

# ADMISSION TO CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN THE CROYDON DEANERY



An introductory booklet to assist parents to understand the procedures for admission to Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided and Grant Maintained Schools within the Croydon Deanery of the Archdiocese of Southwark

# OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Our Catholic Schools aim to provide an environment in which our pupils, staff and governors develop spiritually, morally, academically and socially. It is hoped that through our commitment everyone can develop within a caring ethos.

Catholic schools exist to reflect a witness to the values of the Gospel. It is this witness that make us a distinctive entity. In our Catholic community it is important for teachers, staff, parents, catechists and priests to share their distinctive gifts and ministries in the Christian formation and education of our young people.

Catholic schools have a responsibility to educate Catholic children in the ways of the Faith in partnership with the parents and the parish. We place emphasis on the development of the whole person. Catholic schools rank spiritual and moral education and pastoral care as equally important as academic progress and achievement.

As Headteachers of Catholic schools in the Deanery of Croydon we regard it as vital that we all work together with a shared vision of formation and education. Each of our schools is different in structure but all are witnesses to a living faith which responds to and is aware of our rapidly changing society. In welcoming Christians of other denominations, where we can, into our schools we do so in a spirit of welcome, openness and shared enrichment.

We work from a shared base and vision, reflected in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. In the Croydon Deanery we hope to actively reflect this at all ages. We are keen to work together to serve all our young people in Catholic schools.

# SCHOOLS MAIN PARISH SERVED

Good Shepherd School  
Dunley Drive, New Addington  
Tel: 01689 843 341 'N'

Good Shepherd Parish  
New Addington  
*Headteacher: Mrs A. Hawkins*

St. Joseph's Infant School  
Crown Dale, Upper Norwood  
Tel: 0181 670 2385

Virgo Fidelis, Upper Norwood  
St. Matthew's, West Norwood  
*Headteacher: Mrs M. Tope*

St. Joseph's Junior School  
Wood End, Upper Norwood  
Tel: 0181 653 7195

As Above

*Headteacher: Miss M. O'Brien*

St. Mary's Infants  
Bedford Park, Croydon  
Tel: 0181 688 2891 'N'

St. Mary's, Central Croydon

*Headteacher: Mrs A. Ireland*

St. Mary's Junior  
As Above  
Tel: 0181 688 4893

As Above

*Headteacher: Mr J. Parr*

Margaret Roper School  
Russell Hill Road, Purley  
Tel: 0181 660 0115

St. John the Baptist, Purley

*Headteacher: Mr G. Turner*

Regina Coeli School  
173, Pampisford Road,  
South Croydon  
Tel: 0181 688 4582

St. Gertrude's, South Croydon, Holy Family  
Sanderstead, St. Colomba's, Selsdon and  
St. Dominic's, Waddon  
*Headteacher: Mr D. McCarthy*

St. Chad's School  
Alverston Gardens,  
South Norwood  
Tel: 0181 771 3470

St. Chad's, South Norwood

*Headteacher: Mr J. Mann*

St. Aidan's School  
Portnall Road, Coulsdon  
Tel: 01737 556036

St. Aidan's, Coulsdon and St. Mary's,  
Old Coulsdon  
*Headteacher: Mrs N. McCaffry*

St. James the Great School (G.M.)  
Windsor Road, Thornton Heath  
Tel: 0181 771 3424 'N'

St. Andrew's, Thornton Heath and  
St. Bartholomews, Norbury  
*Headteacher: Mr S. Beck*

Thomas Becket School  
Becket Close, Birchanger Road,  
Croydon  
Tel: 0181 654 3006

Our Lady of the Annunciation,  
Addiscombe and St. Chad's  
South Norwood  
*Headteacher: Mr P. King*

# **A D M I S S I O N   P R O C E D U R E S**

## **HOW SHOULD I APPLY?**

Applications are made directly to each school from which clarification of admission arrangements, application forms and criteria can be obtained.

All the schools listed in this booklet accept children throughout the school year, for a variety of reasons, providing that spaces are available and the child satisfies the admission criteria of the school. If you are moving into a new area you should first contact the school directly to request an application form and to seek advice on the transfer procedure.

Parents of Reception age children need to have completed an application form and returned same to the appropriate school, (see list), by the stated date. All parishes publish an advertisement during November confirming the closing date for the receipt of application for places for the following academic year during which the child should reach 5 years of age.

## **WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I SEND MY FORM BACK?**

Admissions, other than for reception age children, are dealt with promptly, usually by the Headteacher, on behalf of the Governors of the School. If vacancies are available and you satisfy criteria your child may be offered a place and you will be notified.

Applications for reception age children take longer. Each application is considered by the School Governors in line with the admission criteria and comment made by your parish priest. Candidates are usually invited to attend an interview between December and March. A final decision is made by the end of March and parents receive written confirmation of the decision. Your child will then commence school the following Autumn Term.

## **WHAT CAN I DO IF I AM UNSUCCESSFUL IN MY APPLICATION?**

All our Croydon Catholic Schools are popular and are usually full. The number of applications received exceeds the number of places available. Priority is given to those satisfying the school admission criteria. Many of our schools are only able to take children from families that attend and live in a particular parish - see attached list.

If your application has been unsuccessful you are entitled to appeal against the decision. This appeal will be heard by an independent panel and the decision made is binding.

Appeal forms are obtainable from the Clerk to the Governors at each school.

Schools identified with an 'N' have nursery classes offering part time places for the academic year prior to admission to mainstream school. Application for places in these classes should be made directly to the school.