



ADMISSIONS POLICY

The Governing Body of St Thomas More Roman Catholic Academy is the Admission Authority for this Academy. The Governing Body intends to admit up to 270 pupils to Year 7 in September 2016. The admission number for Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 is the number on roll at the start of the academic year in question. There are separate arrangements for admission to Years 12 and 13.

The Academy is supported by the R C Deanery of St Oswin:

PARISH	LOCATION	CHURCH
Our Lady Star of the Sea	Backworth	Our Lady and St Edmund
	West Monkseaton	Immaculate Heart of Mary
	Whitley Bay	St Edward
St Cuthbert and St Joseph	North Shields	St Cuthbert
		St Joseph
Our Lady and St Oswin and St Mary	Tynemouth	Our Lady and St Oswin
	Cullercoats	St Mary
Our Lady and St Aidan	Wallsend	Our Lady and St Aidan
Our Lady and St Columba	Wallsend	Our Lady and St Columba
St Bernadette	Wallsend	St Bernadette

The Governors participate in the North Tyneside Council Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme and operate an equal preference allocation system.

Children who have an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan or a statement of Special Educational Need where our Academy is named as the most appropriate educational setting for the child will be admitted.

Oversubscription Criteria

When there are not enough places to meet all parental preferences, priority will be given in accordance with the categories given below. These are the Oversubscription Criteria.

1. Catholic children who are in the care, or who have been in care, of a Local Authority (*see Note 1 and 2*)
2. Catholic children who attend one of the Deanery primary schools listed above (*see Note 1*).
3. Catholic children who attend other schools within the Parishes of the Deanery (*see Note 1*).
4. Other children who are in the care, or who have been in care, of a Local Authority (*see Note 2*).
5. Children who are members of Christian and other faith traditions who attend the Deanery primary schools listed above. **Membership to be confirmed by either a baptismal certificate or a letter from the Minister/Faith leader** (*see Note 3*).

6. Other children who attend the Deanery primary schools listed above.
7. Catholic children who attend R C schools outside the Deanery (*see Note 1*).
8. Catholic children who attend other schools outside the Deanery (*see Note 1*).
9. Children of staff employed by the Governing Body for two or more years at the time at which application for admission to the Academy is made.
10. Children who are members of Christian and other faith traditions and do not attend the Deanery primary schools listed above. **Membership to be confirmed by either a baptismal certificate or a letter from the Minister/Faith leader (*see Note 3*).**
11. Children whose families wish them to attend the Academy.

Within each category listed above, priority will be given to those with a sibling link (*see Note 4*) then those with social or medical needs (*see Note 5*) and finally distance from the Academy (*see Note 6*).

Waiting List – If a student is refused admission, a waiting list is available where priority will be given according to the above criteria based on the information provided at the time of application. The waiting list will be open until the end of the Autumn term.

Notes

1. Definition of Catholic – Children who have been baptised as Catholics or have been formally received into the Catholic Church. All applicants seeking admission under categories 1, 2, 3, 7 and 8 will be required to provide evidence that the child has been baptised as a Catholic or has been received into the Catholic Church **and it is the parents' responsibility to provide this evidence.** A baptismal certificate or a letter from their priest confirming their baptism or reception into the Catholic Church will suffice. **Evidence should be sent to Clerk of Governors, St Thomas More Roman Catholic Academy, Lynn Road, North Shields. NE29 8LF. For parents of children in Category 2 only, the governors can seek this evidence from your child's primary school. Please refer to the application form.**
2. Definition of a Looked After Child – A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a Local Authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989 at the time the application for admission to school is made and whom the Local Authority has confirmed will still be looked after at the date of admission. An adoption order is an order made under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. A child arrangements order is an order outlining the arrangements as to the person with whom the child will live under section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. A special guardianship order is an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian or guardians (section 14A Children Act 1989).
3. A baptismal certificate or letter from the relevant Minister/Faith Leader must be sent to the **Clerk of Governors c/o the Academy (address as above).**
4. Definition of siblings – sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted or foster brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the Academy place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.
5. Documentary evidence is required for medical or social reasons from a registered health professional such as a doctor or social worker. The evidence should set out the particular reasons why the Academy is considered to be the most suitable and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school. **The evidence must be sent to the Clerk of Governors c/o the Academy (address as above).**

6. Distance from the Academy - Shortest distance measured as a straight line from a single fixed central point of the home address (including flats) to the central point of the Academy using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer and the Council's Geographical Information System (GIS). In the case of flats if there is more than one home address with the same measurement, the flat with the lowest number will be offered the place. In all other cases of the same measurement, random allocation will be used.
 7. Parents/carers have the right to appeal against admission decisions made by the Governing Body.
 8. The Governing Body will arrange **meetings for parents/carers** at the Academy in September, in order to explain the admissions position and procedures, and to answer questions.
 9. **We would ask you to fill in the application carefully, accurately, and as fully as possible.**
 10. The deadline for application is **30 October 2015**.
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AIMS

A statement of our aims is given below. Governors and staff are committed to working together to make them a reality in the daily, working life of the Academy.

St Thomas More Roman Catholic Academy is a Catholic School, and as such we attempt to follow the example of Jesus Christ in our work, worship and relationships.

Our aims are:

To be a prayerful community based on Christian values, notably Love, Justice, Peace, Truth and Tolerance, and to encourage individuals in their commitment to these ideals.

To provide a secure, welcoming and ordered environment in which individuals learn to value and respect both themselves and others.

To give individuals the opportunities to develop their full potential as human beings, and to encourage and challenge them to do so.

To encourage everyone to strive to do their best and to strive for the highest standards in all areas of activity.

To help children to grow into confident, open, resourceful young people with a sense of responsibility and of service.