

## ST ALOYSIUS' COLLEGE ADMISSION POLICY 2012/13

St Aloysius' College is a Catholic Voluntary Aided 11-19 comprehensive school for boys, within the Trusteeship of the Diocese of Westminster. As a Catholic school we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils and it is essential that this is supported by all families in the school. All applicants are therefore expected to give their full, unreserved and positive support for the ethos of the school and its aims and policies as outlined in the school prospectus.

In order to preserve the school's comprehensive character by establishing a balanced intake across the ability range, the school will allocate all candidates into one of four equal bands by means of a written placement test. The Governors propose to admit under the Pan London Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme 180 boys to Year 7 across the ability range.

### OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

If there are more candidates than places in any band, places within that band will be allocated in accordance with the following criteria. They must be read together with the notes that follow.

Priority is given in the order set out below

- a) Catholic looked after boys
- b) Baptized Catholic boys from practising Catholic families
- c) Other baptized Catholic boys
- d) Other looked after boys
- e) Baptized boys of an Eastern Orthodox Church whose application is supported by a minister of their religion
- f) Other baptized boys of an Eastern Orthodox Church
- g) Christian boys of other denominations whose application is supported by a minister of their religion
- h) Other baptized Christian boys of other denominations
- i) Boys of any faith whose application is supported by a minister of their religion
- j) Any other boys

The Governing Body will give top priority to an application within a category where compelling professional evidence is provided at the time of application of an exceptional medical, social or pastoral need on the part of the child which can only be met by St Aloysius' College. This evidence must be provided by a recognised professional e.g. a doctor, social worker or priest. The Governors will not accept a case which is put forward retrospectively.

Within each of the categories listed above, priority will be given to boys living nearest to the school.

### Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. 'Looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22 of the Children Act 1989 and means any child in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by them (e.g. children with foster parents)
2. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the see of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. 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
3. 'Practising Catholic' means a Catholic child from a practising Catholic family where weekly attendance at Sunday Mass is verified by a reference from a Catholic priest. 'Family' normally includes the Catholic or Catholics who have legal responsibility for the child.
4. Boys who are baptised after 31 October but before 31 December 2011 will be treated as Catholic by the Governing Body as long as they submit a certificate of baptism to the school by 6 January 2012 at the latest.
5. Christian means "A member of a church that is affiliated to 'Churches Together in Britain and Ireland'"
6. Unless the context requires otherwise, 'parent' means any person who has parental responsibility for a child
7. Where only one place is available for more than one child within the same family, the offer of a place will be decided by random allocation (lottery) which will be carried out by the Governors in the presence of an independent witness
8. Nearness to the school will be determined by a computerised mapping system using a straight line distance measurement. Routes will be calculated from the home address (as defined by the Land & Property Gazetteer) to the midpoint of the school grounds (as determined by Islington Local Authority) Home address is defined as the address at which the child resides for 50% or more of the school week. In a tie break situation the outcome would be decided by random allocation which will be carried out by the Governors in the presence of an independent witness

## **The Placement Test**

Candidates will be invited to take short tests in English, mathematics and science in order to determine the band to which they will be allocated. The tests will be held at St Aloysius' College early in December 2011.

Boys with statements of special educational needs (who are not subject to the oversubscription criteria) are allocated to the appropriate band for the purpose of calculating the number of children to be admitted in that band

## **Application and Supplementary Forms**

All applicants must complete the Common Application Form. This is available from your son's primary school and the Local Education Authority where you live. You should return this form directly to the address given on the form by the statutory deadline of 31 October 2011 at the latest, but you are encouraged to submit it by 21 October if possible.

In addition, applicants should complete the school's own supplementary information form and the priest reference form (see note 3) and return, along with an original or certified copy of the boy's baptismal certificate (see note 2) directly to St Aloysius' College by 21 October 2011. These forms are available from the school, on the school website, and are also contained in the Cambridge Education@Islington Secondary Transfer Brochure 2012.

## **Late Applications**

Any applications received after the deadline of 31 October 2011 will be considered late. Only where there is a genuine and compelling reason for an application to be late, which can be substantiated to the satisfaction of the Governing Body by the submission of strong and independent documentary evidence at the time of the application, will late applications be considered alongside those received by the closing date. For these applications to be considered, they must be received by the end of the first week of December so that all aspects of the application can be processed before the Governors meet to make their decisions.

## **Offers**

Offers of places will be sent to applicants by their home Local Authority on 1 March 2012 and they will have until 16 March to accept or decline the offer. A waiting list will be compiled on 23 March and maintained by the Governors until the end of the summer term 2013. After that time, applicants will be asked if they wish to remain on the list. All applications on the waiting list, including late applications, will be judged against the admissions criteria as vacancies occur. Unsuccessful applicants are entitled under the School Standards & Framework Act 1998 to appeal against the Governing Body's decision. Please contact the school to discuss procedure and request an appeal form.

## **Pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs**

The admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. This procedure is integral to the making and maintaining statements by the pupil's home Local Education Authority. Details of this separate procedure are set out in the *Special Educational Needs Code of Practice*.

## **Fair Access Protocol**

The school is committed to taking its fair share of vulnerable children who are hard to place, in accordance with locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal round of admissions, the Governing Body are empowered to give consideration to a child where admission is requested under any local protocol which carries the agreement of both the Governing Body and the Diocese for the current admission year. The Governing Body has this power even when admitting such a child would exceed the normal admission number.

## **In Year Admissions (Year 8,9,10)**

Applications for In-Year admissions are made in the same way as those made during the normal admissions round. If a place is available and there is no waiting list then the Governing Body will inform the LA who will send the offer letter. If more applications are received than there are places available then applications will be ranked by the Governing Body in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. You will be offered the opportunity of being placed on a waiting list which will be maintained by the Governing Body in the order of the oversubscription criteria and not in the order in which the applications are received. When a place becomes available the Governing Body will inform the LA who is at the top of the list according to our oversubscription criteria and the LA will make the offer on the school's behalf.

## **Year 12 Admissions**

As a partner in the Islington 6<sup>th</sup> Form Consortium, we welcome applications from all students. The Consortium Admissions Policy can be found in the consortium prospectus or on [www.ic6.co.uk](http://www.ic6.co.uk). In the event of oversubscription, priority will be given to students who fulfil the Consortium oversubscription criteria. Applications made after the deadline to the College will be given priority according to the oversubscription criteria set out above.