



HOLY TRINITY C.E PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

ADMISSION POLICY 2026-2027

Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School is a Voluntary Aided school. The Governing Body is the admission authority for the school, and the school is required to act in accordance with the School Admissions Code. The admissions process is co-ordinated by Tameside Council (the Local Authority) and the school liaises with the Local Authority on admissions issues. The following arrangements for admissions, which include the criteria used to determine the allocation of places when the school is oversubscribed, have been agreed following consultation with Manchester Diocesan Board of Education and Tameside Local Authority.

Admission arrangements

The school's published admission number (PAN) agreed for admission to the Reception Class is 30. If no more than 30 applications are received for admission to the Reception Class, all applicants will be offered places.

39 part time children may be admitted to the Nursery class. (Please see Nursery admissions policy for full details). A separate application must be made for any transfer from the Nursery class to the Reception Class in the Primary School.

Responsibility for admissions is delegated to the Governing Body.

The school will admit all children having an Educational Health Care Plan (EHCP) in whose plan the school is named.

When the number of applications received is greater than the number of remaining places available (after the admission of any pupils with an EHCP naming the school), the decision on which children will be admitted will be based on the following oversubscription criteria, which will be applied in the order of priority set out below:

1.	Children in public care and previously looked after children. This includes any "looked after child", "previously looked after children" and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (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. This criteria also includes looked after children and all previously looked after children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2.	Children whose medical or social circumstances mean that their needs can only be met at this school.
3.	Children who will have an older sibling (brother or sister) attending the school at the time of their admission.
4.	Children who have an older sibling (brother or sister) attending the school at the time of their application.

5.	Children of staff who have been employed at the school for two years or more at the time of the application for admission to the school is made.
6.	Any other children who reside in the former Parish of Holy Trinity, by distance from the school, with priority for admission given to children who live nearest to the school.
7.	Any other children.

Notes:

a) Where there are more applicants for the available places within a category, then priority will be given to children living nearest to the school. Distance will be measured as a straight line from the child's home address, using the address point assigned by the National Land and Property Gazetteer, to the main gate to the school property. Measurements will be made using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software, which uses a Geographical Information System based on Ordnance Survey.

In the event of distances being the same for 2 or more applications, where this distance would be the last place/s to be allocated, the place will be allocated to the pupil that is nearer using walking distance as measured using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software.

- b) Where admission is sought under exceptional medical or social circumstances criteria, professional supporting evidence, e.g. from a doctor, psychologist or social worker, is essential. Such evidence must set out the particular reasons why the school is the most suitable for the child and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.
- c) Sibling (brother or sister) includes natural sisters/brothers; half-sisters/brothers; step sisters/brothers; adopted sisters/brothers, sisters/brothers of adopted children; children of the parent/carer's partner, and in each case living at the same address and full brother or sister living apart.
- d) A map showing the area covered by the former Parish of Holy Trinity is available at the school.
- e) Tie breaker: In the event that a number of children equally meet the criteria, and where to admit all of them would exceed the PAN of 30, then the children who meet the lowest criteria will have their places decided by the drawing of lots. For example, this would apply in the event of two or more applicants meeting the exact same distance criteria. The drawing of lots will be done by someone with no connection to the school.

Infant class size

Infant classes (those where the majority of children will reach the age of 5, 6 or 7 during the school year) **will not** contain more than 30 pupils with a single school teacher. Additional children **may** be admitted under very limited exceptional circumstances. These children will remain an 'excepted pupil' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit. The excepted children are:

- a) Children admitted outside the normal admissions round with an EHCP specifying a school;
- b) Children in public care and previously looked after children.
This includes any "looked after child", "previously looked after children" and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (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. This criteria also includes looked after children and all previously looked after children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.;
- c) Children admitted, after initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process;
- d) Children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal;

e) Children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance;

f) Children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round;

g) Children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil;

h) Children with special educational needs who are normally taught in a special educational needs unit attached to the school, or registered at a special school, who attend some infant classes within the mainstream school.

Applying for places

Applications must be made online through the local authority's Citizens Portal.

Please give details of the points you wish to be taken into consideration regarding your child's qualifications for entry under the above criteria when making the submission.

Waiting list

Where we have more applications than places, the admissions criteria will be used. Children who are not admitted will have their name placed on a waiting list. The names on this waiting list will be in the order resulting from the application of the admissions criteria. Since the date of application cannot be a criterion for the order of names on the waiting list, late applicants for the school will be slotted into the order according to the extent to which they meet the criteria. Thus it is possible for a child who moves into the area later to have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list for some time. If a place becomes available within the admission number, the child whose name is at the top of the list will be offered a place. This is not dependent on whether an appeal has been submitted. This waiting list will operate until the end of the autumn term only and is held by the Local Authority.

In-year admissions

Admissions outside of the normal school round should be made to the Local Authority in the same way as all other applications. In the event that more children apply than there are places available, the usual order of priority will apply. Unsuccessful applications can be appealed as detailed below. For in-year admissions, unsuccessful applications or appeals will not be placed on a waiting list.

Appeals

Where the governors are unable to offer a place because the school is oversubscribed, parents have the right to appeal to an independent admission appeal panel, set up under the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, as amended by the Education Act, 2002.

Appeals can be made online or in writing to:

Democratic Services

Tameside One

Market Place

Ashton Under Lyne

Tameside MBC OL6 6BH

Parents will have the opportunity to submit their case to the panel in writing and also to attend in order to present their case. You will normally receive 14 days' notice of the place and time of the hearing.

Nursery Admissions

39 places are available in the Nursery, and the Governors shall determine how many of these places are to be allocated on a full-time or part-time basis each year, depending on the number of applicants.

A place in the Nursery does not guarantee a place in the Reception class the following year. A separate policy is available on the school website.

Deferred Admissions

Children will be admitted to the Reception class at the beginning of the Autumn term before their fifth birthday. Parents may request that their school place be deferred until later in the school year and, if they do this, the place will be held for the child. They cannot, however, defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the school year for which the original application was accepted. Parents can also request that their child attends on a part time basis until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Admission outside Age Range

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. This could be because they were born prematurely or because of other critical social or medical factors. In addition the parents of summer born children (Who would not become 5 until April-August) may choose not to send their child to school until the September after their 5th birthday and may request they are admitted out of their normal age group - to reception rather than year 1

Parents requesting their child to be admitted outside of the normal age range should submit reasons for the request together with their application. The online application provides space to do this and you should also submit views of medical professionals as necessary. A decision will be made taking account of parents' wishes, information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; and whether they have previously been educated outside their normal age group. Each request will be treated on an individual basis having regard to the views of an educational professional who will be involved in educating the child.

Each request and the evidence provided will be considered by a panel of Governors who will make a decision on the parental request, using the evidence provided. Parents/carers are responsible for providing all information in support of an application by the closing date, Governors will not ask for additional information. All information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence.

Please note that one admission authority cannot be required to honour a decision made by another which means, where multiple applications are being made to different schools, you may receive differing outcomes.

Please keep this copy of the Admissions Policy for your own information.

Holy Trinity CE Primary ADMISSIONS POLICY 2026-2027

Introduction

This policy is written in conjunction with the Governing Body and recommendations from the Nursery Admissions Consultation Group.

Entitlement to Nursery Education Places

Holy Trinity is a Church of England Aided School. Admissions to an Aided school are the responsibility of the Governors, in agreement with the Diocesan Board of Education and the Local Authority.

39 part time children may be admitted to the Nursery class at Holy Trinity. These places are divided between morning and afternoon places.

Nationally all children are entitled to a free part-time nursery education place from the term after their third birthday. Some places may be available for three year olds after their third birthday if there are places available.

At Holy Trinity we offer children 15 hours free early years education per week following their third birthday. For eligible families, we also currently offer free 30 hour places which are allocated in the same way. Please note that eligible children who take up the 30 hour entitlement, will be charged a reduced rate for school lunches (currently £10 per week) that should be paid to the school office.

Please note that a place in Nursery does not guarantee that your child will be given a place in Reception

Allocation of Nursery Places

PLACES WILL BE ALLOCATED TO TAMESIDE RESIDENTS WHO WILL BE 4 YEARS OLD BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2026 AND 31 AUGUST 2027 IN THE FIRST INSTANCE (I.E Born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023).

Where the school receives fewer applications from Tameside residents who will be 4 years old between the above dates, than there are places available, all will be offered places. Where a school receives more applications from Tameside residents who will be 4 years old between these dates, than there are places available, the following over subscription criteria will be applied in order:

1. Children in public care and previously looked after children.

This includes any "looked after child", "previously looked after children" and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (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.

This criteria also includes looked after children and all previously looked after children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

2. Children with Exceptional Medical Needs or Home Circumstances and / or Special Educational Needs

(Written evidence must be provided from a doctor or other agency that he/she has exceptional needs which means that admission to a particular school nursery is essential. A panel of governors will make a decision as to whether to admit a child under this criterion using the evidence provided. All information provided will be treated in the strictest confidence.)

- 3. Siblings:** this will apply where the applicant meets the age criteria and has brothers or sisters attending the school at the time of application, who will still be attending at the time of admission. Within the sibling tiebreaker, preference will be given to pupils living nearest to the school. (See tiebreaker below)

(The sibling criterion includes; natural sisters/brothers; half-sisters/brothers; step sisters/brothers; adopted sisters/brothers; sisters/brothers of fostered children, and in each case living at the same address. This allows for the admittance of children whose siblings will still be attending the preferred school.)

- 4. Siblings who are former pupils:** this will apply where the applicant meets the age criteria and has brothers or sisters attending the school at the time of application, who **will not** be attending at the time of admission. Within the sibling tiebreaker, preference will be given to pupils living nearest to the school. (See tiebreaker below)
- 5. Children of staff who have been employed at the school for more than two years:** this will apply where the applicant meets the age criteria and has a parent who has been employed by the school for a minimum of two years.

6. Age

Priority will be given to children in the following order:

Children who will be 4 years old by 31st December 2026

Children who will be 4 years old by 31st March 2027

Children who will be 4 years old by 31st August 2027

Tiebreaker – Distance

Where there are more applicants for the available places within a category, then priority will be given to children living nearest to the school. The distance will be measured as a straight line from the child's permanent home address to the main gate to the schools property. In the event of two children mapped at the same distance then walking distance from home to school will be used.

Allocating places to Tameside resident children applying after the main allocation procedure has been completed

If there are still nursery places available after the main allocation process has been completed, the Governing Body will offer places to subsequent applicants on a 'first come first served basis', as long as that child is of the correct age and lives in Tameside. Should a Tameside resident parent request a place after the allocation process and the school has places available, a place will normally be offered.

Waiting Lists

Where the school has allocated all its nursery places we will operate a waiting list. If a place becomes available, it will be allocated to a child on the waiting list according to the over subscription criteria.

IF THE SCHOOL STILL HAS NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE AFTER THE SUMMER HALF TERM 2026, THE FOLLOWING WILL APPLY:

Offering places to children who do not live in Tameside

Where the school still has nursery places available after the summer half term preceding the September that applicants wish to be admitted, these can be allocated to children who do not live in Tameside and who will become 4 years old between 1st September 2026 and 31st August 2027 according to the over subscription criteria.

IF THE SCHOOL STILL HAS NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE AFTER THE START OF TERM IN SEPTEMBER 2026, THE FOLLOWING WILL APPLY:

Offering places to children who will become 3 years old between 1st September 2026 and 31st December 2026 who live in Tameside

Pupils will not be able to start in the nursery until they become 3.

Places will be offered using the same criteria as for the main allocation apart from:

6 Age: Children who will be 3 years old by 31st December 2026 to start after their birthday

Tiebreaker - Siblings and Distance

Where over subscription occurs a tiebreaker will be applied to all applications remaining within the criteria. Priority will be given to applicants who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission followed by applicants who live closest to the school.

IF THE SCHOOL STILL HAS NURSERY PLACES AVAILABLE AFTER THE START OF TERM IN JANUARY 2027, THE FOLLOWING Will APPLY:

Offering places to children who will become 3 years old between 1st January 2027 and 31st March 2027 who live in Tameside

Pupils will not be able to start in the nursery until they become three

Places will be offered using the same criteria as for the main allocation apart from:

6 Age: Children who will be 3 years old by 31st March 2027 to start after their third birthday

Tiebreaker - Siblings and Distance

Where over subscription occurs, a tiebreaker will be applied to all applications remaining within the criteria. Priority will be given to applicants who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission followed by applicants who live closest to the school.