

Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College

Admissions Policy 2009

The Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College is an All Girls' Voluntary Aided 11-18 Comprehensive College. The College 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 witness to Jesus Christ.

Girls will be admitted at age 11 regardless of ability or aptitude. Whenever there are more applicants than places, priority will always be given to Catholic applicants in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. In this policy the applicant refers to the parent/carer applying for the place and candidate refers to the girl for whom the application is being made.

As a Catholic school we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our girls. Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the schools activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education is fully supported by all the families in the school. All applicants and candidates are therefore expected to give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school.

The Governing body has sole responsibility for applications to the school and intend to admit 180 girls to year 7 in 2009. A supplementary form, which includes a written reference from your Parish Priest stating that one or both parents/carers attend Catholic mass regularly with their daughter must be completed and returned to the school together with a copy of the Baptismal certificate. A common application form must be sent to your Local Authority. In the light of the above, the Governors will have regard to the following order or priority where there are more applications for places than the number of places available:

1. Looked after Catholic girls.
2. Practising Catholic applicants.
3. Other baptised Catholic applicants.
4. Other looked after girls.
5. Those preparing for the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion with the Catholic Church (Catechumens).
6. Christian applicants who have received the sacrament of Baptism and regularly attend church (supported by a minister of religion) and whose parents wish them to receive a Catholic education.
7. Other applicants whose parents wish them to receive a Catholic education and whose application is supported by a religious leader.

NOTES:

1. **Catholic**
The term Catholic in the policy means a baptised person who is a member of any Catholic church that is in full communion with the See of Rome.
2. **Over Subscription**
Where the offer of places to all applicants in any of the above categories

would lead to over subscription, priority is given to those with a sister attending the school at the time of application.

3. **Distance**

Where the offer of places to all the applicants in any of the categories listed above would still lead to over subscription, the places up to the admissions number (180) will be offered to those living nearest to the College. Distance is measured in a straight line from the home.

4. **Christian applicants**

In order of preference this refers to Christian denominations affiliated to 'Churches together in England (CTE)' and then to other Christian denominations.

5. The governors may increase the priority of an applicant within a category where evidence is provided at the time of application of exceptional circumstance, or a medical or a pastoral need of the girl which can be most appropriately met at the school.
6. There are separate application procedures for girls with statements of SEN.

Hard to Place students

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 absolute priority 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.

Admission to the Sixth-Form

The sixth-form is available for all existing pupils subject to pupils fulfilling the individual requirements of suitable courses. Remaining places in the sixth-form of the school will be distributed in accordance with the over subscription criteria, subject to applicants fulfilling the individual requirements of suitable courses.