

*St Peter's Catholic Voluntary Academy Trust known as St Peter's School*

*The normal years of entry to the School are Reception, Year 7 and Year 12 (the Sixth Form).*

*There are separate admissions policies for each of these entry years.*



#### **Mission Statement**

*With Christ as our guide; Learning together  
Loving God and each other; Becoming the best we can be.*

## **Admissions Policy 2025-26**

### **ENTRY TO ST PETER'S SCHOOL SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 12 IN SEPTEMBER 2025**

St Peter's is a Catholic School (the "School"). We ask all Parent(s)/Carer(s) and the students applying for a place here to respect our Catholic ethos and its importance to our School Community. The School serves the Catholic community in Bournemouth, Dorset and Hampshire. This does not affect the rights of parents of other faiths or none to apply to the School.

Admissions is the responsibility of the Governing Body, which has agreed admissions policies that conform to the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Regulations, the Education Act 2002, the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and Regulations. They are guided by the criteria set out in the School Admissions Code issued by the Secretary of State for Education in 2021 and the guidelines issued by the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth. It takes account of the Equality Act 2010.

#### **ADMISSIONS**

All applications will be judged against the course admissions criteria as detailed in the Sixth Form Prospectus. The number of courses followed must reach the expected total guided learning hours of 540.

Admissions will be subject to the availability of places on the various courses and in the various subjects offered by the School. Courses may be withdrawn if insufficient numbers apply, and courses become unviable to run.

#### **ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNAL CANDIDATES TO THE SIXTH FORM 2025-26 (YEAR 12)**

Existing students at St Peter's have automatic entry into the Sixth Form providing that they meet the academic requirements to the proposed programme of study and submit their application by the given deadline as detailed on the School website.

#### **ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR EXTERNAL CANDIDATES TO THE SIXTH FORM 2025-26 (YEAR 12)**

External Applicants must satisfy the academic requirements for admission to the proposed programme of study and submit their application by the given deadline as published on the school website. The Governors have agreed a Published Admission Number (PAN) for external students of 100.

#### **THE CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION FOR EXTERNAL STUDENTS**

Should there be more applicants than places available, based on the evidence provided with each application, the Governors will use the criteria for admission to place every applicant in one of the categories listed below. The order of the categories listed below determines the order of priority for admission. Applicants who qualify for more than one category will be placed in the highest one in which they appear.

Students with a statement of Special Educational Needs or Education Health and Care Plan ("Statement/EHC Plan") which has St Peter's School named in the Statement will be given a place at the School, on condition that the relevant entry requirements are met for the students' chosen courses.

The place must be taken on the allocated registration day unless other arrangements for registration have been agreed with the school. The provisional place may be offered to another student if it is not firmly accepted on the designated day.

#### **THE CATEGORIES USED TO DECIDE THE ORDER OF PREFERENCE FOR APPLICANTS**

The categories are set out in the order in which they will be applied, starting with the highest category.

**Category 1 Looked After or previously Looked After Students** (See Clarification of key parts (iii) for the definition of Looked After Children) Looked After or previously Looked After Year 11 students at other educational establishments who submit their application by the given deadline. Students will be expected to achieve the entry requirements for their chosen courses as set out in the annual prospectus. All

applications will be judged against the course admissions criteria. The number of courses followed must reach the expected total guided learning hours of 540.

### **Category 2 External Year 11 Students**

Students currently in Year 11 at other educational establishments who submit their application by the given deadline. Students will be expected to achieve the entry requirements for their chosen courses as set out in the annual prospectus. All applications will be judged against the course admissions criteria. The number of courses followed must reach the expected total guided learning hours of 540.

Please note that for all categories offers of places on all courses are made subject to availability. St Peter's School reserves the right to alter, substitute or withdraw programmes.

### **Category 3 Late Internal Year 11 Students**

Internal Candidates who meet the grades required for the course they wish to follow who submit their application for entry into Year 12 after the deadline.

### **Category 4 Late External Year 11 Students**

External Candidates who meet the grades required for the course they wish to follow who submit their application for entry into Year 12 after the deadline.

### **Oversubscription criteria**

In the case of oversubscription applicants will be ranked within each category and priority given to applicants with **siblings** in the school and then all ranked according to **distance from school** (see Clarification of key parts (ii) and (iii) below).

## **CLARIFICATION OF KEY PARTS**

### **(i) Looked After and Previously Looked After Children (Students)**

For the purposes of these admissions arrangements the definition of Looked After and Previously Looked After Children from 1.7 Admissions Code 2021 below will be used.

1.7 All schools **must** have oversubscription criteria for each 'relevant age group' and the highest priority **must** be given, unless otherwise provided in this Code, to looked after children (15) and all previously looked after children, including those children who appear (to the governing body) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted (16). Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (17) (or became subject to a child arrangements order (18) or special guardianship order (19)). All references to previously looked after children in this Code mean such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. Oversubscription criteria must then be applied to all other applicants in the order set out in the arrangements.

(15) 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 their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

(16) A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

(17) This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders)

(18) Child arrangements orders are defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.

(19) See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians)

### **(ii) Siblings**

For the purposes of the Admissions Policy, siblings are brothers and sisters. Brothers and sisters are defined as half or full brother or sister, adoptive brother or sister and the children of Parent(s)/Carer(s) who are married or cohabiting, where the Parent(s)/Carer(s) and children live together in the same household. If all the siblings in a particular category cannot be admitted, preference will be given by reference to the distance criterion.

### **(iii) The Distance Criterion**

Higher priority will be accorded to applicants living nearer to the school with the distance being measured by the Local Authority's Geographical Information System (GIS) in use at the time of allocation (the system at the time of setting the policy takes the measurement between the address mapping points of the school and the address at which the child lives for most of the week).

If distances are equal, as calculated by the Authority's GIS system, for example a flat in a block of dwellings with the same front entrance, a random allocation system (supervised by an independent body) will be used to determine the allocation. The Governors have determined that the measuring point should be the front gate for main reception at the Southbourne site.

## **APPLICATIONS FOR STUDENTS WHO ARE DISABLED**

All Parents/Carers are invited to visit the School and assess the suitability for their child.

### **MULTIPLE BIRTH CHILDREN**

If the last Student offered a place within the Published Admission Number (PAN) is from a multiple birth or has a sibling in the same year group, any further sibling will be admitted, if the Parents/Carers so wish, even though this may raise the intake number above the School's PAN. The PAN will remain unchanged so that no other Student will be admitted until a place becomes available within the PAN.

### **FINAL TIE-BREAK ALLOCATION PROCESS**

If there are insufficient places to accommodate all applicants and after using all tie break criteria applicants for the final place(s) cannot be split the remaining place(s) will be allocated using a random allocation process. The process will be electronically administered through the IT providers in use at the time. At the time of setting this policy the providers are Synergy.

### **OUT OF NORMAL AGE GROUP REQUESTS**

St Peter's Governing Body adopts the Bournemouth, Poole and Christchurch Policy and Procedure for delayed admission of Students Outside of their Normal Year Group. Requests from parents with students who are gifted and talented, or who have experienced problems or missed part of a year, for example, due to ill health, can seek places outside the normal age group. The Governing Body will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case. Parents do not have a right to appeal if they have been offered a place and it is not in the year group they would like.

### **CONTACT WITH THE SCHOOL**

The Governors want their Admissions Policy to be presented to Parent(s)/Carer(s) as clearly and helpfully as possible. Parent(s)/Carer(s) should not hesitate to contact St Peter's, if in doubt about any matter relating to the Policy and how it is implemented.

Email Contact: [info@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk](mailto:info@st-peters.bournemouth.sch.uk)

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