



## ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### ADMISSION POLICY 2024-25



**St Raphael's** Catholic Primary School was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and instrument of government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The governing body is the admissions authority and has responsibility for admissions to this school. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round<sup>1</sup>. The governing body has set its admission number at **30 pupils to be admitted to the reception year** in the school year which begins in September, **2024**.

The governing body may admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's Published Admissions Number ("PAN").

#### **Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan EHCP (see note 1)**

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 following order of priority.*

1. Catholic looked after children and all previously looked after children, including 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. (see notes 2&3)
2. Catholic children who are resident in the parish of **Ss Peter & Raphael Stalybridge**. (see notes 3&11)
3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
4. Other looked after children and all previously looked after children, including 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 (see note 2)
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4&5)
6. Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
7. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
8. Any other children.

*Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.*

- (i) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 8).

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<sup>1</sup> This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year

- (ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 10).

### **Tie Break<sup>2</sup>**

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured as a straight line from the child's home address to the main gate to the school property using the LA's school admissions data mapping software, which uses a Geographical Information System based on Ordnance Survey.

The address from which distance will be measured will be the permanent residential address, at the time of application, of the parent with whom the child lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address is the address from which the child travels to school for the majority of school days per week. If the number of days is exactly equal the home address will be that of the parent who receives any benefits related to the child.

### **Application Procedures and Timetable**

To apply for a place at this school in the normal admission round<sup>3</sup>, you must complete a Common Application Form available from the local authority in which you live. You are also requested to complete the Supplementary Information Form attached to this policy if you wish to apply under oversubscription criteria 1 to 4 or 6 to 8. The Supplementary Information Form should be returned to **St Raphael's Catholic Primary School, Huddersfield Road, Millbrook, Stalybridge, SK15 3JL** by **15th January 2024**.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application on 16<sup>th</sup> April or the next working day, by the local authority 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.

***If you do not provide the information required in the SIF and return it by the closing date, together with all supporting documentation, your child will not be placed in criteria 1 to 4 or 6 to 8, and this is likely to affect your child's chance of being offered a place.***

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

### **Late Applications<sup>4</sup>**

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

### **Admission of Children Below Compulsory School Age and Deferred Entry**

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 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 1<sup>st</sup> April and 31<sup>st</sup> August, may request that the child be admitted out of their normal age group, to reception rather than year 1.

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<sup>2</sup> This paragraph may need to be amended depending on whether there are any local arrangements with the local authority.

<sup>3</sup> This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year.

<sup>4</sup> This section will need to be tailored to follow the procedure within the school's home local authority to ensure that it is in accordance with the local authority's scheme for co-ordination of admissions.

Any such request should be made in writing to **Mrs Lynn Lakner, Headteacher at St Raphael's Catholic Primary School, Huddersfield Road, Millbrook, Stalybridge**, at the same time as the admission application is made. The governing body 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 taking into account the views of the head teacher, including the head teacher's statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the governing body will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals, as appropriate.

### **Waiting Lists**

In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful children will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. 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 day of the summer term (see school calendar).

**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 admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Application should be made to:

Tameside Admissions Team online <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions> or by contacting School Admissions, Tameside Council, PO Box 317, Ashton-under-Lyne OL6 0GS (Telephone Number – 0161 342 3204)

**More information can be found on the school website :**

<http://www.st-raphaels.tameside.sch.uk/>

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

You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing as soon as possible. Applicants must be informed of the outcome of their application within 15 school days of receipt, but the aim is to notify applicants of the outcome of their application within 10 school days of receipt.

You have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel if your application is unsuccessful.

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

If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above).

You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

### **Fair Access Protocol**

The school 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 governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The governing body has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number (subject to the infant class size exceptions).

## Nursery<sup>5</sup>

For children attending the school's nursery, application to the reception class 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.

**The governing body 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 (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)***

1. An Education Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 324 of the Education Act 1996, specifying the special educational provision for a child. 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. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including 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.

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. 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.

3. '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. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child who is part of a Catholic family where a letter from a priest demonstrates that the child would have been baptised or received if it were not for their status as a looked after child (e.g. a looked after child in the process of adoption by a Catholic family).

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest [who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church].

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.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

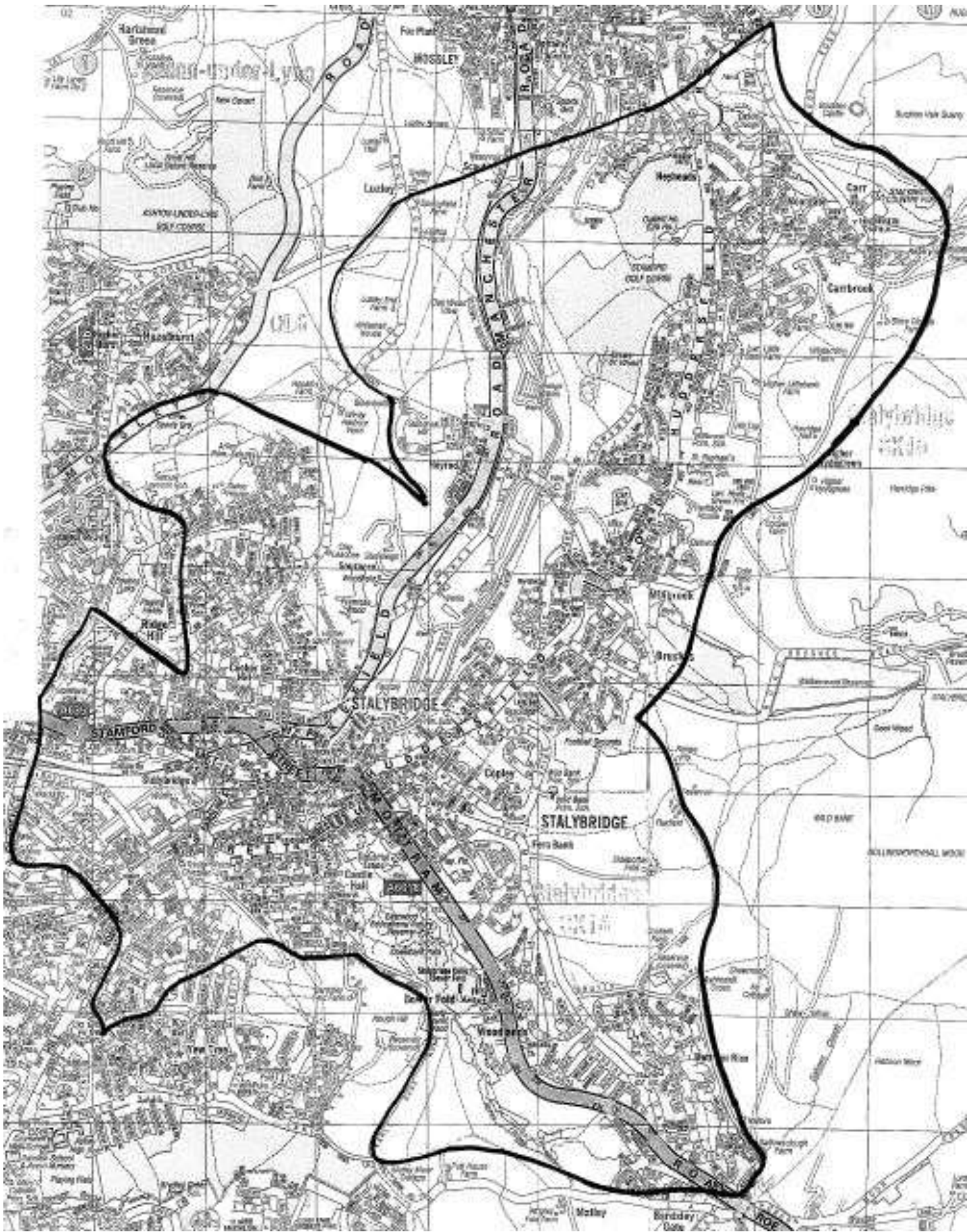
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<sup>5</sup> This section should be deleted where the school does not have a nursery.

7. “children of other faiths” means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of ‘other Christian denominations’ at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
- A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
  - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. ‘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, whether or not they are 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 address as the applicant.
9. 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.
10. This applies where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
11. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries are as shown on the attached map and will be applied to the admission arrangements for **September 2024**.



**ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY**



## ST RAPHAEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NURSERY ADMISSION POLICY 2024-25



**St Raphael's** Catholic Primary School was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and instrument of government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The Governing Board is the admissions authority for Nursery places and has responsibility for admissions to the school Nursery. The Governing Board has set its admission number at 26 to be admitted to the Nursery in the school year which begins September 2024.

The Governing Board will, where logistically possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's published admissions number (PAN.)

This policy was written with reference to Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities on 'Early Education and childcare. (June 2018). The policy has been written in conjunction with headteachers from the Nursery Admissions Consultation Group.

### **Purpose**

- To provide clear guidance for Governing Bodies on Nursery Admissions in all maintained nurseries.
- To ensure a consistent approach to Nursery Admissions throughout the authority

### **Entitlement to Nursery Education Places**

All children are entitled to a free part-time nursery education place. That entitlement is from the term **after** their third birthday. However, provision is made by a range of providers and the local authority aims to provide places in the year before they enter Reception. Some places may be available for three year olds in the term after their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday if there are places available.

Each child is entitled to a maximum of 15 hours free early years education per week from the term following their third birthday. This entitlement can be delivered flexibly by the school (where it is able to do so and in response to parental demand). If the free entitlement is taken flexibly, it must be no more than 10 hours per day. The full 15 hours entitlement should be over no fewer than 2 days.

Entitlement to 30 Hours Free Childcare - families of 3 and 4 year olds who meet the eligibility criteria may also be entitled to an additional 570 hours of free childcare, giving a total of 1140 hours e.g. 30 hours per week for 38 weeks.

### **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### **The Local Authority will:**

- distribute Tameside's policy for nursery admissions to all appropriate Governing Boards
- provide schools with a standard nursery admissions application form
- disseminate information about nursery education providers via the Family Information Service
- provide guidance and support for Governing Boards offering Nursery provision
- publish timescales for Nursery Admissions annually
- measure distances by request (Please note a charge may apply)

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### **The Governing Board / school should:**

- keep a record of all parents expressing an interest in a nursery place for their child
- send out application forms to parents of children, who have expressed an interest according to LA timescales.
- make it clear on all correspondence to parents that a place in nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception
- inform parents in writing of an offer or a refusal according to LA timescales
- provide copies of the following leaflets/factsheets to parents who have been refused a place:
  - Free entitlement funding - Directory
  - Admissions to Nursery Classes 2024-25
  - How to claim your free early education place

### **Parents / Carers are expected to:**

- register their interest in a particular school by contacting that school
- complete and return an application form according to given timescales
- confirm acceptance of a place

### **Allocation of Nursery Places**

The governing board is the admissions authority and has responsibility for admissions to this nursery and will undertake the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round. The governing body has set its admission number at **26 pupils to be admitted to the nursery year** in the school year which begins in September, **2024**. The governing board will, where logistically possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's Published Admissions Number ("PAN").

Places will be allocated to Tameside residents who will be 4 years old between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025 in the first instance.

Places should be offered to children who will become 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 (and therefore born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021).

Where a school receives less applications from Tameside residents who will be 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 than there are places available, all must be offered places. Where a school receives more applications from Tameside residents who will be 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 than there are places available the following over subscription criteria must be applied in order:

#### **Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan EHCP (see note 1)**

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 following order of priority.*

Where school receives more applications from Tameside residents who will be 4 years old between 1 September 2024 and 31 August 2025 than there are places available the following over subscription criteria will be applied in order:

*Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.*

1. Catholic looked after children and all previously looked after children, including 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. (see notes 2&3)

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2. Catholic children who are resident in the parish of **Ss Peter & Raphael Stalybridge**. (see notes 3&11)
3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
4. Other looked after children and all previously looked after children, including 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 (see note 2)
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4&5)
6. Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
7. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
8. Any other children.

*Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.*

- (i) **Siblings:** The attendance of a brother or sister at the school at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 8).  
  
(The sibling criterion includes; natural sisters/brothers; half-sisters/brothers; step sisters/brothers; adopted sisters/brothers; sisters/brothers of fostered children, and in each case living at the same address. This allows for the admittance of children whose siblings will still be attending the preferred school.)
- (ii) The children of staff will be given increased priority within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (1) above (see note 10).

### **(iii) Age**

Priority will be given to children in the following order:

- 1 Children who will be 4 years old by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024
- 2 Children who will be 4 years old by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025
- 3 Children who will be 4 years old by 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025

### **Tie Break**

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured as a straight line from the child's home address to the main gate to the school property using the LA's school admissions data mapping software, which uses a Geographical Information System based on Ordnance Survey.

The address from which distance will be measured will be the permanent residential address, at the time of application, of the parent with whom the child lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of a week, the home address is the address from which the child travels to school for the majority of school days per week. If the number of days is exactly equal the home address will be that of the parent who receives any benefits related to the child. In the event of distances being the same for 2 or more applications where this distance would be the last place/s to be allocated, the place will be allocated to the pupil that is nearer using walking distance as measured using the local authority's school admissions data mapping software.

### **Application Procedures and Timetable**

To apply for a place at this school in the normal admission round<sup>1</sup>, you must complete a Nursery Application Form available from the school office or on the school website. You are also requested to complete the Supplementary Information Form available from the school office if you wish to apply under oversubscription criteria 1 to 4 or 6 to 8. The Nursery Application Form and any Supplementary Information

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<sup>1</sup> This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year.

Form should be returned to the school office at **St Raphael's Catholic Primary School, Huddersfield Road, Millbrook, Stalybridge, SK15 3JL.**

**Applications for nursery places for admission September 2024 should be submitted to the school by 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2024.**

**Offer letters for admission September 2024 will be sent by the end of April 2024.  
Offer letters for admission January 2025 will be sent by the end of October 2024.**

### **Allocating places to Tameside resident children applying after the main allocation procedure has been completed**

If school still has nursery places available after the main allocation process has been completed, the Governing Board will offer places to subsequent applicants on a 'first come first served basis', as long as that child is of the correct age i.e. will become 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 (and therefore born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021) and lives in Tameside. Should a Tameside resident parent request a place after the allocation process and the school has places available, a place should normally be offered.

### **Allocating places to children who do not live in Tameside**

If school still has nursery places available after the summer half term preceding the September that applicants wish to be admitted, these can be allocated to children who do not live in Tameside and who will become 4 years old between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2025 (and therefore born between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021), according to the over subscription criteria.

### **Waiting Lists**

In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful children will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. 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.

**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 admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Application should be made to the school by contacting **Mrs Lynn Lakner, Headteacher at St Raphael's Catholic Primary School, Huddersfield Road, Millbrook, Stalybridge, SK15 3JL.**

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

If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above).

**The governing 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 (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)**

1. An Education Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 324 of the Education Act 1996, specifying the special educational provision for a child. 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. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order).

Looked after children and all previously looked after children, including 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. Previously looked after children are children who were looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order)

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. 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.

3. '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. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child who is part of a Catholic family where a letter from a priest demonstrates that the child would have been baptised or received if it were not for their status as a looked after child (e.g. a looked after child in the process of adoption by a Catholic family).

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest [who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church].

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.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "Children of other Christian denominations" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is his body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above.

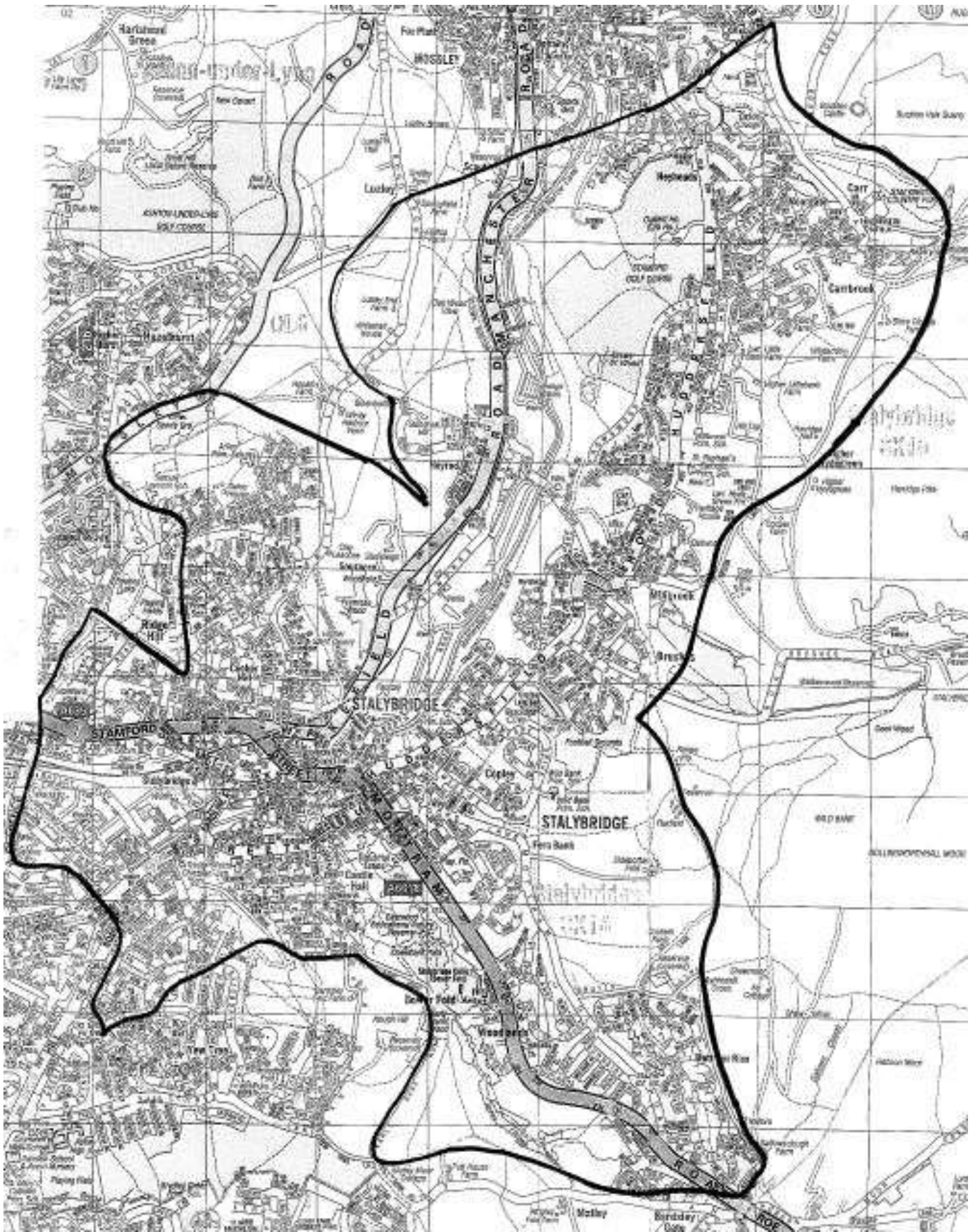
All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. "Children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
  - A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
  - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.

Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.

8. '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 address as the applicant.

9. 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.
10. This applies where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
11. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries are as shown on the attached map and will be applied to the admission arrangements for **September 2024**.



May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together