



**ST. FAITH'S
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Alma Road, Wandsworth, SW18 1AE

Admissions Policy 2016 /17

St Faith's Church of England School has a distinctive Christian ethos which is at the heart of the school and provides an inclusive, caring and supportive environment where children learn and flourish in a setting shaped by Christian values. We welcome applications from all members of the community and we ask all parents to respect the Christian ethos of our school and its importance to our community. The Governors of this school, as part of their commitment to the local community, operate an admission policy which seeks to encourage applications from parents who are keen to educate their children in a school with a Christian ethos.

The Governors admit **30** pupils to the Reception class each year. The School is part of the locally agreed co-ordination scheme and the timetables for applications to be received are those agreed with the Local Authority. Parents must complete the Local Authority's Common Application form (CAF) and return the form to the Authority. If applying for a place at this school, parents must name this school as one of the preferences on the CAF. Parents who wish to apply for a place under categories 3 or 4 below must also complete the school's Supplementary Form and return it to the school by the same date that the CAF must be returned to Wandsworth Borough Council. Failure to return the Supplementary Form will mean that the school cannot consider the application under these categories, in which case the application will be considered under categories 5 or 6. Please note that if your child attends the Nursery class, you will not automatically be offered a place in the Reception class; you must reapply and be considered with all other applicants.

In the event that two or more applicants have equal rights to a place under any of the following criteria and there are insufficient places, the Governing Body will use distance, as measured by the Wandsworth Council Geographical Information System (see Note v), in the first instance, to decide between applicants; where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random.

If the school is oversubscribed, places will be allocated in the following order of priority:

- 1 Children looked after and those who ceased to be children looked after because they were adopted, or because they became subject to a residence order or a special guardianship order (see Note i)
- 2 Children with a professionally supported exceptional medical need or exceptional social need for a place at the school, as decided by the Governing Body (see Note ii)
- 3 Children whose parent(s)/legal guardian(s) is/ are regular worshipper(s) in an Anglican church (see Note iii) in the following order:
 - (a) Children with a sibling (see Note iv) in the school at the time of application and who will still be in the school on the date of admission
 - (b) Children living nearest to the school in order of a straight-line distance from home to school as measured by the Wandsworth Council Geographical Information System (see Note v)
- 4 Children whose parent(s)/legal guardian(s) is/are regular worshipper(s) in other Christian churches as defined as full members of Churches Together in England (see Note iii) in the following order:
 - (a) Children with a sibling (see Note iv) on the school roll on the closing date for applications who will still be in the school on the date of admission
 - (b) Children living nearest to the school in order of a straight-line distance from home to school as measured by (the) Wandsworth Council (Geographical Information System) (see Note v)
- 5 Children with a sibling (see Note iv) on the school roll on the closing date for applications who will still be in the school on the date of admission
- 6 Children living nearest to the school in order of a straight-line distance from home to school as measured by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. (see Note v)

Note i: A child looked after is a child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989. An adopted child is defined by section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A residence order is defined by section 8 of the Children Act 1989. A special guardianship order is defined by section 14A of the Children Act 1989.

Note ii: Applications made on **exceptional medical grounds** must be supported by a current letter from a specialist health professional. Applications made on **exceptional social grounds** must be supported by a current letter from a social worker or other care professional working with the family. The letters must give reasons why the child's condition or circumstances make it necessary for the child to attend the school, and the difficulties that would be caused if they had to attend an alternative school. If this information is not provided by the application closing date, the application will not be considered under this criterion.

Note iii: Regular worship is defined by attendance at least twice a month over one year (immediately prior to the date of application) supported in writing by the minister or official leader of their congregation on the school's Supplementary Form. If you and/or your minister/religious leader has/have moved over the last two years, you must also obtain a reference from your previous church/place of worship or minister/religious leader so that you have references covering the complete period

Note iv: A sibling is as defined as a full brother or sister, a step/half brother or sister living at the same address, a child who is living at the same address as part of a family by reason of a court order, or a child who has been placed with foster carers as a result of being looked after by a local authority.

Note v: The address you give must be your child's permanent address on the closing date for applications. Your child's permanent address is as defined in the Wandsworth Council booklet 'Choose a Wandsworth Primary School'. The straight-line measurement used to prioritise applicants for admission to schools in Wandsworth commences in all cases at the location of the property determined by the National Land planning Gazetteer and terminates at the central point of the school as determined by Wandsworth Council's Geographical Information System. Measurements by alternative systems and/or to other points will not be taken into account in any circumstances. Where applicants have identical distance measurements, priority amongst them will be determined at random.

Note vi: After the closing date, the school will consider late applications in accordance with the procedure in Wandsworth Council's booklet 'Choose a Wandsworth Primary School'; this is explained in the booklet. Any child who is not offered a place can remain on the school's waiting list on which children are ranked in accordance with the school's published admission arrangements. Applications received after the closing date will be inserted into the list in order of priority; this means that a child's position on the list can move up or down. Wandsworth Council will maintain the waiting list.

Note vii: Parents who are not offered a place for their child have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel. Parents wishing to appeal should obtain an appeal form from the Wandsworth Independent Appeal Service (Wandsworth Town Hall, Wandsworth High Street, London SW18 2PU). The form should be sent to reach the Clerk to the Appeal Panel, c/o the Wandsworth Independent Appeal Service, within 20 school days of the date of the letter confirming the Governors' decision not to offer a place. (Parents may not appeal twice for a place at the same school in the same year unless the Governors accept that there have been significant and material changes in the circumstances.)

Note viii: If a place is offered on the basis of false information, the place will be withdrawn.

Note ix: Parents of pupils who have a statement of special educational needs are required to apply for school places separately through the local authority from whom advice is available. If a child with a statement is placed in the school by the local authority before the normal admission round, the number of places available to other applications will be reduced.

Note x: Children will normally be admitted to Reception class in the September following their fourth birthday, however, parents can request to defer the date of admission or request part-time until the child is compulsory school age.

Note xi: Application for in-year admission must be made to Wandsworth Council on the Council's in-year application form. The Council will refer the application to the school which will inform the applicant whether or not a place can be offered and advise the Council of the outcome.