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Sixth Form Admissions Policy 2021/22

MISSION AND ETHOS

St Augustine's is a Catholic College which embraces the gospel values of Jesus Christ in its everyday life and seeks the highest standards of excellence whilst remaining committed to valuing each individual and their gifts. Our aim is to help each person achieve their potential and become equipped for an adult life of service to others.

BACKGROUND

ESTABLISHED TO SERVE CLIFTON DIOCESE. St Augustine's is a Catholic Academy established by the Diocese of Clifton to serve Catholic parishes in the area described in the College's Admissions Policy.

PUBLISHED ADMISSION NUMBER (PAN). The PAN for external students entering the Sixth Form is 30.

APPLICATIONS PROCESS

1. ADMISSION TO YEAR 12 FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS

External students are those who have not completed their KS4 studies at St Augustine's

- a. Students wishing to transfer to St Augustine's Sixth Form must complete the application form and submit this to the College by the published deadline, 12 noon on the 1 March 2021. Offers of a conditional place will be sent out to those who qualify following the first Admissions Committee meeting after the 1 March 2021.
- b. Students may be invited to attend a consultation to discuss course options and academic entry requirements.
- c. Offers of a place by the Governing Body to students wishing to join the Sixth Form will be conditional upon students meeting the entry requirements as set out in Section 2.
- d. If there are more applications than places available, then each application received on time will be ranked against the Oversubscription Criteria below. Those students whose applications are ranked highest will be offered a conditional place up to the number available.
- e. Students who are unsuccessful in securing a place in the first round of admissions will be entered on a waiting list until 30 September 2021. Should places become available, these will be offered in accordance with the Oversubscription Criteria given below. Each added student to the list will require the list to be ranked again in line with the Oversubscription Criteria.
- f. Late applications will be considered if places in appropriate subjects are still available.

2. ENTRANCE EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS

- a) Students must achieve **five Grade 5s or above at GCSE or equivalent.**
- b) Students must have achieved either Maths and/or English at GCSE grade 4 or above to be accepted into the Sixth Form.
- c) Students who have been offered a place without a grade 4 or above in English or Maths will have to re-sit this course.
- d) Applications to study all three sciences will be subject to a positive recommendation from the Head of Sixth Form following a review of GCSE average points.

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- e) Applications to study four A levels will be subject to a student attaining an average GCSE score of 8 or above and regular progress reviews by the Head of Sixth.
- f) Students must also meet the subject specific entry requirements for the agreed programme of study (a list of detailed requirements is available from the Sixth Form office and college website).
- g) The College reserves the right to offer an alternative programme of study based on a student's average GCSE points score.
- h) Students with special needs or disability must meet the examination entry requirements. Reasonable adjustments to the Sixth Form programme of study will be discussed on an individual basis once these requirements have been met.

THE GOVERNING BODY. The Governors of the College are responsible for admissions. Governors comply with the Wiltshire Local Authority Fair Access protocol.

The Governing Body will consider all completed applications. Applications submitted after the closing date will be considered providing there is capacity.

If there are more applications than there are places available, then the Governing Body will rank applications in accordance with the Oversubscription Criteria as outlined in this policy.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

CATEGORY 1 – Catholic Students – see Note 4

Applications will be ranked in the following order:

- 1.1 Catholic Looked After Children (LAC) - Note 1
- 1.2 Catholic students with a brother or sister at the school - Note 2
- 1.3 All other Catholic students

CATEGORY 2 – Non-Catholic Looked After Children (LAC) - Note 1

CATEGORY 3 – College Community

Students who have a parent/carer who is a member of College Staff as defined in Note 3

CATEGORY 4 – Christian Students – Note 5

Applications will be ranked in the following order:

- 4.1 Christian students with a brother or sister at the school - Note 2
- 4.2 All other Christian students

CATEGORY 5 – All other students. Students who do not fall into any of the previous categories.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

TIE BREAKER. Priority within each oversubscription category will be determined using a random sequence generator (e.g. <https://www.random.org/sequences/>) supervised by an independent person. Where one child of a multiple birth is drawn, the other child or children will be deemed to have also been drawn.

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NOTES:

Note 1 – Looked After Children (LAC)

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 its social services functions at the time of application. A child who was Previously Looked After is a child who, immediately after being looked after became subject to a child arrangements or residence order, legal adoption or a Special Guardianship Order. As used in the Oversubscription Criteria above, the term LAC means both Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children.

Note 2 – Brother or Sister

Brothers or sisters are defined as children who:

- share one natural parent or who are legally adopted by the same adoptive parent **AND**
- who live at the same address for at least 50% of the time **AND**

'at the school' means that at least one of the children is in the College's years 7-12 at the time of application.

Note 3 – College Staff

A member of College Staff is someone who has been employed by and at the College for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the College is made or who has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Note 4 – Catholic Students

Catholic students means students who have been baptised into the Catholic Church or into a Christian Church which is in Communion with the See of Rome, or who have been received into the Catholic Church, having been baptised into another Christian Church. In order to give Category 1 priority to such students in the first round of allocations, we need to see evidence in the form of a copy of a certificate of baptism or a certificate of reception into the Catholic Church. This should be submitted to the College by 1 March 2021.

Note 5 - Christian Students

Christian students will be members of a recognised Christian church other than those covered by Note 4. A recognised Christian church will be a member of Churches Together in Britain (website www.cte.org.uk), Cytun, the Evangelical Alliance or Vineyard Churches in the UK and Ireland. In order to give Category 4 priority in the first round of allocations, we need to see evidence in the form of a copy of:

i) a letter on headed paper confirming membership of their Christian denomination, signed and dated by the appropriate minister; or

ii) a certificate of baptism/christening certificate from the church.

This evidence should be submitted to the College by 1 March 2021.