

ST MARY'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL HAWKSHAW

St Mary's is a Voluntary Aided school with a strong Christian ethos and an outstanding community spirit. The school welcomes the children of all successful applicants in the September following their fourth birthday. Admissions to an Aided school are the responsibility of the Governors, in agreement with the Diocese of Manchester and the Local Authority, which now deals with all admissions.

Children with special educational needs (SEND), if the school is named on their Education Health Plan, will be admitted as of right.

The school intends to admit **15** pupils in September 2026.

If the school is over-subscribed, pupils will be admitted by the use, in order, of the following criteria:	
1	Children in public care (Looked After Children) and previously looked after children. This includes any 'looked after child, 'previously looked after children, and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions. This criteria also includes looked after children and all previously looked after children who appear (to the local authority) to have been in state care outside England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2	Children with brothers/stepbrothers, sisters/stepsisters or other fostered or adopted children in their family, who will be on roll on September 1st in the year of admission.
3	Children resident, but not necessarily attending church, within the parish of Holcombe and Hawkshaw (Hawkshaw, Holcombe, Holcombe Brook and Greenmount, together with parts of Summerseat and Ramsbottom). A map may be consulted at the school or on the school website (see above).
4	Any other children.

* Under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. See Section 46 (adoption orders).

** Under the terms of the Children Act 1989. See Section 8 which defines a 'residence order' as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

Notes

Waiting List

If there are children for whom no places are available, the school will hold a waiting list for the first term after the normal admission round, i.e. September to December. If places become available they will be offered in accordance with the school's admission policy.

Twins

If there is a situation where only one place is available and the next children to be offered places are twins or triplets, both twins, or the three triplets, will be offered places as a permitted exception to class size regulation. Children of armed forces personnel are also an exception to class size regulation.

Allocation of Places

Where there are more applicants than places, priority will be given on the basis of proximity to the school measured by the shortest driving distance along the public highway, from the front door of the child's normal residence to the front gate of the school. In the event of any application with shared parenting the home address would be that of the parent to whom child benefit is paid.

Applications received after the closing date will be treated as late applications, which will be considered after those applications which are received on time.

Deferred Admissions

Parents of children who are admitted to the school before they are of compulsory school age can defer their child's entry until later in the school year. Where entry is deferred, the school will hold a place for that child and not offer it to another child. A parent cannot defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the academic year for which the original application was accepted. Parents can also request that their child attends on a part time basis until the child reaches compulsory school age.

Right of Appeal

In the rare event of the governors being unable to offer a place because the school is over subscribed, parents have the right to appeal to an independent admission appeal panel, set up under the School Standards and Framework Act, 1998, as amended by the Education Act, 2002. Parents should notify the school within 14 days of receiving the letter refusing a place. Parents will have the opportunity to submit their case to the Appeals Panel in writing. They will normally receive 14 days' notice of the place and time of the hearing.