



**St Joseph's College
Mathematics and Computing Specialist
College**

Beulah Hill, London, SE19 3HL

020 8761 1426

www.stjosephscollege.org.uk

**Admissions Policy
for
Entry to Year 7 for 2027/28**

Our mission: To inspire the minds of all generations through education, with fearless faith. As a united community we demonstrate our Lasallian values of faith, service, and respect.

Admissions Policy for Entry to Year 7 in September 2027

St Joseph's College (Mathematics & Computing Specialist College) is an 11-18, all ability, Catholic school for boys (girls in the 6th form). The Governing Body, acting through its Admissions Committee, will admit a maximum of 150 pupils each year at age 11.

St Joseph's College is a Lasallian Catholic school and in line with the Lasallian tradition not only welcomes candidates from Catholic families, but also from children who practice other faiths. We require all applicants and candidates applying for a place at the school to respect the College's ethos and its importance to the College's community, especially by participating in activities central to the ethos of the College.

In this policy, Catholics include members of the Ordinariate and the Latin and Oriental Rite Churches that are in union with the Bishop of Rome state (see Appendix 1). The term "candidate" refers to the child named in the application, and "applicant" refers to the parent/ carer making the application.

Admission Procedure

Please read the form carefully and complete all of the sections appropriate to the candidate and applicant. We also ask that applicants complete our Admissions Administration Document which can be found on our website. Offers of places will be sent to applicants on the common offer date, as notified by the Local Authority.

St Joseph's College is a Specialist School and 10% of the intake will be awarded based on performance in our aptitude test in Mathematics. This is a short, online test, lasting up to about 60 minutes (depending on how quickly candidates work through the on-screen instructions), which gives the College an indication of whether candidates have an aptitude in Mathematics. Applicants who want a candidate to sit the aptitude test must tick the appropriate box on the Admissions Administration Document. Dates of the test will be sent to applicants. The 10% of places awarded under category 2 will go to the children achieving the highest scores in the aptitude test.

After the allocation of places to candidates with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names the School and where candidates exceed the number of places available, priority will be given as follows:

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children (see note 1 below).
2. Top 10% of those children who have been successful in the aptitude test (detailed above).
3. Baptised Catholic children. A baptismal certificate or evidence of reception into the Catholic Church must be provided.
4. Children who would have a sibling in the College at time of admission (see note 2).
5. Children who are members of other Christian denominations (see note 3). Evidence of Baptism/dedication provided by a priest or minister of a designated place of worship will be required.
6. Children who are members of other faiths, Churches and denominations (see note 4). Evidence of Baptism/dedication or evidence of membership required.
7. Children of other faiths, who are not practising.
8. Other children applying to the school.

Tiebreaking criteria

To be used where, *within any category*, the number of candidates exceeds the number of places available or where, in a ranking order, more than one applicant has the same score.

1st priority: *Medical or other special* reasons why the candidate should be admitted to the School and not to any other school for which the candidate may be eligible. Supporting evidence from a doctor, social worker or educational welfare officer must be supplied at the time of application or subsequently, but before the closing date for applications. Although the Admissions Committee may, at its discretion, make enquiries to satisfy itself as to the matters referred to in the material supplied, it will not be required to make any independent investigation and it will be entitled to rely entirely on the material supplied by the applicants.

Applications for Candidates who are Disabled - The School will make every effort to accommodate pupils, irrespective of ability or disability. However, the buildings can present significant barriers to full inclusion for certain pupils. Applicants who feel that their child might experience difficulties in accessing the curriculum are asked to make an appointment with the School to discuss arrangements and inspect the facilities. This visit should take place before submitting an application so that the suitability of the premises can be assessed and the School can have the maximum opportunity to overcome the barriers, if at all possible.

2nd priority: Admission will be based on the distance from home to school. The distance will be measured in a straight line from the child's home address to the designated entrance(s) of the school using a computerised measuring system (GIS) and geographical reference points as provided by the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG). Those living closer to the school will receive higher priority. If a child lives in a shared property such as flats, the geographical references will determine the start point within the property boundaries to be used for distance calculation purposes.

Where, in a tiebreaking situation based on distance, the distance from the child's home address to the designated entrance(s) of the school as mentioned above is the same, allocation of places will be decided by the drawing of lots. This process will be independently verified.

Late Applications

Any late applications will be considered by the Governors' Admissions Committee, in the event of there being any available places using the above criteria. If all places have been filled, parents will be offered the opportunity of placing their child's name on the waiting list. This does not prevent parents from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place. These admissions procedures, although primarily relevant to children for whom a place is sought at the normal age of transfer to secondary education (Year 7), will also apply to succeeding years, and be subject to the availability of places.

Withdrawal of offer

The Admissions Committee reserves the right to verify any information supplied and to require further evidence including evidence that the address given is the normal weekday address of the candidate. Where fraudulent or deliberately misleading or incorrect information has been supplied and that information has led to a place being offered which would not otherwise have been offered, the Admissions Committee reserves the right to withdraw the offer.

Right of Appeal

Parents whose applications for places are unsuccessful may appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel setup in accordance with section 94 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Appeals must be made in writing and must set out the reasons on which the appeal is made. Appeals should be made to the Admissions Appeal Clerk at the school address. Parents/Carers have the right to make oral representations to the Appeal Panel.

In-year (casual) admissions

Applications for a place at the school in-year must be made using the common application form of the local authority (LA) where the child resides. This form must be returned to the LA. The offer of a place at the school will be made by the LA on behalf of the Governors. In the event of the Governors deciding that a place cannot be offered, applicants will be offered the opportunity of placing the candidate's name on the waiting list. This does not prevent applicants from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place.

Waiting List

Parents/carers of candidates who have not been offered a place at the College should contact the College's Admissions Officer if they wish for the candidate's name to be placed on a waiting list. The waiting list will remain active to December 31st each year. Parents/guardians/carers must inform the College before this date each year if they wish to remain on the waiting list. The waiting list will be operated using the same admissions criteria listed above. Placing a candidate's name on the waiting list does not guarantee that a place will become available. This does not prevent applicants from exercising their right to appeal against the decision not to offer a place. It is possible that when a candidate is directed under the local authority's fair access protocol that they will take precedence over those candidates already on the list.

Admission of Children Outside their Normal Age Group

A request may be made for a child to be admitted outside 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 the Co-headteachers at the school at the same time as the admission application is made. The governing body will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the Co-headteachers, including the Co-headteachers' statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the school, the governing body will take into account the views of the parents and of medical and/or education professionals, as appropriate.

All requests to educate a child outside their normal year group should be made by completing the relevant 'Out of Year Form' detailing why this is necessary and where applicable, evidence of the child's circumstances from a relevant professional detailing the child's educational need which makes education outside the normal age group necessary.

Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interest of the child. This includes taking account of the following:

- Parents'/carers' views
- Information relating to the child's academic, social and emotional development, where relevant
- Medical history and the views of a medical professional
- Any previous history of being educated outside of their normal age group
- If the child may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely
- Views of the Co-headteachers and other key members of staff (eg Head of Year 7)

Fair Access Protocol

The school participates in the local authority's Fair Access Protocol to allocate places to vulnerable and other children in accordance with the School Admission Code 2021. Admitting pupils under the protocol may require the school to admit above the planned admission number for the relevant year group and ahead of any waiting list.

Note 1

Looked after children are defined as children in public care at the date on which the application is made. **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 arrangement order or special guardianship order, immediately after being looked after. This includes children who appear 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.

If an application is made under the 'looked after' criterion, it must be supported by a letter from the relevant Local Authority Children's Services Department. If applying under the previously looked after criterion a copy of the adoption or special guardianship order must also be supplied.

Note 2

"Brother" means a boy who lives as a brother, including natural brothers, adopted siblings, step-brothers and foster brothers. "Sister" means a girl who lives as a sister, including natural sisters, adopted siblings, step-sisters and foster sisters.

Note 3

"Children of other Christian denominations" means: children who belong to other churches and ecclesial communities which, acknowledging 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.

Note 4

"Children of other faiths" means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of 'other Christian denominations' 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.

Admissions to the Sixth Form (Year 12) in September

The Sixth Form at St. Joseph's College is mixed.

Candidates for the Sixth Form may be boys in Year 11 at St. Joseph's College or girls and boys following courses at other schools. All Candidates, both internal and external, will be invited to discuss course options in the Sixth Form.

For acceptance on a particular course Candidates would be expected to meet the minimum requirements for the course (see separate Sixth Form prospectus). For some courses there is a limit on the number of students that can be accepted on them. The school reserves the right to not run a particular course should insufficient students apply for places on it. The total number of places made available each year will normally be 150.

External Candidates who meet the course academic requirements.

A student of sixth form age may make their own application without the consent of his/her parents/carers. Applicants have a statutory right of appeal if a place is not offered.

Students already attending St. Joseph's College: A pupil who attends ST JOSEPH'S COLLEGE in Year 11 is guaranteed a place, subject only to:

1. The achievement of the academic requirements for the courses contained in the Sixth Form prospectus; and,
2. Consultation to ascertain the suitability of the Level 3 course to the needs of the Student.

Students applying from schools other than St Joseph's College

The Governors warmly welcomes applications for Sixth Form entry from other schools. Places will be allocated to those who meet the criteria set out below:

1. The achievement of the academic requirements for courses contained in the Sixth Form prospectus, (available from the School); and,
2. Consultation to ascertain the suitability of the Level 3 course to the needs of the Student.

Oversubscription - In the event that more applicants meet the required criteria than the total course or subject places available, the Governors will, in each case, apply priority as follows:

1. The criteria for entry to Year 7.
2. Proximity to the School from the Candidate's home address.

APPENDIX 1
CHURCHES IN FULL COMMUNION WITH THE SEE OF ROME

Churches in union with Rome

Personal Ordinariate. Baptised children of parents who are members of the Ordinariate, established under The Apostolic Constitution *Anglicanorum Coetibus* of 4th November 2009, are to be given equal preference to that offered to children baptised in a Catholic church. It is important to note that these children may have been baptised in the Church of England.

Eastern Catholic (or Oriental Rite) Churches in union with Rome. The Holy See's *Annuario Pontificio* Gives the following list of Eastern Catholic Churches.

1. Alexandrian liturgical tradition:
 1. Coptic Catholic Church (patriarchate):
 2. Eritrean Catholic Church (metropolia):
 3. Ethiopian Catholic Church (metropolia):
2. West Syrian, including Malankara, liturgical tradition (which is part of Antiochene Rite):
 1. Maronite Church (patriarchate):
 2. Syriac Catholic Church (patriarchate):
 3. Syro-Malankara Catholic Church (major archiepiscopate):
3. Armenian liturgical tradition:
 1. Armenian Catholic Church(patriarchate):
4. Chaldean or East Syrian liturgical tradition:
 1. Chaldean Catholic Church
 2. Syro-Malabar Catholic Church (major archiepiscopate):
5. Constantinopolitan (Byzantine) liturgical tradition:
 1. Albanian Catholic Church (apostolic administration):
 2. Belarusian Catholic Church (no established hierarchy at present):
 3. Bulgarian Greek Catholic Church (apostolic exarchate):
 4. Byzantine Church of Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro (an eparchy and an apostolic exarchate):
 5. Greek Byzantine Catholic Church (two apostolic exarchates):
 6. Hungarian Greek Catholic Church (an eparchy and an apostolic exarchate):
 7. Italo-Albanian Catholic Church (two eparchies and a territorial abbacy):
 8. Macedonian Catholic Church (an apostolic exarchate):
 9. Melkite Greek Catholic Church(patriarchate):
 10. Romanian Church United with Rome (major archiepiscopate):
 11. Russian Catholic Church (two apostolic exarchates, at present with no publishedhierarchs):
 12. Ruthenian Catholic Church (a sui juris metropolia, an eparchy & an apostolicexarchate):
 13. Slovak Catholic Church (metropolia and an eparchy):
 14. Ukrainian Catholic Church (major archiepiscopate):

There are an equivalent number of Eastern Orthodox Churches with similar names that are not in union with the See of Rome. The general rule is Eastern Rite Churches in union with the See of Rome will have the word Catholic in their titles. Churches with the word Orthodox in their titles are not in union with the See of Rome and children from these Churches should not be considered as Catholic children. Please refer any queries to the Commission.