St Patrick's Catholic College a member of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust within Stockton Local Authority Admission Policy 2027-28

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St Patrick's Catholic College was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for baptised Catholic children. The school is run by the Board of Directors of Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and Articles of Association and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ.

All Main Round and In-year applications must be conducted in accordance with the September 2021 School Admissions Code and School Admission Appeals Code published 1st October 2022.

Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will always be given to Catholic applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below.

The Board of Directors of the Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for determining the school's admissions policy. The operational implementation of the Admissions policy is delegated to the Governing Body of the school, although the Admissions Authority reserves the right to deal directly with admissions requests if and when deemed necessary.

The planned admission number for September 2027 is 120.

The named feeder schools are the primary schools within Nicholas Postgate Catholic Academy Trust. These are:

Christ the King Catholic Primary School (Stockton-on-Tees)
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Alphonsus' Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Clare's Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Edward's Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Gerard's Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (Stockton-on-Tees)
St Pius X Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)
St Therese of Lisieux Catholic Primary School (Stockton-on-Tees)
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School (Middlesbrough)

How and When to apply

Applications must be made on the Local Authority Common Application Form. Parents applying to a Catholic School should also complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) as if the school is oversubscribed; the information contained within the SIF will allow the Board of Directors to identify which over subscription criteria your application is to be considered against. All forms must be returned by the closing date set by the Local Authority. 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.

Children with an Educational Health and Care Plan which after formal consultation names our school in their plan will be admitted to the school.

Late Applications

Any applications received after the closing date will be accepted but considered only after those received by the closing date.

Oversubscription Criteria

The Admissions Policy Criteria will be applied on an Equal Preference basis.

Where there are insufficient places available to meet all parental preferences, priority will be given to applications in the following order:

(First priority in each category will be given to siblings (see note 3) that is, children who will have older brothers or sisters attending the academy in September 2026).

1. Catholic 'looked after children' or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order91 including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. 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).

2. Catholic children from our named NPCAT feeder schools.

3. Catholic children of members of school staff who have been employed at the

school or its predecessor school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.

4. Other Catholic children.

5. Other 'looked after children' or children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order 91 including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. 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).

6. Other children from our named NPCAT feeder schools who do not meet criteria 1 to 5.

7. Other children of members of school staff who have been employed at the school or its predecessor school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.

8. Children from other Christian denominations (see note 2).

9. Other children.

Additional Notes

1. Definition of Catholic

   Children who have been baptised as Catholics or have been formally received into the Catholic Church. All applicants seeking admission under any of criteria 1 to 4 will be asked to provide evidence that the child has been baptised as a Catholic or has been received into the Catholic Church. A baptismal certificate or a letter from their priest confirming their baptism or reception into the Catholic Church will suffice.

2. Definition of children of other Christian denominations.

   “Children of other Christian denominations” means: children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledging God’s revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God’s will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and

with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and of CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis. All applicants seeking admission under any of criteria 8 will be asked to provide evidence that they are members of another Christian denomination. A baptismal certificate or a letter from their religious leader will suffice.

3. Definition of Sibling

Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling and is in attendance at the same school on the date of admission.

4. Multiple Births

For twins and multiple births, where only 1 place remains the additional child(ren) will also be offered a place in school.

5. Admission of a child outside their normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. If you wish to request admission of a child outside of their normal year group you must contact the school to discuss your request with the Headteacher at least four weeks before the closing date of the admission period for your child's normal year group. The Headteacher will then discuss the request with a representative of the Admissions Authority. If the school agrees to your request, you will receive confirmation in writing. You should submit your application in the application window, as part of the Local Authority standard application process, for the deferred year in which you wish your child to be admitted to the school with the accompanying support letter from the Headteacher.

Tie-breaker

Where there are places available for some, but not all applicants within a particular criterion, distance from home address to the school entrance will be the deciding factor. Distance will be measured using the local authority's measuring system from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority. If the admission number is reached at the point at which the next applicant resides in a home equal distance from the last successful place(s) offered, the last place will be offered by drawing lots. When the application of this rule would lead to the separation of twins or multiple birth siblings, both (or all) will be admitted.

Right of Appeal

Where a parent has been notified that a place is not available for a child, every effort will be made to help the parent to find a place in a suitable alternative school. Parents who are refused a place have a statutory right of appeal. Further details of the appeals process are available by writing to the Chair of Governors at the school address.

Home Address

It is the parental address which will be used in applying the admission criteria. This means that, when stating your choice of school, you should give the parental/guardian address at the time of application. The address of childminders or other family members who may share in the care of your child should not be quoted as the home address.

Waiting Lists

If your child has been refused admission, a waiting list is available where priority will be given according to the above criteria based on the information provided at the time of application. The waiting list will be open until the end of the Autumn term.

In-year applications for all Year Groups

If parents wish for their child to obtain a place at the school in any year group at any point after the 2027/28 academic year has commenced, they should apply using the relevant Local Authority In-year admissions application form. Verbal or written requests direct to school cannot be accepted as official applications.

Once a school receives an official application through the Local Authority, they will determine whether or not the child can be offered a place. The decision whether a place can be offered or not will be communicated to parents via letter from the Local Authority.

If a place is not offered then parents have their statutory right of appeal. The reasons for appeal should be written in a letter addressed to the Chair of Governors of the school and be posted or delivered to the school reception.

Questions about the Admissions process or availability of places

If parents have any questions about the admissions process or wish to obtain information on which NPCAT schools have places available, they can contact a NPCAT Standards Officer through the NPCAT website or by emailing admissions@npcat.org.uk.

Contacts

For advice on the content of this policy, please contact:

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