



BELLERIVE FCJ CATHOLIC COLLEGE

ADMISSIONS POLICY AND ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2026-2027

This policy will be implemented in a way which honours the vision that every FCJ school is a community of persons - students, staff, governors - bound together in mutual respect and ready to rely on each other in fulfilling their privileged task as educators in a Catholic school.

Bellerive FCJ Catholic College is a single academy trust within the trusteeship of the Sisters, Faithful Companions of Jesus, and as such acts as its own admissions authority. It is located in the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the Liverpool Local Authority. The Governing Board of the school is responsible for determining and administering the policy relating to the admissions of pupils to the school. It is guided in that responsibility by:-

- a) the requirements of the Law,
- b) the advice of the Trustees, the Sisters Faithful Companions of Jesus, and the Archdiocese on the nature and purpose of its duties,
- c) its duty towards the school and the Catholic community it serves,
- d) the Catholic character of the school and its Mission Statement,
- e) recognition of those parishes designated by the Archdiocese as contributory parishes, as well as all other parishes in the Archdiocese.
- f) recognition of the Pastoral Areas of the Archdiocese.

Having consulted with the Local Authority, Headteacher and others in accordance with the requirements of the law, the Governing Board has set its Admission Number at **150** pupils for the school year commencing September 2026.

Applications (to Bellerive) are part of the Co-ordinated Admission arrangements operated by Liverpool Local Authority. **Parents seeking a place at Bellerive must fill in both the Local Authority Common Preference Form and the Bellerive Form.** Bellerive must be one of the schools named on the Local Authority Preference Form. The closing date for applications is **31st October 2025**.

If the Governing Board makes an allocation of a place on the basis of fraudulent and intentionally misleading information, that place will be withdrawn.

The Governing Board has delegated responsibility for determining admissions to its Admissions Committee, which will consider all applications made in accordance with the criteria set out below without reference to the ability or aptitude of the child.

- 1a Roman Catholic 'Looked After Girls'. Proof of baptism will be required.
Date of Baptism must be before the closing date for applications.
- 1b Roman Catholic previously 'Looked After Girls'. Proof of baptism will be required.
Date of Baptism must be before the closing date for applications.
- 2 Baptised Catholic girls living in **any** parish who attend a Catholic Primary School. Proof of baptism will be required.
Date of Baptism must be before the closing date for applications.
- 3 Baptised Catholic girls living in **any** parish who do not attend a Catholic Primary School. Proof of baptism will be required.
Date of Baptism must be before the closing date for applications.
- 4 Baptised girls who are members of Eastern Christian Churches including Orthodox Churches, (see note 1). Proof of baptism (or membership) of the specific church will be required.
Date of Baptism must be before the closing date for applications.
- 5a Other 'Looked After Girls'.
- 5b Other previously 'Looked After Girls'
- 6 Girls of families who are committed members of other Christian denominations who have expressed a preference for a faith school. Proof of baptism (or dedication) and of religious commitment provided by a priest or minister, where the family worship, will be required. The Governors have defined 'Christian Church' as being any church in membership of, or sharing the statement of belief, (the Basis) of, Churches together in England.
- 7 Children of other faiths supported by a letter from a minister/religious leader, showing membership of the faith community.
- 8 Any other girls not included in the previous categories whose parents have expressed a preference for them to be educated in a Catholic School. Such applications may be supported by documentary evidence of parents' choice.

Oversubscription

Where the offer of places to all the girls in any of the categories listed above would lead to oversubscription the following criteria will be applied:

- For categories 2, 3 and 4 above. Girls from the Pastoral Areas will normally, be offered places, (see note 2 giving the list of parishes in each pastoral area). In the event of it being necessary to choose between applicants; girls in contributory parishes will be given priority, (see note 3), and then girls will be taken in equal numbers from each of the pastoral areas. In the event of it being necessary to choose between applicants, priority will be given to those (within each pastoral area) living nearest to the school, (see note 4). The distance by road to the Main entrance of the school will be used. Distance as measured and provided by the Local Authority.

- For categories **6, 7 and 8**. Girls will be taken in equal numbers from each of the pastoral areas. In the event of it being necessary to choose between applicants, priority will be given to those (within each pastoral area) living nearest to the school, (see note 4). The distance by road to the Main entrance of the school. Distance as measured and provided by the Local Authority.

Request for admission outside of the normal age group

Parents have the right to request that their child is admitted outside of the normal age. In the event that you wish to make such a request please contact the Clerk to Governors with a written request including the following information:

1. the normal age group that the pupil would be admitted to (e.g. Year 7) and the year group which you are requesting your child be admitted to;
2. the reason(s) for your request;
3. your views on why the admission outside of the normal year group should be made;
4. information and evidence about your child's academic, social and emotional development as supported by professionals;
5. confirmation as to whether your child has been educated outside of the normal age group previously; and
6. if relevant to the request, a medical history and the views of medical professionals about the request for being educated outside of the normal age group.

The Headteacher will be given the opportunity to consider the information and, along with your application, submit the information to the Governors' Admissions Committee to make a determination. If the request for a deferred entry is not made within the normal admissions round and is refused by the Admission Committee, whereby you are not offered a place for your child in the normal age group, then Parents will have the right to appeal the decision to an independent appeal panel.

If the application is made during the normal admissions round, and Governors agree that an admission outside of the normal age group is acceptable, then the application will be processed in accordance with that admissions scheme as co-ordinated by the Liverpool City Council, and will still be subject to our oversubscription criteria. A grant of the application does not receive any priority under our oversubscription criteria. If the application is rejected by Governors Admissions Committee during the normal admissions round then the application for a place at Bellerive will still be subject to our oversubscription criteria but for admission into the normal age group.

NOTES

1. Eastern Christian Churches

Russian Orthodox Church
Council of Oriental Orthodox Christian Churches

Greek Orthodox Church

2. Pastoral Areas

- Liverpool North: All Saints; Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception; Our Lady of Reconciliation; St Anthony; St Francis de Sales; St Francis Xavier; St John the Evangelist; St Michael and Sacred Heart; St Sylvester.
- Liverpool South: Our Lady of Mount Carmel; St Hugh of Lincoln; St Anne and St Bernard; St Patrick; St Anthony of Padua; Holy Trinity; St Austin; St Bernadette; St Charles Borromeo; St Thomas Moore; St Vincent de Paul; Cathedral of Christ the King.
- Woolton and Halewood: Christ the King and Our Lady; Our Lady of the Annunciation; (Bishop Eaton); St Ambrose; St Christopher; St John Almond; St John Vianney; St Mary.
- Huyton: St Agnes; St Aidan; St Albert, Stockbridge Village; St Aloysius, Roby; St Columba; St Dominic.
- Stoneycroft: St Cecilia; St Margaret Mary; St Matthew; St Oswald; St Paul; St Sebastian; St Timothy.
- Croxteth and Walton: Blessed Sacrament; Holy Name; Our Lady and St Philomena; Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin; St Teresa.

3. Contributory Parishes

Our Lady of Mount Carmel (incorporating the former St Finbar's parish)
St Anne and St Bernard St Patrick
St Clare Cathedral of Christ the King
St Hugh of Lincoln
(There **will** be places available for children from other parishes).

4. Place of Residence

A girl's ordinary place of residence will be deemed to be a residential property at which the persons with parental responsibility for the girl resides at the closing date for receiving applications for admissions to the school. Where parental responsibility is held by more than one person and those persons reside in separate properties, the girl's ordinary place of residence will be deemed to be that property at which the girl resides for the greater part of the week, including weekends. Where there is doubt the mother's address will be used.