

St Margaret's C of E Primary School Admissions criteria

When the number of applications exceeds the number of places available we apply the following criteria in priority order for deciding which applications to accept. We give priority to children of parents who worship in Church of England churches, particularly those within Barking.

After we have offered places to any children who are or were in the care of a local authority, the remaining places will be filled by children with the highest number of points using the criteria below.

10	<i>Is 'at the heart of the church' - a regular worshipper (one who worships usually twice a month)</i>
2	<i>Is 'known to the church' - an occasional worshipper</i>
1	<i>Does not attend a Christian church</i>

Extra points

2	Children who will have one or more siblings at the school on the date they start school. (Sibling means a full brother or sister, a half-brother or half-sister, a stepbrother or stepsister, or an adopted or long-term fostered brother or sister living at the same address and going to the same school.)
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Important notes

In the case of children who are or were in the care of a local authority, parents or carers will need to provide a letter signed by a fully qualified social worker employed by that local authority. A Looked After Child defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989, is a child who is in the care of a local authority, or provided with accommodation by a local authority. Children previously Looked After in the care of the local authority are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or subject to residence or special guardianship orders immediately following having been looked after.

Within each category the school will give priority to children who have siblings attending the school at the time of admission excluding nursery or Year 6 (the final year of primary education). Sibling means a full brother or sister, a half-brother or half-sister, a stepbrother or stepsister, or an adopted or long-term fostered brother or sister living at the same address.

If two or more children have an equal claim to a place in any one category, we will give priority to children who live closest to the school, measured in kilometres in a straight line (as the crow flies). We (the Barking and Dagenham Admissions Team) measure all distances using a geographical information system from the centre of the child's home to the school's main gate. If you live outside the area, we will use the same system to measure distances. When children have an equal claim to a place because their measurements are the same (for example, from a block of flats), we will use a lottery system (random allocation) to offer places to children.

We cannot consider other factors not listed in the criteria. The governing body makes sure its decisions are consistent by using only the criteria listed above (which have been agreed following the consultation period).

If we discover that we have given your child a place at a school based on false or misleading information, we will withdraw the place and may take legal action.