

# **Fairhaven C of E V.A Primary School**



# **Admissions Policy**

**Date Agreed by Staff** **09/10/2023**

**Date Agreed by Governors:** **12/10/2023**

**Date for Review:** **Autumn 2024**

**Signed** *R Whiles* **Date 12<sup>th</sup> October 2023**  
**(Chair of Governors)**

**Vision Statement**

Our Christian school community strives to provide a variety of learning experiences for all our young people. We are here to nurture the gifts God gives us and to celebrate our differences. We encourage our pupils to explore their interests, find their talents, flourish and live life to the full. We want our children to live great lives and ultimately make a difference in the world.

*Belief – Friendship – Diversity – Achieve*

*At Fairhaven we want everyone to be the very best they can be.*

**Statement of intent**

At Fairhaven CE VA Primary School we welcome all pupils, irrespective of faiths, cultures, races, disabilities, or family backgrounds.

We admit our pupils in-line with the Equality Act (2010), School Admissions Code (2014), the School Admission Appeals Code (2012), Human Rights Act (1998) and the School Standards and Framework Act (1998).

The number of places available is determined by the capacity of the school and is called the Agreed Admissions Number (PAN). Our PAN 15.

**Admission Policy**

If you live in the villages of Upton, Panxworth, Ranworth or South Walsham, we are your local school.

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 he or she can start school in September 2024.

You will need to apply for a school place directly to Norfolk County Council. Visit their website at: [www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/admission-to-reception-classes](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/education-and-learning/schools/school-admissions/admission-to-reception-classes)

You can also contact us for a school brochure by phone on 01603 270224 or by email – [office@southwalshamfairhaven.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@southwalshamfairhaven.norfolk.sch.uk) or you can download one from our school website at <http://www.southwalshamfairhaven.norfolk.sch.uk>

## **Pupil Admission Number**

Each year we welcome up to 15 new children into our Reception year. As a small school our classes usually consist of children from two year groups e.g. years 3 & years 4. The maximum number of children in each year fluctuates, but we endeavour to limit class sizes to a maximum of 30.

## **Our Admission Policy**

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided School, the school governors have decided to adopt the Diocese guidance of first admission to school. It also complies with Norfolk County Council Policy.

By law, children must start statutory education full time at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday. At Fairhaven CE VA Primary all children are offered a full time place in our reception class regardless of which month they were born. Parents/carers who do choose the full time option must commit to this attendance pattern for all of the autumn term.

Parents/carers can opt for their child to attend part time until the term following their fifth birthday, however, we feel that children benefit more from full time attendance from September and settle into the school routine more quickly.

Parents/carers are welcome to come and discuss arrangements for their child's admission to Fairhaven Primary School.

If parents/carers wish to delay their child's entry the place will be held and will not be offered to another child. However, the child must take their place in the summer term.

Where the school is oversubscribed (there are more applicants than places available) places will be allocated in accordance with the following criteria and the following order of priority.

**A child who has an Education Health and Care Plan naming the school is required to be admitted.**

1. Looked after children (children in care), previously looked after children (previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order, immediately following having been looked after) and children adopted from abroad.

2. Siblings of children already at the school living within the ecclesiastical parishes of South Walsham, Ranworth with Panxworth and Upton.
3. Residence within the ecclesiastical parishes of South Walsham, Ranworth with Panxworth and Upton.
4. Siblings of children already at the school living out of catchment (for definition of siblings and catchment area refer to items 2 and 3 in definitions section of Appendix 1).
5. Children living out of the catchment area who have a faith and / or whose parents are committed Church members and wish them to receive an education in a school with a Church of England foundation. [for explanation of committed Church member refer to item 3 in clarification section of Appendix 1. They should support this application by completing the Supplementary Information Form (SIF) in Appendix 2. Within this criteria the following hierarchy will be applied:

- Anglican
- Other Christian denomination
- Other organised religions

For further information and advice on this criterion refer to items 5 and 6 in the clarifications section of Appendix 1.

6. Children of staff where:
  - a member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made and / or
  - the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post where there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
7. Resident out of the catchment area of the school [for explanation of resident and catchment area refer to items 2 and 3 in the clarification section Appendix 1].

A child must be offered a place at the school unless the Governors are satisfied that:

- (a) Admission of the child would “prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources”, which normally means it would increase numbers above an agreed limit for the school.
- (b) Admission of the child would be incompatible with any agreement made with the Local Authority to protect the school’s denominational nature or another distinctive ethos.

### **Why Choose a Church School**

Fairhaven Primary is a Church of England school. Our day to day school life incorporates Christian values. We aim to serve our local community and are open to all, regardless of faith.

We follow the Christian calendar and maintain and develop an affirming relationship with the Broadside Benefice and the Norwich Diocese. Each day, we offer our children an experience of faith through acts of collective worship. We encourage pupils to take an active role in planning and delivering acts of collective worship. We include teaching about other religious faiths and ideas that are not based on faith.

We aim to offer our children a rounded education that intertwines high standards of academic teaching with emotional and spiritual development. Our four core values of, *Belief – Friendship – Diversity – Achievement* underpin our work and help us to develop children who will flourish and live life to the full.

Further details of what a Church school has to offer can be found in the Diocese of Norwich's leaflet, Flourishing Together.

<https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/app/uploads/2020/01/Flourishing-Together-Leaflet.pdf>

### **Flexi-Schooling**

Norfolk Local Authority firmly believes that full-time education within a school environment is the best option for all children and young people to enjoy, achieve and attain their full potential.

Fairhaven Primary recognises that parents/carers may choose other ways for their child engage in very effective, full-time, and suitable education. One way could be for them to request that our school considers entering into a Flexi-schooling arrangement. In order for our school to enter into and continue a Flexi-schooling arrangement parents and carers must accept and maintain the rigorous framework of expectations reflected within this policy. For further details please request a copy of our Flexi-Schooling Policy.

### **The Right of Appeal**

If you are refused a place at Fairhaven Primary, you have the right of appeal to an independent panel. Information about how to appeal will be sent to you with your refusal letter. Appeals are heard by the School Admission Appeals Panel who acts independently for Norfolk County Council.

The decision of the panel is binding on everyone. There is no further right of appeal to the panel for a place in the same academic year unless there is a significant change in circumstances.

### **Out of normal age range admissions**

We will consider requests to place children outside of their normal age group, including summer born and premature children, in line with the requirements of paragraph 2.17 to 2.17b of the School Admissions Code.

The Reception teacher will link closely with the children from Fairhaven Pre School (located adjacent to the school in the Village Hall) in a comprehensive transition programme. Initially our Reception teacher will meet prospective pupils in the Fairhaven Pre School environment where they will feel more comfortable. During the summer term, the children will spend time in school as part of the transition programme.

All children joining us in September will have the opportunity to visit the Reception class in the Summer Term. Parents, guardians and carers, have the opportunity to attend an introductory meeting once a formal offer of a place has been made. This will take place in the summer term prior to the child starting school in September. This meeting will give parents, guardians and carers the opportunity to meet the Headteacher, class teacher and teaching assistant and to look round the school.

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

Flexi-Schooling Policy