



# St. George's School

## A Church of England Academy

"A good school with outstanding features" Ofsted 2011

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### St. George's School, A Church of England Academy Admission Arrangements for September 2016

#### **Making an Application**

Applications for admission to the Academy for September 2016 should be made online at [www.blackpool.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.blackpool.gov.uk/schooladmissions) or on the Common Application Form from 1<sup>st</sup> September until 31<sup>st</sup> October 2015.

It is not normally possible to change the order of preferences for schools after the closing date. Parents **must** complete the Local Authority form, stating three preferences. Parents who wish their application to this Church Academy to be considered against faith criteria should also complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF). If the Academy is oversubscribed, a failure to complete the Supplementary Information Form may result in the application for a place in this Academy being considered against lower priority criteria as the Governing Body will have no information upon which to assess the worship attendance.

**The Supplementary Information Form is available from the Academy:**

[www.stgeorgesblackpool.com](http://www.stgeorgesblackpool.com)

Letters informing parents of whether or not their child has been allocated a place will be sent out by the Local Authority, on behalf of the Academy, circa 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016. Parents of children not admitted will be informed of the reason and offered an alternative place by the Authority.

#### **Admission procedures**

Arrangements for admission have been agreed following consultation between the Governing Body, the Diocesan Board of Education, Blackpool Local Authority and Lancashire County Council.

The number of admission places available in year 7 in the year 2016 will be a maximum of 210.

The Governing Body will not place any restrictions on admissions to year 7 unless the number of children for whom admission is sought exceeds their admission number. The Governing Body operates a system of equal preferences under which they consider all preferences equally and the Local Authority notifies parents of the result on behalf of the Academy.

#### **Educational Health and Care Plan**

As required by law, all children with an Educational Health and Care Plan, naming St George's as a preference, will be automatically admitted to the school.

#### **Oversubscription Criteria**

In the event that there are more applicants than places, the Governing Body will allocate places using the following criteria :

1. (a) **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  
(b) **Children with serious medical or social circumstances** affecting the child where these needs can only be met at this school. Please note, supporting evidence from a professional, e.g. consultant, psychologist, social worker, is essential if admission is to be made under the criterion for serious medical or social circumstances, and such evidence must set out the particular reasons why St Georges is the most suitable school

and the difficulties which would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

2. **Foundation places**, the Governing Body will allocate a maximum of 20 places within this category.

(a) Children with a parent/carer who is a regular worshipper\* at St Wilfrid's, Mereside; St Christopher's and St Nicholas', Blackpool; St Paul's, Marton, or St John's, Blackpool.

(b) Children whose parent/carer is a regular worshipper\* in churches \*\*within the Deanery of Blackpool.

(c) Children whose parent/carer is a faithful and regular worshipper\* at any church in membership of Churches Together in England\*\* in one of the following Church of England parishes: St Luke's ( Staining), Heyhouses (St.Annes), St Margaret of Antioch (St. Annes), St Thomas (St.Annes), St Nicholas (Ribby with Wrea), St Michael (Weeton), St Paul's (Ansdell), St John's (Lytham) and St Cuthbert's (Lytham).

\*Parental worshipping is taken to mean a minimum of once a month over 1 year before the time of application on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2015. The Governing Body will request confirmation of this from the relevant member of the clergy or church officer.

\*\*A full and up to date list of Churches Together can be found at [www.cte.org](http://www.cte.org)

(d) Children with a parent/carer worshipping in a non-Christian faith which is in membership of the UK Interfaith network.

The major world faiths are those in membership of the UK Interfaith network; in addition to Christians, includes Buddhists, Baha'is, Hindus, Jains, Jews, Muslims, Sikhs, Zorastrians.

3. **Staff Children**

Children of staff who have been employed in the school for the whole of the two years prior to the closing date for applications, or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. This applies to all staff, full and part time, who are employed by the Governing Body.

4. **Open places**

a) Children whose parent/carer live in the three Ecclesiastical parishes of:

- St. Christopher's and St. Nicholas', Blackpool
- St. Wilfrid's, Mereside
- St. Paul's, Marton

and all children educated at Baines Endowed and St. Nicholas' Church of England Primary Schools. (A map showing the boundaries is available at St. George's)

(b) Children living outside the three parishes who have a sibling attending the Academy on the date of application and on the date of admission.

Siblings include step, half, foster, adopted brothers or sisters living at the same address.

(c) Children living outside the parishes who have spent the whole of year 5 in primary education in St. John's (Blackpool); Bispham Endowed (Blackpool); St. Luke's (Staining); Heyhouses Endowed (St. Annes); St. Thomas' (St. Annes); St. Nicholas' (Ribby with Wrea); St. Michael's (Weeton); St. Paul's (Ansdell); or St. John's (Lytham) Church of England Primary School.

(d) Other children

### **Tie Break**

In the event of the admission number being reached within any one of the oversubscription criteria in the order listed above, the distance criteria will be used as a tie breaker. The distance between an applicant's home and school is measured as a straight line from the Ordnance Survey address point of the home address to the school. The Ordnance Survey address point is a point within the boundary of the property and is usually located at its centre. Distances are measured using the Council's Geographic Information System. In the event of equal distance, a random allocation will be used to determine who takes priority for a place. This will be carried out by someone independent of the Academy and parents/carers will be invited to attend.

### **Multiple Births**

Where there are twins or multiple birth children wanting admission and there is only one single place or insufficient places available to admit within the admission number, then the Governing Body will exercise as much flexibility as possible. In **exceptional** circumstances we are able to offer places for both twins and triplets. This may also apply to children who are siblings within the same year group.

### **Waiting List**

Where there are more applicants for the available places within a category, the admissions criteria will be used. Children who are not admitted will have their name placed on a waiting list. The names on this waiting list will be in the order resulting from the application of the admissions criteria. Since the date of application cannot be a criterion for the order of names on the waiting list, late applicants for the Academy will be slotted into the order according to the extent to which they meet the criteria. Thus it is possible for a child who moves into the area later to have a higher priority than one who has been on the waiting list for some time. If a place becomes available within the admission number, the child whose name is at the top of the list will be offered a place. This is not dependent on whether an appeal has been submitted. The waiting list will operate for the full Autumn Term.

### **Previous 2 years allocations**

The number of places allocated in 2014/15, the preferences for 190 admissions places were:

2014	Criteria 1	10	2 SEN, 8 from 1a
	Criteria 2	5	5 from 2a
	Criteria 3	175	165 from 3a, 4 from 3b, 4 from 3c, 2 from 3d

The number of places allocated in 2015/16, the preferences for 200 admission places were:

2015	Criteria 1	3	3LAC's from 1a
	Criteria 2	4	Foundation, 1 from 2a, 2 from 2b, 1 from 2c
	Criteria 3	193	From 3a

### **Address of Pupil**

The address used on the Academy's admission form must be the current one at the time of application. If the address changes subsequently, the parents should notify the Academy. Where the parents live at different addresses, the address of the child at the time of application will be the one used. This will normally be the one where the child wakes up for the majority of Monday to Friday morning. Parents may be asked to show evidence of the claim that is being made for the address, e.g. identity cards of various sorts showing the child's address as the one claimed. Where there is dispute about the correct address to use, the Governors reserve the right to make enquiries of any relevant third parties. For children of UK Service personnel and other Crown Servants returning to the area, proof of the posting is required.

### **Non-routine Admissions**

It sometimes happens that a child needs to change school other than at the "normal" time; such

admissions are known as non-routine admissions. In order to obtain a school place in mid year, it is necessary to fill in the Local Authority's Common Application Form, stating three preferences. If you wish to visit the school before stating your preferences, please contact us. The form must be returned to the Local Authority Admissions Office. If you wish to apply to this school on the grounds of your faith commitment then you must complete the Supplementary Information Form available from and returnable to the school. The Local Authority will consider your three preferences equally in liaison with other admissions authorities. **The offer of a place can only be made by the Local Authority, on behalf of the Academy.**

Appeals for children moving into the area will not be considered until there is evidence of a permanent address, e.g. exchange of contracts or tenancy agreement with rent book. Please note that you cannot re-appeal for a place at a school within the same school year unless there has been relevant, significant and material changes in the family circumstances.

### **Appeals**

Where the Governors are unable to offer a place because the Academy 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 Academy within 14 days of receiving the letter refusing a place.** Parents will have the opportunity to submit their case to the Independent Admissions Appeal Panel in writing and also to attend in order to present their case. You will normally receive 14 days' notice of the place and time of the hearing.

### **Fraudulent Applications**

Where the Governing Body discovers that a child has been awarded a place as the result of an intentionally misleading application from a parent, (for example a false claim to residence), which effectively denies a place to a child with a stronger claim, then the Governing Body is required to withdraw the offer of the place. The application will be considered afresh and a right of appeal offered if a place is refused.