

# St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College

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Principal: Ms C Hughes, B.Ed



## DIOCESE OF CLIFTON

### St Bede's Catholic College

#### Areté Sixth Form Admissions Arrangements September 2017

St. Bede's Catholic College is an Independent Academy established by the Diocese of Clifton.

Applications for Admission to "Areté Sixth" can be found on our website or from the Admissions Secretary at the College.

Closing date for applications: 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017

#### The Christian character of the St. Bede's Community.

We at St. Bede's are charged with the education of the scholars entrusted to our care. It is our desire that they achieve well, securing the highest academic and personal standards and are enabled to develop all their God given gifts and talents, for the greater good and the service of others. As a Gospel driven community we believe that academic success and spiritual development lie at the very heart of who we are, both as individuals and as a community learning and growing together.

#### Admission to Year 12 – the Arété Sixth

- 1.0 The Governing Body is by law responsible for admissions to the Sixth Form and will admit up to 100 in Year 12.
- 2.0 Year 11 scholars wishing to transfer to the St. Bede's Sixth Form from other educational establishments must complete the Application Form and submit this to the College by the published deadline of 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017.
- 3.0 A Published Admission Number (PAN) applies to the entry of scholars from other educational establishments. This is the minimum number of places that will be set aside for external scholars, provided they meet the published examination requirements.
- 4.0 The Published Admission Number (PAN) for **September 2017 is 10.**
- 5.0 If there are more external applications than places available in the PAN then each application received on time will be ranked against the oversubscription criteria as outlined below. Those applications ranked highest, who achieve the entry standard required as outlined in this policy, will be offered places up to the number available.



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6.0 The college will admit any students with a Statement of Educational Need (students with Education, Health and Care Plans), whose Statement names the college, subject to them meeting the published admissions threshold.

7.0 Scholars who meet the published examination requirements and are unsuccessful in securing a place will be entered on a waiting list, if this is their wish. Should places become available by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 these will be offered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

8.0 Applications from children coming from overseas must be treated in accordance with European Union law and Home Office rules from non-European economic area nationals. Non-statutory guidance on this is available on the website of the Department for Education.

9.0 All offers of places to scholars are conditional on them meeting the published examination entrance requirements as detailed under "Entrance Examination Requirements" in this policy.

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

1. Catholic scholars who are Looked After and Catholic scholars who were previously 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. A baptismal certificate will be required to be submitted with the application.
2. Scholars who are baptised Catholic. A baptismal certificate will be required to be submitted with the application.
3. Scholars who are Looked After and scholars who were previously 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.
4. Scholars who are of another Christian Church.
5. Other scholars.

### **Definitions**

1. In the context of the Admissions Policy 'Catholic scholars' means those baptised as Roman Catholic and who can produce a baptismal certificate or equivalent validation.
2. Looked After Children are children who are (a) in the care of a local council or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local council in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in 22(l) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of application.

For those who were Previously Looked After:

-this includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders)

-child arrangements orders are defined in s.8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by s.12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replaced residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order

-in accordance with Section 14A of the Children Act 1989, a Special Guardianship Order is defined as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

3. Scholars of another Christian Church. In the context of the Admissions Policy, other Christian denominations means those from churches recognised by Churches Together In England who have provided a baptism certificate, dedication certificate or confirmation of being of the said faith from their minister or leader in charge. Details of member of Churches Together in England are available on their website.

## **Tie Breakers**

A 'tie breaker' will be applied where the admission number is reached part way through any oversubscription criterion and there is a need to decide which scholars meeting this criterion are to be allocated places and which are to be refused. For this purpose, the following tie breaker rules will apply:

1. Governors will breach the published admission number in order that scholars of multiple births, who meet the entrance examination requirements, are not separated, where one qualifies for a place.
2. Scholars living nearest the college will have priority. The distance between home and college, from home gate (front door where there is no gate or street door of an apartment block) to pedestrian college gate as a straight line measurement by Bristol Local Authority.
3. Random selection, i.e drawing of lots. If places are allocated by random selection, then a person independent of the college will supervise the draw.

## **Entrance Examination Requirements**

1. All scholars will be expected to have achieved at least 5 A\*-B passes at GCSE (or equivalent), with English and Mathematics at a minimum of grade C (grade 5).
2. Scholars will be expected to have achieved at least a grade B (grade 6) in subjects they wish to study at A level. In the case of mathematics, this will be a grade A (grade 7) and a pass in the pre-entrance test in order to ensure student success.
3. Scholars must meet entry requirement levels in at least three subjects.
4. The ability to study four A level subjects will be available for those whose academic record indicates this is an appropriate course of study and will generally be a straight A\*/A or grade 8/7 student. A decision on this will be made by the Director of Sixth Form, and based on evidence of suitability.
5. For subjects not on offer at GCSE, scholars will need to meet the entry requirement criteria in related subjects to ensure success.
6. In exceptional cases, a student who was predicted a C (grade 5) in Mathematics and has failed to achieve this minimum grade and has reached all the other standards, may be offered a place if one is available. In such circumstance, this student must retake GCSE Mathematics in order to secure a grade 5.
7. The facility to study As Level courses is available in some subjects.

## **Appeals**

Parents or scholars whose application has been formally refused will have the right to appeal against the decision of the Admission Authority. An appeal form and information explaining how to exercise this right will be available from the Admissions Secretary.

Agreed by the Governing Body by 26<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Updated September 2016 following advice from the Office of the Schools' Adjudicator

September 2016