

St Alphonsus RC Primary School

Admissions Policy 2025/2026

For the school year commencing September 2025, the governing body has set its planned admissions number at 30

Admissions Policy

St Alphonsus RC Primary is a Roman Catholic School in the trusteeship of the Diocese of Salford. It is maintained by Trafford Local Authority and is a voluntary aided school. The Governing Board is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking all decisions on applications for admissions.

The school's role is to participate in the mission of the Catholic Church by providing a curriculum, including Catholic religious education and worship, which will help children to grow in their understanding of the Good News and in the practice of their faith. The school will help the children develop fully as human beings and prepare them to undertake their responsibilities as Catholics in society. The school requires all parents applying for a place here to understand and respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the rights of parents who are not of the Catholic faith to apply for a place here.

Admission to the school will be determined by governing board and subject to the following set of criteria which will be used to form a priority order if there are more applications for admission than the school has places available.

1. Baptised Roman Catholic Looked After Children, Baptised Roman Catholic previously Looked After Children and Looked After Children adopted from overseas.
2. Baptised Roman Catholic children resident in the parishes of St Alphonsus.
3. Other Baptised Catholic Children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission
4. Other baptised Catholic children.
5. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children.
6. Other children who have a sibling in the school at the time of admission.
7. All remaining applicants.

Notes

- a) 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.
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.
- b) Brothers/Sisters in this document will refer to foster children in the same family, step brothers/sisters and other children of partners
- c) All applicants will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is determined by Trafford Local Authority. Any application received after this date will only be considered after all on time applications have been processed.
- d) Each Roman Catholic applicant will be required to produce a baptismal certificate.
- e) Parents should check carefully whether they are resident within the parish boundaries.
- f) It is the duty of governors to comply with class size limits at Key Stage One. This means that the school cannot operate classes in KS 1 of more than 30 children
- g) If in any category there are more applications than places available, priority will be given on the basis of proximity to the school. (Children who live nearest to the requested school, calculated in a direct straight line from the child's permanent place of residence to the school. The distance from the home address will be calculated from the seed point of the property, which is defined by co-ordinates held in Trafford's Local Land and Property Gazetteer (BS7666), and are available on request from Trafford's School Admission Team. For applicants resident outside Trafford, the seed point data will be provided by the Home Authority. Royal Mail Postal Address Information may be used in some instances. The co-ordinates used for each school are held in Trafford's School Admissions and Transfer system and are listed in the Directory of Primary Schools contained in Trafford's Composite Prospectus, published on Trafford's website under the title "Starting Primary School).
- h) If the Governing Body has turned down an application for admission, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk of the Governors at the school within 14 days of notification of refusal. The date of notification will be 2 working days after posting by first class post. The parents must give their reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.

- i) Admission arrangements to the Reception class are separate to those for the Nursery. Attendance at the Nursery does not give a child any guarantee or priority when it comes to consideration by the governors of applicants for admission to the Reception class.
- j) Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address will be that at which the child spends the majority of the working week (Monday - Friday).