

CHECKENDON CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VOLUNTARY AIDED) SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2016-AUGUST 2017

The Governing Body of the school, not Oxfordshire Local Authority (the LA) is responsible for deciding on admissions to the school, but works closely with the LA to coordinate admissions to all maintained schools in Oxfordshire. Details of the arrangements are in the Oxfordshire booklet available from the LA.

Admission to Reception

Applications for entry to the school for the academic year starting September 2016 must be made through the Common Application Form from the Local Authority (LA) where the parent lives at the time of application (the home LA), which may not be Oxfordshire. Dates and process of applications will be made in accordance with the agreed co-ordinated scheme as published by the home LA. All applications will be treated equally, irrespective of need or ability.

At Checkendon Church of England (Voluntary Aided) School, pupils are admitted in the September of the academic year in which they reach their fifth birthday, without reference to ability or aptitude. Entry during the academic year 2016/2017 is therefore, open to all children born between 1st September 2011 and 31st August 2012.

The number of intended admissions into Reception for the year commencing 1 September 2016 is 15.

Parents of a child whose fifth birthday falls between 1 September 2016 and 31 March 2017 may request that their child is not admitted until later in the school year 2016/17 (no later than the term [using three term year] after the child's fifth birthday, when s/he reaches compulsory school age). The school will hold any deferred place for the child, although, in the majority of cases, we find that children benefit from starting at the beginning of the school year, rather than part way through it.

For children whose fifth birthday falls between 1 April 2017 and 31 August 2017 (summer-born children), parents who do not wish them to start school in school year 2016-17, but to be admitted to the Reception Year in September 2017, should proceed as follows. They should apply at the usual time for a place in September 2016 together with a written request that the child is admitted outside his or her normal age group to the Reception year in September 2017. NB parents would need to provide strong supporting reasons for seeking a place outside the normal age group and should discuss the position with the head teacher as early as possible. If their request is agreed, and this should be clear before the national offer day, their application for the normal age group may be withdrawn before any place is offered and they should reapply in the normal way (no later than 15 January 2017) for a Reception place in September 2017. If their request is refused, the parents must decide whether to wait for any offer of a place in September 2016 (NB it will still be subject to the over-subscription criteria below) or to withdraw their application and apply in the second half of the summer term 2017 for a Year 1 place in September 2017. Parents should be aware that the Year 1 group may have no vacancies as it could be full with children transferring from the 2016-17 Reception Year group."

In the event that the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, then children with a Statement of Special Need or with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan naming Checkendon Church of England (Voluntary Aided) School will always be admitted. Once places have been offered to these children, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below:

- 1 Looked-after children and children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because, immediately after being looked after, they became subject to an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order (Note A)
- 2 Children whose **siblings** (see note B) are on the school roll at the time of application and who are expected still to be in attendance at the school at the point of entry by the child to the school **and** live in the catchment area as outlined on the map available in the school office (see note C), **and** with at least one parent or guardian who is church attending (see note E). Priority is given to children whose parent or guardian attends church at St Peter & St Paul.
- 3 Children whose **siblings** are on the school roll at the time of application and who are expected still to be in attendance at the school at the point of entry by the child to the school **and** live in catchment.
- 4 Children whose **siblings** are on the school roll at the time of application and who are expected still to be in attendance at the school at the point of entry by the child to the school **and** with at least one parent or guardian who is church attending (see note E). Priority is given to children whose parent or guardian attends church at St Peter & St Paul.

- 5 Children whose **siblings** are on the school roll at the time of application and who are expected still to be in attendance at the school at the point of entry by the child to the school.
- 6 Children who are residing with a parent or guardian (see note D) in the catchment area, **and** with at least one parent or guardian who is church attending (see note E). Priority is given to children whose parent or guardian attends church at St Peter & St Paul.
- 7 Children who are residing with a parent or guardian (See note D) in the catchment area.
- 8 Children with at least one parent or guardian who is church attending at St. Peter & St. Paul's Checkendon (see note E).
- 9 Children with at least one parent or guardian who is church attending (see note E).
- 10 Other children

If a parent is applying under any of criteria 2, 4, 6, 8 or 9 a supplementary information form, available from the school, should be completed and returned direct to the school by 15th January 2016.

In the event of a single place being available and there are two or more children in any criteria the distance a child lives from the school (see note F) will be used as a tie breaker with those closest being offered places first. Should the children live an identical distance from the school the final place will be allocated using random allocation in the presence of an independent person.

In the case of a situation for a family with multiple birth children i.e. twins, triplets etc., where there is only one available space all children of the multiple birth will be admitted.

In-Year Admissions (Reception to Year 6)

Pupils will be admitted providing there are places available in the relevant year group. **Each year group has 15 places.** If only one place exists all children of a multiple birth who apply for the place will be admitted. Children of service families admitted outside of the normal admissions round are also a permitted exception to the infant class size ruling.

Parents should apply directly to the school for such places.

The school participates in Oxfordshire County Councils' Fair Access Protocol, details of which can be found on the council website.

Admissions for 2014/2015

The following admissions criteria applied to those children admitted to Reception for September 2014:

Criterion 3:	2 pupils
Criterion 5:	3 pupils
Criterion 7:	2 pupils
Criterion 10:	7 pupils

NOTES

Note A: Note: By a "looked-after child" we mean one in the care of a local authority or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of its social services function. An adoption order is one made under the Adoption Act 1976 (Section 12) or the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (Section 46). A 'child arrangements order' is one settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live (Children Act 1989, Section 8, as amended by the Children and Families Act 2014, Section 14). A 'special guardianship order' is one appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian/s (Children Act 1989, Section 14A). Applications under this criterion must be accompanied by evidence to show that the child is looked after or was previously looked after (e.g. a copy of the adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order)

Note B: Sibling refers to brother or 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.

Note C: By **living in catchment** we mean your child's normal address. This is the permanent address at the time you make your application for a place. It is where you and your child live. We regard living in catchment to be where he or she spends the majority of the school week (Monday to Friday, including nights). We may ask to see official documentation, such as a child benefit book or medical card if there

are reasons why a child does not live at his or her parents' address. For example, if he or she is resident with a grandparent, you need to tell us this on your application form. If you do not declare any arrangements like this or if you use a relative's address for your application, we may consider that you have made a false declaration and withdraw the offer of a place. Childcare arrangements are **not** sufficient reason for listing another address. The school reserves the right to check the validity of any address given, by asking for evidence such as inclusion on the Electoral Roll, or a recent utilities bill confirming your name and address. If you are not sure if you live within the catchment area, you may ask the school to check this for you and you will receive a written response. If you are moving to the catchment area, we will ask for evidence of your move, before considering any application for a place. Specifically, we will need to know that you will be resident in the area on 1 September 2016. If you move later we will still need evidence before considering an application. Typical evidence is a letter from your solicitor confirming that you have a legally binding agreement to buy a house, within the catchment area, or a formal lease agreement. The best way to check if you are in catchment is to consult the map in the school office. If, however, you are unable to attend the school, please call the school office for assistance regarding catchment areas.

Note D: By parent, we mean any person who has parental responsibility for, or, is the legal guardian of the child. If you are in any doubt, please contact the school.

Note E: By church attending, we mean

1. A parent or guardian who is an **actual communicant member** of Checkendon Parish Church and who **regularly attends worship** at Checkendon Church. **Actual communicant member** means a person who is baptized, is on the electoral roll of SS Peter and Paul, Checkendon, and has received communion in accordance with the use of the Church of England at least three times in the twelve months preceding the date of application. **By regularly attend worship** we mean at least once a month for the previous twelve months prior to application.
2. A parent or a guardian who is an actual communicant member of the Church of England and who attends a Church of England Church other than Checkendon.
3. A parent or guardian who is a member of another Christian Church that subscribes to the doctrine of the Trinity.
4. It is sufficient for just one parent to be church attending, as set out in the above criteria.

A supplementary information form should be completed by parents and signed by their Vicar or Parish Priest. Parents should note that a pattern of regular worship (similarly, at least twice a month), for six months is required before a person is eligible to come on to a church's electoral roll.

Note F: By living nearest the school, we mean, by the nearest designated public route as defined on the Directorate for Children, Young People and Families Geographic Information System.

There are established arrangements for appeals against non-admission. Details are available from the school. It should be noted that, in the event of an unsuccessful appeal against non-admission to the school, the school would not consider any further application in the same school year (1 September - 31 August) unless there is a major change in circumstances (e.g. change of address). The School will retain the details of children who were not offered a place if the parent so wishes. Should a place subsequently become available in that year group, the families will be contacted to determine whether they still wish to apply. If there is more than one application, the place will be awarded strictly according to the admission criteria for that year.

The Governors wish to emphasise that there is **no guarantee of a place for children living in the ecclesiastical parish of Checkendon or the County Parish of Goring Heath if the parent fails to apply as set out above**. This is in accordance with current law, which makes it clear that Governors must consider parents who have expressed a preference for the school ahead of those who have not.

Late Applications

Late applications and applications made during term time will be dealt with in accordance with the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme at Oxfordshire County Council.

Continued Interest

The school and LA will retain the details of children who were not offered a place on a continued interest list in all years if the parents so wishes until the end of that academic year. The order of priority on the continued interest list is the same as the list of criteria for over-subscription. No account is taken of length of time on a continued interest list. To be added to the continued interest list the parent needs to apply to

the LA and be refused a place at Checkendon School. After the end of the academic year the parent will need to reapply to the LA for a place to remain on the continued interest list.

In-Year Admissions

All in-year applications should be made direct to the school.

Admissions outside the normal age group

Requests from parents for places outside a normal age group will be considered carefully e.g. for those who have missed education due to ill health. Each case will be considered on its own merits and circumstances. However, such admissions will not normally be agreed without a consensus that to do so would be in the pupil's interests. It is recommended that parents discuss their wishes with the head teacher in advance of applying for a place. The governors may ask relevant professionals for their opinion on the case. It should be noted that if a place in the requested age group is refused, but one in the normal age group is offered then there is no right of appeal

Early Application

The school will not consider any early applications for children whose fifth birthday falls on or after 1 September 2017.

For further information, in the first instance, please contact the School Secretary as follows:

**The School Secretary
Checkendon School
Checkendon
Reading
RG8 0SR**

Tel No. 01491 680693

Checkendon C of E (V.A.) Primary School

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM

Attendance /Involvement at a Church or Place of Worship

Please complete all sections below in full and return to the school

Child's surname.....Forename.....

Date of Birth.....Sex.....

Parent's /Guardian's Name.....

Church/Place of Worship attended (please tick box below as appropriate):

St Peter & St Paul, Checkendon

Other (Please specify).....

Do you attend church at least once a month? Yes/No

Have you done so for the previous 12 months? Yes/No

Are you on the Electoral Roll of this Church? Yes/No

Are you baptized? Yes/No

Have you received Communion at least 3 times in the previous 12 months? Yes/No

Signature of Parent/Guardian

.....Date.....

Please ask your Vicar/Priest to countersign this form below and then return it to the school.

To the priest/minister

Please verify the information given by the parent named above Yes / No

Please confirm that your church ascribes to the doctrine of the Trinity Yes / No

I verify that the information given above is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature..... Print Name.....

Position..... Date.....