



Admissions

Oversubscription Criteria for St Aidan's Church of England High School, Harrogate 2021 - 2022

The school serves the Deaneries of Harrogate and Ripon. The school's planned admission number (PAN) is 250. (*See Note A*)

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming St Aidan's Church of England High School will be allocated a place in line with section 324 of the Education Act.

In the case of oversubscription, places are offered to those who meet the following criteria. In determining places the Governors will allocate places as follows:-

**Priority 1:
Looked After**

Children currently or previously looked after by the local authority. (*See note B*)

**Priority 2:
Siblings**

Siblings of children attending the school at the time of admission. (*See note C*)

**Priority 3:
Foundation Places:**

Up to 80% of the remaining places will be allocated to children of the Christian faith living within the Anglican Deaneries of Harrogate and Ripon. (*See note A*)

Of these places 85% will be allocated to those living in the Harrogate Deanery and 15% to those living in the Ripon Deanery based on the points allocated for church attendance (see Appendix 1 for details of the points allocation). The Governors will require confirmation from a priest or minister of this commitment.

After the initial allocation a single waiting list will be drawn up for foundation places across both Deaneries and places will be allocated to those with the highest points total based on frequency of attendance at public worship by both the parent or guardian and the child. (Please refer to Appendix 1). If there is a need to differentiate between applications with the same number of points, priority will be determined by geographic proximity to the school by the nearest route according to the NYCC electronic measuring system. Applicants not successful will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will be kept until the end of the academic year to which it relates.



Please note that in July 2020 we applied for a variation to our admission arrangements to include guidance on how Ministers can approach the calculation of church points taking account of the closure of churches due to Covid-19 restrictions. The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), acting on behalf of the Secretary of State agreed to this variation in November 2020:-

“In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these admissions arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship or alternative premises have been available for public worship”.

A pro-rata figure of 9 weeks will be applied in respect of church attendance for 2020.

This figure is based on places of worship being fully open until Sunday 22nd March 2020, a period of 12 weeks. Attendance for 9 of 12 weeks is equal to a 75% attendance rate. This is aligned as closely as possible to the percentage rate for someone attending a place of worship for 40 weeks out of 52 (77%).’

**Priority 4:
Staff Children:**

Children of staff at the school in either or both of the following circumstances:

- a. where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made;
and/or
- b. where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

**Priority 5:
Medical/Social Need**

Up to 5 children living within the Anglican Deaneries of Harrogate and Ripon with a demonstrated exceptional medical/social need for a place at St Aidan’s. The Governors will use the information provided on the CAF to determine allocation of these places. The Governors will require a written reference from appropriate professionals working with the child to say why the need can only be met by attending St Aidan’s. (*See note D*)

**Priority 6:
World Religions**

Up to 5 children of world religions other than Christianity resident within the Anglican Deaneries of Harrogate and Ripon. After the initial allocation a waiting list will be drawn up for world religion places and places will be allocated to those with the highest points total based on frequency of attendance at places of worship by both the parent or



guardian and the child. (Please refer to Appendix 1). If there is a need to differentiate between applications with the same number of points, priority will be determined by geographic proximity to the school by the nearest route according to the NYCC electronic measuring system. Applicants not successful will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will be kept until the end of the academic year to which application was made. (See *Note E*)

**Priority 7:
Community Places:**

The remaining places after Priorities 1 to 6 have been ranked will be allocated to those applicants living within the Anglican Deaneries of Harrogate and Ripon closest to the school (determined by geographic proximity to the school, by the nearest route, according to the NYCC electronic measuring system) regardless of their eligibility under any other priorities. Applicants not successful will be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will be kept until the end of the academic year for which application was made.



Priority 8:

Out of Area Foundation

Any remaining places will be allocated to children living outside the Anglican Deaneries of Harrogate and Ripon who regularly attend a place of worship ranked according to the points scored for church attendance. Points are awarded on the same basis as for Foundation Places (see *Appendix 1*). Where there is a need to differentiate between applications with the same points score, priority will be determined by geographic proximity to the school, by the nearest route, according to the NYCC electronic measuring system.

Priority 9:

Out of Area Community

If there are any remaining places after the above priorities have been allocated and where there is an application without points for church attendance and a need to differentiate between applications priority will be determined by geographic proximity to the school, by the nearest route, according to the NYCC electronic measuring system. (*See note F*)



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Notes

- A. The ecclesiastical parishes of the Deaneries of Harrogate & Ripon can be found by entering your postcode at www.achurchnearyou.com you can find your parish church and clarify which Deanery your residence is in.
- B. A 'looked after child' is a child who 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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. Previously looked after children are children who were adopted (or became subject to Child arrangement order or special guardianship order) immediately following having been looked after.
- C. 'Siblings' include step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently at the same address.

"Time of Admission" is determined as the first day of term in September.

Siblings of students applying to be on the Sixth Form Role at St Aidan's in September for either Year 12 or Year 13, who have not been at St Aidan's in Year 11, are not eligible for a sibling place under Priority 2.

- D. A medical or social need will refer to some particular and exceptional reason why a place at St Aidan's will be essential to the medical or social well-being of the child. Supporting evidence will be required in writing from a health or social care professional. The Governors will use the information you provided in your Common Application Form (CAF).
- E. Children of world religions refer to those applicants who follow World Religions other than Christianity (ie Islam, Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, Jainism, Shinto, Taoism, Zoroastrian, Confucianism, Baha). Where there are more than five applications priority will be given on a points basis in the same way as that used for Foundation Places. Governors will allocate places based on regularity of attendance at the appropriate place of worship and the Governors will require confirmation from a Faith Leader of this commitment. Where there is a need to differentiate between applications with the same points score, priority will be determined by geographic proximity to the school, by the nearest route, according to the NYCC electronic measuring system.

Waiting lists may need to be reordered/restructured at certain times depending upon changing family circumstances or if people move into area with late applications.

- F. If the distance between two children's homes and the school is the same, random allocation will be used as a tie-break in Priorities 3, 6, 7, 8 and 9 above to decide who has highest priority for admission. This process will be independently verified.



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Appendix 1:

Church attendance is measured by the approximate number of weeks in which the person has attended a Place of Worship in the **three year period** immediately before the date of application.

1. Church attendance of child

Weekly*	▪	3 points
2-3 times/month	▪	2 points
Monthly	▪	1 points

2. Church attendance of parent or guardian

Weekly*	▪	3 points
2-3 times/month	▪	2 points
Monthly	▪	1 points

** Weekly indicates every week except for sickness and family holidays and would usually therefore be in excess of 40 weeks in the year.*

If your pattern of attendance has changed significantly during the last three years, then an average over the three years should be used.

<i>e.g.</i>	<i>Year 1</i>	<i>Monthly</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>weeks</i>
	<i>Year 2</i>	<i>Fortnightly</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>weeks</i>
	<i>Year 3</i>	<i>Weekly</i>	<i>48</i>	<i>weeks</i>
		<i>=</i>	<i>84</i>	<i>weeks averaged over 3 years = 28</i>
				<i>i.e. 2-3 times per month</i>

Application forms for Foundation places (Priority 3 and 8), World Religion (Priority 6) must be endorsed by a leader of the specified place of worship community **before** submission.

Where parents have relocated in either residence or church in the last 3 years the Governors will take into account confirmation from previous places of worship.