

Gamston Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

ADMISSIONS INFORMATION

Parents who wish their child or children to attend the school are welcome to make an appointment with the Head Teacher in order that they may visit the school. We arrange two half-day 'induction' sessions for children who are to be admitted at rising five years, so that they are able to meet, and work with, their prospective classmates and teacher.

The school's 'catchment area' is that covered by the (civil) Parish Council (i.e. Gamston, Eaton, West Drayton, Rockley and Markham Moor). However, the school has an excellent reputation and many pupils are attracted to the school from further afield. Tuxford School is our 'Family' comprehensive school and the majority of our pupils go on to Tuxford after leaving Gamston School.

Admissions Policy Statement

Gamston School is a Church of England *Voluntary Aided* Primary School and as such its Governing Body, working within the government's *Code of Practice* and working closely with our LA, is responsible for the school's Admissions Policy.

First Admissions

Parents and carers should to be aware that they need to express a preference for a particular school, well in advance of their child reaching 'school age'. The appropriate forms are available through their local school, whichever that might be. First admission application forms are also available from Gamston School as well as from the Local Authority.

Age for First Admissions

Pupils may be admitted to the school at the commencement of the term during which the child reaches their **fifth** birthday. However, a child may be admitted to the school, on a part-time basis, the term **before** their fifth birthday. (Our definition of 'part-time' is that the child would attend school for **morning sessions only** from Monday to Thursday and **afternoon session only** on Friday).

Parents or carers who wish their child or children to attend the school are welcome to make an appointment with the Head Teacher in order that they may visit the school. We arrange two half-day 'induction' sessions for children who are to be admitted at 'rising five' (ie on a part-time basis as described above). These induction sessions enable the children to meet and work with their prospective classmates and teachers.

Equal Opportunities

The school operates an inclusive, equal opportunities admissions policy. Our new school building (opened in September 2005) is, of course, fully equipped for children and adults who may have a disability.

General Admissions Criteria

The following general criteria are used to determine which pupils should be admitted to the school:

- residence in the school's catchment area
- desire by parents or carers who reside outside the catchment area for their child(ren) to receive a denominational education in a Voluntary Aided school

The school's 'catchment area' is that covered by the (civil) Parish Council (i.e. Gamston, Eaton, West Drayton, Rockley and Markham Moor). However, the school has an excellent reputation and many pupils are attracted to the school from further afield.

Apart from First Admissions, pupils may be admitted to any year group, provided that places are available. Gamston School is a very successful and popular school and, subject to availability of places, pupils living beyond the catchment area may also be admitted to the school.

Our new school building opened in September 2005 will have places for **86** pupils. The admissions number for each year group has been **12** from September 2005.

In the event of requests for places exceeding availability, places at the school will be allocated, by the Governing Body, according to the following criteria:

- *Looked After Children* within the Parish. (A 'Looked After' child is a child who is in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority - see Section 22 of the *Children Act 1989*)*
- parental involvement in the work and worship of another parish church (e.g. a neighbouring parish which is served only by a non-church school)
- parental commitment to a Christian Church other than the Church of England (that is, the vicar or church representative will vouch that at least **one** of the parents/carers are committed Christians)

- relationship, as brother or sister ('sibling') to a pupil already attending the school (by 'sibling' we mean: sister, brother, twin, step-sister or step-brother)
- *Looked After Children* residing outside the Parish*
- proximity of the child's place of residence** to school (measured, 'as the crow flies', from the pupil's entrance door of their main home to the main entrance door of the school).

The children of nomadic travellers who move into our catchment area will, of course, be granted places in the school on equal terms with all other children.

**Consideration will be given to applicants who can establish medical, special educational or social needs (especially Looked After Children) with supporting evidence from a relevant professional. Each case will be judged on its merits and the admission authority (The Governing Body) may accord a higher priority to the applicant.*

*** 'Place of residence' is defined as the parental home, other than in the case of Looked After children, where either the parental address or the foster parental address may be used. Where a child spends part of the week in different homes, their place of residence will be taken to be their parent's or parents' address. If a child's parents live at separate addresses, whichever of the two addresses the child permanently spends **at least 3 'school nights'** [ie Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday] will be taken as the place of residence. Addresses of other relatives or friends **will not** be considered as the place of residence, even when the child stays there all or part of the week. The School's Admissions Committee or the LEA may seek proof of residence and may require evidence from the courts regarding parental responsibilities in these matters.*

Evidence that a child's place of residence is permanent may also be sought. Such evidence should demonstrate that the child lived at the address before the application is made and will continue to live there after admission to the school. Informal arrangements, even between parents, are not acceptable.

Evidence may be sought by the school's Admissions Committee on any of the above criteria. The final decision on admissions will be made by the Admissions Committee on behalf of the Governing Body.

Late admissions will be referred to the school's Admissions Committee for consideration.

Should anyone have any concerns regarding admissions, please contact the school and we will be happy to help clarify the process.

GAMSTON C of E (AIDED) PRIMARY SCHOOL
APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION
During the School Year

PART 1 - ALL PARENTS please complete

SURNAME

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.....

CHILD'S CHRISTIAN (FIRST AND OTHER) NAME(S)

.....

ADDRESS

.....

.....

CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH

PART 2 - PARENTS living in the parish and applying for a Foundation Place please complete

PARENTS NAMES

.....

...

HOME TELEPHONE NO MOBILE NO

.....

Do you have any direct connection with the school? If so, in what capacity?

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.....

Do you have any younger children who you may wish to come to Gamston School in the future? If so, please provide their name(s) and date of birth

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.....

I/We apply for a Foundation Place in accordance with the information on admissions published by the School Governors.

SIGNATURE(S)

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PART 3 - PARENTS not living in the Parish and applying for an Open Place please complete

PARENTS NAMES

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...

HOME TELEPHONE NO MOBILE NO

.....

In which parish do you live?

Has the child been baptised? YES/NO *(please delete as applicable)*

Which church do you attend?

Do you hold any church office?

Has the child a brother or sister in the school now?

Are there any special reasons why you wish your child to attend this school?

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Please give the name of a priest/minister to whom reference may be made

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Do you have any direct connection with the school? If so, in what capacity?

.....
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Do you have any younger children who you may wish to come to Gamston School in the future? If so, please provide their name(s) and date of birth:

.....
.....

I/We apply for an Open Place in accordance with the information on admissions published by the School Governors.

SIGNATURE(S)

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