



ALL SAINTS
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS

2026 - 2027

Approved by: Board of Governors

Date: 28th January 2025

Last reviewed on: January 2024

Next review due by: January 2026

All Saints Catholic High School aims to deliver outstanding progress and achievement for girls and boys between the ages of 11 and 18. Our mission of 'shaping tomorrow, inspired by faith' is underpinned by our values to support and nurture aspiration, provide service to our community and embody compassion. The school's environment allows our students to flourish and grow in God's love while feeling happy, enjoying learning and feeling secure.

We welcome students of all faiths and backgrounds that wish to join our community. Our school was founded by the Catholic Church over 120 years ago to provide a Catholic Education for students in the local area. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. ***This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with these admission arrangements; Catholic education is education for all.***

The governing body is the sole admission authority for admissions to this school and intends to admit 120 children to year 7 in 2026. The deadline for applications is **31st October 2025**.

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

All candidates applying for a place will take the Cognitive Ability Tests (CAT4) designed by GL Assessments for the purpose of banding. The test is not an entrance examination that pupils pass or fail. It is a way of ensuring that the school admits children of all abilities. Children will be placed in one of four bands based on their score in the tests. The school may seek other evidence of the child's academic ability if (for acceptable reasons) the child is not able to take the test. All candidates will be placed into one of four ability bands, A, B, C and D dependent on their CAT score.

Ability Banding and Admission Procedures

Applicants will be placed into one of four ability bands, based on their Cognitive Ability Test (CAT) scores, which reflect the national range of abilities. The bands and corresponding CAT scores are as follows:

Band	CAT Score
Band A	110 and above
Band B	101-109
Band C	90-100
Band D	Below 90

Each band will receive 30 places, ensuring a balanced distribution across abilities. In the event that there are more applicants than available places within a particular band, or when the total number of applicants exceeds the admission number, places will be allocated based on the oversubscription criteria.

- If a band is **oversubscribed**, places will be allocated using the school's oversubscription criteria.

- If a band is **undersubscribed**, all applicants in that band will be admitted. Remaining unallocated places will be filled by applicants from the next nearest band, prioritising oversubscribed higher bands first.

Application Procedure

To apply for a place in this school, you must complete and return:

- All parents must list the school on their local authority's common application form (CAF) which is available on the website of the local authority in which the family is resident (also at this address: www.eadmissions.org.uk). This form must be completed by the deadline set by the local authority – by the 31st October 2025.
- The ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL Supplementary Information Form (SIF) must be completed when applying under criteria 1, 2, 4, 5 or 6, which can be found on the school website, application pack from the school or Hackney Education website. This form must be completed and returned to **Ms Rhoden** at the school address by the **31st October 2025**.

Over subscription criteria

When the number of applicants exceeds the admission number, offers of places are made using the following criteria in order of priority:

1. Catholic *looked after children* and *previously looked after children*
2. Other Catholic children.
3. Other looked after children and children who have been adopted (or made subject to child arrangement orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after.
4. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church.
5. Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion
6. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidence by a religious leader
7. Any other children.

Within each category above preference will be given according to the following order:

- a) **Exceptional needs:** The Admissions Authority will give top priority in any category to children whose exceptional medical, social or pastoral needs justify a place at the school. *To demonstrate an exceptional social or medical need, which can only be met at this school, the Admissions Authority will require compelling written evidence at the time of application, from an appropriate professional e.g. doctor, priest or social worker.*
- b) **Siblings:** Brothers or sisters of siblings who are on roll at the school at the time of the proposed admission. *Siblings must live at the same address as the student for whom the application is being made. This includes half siblings, step siblings and foster siblings who live permanently as a family unit at the same address.*
- c) **Distance from school:** measured 'as the crow flies' to the Main Entrance door of school. *Distance will be calculated using a computerised measuring system that identifies the students' addresses using geographical references provided by the borough council in which the student lives and the measurement will be made from the applicant's home address to the Main Entrance of the school. In the case of a number of addresses in the same block with the same geographical reference or two applicants living exactly the same distance away, the (final) place will be determined by lottery, which will be carried out in the presence of an independent witness.*

Admission of twins / multiple births: when only one place is available the Admissions Authority will admit the other child(ren) and go above numbers.

Appeals Procedure: Information in regard to the Appeals Procedure will be sent out by Hackney Education to those who are unsuccessful.

Waiting list: The school maintains a waiting list, in the order of the oversubscription published criteria, and places will be offered as and when vacancies occur. **Inclusion in the school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.**

1. Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP)

Children in receipt of an Education, Health and Care Plan, are not admitted through this procedure and should contact the SEN department at their local authority. Children with this school named in their EHC Plan will be admitted. The admission of children with an EHC Plan will reduce the number of places available.

2. Admissions outside the normal age group

Parents seeking a place for their child outside the normal age group at transfer from year 6 to 7 or at any other time of the school year (In-Year transfer) and wish this to continue, should read the guidance on out of normal age group admissions in Hackney's admissions arrangements at education.hackney.gov.uk/content/admissions-arrangements.

In-Year Admissions

Applications for In Year admissions should be made directly to Hackney Education on the In Year application form (education.hackney.gov.uk/inyear). If a place is available and there is no waiting list then the Local Authority will be informed and the child will be admitted. If more applications are received than there are places available then applications will be ranked by the Governing Body in accordance with the oversubscription published criteria.

If a place cannot be offered at this time then you may ask the school for the reasons and you will be informed of your right of appeal. You will be offered the opportunity of being placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained by the Governing Body in the order of the oversubscription published criteria and not in the order in which the applications are received. When a place becomes available the Governing Body re-ranks the list so that the Local Authority can inform the parent that the school is making an offer.

1. Fair Access Protocols

2. The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admissions round the governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol that has been agreed by both the Diocese, Trustees and the governing body for the current school year. The governing body has this power even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number.

3. Sixth Form Admission Policy

4. The school operates a mixed Sixth Form with a total capacity of 150 students, 75 of whom will be admitted into Year 12. All current Year 11 students of the school who meet the entry requirements are eligible for admission. In addition, external applicants—both girls and boys—will be considered until Year 12 reaches its capacity of 75 students.

Admission to the Sixth Form is subject to meeting the published admissions criteria, which include both the minimum academic entry requirements for the Sixth Form and subject-specific requirements for the courses applied for. These requirements are published annually in the Sixth Form Admissions Criteria document and can be found on the school's website.

Applications must be submitted using the Sixth Form Application Form, available from the school. Offers of places are conditional upon the school's ability to provide a suitable course that aligns with the applicant's age, ability, aptitude, and educational needs.

In the event of oversubscription, the priorities outlined in this policy will be applied to allocate places.

Progression to Year 13:

- Progression to Year 13 is contingent upon students meeting the following criteria:
- A minimum grade of D in all A-Level subjects.
- Completion of all Year 12 coursework for vocational subjects.
- Achievement of the school's attendance target of 96%, unless a medical condition prevents this.

Oversubscription Criteria

- **Looked After Children or Previously Looked After Children**
Students who are "Looked After" or previously "Looked After" as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989, subject to meeting the specific entry criteria for their chosen programme of study.
- **Exceptional Social or Medical Need**
Applicants with an exceptional social or medical need who meet the admissions criteria, where there is a clear link between the student's need and the school. Parents/carers must provide a case supported by appropriate professional evidence (e.g., from a doctor, social worker, or similar professional) that establishes this link between the need and the school.
- **Internal Year 11 Students**
Current Year 11 students at the school, subject to meeting the specific entry criteria for their chosen programme of study, up to a maximum of 75 students.
- **External Applicants**
External applicants who meet the admissions criteria for their chosen programme of study, subject to availability of places in that programme. The total number of students admitted to the year group, including internal students, will not exceed 75.

In the Event of Oversubscription

If there are more applicants than available places, those meeting the basic qualification will be allocated places based on their proximity to the school and the availability of their chosen courses. Applicants must select their courses at the time of application, and these cannot be changed before the application is determined.

Distance Measurement

Proximity to the school is measured in a straight line ("as the crow flies") from the centre of the pedestrian gate on Amhurst Park to the permanent address at which the applicant normally resides at the time of application. The school will verify the applicant's permanent address carefully.

Ranking and Allocation Process

1. Places will be allocated in order of closeness to the school.

2. If the places for a particular course of study are filled, any further applicants for that course will not be considered, regardless of whether they meet the criteria or if places are available in other chosen courses. The number of applicants for each course will be taken into account. In some cases, additional students may be accommodated if the course is not full.
3. All initial admission decisions will be made by the Headteacher.

Any applicant who is unable to satisfy these conditions will not be admitted to the school.

Notes: Interpretation of terms used in the Admissions Policy

1. Catholic	'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. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.' For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception in the Catholic Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their parish priest who, after consulting with the diocese will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.
2. Catechumens	A member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
3. Looked after child	A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making application to the school.
4. Previously looked after child	A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the governing body) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
5. Sibling	Brother or sister, to include adopted brothers and sisters, half brothers and sisters or step brothers and sisters. A sibling relationship does not apply when the older child(ren) will leave before the younger one starts.
6. Adopted	An adopted child is a child who is adopted under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 s.46 (adoption orders).

<p>7. Children of other Christian denominations</p>	<p>Children of other Christian denomination 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 in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above. All members of Churches Together in England and of CYTŪN 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.</p>
<p>8. Children of other Faiths</p>	<p>Students of other faiths means girls who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of ‘other Christian denominations’ above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and • A religion which does not involve belief in a God. <p>Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.</p>
<p>9. EHC Plan</p>	<p>An Education, Health and Care Plan is made by the local authority under Section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.</p>
<p>10. Parent(s)</p>	<p>Person(s) who has/have legal responsibility for the applicant</p>
<p>11. Special Guardianship Order</p>	<p>A special guardianship order is an order under the terms of the Children Act 1989 s.14A which defines it as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child’s special guardian(s).</p>
<p>12. Home Address</p>	<p>A child’s “home address” refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer, and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form (“CAF”). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.</p>
<p>13. ‘Child Arrangements Order’</p>	<p>A Child Arrangements order is an order under the terms of the Children Act 1989 s.8 settling 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 to qualify in this category.</p>