



# **Stretton Sugwas Academy**

# **Admissions Policy**

**Reviewed: Spring 2018**

**Mr Alex Davies**

**Admission Arrangements for 2019-2020**  
**Oversubscription Criteria for Stretton Sugwas Church of England Academy**

Head Teacher – Mr Alex Davies

Chair of governors – Mrs Shirley Williams

Age Range – 4-11

Pupil Admission Number – 20 per year group (140 total school)

The Governing Body of the school is responsible for determining and administering the policy relating to the admission of pupils to the school. The Governing Body works with the local Authority in order to ensure admissions are co-ordinated with the County.

At Stretton Sugwas Church of England Academy, we do not offer places based on church attendance. Although we are a school with a distinct Christian ethos, we believe that this is best shown in creating an inclusive environment, where people of **all** faiths are welcome and treated equally.

Children with a Statement of Special Education Needs (or Education and Health Care Plan) which names a particular school will be allocated places, after which places are allocated according to an agreed set of criteria, in strict order of priority.

**Priority 1-** ‘looked after children’ and children who were looked after, but ceased to be because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order; (see Footnote 1)

**Priority 2** – Children living within the **defined catchment area\*** of the academy with an **older sibling\*\*** already attending; (see footnote 2)

**Priority 3** - Children living within the **defined catchment area\*** of the academy; (see Footnote 3)

**Priority 4** - Sibling connection - Children who have an **older sibling\*\*** at the academy not only at the time of application but also when the younger child is due to start; (see Footnote 4)

**Priority 5** - Staff - Pupils whose parent/parents are employed by the Academy and whose contract requires them to be onsite between the hours of 8 – 9am. (see Footnote 5)

**Priority 6** - Pre-School – Pupils who attend Stretton Sugwas Pre-School based onsite at the Academy for at least 1 academic year prior to entering the Reception class. (see Footnote 6)

**Please note – Priority 6 is subject to the opening of Stretton Sugwas Academy Pre-School, planned for a September 2018 opening.**

**Priority 7** - Exceptional circumstances - Children with exceptional **medical, social or compassionate** grounds for admission and whose parents can show that entry to a particular school only is necessary for the wellbeing of their child. Parents are required to produce a medical certificate or other appropriate information preferably from an independent source. Applications on such grounds will not be considered by the Governors unless this supporting information is attached to application forms received by January 2019; (see Footnote 7)

**Priority 8** - Distance\*\*\* - Children who live **nearest** to the school by the shortest available walking route. (See Footnote 8)

**Footnote 1:** *This is the 1st priority because Stretton Sugwas and the Council wishes to protect children who were or are in public care from further disadvantage that can arise from possible changes of school when the care placement changes.*

**Footnote 2:** *A sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or half sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case the child should be living at the same address. The sibling must be in the academy at the time of application and be likely to remain in the academy at the proposed date of admission.*

**Footnote 3:** *This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> priority to try to ensure that children are able to attend the academy within their local community.*

**Footnote 4:** *This is the 4<sup>th</sup> priority to recognise the importance to daily family life, including travel arrangements, of having brothers/sisters at the same school where possible. The rule is **not** intended to favour parents with a previous but no longer current family connection with the school.*

**Footnote 5:** *This is the 5<sup>th</sup> priority to recognise the importance of daily family life for the employees of the academy, including travel arrangements and wrap around/child care issues.*

**Footnote 6:** *This is the 6<sup>th</sup> priority to recognise the close links between pre-school and the Academy, and the high importance the Academy places on children being able to transition within its own educational setting.*

**Footnote 7:** *This is the 7<sup>th</sup> priority to be sensitive to exceptional needs that individual children and families may have.*

**Footnote 8:** *The 8<sup>th</sup> priority is a measurable, objective way of allocating the remaining places.*

The Governors will normally offer a place at the catchment area academy if parents apply for a place at the academy during the normal admission round. However, a place at the catchment area academy cannot always be guaranteed. If a pupil moves into the catchment area outside the normal admissions round (or after the allocation procedure has begun) it may be more difficult to offer a place at the catchment area academy if this would mean exceeding the admission number at the academy. In this case the Local authority will normally offer a place at the next nearest maintained school which caters for children of the same age and has places available. A map of the school's catchment area can be found on the school's website [www.strettonsugwas.com](http://www.strettonsugwas.com) . It includes the parish of Stretton Sugwas, including the hamlet of Swainshill and parish of Breinton.

Children who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs (or EHC Plan) are required to be admitted to the school which is named on the statement, even if the school is full. Admissions above the published admission number may also occur where the academy is admitting a twin or children from multiple births provided the admission would not cause a breach of Infant class size limits.

### **In Year Admissions**

Requests for admissions to the academy into other year groups should be made on the In-Year application form and in accordance with the Local Authority's coordinated scheme for In-Year admissions. The form is available from the academy or Local Authority and can also be downloaded from the Local Authority website.

### **Admission appeals**

If we do not offer a child a place at this academy, it is because to do so would prejudice the education of other children by allowing the numbers of children in the school to increase too much.

If parents wish to appeal against a decision to refuse entry, they can do so by applying to the LA. An independent appeals panel then meets to consider all appeals by parents who have been refused a place at our academy and who wish to appeal against this decision. An appeals panel's decision is binding for all parties concerned. If the appeals panel decides that we should admit a child to our school, then we will accept this and continue to do all we can to provide the best education for all the children at our school. (Details of appeal arrangements are set out in the School Admissions Appeals Code, which came into force in February 2012)

\*Living within the defined catchment area is defined as "a child residing with his/her Parent(s)/or carer(s) at his/her normal and genuine place of residence for the majority of the time".

\*\* A sibling connection refers to a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or a child of the parents/carer's partner, and in every case the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address.

\*\*\* Distance will be measured by the shortest available walking route using a road and/or made up footpath from the front door of the child's address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school.