



## All Saints Catholic School - Admission Criteria

### **ADMISSION POLICY FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2026/27**

All Saints Catholic School was founded by the Catholic Church to provide an education for children of Catholic families. If there are more applications than places available, priority will always be given to Catholic children in line with our oversubscription criteria.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The governing board is the admissions authority and has responsibility for admissions to this school. The Barking & Dagenham local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements. The governing board has set its admission number at 240 pupils to be admitted to Year 7 in the school year which begins in September 2026.

#### **Oversubscription criteria**

If there are more applications than the number of places available, places will be offered in the following order of priority (note a.):

1. Catholic looked-after children (note b.)
2. Catholic children (note c.)
3. Members of an Eastern Christian Church (note d.)
4. Other looked-after children (note b.)
5. Children who will have a parent employed at All Saints Catholic School (either as teaching or support staff) on the date they are enrolled at the school (note g.)
6. Any other children.

#### **Important notes**

- a. Children who have an EHC plan are not included in our criteria as we deal with them under the terms of the Children and Families Act 2014. If an EHCP names our school, we must offer the child a place. We will offer the remaining places to other applicants, using our oversubscription criteria.
- b. A looked-after child is a child who is in the care of a Local Authority or is being provided with accommodation by a Local Authority under their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). For our admission purposes a 'looked-after child' includes a child who was in care but became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order immediately upon leaving care. A 'looked-after child' also includes a child who was in state care with a care agency outside England and was immediately adopted.
- c. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This is evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked-after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.
- d. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
- e. Within each criterion we will give priority to children who have a (sibling) brother or sister at the school in years 7 to 11 at the time of admission. 'Brother or sister' includes:



- (i) all full brothers or sisters, half-brothers or half-sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or stepsisters, and foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
- (ii) the child of a parent's partner if, for at least part of the week, that child lives in the same family unit at the same address as the child who is the subject of the application.

f. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but who has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

g. Priority will be given to children of staff who:  
have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time of the application for admission to the school; or have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a skill shortage.

h. If two or more children have an equal claim to a place in any one criterion, we will use the straight-line distance from home to school as the tie-breaker. Those children living nearest to the school will be given priority. When measurements are the same (for example from a block of flats), the Borough's database will automatically use a lottery system (random allocation) to offer places. The Borough measures distances using Synergy's Geographical Information System from the centre of the child's home to the school's main gate. Some addresses have different entry points and so we will use the co-ordinates provided from Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG). The same system will be used for those living outside the local area.

i. We are unable to consider other circumstances not listed in the criteria. It is essential that we are consistent in our judgement and use only the criteria that have been agreed.

j. The child's home stated on the Common Application Form (CAF) must be the permanent address where they live with their legal guardian. This should be the address for the parent's or carer's Council Tax bill and where Child Benefit is addressed.

k. If we discover that we have given a child a place based on false or misleading information, we will withdraw the place and may take legal action.

#### **Application process and extra documents**

To apply for a place at this school, **you must complete a Common Application Form** available from the local authority in which you live by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025.

If you want a Catholic education for your child, **you need to put All Saints high up on your list of preferences** to avoid being offered a place at a higher preference school that is not Catholic.

If you want your child to have priority as a Catholic under our criteria 1 and 2 or under 3, **you must send the school a photocopy of your child's Baptism Certificate** (or certificate of reception into the Church) **together with a completed Cover Note** to The Admissions Officer, All Saints Catholic School, Terling Road, Dagenham RM8 1JT by 31st October 2025. The Cover Note appears in the back of the Barking & Dagenham Secondary Transfer booklet and is also available from the school. This year you do **not** need a Certificate of Catholic Practice.

#### **Deadlines**

If you miss our deadlines, we will class your application as late.

If you are applying through another borough and miss their deadlines, we will class your application as late.

We will not deal with any late applications until after 1 March 2025. We will then place your child on the school's interest list along with other children whose applications were late, and if places become available we will offer them using the admission oversubscription criteria. Your local authority will tell you which school has offered your child a place.