



Consultation on Admission Arrangements for

St Cuthbert's Catholic High School, Gretna Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE15 7PX

and

St Mary's Catholic School, Benton Park Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7PE

The Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust as the registered admissions authority is consulting upon changes to the school admissions policy for each of the above-named schools. Where changes to admission arrangements are intended, all schools are required to consult before these are determined and published. This letter is notification of consultation.

St Cuthbert's Catholic High School and St Mary's Catholic School admission policies for 2023-2024 are open for consultation.

The proposed changes to the **St Mary's Catholic School's** policy are as follows:

The 2022-2023 policy, reads:

"Where there are places available for some, but not all applicants within a particular criterion priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured in a straight line from a single fixed central point at the school to a point in the centre of the home address of the child, using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer and British National Grid Easting and Northing coordinates. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out in a public place and supervised by a person independent of the school."

We are proposing to change this in the 2023-2024 policy to:

"Where there are places available for some, but not all applicants within a particular criterion the school will allocate places using an electronic random allocation process, which will be independently monitored. In the instance of multiple births, and one sibling is chosen by random allocator both or more siblings will also be admitted. If your child is unsuccessful in gaining a place, you may request that your child is placed onto the school's waiting list, which will be maintained according to the school's admissions criteria. Within each criterion, children will be ranked by computer in random order."

The proposed changes to the **St Cuthbert's Catholic High School's** policy are concerned primarily with the over-subscription criteria.

The 2022-2023 policy over-subscription criteria are as follows:

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority.

The notes referred to can be found after the criteria and give further information which must be read carefully.

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after boys. Read Notes 2 & 3.
2. Catholic boys who attend a Catholic feeder primary school. Read Note 3.
3. Other Catholic boys. Read Note 3.
4. Looked after boys or boys who were previously looked after. Read Note 2
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. Read Note 4.
6. Boys of a member of school staff who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which application for admissions to the school is made. Read Note 8.
7. Boys of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader who attend a Catholic feeder primary school. Read Note 5.
8. Boys of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader. Read Note 5.
9. Boys who are being educated in a Catholic feeder primary school.
10. Other Boys.

We are proposing to change these in the 2023-2024 policy to:

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority. The notes referred to can be found after the criteria and give further information which must be read carefully.

Sibling Link: *Priority in each category will be given to boys who have an older brother attending the school (Year 7-13) in September 2023.*

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after boys. *Please refer to notes b & c.*
2. Catholic boys who attend a Catholic feeder primary school. *Please refer to note c.*
3. Other Catholic boys. *Please refer to note c.*
4. Looked after boys or boys who were previously looked after. *Please refer to note b*
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. *Please refer to note d.*
6. Boys of a member of school staff who has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which application for admissions to the school is made. *Please refer to note j.*

7. Boys of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader who attend a Catholic feeder primary school. A letter of support must be provided. *Please refer to note e and Section 2.*
8. Boys who are being educated in a Catholic feeder primary school. *Please refer to Section 2.*
9. Boys of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader. *Please refer to note e.*
10. Boys of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a minister or faith leader. *Please refer to note f.*
11. Other Boys.

Consultation responses should be made online. You can access the consultation form [here](#) or on the relevant school's website.

This consultation opens on **Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 12 noon** and closes on **Wednesday 19th January 2022 at 12 noon**.

The Local Governing Committees and Trust Board will consider all comments received before they determine the arrangements for 2023-2024.

The Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust recommends that respondents read through the appropriate policy in detail before submitting a response to the consultation.

Further information is available on the individual school's website or by visiting the Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust [website](#).

Chief Operating Officer
Bishop Bewick Catholic Education Trust