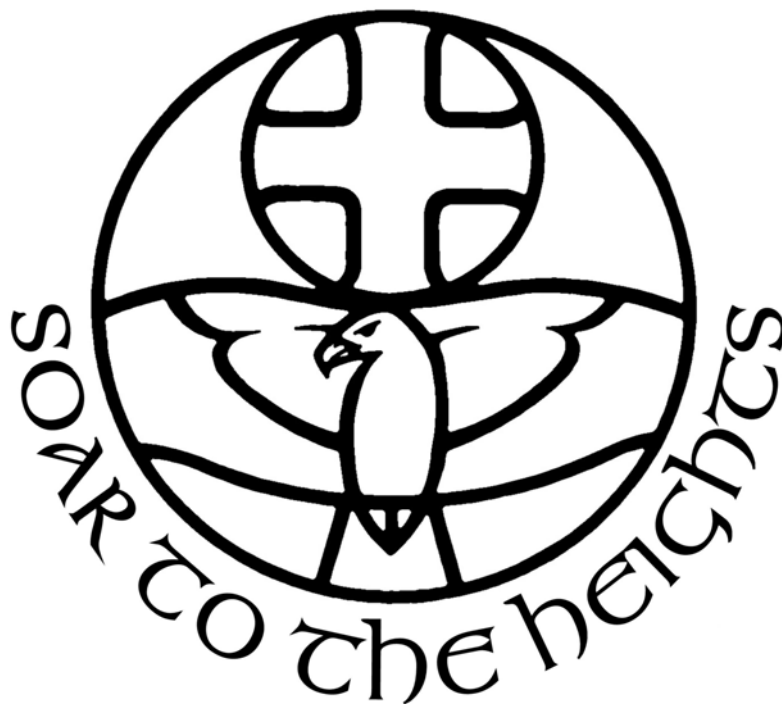


THE VENERABLE BEDDÉ CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND SECONDARY  
SCHOOL



ADMISSIONS POLICY  
2011-12



The Venerable Bede Church of England (Aided) Secondary School

The Governing Body of The Venerable Bede Church of England [Aided] Secondary School is the Admissions Authority for the school.

We intend to admit up to 180 students into year 7 in September 2011. This arrangement follows consultation between the governing body, the Local Authority, all other schools and all other Admission Authorities in the area.

We will admit children whose statements of special educational need indicate the school as the correct placement for the child named in the statement.

Applications must be made on the Local Authority Common Application Form [CAF]. This form must be returned to the Local Authority. Applications received after the closing date will only be considered after all those received by the closing date. If you express a preference for our school, regardless of the order it appears on the CAF, and the school is over-subscribed offers of places will be made in the following order of priority:

#### 1) CHILDREN IN CARE

We will admit children who are looked after by a Local Authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children's Act 1989(b) at the time of the application for admission to the school is made. The Local Authority must provide written confirmation that the child will still be looked after at the time of admission to the school.

#### 2) FAITH PLACES

We will admit up to 10 children living in the Deanery of Wearmouth according to the following criteria in this order of priority:

- a) Anglicans at the heart of the Church of at least 2 years standing, worshipping within the Deanery of Wearmouth, Sunderland.
- b) Members of churches affiliated to "Churches together in Britain and Ireland" or members of other faith communities, of at least two years standing and at the heart of their faith community.

Your child must live in the Deanery of Wearmouth. A list of parishes in the Deanery is given in note i and a map showing their boundaries is available from the school office or the school website [[www.venerablebede.co.uk](http://www.venerablebede.co.uk)]

We define 'at the heart of the church or faith community' as being a regular worshipper. This might normally mean one who worships usually twice a month. The

worshipper could be the child for whom application is made or one or both parents. To accommodate different patterns of work and family relationships account will be taken of week-day worship.

You must include a letter from a minister or two office holders from your church or faith community confirming that your child is eligible for admission under this criterion.

### 3) SIBLINGS

We will admit children who will have an older sibling in the school at the time they join.

We define the term sibling to mean an older brother/sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

### 4) EXCEPTIONAL MEDICAL OR SOCIAL REASONS

We will admit children with exceptional medical or social factors directly related to school placement. You must include written evidence from a doctor or other professional practitioner, setting out the particular reasons why our school is the most suitable school with your application which will be considered on a case by case basis, as assessed using the Local Authority definition.

### 5) PARTNER PRIMARY SCHOOL

We will admit children from our agreed Partner Primary Schools, in the following order:

Benedict Biscop CofE [Aided] and St Paul's CofE VC Primary Schools  
Bishop Harland CofE [Aided] Primary School [up to 4 places]  
New Silksworth Junior School and Ryhope Junior School

### 6) OTHERS

If any further places are available, first priority will be given to those meeting the Faith Places criteria (number 2 above), followed by the children of parents who express a secular preference for the school. Those children living nearest to the school as measured by the shortest safe walking distance will be admitted first. This distance will be measured from the centre of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system.

## Notes

- i. The parishes in the Deanery of Wearmouth are Bishopwearmouth St Gabriel, Bishopwearmouth St Mary Magdalene (Millfield), Bishopwearmouth St Nicholas, Bishopwearmouth The Good Shepherd, Doxford St Wilfrid, Grangetown St Aidan, Hendon St Ignatius, Monkwearmouth Team Ministry - Monkwearmouth All Saints'; Monkwearmouth St Andrew; Monkwearmouth St Peter, North Wearside Team Ministry - Redhouse St Cuthbert; Southwick Holy Trinity; Southwick St Columba; Town End Farm St Bede, Ryhope St Paul. Silkworth St Matthew, South Hylton St Mary, Millfield and Pallion (St Mark's Millfield; St Luke's Pallion, Sunderland Minster, Sunderland Pennywell St Thomas, Sunderland St Chad, and Sunderland St Mary and St Peter (Springwell).
- ii. If in any priority category, there are more applicants than places available, then the shortest safe walking distance from the school will be used to determine the order of admission. This will be measured as set out in criterion 6.
- iii. Where an application is found to contain false information the Governing Body reserve the right to withdraw their offer of a place.
- iv. Sunderland Local Authority definition of "Exceptional medical or psychological reasons (you must include a medical or psychological report, prepared by a professional, to confirm information that you include in this section. This report should explain why only this school can meet your child's medical or psychological needs. Common childhood medical conditions such as asthma or giving a child's nervousness at starting new school as a psychological reason for choosing a particular school are unlikely to be accepted as exceptional)."

**RIGHT OF APPEAL:** if you are not successful in obtaining a place for your child at our school, you have a statutory right of appeal. Further details are available from Dr Yeates, Principal of the school.