

Admissions Policy 2026-2027 (CES model)



| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Last Review Date: | February 2025 |
| Next Review Date: | February 2026 |
| Governor's Signature: | |

St Aloysius College **ADMISSION POLICY 2026-2027**

St Aloysius College was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for boys of Catholic families but admits children whether or not they are Catholic. As from September 2025, St Aloysius College also admits girls. The College is conducted by its **governing body** as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its trust deed and **instrument of government** and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic secondary school, the College aims to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school's education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the College. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the College in accordance with these admission arrangements. Nor does it affect the right of a pupil to pursue his or her own religious beliefs if they are not Catholic.

The **governing body** is the admission authority and has responsibility for admissions to the College. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round¹ (**excluding admission to year 12**). The admission authority has set the school's Published Admissions Number ("PAN") at **150** pupils for **year 7 and for 120 applicants for year 12** in the school year which begins in September, 2026. **The Sixth Form is co-educational.**

The admission authority will, where logistically possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the siblings is the last child ranked within the College's PAN.

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (see note 1)

The admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan is dealt with by a completely separate procedure. Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the College must be admitted. Where this takes place before the allocation of places under these arrangements this will reduce the number of places available to other children.

Admission to Years 7 TO 11

Boys or girls do not have to be Catholics to be admitted as pupils to the College. Whether or not they are Catholic is relevant if the College is oversubscribed, that is, where the number of applications for places at the College exceeds the number of places that are available.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority:

1. Catholic looked after and previously looked after children. (see notes 2&3)
 2. Catholic children who are resident in the Catholic deanery of **Islington** and for whom **St Aloysius College** is the nearest Catholic school. (see notes 3&11).
 3. Other Catholic children. (see note 3)
 4. Other looked after and previously looked after children. (see note 2)
 5. Any children who have successfully applied for a music scholarship place.
 6. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church. (see notes 4&5)
 7. Children of other Christian denominations whose membership is evidenced by a minister of religion. (see note 6)
 8. Children of other faiths whose membership is evidenced by a religious leader. (see note 7)
-

9. Pupils who attend an Islington FutureZone primary school
10. Any other children.

Provisions for the application of the oversubscription criteria

Within each of the categories listed above, the following provisions will be applied in the following order.

- (i) Where evidence is provided at the time of application of an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need of the child which can most appropriately be met at this College, the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made. (see note 10)
- (ii) The attendance of a brother or sister at the College at the time of enrolment will increase the priority of an application within each category so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (i) above (see note 8).
- (iii) The priority of an application within each category will be increased in the case of pupils who have successfully applied for a Music Scholarship place so that the application will be placed at the top of the category in which the application is made after children in (i) and (ii) above.

Tie Break

Priority will be given to children living closest to the College determined by the shortest distance. Closeness to the College is measured in a straight line ('as the crow flies') from the permanent address at which the applicant normally resides at the time of the application. In the event of distances being the same for two or more children where this would determine the last place to be allocated, random allocation will be carried out and supervised by a person independent of the College. All the names will be entered into a hat and the required number of names will be drawn out.

Application Procedures and Timetable

To apply for a place in Years 7 to 11 at this College in the normal admission round², you **must** complete a Common Application Form (**other arrangements apply to admission to year 12**) available from the local authority in which you live. You are also requested to complete the Supplementary Information Form attached to this policy if you wish to apply under oversubscription criteria 1 to 3 or 5 to 8. The Supplementary Information Form should be returned to **the office manager** at the College by October 31st, 2025.

Offers

You will be advised of the outcome of your application on 1st **March 2026** or the next working day by the local authority on our behalf. If you are unsuccessful (unless your child gained a place at a school you ranked higher) you will be informed of the reasons, related to the oversubscription criteria listed above, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

If you do not provide the information required in the SIF and return it by the closing date, together with all supporting documentation, your child may not be placed in criteria 1 to 3 or 5 to 7, and this may affect your child's chance of being offered a place.

All applications which are submitted on time will be considered at the same time and after the closing date for admissions which is 31st October 2025.

²This is for admission to the school at the start of the school year in September and not for applications made in-year.

Late Applications

Late applications will be administered in accordance with your home Local Authority Secondary Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme. You are encouraged to ensure that your application is received on time.

Music Scholarship Places

The admissions authority can offer a maximum of 10 music scholarships to applicants who can demonstrate an aptitude in music. All applicants must attend a short listening test covering pitch, melody and rhythm, which will assess innate musical aptitude and not learned musical ability. Applicants for a scholarship will sit these Music aptitude tests at the College in the Spring term. The outcome of these Music aptitude tests will be shared with parents within one month of sitting these tests.

Successful applicants will be given free 1:1 weekly tuition and dedicated use of an instrument. For this they would be expected to show full commitment to the College's orchestra and choir with twice weekly after school rehearsals and failure to do so could lead to the scholarship being withdrawn.

The Banding Test

In order to establish a balanced intake across the ability range and thereby preserve the College's comprehensive character, all applicants will be required to take part in a Standardised Assessment test (CAT) at the College in order to place them into one of 4 different ability bands. The boundaries of each band reflect the national range of abilities but we reserve the right to make adjustments to these, if necessary, to ensure equal bands.

| Band | CAT score |
|-------------|------------------|
| Band 1 | 110 and above |
| Band 2 | 101 - 109 |
| Band 3 | 91 – 100 |
| Band 4 | 90 and below |

Offers will be made on the basis of 25% from each band.

Applicants with an Education, Health and Care Plan (who are not subject to the oversubscription criteria) are encouraged to sit the test but, if not, they will be allocated to the appropriate band on the basis of an alternative assessment for the purpose of calculating the number of children to be admitted in that band. For those applicants who were unable to sit the test due to illness their KS2 predictions will be used to place them in the appropriate band

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 Chair of the Governing Body** at the same time as the admission application is made. The admission authority will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the head teacher, including the head teacher's statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the College, the admission

authority will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals, as appropriate.

Waiting Lists

In addition to their right of appeal, unsuccessful applicants will be offered the opportunity to be placed on a waiting list. This waiting list will be maintained in order of the oversubscription criteria set out above and **not** in the order in which applications are received or added to the list. Waiting lists for admission will operate throughout the school year. The waiting list will be held open until **December 31st, 2026**.

Inclusion in the College's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available.

In-Year Applications

An application can be made for a place for a child at any time outside the normal admission round and the child will be admitted where there are available places. Application should be made **using the application form on the College's website** and sent to the Clerk to the Governing Body at the College.

Where there are places available but more applications than places, the published oversubscription criteria, as set out above, will be applied.

If there are no places available, the child will be added to the waiting list (see above).

You will be advised of the outcome of your application in writing, and you have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel.

Fair Access Protocol

The College is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the admission authority is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol. The admission authority has this power even where admitting the child would mean exceeding the PAN.

Withdrawal of the offer of a place and withdrawal of the place itself

The admission authority reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place or, where a child is already attending the school, the place itself, where it is satisfied that the offer or place was obtained by deception.

Admission to the Sixth Form (Years 12-13)

The College operates a co-educational sixth form for a total of 240 pupils. 120 places overall will be available in Year 12. While the admission number is 120, if fewer than 120 of the College's existing pupils transfer into Year 12, additional external pupils will be admitted until Year 12 meets its capacity of 120.

Minimum academic entry requirements

Both internal and external pupils wishing to enter the sixth form will be expected to have met the same minimum academic entry requirements for the sixth form. There are 2 main pathways:

Academic: All students wishing to study A-level courses must achieve a minimum of six grades of between 4 and 9 at GCSE including three 6's or above. Students must meet minimum grade

requirements in the subjects they wish to study. Students must also have English Literature or Language and Maths at a minimum grade 4. In addition, students must meet an ALPs prediction of at least a D in their chosen subjects.

Vocational: Students wishing to study Level 3 Vocational Business or BTEC PE must achieve a minimum of five grades of between 4 and 9 at GCSE, including English and Maths, and at least 2 Grade 5 and above. For these courses we will also accept a Distinction from one BTEC Diploma Level Two as the equivalent of one GCSE pass grade.

Minimum course entry requirements

In addition to the sixth form's minimum academic entry requirements pupils will need to satisfy minimum entrance requirements to the courses for which they are applying. If either internal or external applicants fail to meet the minimum course requirements, they will be given the option of pursuing any alternative courses for which they do meet the minimum academic requirements.

Course requirements are published annually in the school's prospectus and on its website.

Under- and oversubscription to Years 12 and 13

When Year 12 is undersubscribed, all applicants meeting the minimum academic entry requirements will be admitted or permitted to progress.

When there are more external applicants that satisfy any academic entry requirements, priority will be given in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out below.

Where there is a space in Year 13 i.e., where there are fewer than 120 pupils in the year group, the College will admit additional pupils up to this number using the oversubscription criteria set out below.

Application forms

Students on roll at St Aloysius are required to apply for a place in the sixth form as are students from other schools. Sixth Form application forms are available on the College's website and these are to be completed and returned to the office manager at the College by Jan 15th 2025.

Academic subject specific entry requirements:

All those seeking admission to the sixth form must achieve the necessary grades for access onto the courses they have chosen as set out in the table below. Students will also be expected to display evidence of motivation and commitment to post-16 study.

Maximum admission numbers of 20 places apply to A-level and vocational level 3 courses.

| Subject | Minimum Grade | Additional Information |
|---|--|---|
| Biology and Chemistry | At least 6 in all Sciences, including at least one 7 | |
| Computer Science | Minimum grade 7 in Computing 7 in Maths | |
| Economics and Business | 6 in English (Literature or Language) 6 in Maths | |
| English Literature | 6 in both English Literature and English Language | |
| English Language | 6 in both English Literature and English Language | |
| Fine Art | 6 in Art | If not studied before a portfolio and subject interview will be required. |
| French | 7 in French (unless native speaker) | |
| Geography | 6 in Geography 6 in Maths | If not studied before a 5 in English (Literature or Language) will be required. |
| Government and Politics | Grade 6 in Maths and English or History | |
| Graphics Communication | 6 in Art | If not studied before a portfolio and subject interview will be required. |
| History | 6 in History | If not studied before a 5 in English (Literature or Language) will be required. |
| Maths | 7 in Maths | |
| PE | Grade 6 in PE and grade 6 in Biology | |
| Physics | 7 in Science & Maths | Maths A-Level must also be studied |
| Philosophy and Ethics | 6 in Religious Studies 6 in English Literature and Maths | |
| Psychology | 6 in Psychology | |
| Sociology | 6 in English 6 in another Humanities subject | If not studied before a 5 in English (Literature or Language) will be required. |
| Spanish | 7 in Spanish | |
| BTEC National Extended Diploma in Business | Either merit BTEC Business or Grade 5 GCSE Business (if studied) | |

Interviews

Internal and external applicants will receive an Information, Advice and Guidance interview to discuss their predicted grades and possible courses, and to assess their suitability for the sixth form. These interviews are not part of the decision making process regarding the offer of a place.

GCSE English and Maths Exam resits

Students who do not hold at least a grade 4 in Maths and/or English at GCSE will be required to continue lessons in these courses until they attain a grade 4.

All students must be enrolled for a course which meets the minimum requirements for 'full-time' study (i.e., minimum average 15 hours per week in lessons).

Entry into Year 13

There is no guarantee of entry into Year 13 for students in Year 12. Students wishing to move on to the second year of a course will need to achieve a minimum of 3 Ds at the end of Year 12 or merits on vocational courses. Students who do not meet the 3Ds or merits criteria will be offered the opportunity to move to a more appropriate course. They must also meet minimum expectations of 95% attendance and punctuality in Year 12 (except in exceptional cases).

Oversubscription Criteria

1. Students who are in the care of a local authority (as defined by section 22 of the Children Act 1989) subject to meeting the specific entry criteria for their chosen programme of study.
2. Applicants who are judged to have an exceptional social or medical need where they meet the admissions criteria. There will have to be a clear link between the child's exceptional need and the school. Parents/carers will need to submit a case supported by appropriate professional evidence from a doctor, social worker, or similar professional. That evidence will need to support the link between the need and the school.
3. Internal Year 11 students subject to meeting the specific entry criteria for their chosen programme of study (up to a limit of 100).
4. External applicants are subject to meeting the admissions criteria for their chosen programme of study where places are still available on that programme (up to a limit of 20).

In the event of oversubscription, places will be allocated to those applicants meeting the basic qualification who live closest to the College and for whom places on their chosen courses are available. Each applicant must select their courses of study at the time of the application; these cannot be changed before the application is determined.

Closeness to the College is measured in a straight line ('as the crow flies') and the permanent address at which the applicant normally resides at the time of the application. The College will carefully verify the permanent address of the applicant.

Once applicants have been ranked according to distance:

1. Places will be allocated in order of closeness to the College.
2. Once the places available for a particular course of study have been filled, any other applicant who has chosen that course will be not considered for admission to that course, regardless of whether places are available on other courses that the applicant has chosen. The number of students who have applied for each course will need to be taken into account. Extra students may sometimes be accommodated over the admission number if the chosen course is not full.

All decisions regarding admissions will be initially heard by the Headteacher.

Appeals

Should admission to the sixth form at St Aloysius Sixth Form be refused, applicants can acquire details of the statutory appeals procedure from the website.

Withdrawal of the offer of a place and withdrawal of the place itself

The admission authority reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place or, where a child is already attending the school, the place itself, where it is satisfied that the offer or place was obtained by deception.

Conditions

All places offered are subject to the following post-acceptance conditions:

1. The applicant must provide documentary proof (original documents) of having in fact met the minimum and course specific entrance requirements.
2. The applicant must produce proof of address in the form of a copy of their parent/carer's current council tax bill.

Any applicant who is unable to satisfy these conditions will not be admitted to the College.

NOTES (these notes form part of the oversubscription criteria)

1. An Education, Health and Care Plan is a plan made by the local authority under section 37 of the Children and Families Act 2014, specifying the special educational provision required for a child.

2. A 'looked after child' has the same meaning as in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of a local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making an application to the College.

A 'previously looked after child' is a child who was looked after, but ceased to be so because he or she was adopted, or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order. Included in this definition are those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

3. 'Catholic' means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of baptism in a Catholic Church or a certificate of reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic.

For a child to be treated as Catholic, evidence of baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who have difficulty obtaining written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest who, after consulting with the Diocese, will decide how the question of baptism is to be resolved and how written evidence is to be produced in accordance with the laws of the Church.

4. 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. This will normally be evidenced by a certificate of reception into the order of catechumens.

5. 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches, and is normally evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church.

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

All members of Churches Together in England and CYTÛN are deemed to be included in the above definition, as are all other churches and ecclesial communities that are in membership of any local Churches Together Group (by whatever title) on the above basis.

7. “Children of other faiths” means children who are members of a religious community that does not fall within the definition of ‘other Christian denominations’ at 6 above 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.

8. ‘Brother or sister’ includes:

- (i) all natural brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters, adopted brothers or sisters, step brothers or sisters, foster brothers or sisters, whether or not they are living at the same address; and
- (ii) the child of a parent’s partner where that child lives for at least part of the week in the same family unit at the same home address as the child who is the subject of the application.

9. A ‘parent’ means all natural parents, any person who is not a parent but has parental responsibility for a child, and any person who has care of a child.

10. To demonstrate an exceptional social, medical or pastoral need of the child which can be most appropriately met at the College, the admission authority will require compelling written evidence from an appropriate professional, such as a social worker, doctor or priest.

11. For the purposes of this policy, deanery boundaries are as shown on the link below and will be applied to the admission arrangements for **September 2026**.

[Catholic Directory](#)

12. A child’s “home address” refers to the address where the child usually lives with a parent or carer, and will be the address provided in the Common Application Form (“CAF”). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives for part of the week with each parent, the home address will be the address given in the CAF, provided that the child resides at that address for any part of the school year. The admission authority will make its decision about the request based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child. In addition to taking into account the views of the head teacher, including the head teacher’s statutory responsibility for the internal organisation, management and control of the College, the admission authority will take into account the views of the parents and of appropriate medical and education professionals, as appropriate.