

Christ Church Primary - SW9

Admissions Policy

Our Mission Statement:

**Within a nurturing Christian community,
we inspire lifelong learners and prepare them for a successful future.**

Each year the Governing Body of Christ Church Primary SW9 offer places to 30 children in reception class. Children are normally admitted to school in September.

Parents/carers, who are applying for a place in Reception, must ensure that an application is made via the Lambeth Primary Schools Admissions Portal.

Parents/carers must also complete the school's supplementary information form and return this to the School. Lambeth will notify parents/carers, by letter, of the Governors' decision on admissions.

Parents should apply between 1st November and 15th January of the year before the child's fifth birthday, but an early application in no way guarantees that a place will be offered as we do not operate a 'first come, first served' system. If the school is over-subscribed the governors will be unable to accept all the children seeking admission.

Parents applying for a place at this school do so knowing that the school aims to provide an education based on Christian principles and therefore the Governors hope that all pupils will take part in the Christian worship of the school and will attend Religious Education lessons.

Foundation Places

The governing body has designated 10 places to be offered to pupils who are baptised and whose parent/carer is on the electoral roll and worships regularly with their child (at least twice a month for the last year) at Christ Church, Brixton Road. Or pupils who are baptised (or equivalent) and whose parent/carer lives in the parish of Christ Church Brixton Road and worships regularly with their child (at least twice a month for the last year) at another Christian Church which is a full member of Churches Together in England. (A countersigned Supplementary Information Form must be submitted with applications for foundation places.)

If there are more than 10 pupils who qualify for a Foundation Place will be allocated according to the following criteria. In order of priority:

1. Looked after children or previously looked after children (see Note 1)
2. Siblings of children already in this school at the time of admission (see Note 2)
3. Children of permanent staff at this school who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a post for which there has been a demonstrable skills shortage.
4. Children who qualify to receive The Pupil Premium, or the Early Years Premium or The Service Premium. (See note 3. Written evidence of entitlement is required to be submitted with the Supplementary Information Form.)
5. Children with an exceptional and professionally supported medical or social need for a place at this school. (See Note 4. Written evidence of entitlement is required to be submitted with the Supplementary Information Form.)

6. Children whose parent/carer is on the electoral roll and worships regularly (at least twice a month for the last year) at Christ Church, Brixton Road
7. Any remaining places will be allocated with regard to closest proximity to the school. (See Note 5)
8. A signed Supplementary Information Form must be submitted to the School for all applications for a Foundation Place, together with documentary evidence of entitlement to priority under criteria 4 or 5 if applicable.

If there are fewer than 10 pupils who qualify for a Foundation Place the surplus places will be allocated as Open Places

Open Places

The Governing Body has designated 20 places each year as open places to be offered to pupils who do not qualify for a foundation place, but whose parents/carers have chosen this school for the type of education it provides. Parents applying for open places do so knowing that the school aims to provide an education based on Christian principles and, therefore, the Governing Body hopes that all pupils will take part in the Christian worship of the school and attend religious education lessons.

If there are more than 20 applicants, places will be allocated according to the following criteria after the admission of any children with a statement of special educational needs or Education, Health and Care Plan which names this School; in order of priority:

1. Looked after children or previously looked after children (see Note 1)
2. Siblings of children already in this school at the time of admission (see Note 2)
3. Children of permanent staff at this school who have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time the application is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a post for which there has been a demonstrable skills shortage.
4. Children who qualify to receive The Pupil Premium, or The Early Years Premium or The Service Premium. (See note 3. Written evidence of entitlement is required.)
5. Children with an exceptional and professionally supported medical or social need for a place at this school. (See note 4. Written evidence of entitlement is required).
6. Any remaining places will be allocated with regard to closest proximity to the school. (See Note 4)

Notes.

- **Looked after children and previously looked after children** Looked after children are children who are in the care of a local authority, or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions as defined by Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to the school. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after immediately prior to being adopted, or who became subject to a residence order, (now termed child arrangement order under the Children & Families Act 2014), or special guardianship order. 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.
- **Siblings:** blood relatives, step-siblings, half-siblings, adopted and foster siblings living at the same address. NB Siblings must still be in school at the time the new sibling is admitted.
- The **Pupil Premium and Early Years premium** are paid for children whose parents/carers are in receipt of one or more of the following: *Income support, Income based Job Seeker's Allowance, Child Tax Credit (provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue and customs) that does not exceed £16,190, The Guarantee element of the state pension credit, Income related employment and support allowance, Support under part VI of the immigration and asylum act 1999, Working Tax credit during the four week period immediately after their employment finishes.* The Forces Premium is paid for children who have one or both parent/carer/s currently serving in HM Armed Forces.

- **Medical/Social:** 'children with an exceptional and professionally supported medical or social need, for a place at this school.' This must be supported by written evidence at the time of application, e.g., from a specialist health professional, social worker or other care professional. The evidence must set out the reasons why this school is the most suitable school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.
- **Distance:** The distance between the child's home and the school will be measured by a straight-line. This measurement will be done using a computerised mapping system. This measurement will be from the child's home address, as identified by the software, to the school.
- **Parish of Christ Church Brixton Road :** (relevant to Foundation places for non Christ Church, Brixton Road church goes– "*Or pupils who are baptised (or equivalent) and whose parent/carer lives in the parish of Christ Church Brixton Road and worships regularly with their child (at least twice a month for the last year) at another Christian Church which is a full member of Churches Together in England*".) There is a road map of the parish on the school website and if there is uncertainty the school office can clarify whether or not an address is within the parish.

Admission Statements

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND): Parents of pupils who have a statement of special educational needs, or Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan are required to apply for school places separately through the local authority from whom advice is available. If a child with a statement, or EHC Plan, is placed in the school by the local authority before the normal admission round, the number of places available to other applicants will be reduced. The Governors will admit all those pupils whose statement, or EHC Plan, names the School, provided the head teacher and governors agree that the school can meet the particular needs of the case.

Tie Breaker: In the event that two or more applicants have equal right to a place under any of the above criteria and there are insufficient places, the Governing Body will use distance, in the first instance, to decide between applicants; if applicants live equidistant from the school the Governing Body will draw lots to decide between applicants.

Late Applications: The Governors will consider late applications in accordance with the procedure in the local authority's co-ordinated scheme. This is explained in the LA admission brochure and on line at www.lambeth.gov.uk/eadmissions.

Appeals: Parents of children who do not gain admission have the right to appeal against the decision to an Independent Appeals Panel. Appeals must be lodged within 20 school days of notification of a refusal. Appeal forms are obtainable from the school. Completed forms should be returned to the Clerk to the Admissions Panel, at Christ Church Primary SW9 by 18th May of the year of admission. The appeal decision will be final and binding.

Waiting List: Unsuccessful applications will be kept on our Waiting List (which will be ranked in accordance with the oversubscription criteria) until the end of the autumn term (December). Parents wishing to remain on the waiting list after the end of the Autumn Term must inform the school in writing.

Deferred entry: The School admits children to the Reception class in the September of the school year in which a child attains the age of 5 years. (The school year runs from 1 September to the 31st August.) All parents/carers are entitled to a full-time place for their child in the Reception class from September and are strongly advised to accept this arrangement, but may defer entry until the beginning of the term after their child is five years old (i.e., when the child reaches compulsory school age) or until the beginning of the summer term whichever is earlier. This must be agreed in writing with the head teacher prior to the September in which the child is due to start. In agreement with the school, children may attend part-time until their child reaches compulsory school age. Parents/carers who have been offered a place at the School and wish to defer entry for their child and/or attend part-time must put this in writing to the headteacher at the earliest opportunity and before the start of the autumn term.

Fair Access: The School is committed to taking its fair share of pupils who are hard to place in accordance with the locally agreed fair access protocol. Pupils admitted under the protocol will take priority over any children on the waiting list and in key stage 2 this may include, on occasion, admitting above the planned admission number.

Education out of normal (chronological) age group: Children are normally educated in school with others of their age group; however, in exceptional circumstances parents/carers may seek a place outside of their child's normal age group. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case. Parents/carers must state clearly why they feel admission to a different year group is in the child's best interests and may provide recent professional evidence to support this. Further details of how to make such a request are available from the school.

Policy Last Reviewed:	March 2026
Amendments	