



Herne CE (Aided) Junior School

Love your neighbour as you love yourself

Policy for Admission

Date ratified by the Full Governing Body: 10th February 2025

Review date: February 2026

Our Mission Statement is:

Love your neighbour as you love yourself (Matthew 22:39)

Our vision at Herne CE (Aided) Junior School is:

A thriving, aspirational community rooted in God's love.

We aim to achieve this by:

- Reflecting on the teachings of Jesus Christ in our daily lives.
- Seeing all children as individuals, helping them to celebrate & achieve their potential whilst developing their self-esteem, confidence & independence.
- Helping children to become caring & responsible citizens.
- Fostering a lasting love of learning through creative teaching.
 - Modelling the Christian values including:

Community – Compassion – Forgiveness – Generosity – Hope

All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children. Isaiah 54:13

The Governing Body is the admissions authority for Herne Church of England (Aided) Junior School. The Governors intend to admit 90 children at the age of 7 years (Year 3) in the academic year 2026/27 and have a planned admission number of 90 for Years 4, 5 and 6.

Oversubscription criteria

Before the application of oversubscription criteria children with an Education, Health Care Plan, which names Herne CE (Aided) Junior School will be admitted and the Published Admission Number will be reduced accordingly.

The following criteria for Admissions, which are in order of priority, will be used by the Governors in the allocation of places:

1. Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children

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) at the time of making an application to a school. A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

2. All children attending Herne CE Infant School will have priority of transfer to Herne CE (Aided) Junior School.

3. Children from Anglican families, or churches belonging to Churches Together in England and Wales, at the heart of the church. The minimum requirement to satisfy this criterion is:

- i) Regular attendance at the Church (by which is meant at least three times per month on average) by the child and one or both parents for at least two years up to the time of application

and

- ii) Regular active involvement (as stated in 'Definitions' below) in the life of the Church by the child and one or both parents for at least two years up to the time of application

4. Children from Anglican families, or churches belonging to Churches Together in England and Wales, committed to the church. The minimum requirement to satisfy this criterion is fortnightly attendance at the Church by the child and one or both parents for at least two years up to the time of application
5. Children from Anglican families, or churches belonging to Churches Together in England and Wales, attached to the church. The minimum requirement to satisfy this criterion is monthly attendance at the Church by the child and one or both parents for at least two years up to the time of application
6. Children from Anglican families, or churches belonging to Churches Together in England and Wales, known to the church. The definition of this is one or both parents or guardians and/or the child worshipping at a church on an occasional basis, less frequently than once a month but at least three times per year and who have done so for at least two years up to the time of application
7. Current family association - where a brother or sister is already attending Herne CE (Aided) Junior School or Herne CE Infant School at the time of entry.

In this context brother or sister means children who live as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters. The sibling link is maintained as long as the family continues to live at the same address as when the first child applied, or has moved closer to the school than when the first child was offered a place, or has moved to an address that is less than two miles from the school using the distance measured by the method outlined in the distance of children's home to school criterion.

8. Children with Medical/Health or Special Access needs.

Medical/Health and Special Access reasons will be applied in accordance with the school's legal obligations, in particular those under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend Herne CE (Aided) Junior School. Equally, this priority will apply to children whose parents'/guardians' physical or mental health or social needs means that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend Herne CE (Aided) Junior School. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and Herne CE (Aided) Junior School.

9. Any remaining places will be offered to children in order of priority according to the nearness of children's homes to school - we use the distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight

line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school. Where applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant co-ordinates. In exceptional circumstances where alternative co-ordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by Head of Service.

If any category is oversubscribed applicants will be ranked by straight line distance as defined above and those closest given priority. In the event that more than one applicant has the same distance from home to school as defined above then a random selection will be applied.

Definitions

- a) Regular Active Involvement means one or more of the following in no particular order or priority:
- A full-time minister or salaried worker at the church
 - A lay reader or other formal role recognised by the denomination
 - An elected member of the church council or equivalent
 - A regular (by which is meant at least three times per month on average) leader of or helper at a church group, the purpose of which is teaching, worship, prayer or reaching out into the community
 - A volunteer in a recognised role serving the church at least three times a month
 - Regular (by which is meant at least three times per month on average) attendance by the child at a Sunday School or equivalent
- b) A child's home address is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main residence (not an address at which the child may sometimes stay or sleep) and which is either owned by the child's parent, parents, or guardian or leased or rented to them under a lease or written rental agreement. Where partners live apart but share responsibility for the child, and the child lives at two different addresses during the week, we will regard the home address as the one at which the child sleeps for the majority of weekdays.

Please note the following procedure where it applies.

Where the parent/guardian wishes the child to be considered for admission to the school under Criteria 3-7 it is advised that additional information be provided on the Supplementary

Information Form (SIF), which may be obtained from the school. Failure to complete and return the SIF may affect the priority rating of the application.

Right to withdraw places

After a place has been offered, the school reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

- i) when a parent has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time; or
- ii) when a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information; or
- iii) the admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent

Appeals

In accordance with the requirements of the Education Acts, the Governors will make arrangements, if required, for parents or guardians to appeal to an independent panel against the refusal of a place for their child in the School.

Waiting List

The school will maintain a clear, fair and objective waiting list until at least 31st December of each school year. The school will re-rank the waiting list as each child is added, in line with the published oversubscription criteria.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so, they should include a written request with their application, setting out the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place and the reasons for their request. When such a request is made, the Headteacher will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case, based on their professional judgement of what is in the best interest of the child, taking account of the evidence and rationale provided by the parents.



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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORM

A NAME OF CHILD

B CHURCH AFFILIATION - DECLARATION TO BE COMPLETED BY PRIEST/MINISTER

Please complete this form as accurately and completely as possible, as decisions on applications may depend on the information you give.

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

Thank you for your assistance.

1. The above-named child attends Church as follows:

at least three times per month fortnightly once a month less than once a month

and has done so since

2. At least one parent of the above-named child attends Church as follows:

at least three times per month fortnightly once a month less than once a month

and has done so since

3. Regular Active Involvement in the Church (please give details):

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.....

Church Signature

Address Designation

Telephone no.....Date