Late applications
	Local authorities must coordinate 'normal admission round' reception applications until 31 August 2017. If an application form is submitted to the home local authority after the application deadline of <u>15th January 2017</u> , it will be considered as a 'late' application and will not be administered until all on time applications have been processed, at which point there may no longer be a place available at the preferred school(s).
2.4	Notifying the application decision
	Parents will receive an admission decision in writing from the <u>home</u> local authority on or about 16 April 2017, according to the procedure set out in this local authority's Composite Prospectus.
2.5	Education Health and Care plan
	A place will be provided for any child who has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) confirmed at the time of application, which names St Andrew's Church School as the education provider. This place will be allocated within the Published Admission Number (PAN) before the consideration of any other applications, or above the PAN if places have already been offered at that time
2.6	Starting school on a full or part time basis
	A parent may apply for his/her child to start school for the first time in the September following the fourth birthday and, where a place is offered, may choose for the child to start

	full time from day one, or to attend on a part time basis until statutory school age is reached, which occurs during the term following the child's fifth birthday.
2.7	Deferred entry to school
	While a child is below statutory school age, the parent may choose to defer his/her child's entry to school until later in the school year. However, parents cannot defer beyond the point at which the child reaches statutory school age, or beyond the start of the last term in the school year. The school operates on the basis of a six-term year.
2.8	Applying on behalf of a summer born child (born 1 April – 31 August)
	<p>A parent of a 'summer born' child entitled to start school in September 2017, may choose to delay his/her entry to school until September 2018, where the parent considers this arrangement to be in the best educational interests of the child. The parent may also choose to apply for the reception year in September 2018 rather than year 1. However, there is a risk attached to deciding this approach, which the parent must be clear about. Although the Admission Authority will agree to a new application being submitted for a reception place in September 2018, there can be no indication given as to whether a place will be available until the 2018 'normal admissions round' is complete. The following process will apply:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The parent(s) must submit an application to the home local authority during the 2017 'normal admissions round', making it clear in the text box on the application form that he/she wishes to delay the child's entry until September 2018. Where the intention is for the child to start with the 2018 <u>reception</u> cohort, this must also be clearly stated on the form. The Admission Authority will formally note the parent(s) instruction and <u>will not</u> process the 2017 application. Effectively, the child will no longer be part of the 2017 'normal admissions round'. 2. The parent(s) must then wait and make an entirely new application as part of the <u>2018 'normal admissions round'</u> in accordance with the application process described in the home local authority 2018 Composite Prospectus document. This will be made available by the local authority on 12th September 2017. The parent should also take account of the 2018/19 Admission Arrangements applying to the school. 3. If the school is undersubscribed with reception applications for September 2018, the applicant will receive the offer of a place, without condition, for his/her child on or around 16th April 2018. If the school is oversubscribed with applications for September 2018, the published oversubscription criteria will be applied in order to rank all the applications received (including delayed entry applications) and identify a priority for the offer of available reception places. <u>Whether a place can be offered will depend on the outcome of the 2018 application ranking exercise.</u> 4. If the September 2018 reception application is refused, the right of appeal will apply. 5. If a parent delays a child's entry until 2018 and decides that the child should join <u>year 1</u> rather than reception, he/she will need to make an in-year application within six school weeks of the place being required.
3.0	Changing school – The 'in-year' application process
3.1	The Admission Limit
	For each year group other than the year of entry (years 1-6), the Admission Authority will agree an (non-statutory) admission limit as a guideline to the number of places available. Admission limits will be set in order to ensure the efficient delivery of education and the efficient use of resources, according to the accommodation available, the school budget, the

	needs of the children and the resources required to support the children. Therefore, admission limits may be varied from time to time and so the number of places available may vary.
3.2	Submitting an in-year application
	If a parent wishes to apply for a child to join the school during the 2017/18 school year, the In-Year application form (appendix B) must be completed and submitted directly to the school. This is available to download from the school website or a paper copy can be provided by the School Office. The In-Year application form may be submitted at anytime but will only be administered during school term time and within six <u>school</u> weeks of the place being required, unless the application is for a child from a Service family or the parent is a Crown Servant returning from overseas. In these circumstances, an application may be considered further in advance if an official letter is provided with the application, which confirms a relocation date and Unit postal address or quartering area address.
3.3	Applying for a year group other than the child's relative (chronological) age
	The In-Year application will usually be submitted for the year group associated with the child's relative age, although a parent may apply for an alternative year if he/she considers this would be in the best educational interests of the child. In these circumstances, the application must be accompanied with as much information as possible to support the case for 'retaining' or 'accelerating' the child. It is for the Admission Authority to decide whether to support such a request, which will be considered according to the information provided, the circumstances of the case and what is deemed to be in the best educational interests of the child concerned. If an application for a retained or accelerated year is refused, the Admission Authority will consider whether a place can be offered in the relative (chronological) age year group. The parent has the right to appeal the decision where a place cannot be offered in the relative year group. Retained and accelerated places secured through the in-year admissions process will be reviewed annually.
3.4	The decision
	On receipt of a signed and dated In-Year Application Form, the Admission Authority will evaluate whether a place can be made available without prejudicing 'the efficient delivery of education or the efficient use of resources' and/or breaching the Government statutory Infant Class Size Limit. The decision will be notified to the applicant in writing within ten school days of receipt of the In-Year Application Form.
3.5	Accepting the offer of a place
	Where a place is offered, the parent will be asked to confirm acceptance in writing (by letter or email) within ten school days of receipt of the offer letter, following which the place will remain available for the remainder of six school weeks from the date of this letter. If the child concerned is not attending school with this time frame, the Admission Authority will write to the applicant in order to learn the reason for the delay, and may choose to withdraw the offer, where the circumstances require this action.
3.6	Applying the Fair Access Protocol
	Where it is has not been possible to offer a place, the Admission Authority will consider the application against the criteria set out in the Somerset County Council Fair Access Protocol (FAP), which is published on the authority's website. If the child concerned satisfies any of the FAP criteria, the In-Year application will be referred to this local authority, which may then decide to engage with the family in order to identify a suitable educational placement.
3.7	Children issued with an Education Health and Care plan
	If a child is the subject of an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP), which names a particular school, his/her parents should consult the local authority that issued the EHCP <u>before</u> applying for the child to change school.
4.0	The Oversubscription Criteria

4.1	Oversubscription
	If there are more applications received at any one time than there are places available within the preferred year group (oversubscription), the Admission Authority will assess every application against the oversubscription criteria set out in section 4.2 in order to rank these applications and identify a priority for the offer of any available places. The oversubscription criteria will also be applied in order to rank children's names on a waiting list.
4.2	The Oversubscription Criteria
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who, at the time of application, 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 (section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989 applies) 2. Children living who, at the time of application, have a sibling attending St Andrew's Church school who will still be on roll at the time of admission and lives at the same home address 3. Children living nearest to the school <p>Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to section 1.4 of these Admission Arrangements for the definition of 'home address' • Refer to section 1.5 of these Admission Arrangements for the definition of 'sibling' • Refer to section 4.3 of these Admission Arrangements for the method of calculating a straight-line distance between a child's home and the School • The Supplementary Information Form must be completed and submitted in conjunction with the school place application, where the applicant wishes the child to be considered against criterion 1 in the event of oversubscription (refer to section 4.5 of these admission arrangements)
4.3	Prioritising applications by distance measurement
	<p>If there are more applications than places available, all applications qualifying against criterion 3 will be ranked according to the shortest straight-line distance between each child's home address and the school. This will identify a priority for the offer of available places up to the PAN (34)</p> <p>Distances will be calculated electronically using digital mapping software and Ordnance Survey 'National Address Base' coordinates for St Andrew's Church School and the child's home address. Measurement will be to a minimum of three decimal places accuracy. In the case of a multi-dwelling building, such as a block of flats, the same distance will apply for all occupants.</p>
4.4	Applying a tie-breaker
	Where two or more distances are exactly the same and it proves necessary to rank the relevant applications, a priority for admission will be determined by the drawing of lots. This exercise will take place at the school and be supervised by a person entirely independent of the Admission Authority and the school.
4.5	Supplementary Information Form (SIF)
	A Supplementary Information Form (SIF) is provided on the school website (appendix C). This is used to collect information required in order to evidence that a child qualifies against

	oversubscription criterion 1. The SIF <u>must</u> be completed and submitted in accordance with the instructions set out in Part 3 of the SIF, if the parent wishes qualifying information to be taken into account, should it prove necessary for the oversubscription to be applied in order to prioritise applications. In some cases, a member of the Admission Authority, or an appointed agent, may need to contact the parent to discuss the information submitted on the SIF.
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5.0	Lodging an appeal
5.1	The legal right to an appeal hearing
	The administration of school admission appeals is subject to statutory procedure set out in the 2012 School Admission Appeals Code issued by the Department for Education. A parent whose child is refused admission to the school is legally entitled to lodge an appeal against this decision. The refusal letter issued by the Admission Authority will explain how to complete this process. The appeal form is available to download from the school website, or can be requested from the School Office
5.2	The basis on which an admission application may be refused
	The Admission authority can refuse to admit a child where a further admission would <i>'prejudice the efficient delivery of education or the efficient use of resources'</i> or where the admission would breach the Governments statutory Infant Class Size (ICS) Limit, resulting in an infant teaching group of more than 30 children to one qualified teacher for part or all of the school day. In the case of an ICS refusal, specific conditions set out in section 4 of the 2012 School Admission Appeals Code are 'tested' at the appeal hearing by an independent appeal panel. The range of circumstances whereby an appeal panel might find in favour of an appellant are limited to the appeal panel's review of these conditions and the reasonableness of the decision.
5.3	The appeal timetable
	An appeals timetable is published on the school website by 28 February each year. This sets out the statutory time frame within which an appeal must be heard as well as the administrative timeframe within which the Admission Authority undertakes to process any appeal lodged with the school.
5.4	Complaints about the administration of the appeals process
	The decision of an independent appeal panel is binding on all parties. However, where there is concern that the appeal <u>process</u> has not been properly administered in accordance with the 2012 School Admission Appeals Code, a complaint may be raised with the school Governing Body. Where no local resolution is reached the parent may escalate the matter to the Local Government Ombudsman.

6.0	Key contact details
The School	<p>St Andrew's Church School Grove Terrace Taunton Somerset TA2 6HA</p> <p>Telephone 01823 275906 School website: www.standrewstaunton.co.uk Admissions: Mrs Annette Williams Email: office@standrewsbwmat.org Headteacher: Mr Paul Sheehan Chair of Governors: Mr Steve Hubbard</p>

<p>For families resident in Somerset, the 'home' local authority is Somerset County Council</p>	<p>Admissions and Entitlements Team County Hall, Taunton, Somerset TA1 4DY</p> <p>Email: schooladmissions@somerset.gov.uk Telephone: 0300 123 2224 Fax: 01823 356113</p> <p>Opening Hours: Monday to Thursday 8:30am to 5pm, Friday: 8:30am to 4:30pm, Saturday and Sunday closed.</p>
<p>The Office of the Schools Adjudicator</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/office-of-the-schools-adjudicator</p>
<p>The Local Government Ombudsman</p>	<p>www.lgo.org.uk</p>
<p>The Department for Education</p>	<p>The Department for Education Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith St, London SW1P 3BT Telephone 0370 000 2288 Electronic contact form: form.education.gov.uk Website: www.education.gov.uk</p>
<p>School Admissions Code</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-code--2</p>
<p>School Admission Appeals Code</p>	<p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-admissions-appeals-code</p>