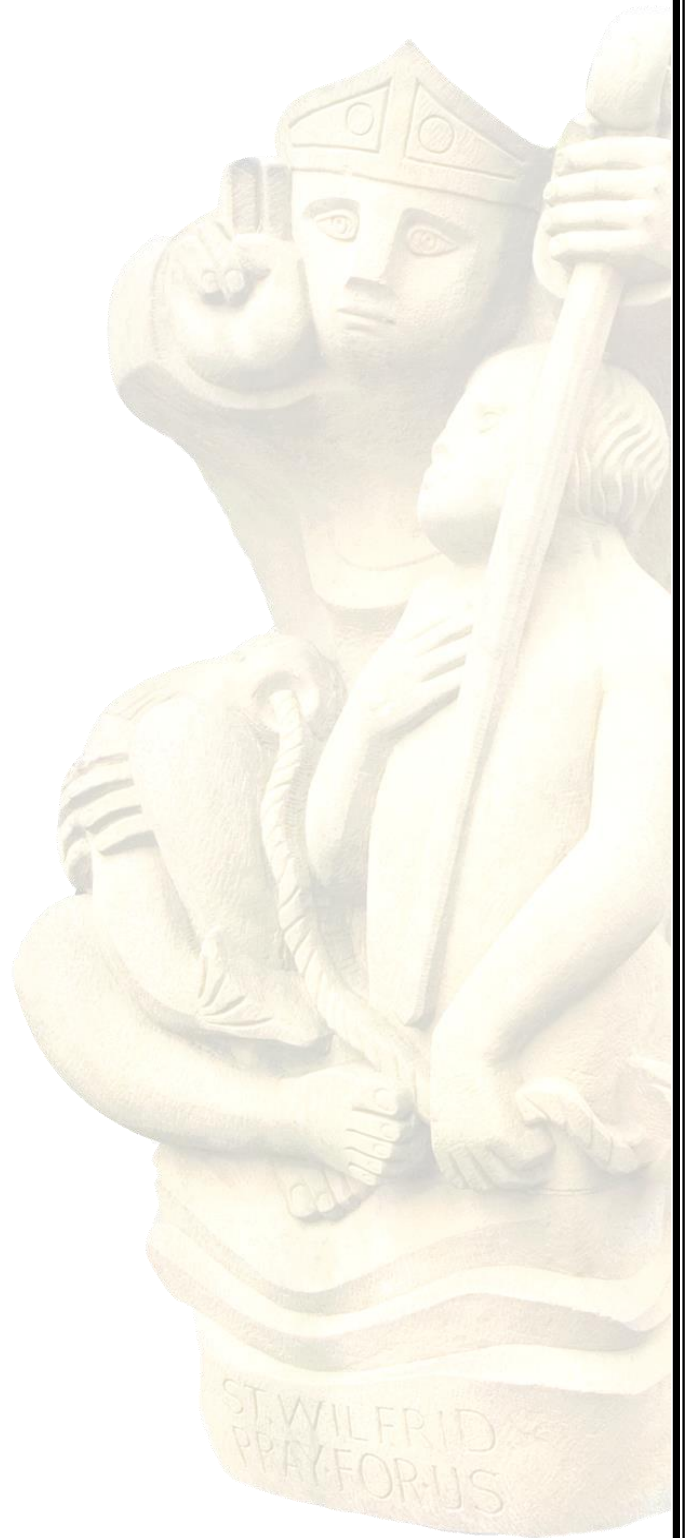




st. Wilfrid's

Catholic High School & Sixth Form College, a Voluntary Academy

Admissions Policy



Keeping the Faith in Education

POLICY DOCUMENT	Admissions Policy 2017/2018
Legislation: Education/Other	Legally Required document for Academy Schools
Lead Member of Staff	Headteacher
Lead Councillor	
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Admission Policy 2017/18

St. Wilfrid's Catholic High School and Sixth Form College, a Voluntary Academy, Cutsyke Road, Featherstone, Pontefract, West Yorkshire, was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is run by the Bishop Konstant Catholic Academy Trust along with the Academy Council Committee as part of the Catholic Church and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ.

If the number of preferences received is less than the admission number then all preferences will be met. However, when there are more applications than places available, priority will always be given to Catholic applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. By applying to this school parents, or carers, are declaring their support for the aims and ethos of the school.

The Academy Trust is the admissions authority, which has responsibility for admissions to the school and intends to admit two hundred and eighty (280 pupils to Year 7 plus 4 in the Communication and Interaction Resource) in the school year, which begins in September 2017.

Oversubscription criteria

At any time where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered in the following order of priority:

1. Looked after children from Catholic families or children from Catholic families who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order with siblings who attend St Wilfrid's
2. Looked after children from Catholic families or children from Catholic families who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order
3. Baptised Catholic children with a sibling who attends St Wilfrid's
4. Baptised Catholic children who live in the primary school defined areas of: Holy Family & St Michaels Pontefract, Sacred Heart Hemsworth, St Benedict's Garforth, St John's Normanton, St Joseph's Castleford, St Joseph's Moorthorpe and St Joseph's Pontefract; and go to the Catholic primary schools serving those areas
5. Baptised Catholic children who live in the above named defined areas
6. Baptised Catholic children who currently attend one of the Catholic primary schools serving these areas (listed in 4 above) but do not live in the defined area
7. Other Baptised Catholic children
8. Other looked after children or other children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order with a sibling who attends St Wilfrid's
9. Other looked after children or other children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order and who live in the primary school defined areas of Holy Family & St Michaels Pontefract, Sacred Heart Hemsworth, St Benedict's Garforth, St John's Normanton, St Joseph's Castleford, St Joseph's Moorthorpe and St Joseph's Pontefract; and go to the Catholic primary schools serving those areas
10. Other looked after children
11. Other children with a sibling who attends St Wilfrid's
12. Other children who currently attend one of the Catholic primary schools serving the areas of: Holy Family & St Michaels Pontefract, Sacred Heart Hemsworth, St Benedict's Garforth, St John's Normanton, St Joseph's Castleford, St Joseph's Moorthorpe and St Joseph's Pontefract
13. Other children

Tie Break

- Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the categories listed on the previous page would still lead to oversubscription, the available places will be offered to those living nearest to the school. 'Straight line distance' will be used as the measure (see notes).
- If two or more pupils live equidistant from the school, the distance each pupil lives by road from the preferred school will be measured and the place offered to the pupil who lives nearest by this means. In the event of this being equal, places will then be decided by random allocation (see notes).
- Where there is more than one application from a postal address contained within a block of flats, places will be decided by random allocation (see notes).

Admission to the sixth form

The sixth form is available for all existing pupils. 80 remaining places in the sixth form of the school will be distributed in line with the oversubscription criteria. All applicants must meet the requirements of individual courses.

Application Procedures and Timetable

A standard application form, known as the Common Preference Form must be completed and returned to the **Local Authority School Admissions Team, Wakefield Council, Wakefield One PO Box 700, Burton Street, Wakefield, WF1 2EB by 31st October 2016**. Failure to provide a Common Preference Form (CPF) would mean that the application is not valid.

If parents feel that they should be in a specific category i.e. Baptised Catholic, then they are required to complete a Supplementary Information Form and provide the required evidence. The Supplementary Information Form is attached to this policy and should be submitted by 31st October 2016 to the school **Headteacher, St Wilfrid's Catholic High School and Sixth Form College, a Voluntary Academy, Cutsyke Road, Featherstone, WF7 6BD**. Therefore, failure to provide a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) could affect the category your application is placed in. Please note that it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to complete all forms and supply evidence – reminders will not be sent.

Parents or carers will be advised of the outcome of their applications on 1st March 2017. Unsuccessful applicants will be given reasons related to the over-subscription criteria listed above and advised of their right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Late Applications

If you return the Common Preference Form after the deadline, we cannot consider your application at the same time as those received on time. Late applications will be dealt with once all other applicants have been considered.

Admissions outside the normal admission round – applications should be made to the school and will be dealt with by the admission authority of the school i.e. the Academy Council. If there is, more than one application for an available place the Academy Council will make their decision using the oversubscription criteria listed in the appropriate policy for the year group. Unsuccessful applicants will be given reasons related to the oversubscription criteria listed above and will be advised of their rights to appeal the Academy Councils' decision to an independent appeal panel.

Waiting Lists

As well as their right of appeal, unsuccessful applicants will be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will follow the order of the oversubscription criteria set out above, therefore, this means that each time a child is added the list will be re-ranked. Names are normally taken off the list at the end of the academic year.

Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health & Care Plan

The admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs, or an Education, Health & Care Plan is managed by the Special Educational Needs Assessment & Review Team (SENART) from students local authority. This procedure is set out in the 1996 Education Act. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice*.

If a child has a Statement of Special Education Need or an Education, Health & Care Plan naming a school then SENART will consult with the preferred school to discuss if the students' needs can be met. Based on this consultation a place may be offered.

Notes (these notes form part of the over- subscription criteria)

Catholic means a member of a church in communion with the See of Rome. A certificate of baptism in a Catholic church, or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church, will normally evidence this alternatively a letter from a parish priest confirming membership of a church in communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches.

Looked After Child has the same meaning as in section 22 of the Children Act 1989, and means any child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by them e.g. children with foster parents.

Looked After Children from Catholic Families – this has a dual meaning. It could be the child themselves who are baptised Catholic or it could be the family who are caring for the child that is Catholic. If it is the child, who is a baptised Catholic normal rules apply and a baptism certificate should be seen by the admission authority. However, (in limited situations) this may not always be possible and in these cases, the admission authority should seek to ensure that the child is baptised. If a child is placed with a Catholic family, who wish the child to have a Catholic education this should be evidenced by a baptism certificate of either parent carer.

Defined area is a geographical area. Please see boundary maps available for inspection in school (boundaries determined by the Diocese of Leeds).

Siblings (brother and sister) includes children with a brother or sister (including step-siblings, adoptive siblings and foster siblings) of statutory school age, living at the same address, in attendance at the same school on the date of admission.

Twins or Triplets (or multiple births) - where a family of twins or triplets request admission and if one sibling has been offered the last place the 'excepted pupil' rule comes in and the other twin/triplets are offered a place.

Live - In all categories, "live" means the child's permanent home address. A child is normally regarded as living with a parent or guardian and we will use the parent or guardian's address for admission purposes. You cannot lodge a child with a friend or relation in order to gain a place at a school. For admissions purposes only one address can be used as a child's permanent address. When a child lives with more than one parent/carers, at different addresses, we will use the preference expressed by the parent/carers at the address where the child lives the majority of the time during the school week as the main place of residence.

Straight Line Distance - in all categories, when decisions have to be made between children satisfying the same criterion, children living nearest to the school, using a straight-line measure, have priority. The distance measured will be from the central (centroid) point of the applicant's property to the central (centroid) point of the school's ground. Measurement will be made using the LA's in-house admission system and mapping software.

Random Allocation - this is only to be used when the last place to be offered would fall into one of the two categories above i.e. Children living in a block of flats or children who live equidistant from the school using straight-line distance criterion. An independent person will be used to make the random selection.

Admission Appeal - Appeals should be submitted to: Clerk to Appeals Panel, Room 46, Town Hall, Wakefield, WF1 2HQ. Please see school website: www.st-wilfrids.bkcat.co.uk