

Sir John Cass Redcoat School – Admission Policy 2014-15

The Governing Body is responsible for the admission of pupils to the Sir John Cass' Foundation & Red Coat Church of England Secondary School and admits 180 pupils to Year 7 each September. This admission limit has been agreed between the Governing Body and the Local Education Authority. The School does not have any specific units or facilities for pupils with physical disabilities. The School is on five floors and has a lift as well as stairs to all four upper levels in the main building. There are ramps at the main entrance. The Art and Technology and the Music rooms are only accessible by stairs. As far as possible, the School will ensure that pupils with disabilities have access to the same opportunities as other pupils. From the total of 180 places (36 Foundation, 128 Open and 16 Aptitude in Modern Foreign Language places) 45 pupils from each of four ability bands will be accepted.

Foundation Places.

The Governing Body has designated 36 places (9 per band) to be offered each year to pupils whose families are faithful and regular worshippers in a recognized Christian Church (*see below). Written evidence of applicant's commitment to their place of worship (in the form of a clerical reference) will be required at the time of application. If there are more than 36 applicants, places will be allocated according to the following criteria. These are stated in order of priority:

- Children in public care. This includes children who were previously looked after, but cease to be so because they have been adopted or have become subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.
- Children with a strong medical or social reason to attend the school. Written supporting evidence should be supplied, at the time of application, from a relevant professional, such as a doctor, social worker or educational psychologist. The supporting evidence should set out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.
- Children who live in one of the listed parishes (see appendix below).
- Children who have a sibling in the School at the time of attendance (for this purpose "sibling" means a whole, half or step-brother or step-sister resident at the same address).
- Any other children whose parents wish them to attend the school based on distance. The Governing Body will accept the applicant who lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way.

In the event that two or more applicants have equal rights to a place under any of the above criteria, the Governing Body will accept the applicant that lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way.

Open Places.

The Governing Body has designated 128 places (32 per band) as open places, to be offered each year to pupils who do not qualify for a Foundation place or whose parents have chosen the School for the type of education it provides. Parents applying for an open place do so knowing that the School aims to provide an education based on religious principals and therefore, the Governing Body hopes that parents who have chosen this school have done so knowing that it is a Church of England school with a distinctive faith ethos. Governors expect parents to give their full support to the ethos of the school and hope that all children will attend acts of collective worship and will take part in the religious education curriculum offered by the school. If there are more than 128 applicants, places will be allocated according to the following criteria. These are stated in order of priority:

- Children in public care. This includes children who were previously looked after, but cease to be so because they have been adopted or have become subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.
- Children with a strong medical or social reason to attend the school. Written supporting evidence should be supplied, at the time of application, from a relevant professional, such as a doctor, social worker or educational psychologist. The supporting evidence should set out the particular reasons why this school is the most suitable school and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.
- 20 Children (5 per band) who are the first born of a family.
- Children who have siblings in the School at the time of attendance (for this purpose "sibling" means a whole, half or step-brother or step-sister resident at the same address).
- Any other children whose parents wish them to attend the school based on distance. The Governing Body will accept the applicant who lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way.

In the event that two or more applicants have equal rights to a place under any of the above criteria, the Governing Body will accept the applicant who lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way.

Aptitude in Modern Foreign Languages

16 places will be offered to pupils who demonstrate an aptitude for Modern Foreign Languages having completed the school's aptitude test. The four highest scoring pupils in each band will be offered places. In the event that two or more applicants have equal rights to a place under this criterion, the Governing Body will accept the applicant who lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way. If fewer than 4 children qualify to be admitted in any band the unused places will be filled by Modern Foreign Language applicants in adjacent bands. If fewer than 16 children qualify for the Modern Foreign Language places, the number of places under the Open Places admission criteria will be increased in each band accordingly.

Banding agreed for all Tower Hamlets Schools - Across the total intake there will be four bands, according to ability.

- 25% from band 'A'
- 25% from band 'B'
- 25% from band 'C'
- 25% from band 'D'

Ability will be assessed by the Tower Hamlets Standard Attainment Test.

Appendix

The parishes of Tower Hamlets Deanery within the Church of England and the following parishes:

Bermondsey: St James	Rotherhithe: St Mary	St Katharine Cree
Bermondsey: St Katharine	St Leonard Shoreditch	Haringey: St Mark Noel Park
Bermondsey: St Mary Magdalen	All Hallows-by-the-Tower	Haringey: St Mary Lansdowne Road
Rotherhithe: Holy Trinity	St Botolph Without Aldgate	

You can use the following website to check whether you live in one of the listed parishes - www.achurchnearyou.com

*To attend worship at least twice per month for at least one year.

It must be a Church which is a member of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and/or the Evangelical Alliance.

Full details of the policy can also be found on the school website - www.sjcr.net/join-sir-john-cass/sjcr-admissions-policy.html