

OUR RESERVATIONS

The St Pancras Parochial Church Council (PCC) has concerns about the admissions policy of Bishop Luffa School. We are uncomfortable with compelling people to attend church and we have difficulty in a process that “rewards” people for church attendance. We also believe that some of the children who might best benefit from attending a church school are the ones that this policy is likely to exclude. That said, the PCC has no influence over or involvement in the Admissions Policy of Bishop Luffa School and so are powerless in this situation.

WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Firstly, if you wish to attend St Pancras in order to fulfill the requirement of the admissions policy of Bishop Luffa, you should clearly explain this to Canon Mark Payne the parish priest. **It is best to make an appointment and to discuss it with him face to face.** Please do not ring or write in.

Secondly, in line with other churches in the city we are keeping a register at the back of the church. Please sign the register when you attend. This is so that we have evidence of church attendance to support your application.

Thirdly, get stuck into the life of the church! We are a small but lively and informal church with lots going on. Although Church involvement does not

increase your chances of a **category A place**, it will enable the Rector to write in a more informed way about the applicant.

LAST WORDS

We know that the requirements for a place at Bishop Luffa are exacting. Despite our reservations we are delighted to work with you to meet the requirements. We are committed to work with parents to ensure that worship at St Pancras is as accessible and meaningful as possible. We have started Messy Church which meets once a month and would like to work with parents to provide better provision for children’s activities at our other morning services. We hope and pray that by attending St Pancras – for whatever reason – your faith in God will grow and that you will get to know the Lord Jesus Christ who loves us and gave his life for us.



*Your child and a Church
place at Bishop Luffa
Church of England School*



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WELCOME TO ST PANCRAS

St Pancras is one of four Church of England parish churches in the city of Chichester. From time to time parents ask us about admissions to Bishop Luffa Church of England Secondary School. This leaflet is designed to try and answer your questions.

We believe that Bishop Luffa is a really exceptional School and that it provides children with great opportunities to develop spiritually as well as academically and socially. Because of the strong Christian ethos of Bishop Luffa School we hope that as many pupils as possible can attend the school.

It is our hope that if we work together with you we can maximize the chance of your child being admitted to Bishop Luffa.

THE SCHOOL'S POLICY

As we understand it the School admits around 215 pupils a year. Of these 200 are Foundation (i.e. Church) places. There are a number of categories of Foundation places, but the vast majority some 165 are for children/families who regularly attend **Church of England** churches (**Category A**).

Children whose parents attend other Christian denominations can also apply for a Foundation place – but there are just 30 places allocated for these children (Category B). **You should take time to look directly at the admissions policy yourself** www.bishopluffa.org.uk

HOW DOES MY CHILD QUALIFY FOR A “CATEGORY A PLACE”?

Bishop Luffa Draft Admissions policy 2013

“Children of a parent or parents, who are communicant members of the Church of England, who normally attend a Church of England service weekly and who have been doing so for at least two years; or

Children who normally attend a Church of England service weekly and who have been doing so for at least two years”

...basically by attending an **Anglican Church most Sundays for at least two years. In practice weekly attendance means at least 3 out of 4 Sundays a month.**

HOW DOES THE SCHOOL KNOW?

In order to obtain a **category A** place, the parish priest **has** to complete a form to support the application.

The school asks the minister these questions:

- Are the parents communicant members of the Church of England?
- How often the parents and or child attends the church: weekly, once a month or rarely/never
- How long the child or parents have been attending, under a year, under two years or two years or more. Dates have to be supplied.

If the child/parents have been worshipping for less than two years the parish priest is expected to comment.

There is also a place for additional comments and the form has to be signed by the parish priest and returned to the school.

There is no guarantee that even if these criteria have been fulfilled that a child will automatically get a place.

The Parochial Church Council of St Pancras Church expects the Rector (parish priest) to fill these forms honestly and accurately.