

SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2006

Silchester Church of England Aided Primary School is pleased to welcome children from families living in Silchester, Mortimer West End and neighbouring districts, including Pamber Heath.

Parents have a right, by law, to express a preference about the school they would like their child to go to. Silchester School will consider first all applications which name our school as first priority.

In the case of Silchester Church of England Aided Primary School, the Governing Body is the admissions authority. The Governors have consulted both the Winchester Diocesan Board of Education and Hampshire Local Education Authority about the contents of the Admissions Policy.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for Silchester CE (Aided) Primary School for 2006/2007 is 30 in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

In recent years applications have outnumbered available places at the school. If there are too many applicants for the places available, the Governing Body will decide which children should come to the school according to the following categories, taken in order. The figures in brackets after each category show the numbers of children admitted recently, to help you judge how likely your child is to gain a place.

In the event of equal validity within a category, places are allocated according to the proximity of the family home to the school. All distances will be measured by a straight line from the gate of the house (or, in the case of multi-occupancy dwellings, the flat door rather than the communal entrance to the building) nearest to the school to the main school gate.

It should be noted that children with a statement of special educational need naming the school will be given priority over all other children.

1. Looked after children¹ (0 in 2004 and 0 in 2005)
2. Children living within the catchment area. This is the area within the church parish boundaries of Silchester and Mortimer West End. A map showing the boundaries is available in the school. (13 in 2004 and 9 in 2005)
3. Children living outside the designated catchment area of the school (defined in category 2) who will have a brother, sister, step, half brother/sister or adopted brother/sister living in the same family unit on the roll of the school during the year of their admission. (13 in 2004 and 7 in 2005)
4. Children from families who attend Christian worship a minimum of twice per year at a Church of England church and require a Christian environment for their child's education. (4 in 2004 and 8 in 2005)
5. Children from families who attend worship a minimum of twice per year at other churches belonging to Member Churches of Churches Together in England² and require a Christian environment for their child's education. (included in above annual figure)
6. Children with special medical, physical, psychological or social needs, that can be particularly well met at Silchester Church of England Aided Primary School in the view of the professional consultant involved. Written evidence from the relevant professionals will be required. (0 in 2004 and 0 in 2005)
7. Other children. (0 in 2004 and 4 in 2005)

The closing date for all applications is at noon on 18th November 2005 for entries in the following year (September 2006 to July 2007). The LEA will inform parents of the result of their application by 27th January 2006. There are thirty places available in our Reception class. To enter our Reception class children need to be aged 4 at 31st August 2006. The Governors are unable to consider any request without a completed form found at the end of the prospectus.

¹ 'Looked after children' are children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority – see section 22 of the Children Act 1989).

² **Member Churches of 'Churches Together in England':**

Baptist Union of Great Britain, Cherubim and Seraphim Council of Churches, Church of England, Congregational Federation, Council of African and Afro-Caribbean Churches, Council of Oriental Orthodox Christian Churches, Free Churches' Council, Greek Orthodox Church, Ichthus Christian Fellowship, Independent Methodist Churches, International Ministerial Council of Great Britain, Joint Council for Anglo-Caribbean Churches, Lutheran Council of Great Britain, Methodist Church, Moravian Church, New Testament Assembly, Religious Society of Friends, Roman Catholic Church, Russian Orthodox Church, United Reformed Church, Salvation Army, Wesleyan Holiness Church

If the Governing Body are unable to offer a place for a child we hope parents will be able to find a suitable local school. Initially, the Head Teacher is available to assist parents if necessary. Further advice can be obtained from the LEA.

A parent may feel that the Governing Body have treated their application unfairly or there may be special circumstances. Parents are invited to discuss the situation with the Head Teacher or the Chairman of Governors. All parents have the right of an appeal and an Appeal Form will be available on request from the school. The form will include the date by which the form should be returned to the school.

Appeals

If a parent decides to make a legal appeal, they should fill in the form and return it to the school by the date given. The Governors will send all appeal forms they receive to the Diocesan Director of Education. The Diocesan Director of Education will write and tell you the arrangements. Parents and the Governing Body will have a chance to send in any papers they wish and to speak at the hearing. The decision of the Appeal Panel as to whether your child can come to Silchester Church of England Aided Primary School is binding in law.

A parent can appeal if the Governing Body cannot find a place for a child of any age, for instance, if you have recently moved into the area. But you cannot appeal a second time in relation to the same school year unless circumstances have significantly changed and you have made a fresh application for a place at the school.

The Waiting List

The Head Teacher keeps a waiting list of parents who would like their children to come to the school, which will be managed on a yearly basis. If the number of children in the year group falls below the Governors' published admission number, then a new child can be admitted from the waiting list. The admissions criteria in the current policy (or original policy) will be used to decide which child to admit.

Moving House

If you are due to move house, you may be asked to produce a signed contract for purchase or lease; a letter from an employer or commanding officer in relation to a specific address; or (in the case of a family returning to a house they already own) evidence of a parent being required to return from work in distant parts together with evidence of a tenant being given notice to quit.

Date of policy:	January 2004
Updated:	September 2005
To be reviewed:	Annually