

St. Monica's R.C. High School Specialist Language College

Admission Criteria 2010

St. Monica's R.C. High School is a Roman Catholic Secondary School provided by the Diocese of Salford and is maintained by the Bury Local Education Authority as a Voluntary Aided School. The school's Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. For the school year commencing September, 2010 the Governing Body has set its planned admissions number at 210. The Governors recognize that the first responsibility of the school is to serve the Roman Catholic community for which it has been established. This is focused on designated parish communities and the Roman Catholic primary schools that are partners in providing for those communities. In establishing their oversubscription criteria the Governors have also taken full account of the Code of Practice produced by the Department for Education and Skills and the emphasis placed on supporting children in public care.

The parish communities served by the school are :

- Our Lady of Grace
- Our Lady of Dolours
- St. Bernadette's
- St. Michael's
- St. Mary & St. Philip Neri

The associated primary schools are :

- Our Lady of Grace
- St. Philip's
- St. Bernadette's
- St. Michael's
- St. Mary's

Admission to the school will be made by the Governing Body in accordance with the stated parental preferences it receives and subject to the following set of criteria which will be used to form a priority order if there are more applications for admission than the school has places available.

- (a) Roman Catholic children who are in public care.
- (b) Roman Catholic children living in a contributory parish and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (c) Roman Catholic children attending an Associated Roman Catholic primary school and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (d) Other Roman Catholic children who have a brother or sister at the school at the time of transfer and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (e) Other Roman Catholic children in Maintained Roman Catholic primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (f) Roman Catholic children in other Maintained primary schools and who have completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme.
- (g) Other children in public care.
- (h) Other children.

Footnotes

1. All applicants will be considered at the same time, after the closing date for admission on 11th December, 2009.
2. The Governors will require evidence in support of a claim that the child is a Baptised Roman Catholic and has completed the Diocesan Sacramental programme or equivalent.
3. The Governing Body reserve the right to admit children with proven and exceptional medical or social needs where admission to the school might best help satisfy those exceptional needs : e.g. if the school is adapted to accommodate

physically handicapped pupils and such a pupil seeks admission. Children with a statement of SEN, that names the school, will be given a place.

4. **Siblings.** A brother or sister will be defined as a sibling who resides in the same residence as a pupil who occupies a place in the school, if the sibling will still be in attendance at the date of admission of the applicant.
5. **Parish Boundaries.** Parents should check carefully whether they are resident within the parish boundary of one of the designated parishes. Maps illustrating these boundaries are available in the information provided by the primary schools and at this school.
6. **Shared Parenting.** Where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility, each for part of the week, the home address will be decided by using the address on the Child Benefit payment book.
7. **Waiting List.** St. Monica's operates a waiting list for one term in the academic year of admission, in accordance with published criteria.
8. **Tie Breaks.** If there is a tie break decision e.g. only one place left in category (f) and four children fulfil the criteria for category (f), then the tie break will be decided by the shortest walking distance from the school. Distance will be measured (in a straight line/by the shortest walking route) from the front door of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school (using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system), with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.
9. **Late applications.** Late applications can only be considered in accordance with the policy. Further offers can not be made if the school is oversubscribed.
10. **Appeals.** In an application for admission has been turned down by the Governing Body, parents can appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. This appeal must be sent in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the school within 14 days of refusal. The parents must give reasons for appealing in writing and the decision of the Appeals Panel is binding on the Governors.