

ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE ADMISSION POLICY 2016/17

St Aloysius' College is a Catholic Voluntary Aided 11-19 comprehensive school for boys, within the Trusteeship of the Diocese of Westminster. As a Catholic school we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils and it is essential that this is supported by all families in the school. All applicants are therefore expected to give their full, unreserved and positive support for the ethos of the school and its aims and policies as outlined in the school prospectus.

In order to preserve the school's comprehensive character by establishing a balanced intake across the ability range, the school will allocate all candidates into one of four equal bands by means of a written placement test. Our Published Admission Number for Year 7 is 180.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

If there are more candidates than places in any band, places within that band will be allocated in accordance with the following criteria. They must be read together with the notes that follow.

Priority is given in the order set out below:

- a) Catholic looked after boys and Catholic boys who have been adopted (or made subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after
- b) Catholic boys who have applied for a music scholarship place
- c) Baptized Catholic boys from practising Catholic families
- d) Other baptized Catholic boys
- e) Other looked after boys and boys who have been adopted (or made subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after
- f) Any boys who have applied for a music scholarship place
- g) Baptized boys of an Eastern Orthodox Church whose application is supported by a minister of their religion
- h) Other baptized boys of an Eastern Orthodox Church
- i) Christian boys of other denominations whose application is supported by a minister of their religion
- j) Other baptized Christian boys of other denominations
- k) Boys of any faith whose application is supported by a minister of their religion
- l) Any other boys

PLEASE NOTE THAT WE DO NOT GIVE PRIORITY TO SIBLINGS

Within each of the categories listed above, priority will be given to boys living nearest to the school.

Although we are usually heavily oversubscribed, we have in the past 5 years been able to offer to boys from all of the above categories.

Music Scholarship places

The Governing Body can offer a maximum of 5 music scholarships to applicants who can demonstrate an aptitude in music. All applicants must attend a short listening test covering pitch, melody and rhythm, which will assess innate musical aptitude and not learned musical ability. This will take place on the day of the placement test. Successful candidates will be given free 1:1 weekly tuition and dedicated use of an instrument. For this they would be expected to show full commitment to the school orchestra and choir with twice weekly after school rehearsals and failure to do so could lead to the scholarship being withdrawn.

Exceptional medical/social/pastoral need

The Governing Body will give top priority to an application within a category where compelling professional evidence is provided at the time of application of an exceptional medical, social or pastoral need on the part of the child which can only be met by St Aloysius' College. This evidence must be provided by a recognised professional e.g. a doctor, social worker or priest. The Governors will not accept a case which is put forward retrospectively.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan

The admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Need/ Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. This procedure is integral to the making and maintaining statements by the pupil's home Local Authority. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice*.

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. '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) A Special Guardianship Order is an order under the terms of the Children's Act 1989 s.14A which defines it as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (s) A Child Arrangements Order is an order under the terms of the Children's Act 1989 s.8 setting the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live. Children 'looked after' immediately before the order is made qualify in this category
2. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the see of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church

3. 'Practising Catholic' means a Catholic child from a practising Catholic family where weekly practice is verified by a declaration from a Catholic priest in the standard format laid down by the Diocese. 'Family' includes the Catholic or Catholics who have legal responsibility for the child.
4. Boys who are baptised after 31 October but before 31 December 2015 will be treated as Catholic by the Governing Body as long as they submit a certificate of baptism to the school by 5 January 2016 at the latest.
5. Christian means "A member of a church that is affiliated to 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland'"
6. Unless the context requires otherwise, 'parent' means any person who has parental responsibility for a child
7. Where only one place is available for more than one child within the same family, the offer of a place will be decided by random allocation (lottery) which will be carried out by the Governors in the presence of an independent witness
8. Nearness to the school will be determined by a computerised mapping system using a straight line distance measurement. Routes will be calculated from the home address (as defined by the Land & Property Gazetteer) to the midpoint of the school grounds (as determined by Islington Local Authority) Home address is defined as the address at which the child resides for 50% or more of the school week. In a tie break situation the outcome would be decided by random allocation which will be carried out by the Governors in the presence of an independent witness

The Placement Test

Candidates will be invited to take short tests in English, mathematics and science in order to determine the band to which they will be allocated. The tests will be held at St Aloysius' College early in December 2015. Boys with statements of special educational needs (who are not subject to the oversubscription criteria) are allocated to the appropriate band for the purpose of calculating the number of children to be admitted in that band

Application and Supplementary Forms

All applicants must complete the Common Application Form. This is available from your son's primary school and the Local Authority where you live. You should return this form directly to the address given on the form by the statutory deadline of 30 October 2015 but by 23 October if possible.

In addition, applicants should complete the school's own supplementary information form and the priest reference form (see note 3) and return, along with a copy of the boy's baptismal certificate (see note 2) directly to St Aloysius' College by 30 October 2015 at the latest. These forms are available from the school, on the school website, and are also contained in the Islington Local Authority Secondary Transfer Brochure 2016/17.

Late Applications

Any applications received after the deadline of 30 October 2015 will be considered late. Only where there is a genuine and compelling reason for an application to be late, which can be substantiated to the satisfaction of the Governing Body by the submission of strong and independent documentary evidence at the time of the application, will late applications be considered alongside those received by the closing date. For these applications to be considered, they must be received by the end of the first week of December so that all aspects of the application can be processed before the Governors meet to make their decisions.

Offers

Offers of places will be sent to applicants by their home Local Authority on **1 March 2016** and they will have until 18 March to accept or decline the offer. A waiting list will be compiled on 25 March and maintained by the Governors until the end of the summer term 2016. After that time, applicants will be asked if they wish to remain on the list. All applications on the waiting list, including late applications, will be judged against the admissions criteria as vacancies occur. Unsuccessful applicants are entitled under the School Standards & Framework Act 1998 to appeal against the Governing Body's decision. Please contact the school to discuss procedure and request an appeal form.

Fair Access Protocol

The school is committed to taking its fair share of vulnerable children who are hard to place, in accordance with locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal round of admissions, the Governing Body are empowered to give consideration to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol which carries the agreement of both the Governing Body and the Diocese for the current admission year. The Governing Body has this power even when admitting such a child would exceed the normal admission number.

In Year Admissions (Year 7,8,9,10 & 11)

Applications for In-Year admissions are made directly to the school. If a place is available and there is no waiting list then the Governing Body will offer the place. If more applications are received than there are places available then applications will be ranked in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Applicants will be offered the opportunity of being placed on a waiting list which will be maintained by the Governing Body in the order of the oversubscription criteria and not in the order in which the applications are received. When a place becomes available the Governing Body will make an offer to the applicant who is at the top of the list.

Year 12 Admissions

As a partner in the Islington 6th Form Consortium, we welcome applications from all students. The Consortium Admissions Policy can be found in the consortium prospectus or on www.ic6.co.uk. In the event of oversubscription, priority will be given to students who fulfil the Consortium oversubscription criteria. Applications made after the deadline to the College will be given priority according to the oversubscription criteria set out above.