

Admissions criteria for entry September 2026

Holy Cross Boys' Primary School
Brookfield Street
Ardoyne
Belfast
BT14 7EX

Catholic Maintained School

Enrolment No: 420

Admission No: 60

Telephone No: 02890 351032

Fax No: 02890 741580

Email: holycrossboys@hotmail.com

Website:

www.holycrossboys.belfast.ni.sch.uk

X: HolyCrossBoys

Facebook: Holy Cross Boys' PS

Principal: Mr. K McArevey BA(HONS)

PGCE M.Ed, PQH

Vice Principal: Mr C Curran BA(HONS), PQH

Chair of Board of Govern: Mr Sean Moyes

Respective Functions of the Board of Governors and Principal in relation to Admissions

The Board of Governors has drawn up the school's admissions criteria and has delegated to the Principal its function and responsibility in relation to the application of the criteria and the admission of pupils to the school.

Admissions Criteria

During the admissions procedure when applying the criteria punctual applications will be considered before late applications are considered. The application procedure opens on **Wednesday 7th January 2026 (opens 12 noon)** and an application submitted by the closing date of **Wednesday 21st January 2026 at 12noon** will be treated as a punctual application. An application received after **12.00 noon on Wednesday, 21 January 2026** will be treated as a late application, this is also the last date and time for processing a change of preference in exceptional circumstances. **Late applications received after 4 pm on Monday, 26 January 2026 will NOT be processed until after the close of procedure on Monday, 23 March 2026.**

In selecting children for admission, children resident in Northern Ireland at the time of their proposed admission will be selected for admission to the school before any child not so resident.

Only children who will have attained compulsory school age at the time of their proposed admission, **including those children who have deferred P1 in September 2025 to be included with September 2026 admissions under the School Age (NI) Act 2022.**

The following criteria will be applied in the order set down by the Board of Governors of Holy Cross Boys' Primary School in selecting boys for admission in **September 2026**.

1. Boys who normally reside in the parish of Holy Cross Ardoyne. The Parish map is available upon request from the school office.
2. Boys who have brothers or half/step-brothers and boys who are a child of the family presently at Holy Cross Boys' Primary School. **(Indicate name and year group).**
3. Boys from other areas.

In the event of over subscription in any one of the above criteria, taken in order, final selection will be on the basis of closeness of the home to the school (in a straight line) as measured by an Ordnance Survey Map from the gate of Holy Cross Boys' Primary School to the front door of the applicant's normal residence.

In the event of two or more children's permanent residence being measured equal distance for the final place, children will be selected by lot.

When considering which children should be selected for admission, the Board of Governors will only take into account information which is detailed on or attached to the application. Parents should therefore ensure that

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all information pertaining to their child and relevant to the school's admissions criteria is stated on the application or attached to it. Examples of such information include whether the child has brothers/half-brothers attending the school.

Should a vacancy arise after **Monday, 23 March 2026** applications for admission to P1, that were initially refused, new applications, late applications and applications where new information has been provided will be treated equally and the published criteria applied. This waiting list will be in place until **30th June 2026**.

The school will contact you in writing if your child gains a place in the school by this method.

Duty to Verify

The Board of Governors reserves the right to require such supplementary evidence as it may determine to support or verify information on any applicant's application.

If the requested evidence is not provided to the Board of Governors by the deadline given, this will result in the withdrawal of an offer of a place. Similarly, if information is supplied which appears to be false or misleading in any material way, the offer of a place will be withdrawn.

Waiting List Policy

Your child's name will automatically be added to the list. Please contact the school if you wish for your child's name to be removed from the list.

P2 – P7 Admissions Criteria available from school.

Applications and Admissions to Primary 1		
Year	Total Applications	Total Admissions
2023/2024	54	52
2024/2025	44	44
*2025/2026	55	51

****The Total Admissions for year 2025/2026 includes all P1 children admitted to the school including those who have a statement of special educational needs and/or may be attending SPiMS.
(SPiMS = Specialist Provision in Mainstream School)***