

Consultation on proposed changes to Leigh St Peter's C.E. Primary School's Admission Policy for 2026-27

The Governing Board is consulting on proposed changes to its admission policy for 2026-27.

The Governors are proposing to consult on making their reduced admission number permanent.

In recent years the school has reduced its admission number for children entering reception class from 60 to 30.

This reduction was authorised by the Office of the Schools Adjudicator. Governors acknowledge that stakeholders have not been given the opportunity to have their say on the reduction and this consultation will allow interested parties to make comment.

The reason for the reduction was following a review of all planning areas by the Local Authority, pupil projections suggested that demand for primary school places would decrease within the planning area where Leigh St Peter's C.E. Primary School is located. This is mainly due to a decrease in births.

It should be noted that any reduction will be carefully monitored and, should the need for more places arise in the future, the school's admission number can be returned to 60.

Governors are not proposing any changes to the school's oversubscription criteria.

The school's full proposed arrangements are below. If you have any questions about the school's proposed admission arrangements, please contact Mr Robinson at the school on 01942 671442.

Proposed Admissions Policy 2026-27

Vision & Values:

Our Christian Vision is to provide a happy, safe, and caring high quality learning environment where all members of the school community have the opportunity to flourish; 'living life in all its fullness'. Our Christian Values have been developed in line with everyone who is invested in our school community: its pupils, parents', staff, and governors and we aim to ensure that these Christian Values are at the heart of everything we do at Leigh St Peter's CE Primary School.

Introduction:

This document sets out the admission arrangements of Leigh St Peter's CofE Primary School. For the purposes of this policy, the Governing Board is the admission authority.

Process:

Applications for admission to the school should be made using the Local Authority Common Application Form by the national closing date of 15th January.

The Local Authority will inform parents of the offer of a place on behalf of the Governing Board on the national offer date 16th April or the next working day.

Leigh St Peter's CE Primary School has an admission number of 30 pupils for entry into Reception. The school will accordingly admit at least 30 each year if sufficient applications are received. All applicants will be admitted if 30 or fewer apply. The school will admit any pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan naming the school. Priority will then be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below.

Oversubscription Criteria:

1. Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children.

A "Looked After Child" (LAC) is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school.

A "Previously Looked After Child" (PLAC) is a child who was looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order immediately following having been looked after.

An "Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Child (IAPLAC) is a child who appears (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

2. Siblings of pupils attending the school at the time of application who live within the catchment area/parish. 'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, a stepbrother or sister, or other child living in the same household who, in any of these cases, will be living with them at the same address at the date of their entry to the school.

3. Regular attendance at public worship at St Peter's Church, Westleigh Church of England church.

Attendance will be established by information provided on the Supplementary Information Form completed by a member of the clergy or other designated church officer. For the purposes of these admission arrangements 'regular' means attendance at least eight times in the twelve months immediately prior to the date of application.

4. Regular attendance at public worship in any Church of England church.

Attendance will be established by information provided on the Supplementary Information Form completed by a member of the clergy or other designated church officer. For the purposes of these admission arrangements 'regular' means attendance at least eight times in the twelve months immediately prior to the date of application.

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these admissions arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

5. Other children based on distance (by proximity).

Tie-breaker:

Proximity to the school. This will be measured by the shortest walking distance by road or maintained footpath or other public rights of way from the pupil's home to the main entrance point of the school using a GIS computerised mapping system.

In the event that two or more children live at the same distance from the school (as can happen with families living in blocks of flats), random allocation, where supervised drawing of lots by an independent responsible person of good standing will be used to decide which child(ren) will be allocated the remaining place(s) (in accordance with 1.34 and 1.35 of the School Admissions Code).

Late applications:

Applications received after the closing date and before the [Admissions Authority] admission meeting will be placed last in the criteria in which they fall unless the [Admissions Authority] is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which reasonably prevented the application from being submitted on time. Supporting evidence, including that provided by the required Supplementary Information Form, must also be supplied by the closing date for applications, unless it is satisfied that there are exceptional circumstances which reasonably prevented it being submitted on time. In the absence of such supporting evidence, the allocation of places will be made on the basis of the application alone.

In-Year admissions:

From time to time a place becomes available further up the school. The allocation of places is in accordance with the admissions criteria. Preference will be given to children moving into the area from outside the Local Authority area who do not have a school place. Evidence will need to be provided that the child has recently moved in. Admission of children outside their normal age group.

Parents may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal age range, for instance where the child is gifted or talented or where a child has suffered from particular social or medical issues impacting on their schooling. All such requests will be considered on their merits and either agreed or refused, on that basis. If a request is refused, the child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows: With the application, parents should request that the child is admitted to another year group (state which one), and the reasons for that request. Parents will submit any evidence in support of their case with the application, for instance from a medical practitioner, headteacher etc.

Some of the evidence a parent might submit could include:

- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
 - ✓ where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

The school will consider each case on its merits, taking into account the individual circumstances of the request and the child's best interests. We will also ensure the parent is aware of whether the request for admission out of age group has been agreed before final offers are made, and the reason for any refusal. Requests for admission out of the normal year group will be considered alongside other applications made at the same time. An application from a child who would 'normally' be a year 1 child for a Reception Class place will be considered alongside applications for Reception Class.

Waiting Lists:

The school will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term after the beginning of the school year. This will be maintained by the admission authority, and it will be open to any parent to ask for their child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application. Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant, they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves it.

Appeals Procedure:

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code. Appellants should contact Clerk to Governing Board at Leigh St Peter's CofE Primary School at Leigh Street, Leigh, Greater Manchester, WN7 4TP within 45 days of the date of the letter refusing your child a place at the school for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website at <https://leighsaintpeters.wigan.sch.uk/>.

School age:

A full-time school place in the Reception class is available for children from the September following their 4th birthday, etc.

Deferred entry for infants

A child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their 4th birthday. Parents have the right to defer their child's entry until later in the school year, or to attend part-time until they reach compulsory school age. Places cannot be deferred to the next academic year.

Address definition:

The address is the place where the child is permanently resident with his or her parent or parents or legal guardians. Evidence may be requested to show the address, for example: to which any Child Benefit is paid or at which the child is registered with a medical GP together with recent utilities bill, council tax bill or tenancy agreement. This evidence will be used when reaching a decision on the child's home address for admissions purposes (including where a child lives with parents with shared responsibility for each part of the week). Parents should not assume that a place will automatically be allocated to their child.

Enquiries:

Should be to Clerk to Governing Board at Leigh Street, Leigh, Greater Manchester, WN7 4TP.

**Leigh St Peter's CE Primary School
Supplementary Information Form (2026-27)**

Full Name of Child:

**Christian Name:
Surname:**

Parent's Name:

Name of Church, or other faith setting, you attend:

Christian Denomination or other faith:

Can you confirm that you have attended a Church, or another religious faith setting, at least 8 times between (date) and (date)? ***(Please highlight)***

Yes

No

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship, has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these admissions arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church, or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship, or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

To be completed by the Vicar/Minister/other faith leader:

Has this form been handed to you personally?

Yes

No

Can you confirm that you have attended a Church, or another religious faith setting, at least 8 times between (date) and (date)? ***(Please highlight)***

Yes

No

Signed:

Position Held:

Print Name:

Name and Address of Church/Faith Building:

Phone No:

Date: