

Admissions criteria for entry September 2024

All Saints' Nursery Unit
St Colman's Primary School
Annaclone
Banbridge BT32 5LS

Maintained Nursery Unit
Admissions No: 26 (Full-time)
Session Times: 8:45am – 1:30pm
A mid-day meal is available

Principal: Mrs A Morgan BSc PGCE MEd PQH
Chair of Board of Governors: Mrs G Fusciardi

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Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and the Principal in relation to admissions.

The Board of Governors has established the school's admissions criteria and has delegated to the principal its function and responsibility in relation to the application of the criteria and the admission of pupils to the school.

Information on Admissions – If you have any questions or would like to arrange a visit to our Nursery, please do not hesitate to contact the Principal via email or by telephone.

Admissions Criteria

A timetable of pre-school admissions procedures setting out the dates by which an application is to be submitted is available at www.eani.org.uk/admissions under 'Pre-School Admissions'. During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered.

The application procedure opens on 9 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) and an application submitted by the closing date of 26 January 2024 at 12noon (GMT) will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after 12noon (GMT) on 26 January 2024 will be treated as a late application.

As the pre-school admissions procedure is in two stages the timetable also specifies the relevant dates at Stage 2 which will determine if an application is to be considered as punctual or late.

Statutory Criteria:

1. Children who *have listed All Saints' Nursery Unit as their first preference and reside* in the Parishes of Annaclone (as detailed on the *Parish Boundary Map), All Saints' Ballela, or The Corbet from socially disadvantaged circumstances in their final pre-school year who were born:
 - on or between 2 July 2020 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) and whose parents have not exercised their right to defer their child's entry to primary school; or,
 - on or between 1 April 2020 and 1 July 2020 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - have not attended or are not currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged child; and,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2025.

Note: Children from 'socially disadvantaged circumstances' means a child whose parent has an entitlement to (i) Income Support, or (ii) Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, or (iii) Income related Employment and Support Allowance, or (iv) Universal Credit. When parents apply for places for their child on this basis they must provide Benefit Verification to confirm that they have an entitlement. The application procedure for Pre-School will outline how Benefit Verification can be submitted.

2. Other Children who *have listed All Saints' Nursery Unit as their first preference* from socially disadvantaged circumstances (as defined above) who are in their final pre-school year (as defined by criteria 1).
3. Children not from socially disadvantaged circumstances (as defined above) who are in their final pre-school year (as defined by criteria 1) who *have listed All Saints' Nursery Unit as their first preference and reside* in the Parishes of Annaclone (as detailed on the *Parish Boundary Map), All Saints Ballela, or The Corbet)
4. Other children who reside outside of the Parishes who are in their final pre-school year (as defined by criteria 1).

**A map showing the Parish boundaries is available to parents to view in the school. It is this map which will be used to define the above Parishes.*

Admissions Sub-Criteria

In the event of more children satisfying the last criterion which can be applied in the order of priority set down above, then selection for the remaining places will be on the basis of the following sub-criteria in the stated order:-

- (i) Children with sibling(s)/half-sibling(s)/step or foster siblings presently enrolled in St Colman's Primary School or whose siblings will be enrolled in St.Colman's Primary School on 1 September 2024;

- (ii) Children whose parent(s)/guardian(s) is/are currently a permanent employee in the school;
- (iii) Eldest or only child in the family;
- (iv) Children for whom All Saints' NU is the nearest Maintained Nursery School to the child's home. (Distance will be measured on Google Maps Distance Calculator using the walking modes or if the address is not registered on Google Maps then distance will be measured as driving from the school gates to the applicant's address)
- (v) Children who, in the opinion of the Board of Governors, have exceptional circumstances that necessitate admission to All Saints' Nursery Unit rather than any other school in the following order:-
 - a) a child currently on the "At Risk" register maintained by the Southern Health and Social Care Trust;
 - b) a Child Looked After (CLA);
 - c) a child who has one or both parents deceased;
 - d) a child whose parent has a serious long-term illness – medical evidence required;
 - e) children who are twins (or other multiple births);
 - f) a child from a family of three or more pre-school age children at time of application;The circumstances should be personal to the child and must be supported by independent and appropriate documentation.
- (vi) Any other children
- (vii) The remaining places will be allocated on the basis of age with priority being given to the oldest children. Where two or more children have the same date of birth, final selection will be on the basis of alphabetical order of the surnames. If two or more children have the same surname the alphabetical order of the first forename will be used and if required thereafter subsequent forenames.

Please be aware that when considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is clearly detailed on the application (e.g. named sibling in Primary school, lives within the Parish, eldest child, etc). Parents should therefore ensure that all information pertaining to their child and **relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application form**. The child's birth certificate must be provided with the application.

Non-statutory criteria

Note: Applications falling under Criterion 5 are processed only during Stage 2 of the admissions process, after final pre-school year (Statutory 1-4) applications.

- 5 Children who were born:
- on or between 1 April 2020 - 1 July 2020 (inclusive), or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and,
 - and have attended or are currently attending a funded pre-school setting under the Pre-School Education Programme as a target aged (not penultimate aged) child; and,
 - that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1, or
 - on or between 2 July 2021 and 1 July 2022 (inclusive); or,
 - on or between 1 April 2021 and 1 July 2021 (inclusive) or were due to be born on or between those dates but were born earlier; and that child's parent has completed a request to defer their child starting P1 until September 2026.

Tie Breaker – Non Statutory Criterion 5

Children within Criterion 5 will be selected in Chronological Order of Age – eldest child first. In the event of two or more children having the same date of birth (except twins or multiple births) final selection will be on the basis of the alphabetical order of the surnames. If two or more children have the same surname the alphabetical order of the first forename will be used and if required thereafter subsequent forenames.

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any application form. ****Home is the child's permanent address and not a child minder's/relative's address.**

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

Waiting List Policy

If a parent/guardian wishes their child's name to be held on a waiting list for the Nursery Unit, please inform the school. The above criteria will be applied to those on the waiting list at the time when a place becomes available.