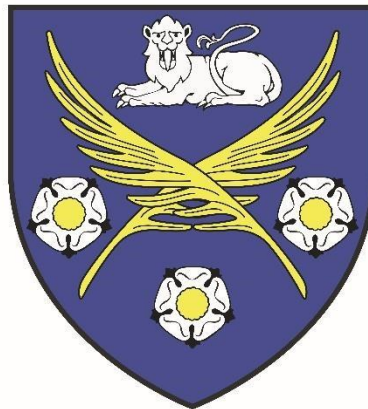




School Admission Policy 2026 – 2027

"I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10)

Policy Type	Policy Number	Prepared By (Job Title) and Date
Statutory	S02	Admissions Committee Autumn 2024
Approval Date	Review Frequency	Review Due Date
3.12.24	Annually (Statutory Frequency)	Autumn 2025
<i>Amended Admissions Policy Signed on behalf of the Governing Body G M Kendrick (Chair) 3.12.2024</i>		



Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Academy Trust

Providing an inspirational, outstanding Catholic education for
all the children and young people in our schools.

St Patrick's Catholic Primary school and Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary school were 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 academy company as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and articles of association and always seeks to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. As 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 Academy Company (our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Academy Trust) is the admissions authority and has delegated responsibility for admissions to the Local Governing Body

The Local Authorities for their respective school (Telford & Wrekin Council for St Patrick's and Shropshire Council for Shrewsbury Cathedral), undertake the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round (this is for admissions to the school at the start of the school year and not for applications made in year). The admissions authority has set its published PAN for both schools at 30 pupils to be admitted to the reception year in the school year which begins September 2026

The Academy Company 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 PAN.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), is dealt with by a 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 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.

Oversubscription Criteria for St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (See note 2 and 3) OVER
2. Catholic children who are resident in the parish of St Patrick's, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire. (See notes 6 and 7)
3. Catholic children who are resident in other parishes for whom St Patrick's is the nearest Catholic school.

4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2)
5. Any other children

Oversubscription Criteria for Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School

1. Catholic Looked after and previously looked after children. (See note 2 and 3)
2. Catholic children who are resident in the Cathedral Parish Shrewsbury including the Cathedral church of Our Lady Help of Christians and St Peter of Alcantara, and St Winefride's, Monkmoor.
3. Catholic children who are resident in other parishes for whom Shrewsbury Cathedral School is the nearest Catholic School.
4. Other looked after and previously looked after children (see note 2)
5. 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 4).

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distances are calculated on the basis of the straight-line distance between a central point in the school building and a central point in the child's home. The distances will be measured using the Local Authorities Geographical Information Systems. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

Application Procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place at St Patrick's in the normal admission round, you must complete an online application via the Local Authority's Website:

http://www.telford.gov.uk/info/20026/school_admissions/14/starting_school.

You must also complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) attached to this policy. The SIF and proof of baptism should be returned to St Patrick's school office by 15th January 2026

To apply for a place at Shrewsbury Cathedral in the normal admission round, you must complete an online application via the Local Authority's Website:

<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/starting-or-transferring-school/starting-infant-orprimary-school/>

You must also complete the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) attached to this policy. The SIF and proof of baptism should be returned to Shrewsbury Cathedral's school office by 15th January 2026

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

You will be advised of the outcome of your application on 16th 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 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

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 2026. Applications received after this date will be treated as late applications and will not be considered until after the main allocation of places has taken place.

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 2027

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

In Year Applications St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

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. Enquiries may be made at the school office by phoning 01952 386160, or emailadmin.stpatricks@blessedec.co.uk an application must also be made by contacting Admissions at Telford and Wrekin by email: admissions@telford.gov.uk 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. You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

If your child wishes to enter the Reception Class anytime during the Autumn Term, they must apply online at: T&W.gov.uk/school-admission/apply-to-start/transfer-school.

Spring and Summer terms applications for Reception class can be made directly with the school.

In Year Applications Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School

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. Enquiries may be made at the school office by phoning 01743 351032 or by email: admin.cathedral@blessedec.co.uk an application must also be made to by contacting Admissions at Shropshire by email admissions@shropshire.gov.uk 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. You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

If your child wishes to enter the Reception Class anytime during the Autumn Term, they must apply online at: [shropshire.gov.uk/school admission/apply to start/transfer school](https://shropshire.gov.uk/school-admission/apply-to-start-transfer-school).

Spring and Summer terms applications for Reception class can be made directly with the school.

Fair Access Protocol

The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the Academy Company is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The Admissions Authority has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the published admission number (subject to the infant class size exceptions).

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 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. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the Academy Company) to have been in state care outside of England and who 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. 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 living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.

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St Patrick's Catholic Primary School and Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School

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. '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 home address as the child who is the subject of the application.
5. 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.
6. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries are as shown on the attached map and will be applied to the admission arrangements for 2026/2027

Map attached Appendix A

7. A child's "home address" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). 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 given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.

ADMISSION TO ST PATRICK'S/SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Supplementary Information Form 2026-2027

First Name of Child:		Surname:	
Address of child:		Name of any siblings currently attending the school you are applying to:	
Date of Birth:			
Date from which you wish your child to attend school:		Year group into which you wish your child to be admitted:	
Your Name:		Relationship to Child:	
Your Telephone Number(s):			
Your email address:			
Is your child a Baptised Catholic: Yes/No		<u>For Baptised Catholics:</u> Month and Year of Baptism: Parish: Parish Location (Town/City):	
<i>All Catholic applicants are required to produce a baptismal certificate or a letter from the parish priest from the parish where baptism took place to confirm they are baptised Catholic. This evidence must be provided at the time of the application to the school and before the application deadline.</i>			
Signed:			
Name (Please Print):		Date:	

School use only:

Checklist for Reception Class Applications:

1. **Deadline – 15th January 2026**
2. **Supplementary Information Form and Baptismal Evidence submitted to School**
3. **School Place Application made to Local Authority**

SIF Received

Evidence of baptism received & copied

Evidence of DOB received & copied (if applicable)

Date.....

Date.....

Date.....

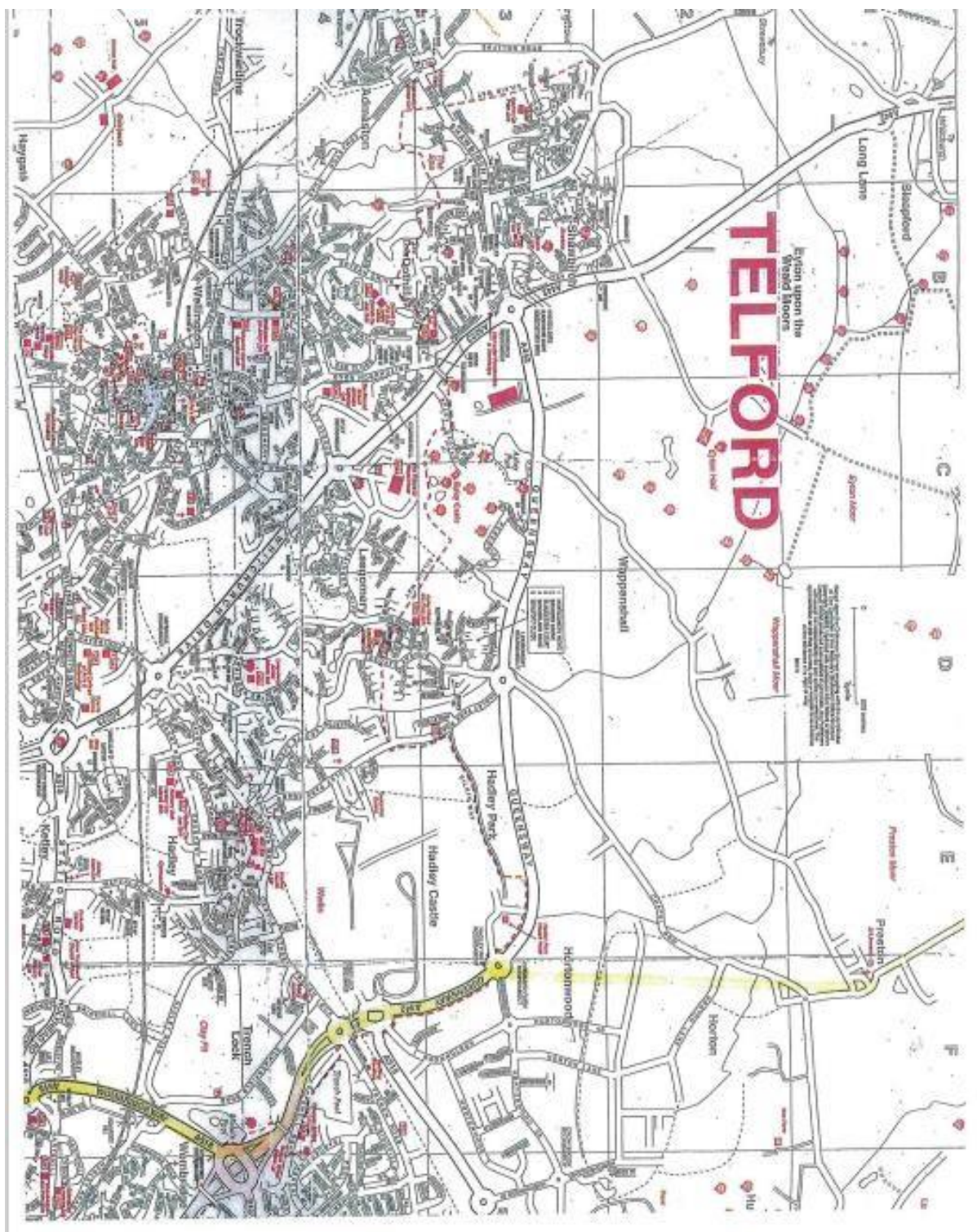
Signed.....

Signed.....

Signed.....

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St Patrick's Catholic Primary School and
Shrewsbury Cathedral Catholic Primary School

APPENDIX A ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL PARISH BOUNDARY



SHREWSBURY CATHEDRAL CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY PARISH BOUNDARY

