



Email: admissions@thedcet.com

Post: The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7EE

The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust Admissions Policy 2024-25

Agreed by the DCET Trust Board on: 9th February 2023

Review Date: Autumn 2023

Signed:	Date:
Chair of Trust Board	

Version Number	Author	Purpose/Change	Date
0.1	Clifton Diocese		
0.2	Interim TGL &	To reflect change in	260123
	Diocesan	Admissions	
	Governance Officer	Authority to Trust	
		Board	

This policy applies to all academies within The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust (DCET) as at 28 February 2023.





ADMISSION POLICY 2024-25

The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust (DCET) opened on 1 March 2022 and the Trust Board is the single, legal Trust Board and admissions authority for all the schools it oversees.

All the Trust's Schools were founded to provide education for children of Catholic families. Catholic schools are inclusive, and we welcome applications from children who are not Catholic. However, where there are more applications than places available, allocations will be made in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below.

We aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils and that Catholic teaching and practice permeate every aspect of school life. We therefore ask that all parents respect, and fully support the vision and ethos of the Trust and its schools.

The Trust Board is the admissions authority and has responsibility for admissions for all of its schools. Please see Appendix A for the admission arrangements for each of the Trust's schools including their Published Admission Number and oversubscription criteria.

The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round (see note 5).

Subject to compliance with Infant Class Size Legislation, the Trust Board will, where logistically possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births to the same school, where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's Published Admissions Number ("PAN").

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1 on page 6)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements, this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the order of priority outlined in the relevant school's details shown in **Appendix A**.

Supporting Evidence

For categories 1, 2, 3 and 5 (see Appendix A) supporting evidence must be provided. If you do not provide the supporting documentation e.g., a certificate of baptism, or of reception





into the Church, or of reception into the order of catechumens, (as detailed in notes 3 and 4 on page 6 below), your child cannot be placed within any of those categories, and this may affect your child's chance of being offered a place. To be considered in the first round of allocations, it should be submitted to the school(s) you are applying for (or Local Authority <u>if*</u> they will accept it) by 15 January 2024.

*N.B. whilst some Local Authorities may accept supporting documentation, others do not. It is therefore recommended you send it to the school(s) you are applying for or to the Trust's Head Office: The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7EE.

Application Procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place at any Trust school in the normal admission round (see note 5 on page 6), you must complete a Common Application Form available from the local authority <u>in</u> which you live.

For those living in Somerset County Council applications may be made online at: https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/ or on a paper form available from and sent to; Admissions & Entitlements Team, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY

For those living in North Somerset applications may be made online at: https://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/my-services/schools-learning/school-admissions/applying-school-place or on a paper form available from and sent to: School Admissions Team, North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-Super-Mare, BS23 1UJ.

All applications which are submitted on time will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 15th January 2024.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application on 16th April or the next working day, by the local authority in which you live, on our behalf. If you are unsuccessful (unless your child gained a place at a school you ranked higher) you will be informed of the reasons, related to the oversubscription criteria listed above, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Late Applications

Late applications will be administered in accordance with your home Local Authority Primary Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme (available from your Local Authority). You are encouraged to ensure that your application is submitted on time.





Admission of Children Below Compulsory School Age and Deferred Entry

A child reaches compulsory school age in the term following their fifth birthday. Where offered a place, a child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday. A child's parents may defer the date at which their child, below compulsory school age, is admitted to the school, until later in the school year but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age, or beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which an offer was made. A child may take up a part-time place until later in the school year, but not beyond the point at which the child reaches compulsory school age. Upon receipt of the offer of a place a parent should notify the school, as soon as possible, that they wish to either defer their child's entry to the school or take up a part-time place.

Admission of Children outside their Normal Age Group

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. In addition, the parents of a summer born child, i.e., a child born between 1st April and 31st August, may request that the child be admitted out of their normal age group, to reception rather than year 1. Any such request should be made in writing to the DCET Head office (see above email and postal addresses) at the same time as the admission application is made on the Local Authority Common Application Form (for the child's chronological year group). The Trust Board will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to considering the views of the head teacher, including the head teacher's statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the Trust Board will consider the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals, as appropriate.

If the Trust Board agree in principle for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, it does not guarantee the child a place. The parent will again need to make an application on a Local Authority Common Application Form (for the outside age group) and, if necessary, the oversubscription criteria will be applied to determine if a place may be offered.

Waiting Lists

In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful parents will be offered the opportunity for their child's name to be placed on a waiting list for their preferred school(s). This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out above and **not** in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until the last school day of the summer term. Each child added to the list will require the list to be ranked again in line with the above published oversubscription criteria.





Inclusion in the school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

In-Year Applications An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the normal admission round and the child will be admitted where there is an available place.

See **Appendix B** for a copy of the In-Year Application form for completion and return to the Trust's Head Office: The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7EE or by **Email:** admissions@thedcet.com

Any supporting documentary evidence, for example, a baptism certificate or proof of a house move, should be provided with your application.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied.

If your application is refused, you will be offered the opportunity for your child to be added to the waiting list (see above).

The Trust Board will consider your application and you will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and if refused a place, you will have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Fair Access Protocol

The Trust is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the Trust Board is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol (including over those on a waiting list). The Trust Board has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the Published Admission Number (subject to the infant class size exceptions).

Withdrawal

The Trust Board reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place or, where a child is already attending the school, the place itself, where it is satisfied that the offer or place was obtained by deception.





Notes

- 1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
- 2. 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 including those who appear to the Trust Board to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
- 3. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. For someone to be treated as Catholic, written evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. Whilst a copy of the certificate may be accepted, the governors may request sight of the original. The Trust Board may request additional supporting evidence if the written documents that are provided do not confirm the fact that the person was baptised/received into a Catholic Church.

There may occasionally be difficulty in obtaining written evidence of baptism or reception into the Church. In such cases, contact may be made with a Parish Priest for advice on how the question of baptism/reception is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church. The Priest may seek advice from Clifton Diocese.

For the purposes of this policy, 'Catholic' includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is confirmed as being Catholic.

- 4. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens. Children must be at least 7 years old to be a Catechumen, so the Oversubscription criterion category no. 5, cannot be applied to any child less than 7 years old.
- 5. Within this policy, the 'normal admission round' means all new intake applications, submitted by the closing date and late applications received by the local authority up to 31 August, and so does not include In-Year applications (see above).
- 6. 'brother or sister' includes:





- (i) all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, living at the same address; and
- (ii) the child of a parent's partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.
- 7. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
- 8. A child's 'home address' refers to the permanent address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer and should be the address provided in the Common Application Form (CAF) to the home Local Authority. Where parents have shared responsibility for a child and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address where the child lives for at least 50% of the time.
- 9. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries are as detailed in the relevant school's details in **Appendix A**.





APPENDIX A

ADMISSIONS TO DCET SCHOOLS IN 2024-25

Corpus Christi Catholic	Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School, Weston-Super-Mare		
Ellenborough Park Sout	th. Weston-Super-Mare, North Somerset BS23 1XW		
Link to Parish Maps	Admissions Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (corpuschristiweston.co.uk)		
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	30		
Oversubscription Criteria	 Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3). Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parishes of Corpus Christi, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Joseph's Churches in Weston-Super-Mare and Our Lady Queen of the Apostles Church in Cheddar. (See notes 3 & 9.) 		
	3. Other Catholic children (see note 3).		
	4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).		
	5. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).		
	6. Any other children.		
Tie Break	By Random Allocation – see below.		

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School		
Tout Hill, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 9DH		
Link to Parish Map	https://www.ourladyofmtcarmelschool.org.uk/key- information/admissions	
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	20	
Oversubscription Criteria	Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).	
	2. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parish of St Luke & St Teresa's. (See notes 3 & 9.)	





Our Lady of Mount Carmel Catholic Primary School Tout Hill, Wincanton, Somerset BA9 9DH 3. Other Catholic children (see note 3). 4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2). 5. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4). 6. Any other children. Tie Break By Random Allocation – see below

St Gildas Catholic Primary School		
Mary Street, Yeovil, Somerset BS21 4EG		
Link to Parish Maps	Admissions St Gildas Catholic Primary School (stgildasprimary.co.uk)	
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	30	
Oversubscription Criteria	1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).	
	2. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parishes of The Holy Ghost Church, Yeovil and St Dunstan's Church, Somerton. (See notes 3 & 9.)	
	3. Other Catholic children (see note 3).	
	4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).	
	5. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).	
	6. Any other children.	
Tie Break	Where children have identical ranking, priority within each category 1,2,3 and 5 will be determined by random allocation (see above).	
	Priority within categories 4 and 6 will be given to those living closest to the school as measured by a direct line between the address point of the child's home and the address point of the school using Somerset Local Authority's GIS mapping system. (Address Point is a dataset that uniquely defines and locates residential, business and public postal addresses in Great Britain. It is created by matching information from ordinance survey digital map databases with more	





St Gildas Catholic Primary School Mary Street, Yeovil, Somerset BS21 4EG than 27 million addresses recorded in the Royal Mail. Where distances are equal, priority will be determined by random allocation (see above)

St Joseph's Catholic Pri	St Joseph's Catholic Primary and Nursery School		
Oxford Street, Burnhar	n-on-Sea, Somerset TA8 1LG		
Link to Parish Map	https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/st-josephs-catholic-primary-nursery/UploadedDocument/a7e6c0bf-98e3-4d0b-8034-9dca9a9e0fc3/our-lady-and-the-english-martyrs-parish-boundaries.pdf		
Nursery	For children attending the school's nursery, application to the reception year of the school must be made in the normal way, to the home local authority. Attendance at the school's nursery does not automatically guarantee that a place will be offered at the school.		
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	34		
Oversubscription Criteria	1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).		
	2. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parish of Our Lady and English Martyrs Church, Burnham on Sea. (See notes 3 & 9.)		
	3. Other Catholic children (see note 3).		
	4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).		
	5. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).		
	6. Any other children.		
Tie Break	By Random Allocation – see below.		





St Joseph's Catholic Primary School		
Park Avenue, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7EE		
Link to Parish Maps	https://www.st-josephs- bridgwater.somerset.sch.uk/keyinformation/admissions/	
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	30	
Oversubscription Criteria	1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).	
	2. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parishes of St Josephs' Church, Bridgwater and Sacred Heart Church, Minehead. (See notes 3 & 9.)	
	3. Other Catholic children (see note 3).	
	4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).	
	5. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).	
	6. Any other children.	
Tie Break	By Random Allocation – see below.	

St Joseph and St Teresa	St Joseph and St Teresa Catholic Primary School		
Lovers Walk, Wells, So	merset BA5 2QL		
Link to Parish Map	Admissions St Joseph and St Teresa Catholic Primary School		
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	22		
Oversubscription Criteria	1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).		
	2. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parishes SS Joseph and Teresa Church, Wells, St Michael's Church, Shepton Mallet and Our Lady St Mary of Glastonbury church, Glastonbury. (See notes 3 & 9.)		
	3. Other Catholic children (see note 3).		
	4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note		





St Joseph and St Teresa Catholic Primary School		
Lovers Walk, Wells, So	merset BA5 2QL	
	2).	
	5. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).	
	6. Any other children.	
Tie Break	Where children have identical ranking, priority within categories 1,2,3 and 5 will be determined by random allocation (see above).	
	Priority within categories 4 and 6 will be given to those living closest to the school as measured by a direct line between the child's home address point and the school address point using the Local Authority's GIS mapping system.	
	Where distances are equal, priority will be determined by random allocation (see above)	

St Mary	y's Catholic Primary School	
Rowden Hill, Chippenham, Wiltshire SN15 2AH		
Link to Parish Maps	https://cliftondiocese.com/parishes/	
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	30	
Oversubscription Criteria	7. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).	
	8. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parishes of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. (See notes 3 & 9.)	
	9. Other Catholic children (see note 3).	
	10. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).	
	11. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).	
	12. Any other children.	
Tie Break	By Random Allocation – see below.	





Christ the King roman Catholic Primary School



Earls court Road, Amesbury, Wiltshire SP4 7LX

Link to Parish Maps	https://cliftondiocese.com/parishes/
Published Admission Number (PAN) for Reception in September 2024	30
Oversubscription Criteria	13. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children (see notes 2 & 3).
	14. Catholic children who are resident in the school's designated parishes of St Osmond (See notes 3 & 9.)
	15. Other Catholic children (see note 3).
	16. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2).
	17. Children who are a Catechumen (see note 4).
	18. Any other children.
Tie Break	By Random Allocation – see below.

Random Allocation (for all the above schools)

Random Allocation is the drawing of lots, supervised by a person independent of the school. Each child will be allocated a number. All the numbers will be placed into a hat or other suitable container and will be drawn out and ranked in the order that they were drawn.

For children of a multiple birth, only the allocated number of one of the children will be entered in the draw. Where this number is drawn, the other child or children will be deemed to have also been drawn. Lots will then also be drawn for these children to decide their individual ranking. This process will also be applied to brothers or sisters who are not from a multiple birth but are applying for a place in the same year group.





then ceased to be in state care as a result of being



IN-YEAR APPLICATION FORM PLEASE NOTE: There is a different procedure for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). If your child has an EHCP, please do **not** complete this form but contact the Special Educational Needs Team of the Local Authority to apply for a place. CHILD DETAILS: Full Name of Child Date of birth: Year Group: ___/__/___/ Home address (this must be the address where your child is normally resident. Evidence of address may be required). If you're moving to a new house, you must provide independent confirmation of the new address e.g., a solicitor's letter confirming exchange of contracts and a completion date or a copy of a rental agreement. Postcode: To which DCET school would you like this child to be admitted? (See Appendix A for list of schools.) When would you like this child to be admitted? / / Is this child in the Care of a Local Authority or was If Yes, please give details, including who the this Child in Care until being adopted, made the school can contact for confirmation e.g. name of subject of a child arrangements order or made the Local Authority, name of Social Worker. subject of a special guardianship order? See **Definition** in notes on page 6. Yes / No (delete as applicable) Was this child in state care outside of England and If Yes, has a Local Authority and/or a Virtual

School Head had any involvement with this child?





adopted?		
See Definition in notes on page 6.	Yes / No (delete as applicable)	
Yes / No (delete as applicable)	If Yes, please give details, including who the school can contact for confirmation e.g., name of Local Authority, name of Virtual School Head.	
Is the child a Catholic? Yes / No (delete as applicable)	If Yes, you must provide a copy of a certificate of baptism or of reception into the Church. See note re Supporting Evidence in notes on P3.	
Is the child a Catechumen?	If Yes, you must provide a copy of a certificate of reception. See note re Supporting Evidence in	
Yes / No (delete as applicable)	notes on P3.	
Does this child have a brother or sister attending the school?	If Yes, please give the full name and date of birth.	
Yes / No (delete as applicable)		
Has the child been permanently excluded from two or more schools in the last two years?	If Yes, please give dates.	
Yes/ No (delete as applicable)		
If you wish, you may give reasons for wishing your child to be admitted to the school:		





APPLICANT DETAILS	:		
Your name:		Relationship to the child:	
Your address (if different to the child's address):			
Postcode:			
Daytime telephone		Email address:	
number:			
Do you have parental responsibility for the child?		Yes / No (delete as applicable)	
If no, please explain why you are applying, rather than a person with parental responsibility.			

Supporting Evidence

- 1. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. For someone to be treated as Catholic, written evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church must be provided with your application. This will normally be a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. A looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is confirmed as being Catholic, will be considered as Catholic.
- 2. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. For someone to be treated as a Catechumen, written evidence must be provided with your application. This will normally be a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens. Children must be at least 7 years old to be a Catechumen, so the Oversubscription criterion category no. 5 of our admissions policy, cannot be applied to any child less than 7 years old.





Definition

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 including those who appear to the Trust Board to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

Where appropriate, the school may request parents/carers to provide evidence to confirm that a child meets this definition.

Admissions Policy

Applicants are advised to read the Trust's admissions policy and Appendix A which shows the Oversubscription criteria that would be used if there are more applications than places available in each school. The policy is available on the Trust's website and from any school office.

Local Authority

This application and/or details of it may be shared with the relevant Local Authority, as the Trust is legally required to notify the Local Authority of all applications it receives. Applications for Looked After and Previously Looked After Children may also be shared with any relevant Local Authority and/or Virtual Schools Head, to help determine Looked After or Previously Looked After status.

Declaration

I confirm that the details in this application are accurate.

Signature......Date......Date

Please return this form, and any supporting evidence if applicable, to the Trust's Head Office via:

Email: admissions@thedcet.com

Post: The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust, St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Park Avenue, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7EE





A copy of the Trust's Data Protection Policy and Privacy Notices can be found on the DCET website: Policies | The Dunstan Catholic Educational Trust (thedcet.com) or from the above Trust postal address.