

# St Francis of Assisi Catholic College

Erdington Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RN (DfE No: 335 4606)

**Acting Headteacher:** Mr L Salkeld  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr Timothy Ward  
**Admission Number:** 180

**Type:** Voluntary Aided  
**Denominational Affiliation:** Catholic  
**Total No. of Pupils (Jan 2020):** 1,115

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2020**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

A copy of your child's Baptismal certificate should be sent directly to the school together with the Supplementary Evidence Form, in line with the deadline for returning your home Authority application form. In special circumstances where this is

unobtainable (e.g. applicants from abroad) a letter from your current parish priest or minister of religion must be sent directly to the school to support the application.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, the governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the governors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made.

**In all categories, priority will be given to those who have a sibling attending St Francis of Assisi Catholic College at the proposed time of admission**

**Category A** - Baptised Catholic children who are in the care of a Local Authority (looked after children) or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

**Category B** – Baptised Catholic children attending the original Roman Catholic Primary Schools in the parishes which St Francis was designed to serve. These are:

St Mary of the Angels, Aldridge	St Gabriel's, Tamworth
St Francis RC Primary, Sheffield	St Elizabeth's,
Tamworth St Anne's, Streetly	St Joseph's, Lichfield
St Bernadette's, Brownhills	St Peter and Paul,
Lichfield St Mary's the Mount, Walsall	

**Category C** – Baptised Catholic children who currently live in the Parish area of a designated catholic feeder school who are not currently attending the designated Catholic feeder school.

**Category D** – Other Baptised Catholic children.

**Category E** – Non-Catholic children who are looked after or previously looked after.

**Category F** – Non-Catholic children who attended the feeder schools listed in Category B.

**Category G** – Non-Catholic children, including those who have a brother or sister in the Dyslexia Unit.

**Note 1:** Children with a statement of special educational need will be given priority. This will reduce the number of places available to applicants.

**Note 2:** Evidence of Catholic Baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest.

**Note 3:** In all categories, priority will be given to those who have a sibling or brothers or sisters who are legally adopted and attending St Francis of Assisi at the proposed time of admission. The definition of a sibling is:

- A sibling sharing the same parents;
- Half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;
- Step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- Adopted or fostered children
- A sibling must be living at the same address

**Note 4:** If there is oversubscription within a category, the Governors will give priority first to siblings, then to children living closest to the school. The distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school address, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

**How places were offered for September 2019 and 2020:**

A total of 461 preferences were expressed for places in September 2019. Places were offered only to pupils who met admission criteria A, B, C, D, F and some in Category G.

A total of 558 preferences were expressed for places in September 2020. Places were offered only to pupils who met admission criteria A, B, C, D, F and some in Category G.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:**

In the first instance write to the Chairman of Governors at the school address shown above. If this does not resolve the matter write to the Secretary of the Appeals Committee for Admissions at the above school address.

## Information provided by the school:

Expectations at St. Francis of Assisi are high. We expect excellent attendance, attitude to work and behaviour, which reflects our Catholic ethos. We continue to be one of the top performing schools in Walsall.

"This is a vibrant spiritual and learning community in communion with Christ and the Catholic Church. All its members are known and cared for."

### **Diocesan Inspection- May 2018**

*"The Catholic Life of the school is outstanding. The Catholic Life and mission of the school is at the heart of everything it does and its impact on pupils is profound."*

*"Pupils have a deep respect for themselves and others, which is evident in the behaviour and positive relationships around the school site and in public."*

*"All teaching and support staff embrace Catholic Life as the most important aspect and feature of the school, everything else revolves around it."*

*"There are positive relationships throughout the school community, which are based on mutual respect. Pastoral care is of the highest quality."*

*"Governors are passionate about the Catholic mission of the school and are committed to improving pupils' school and adult life."*

*"Care of the most vulnerable pupils is given the highest priority and is highly effective."*

*"The leadership of the school is deeply committed to the Catholic Life of the school and Catholic Life is given the highest priority."*

### **Ofsted Inspection- Feb 2017**

"Teachers and leaders at all levels are enthusiastic and ambitious."

"High standards are expected of pupils in both their academic achievement and behaviour. Staff commitment is summed up in the English translation of the school's motto, 'Only the best is good enough'."

"Leaders, other staff and pupils work together to create a calm, purposeful and hard-working atmosphere."

"Attainment is significantly above average in all subjects."

Apply on-line at [www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk) and follow the link to  
Education - Secondary School Admissions For advice contact the Parent  
Support Advice Service or telephone the School Admissions and Appeals  
Team

on 01922 652585 or email: [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk)