



ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC COLLEGE SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY for Admission in September 2027

Aim

St Michael's Catholic College is an 11–19 voluntary-aided Catholic school within the Diocese of Southwark and under the trusteeship of the Diocese. As an academy, it is governed by the Academy Trust and its Board of Directors.

The Admissions Policy reflects the College's mission and its aim to provide a distinctive Catholic education for students who wish to pursue Sixth Form study within a Christian environment. The College also welcomes applications from students of other faiths or none who are willing to support the Catholic ethos of the College.

Following consultation with the Local Authority and other admission authorities, the Governors intend to admit up to 115 students into Year 12 for September 2027. Of these places, 90 are reserved for internal candidates and 25 for external candidates, subject to applicants meeting the entry requirements. Thirty places (internal and external combined) will be dedicated to the Honours Pathway. If fewer than 90 internal students' progress to Year 12, eligible external applicants will be admitted until the total reaches 115.

Admission to individual courses is dependent on students meeting the entry requirements, class sizes, timetabling, and whether the College is able to run the requested courses. Each course has maximum numbers and its own specific entry requirements. Sixth Form courses are subject to minimum student numbers; the viability of each course will depend on cohort size and may vary from year to year.

All internal applicants must also submit a formal application by the published deadline. Entry requirements for internal and external applicants are identical.

1. Admissions Policy

1.1 Minimum Academic Criterion

In order to be considered for a place in the Sixth Form, all candidates must successfully be assessed to have met the minimum level of achievement for the course(s)/pathway they propose to follow. These requirements are set out in the Sixth Form Prospectus.

1.2 Oversubscription Criteria for External Applicants

The College welcomes applications from all students aged 16–19. Where applications exceed the number of places available, external applications will be prioritised in the following order, provided they meet the academic entry requirements:

1. Catholic looked-after children, looked-after children in Catholic families, and previously looked-after Catholic children (including those previously in state care outside England) who ceased to be so as a result of adoption, residency, or guardianship orders.
2. Other Catholic applicants who apply by the published deadline.
3. Other looked-after and previously looked-after children, including those previously in state care outside England who ceased to be so as a result of adoption.
4. Other applicants who support the Catholic ethos of the College and apply by the published deadline.

1.3 Tie-Breakers

Where oversubscription occurs within any category (and applicants meet the academic criteria):

1. Priority will be given to applicants with a sibling currently on roll.
2. Thereafter, priority will be given to applicants who live nearest to the College.

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the Llewellyn Street entrance of the College to the applicant's residence using an approved mapping tool. Evidence of residence will be required.

Where two or more applicants qualify equally for the final remaining place, allocation will be determined by drawing lots.

Notes

Entry Requirements

The detailed course entry requirements are set out in full in the Sixth Form Prospectus. Summary requirements are:

- Honours Pathway: 8 GCSEs at grade 6+ with 5 at grade 8+; grade 7+ in Science and Maths; grade 8/9 for Further Maths; APS 7+.
- Scholars Pathway: 8 GCSEs; English Language & Maths at grade 5+; five other subjects at grade 6+; APS 5.6+.
- Technical Pathway: 5 GCSEs at grade 5 including English Language & Maths at grade 4+; APS 4.6+

- 2 A Level + 1 Technical Pathway: 8 GCSEs at grade 6+ including grade 5 in English Language & Maths; APS 5.6+.

- Bridging pathway: criteria tbc

Progression to Year 13

Progression requires passes (E or above) in all Year 12 subjects and alignment with Minimum Target Grades. Students must meet Sixth Form behaviour expectations. Students not meeting academic expectations may be supported onto alternative pathways or may have to repeat Year 12.

Performance in Year 13 mock exams (Christmas and/or Easter) will also be reviewed. Students who achieve a U grade or repeatedly achieve E grades may be required to reduce their programme to two A Levels. Students on the Technical pathway who fail to complete enough units for the triple award, may be reduced to the double award.

Additional Entry Notes

- Only students who completed Year 12 at St Michael's may enter Year 13.
- Students must have turned 16 by 31 August 2027.
- Students enrolled in Year 12 who do not attend within the first four weeks of term will be removed from roll.
- Students entering A Level Maths in Year 12 must undertake assessments; an average score below 50% may result in compulsory transfer to another suitable course.
- Definitions of Catholic, siblings, looked-after children and previously looked-after children follow statutory guidance
- APS calculations exclude native language GCSEs.
 - Students studying A Level Sciences without A Level Maths may be required to take Core Maths as enrichment option.

2. Application Procedures

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted by Friday 15th January 2027, using the official College online application form. A reference including predicted grades must be provided by the applicant's Head of Year. Late applications will be placed on a waiting list.

Guidance Meetings

Eligible applicants will be invited to an Information, Advice and Guidance meeting to ensure the College can meet their academic needs. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend.

Offers and Enrolment

Successful applicants will receive conditional offers based on meeting the entry requirements for agreed courses. Enrolment takes place after GCSE results where final offers will be made if students have met the criteria for courses/pathways. Failure to attend enrolment without prior notice will result in withdrawal of the offer.

Course availability may be subject to timetabling constraints.

Courses with fewer than four students may not run (this will be finalised at the end of the change of subject period at the end of September 2027).

The Principal/Head of School reserves the right to use professional discretion in all admissions decisions.

Oversubscribed Courses

Where a course exceeds capacity (typically more than 16 for A Levels and more than 15 for technical courses), allocation will be based on highest APS in the best eight GCSEs.

Final Confirmation and Documentation

Conditional offers are confirmed only once GCSE results are verified and entry requirements are met.

Students and parents must sign the Sixth Form Code of Conduct once enrolled into Year 12 and Year 13.

Missing documentation or failure to meet deadlines may affect assessment under oversubscription criteria.

International applicants must provide a NARIC comparability certificate.

3. Pupils with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan

Admissions for pupils with an EHC Plan follow a separate statutory process. Pupils whose EHC Plan names St Michael's Catholic College will be admitted only where suitable courses are available and academic requirements are met.

4. Fair Access Protocol

The College participates in the Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol and may be required to admit students above the planned admission number in accordance with the School Admissions Code.

5. Appeals

Unsuccessful applicants may appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. Appeals must be submitted in writing, outlining the reasons for appeal. Parents/guardians have the right to present their case in person.

Timeline for September 2027 Entry

- November 2026 – Sixth Form Open Evening; application forms available
- 15th January 2027 – Application deadline
- February–March 2027 – Guidance meetings
- May 2027 – Conditional offer notifications
- 4th June 2027 – Deadline for appeals relating to conditional offers
- July 2027 – Conditional-offer appeal outcomes
- August 2027 – GCSE results; enrolment; non-qualification letters sent
- 10th September 2027 – Deadline for appeals following GCSE results
- w/b 4th October 2027 – Appeal hearings commence
- Decision letters sent within 5 days of hearings

June 2026



Signed:

Date: 24/09/26

Chair of the Local Governing Body

Review Date: 2027