



St John Bosco
ARTS COLLEGE

Admissions Policy

DRAFT – 2027 / 2028

St John Bosco Arts College Admission Policy 2027-2028

St John Bosco Arts College is a Catholic School under the trusteeship of the Salesian Sisters. Its purpose is to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and instrument of government, and seeks at all times, to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for, and be admitted to a place at the school, in accordance with these admission arrangements.

The governing body is the admission authority and has responsibility for admissions to this school. The local authority undertakes coordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round [*excluding admission into year 12*]. The admission authority has set the school's Published Admissions number at 180 pupils to year 7.

The admission authority will, where logically possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last ranked child within the school's PAN.

Admission to the Sixth Form

The school operates a sixth form for a total of 200 pupils. 100 places overall will be available in year 12. While the admission number is 100, external pupils will be admitted until year 12 meets its capacity of 100.

Both internal and external pupils wishing to enter sixth form will be expected to have met the same minimum academic entry requirements for the sixth form. Both internal and external pupils wishing to enter the sixth form will be expected to have met the same minimum academic entry requirements for the sixth form. These are that pupils have achieved at least 5 9-4 GCSEs or equivalent to gain entry onto Applied General courses. To study Academic Courses pupils must achieve a grade 6 in their subject of choice.

In addition to the sixth forms minimum academic entry requirements pupils will need to satisfy minimum entrance requirements to the courses for which they are applying. If either internal or external applicants fail to meet the minimum course requirements, they will be given the option of pursuing any alternative courses for which they do meet the minimum academic requirements. Course requirements are published annually in the school's prospectus and on its website.

When year 12 is undersubscribed, all applicants meeting the minimum academic entry requirements will be admitted or permitted to progress.

Where the number of applications into the sixth form exceeds the number of places available, the school's governing body will take into account a number of factors when considering individual applications.

If the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan where the school is named in the Statement or Plan, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below:

A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child 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)

where the suitable courses are available for the admission to be in the best interest of the child.

Where a student does not meet one or more of the requirements above, an application may still be considered. Such places would be subject to a successful interview with the Headteacher and or the KS5 coordinator where the suitable courses are available for the admission to be in the best interest of the child.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Children with an EHCP that names the school must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Oversubscription Criteria

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

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children.
2. Catholic children who are resident in the parishes of Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St Swithin's, Our Lady & St Philomena, St Teresa, St Matthew and St Albert (see notes 3 & 11).
3. Other Catholic children (see note 3).
4. Children attending one of the following Catholic Partner Primary Schools in the parishes or former parishes named in criterion 2 above:
 - Our Lady & St Philomena's Catholic Primary School
 - Our Lady & St Swithin's Catholic Primary School
 - St Matthew's Catholic Primary School
 - St Teresa of Lisieux Catholic Primary School
 - Emmaus Church of England and Catholic Primary School
 - St Albert's Catholic Primary School
 - St Brigid's Catholic Primary School
5. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church **not** in full communion with Rome (see notes 4 & 5)
6. Children of other Christian Ecclesial Communities whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion (see note 6).
7. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader (see note 7).
8. Any other children.

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.

- (i) Where evidence is provided at the time of application of an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need of the child which can most appropriately be met at this school, the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made (see note 10)
- (ii) The attendance of a brother or sister at the school (not including sixth form where there is one) at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category in which the application is made after children in (i) above (see note 8).

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the school determined by the shortest distance. Distance will be measured by straight line distance from the child's permanent home address (including flats and apartments) to the school using the local authority's computerised measuring system with those living closest to the school being given preference in the event a school receives more applicants than it has places available in a particular year group.

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 and supervised by a person independent of the school. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out. This should then be formally minuted for future reference.

Application procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place at this school in the normal admission round, you **must** complete Common Application Form [excluding admission to year 12] available from the local authority in which you live. You are also requested to complete the Supplementary Information Form attached to this policy if you wish to apply under oversubscription criteria 2 to 3 or 5 to 8. The Supplementary Information Form should be returned in person to Mrs Claire Wharmby by 31st October 2025.

To apply for a place at sixth form you must complete a sixth form application form and return in person to Ms Charlotte Lyon.

You will be advised of the outcome of your application on 1st March 2026 [insert date for year 12 applications where different] or the next working day by the local authority on your behalf. If you are unsuccessful (unless your child gained a place at a school you ranked higher) you will be informed of the reasons, related to the oversubscription criteria listed above, and you have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel.

If you do not provide the information required in the SIF and return it by the closing date, together with all the supporting documentation, your child may not be placed in Criteria 1 to 3 or 5 to 7, and this may affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

All applications which are submitted on time will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is the 31st October 2025.

Late Applications

Late applications will be administered in accordance with your home Local Authority Secondary Coordinated Admissions Scheme. You are encouraged to ensure your application is received on time.

Admission of Children outside their Normal Age Group

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Any such request should be made in writing to Mrs Claire Wharmby at St John Bosco Arts College, Storrington Avenue, Liverpool L11 9DQ at the same time as the admission application is made. The admission authority will make its decision about the request based on the circumstance of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the headteacher, including the headteacher's statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the admission authority will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals, including relevant Department for Education, as appropriate.

Waiting Lists

In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful applicants will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out above and **not** in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until 21st July 2026. Inclusion in the school's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

In-Year Applications.

An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the normal admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Application should be made **to the school** by contacting Mrs Claire Wharmby at St John Bosco Arts College, Storrington Avenue, Liverpool L11 9DQ <http://www.stjohnboscoartscollege.com/>.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied.

If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above). You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Fair Access Protocol

The school is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the admission authority is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The admission authority has this power, even when admitting the child would mean exceeding the PAN.

Notes (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.
2. A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g., children with foster parents) at the time of making an application to the school. A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
3. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic. For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of Catholic baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the law of the Church.
4. 'catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.
5. 'Eastern Christian Church' **not** in full communion with Rome includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.
6. "children of other Christian Ecclesial Communities" means children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledge God's revelation in Christ, confess the Lord Jesus Christ as God and Saviour according to the Scriptures, and, in obedience to God's will and in the power of the Holy Spirit commit themselves: to seek a deepening of their communion with Christ and with one another in the Church, which is His body; and to fulfil their mission to proclaim the Gospel by common witness and service in the world to the glory of the one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. An ecclesial community which on principle has no credal statements in its tradition, is included if it manifests faith in Christ as witnessed to in the Scriptures and is committed to working in the spirit of the above. All members of Churches Together in England and CYTUN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis. A Certificate of Baptism or equivalent would be required.
7. "children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian Ecclesial Communities' at 6 above and which falls within the definition of a religion for the purposes of charity law. The Charities Act 2011 defines religion to include:
 - A religion which involves belief in more than one God, and
 - A religion which does not involve belief in a God.Case law has identified certain characteristics which describe the meaning of religion for the purposes of charity law, which are characterised by a belief in a supreme being and an expression of belief in that supreme being through worship.
8. 'brother or sister' includes: all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, stepbrothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address.
9. A 'parent' means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.
10. To demonstrate an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need of the child which can be most appropriately met at this school, the admission authority will require compelling written evidence from an appropriate professional, such as a social worker, doctor or priest. (Please see Guidance Handbook for further information).

11. For the purposes of this policy, parish boundaries can be confirmed on an individual basis from the School Office.
12. A child's "home address" refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer, and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form ("CAF"). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school week.