



Admissions Policy for 2027/2028

Baschurch C.E. Aided Primary School is a "Voluntary Aided" school and, as such, its Governing Body has responsibility for its own admissions. A child is entitled to a full-time place in the September following their fourth birthday, however the parents can defer the date their child is admitted to the school until later in the school year **but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year for which it was made**. Arrangements can be made for children to attend part-time until later in the school year but not beyond the point they reach compulsory school age. If you would like your child to be admitted to the Reception Year at Baschurch Primary School, application should be made via Shropshire Council's website by the 15th January 2027 preceding the beginning of the academic year in which your child is due to start school. Alternatively application can be made by telephoning the Schools Admission Team. All applications received by 15th January will be considered. Parents will be informed on the 16th April 2027 if they have been allocated a place for their child. See the table below which sets out the timetable for the 2027/2028 year.

<https://next.shropshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/>

Born between	Due to start school	Time to apply by	Allocations made
1.09.22– 31.08.23	September 2027	12 January 2027	14 April 2027

All schools have an admission limit for each year group. The admission number for Reception year will be **30** at this school. Children who have a Statement of Special Educational Need or Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) which names Baschurch CE Primary School as the appropriate school will be allocated places first after which if applications exceed the admission limit, places will be allocated according to the following criteria in order of priority:

Priority 1:

1. 'Looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear to the school to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Children with medical or special circumstances. This will only be considered if parents can provide written medical evidence that Baschurch CE Primary School is essential to the medical well-being of their child.
3. Children whose families live inside the designated catchment area and whose parents can demonstrate their commitment to regular and faithful worship³ in the Church of England by means of a letter from their vicar.
4. Children who live inside the designated catchment area and whose parents can demonstrate their commitment to regular and faithful worship³ in a Christian church by means of a letter from the priest or minister.
5. Children living in the designated catchment area and who have a sibling⁴ at the school on the date they are due to start.
6. Children living in the designated catchment area

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7. Children whose families live outside the designated catchment area and whose parents can demonstrate their commitment to regular and faithful worship³ in the Church of England by means of a letter from their vicar.
8. Children who live outside the designated catchment area and whose parents can demonstrate their commitment to regular and faithful worship³ in a Christian church by means of a letter from the priest or minister.
9. Children living outside the catchment area and who have a sibling⁴ at the school on the day they are due to start and whose homes are nearest to the school
10. All other children

Notes

Please contact School Admissions for more information.

Definitions:

¹ A looked after child is a child who is in the care of a local authority in England or is being provided with accommodation by a local authority in England in the exercise of their social services functions.

² A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.

³ Regular and faithful worship would be defined as attendance at a church service on a Sunday or weekday on at least one occasion per month for at least two years.

⁴A sibling connection is defined as a brother or sister, stepbrother or step-sister, half-brother or half-sister, living at the same address as part of the same family unit and of compulsory school age (i.e. 5 – 16 years). Fostered and adopted siblings are also included. Siblings must be attending the school on the date the sibling is due to start there. However, cousins or other relatives who take up residence in a home in order to establish an “in catchment area” address will not be given priority under the sibling criterion.

For admissions purposes all distances are measured as a straight-line distance on a computerised mapping system between the home address and the nearest entrance gate of the relevant school by pinpointing their eastings and northings. The shortest distance being given highest priority. Where two addresses are within the same block of flats, the lowest number of flat nearest to the ground floor will be deemed to be the nearest in distance.

Tie Breaker:

In the event that two applications are exactly the same after all other criteria have been taken into account a tie breaker will be used. This will be by random allocation and overseen by an independent party not connected with the admissions process.

When an application is made after the closing date, we will include it if we can, but no guarantee can be given. Applicants not included in the allocation of places will be kept on a waiting list (to which the admissions criteria apply) until the end of the first week of the admission year.

Parents will be notified of the decision on the allocation of places by Shropshire Council's Admissions Team on behalf of the Governing Body. Should the admission be refused, parents may ask for a review by writing to the Chairman of Governors at the school, who will refer the request to the Governors' Appeals/Review Committee. This Committee will not include the Headteacher and Chairman.

Applying for a place out of cohort

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health. Admission authorities must make decisions based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. If a request is refused, the child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group.

The process for requesting such an admission outside the normal age group, is as follows:

With the application, parents should request that the child is admitted to another year group (state which one), and the reasons for that request. Further evidence may be requested. Requests for admission outside of the normal year group will be considered alongside other applications made at the same time.

When can my child start school?

Children can attend primary education from the September following their 4th birthday. The law requires that children attend school from the prescribed day⁴ following their 5th birthday. Parents can request that the date their child is admitted to the school is deferred until later in the school year, or until the child reaches compulsory school age in that year. They can also request that their child attends part-time until they reach compulsory school age. However, the offer of a place cannot be held over until the next academic year.

NB: Children become of compulsory school age on the first prescribed day following their 5th birthday: 31 August, 31 December or 31 March (or on that day if any of these dates are the child's birthday).

Shropshire Council does not offer the option for a child to start primary school before they are eligible.

Deferred Transfers

Children born from 1 April to 31 August – known as summer born children – do not need to start school until the September after their fifth birthday, a year after they could first have started school. **Most summer born children start at age 4 with no issues.**

Parents of summer born children have two options if they feel their child is not ready to start Reception with their natural cohort. These are outlined below:

Option 1 - Delayed Start

If a parent of a summer born child does start school aged 4, they can, if they wish, agree with the allocated school a pattern of part time attendance or a deferred start until later in that school year for your child. You can discuss this with the school. This will require the parent to apply on-time (by 15 January) using the application process provided by Shropshire Council. Once places are allocated on the 16 April the parent can contact the Headteacher to discuss the delayed start.

Option 2 - Defer for a full year

If a parent decides their summer born child will start school aged 5 and wants their child to start school in reception (not Year 1), they need to make a request to the school's admission authority. This is called requesting admission out of the normal age group – because children born from 1 September in one year to 31 August the following year are normally educated together in one year group.

To defer for a full year parents must submit a request for admission out of the normal age group ideally by 15 January. Shropshire residents can email school-admissions@shropshire.gov.uk to request this. The admission authority decides whether children who start school at compulsory school age should be admitted to reception or year 1. They must make this decision in the child's best interests. The nursery provision (in the case of Reception deferrals) and primary schools (in the case of Secondary deferrals)

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will need to complete forms and assessments and submit to The School Admissions Team at Shropshire Council for processing. Deferral requests ideally need to be submitted no later than the deadlines for the respective transfer groups (15 January for Reception). We do appreciate that in extenuating circumstances, submitting such a request before the closing date does present a challenge. Should this occur, the Admissions team at Shropshire Council will do their best to process prior to the end of the academic year, though there is no guarantee of this.

If a summer-born child defers for a year, it's currently a requirement to make another request to defer their entry to the next phase of their education. When a child of year 6 age is being taught in year 5, an application for secondary school and a request to defer their entry to secondary school will need to be made.

If parents do not make a request for admission out of the normal age group your child will start school in year 1. Parents should consider the potential impact of missing the reception year. The admission authority makes the decision in the child's best interests. The government believes it is usually not in a child's best interests to miss the teaching that takes place during the reception year, and that it should be rare for a child to start school in Year 1.

It is important to advise a parent that, should their summer born child defer for a year, they will reach school leaving age at the end of year 10, rather than year 11. The school will not ask them to leave, but they will no longer be required by law to attend school and the school may not be able to enforce their attendance. Children usually take their GCSEs in year 11.

Children with special educational needs or a disability

Having special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) does not necessarily mean a child should delay starting school. It may be better for them to start school before compulsory school age so they can access the support available there.

All teachers are trained to support all children to succeed, including those with SEND. Every mainstream school must have a special educational needs coordinator (SENCO) – a qualified teacher with an additional SEND qualification.

If a parent is worried about their child starting school because of their SEND, they can speak to their health visitor or to staff at the school they would like their child to go to, for example the headteacher or SENCO. The parent can also speak to the local [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information, Advice and Support service](#).

If a child is going through an EHC needs assessment, and the parent intends to request admission to reception aged 5, they will need to discuss this with the Local Authority.

Waiting Lists

Admissions to our school are managed by the Local Authority, who will hold any waiting lists. The waiting lists for all year groups are held and maintained on the school's behalf by Shropshire Council for the academic year. The waiting list are held in strict accordance with our published oversubscription criteria and reranked after each additional child is added to the waiting list.

Should a vacancy become available the highest ranked application held in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria will be offered a place at the school.

Appeals

If the application is still unsuccessful, parents will have the right to pursue their case through an Independent Appeals Panel which will be arranged by Shropshire Council. This procedure has been agreed with the Shropshire Local Education Authority and the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education and is in accordance with the DfE Code of Practice on School Admissions Appeals. The form required for an Appeal can be obtained via the school.

Mid-term or In-Year applications

The school has devolved the responsibility for the coordination and processing of any and all applications for places at Baschurch CE Primary School to Shropshire Council. However, school still makes all decisions regarding admissions of children to their schools.

Mid-term applications will be dealt with using the same admissions criteria given above. Applications must be made via the Shropshire Council online portal ([Synergy - Homepage \(shropshire.gov.uk\)](https://www.shropshire.gov.uk/synergy)). If there is a space in the relevant year group a place will be offered. A formal letter from Shropshire Council's Admissions Team will be sent to the parent advising them of the offer and the need to contact school directly to arrange a start date.

If there are no vacancies in the year group, Shropshire Council's Admission Team will speak to the Headteacher to consider whether additional places can be offered. A decision must be notified to parents within 15 days of making the application.

If a place cannot be offered, parents will receive a formal letter and information on how to appeal against the decision from Shropshire Council's School Admissions Team on behalf of the school.

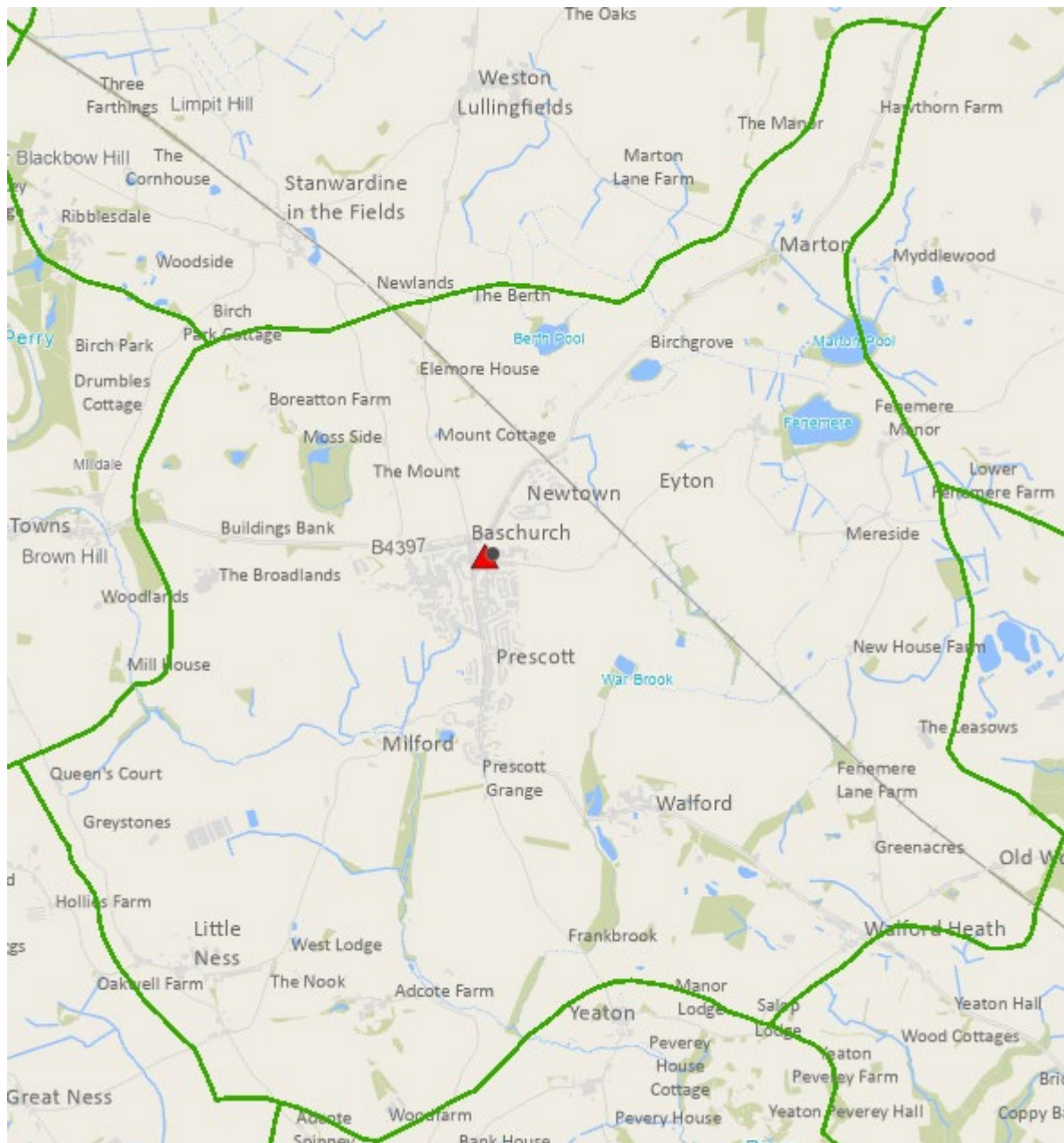
Shropshire Council, on behalf of the school, will maintain a waiting list for unsuccessful applicants. If any vacancies arise, places will be offered to applicants included on the waiting list in strict accordance with normal published oversubscription criteria. If a place can be offered the applicant will be expected to take up the place within 6 school weeks or by the start of the next half term, whichever is the earliest date, with the exception of Reception children who have deferred entry until later in the same academic year. If an offer of a place is refused, the name will be removed from the waiting list.

In recent allocation rounds all children within the designated catchment area have been offered a place. Some, but not all, out of area applications have also been successful.

There is no cost associated with the admissions process to any Shropshire LA maintained school.

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Please see below our catchment area map, however parents can access an interactive online map for further details - [General Map Viewer](#)



Date approved: October 2025

Signed:

Headteacher _____ C M Williams

Chair _____ Rev A Clayton

Date for Review October 2026