Starting School A GUIDE FOR PARENTS & CARERS 2022-2023



IMPORTANT DATES RELATING TO YOUR CHILD'S ADMISSION TO SCHOOL

Primary School

Packs Available 3rd November 2021

Closing date for applications: 12th January 2022

at midnight

Offer date: 18th April 2022 **Secondary School** Packs Available 22nd September 2021

Closing date for applications: 24th November 202⁻⁷ at midnight

Offer date: 1st March 2022

Please ensure that you complete an application form either on-line or on a paper application form which can be obtained from The School and Student Access Unit on 01633 644508.

Please ensure that your completed application is returned prior to the above closing dates. Failure to do so will disadvantage your child's application and increase the risk of them not obtaining a place at your preferred School.

For more information on the application process and the evidence that we require, please refer to pages 20 - 23 of this booklet.



www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS ONLINE

Is your child eligible to start School (Reception) in September 2022? Or maybe you have a child currently in year 6, getting ready to move up to Secondary School in 2022? If so...

Why not take advantage of our online application system

Primary to Secondary Applications

System available to use from 22nd September 2021 until closing date of 24th November 2021 at midnight.

Admission (Reception) Applications

System available to use from 3rd November 2021 until closing date of 12th January 2022 at midnight.

Secondary offer date

1st March 2022 Primary offer date - 18th April 2022

What are the benefits of the system?

- Saves on postage costs and guarantees the safe delivery of your child's application
- Get an automatic acknowledgement once your application has been submitted and received by us
- Ability to view and amend your application online up until the published closing date
- Ability to log onto our system on the published offer date to find out if your child's application has been successful

For further information on School Admissions and to access the online application system, please visit: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk /applying-for-a-school-place



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Publication date July 2021

INTRODUCTION

DEAR PARENT/CARER

At this important time in your child's life this booklet is provided to support you in your next steps.

Monmouthshire is proud of its achievements for all its children and young people. We aim to provide learning opportunities and experiences that allow pupils and students to achieve their potential in all aspects of their life and the future.

The Directorate for Children and Young People has an excellent record of achieving a very high percentage of first preferences for school places. We are proud of this achievement and want to continue to work with you and our schools to meet your needs wherever possible. We are also determined to ensure that when your child starts school, this very important time for your family is supported with clear information. This booklet is designed to provide you with the detail you need to ensure that the process is a positive experience from the start. Staff in the Directorate will be pleased to help and support in any way they can.

We are sure that you appreciate that the information offered here is for general guidance only. Each year we forecast the demands for places in schools. From time to time external and unexpected factors can challenge the accuracy of our projections.

To assist you in deciding on your preferences there are specific details in relation to the Primary and Secondary schools in Monmouthshire and surrounding areas contained in this booklet.

This is a milestone event for you and your child. We are here to help.

Will Mclean Chief Officer for Children and Young People

County Councillor Paul Pavia Cabinet Member for Children & Young People.

Term Dates 2022 - 2023

Please see below our confirmed School Term Dates and Holidays for the 2022/23 academic year.

Within Monmouthshire, we ensure that appropriate consultation is held with our neighbouring Authorities with the view to ensuring compliance and consistency of dates, although this is not always possible. We acknowledge the importance of consistency of term dates across neighbouring Authorities and how this relates to a variety of implications for parents, staff and children.

These dates comply with those dates being put forward by our immediate neighbouring Authorities which include Newport, Torfaen, Blaenau Gwent and Cardiff.

Term	Start	Half Term Starts	Half Term Ends	Term Ends
Autumn	Fri 2nd	Mon 31st	Fri 4th	Fri 23rd Dec
	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	2022
Spring	Mon 9th	Mon 20th	Fri 24th	Fri 31st Mar
	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Feb 2023	2023
Summer	Mon 17th	Mon 29th	Fri 2nd	Fri 21st July
	Apr 2023	May 2023	June 2023	2023

Easter Sunday – Sunday 10th April 2023 May Day – Monday 1st May 2023 Autumn Term = 41 days and 35 days = 76 days Spring Term = 30 days and 25 days = 55 days Summer Term = 30 days and 35 days = 65 days

Provision of Education in Monmouthshire

Monmouthshire is proud to offer the following educational provision within it's County:

Nursery Education

Monmouthshire has twelve nursery units attached to mainstream schools. The authority maintains these nurseries which provide free, part time early years education (if there are spaces available) for pupils from the term following their third birthday.

We also have a number of non-maintained settings including private day nurseries and playgroups that are approved to provide early education.

Details of the Local Authority maintained and private nurseries can be found on pages 99 - 100

Primary Education (4-11)

The County Council offers a number of educational establishments at Primary level:

Primary Community (English)	20
Primary Community (Welsh)	2
Primary Church in Wales VC	4
Primary Church in Wales VA	2
Primary Roman Catholic VA	2

Details of the above Schools are on pages 102 - 109

Welsh Medium Primary Education

The Authority maintains two Welsh Medium Primary Schools located in Abergavenny (Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni) and Caldicot (Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin).

Children wishing to be educated through the medium of Welsh will receive free Home to School Transport to their nearest Welsh Medium establishment.

Voluntary Controlled Schools

These co-educational day schools, whilst under the control of the Local Authority as far as admissions are concerned, offer an education which is founded on Christian principles and values.

Voluntary Aided Schools

These are voluntary aided co-educational day schools which are maintained jointly by the Local Authority and voluntary bodies. All aided schools in the County are either part of Catholic or Church in Wales denominational groups.

Children wishing to be educated at a school which offers denominational education will receive free Home to School Transport to their nearest denominational setting.

Special Primary Education

Overmonnow Primary School (Monmouth), Pembroke Primary School (Chepstow), and Deri View Primary School (Abergavenny) have Additional Educational Needs Units to accommodate those children whose needs cannot be met in mainstream education.

Secondary Education (11-19)

All mainstream secondary schools in Monmouthshire are mixed Comprehensive Schools and serve 11 - 19 year olds. These are situated close to the four major towns in Monmouthshire. All schools provide a broad and balanced curriculum and offer many additional opportunities through a wide range of extra-curricular activities which take place outside lesson times offering children the best opportunity to develop themselves as an individual, socially and academically.

GCSE, AS and A level results in Monmouthshire schools consistently achieve grades above the welsh average.

Monmouthshire Secondary Schools and their sixth form provision continues to develop individuals with the skills to succeed in Further Education and life beyond statutory schooling.

Special Secondary Education

Caldicot School and Monmouth Comprehensive School have an Additional Educational Needs Base to provide for children who have additional learning needs.

Welsh Medium Secondary Education

Monmouthshire has developed close links with neighbouring authorities Torfaen County Council and Newport City Council to provide Welsh Medium Education at Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw for the North of the County and Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed for the South of the County.

Children wishing to be educated through the medium of Welsh will receive free Home to School Transport to their nearest Welsh medium setting

Denominational Secondary Education

Monmouthshire, in addition to its mainstream primary schools, offers the opportunity for parents to educate their children in a setting complimentary to their religious beliefs and understanding.



Whilst Monmouthshire does not currently offer denominational secondary educational settings, we appreciate that you may wish to continue to educate your child in such a school and we would support this.

Children wishing to be educated at a School which offers denominational education will receive free Home to School Transport to their nearest denominational setting.

Please see pages 108 - 109 for details of local denominational secondary schools outside of Monmouthshire.

Post 16 Education

Monmouthshire 14-19 Learning Pathways Network is a collaborative network of learning providers dedicated to broadening the choice and flexibility available to young people aged between 14 and 19.

The network ensures that the individual needs of young people are met and provides greater opportunities and experiences that will help learners develop the wider skills they need for life and work.

Vision

To provide the students of Monmouthshire with an educational provision that prepares them to participate fully in today and tomorrow's society.

Within Monmouthshire, we are fortunate to have 4 Comprehensive Schools offering 6th form facilities for those wishing to continue their education through to the age of 19. We also have close links with Coleg Gwent to broaden the options available to the children of Monmouthshire.

What will my child study in School?

A child's journey through compulsory education is divided into four key stages. The first two key stages correspond to time children spend in primary education and the remainder in secondary education.

These stages are the same wherever a child attends a Local Authority maintained school in Wales.

Currently, all children in compulsory education in Wales follow the National Curriculum, which is divided into the following two parts:

- The Foundation Phase Framework (revised 2015)
- The 2008 Curriculum for pupils from 7 to 14 years of age.

In 2022, a new Curriculum for Wales will be introduced in all maintained schools in Wales. Many schools in Monmouthshire are already delivering aspects of this new curriculum. During the period of transition from one curriculum to another, children will increasingly experience a more integrated approach to learning to develop a wider range of experiences, skills and knowledge.

What will my child learn in primary school?

Primary schools deliver the curriculum in the following two key stages: **The Foundation Phase**, which caters for children aged between three and seven years, and;

Key Stage 2, which caters for children from seven to eleven years old.

Foundation Phase

The curriculum in the Foundation Phase consists of these seven areas of learning:

- Personal and Social Development, Wellbeing and Cultural Diversity
- Language, Literacy and Communication Development (Welsh language in Welsh Medium Settings)
- Mathematical Development
- Welsh Language Development*
- Knowledge and Understanding of the World
- Physical Development
- Creative Development

*Schools defined as Welsh medium providers will not need to deliver the Welsh Language Development Area of Learning. They follow the programme of the Language, Literacy and Communication Area of Learning.

The Foundation Phase places great importance on developing learning through play. There will be more opportunities for young children to gain first-hand learning experiences through play and active involvement.

The emphasis in the Foundation Phase is on developing positive attitudes to learning so that children develop self-esteem and self- confidence to experiment, try new things and develop a love of learning. There is also an emphasis on making use of the outdoors so that children can learn about conservation and sustainability.

Key Stage 2

During Key Stage 2, children currently follow programmes of study set out in the National Curriculum, which build on the experiences and learning gained in the Foundation Phase.

The current curriculum in Key Stage 2 is designed around specific subjects and the development of a wide range of skills such as, thinking, communication, numeracy and ICT. While there is focus on language, mathematics and science, the development of wider skills supports children to become confident to learn in a range of contexts.

Currently, children follow a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 2, which provides opportunities to learn about

- English
- Welsh or Welsh second language
- Mathematics
- Science
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Art and design
- Physical education (PE)

Religious education (RE) and Personal and Social education (PSE) is taught in both key stages and alongside the National Curriculum.

The New Curriculum for Wales – Foundation Phase to Key Stage 4

The development and implementation of a new curriculum is currently underway for pupils aged three to sixteen years old. The Curriculum for Wales will have more emphasis on equipping young people for life. It will build children's ability to learn new skills and apply their subject knowledge more positively and creatively. A new digital competency framework supports the introduction of digital skills across the curriculum and prepare pupils for the opportunities and risks that an online world presents.

The new curriculum has four key purposes at its core and these drive what matters in the new curriculum and learning experiences for pupils.

The four purposes aim to ensure that the new curriculum supports learners to be:

- Ambitious, capable learners, ready to learn throughout their lives
- Enterprising, creative contributors, ready to play a full part in life and work
- Ethical, informed citizens of Wales and the world
- Healthy, confident individuals, ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society

The curriculum will be delivered through the following six Areas of Learning and Experience:

- Expressive arts
- Health and well-being
- Humanities (including Religious Education (RE) up to age 16)
- Languages, literacy and communication (including Welsh, up to age 16 and modern foreign languages)
- Mathematics and numeracy
- Science and technology

In addition, the development of skills in literacy, numeracy and digital competency will underpin all aspects of the curriculum.

What will my child learn in secondary school?

Currently, secondary schools in Wales deliver the curriculum in the following two key stages:

Key Stage 3, which caters for children aged between eleven and fourteen years, and;

Key Stage 4, which caters for children from fourteen to sixteen years.

Key Stage 3

During Key Stage 3, pupils currently follow programmes of study set out in the National Curriculum, which builds on experiences and learning in primary school.

As in the primary school, the current curriculum in Key Stage 3 is designed around subjects and the development of a wide range of skills such as, thinking, communication, number and ICT.

Currently, pupils follow a broad and balanced curriculum at Key Stage 3, which provides opportunities to learn about:

- English*
- Welsh* or Welsh second language
- Mathematics*
- Science*
- Design and tech
- Information and communication technology (ICT)
- History
- Geography
- Music
- Art and design
- Physical education (PE)

*Core subjects (Welsh is a core subject in Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw and Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed only) Religious education (RE) and Personal and Social education (PSE) is taught in both key stages and alongside the National Curriculum.

Key Stage 4

In Key Stage 4, pupils continue to follow the core subjects of English/Welsh, mathematics and science alongside the statutory elements of Religious Education, Physical Educations and Personal and Social Education. In addition, pupils have the opportunity to follow the Welsh Baccalaureate programme and make their own choices about other subjects they want to continue to study in Years 10 and 11. This allows pupils to personalise the curriculum to reflect their interests and support them to access future learning pathways.

The Welsh Baccalaureate

The Welsh Baccalaureate, introduced from September 2015 for Key Stage 4 pupils, enables learners to acquire and refine a range of skills designed for the workplace. These skills include:

- Communication
- Numeracy
- Digital literacy
- Planning and organisation
- Creativity and innovation
- Critical thinking and problem solving and
- Personal effectiveness

Should you have any specific questions on the educational provision in any one of our four secondary schools in Monmouthshire, please contact the Headteacher of the relevant school.

How are Learners Assessed?

Teachers assess all aspects of the curriculum using a variety of assessment of techniques as an integrated part of a teaching, learning, planning and assessment cycle. Information from assessments are used to understand what your child knows and can do and to plan what they need to do next to continue to progress in their learning.

At the end of the Foundation Phase, teachers use all of the information they have gathered about your child to decide which outcome best reflects where they have reached in each of the Areas of Learning. Similarly, teachers will decide which level of the National Curriculum best reflects the progress made by pupils at the end of Key Stage 2 and 3.

At the end of Key Stage 4, pupils are principally assessed through a range of external examinations such as the General Certificate of Education (GCSE) or BTEC vocational qualifications.

Over the last three years, Welsh Government have made significant changes to the measures used to assess pupil attainment at the end of Key Stage 4. Currently, the measures used are:

- Capped 9 measure
- Numeracy measure
- Science measure
- Design and technology and
- Welsh Baccalaureate Skills Challenge Certificate.

External Examinations

Monmouthshire County Council adheres to the advice, guidance and legislation provided by Welsh Government with regard to entrance for public examinations.

Further information on school policy can be gained from the school direct, along with details of the public examination results. All pupils are entitled to be entered for public examinations at the appropriate level for the subjects they study. Examination fees are normally paid by the school, subject to terms and conditions.

Teaching of Welsh in English Medium Schools

Under the requirements of the National Curriculum for Schools in Wales and regulations laid down by the Secretary of State, the teaching of Welsh is a compulsory subject at all schools in Monmouthshire.

Regulations exempt pupils (from outside Wales) from studying Welsh, who enter a school in years 9, 10 or 11 of secondary education.

How are Schools Supported?

Schools are inspected by teams of inspectors at least once every six years. Inspections are undertaken by the Office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Schools in Wales (ESTYN).

Following an ESTYN inspection, the full report of the findings is provided in addition to a summary report which must be given to all parents. The Governing Body must take this into account and recommendations included in its subsequent School Improvement Plan (SIP).

Following an Estyn inspection schools can receive different levels of follow-up activity, these are Excellent practice case study, Local Authority up categories that schools can be placed into, they are Significant Improvement or Special Measures. Each of these statutory categories requires the governing body and the local authority to adhere to a series of additional statutory actions. Copies of our schools Estyn Reports can be found by visiting **www.estyn.gov.uk**

In response to the pandemic in March 2020, Estyn suspended all inspection activity. Therefore, no schools or settings have been inspected since that date and up to the date of publication of this booklet.

Who makes the decisions about the curriculum in school?

Legislation sets out for schools the National Curriculum requirements and the local syllabus for Religious Education. The school decides its own curriculum taking account of these requirements and organises its own timetables. It is for the school to ensure that its curriculum meets the legal requirements.



Standards in Schools

The Authority continues to work with its schools and the EAS in implementing a policy framework to ensure that standards in schools continue to improve. Since Monmouthshire was created as a Local Education Authority, there have been steady improvements in standards in Foundation Phase and Key Stages 2 and 3 and in the pass rates at GCSE and A Level. The aim is to continue to build on these successes to increase the rate of pupil progress. There are specific objectives in the Directorate Plan aimed at securing high standards in all schools and settings in Monmouthshire. These include transforming ALN provision and enhancing provision for eligible free school meals pupils and other vulnerable groups.

Admissions Procedure

Each year, the Local Authority consults upon its admission arrangements and attempts where possible to mirror the admission round timeframes of neighbouring authorities.

Prior to the consultation, the admission numbers for all schools should be determined and form part of this consultation. The admission numbers for the schools are derived from the physical capacity of the school to accommodate pupil's learning needs.

Each year, the date at which all application forms will be sent to parents/ carers is set. Simultaneously, a closing date for completed applications is established. The Authority will ensure that this timeframe between distribution and closing dates is no shorter than six weeks.

The offer date, when parents/carers will be informed of the outcomes of their applications is also established as part of the consultation on admission arrangements.

Timetable for Nursery Admissions

Admission Phase	Admissions pack available to parents	Closing date	Allocation period by LA	
Nursery (Jan 2022 & Sept 2022 intake)	7th July 2021	15th Sept 2021 at Midnight	16/9/21- 4/11/21	
Nursery (Apr 2022 Intake)	7th July 2021	15th Sept 2021 at Midnight	16/9/21- 4/11/21	
Parents Informed by 5th November 2021 (September 2022 Intake) 5th November 2021 (Rising 3 place eligible for January 2022) 7th March 2022 (Rising 3 place eligible for April 2022)				

Children born between the 1st September 2018 and 31st March 2019 may be offered an early start in the term following their 3rd birthday, this will be dealt with through the same process using the same application form, however parents will not be notified of an early start in April until the 7th March 2022.

Children will be admitted from the first term following their third birthday. Please note the required timescales for nursery admissions is highlighted above. Upon receipt of all in time applications, the following criteria will be applied in priority order, if the number of applications exceeds the number of available places.

Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs (statutory requirement for admission)

1. Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-4 below.

2. Medical or social grounds highlighted by appropriate agencies will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-4 below.

3. Children who have relevant sibling in attendance at the preferred nursery (not main school) at the point of admission, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling point 4 below.

4. After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription in any of the above categories, priority will be based on closeness to the preferred school, measured using the shortest safe walking route.

A list of Local Authority Nurseries can be found on page 99 - 100.

To apply for a Local Authority Nursery Place, you will need to complete an application form, this can be obtained from the relevant school or from the Access Unit on **01633 644508** or by emailing: **accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk**

Alternatively, you can complete an online application form that will be available on the 7th July 2021.

The website is www.monmouthshire.gov.uk

When submitting an application, you will be asked to provide your child's birth certificate to verify the date of birth and any appropriate document considered necessary to verify the home address.

If a child is refused a place at nursery, parents do not have a right to appeal, as nursery education is non statutory.

Please note: The admittance to a nursery class does not guarantee a place at the feeder school as a separate application is required.

The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership have a responsibility to ensure that a part time, good quality Early Education place is available to those parents who choose it for their children from the beginning of the term following their third birthday.

In addition to Local Authority Nurseries, children can also access early education at any of our Approved Non - Maintained Providers, which include playgroups, private day nurseries and pre-prep schools. A full list, including contact details and opening hours, can be found at www.monfis.org.uk The Authority will admit a child to a maintained primary school at the start of the academic year in which he/she will be 5 years old. The legal requirements confirm that parents are able to delay the admission of their child until the term following their 5th birthday; however, it is a Local Authority Policy that the child will continue to follow their chronological year group unless exceptional circumstances apply.

Attendance at a feeder nursery does not exclude the need to apply for a Reception place at the School. Please note that priority for admission is not given to those children attending a feeder nursery. Having read all the information available in this booklet and from individual schools parents may indicate their preferred school(s) for their child to attend. Before deciding to apply for a place at a particular school, you need to consider carefully how your child will travel to school, as you will not necessarily be eligible for transport assistance. (See pages 79 - 82 for details on Home to School Transport).

Admission will be based on the criteria listed on pages 22 - 30. If the Authority is unable to allocate according to parents preferred school(s) then we will offer a place at the next nearest School with places available. Parents are entitled to appeal against the decision to refuse a place at their preferred School(s) (please refer to pages 39 - 41).

Please see the timetable on page 23 for important dates when applying for a School place.

Admissions to Secondary School (age 11 – 19)

Attendance at a Primary or Junior school does not guarantee that a place will be made available for your child at the feeder Comprehensive school. Although every effort will be made to accommodate parental preference, where a school is over-subscribed, the over-subscription criteria will be applied (see pages 28 - 30).

Parents are invited to express their preference for a secondary school for their child. Before deciding to apply for a place at a particular school, you need to consider carefully how your child will travel to school, as you will not necessarily be eligible for transport assistance. (See pages 79 - 82 for details on Home to School Transport).

If you wish for your child to attend a School which resides within Newport, you must apply directly to Newport Local Authority. You are also advised to complete and return the Monmouthshire Application Form detailing alternative preferences in case you are unsuccessful in your application to attend this School. On your application you must clearly record that you have also applied for a place at a Newport School.

Admission will be based on the criteria listed on pages 22 - 30.

If the Authority is unable to allocate according to parent's preference School(s) then a place will be offered at the next nearest School with places available. Parents are entitled to appeal against the decision to refuse a place at their preference School(s) (please refer to pages 39 - 41). **Please see the timetable on page 23 for important dates when applying for a School place**.

Admission to Voluntary Aided Schools

Governing Bodies of Voluntary Aided Schools have responsibility for their own admission arrangements and allocation procedures.

If you are applying for a place at a Voluntary Aided School you **must** apply directly to that school. You are also advised to complete and return the Monmouthshire Application Form detailing alternative preferences in case you are unsuccessful in your application to attend the Voluntary Aided School. On your application you must clearly record that you have also applied for a place at a Voluntary Aided School.

Please see pages 43 - 74 for information on the Admissions criteria for Voluntary Aided Schools.

Important Dates Relating to your Child's Admission to School

If you would like to apply for a Local Authority Maintained school that is outside Monmouthshire then you **must** send your form to Monmouthshire Local Authority. When you return your form to us stating your preference for an out of county school, we will liaise with the relevant authority in order to determine your application. It is advisable to state a second and third preference on your form in case the school you have chosen cannot be offered to you. This excludes Schools that reside within Newport, where you will need to apply directly to Newport Local Authority. You are advised to also apply for a place stating a preference for a Monmouthshire School just in case you are unsuccessful in your application to attend this School. On your application you should clearly record that you are seeking a place in another LA. If you are applying for an Independent school you must apply directly to that school. You are advised to also apply for a place stating a preference for a Monmouthshire School just in case you are unsuccessful in your application to attend an independent School.

On your application you should clearly record that you are seeking a place at an independent school.

Please note that an application made to attend an Independent School or School outside Monmouthshire will qualify as one of your preferences and will be ranked accordingly.

Applying for a Primary/Secondary School place

Parents must complete an application form in order to obtain a school place. There is the opportunity to complete an application on-line or alternatively via a paper application.

Having read all the information in this booklet and from individual schools, parents may indicate their preferred school for their child to attend. Parents are invited to express up to three preferences (**in order of priority**) in the event that admission to the preferred school has been refused.

Your preferences will be considered equally in line with the Local Authority's over-subscription criteria (pages 28 - 32) and not based on the order in which you list your preferences. However, the highest preference school will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

You are strongly advised to include more than one preference on your application as you will be disadvantaged over other applications if you do not.

Please note that an application made to attend an independent school or a school outside Monmouthshire will qualify as one of your preferences and will be ranked accordingly.

Before you decide to apply for a place at a particular school, you need to consider carefully how your child will travel to school, since you will not necessarily be eligible for transport assistance (please see pages 79 - 82 for details of the Council's School Transport Policy).

Timetable for Admissions

Admission Phase	Admissions pack available to parents	Closing date	Parents Informed by
Secondary	22nd September 2021	24th November 2021 at midnight	1st March 2022
Primary	3rd November 2021	12th January 2022 at midnight	18th April 2022

- The Admissions team take a proactive approach to ensure that application forms are distributed to parents directly, where possible. Data protection regulations prevent us from accessing all pupil information, and therefore we would urge you to contact us should you not receive an application pack within the timescales given in the above timetable. As a reminder, it is parental responsibility to apply for a place and to notify us of a change of address
- Applications received after the closing date or that remain incomplete as at the closing date will be treated as late (see page 35). It is essential to send your form in by the closing date in order to increase the probability of securing your preferred School.
- Any change in preference should be made in writing to the School and Student Access Unit. Any preference that is changed after the closing date will result in the application being treated as a late application (see page 35).
- You **must** include your Council Tax reference number on the application form. The local Authority will use information held by the Council Tax Department to verify your address is correct.
- Please return the completed application form (including the necessary evidence) to the Access to Learning, Directorate for Children and Young People, County Hall, Y Rhadyr, Usk, NP15 1GA.

Please ensure that this is received by us by the relevant closing date. Failure to do so may result in you not achieving a place at your preferred School(s).

The offer of a school place will be based upon the applicant being resident at the address declared on the application form, as at the published offer date. However, parents who are aware prior to the offer date that they are unlikely to remain resident at the address declared on their application must inform us so that their application can be amended. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is later found that this is not the case.

Where parents advise us, at the time of application, that they are moving property and provide the Local Authority with evidence to validate this move, any offer of a school place on this basis would be under the circumstance that the applicant is resident at the new property at the time the child concerned commences School. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is later found that this is not the case.

Acceptance of a school place

On receipt of an offer of a school place, parents are required to confirm their acceptance of this school place in writing within 14 days of notification of the school place offer. Failure to do so could result in the offer of a school place being withdrawn.

Moving Address

Parents/carers who are in the process of moving property, will be required to notify the Local Authority at the time of application of the proposed move and submit evidence to validate their new address, in order for this address to be considered. Suitable evidence would be a copy of the exchange of contracts (for purchases) or long term tenancy agreement (for rental arrangements). The application and notification of intended change of address must be submitted prior to the published closing date in order to be considered as an in time application. Failure to notify the Local Authority of an intended move to a new address prior to the published closing date will result in the application being determined as a "late application". Parents/carers that are in the process of moving, but are not able to validate the move prior to the closing date, will need to ensure that their completed application is submitted prior to the published closing date, and that the application provides information on the intention to move. The Local Authority will liaise with parents/carers regarding the proposed move in order to obtain confirmation that residence at the new property has been secured. However, parents will need to provide the Local Authority with evidence that secures their change of address no later than 6 weeks prior to the published offer date in order for the new address to be considered for allocation purposes.

Where the Local Authority accepts evidence to validate a property move and uses the new property for allocation purposes, the offer of a school place will be based on the applicant being resident at this property at the time of the child's entrance into the School. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is found that the applicant is not resident at the property at the time of child's entrance into the school.

Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn as a result of non-compliance of the above.



Unexpected change of Address

Should a parent, who has submitted an application prior to the published closing date, notify us of an unexpected change of address that has occurred since submission of their application, the Local Authority will consider on a discretionary basis the circumstances of the unexpected change of address prior to determining the application as being late. Unfortunately, such discretion can only be exercised if notification and evidence of the change of address is provided no later than 6 weeks prior to the published offer date in order for the new address to be considered for allocation purposes.

It is a parent's responsibility to notify the Local Authority of a change of address that takes place during the application process. Failure to do so could result in any offer of a school place being withdrawn.

Shared Residency

In the event that the residency of a child is shared between two parents, the address where the child concerned resides for the majority of the school week will be used for allocation purposes. This is the address that should be declared on the application.

However, if the residency with both parents during the school week is equal, the address for where the child benefit is paid will be used for allocation purposes.

School Catchment Areas

Whilst residing within the catchment area for a School forms an element of the oversubscription criteria, it does not guarantee a placement on this basis. The Local Authority will refuse to admit above the School's admission number, unless the application complies with the permitted exceptions listed on page 31.

Admission of Multiple birth children (e.g. twins or triplets)

If when applying the over-subscription criteria to applications received requesting admission into the normal year of entry (Reception and Year 7), and the last child to be admitted is one of a multiple birth, then the Local Authority will admit the other sibling(s).

Where multiple birth applications are received for year groups other than the normal year of entry, where there is only one remaining place in the relevant year group before the Admission Number is met, the Local Authority will consider each case individually before deciding whether the admission number is exceeded. Particular consideration will need to be given to the capacity of the school and the likelihood of causing prejudice to the effective education and efficient use of resources at the preferred school.

Children of Armed Forces Personnel

Children of armed forces personnel moving to Monmouthshire will be determined as meeting the residency criteria for the relevant catchment school if their application form is accompanied by an official proof of posting declaring a definite return date with confirmation of the new address wherever possible.

Where the relevant catchment school has already met its admission number in the relevant year group at the time of application, the Local Authority will exceed the admission number.

Deferred entry into Primary School

The Local Authority will admit a child to a maintained primary/infant school at the start of the academic year in which he/she will turn 5 years old. However, the legal requirements confirm that parents are able to delay the admission of their child until the term following their 5th birthday. The Local Authority is obliged to ensure that any offer of a school place is held for parents who wish for their child's admission into Reception to be deferred until later in the academic year.

A parent, however, is not able to defer entry beyond the term following the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the school year for which the application was made.

Summer Term Births

In the case of a child born during the summer term, they too are not legally required to attend School until the term following their fifth birthday / the September after the normal year of entry for a Reception age child. However, in such circumstances the Local Authority will continue to ensure that children continue to follow their chronological year group and therefore the child would be admitted into year 1 and not Reception.

It is only in exceptional circumstances that the Local Authority will authorise the admission of a summer term birth into a year group that is outside the normal year of entry. In such circumstances, there will need to be a suitable evidence base (e.g. report from an Educational Psychologist) that suggests the chronological year group is not suitably able to meet the needs of the child concerned.

Allocation of Places at Local Authority maintained Primary / Secondary Schools

Please refer to the timetable detailed on page 23 for the timescales that the Admission's team will work to when allocating places.

Oversubscription Criteria

When the number of applications received for a preferred School is less than or equal to the number of available places, all children will be admitted assuming that the school concerned can meet the needs of all applicants.

However, when there are more applications than places in a school, the admission number is exceeded and the over subscription criteria will be applied to select which children are to be offered places at the School concerned. For children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs, the Authority must admit the child concerned to the School specified on their statement.

When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria below. The highest preference school, as listed on the application form, will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.



When considering the remaining available places, the following criteria will be used to determine the children that are to be offered places:

Oversubscription criteria – Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary schools.

Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs (statutory requirement for admission)

- Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-8 below.
- **2.** Children with exceptional medical circumstances, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-8 below.
- **3.** Children residing within the catchment area for the preferred school who have relevant siblings will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 4-8 below.
- **4.** Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, but with relevant siblings who will continue to be in attendance at the preferred school due to being unsuccessful in their application for a place at their catchment school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 5-8 below.

- Children residing outside of the catchment area, but with relevant existing siblings enrolled at the preferred school by September 2019, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 6-8 below.
- **6.** Children residing inside the catchment area for the preferred school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 7-8 below.
- **7.** Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, with a relevant sibling (who will be in attendance at the preferred school at time of admission) that does not meet criteria points 4 and 5 above.
- **8.** After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription in any of the above categories, priority will be based on closeness to the preferred school, measured using the shortest safe walking route.

To clarify, any over-subscription in the above criteria will result in the final determination of the allocation of a place being made on distance. So for example, if there are more applications than places available after applying point 6 above, places will be allocated to those children whose home address is determined to be closer to the preferred school.

Explanatory Notes

Priority rank 4 - This criteria would apply only in the event that a parent has been unsuccessful in obtaining a place for their child at their catchment school, and is subsequently attending an alternative school with a younger sibling eligible to attend.

Priority rank 5 - This criteria would be relevant for existing siblings only, placed on roll at the preferred school by September 2019, with younger siblings eligible to start Primary School (Reception) in September 2021, September 2022, September 2023, and September 2024.

Oversubscription criteria - Community Secondary School

Children in receipt of a Statement of special educational needs/ Individual Development Plan (IDP) (statutory requirement for admission)

- Looked after children or previously looked after children i.e. children that are in the care of or have previously been in the care of a local authority, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 2-9 below.
- **2.** Children with exceptional medical circumstances, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 3-9 below.
- **3.** Children residing within the catchment area for the preferred school who have relevant siblings will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 4-9 below.
- **4.** Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, but with relevant siblings who will continue to be in attendance at the preferred school due to being unsuccessful in their application for a place at their catchment school. will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 5-9 below.
- Children residing outside of the catchment area, but with relevant existing siblings enrolled at the preferred school by September 2019, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 6-9 below.
- **6.** Children residing inside the catchment area for the preferred school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 7-9 below.
- 7. Children residing outside of the catchment area for the preferred school, with a relevant sibling (who will be in attendance at the preferred school at time of admission) that does not meet criteria points 4 and 5 above, will be afforded priority over those fulfilling points 8-9.

- **8.** Children currently on roll at a primary school that is designated to be a feeder school for the preferred secondary school will be afforded priority over those fulfilling point 9.
- **9.** After applying the categories above, or should the school continue to be in a position of over-subscription in any of the above categories, priority will be based on closeness to the preferred school, measured using the shortest safe walking route.

To clarify, any over-subscription in the above criteria will result in the final determination of the allocation of a place being made on distance. So for example, if there are more applications than places available after applying point 6 above, places will be allocated to those children whose home address is determined to be closer to the preferred school.

Explanatory Notes

Priority rank 4 - This criteria would apply only in the event that a parent has been unsuccessful in obtaining a place for their child at their catchment school, and is subsequently attending an alternative school with a younger sibling eligible to attend.

Priority rank 5 - This criteria would be relevant for existing siblings only, placed on roll at the preferred school by September 2019, with younger siblings eligible to transfer from Primary to Secondary in September 2020, September 2021, September 2022, September 2023, and September 2024.

Notes:

- **1.** The Local Authority will require suitable evidence to validate that your child was previously a looked after child (e.g a copy of the adoption confirmation in order for this criteria to be applied).
- 2. Applicants wishing for their application to be prioritised on the child's medical needs must supported by a medical consultant's report (obtained by the parents at the time of the application) outlining why the preferred School is the only viable option when compared with other Schools that the Authority may be able to offer.
- **3.** Brothers and sisters, whether half, full, step, or foster will be considered relevant where living in the same household and where they will still be registered at the school when the applicant is eligible to attend.
- **4.** The Local Authority will consider the child's home address to be the place where the child resides for the majority of the School week. In the event that the residency of a child is shared between two parents, the address where the child concerned resides for the majority of the school week will be used for allocation purposes. This is the address that should be declared on the application. However, if the residency with both parents during the school week is equal, the address for where the child benefit is paid will be used for allocation purposes. Whilst residing within the catchment area for a School forms an element of the oversubscription criteria, it does not guarantee a placement on this basis. The Local Authority will refuse to admit above the School's admission number, unless the application complies with the permitted exceptions listed on pages 37-38.
- **5.** The Local Authority will use Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to calculate home to school distances. The GIS software adopted by the Local Authority for these purposes will be Routefinder and Mapinfo desktop solutions.

Determination of the shortest safe walking route will be calculated using official routes known to the Local Authority and Highways agencies. The starting point of the calculated route will be determined as being the nearest network point to the main entrance of the property. The main entrance of the home address is determined by the Local Authority to be where the property receives post. The finishing point of the calculated route will be determined as being the nearest official open gate adopted for use by the preferred school.

The coordinates of an applicant address will be determined using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) and Ordnance Survey address base data.

Where a safe walking route cannot be determined for an applicant, the shortest driving route will be used for allocation purposes.



Late Applications

Any application that is received after the published closing date or applications that remain incomplete as at the closing date will be dealt with under the late application arrangements.

A change of preference received by the Local Authority **after** the published closing date will result in the application being determined as late.

Applications where a change in circumstances have occurred, which have an impact upon the application's status within the over-subscription criteria (i.e. change of address), could also result in the application being treated as late if these changes are brought to the Authority's attention after the closing date. The Local Authority will consider on a discretionary basis the circumstances an unexpected change of address prior to determining the application as being late.

Unfortunately, such discretion can only be exercised if notification of the change of address is provided no later than 6 weeks prior to the published offer date in order for the new address to be considered for allocation purposes.



Please note that applications determined as being late may increase the possibility of not achieving a place at your preferred School(s). This is because all applications submitted with the necessary evidence prior to the closing date will receive priority over those received after the closing date.
Timetable for processing applications received after the closing date (late applications)

	Month Application received	Decision issued to Parents
Applies to Secondary only	25th November 2021 – 13th January 2022	31st March 2022
Applies to	13th January 2022 -31st January	6th May 2022 (Primary)
Primary and Secondary	2022	8th April 2022 (Secondary)
	February 2022	6th May 2022 (Primary)
		15th April 2022 (Secondary)
	March 2022	13th May 2022
	April 2022	27th May 2022
	May 2022	3rd June 2022
	June 2022	1st July 2022
	July 2022	5th August 2022
	1-5 Aug 2022	12th August 2022
	6-12 Aug 2022	19th August 2022
	13th Aug 2022 onwards	Within 1 week

Admission to other year groups

Where requests are received for admission into year groups other than the normal year of entrance these will not be considered until the start of the second half of the summer term (After the Whitsun break). Again these will be batched and are processed as per the oversubscription criteria on a monthly basis. Parents will not be notified of a decision earlier than 4 weeks prior to the end of the summer term.

These requests will be collated on a monthly basis and are processed as per the oversubscription criteria, in the event that the number of applications received exceeds the number of available places. However it should be noted that preference will be given to those parents who are seeking a place during the current term as opposed to the new academic year. The School Admission Code of Practice (July 2013) gives parents the right to express a preference for their child to be admitted to any school maintained from public funds. However, there are reasons why that preference may have to be refused, as the Local Authority also has to have regard to:

- The Infant class size initiative which is committed to ensuring that no child aged 5, 6, and 7 years will be in a class of more than 30 pupils for every one qualified teacher. The statutory infant class size limit of 30 pupils applies to reception, year 1 and year 2 classes.
- The Local Authority commits to ensuring that KS2 classes remain at 30 or less in line with Welsh Government guidance.
- The physical limitations of the school and the site buildings
- Any other factors which may prejudice the provision of efficient education and/or the efficient use of resources.

Exceptions

Welsh Government Regulations require Authority's to limit infant class sizes to no more than 30 pupils and to ensure that junior classes do not exceed 30 pupils.

There are however exceptions to these regulations (called "excepted pupils") which may allow the 30 pupil class limit to be exceeded.

These pupils are:

- i. Children whose statements of SEN specify that they should be educated at the school concerned, and who are admitted to the school outside a normal admission round;
- ii. Looked after children or previously looked after children admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- iii. Children initially refused admission to a school, but subsequently offered a place outside a normal admission round by direction of an admission appeal panel, or because the person responsible for making the original decision recognises that an error was made in implementing the school's admission arrangements;

- iv. Children who cannot gain a place at any other suitable school within a reasonable distance of their home because they move into the area outside a normal admission round;
- v. Children for whom education at a school which is Welsh speaking is desired where the school concerned is the only such school within a reasonable distance of their home;
- vi. Children for whom education at a school with a designated religious character is desired where the school concerned is the only such school within a reasonable distance of their home;
- vii. Pupils admitted to the school within an age group in which children are normally admitted and
 - admitted after the first day of the relevant school year; and
 - where the school has not yet reached its admission number but has already organised its classes; and
 - where admission of the child would mean that the school would have to take a relevant measure;
- viii. Children of armed forces personnel who are admitted outside of the normal admission round.
- ix. Children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth are admitted as non-excepted pupils, as the final pupil(s) allocated a place before the admission number is reached.
- x. Children who are registered pupils at special schools, but who receive part of their education at a mainstream school; and
- xi. Children with Additional Learning Needs who are normally educated in a special unit in a mainstream school, but who receive some of their lessons in a non-special class.

Excepted pupils will remain so, once admitted, for the remainder of their time in the infant class or until class numbers fall back and they can be organised to comply with the infant class size limit.

Waiting lists

For those applicants that have been unsuccessful in obtaining a place at their preferred school(s), waiting lists will be held until the end of the academic year for which the application is made. After such time, the existing waiting lists will be cleared and a fresh application will be required. The child's details will automatically be added onto the waiting list for the preferred school(s) at the time of refusal.

Waiting lists will be prioritised as per the oversubscription criteria and not based upon the date that the application was submitted. It is the responsibility of the applicant to inform the School and Student Access Unit of any change in circumstances which impacts on the oversubscription criteria and therefore their child's place on the waiting list. An example of this would be a change of address.

The parent concerned will be contacted by the School and Student Access Unit within 7 working days of the place becoming available, if their child qualifies for consideration of the place. The parent will be given 7 days to formally accept or decline the offer of the school place in writing. After such time, the child's name will be withdrawn from the waiting list, and the place will be offered to the next child on the waiting list, as the Local Authority will assume that the place is no longer required.

Appeals

Most pupils in Monmouthshire are allocated a place at their parents' first choice of school. If however, it is not possible to allocate a place at the preferred school, an alternative school place will be offered. The parents may appeal against the decision of the admission authority.

The appeal will be determined by an independent appeals panel established in accordance with the School Admissions Appeal code 2013. The panel must consist of three to five members appointed by the Local Authority from the following categories.

- People who are eligible to be lay members (persons without personal experience in the management of a school or the provision of education in any school, disregarding experience as a governor or in any other voluntary capacity).
- People who have experience in education; who are familiar with educational conditions in the LA's area or who are parents of registered children at a school (other than the school at which the appeal is made).
- Independent Appeal panels must consider each case individually on its merits and they cannot limit themselves, in advance, to the admission of any particular number of pupils.

Consideration by an appeal panel should be in two distinct stages:

- The Factual Stage, where the panel decides as a matter of fact whether there was a lawful reason to refuse admission; if there was not, the child must be admitted; if there was, the committee must move on to:
- **2.** The Balancing Stage, where the panel exercises its judgement to balance the degree of prejudice to efficient education which would result from admitting the child, and the strength of the parents' case, so as to arrive at a decision which is binding on the admissions authority.

The decision of the appeal panel will be binding on the Local Authority.

The decision to appeal does not prevent the parent accepting a place at an alternative school whilst the hearing is convened as the panel will determine the appeal on the basis of application.

In the event that your next nearest available School is situated more that 1.5 miles (Primary) or 2 miles (Secondary) from your home address, you would be eligible to make an application for free Home to School transport.

All Appeal hearings are convened by the Clerk to the School Admissions Appeal Panel who will endeavour to arrange all appeal hearings in line with legislative requirements.

Appeals for Voluntary Aided Schools

If you would wish to appeal against the decision to refuse a place for your child to attend a Monmouthshire Voluntary Aided School, you must submit your appeal to the governing body (who are their own admitting authority), who will consider your appeal in line with their agreed admission arrangements.

In-Year Transfers between Schools

In-year transfers refer to requests from parents/carers to transfer their children between schools outside of the normal admission round. The Local Authority will not consider applications until the requested start date is no more than a term in advance. These requests are dealt with in date order of receipt. Where more applications are received on the same day than the number of available places, the Authority's over subscription criteria will be implemented to determine who is to be awarded the place(s).

If you decide to move your child during the academic year you need to apply for admission to your preferred school. A copy of an in-year transfer admission form is available on

www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/education or from the School and Student Access Unit on 01633 644508.

This form should not be used in respect of admission at the commencement of the Academic Year. Your application form should be returned to the Access to Learning, Directorate for Children and Young People, Monmouthshire County Council. County Hall, Y Rhadyr, Usk, Monmouthshire, NP15 1GA.

Applications are usually processed within 7 working days of receipt. However in certain circumstances where the child has been identified as having specific needs it may not be possible to process the admission within this timeframe. The parent/carer will be advised of this. As part of the consideration process, the Local Authority will contact the child's current school to obtain information to share with the receiving school. This is to ensure that the preferred School is in a position to support appropriate transition between schools.

Where the request for admission into school is as a result of a move into the county the parent is required to send proof of residence within county, in the form of Exchange of Contracts or long-term Tenancy Agreement. Until this evidence is received the application will not be processed. This is to ensure that parents/ carers do not apply too far in advance of their move and subsequently deny others a place that requires a more instant admission.

Once a school place has been awarded it will be held open for a period of 1 term from the date of authorised admission, after which time the place may be withdrawn if the child has not taken up their place during this time. Once a school place has been offered, School's will have 7 working days to arrange the enrolment of the child concerned, where an immediate start is required.

If we are unable to offer a place at your preferred School, your child's details will be held on a waiting list until the 31st August of the academic year for which the application is being made. You will also be given the right to appeal against the decision as outlined on pages 37 - 39.

Looked after Children

Applications in respect of looked after children must be completed by the Social Worker and returned to the above address. The Social Worker will take the lead on obtaining the following information which will be shared with the school at a meeting before the child is made an offer of a place.

- Pupil support plan
- Educational Psychologist report
- Views of the parents
- Details from previous school
- Information from Additional Learning Needs (if appropriate)

Admission Arrangements for VA Schools

In the case of VA schools within Monmouthshire you are required to apply directly to the School concerned as they are responsible for their own admission arrangements and allocation of places. However, we would advise you to also complete and return a Monmouthshire application form to include up to three preferences (in order of priority) in case your preferred School cannot be accommodated - please ensure that your wish to attend a VA School is included in your preferences.

Voluntary Aided schools determine their own admission arrangements and the oversubscription criteria for the 5 Voluntary Aided schools are shown on the following pages.

All of our Voluntary Aided schools have the same timetable for processing application requests as community schools. These dates can be found on page 23.

Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School Admissions Policy and Procedures

Ethos Statement

Church in Wales schools are designated through the Religious Character of Schools (Designation Procedure) as having a religious character. The following ethos statement has been adopted in all Church-in-Wales schools:

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church in Wales and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

Introduction

The School Admissions Code (2013) gives parents the right to express a preference for their child to be admitted to any school maintained from public funds. The School's admission policy sits within the parameters of the School Admissions Code of Practice and School Admissions Appeals Code of Practice July 2013.

As a Voluntary Aided school, the Governing Body is responsible for the admission arrangements at Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School. Responsibility for admission arrangements is delegated to a sub-committee of the school's Governing Body, known as the admissions committee. Application forms are submitted to the Local Authority, who then forward the application forms to the admissions committee. Please send a faith reference with your application form if you have one.

The school will admit a child at the start of the academic year in which he/ she will be 5 years old. The legal requirements confirm that parents are able to delay the admission of their child until the term following their 5th birthday; however, the school follows the Local Authority Policy that the child will continue to follow their chronological year group unless exceptional circumstances apply.

This policy is in place to cover the following:

i) Admission Round applications

The application process to be followed for children that are eligible to start Primary School

ii) In year transfers between Schools

The application process to be followed for children that are already of school age, but wish to transfer from one school to another.

Admission Number

The admission numbers for the school is derived from the physical capacity of the school which is calculated in accordance with the Welsh Government's 'Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales'.

The Admission Number 30 is the number up to which children should be admitted to a relevant age group e.g. reception, if sufficient applications are received. Pupils may not be refused a place until the 30 is reached.

Expressing a preference

In line with the School Admissions code of practice 2013, parents must complete an application form in order to obtain a school place. All applicants must complete a "Common Application Form" from the Local Authority, with a supporting faith reference if available.

The school operates an equal preference scheme, which means that all preferences are considered equally in line with the school's oversubscription criteria, and not on the basis of the order in which they are listed on the application. In the event that more than one preference can be met, the highest rank preference as declared on the application form will be offered.

Timetable

The school works closely with the LA to co-ordinate closing dates for receiving applications and sending offer letters across the Local Authority area.

The agreed dates for the Admission Round 2022/23 are:

Admission Phase		Common Application Pack Available	Closing Date	Allocation Period by LA	Parents informed by
Reception	Available anytime	03.11.2021	Midnight on 12.01.2022		18.04.2022

Distribution of application forms

Application forms are available from Monmouthshire County Council but can also be found on the school website.

PLEASE NOTE: All application forms must be returned to Monmouthshire County Council and NOT the school.

Allocation of School places

When the number of applications received is less or equal to the number of available places, all children will be admitted assuming that the school can meet the needs of all applicants. However, when there are more applications than places in a school, the admission number is exceeded and the over subscription criteria will be applied to select which children are to be offered places at the School concerned. If Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales (VA) Primary School is specified on a Statement of Special Educational Needs, the school must admit the child concerned. When applying the oversubscription criteria to determine who is to be awarded places, all parental preferences will be considered equally and allocated in line with the criteria below. When considering the remaining available places, the following criteria will be used to determine the children that are to be offered places:

- Looked After Children or previously Looked After Children. i.e. children who are in the care or have previously been in the care of the Local Authority, will be given priority over those fulfilling points 3-7 below.
- 2. Children who have a sibling admitted under point 1 who is a pupil at the school at the time of application and who will be a pupil at the school at the time of admission
- Children, who have been baptised and whose parent regularly/habitually worships in an Anglican Church and who live within the Benefice of Caldicot.
- 4. Children with a home address in the catchment area of the school i.e. Leechpool, Portskewett and Sudbrook. Please ask at the school office for a map of the catchment area.
- 5. Children who have a sibling who is a pupil at the school at the time of application and who will be a pupil at the school at the time of admission.
- 6. Children whose parent regularly/habitually worship at a Church of a Christian denomination.
- 7. Children with exceptional medical needs, supported by written evidence, normally given by an independent medical officer or other appropriate person (see Note 1 for definition).

Notes:

A Looked After Child (LAC) is a child who is looked after by a local authority in Wales or in England in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 and whom the LA has confirmed will be looked after at the time of the child's admission to the school.

A parent is any person who has parental responsibility for, or is the legal guardian of, the child.

Regular/Habitual worship is defined as attending worship on at least one Sunday each month over the previous 12 month period. Evidence of this must be provided by a written statement signed by the relevant priest or minister.

The school will consider the child's home address to be the place where the child resides for the majority of the school week. In the event that the residency of a child is shared between two parents, the address where the child concerned resides for the majority of the school week will be used for allocation purposes. This is the address that should be declared on the application. However, if the residency with both parents during the school week is equal, the address for where the child benefit is paid will be used for allocation purposes. The school reserves the right to check the validity of any address given, by asking for evidence such as inclusion on the Electoral Roll, or a recent utilities bill confirming your name and address. Where a child's permanent address is not the same as the parents' (e.g. if he or she is resident with a grandparent) the school reserves the right to see official documentation, such as a child benefit book or medical card. Childcare arrangements are not sufficient reason for listing another address. If you are moving into the catchment area, we will ask you for evidence of your move, before considering any application for a place. Typical evidence is a letter from your solicitor confirming that you have a legally binding agreement to buy the house or a formal lease agreement.

Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother of sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, foster child, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought .

The school will use the Local Authority Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to calculate home to school distances. Determination of the shortest safe walking route will be calculated using official routes known to the Local Authority and Highways agencies, from the main entrance of the applicant's home address to the nearest official open school gate. The coordinates of an applicant address will be determined using the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) and Ordnance Survey Address Point data.

Where a safe walking route cannot be determined for an applicant, the shortest driving route will be used for allocation purposes.

Applicants wishing for their application to be prioritised on the child's medical needs must supported by a medical consultant's report (obtained by the parents at the time of application) outlining why the preferred School is the only viable option and the difficulties that would be caused if the child had to attend another school.

Address Validations

If the oversubscription criteria need to be applied the school parents will be required to submit suitable evidence to validate their address such as a council tax bill.

Parents in the process of moving property

Parents who are in the process of moving property, will be required to notify the school at the time of application of the proposed move and submit evidence to validate their new address, in order for this address to be considered. Suitable evidence would be a copy of the exchange of contracts (for purchases) or long term tenancy agreement (for rental arrangements), which must be received prior to the published closing date in order to be considered as an "in time" application. Where the school accepts evidence to validate a property move and uses the new property for allocation purposes, the offer of a school place will be based on the applicant being resident at this property at the time of the child's entrance into the School. Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn if it is found that the applicant is not resident at the property at the time of child's entrance into the school.

The offer of a school place will be based upon the applicant being resident at the address declared on the application form, as at the published offer date. However, if the parent / carer is aware prior to the published offer date that they will be moving from the address declared on the application, they must inform the Local Authority prior to the published offer date, where their application details will then be amended. Notification of a change of address received after the published closing date will result in the application being determined as late, if it is likely to impact upon their position within the oversubscription criteria for the preferred school.

Any offer of a school place could be withdrawn as a result of noncompliance of the above.

School catchment areas

Whilst residing within the catchment area for a School forms an element of the oversubscription criteria, it does not guarantee a placement on this basis. The school will refuse to admit above the School's admission number, unless the application complies with the permitted exceptions.

Admission of Multiple birth children (e.g. twins or triplets)

If when applying the over-subscription criteria, the last child to be admitted is one of a multiple birth, then the Local Authority will admit the other sibling(s).

Admission outside the normal round

All applications for admission at any time other than the normal entry into Reception should be made on the Monmouth County Council application form, This form will then be forwarded to the admissions committee at the school for a decision regarding offer of a placement. Places will be offered subject to space being available in the relevant class.

Late Application Arrangements

Any application that is received after the published closing date, or applications that remain incomplete (e.g. without evidence to validate a new address) on the closing date but received prior to the closing date, will be dealt with under the late application arrangements.

Notifying Parents

Parents will be notified of a decision on their application on the published offer date. For the 2022/2023 admission round, the date by when parents will be informed of decisions on their applications will be 18th April 2022.

Acceptance of a school place

On receipt of an offer of a school place, parents are required to confirm their acceptance of this school place in writing within 14 days of notification of the school place offer. Failure to do so could result in the offer of a school place being withdrawn.

In Year Transfers (admissions outside the normal admission round)

All In Year Transfers are dealt with in date order of receipt, and where more applications are received on the same day than the number of places available, the school's over subscription criteria will be applied to determine the child(ren) to be offered places.

As part of the process, the school will contact the child's current school to obtain information to share with the receiving school. This is to ensure that we are in a position to support appropriate transition between schools. If an application is received for a Looked After Child (LAC), in accordance with the protocol that has been agreed with schools, a LAC meeting will be arranged, to which all interested parties are invited. In advance of this meeting the placing authority is required to share relevant information including the Personal Education Plan, School records and Statement of Educational Needs, if the child has one.

Refusal of Admission

A refusal for admission to a school is made in line with the School Admissions Code of Practice 2013 and is based on the following decisions; Whether to admit a child would prejudice the provision of efficient education or the efficient use of resources

Where an Admission Number has been met Welsh Government Class size regulations

Following refusal of a school place, the child's details will be held on a waiting list until 31 August of the academic year for which they are applying. If any places are handed back during this time places will be allocated from the waiting list as per the oversubscription criteria.

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists will be prioritised as per the oversubscription criteria and not based upon the date that the application was submitted. It is the responsibility of the applicant to inform The School of any change in circumstances which impacts on the oversubscription criteria and therefore their child's place on the waiting list. An example of this would be a change of address.

The parent concerned will be contacted by the School within 7 working days of the place becoming available, if their child qualifies for consideration of the place.

The parent will be given 7 days to formally accept or decline the offer of the school place in writing. After such time, the child's name will be withdrawn from the waiting list, and the place will be offered to the next child on the waiting list, as the school will assume that the place is no longer required.

Appeals

Parents of children not offered a place may appeal to an independent appeals panel. Details on the procedure for appeals are available from the school and will be given to parents upon refusal of a place for their child.

Infant Class Size Initiative

The Welsh Government is committed to ensuring that no child in Foundation Phase will be in a class where the pupil teacher ratio is more than 1:30. The Infant Class Size Initiative was a phased programme between September 1999 and September 2001 thus ensuring that all children up to the age of 7 will be taught in classes containing no more than 30 pupils.

Two main changes arose from the class size legislation. Firstly, admission authorities will not be required to admit a child to an infant class if in doing so would result in a class operating at a greater than 30:1 pupil/teacher ratio.

An admission authority can refuse to admit a child to a school where to do so would require the school to take 'qualifying measures' (i.e. employing an additional teacher, building an additional classroom) to meet the statutory class size limit. Secondly, when dealing with admission appeals under class size legislation, Appeal Panels do not follow the two stage process as outlined above. Instead, an Appeal Panel will be able to uphold a parental appeal only if the decision to not admit the child was due to the admission arrangements being incorrectly implemented or the decision of the admission authority was not one which a reasonable admission authority would make in that particular case.

Key Stage 2 class size limits

Whilst there are no regulations to limit class sizes to 30 in Key Stage 2, the school supports the Local Authority in its commitment to complying with the Welsh Government target to ensure that the 1:30 pupil teacher ratio in Key stage 2 is maintained.

Exceptions to the Infant class size initiative

There are however exceptions (called "excepted pupils") which may allow the 30 pupil class limit to be exceeded. Excepted pupils are:

- Children whose statements of SEN specify that they should be educated at the school concerned, and who are admitted to the school outside a normal admission round;
- ii. Looked after children or previously looked after children admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- iii. Children initially refused admission to a school, but subsequently offered a place outside a normal admission round by direction of an admission appeal panel, or because the person responsible for making the original decision recognises that an error was made in implementing the school's admission arrangements;
- iv. Children who cannot gain a place at any other suitable school within a reasonable distance of their home because they move into the area outside a normal admission round;
- v. Children for whom education at a school which is Welsh speaking is desired where the school concerned is the only such school within a reasonable distance of their home;

- vi. Children for whom education at a school with a designated religious character is desired where the school concerned is the only such school within a reasonable distance of their home;
- vii. Pupils admitted to the school within an age group in which children are normally admitted and
 - admitted after the first day of the relevant school year; and
 - where the school has not yet reached its admission number but has already organised its classes; and
 - where admission of the child would mean that the school would have to take a relevant measure;
- viii. Children of armed forces personnel who are admitted outside of the normal admission round.
- ix. Children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth are admitted as non-excepted pupils, as the final pupil(s) allocated a place before the admission number is reached.
- x. Children who are registered pupils at special schools, but who receive part of their education at a mainstream school; and
- xi. Children with SEN who are normally educated in a special unit in a mainstream school, but who receive some of their lessons in a non-special class.

Excepted pupils will remain so, once admitted, for the remainder of their time in the infant class or until class numbers fall back and they can be organised to comply with the infant class size limit.

For further information please contact the school. Contact details are as follows:

Address:	Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales (VA) Primary School, Crick Road, Portskewett, Monmouthshire, NP26 5UL
Telephone:	01291 420526
Fax:	01291 425971
Email:	arwprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Website:	www.arwprimaryschool.co.uk
Twitter:	@ARWPrimary

Magor Church in Wales Primary School Admissions Policy and Procedures

Legislation

This policy complies with the following legislation and statutory codes: The School Standards and Frameworks Act 1998; the School Admissions Code and the School Admissions Appeals Code

Admission Number

The Admission Number (AN) is the number up to which children should be admitted to a relevant age group e.g. Reception, if sufficient applications are received. Pupils may not be refused a place until the number is reached. In the case of the reception class at Magor Church in Wales Primary, this number is 55.

Responsibility for admission arrangements is delegated to a sub-committee of the school's Governing Body, known as an "Admissions Committee". The school works closely with the LA to co-ordinate closing dates for receiving applications and sending offer letters across the Local Authority area

Timetable

All applications received up to and on the closing date will be considered together.

The closing date for receipt of application form is	12th January 2022 at midnight
Offers of a place will be made by the school on	18th April 2022

Parent action

The outcome of all applications received by the admission committee will be notified to parents (see Note 1 for definition) in writing. The correspondence will include a form asking parents if they will/will not be taking up the place offered by a set deadline and for the form to be returned to the school. If parents do not respond, they will be asked to respond again and informed that the place may be withdrawn if they do not respond within a given time frame.

Timetable

Applications received after the closing date will only be considered **after** all those received by the deadline have been considered. This means if no places are left after considering all the cases before the deadline, even if you fulfil a higher criterion than under which places have been offered to other applicants, you will be unsuccessful.

Parents have the right to appeal against a decision not to offer a place.

At Magor Church in Wales Primary pupils are admitted to the Reception Year at the beginning of the school year (1 September -31 August) in which they reach their fifth birthday

Admission outside the normal round

In-year transfers refer to requests from parents/carers to transfer their children between schools outside of the normal admission round. The Local Authority will not consider applications until the requested start date is no more than a term in advance. These requests are dealt with in date order of receipt. Where more applications are received on the same day than the number of available places, the Authority's over subscription criteria will be implemented to determine who is to be awarded the place(s).

If you decide to move your child during the academic year you need to apply for admission to your preferred school. A copy of an in-year transfer admission form is available on

www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/education or from the School and Student Access Unit on 01633 644508.

This form should not be used in respect of admission at the commencement of the Academic Year. Your application form should be returned to the Access to Learning, Directorate for Children and Young People, Monmouthshire County Council. County Hall, Y Rhadyr, Usk, Monmouthshire, NP15 1GA.

Over Subscription Criteria

Where the number of applications received up to and including the closing date for applications is less than, or equal to, the admission number, all the children will be offered a place in the reception class.

Where the number of applications exceeds the admission number places will be allocated in accordance with the following oversubscription criteria:

Children with statements of special educational needs naming Magor Church in Wales Primary will automatically be admitted before the over subscription criteria is applied.

- 1. Looked after children (see Note 2 for definition).
- Children who have at least one parent who regularly/habitually attends worship/Sunday School at a church within the Magor Ministry Area (see Note 3 for definition)
- 3. Children who have at least one parent who regularly/habitually worship at another Anglican church (see Note 3 for definition).
- Children who have at least one parent who regularly/habitually worship at a church of another Christian denomination (see Note 3 for definition).
- 5. Children who have at least one parent who regularly/habitually attend another faith place of worship (see Note 3 for definition).
- 6. Children who have a sibling who is a pupil at the school at the time of application and who will be a pupil at the school at the time of admission (see Note 4 for definition).

Multiple Birth Children (e.g. Twins or Triplets)

Multiple Birth children will be given priority over any other children in the over-subscription criteria 2-6.

Distance Criteria/Tie Break

Where it is necessary to distinguish between two children who fulfil equal criteria, the proximity of the child's home, as measured by the safest available walking route from the front door of the home to the main school gate will be applied using Google, with those living nearer being accorded the higher priority.

Appeals

Parents of children not offered a place may appeal to an independent appeals panel. Details on the procedure for appeals are available from the school and will be given to parents upon refusal of a place for their child.

Waiting Lists

Children not offered a place will be placed on a waiting list. The order of priority on the waiting list is the same as the list of criteria for oversubscription. No account is taken of the length of time on a waiting list. The waiting list will be maintained until **30 September each year**. After this date, parents should make another application for their child to attend the school.

Explanatory Notes:

Note 1: A parent is any person who has parental responsibility for, or is the legal guardian of, the child. If you are in any doubt, please contact the school for advice.

Note 2: A Looked After Child (LAC) is a child who is looked after by a local authority in Wales or in England in accordance with Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 and whom the LA has confirmed will be looked after at the time of the child's admission to the school.

Note 3: Regular/Habitual worship is defined as attending worship on at least one Sunday each month over the previous 12 month period. Evidence of this must be provided by a written statement signed by the relevant priest or minister.

Note 4: Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, foster child, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought. **Note 5**: The home address is the place the child spends the majority of the school week (Monday to Friday, including nights), at the time of application, for a place at the school. The school reserves the right to check the validity of any address given, by asking for evidence such as inclusion on the Electoral Roll, or a recent utilities bill confirming your name and address. Where a child's permanent address is not the same as the parents' (e.g. if he or she is resident with a grandparent) the school reserves the right to see official documentation, such as a child benefit book or medical card. Childcare arrangements are not sufficient reason for listing another address. If you are moving into the catchment area, we will ask you for evidence of your move, before considering any application for a place. Typical evidence is a letter from your solicitor confirming that you have a legally binding agreement to buy the house or a formal lease agreement.

For further information please contact the school. Contact details are as follows:

Address: The Headteacher Magor CiW Primary School Sycamore Terrace Magor Monmouthshire NP26 3EG

email: anneclibbett@monmouthshire.gov.uk website: www.magorciwprimary.co.uk

Headteacher – Ms S Hamer Chair of Admissions Panel - Mrs A Rodley

Our Lady and St Michaels R.C. Primary School

Introduction

Our Lady and St Michael's Primary is under the trusteeship of the Archdiocese of Cardiff. It is maintained by Monmouthshire (LA). As a Voluntary Aided School, the Governing Body is the Admissions Authority and is responsible for taking decisions on applications for admissions. The aim of the Governors is to offer a Catholic education and ask parents applying for places for their children to support the Catholic character and ethos of the school.

Our Lady and St Michael's Primary School fully respects the beliefs of parents and children of all denominations and backgrounds, including those with or without faith.

Pupils at Our Lady and St Michael's are taught to treat others with compassion, respect and tolerance. There is also provision in the Religious Education programme for learning about different levels of faiths.

Aims of the School

- To be a welcoming, distinctive, Catholic community of deep love and care, where everyone is valued for whom they are.
- To create a strong partnership between home, school and parish and to be of service to the local and global community.
- To recognise the presence of Christ in our lives and to celebrate His love for us through prayers, worship and in everything we do.
- To be a school with a deep understanding of the need for holiness in order to witness to Christ in the world of today.
- To provide high quality education which is inspirational and creative to enable children and staff to reach their full potential in meeting the challenges of the modern world.
- To ensure that all have a shared ownership of the Mission and Mission Statements of the school in our search for excellence.
- To be an evangelising community where we nourish the faith of our children and the wider school family through prayer and the liturgical and sacramental life of the school.
- To continue our pilgrim journey as a school with an enthusiasm for the Kingdom of God and a determination to nurture the whole person.

Admissions

The Governing Body is guided in the responsibility for admissions by the requirements of the law, by the advice of the Archdiocesan trustees and its duty to the School and the Catholic community. In accordance with current legislation, the Governing Body has delegated responsibility for determining admissions to its 'Admissions Panel', a Committee of the Governing Body. The Admissions Panel will consider all applications made in accord with the criteria as set out, without reference to the race, gender, ability, disability, social background or aptitude of the child.

Late applications will be considered in accordance with the requirements of the Schools Admissions Code.

Having consulted with the LA and others in accordance with the requirements of the law, the Governing Body has set its planned admission number at 30 pupils in Reception for the school year commencing September 2022.

Places in other year groups are also limited to 30 pupils.

Parents/guardians wishing to apply for a place for their child for the start of the academic year 2022-2023 must complete the school application form in full, and return it to the school no later than the dates set out in the time table for applications found in this document.

Please note that ALL applications must be submitted on this form and all applications will be considered at the same time. Please note that all applications under criteria 1, 2 and 3 (baptised Catholic children) must be accompanied by proof of baptism. Children with an SEN statement naming the school will be admitted.

The minimum age of entry to the school is 4 years provided that the child's 5th birthday falls between the 1st September and 31st August of that academic year. Parents can choose to defer their child's entry to school until the term following their 5th birthday.

Letters will be dispatched on the published Common Offer Date, informing you of the decision of the Admissions Panel in respect of your application. Where the application is unsuccessful, the reason(s) will be stated clearly in the letter, and you will be provided with information as to how to appeal the decision. Applicants who are not accepted will be placed on the school's Waiting List. Applicants will remain on the Waiting List until 30 September. In the event that places become available, the applicants on the Waiting List will be reviewed against the Oversubscription Criteria and offers made to fill available places. Applications for transfer to the school from another primary school during the academic year should be made using the specific Schools Transfer Application Form. The Governing Body Admissions Panel will consider each application. If the number requesting transfer exceeds available places, the Oversubscription Criteria will be used to determine successful applicants

Parents have a right of appeal against a refusal by the Governing Body to admit their child. If they wish to do so, they should put their appeal in writing to the Clerk to the Governors at the School within 14 days (10 working days) from the notification date. Appeals will be arranged, with an independent panel and conducted in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

For all successful applications, the data contained in the application form will be stored on the school management information system and used for purposes outlined in the 'fair processes order'. Every effort is made to secure the accuracy and security of personal data held by the School. Under the Data Protection Act, individuals have the right of access to personal information held about them, and also the right for any errors to be corrected.

The Governing Body will assess applications for admission to the school, using the information provided on the School Place Application Form. Where the number of applications is equal to or less than the admissions number, all applications will be accepted. Where the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the Admissions Panel of the Governing Body will apply the following oversubscription criteria and allocate places accordingly.

Over-subscription Criteria

 Looked After baptised Catholic Children or Previously Looked After baptised Catholic Children (proof of baptism must be submitted with the application form).

- 2. Baptised Catholic children (proof of baptism must be submitted with the application form).
- 3. Siblings of baptised Catholic children who will be attending Our Lady and St Michael's Primary School at the time of admission (see note 3 below).
- 4. Other Looked After Children or Previously Looked After Children.
- 5. Children who are attending a Catholic primary school at the time of application and for whom the parents/guardians continue to seek a specifically Christian education.
- 6. Children who are attending a Church in Wales primary school at the time of application and for whom the parents/guardians continue to seek a specifically Christian education.
- 7. Siblings of other children who will be attending Our Lady and St Michael's Primary School at the time of admission (see note 3 below).
- 8. Other children for whom parents/guardians seek a specifically Christian education.

If the number of pupils in any one of the above categories exceeds the Admissions Number, the Governing Body will employ, as a tie-breaker, the shortest distance for the pupil from home to school utilising the distance calculator used by the Local Authority.

Notes

- 1. 'Catholic' also includes Eastern Catholic Churches in union with the See of Rome.
- 2. All applications for criteria 1, 2 and 3 must be accompanied by proof of baptism.
- 3. 'Siblings' are defined as those who share a common mother or father, adopted mother or father, or form part of an established family unit. Priority will be by reference to the youngest sibling in the school, the youngest commanding the highest degree of priority. When allocating places, if the last place is offered to a multiple birth child (e.g. a twin or triplet), the school will also admit the other sibling(s).

How to Apply

Any parent may apply for his/her child to be admitted to the school. A form of application can be obtained from the School Office. Every application will be considered by reference to the policy herein.

For further information please contact the school. All application forms should be sent to:

Our Lady and St Michael's Primary School, 14 Pen-Y-Pound, Abergavenny, NP75UD Email-ourladystmichaels@monmouthshire.gov.uk, Website:www.olsm.co.uk Tel-(01873)735080

Time table for Admissions

Admission Pack Available for Parents	3rd November 2021
Closing Date for Applications	12th January 2022 at Midnight
Admission Offer Date	18th April 2022

St.Mary's R.C. Primary School, Chepstow Admission Arrangements September 2022

Introduction

The statutory School Admissions Code provides guidance on the process that should be followed when varying the published admission arrangements for any Admissions Authority. The Admissions Authority for St. Mary's R.C. Primary School is the Governing Body.

In accordance with the code, consultation must be carried out between 1st September and 1st March in the determination year. The determination year is the one that starts two academic years before arrangements come into force, and therefore the Governing Body must now consult on proposed changes to the admission arrangements effective from September 2023. The arrangements for September 2022 have already been approved and published via the school website and the Monmouthshire County Council's Parents' Information Handbook 2022/23.

Anyone who wishes to comment on this consultation document should do so either by writing to the Chair of Governors, c/o St. Mary's R.C. Primary School, Old Bulwark Road, Chepstow, Mon NP16 5JE or email stmarysprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk

All comments must be received by no later than 12 noon on 1st March 2022.

School Admissions Arrangements - September 2022

Admissions pack available to parents	3rd November 2021
Closing date for application forms to be returned to St. Mary's RC Primary School	12th January 2022 at Midnight
Offer date	18th April 2022

Admission to St. Mary's R.C. Primary School/Late Applications Children can start school in the September following their fourth birthday. The legal requirements confirm that parents are able to delay the admission of their child until the term following their fifth birthday, and such a request will not prejudice an application in any way. It is the expectation however that on starting school the child will continue to follow their chronological year group unless exceptional circumstances apply. When considering admission to the Reception year group, parents should be aware that attending a nursery class does not guarantee a place at any primary or infant school as a separate application is required, and priority is not given to those children attending any specific nursery setting.

Applications for school places can only be made using the correct application pack that is available from the school, or school website. Applications can only be made by persons holding parental responsibility for the named child, and the person completing the application will be required to make a declaration to this effect.

All completed application forms must be returned directly to the school by the deadline of 12th Jan 2022. It is the responsibility of parents/carers to ensure that the school receives their completed application form safely and on time. If posting an application, it is recommended that the form is sent by recorded delivery and that you provide a stamped address envelope so that receipt of your application can be acknowledged.

Applications received by the closing date will be considered at the same time and decision letters will be sent to parents to inform them as to whether or not their application has been successful on 18th April 2022.

Any applications that are received after the closing date or applications that remain incomplete as at the closing date will only be processed after places have been allocated for applications that were received by the closing date, and this may increase the possibility of not achieving a place at the school. Any late applications received will be batch filed and processed together by the end of the calendar month following receipt, once the relevant offer date has passed. However, applications received after the published submission date will be considered with those received at the closing date only if supported by a letter giving exceptional reasons for its lateness and only if received before the offers of the places are made. Exceptional reasons may be defined as when circumstances include the serious illness of a single parent, having just moved into the area, or arriving from abroad has meant that it was not possible to submit the application by the closing date.

Making an application and providing the relevant supporting evidence does not guarantee admission to St. Mary's R.C. Primary School. Each request will be considered individually and complied with wherever possible. However, if more applications are received than the school's admission number, the admission request may have to be refused. In these circumstances, admission is based on the school's published 'Oversubscription Criteria'. It is important to note that first consideration in all cases is given to parents expressing a preference for St. Mary's R.C. Primary School, and therefore it is important to ensure that your list of preferences is properly considered before an application is submitted. Before deciding to apply for a place at a the school, you will need to consider carefully how your child will travel to school, as you will not necessarily be eligible for transport assistance.

Headteachers do not have the authority to give parents an indication of the outcome of their application, or tell them that their child has been given a place at the school, before an offer of a place has been made formally by the Governing Body.

Admission to St. Mary's R.C. Primary School/Late Applications The Governing Body is the Admissions Authority St. Mary's R.C. Primary School.

The Governing Body consults on its admission arrangements on an annual basis and attempts where possible to mirror the admission timeframes of neighbouring authorities. The admission numbers for schools are derived from the physical capacity of the school to accommodate pupils' learning needs, using a formula set by the Welsh Government. The admission number for the school is 30.

St Mary's RCP School serves the parishes of St Marys Chepstow and St Pauls Caldicot.

St Mary's parish includes all of Chepstow, Bulwark, Thornwell and areas north including Itton, Devauden, St Arvans, Tintern and LLandogo, and east to Tutshill and Sedbury. St Pauls Parish includes Portskewett, Caldicot, Undy, Magor, Caerwent, Penhow and Langstone.

Application Forms, Documents and Proof of residency

It is the expectation that children are taught in their chronological year group, unless exceptional circumstances apply. For this reason applications must be supported by a photocopy of the child's birth certificate, NHS medical card or valid passport.

The Admissions Authority also requires proof of residency in support of all applications, and for this purpose parent/carers must submit a copy of their current year's Council Tax Statement in order to verify their home address. When processing your application, the Admissions Authority will use the address at which you and your child reside on the relevant closing date for your application, and it is your responsibility to advise of any changes in your circumstances following the submission of your application. Such changes may have an effect on the outcome of your application. Monmouthshire County Council will also use the address you provide to determine your child's eligibility for free 'home to school transport', in accordance with the Council's current transport policy.

If you have indicated that your child is a baptised Roman Catholic or has been received into the Roman Catholic Church, evidence is required to be submitted with the application. Evidence may include a Baptismal Certificate or written confirmation from a priest. If you have indicated that your child is of another faith than Roman Catholic, evidence is required to be submitted with the application. Evidence may include a letter of support from their Minister or Faith Leader. For Christian applicants a Baptismal Certificate should be provided wherever possible. Where admission to the school is sought on medical need, then the application must be supported by a letter from the Consultant overseeing the care of the child. Letters from GP's or other health professionals will not suffice.

Allegations of fraudulent claims will be investigated and places may be withdrawn if parents have knowingly provided false information in order to obtain the advantage of a particular school to which they would not normally be entitled.

In order to comply with the Admissions Code, parents must be allowed to express a preference for their second or even third choice of school. Therefore it may be necessary for parents/carers to complete both the St. Mary's R.C. Primary School's application form and a Monmouthshire County Council application if preferred schools include a community maintained school.

Applicants should note that for the purpose of processing applications for school places the information you provide on your application form may be shared with other agencies that are directly involved in the education, health and welfare of school children, including other local admission authorities.

Parents/carers are entitled to appeal against the decision to refuse a place at the School.

Deferred Entry

The law does not require a child to start school until the start of the term following the child's fifth birthday. In accordance with this, the Governing Body will allow parents the option of deferring their child's entry into Reception until later in the same school year. The effect is that the place is held for the child and is not available to be offered to another child. The parents would not however be able to defer entry beyond the beginning of the term after the child's fifth birthday, nor beyond the school year for which the application was made.

These pages relate to Voluntary Aided Schools

How places are allocated

Parents/carers have the right to express a preference for their child to be admitted to any school maintained from public funds. Admission to school is made in accordance with parental preference, subject to availability, and each request will be considered individually. Where the school is oversubscribed, preference requests will still be considered, but the priorities set by the Governing Body will be applied. In deciding which children to admit to the school, the oversubscription criteria will be applied in order of priority.

Oversubscription criteria for admission to St. Mary's R.C. Primary 2022-2023.

It is important to note that first consideration in all cases is given to parents expressing a preference for St. Mary's R.C. Primary School, and therefore it is important to ensure that your list of preferences is properly considered before an application is submitted.

The indicated admission number for the school is 30. Where the number of applications is equal to or less than the number of places available, all applications will be successful. However where the number of applications exceeds the number of places available, the Governing Body will apply the following over-subscription criteria and allocate places accordingly.

Where St. Mary's R.C. Primary School is named in a statement of Special Educational Needs, the Governing Body has a duty to admit the child to the school before the over-subscription criteria is applied against applications received.

Children who have the school named in a Statement of Special Educational Need take priority over all children. The criterion will be applied in rank order.

Looked After Children (children in the public care) or those who have previously been Looked After Children and who are baptized as Roman Catholics or have been formally accepted into the Roman Catholic Church (see *1 on page opposite) following consultation on the appropriateness of the placement.

Please note that in each of the following categories (2-5) below siblings will be given highest priority

(Siblings are: brothers and sisters, whether half, full, step, adopted or fostered will be considered relevant where living in the same household and where an older child will still be registered at the school when the younger child will be eligible to attend. Where there is more than one such case, priority will be given to those children closest in age to the siblings already attending the school, as at the admission date).

Multiple birth children will be given the next highest priority in categories 2-5

- 2. Children who are baptised as Roman Catholics or have been formally accepted into the Roman Catholic Church. (see note *1 below)
- Looked After Children (children in the public care) or those who have previously been Looked After Children following consultation on the appropriateness of the placement.
- 4. Children of other Christian denominations whose parents have demonstrated a wish for a Catholic education. (see note *2 below)
- 5. Children of other Faiths whose parents have demonstrated a wish for a Catholic education. (see note *2 below)
- 6. All other children, whose parents demonstrated a wish for a Catholic Education.
- *1. Applications from children who are to be considered under criteria 1 or 2 above are asked to provide evidence of baptism or reception into the Roman Catholic Church. Evidence should include written confirmation or certification of baptism/acceptance in the Roman Catholic Church.
- *2. Applications from children to be considered under criteria 4 or 5 are asked to provide a letter of support from their Minister or Faith Leader. For Christian applicants a Baptismal Certificate should be provided wherever possible.

Tie Breaker:

Where places are available for some but not all applicants in any particular category then preference shall be given to the children whose home address is closest to the school gate measured as the "shortest safest available walking route, accompanied as necessary" between the nearest entrance/ front gate of the home and the main gate of the school on Old Bulwark Road. Such distances will be measured as recorded by Google Maps (walking option).

Parents have a statutory right of appeal against the non- admission of a child to the school. This will be heard by an Independent Appeals Panel, in which the Governing Body and Head teacher play no role. Details of the appeals process will be made available to parents when they are notified of a refusal of a place (or if they request such information from the Governing Body.)

Notes:

The Governing Body will consider the child's home address to be the place where the child permanently resides for the majority of the school week, as at the stipulated closing date for applications. This would normally be at the same address as the person who has parental responsibility for the child and is the main carer. Where the child spends equal time with both parents/ carers, the place of residence of the person who receives the child benefit will be considered the child's home. Evidence may be required to support this.

Applications on medical need must be supported by a medical consultant's report, obtained by parents, specifying the medical need of the child attending the school. Please note that reports from family doctors are not accepted for this purpose.

Siblings are: brothers and sisters, whether half, full, step, adopted or fostered will be considered relevant where living in the same household and where an older child will still be registered at the school when the younger child will be eligible to attend.
Other Relevant Information - Home to School Distances

Within each set of over-subscription criteria, if the number of applications in any category exceeds the indicated admission number, priority will be based on those residing closest to the preferred school. This distance is measured as the "shortest available walking route, accompanied as necessary" between the home (measured to the centreline of the adopted road immediately outside the front of the normal residence of the child) and the nearest school gate. The school will determine the route as outlined above using its' own specific routing software, measured as recorded by Google Maps (Walking Option). In order to ensure fairness and consistence for all applicants, this is the only measurement tool that is used by the School.

Where two or more applicants are being considered for the last available place, and their home to school distance calculations are the same, MCC will undertake an additional assessment of the distance between the centreline of the adopted road and the front door of the home.

Children of Armed Forces Personnel

Children of armed forces personnel moving to Monmouthshire will be determined as meeting the residency criteria for the relevant primary school if their application form is accompanied by an official proof of posting declaring a definite return date with confirmation of the new address wherever possible.

Children Housed via Domestic Violence Agencies

Children temporarily housed under the protection of approved Domestic Violence agencies will be determined as meeting the residency criteria for the relevant primary school if their application form is accompanied by an official letter from the relevant agency.

Waiting lists for oversubscribed schools Phase Transfer FP – KS2

During a phase transfer process, should your child be refused a placement at your preferred school(s), your child's name will remain on a waiting list for this school **until 30th September in the year in which the application is made**. If additional places become available, they will be allocated to children on the waiting list on the basis of the published oversubscription criteria. Waiting lists do not give priority to children based on the date the application was added to the list. Prior to 30th September, parents will be contacted and asked to confirm whether or not they wish to remain on the waiting list for the remainder of the academic year, after which time a new application may be made.

In-Year Admission or Transfer

Where an application made for an in-year transfer is refused, the child's name will remain on a waiting list for the preferred school until the end of the academic year (31st August) in which the application is made, at which time a new application may be made. If additional places become available, they will be allocated to children on the waiting list on the basis of the published oversubscription criteria. Waiting lists do not give priority to children based on the date the application was added to the list.

Some reasons why we may refuse admission

Whilst parents have the right to express a preference for their child to be admitted to any school maintained from public funds, there are reasons why that preference may have to be refused, since when determining applications, the Admission Authority also has to have regard for:

 The infant class size initiative which is committed to ensuring that no child aged 5, 6 or 7 years will be in a class of more than 30 pupils for every one qualified teacher. The statutory infant class size limit of 30 pupils applies to Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. Any other factors which may prejudice the provision of efficient education and / or the efficient use of resources.

Class size exceptions

Welsh Government regulations require Admission Authorities to limit infant class sizes to no more than 30 pupils and also to ensure where possible that junior class sizes do not exceed 30 pupils. There are, however, exceptions to these regulations (called 'excepted pupils') which may allow the 30 pupils per class limit to be exceeded. These pupils are as specifically outlined in the statutory School Admissions Code. Excepted pupils will remain so, once admitted, for the remainder of their time in an infant class or until class numbers fall back and they can be organised to comply with the infant class size limit. Classes must be organised so as to comply with the limit wherever possible

Voluntary Aided School Appeals

Parents have the statutory right of appeal against the refusal by a Governing Body to admit their child, and should put their reasons for appeal in writing in accordance with the procedures outlined in the decision letter. Appeals will be heard by an Independent Appeal Panel, in which the Governing Body and Headteacher play no role. The decision of the Appeal Panel is binding on all parties.

Useful information Section



Frequently asked questions regarding admissions

How do I decide which school to send my child to?

This is a personal decision. To support your selection of preferences, this booklet includes details of the schools within Monmouthshire. Open evenings are an excellent way of finding out about a school as well as visiting the schools' websites. One way to access these is via the Monmouthshire website **www.monmouthshire.gov.uk** Outcomes of recent Estyn inspections of schools can be viewed at **www.estyn.gov.uk**

If I am residing within the catchment area for my preferred School, will I be guaranteed a place?

Local Authority does not guarantee places to those children residing within the catchment area for a School, although residing within the catchment area does appear as part of our oversubscription criteria.

What are the possible difficulties if I apply for a school which is not my catchment school?

You need to consider the possible difficulties that there may be if you apply for an alternative school to your catchment school.

For example, if your application for an alternative placement to the catchment school is successful, then you would not be eligible for free transport, even if you live more than one and half miles from that school.

N.B If the school to which you apply is not your catchment school, but is your nearest school, you may qualify for free transport under the normal qualifying criteria – see transport section.

If you do wish to apply for a school outside of your catchment area, please also consider placing more than one preference on your application incase your application for this school is unsuccessful.

What do you mean by Admission Number?

Each School will have its own Admission Number.

The Admission Number is the upper limit for admissions into the year group that allows the school to continue to adequately meet the needs of the pupils with the space and resources available at the school. To breach the Admission number would place further pressure on the provision of effective education and efficient use of resources at the School.

The Admission Number is derived directly from the amount of area within a school designated as teaching space and the resource areas in place to support the teaching.

The Guidance used to calculate the admission number is the Welsh Government's **"Measuring the Capacity of Schools in Wales**", Circular no. 021/2011.

If I do not live in Monmouthshire, can my application be considered for a place in a Monmouthshire School?

Yes, applications for the admission of pupils who live outside the county are considered on an equal basis.

Application forms are available from the Local Authority to whom you pay your council tax. The form should then be returned to them. They will forward the form onto the School and Student Access Unit. It may also be appropriate to forward a letter to the School and Student access unit to ensure that we are aware of your request for a place.

Can I apply to both Monmouthshire and a neighbouring Local Authority at the same time

No, you need to obtain your form from the Authority to whom you pay your council tax. However on this form you can cite preferences to schools of a number of Local Authorities. They will then forward the application to the relevant Local Authority.

Your Local Authority should advise you of the timeframe for forwarding applications. The only exception to the above is if your preferred school resides within the City of Newport. In this instance, you must apply directly to Newport City Council.

If I apply for a place at an independent School, Voluntary Aided School, or out of County School will my application for a Monmouthshire School be jeopardised?

Application forms invite parents to express up to three preferences, and it is important to include your application to a VA or Independent School as one of these preferences. All preferences will be considered equally in line with the Authority's over-subscription criteria. Your highest ranked preference will be offered in the event that one or more preferences can be met.

What if I no longer want the place?

Please write or e-mail confirming this is the case. Again, please state the child's name, date of birth and address. We require you to confirm your acceptance for any place offered to your child as failure to do so could result in the place being withdrawn.

What if I miss the closing date?

All complete applications received by Midnight on 24th November 2021 (Secondary) and Midnight on 12th January 2022 (Primary) will be dealt with first. Any applications received after this date will not be considered until those applications received on time have been processed. **Failure to complete a form on time may reduce your chance of having your preferences met**.

Why do I need to supply additional evidence to support my application?

The Authority will access Council Tax data to validate your home address. For this, we will require you to provide your Council Tax reference number on the application.

If you are moving properties you will need to supply evidence in terms of Exchange of Contracts or long term Tenancy Agreement. This will need to be received by us prior to the closing date.

Frequently asked questions regarding home to school transport

Who is eligible for Free Home to School Transport?

Pupils are eligible if they are between the ages of 5 and 16 – from reception up to and including Year 11. Free transport is restricted to Monmouthshire pupils who attend their catchment area or nearest school (Inc. Welsh Medium/Denominational), who live more than 1.5 miles from the applied Primary school or 2.0 miles from the applied Secondary school. If a placement is not available at their Catchment School, the Passenger Transport Unit will provide Free Home to School Transport to the next nearest available School, should this be over the distance criteria.

How is the distance calculated?

The distance is measured electronically, which uses the shortest route between the boundaries of your home address (i.e. the bottom of your path or driveway) and the main entrance to the school.

If my child is eligible for free home to school transport – where will he/she be collected from?

It is not always possible to arrange the routes of vehicles to pass close to the homes of pupils. Therefore, it may be necessary for parents to make arrangements for their child (ren) to reach the nearest, safe 'pick-up' point of the contract route. Every effort is made to keep this distance as short as possible and it should not exceed one mile along a safe route for pedestrians.

What is an unsafe route?

Free transport may be provided where the Authority is satisfied that the route between the home and school is sufficiently dangerous to warrant such provision, even though the distance is less than 1.5 miles.

In such cases the Authority will form its decision having regard to both of the following factors:

- a) There is a public service bus travelling along the route between home and school
- b) The degree of danger involved is such that escorting adults themselves are at risk.
- c) The recorded accident levels along the suggested route.

If my child has more than one home, will travel assistance be given to both?

Free transport is provided to the main home only as confirmed by the

application and school council tax databases. Dual residency where parents or guardians are not living together will only be considered if the child is living in more than one residence and that they still qualify under the nearest suitable school and distance criteria. (which may mean that free transport would only be provided to different schools if the second residence is not in the catchment/nearest school of the first residence.

If I move home to an address outside the catchment area school, will free transport be provided?

No. If you move home to an address outside the catchment area school, your child will not be provided with free transport, unless the child is in year 10 or 11 of study (critical year) and there are existing contract services available.

Will expenses incurred whilst travelling to and from school be reimbursed?

No. Expenses incurred whilst travelling to and from school are not reimbursed.

What type of transport assistance is available?

The Authority decides on the most suitable transport arrangements, bearing in mind all relevant factors, including cost. Depending on individual circumstances, transport is arranged usually by contract bus, service bus or taxi, though sometimes other individual arrangements have to be made. The authority may offer a Personal Transport Budget in some circumstances. Transport is provided at the beginning and end of the school day, but is not provided for out-of-hours or extra curricular activities including breakfast and after school clubs.

Can children who do not qualify for free school transport purchase spare seats on school buses?

Yes. The Authority currently operates a concessionary fare scheme under which pupils may be allowed to occupy spare seats on school buses as a temporary concession even though they do not satisfy the criteria. However, there is a current charge of £440 per academic year. Those Concessionary seats that are awarded will not be allocated until the fourth week of the start of term. A seat may be withdrawn giving 3 weeks' notice if an eligible pupil requires a place on that contract. Further details of this scheme can be supplied on request from the Passenger Transport Unit on **01633 644777** or e-mail **passengertransportunit@monmouthshire.gov.uk**

Will transport be provided to and from Independent Schools?

No. Free transport is not provided for pupils attending Independent Schools.

What happens if a child is disruptive on the provided transport?

The Authority will not tolerate anti-social behaviour on its school transport. We have issued various sanctions to deal with situations of anti-social behaviour, which, in the most serious cases, could result in the child being removed from all Local Authority transport. All parents are required to enter into a "Parental Contract" with the Passenger Transport Unit which will detail the conditions of pupil travel and the parents responsibilities. The withdrawal of transport will not be without consultation with the Parent, School and if necessary the Police. The purpose of this consultation will be to agree any future arrangements available thereafter to transport the child to school. It will also be necessary for those children on transport to participate in other safety initiatives provided by the Welsh Assembly Government such as the 'Bus Behaviour Scheme'. Transport applications will be subject to the agreement for the Authority to utilise CCTV footage where fitted to Home to School Transport vehicles.

What do I do if I have a concern or complaint about the school transport service?

The Authority is committed to providing parents/carers with confidence in the service they provide. In the event that parents/carers have concerns, we need to be informed about them immediately and in writing (letter or email), although a telephone call in the first instance is acceptable.

Should you wish to complain about the assessment of transport entitlement, the Authority has a Complaints Procedure, further information can be found **at www.monmouthshire.gov.uk**

Please contact the Passenger Transport Unit by telephone: **01633 644777** or email: **passengertransportunit@monmouthshire.gov.uk** if your complaint is about the assessment or provision of transport.

Is there a maximum length of a journey?

The Authority endeavours to keep journey times to a minimum. Unfortunately, given the rural environment in Monmouthshire, some journeys may exceed one hour and particularly if you are attending a denominational school outside of the area.

Available to School and Community Groups

- 53 to 70 Seat Vehicles
- 3 Point Seatbelts and CCTV
- Low Floor Accessible
- DBS Enchanced Drivers
- LEZ Compliant



Coach

Hire

shire

Special Educational Needs/ Additional Learning Needs

What if my child has Additional Learning Needs?

From September 2021, new legislation, (the Additional Learning Needs and Tribunal (ALNET) Act [Wales] 2018) will begin to be implemented. This means that from September 2021 the term 'Additional Learning Needs' (ALN) will replace the term 'Special Educational Needs' (SEN). The Act creates a single statutory plan, the Individual Development Plan (IDP) to replace the existing statutory statement of special educational need and non-statutory plans for learners in schools. Until September 2024, the two systems (SEN and ALN Transformation) will run concurrently.

Whilst the definition of the new term ALN is very similar to the current definition of SEN, the age range has been extended to 0-25. The Act states that a person has additional learning needs if they have a learning difficulty or disability, which calls for additional learning provision (ALP). The definition of ALN covers learners whose learning difficulty or disability arises from a medical condition. Pupils who have a medical need that does not impact on their learning should be supported through a Supporting Health Care Needs Plan.

It is important to recognise that children make progress at different rates. Almost all children with ALN will have their needs met successfully by their local schools. Each school has an ALNCO (Additional Learning Needs Coordinator) and an ALN Governor who, with the Head teacher and staff, are responsible for ensuring that the additional and different needs of ALN children are identified and met.

A child or young person would not have ALN if their lack of progress or difficulties can be addressed through differentiated teaching, most children and young people will require a differentiated approach in some aspect of their education at some point. Differentiated teaching does not, itself, constitute ALP. ALP refers to additional or different educational provision, which goes beyond that generally made available. All schools are required by law to provide additional individual planning, resources and support for children with ALN. Schools in Monmouthshire can access support and advice from specialist educational services for children with sensory impairments, communication difficulties or with specific learning difficulties (dyslexia). Schools are also supported by Educational Psychologists and from health service specialists to help them meet the needs of children and young people with ALN.

What if the local school cannot meet my child's Additional Learning Needs?

For children or young people with the most significant and complex needs, a special resource base class or special school may be considered more appropriate. Attendance in any specialist setting must be considered and agreed by the local authority Panel.

If my child has Additional Learning Needs, where will he/ she be educated?

The local authority aims to support pupils with ALN within their local mainstream schools, wherever possible. If parents ask for placement for their child in a school other than their local school, the local authority will try wherever possible to meet parental preference. However, the local authority may not be able to do so if a parents' choice is incompatible with the child's needs, is contrary to the effective education of other pupils in the class/ school or if the choice would result in unreasonable public expenditure. In Monmouthshire, the majority of pupils with ALN are educated in their local schools with other children of the same age.

What if my child's needs cannot be met in a Monmouthshire School?

For the very few children whose needs cannot be met within Monmouthshire, the local authority would fund places in special schools maintained by other local authorities or in independent special schools. Placement in an out of county special school would have to be agreed by the admission Panel of the local authority in which the special school is located.



What about transport?

Transport for children with ALN will only be funded by the Authority:

- to take a child to their local school or nearest suitable school if he or she has major mobility problems, or
- if a child attends special needs provision (a special school or special needs unit) that is not attached to their local school.

Transport will **not** be provided for children with special educational needs if the child is attending a school due to parental preference, i.e. a school that is not considered by the Local Authority to be the nearest suitable school.

Where can I get advice about ALN provision?

You can contact the ALN Team Administrator Tel: 01633-644512 or look on the ALN page on Monmouthshire's website: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/additional-learning-needs Monmouthshire Healthy School Scheme is part of the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes and the European Network of Healthy Schools. The scheme supports the development of health promoting schools in Monmouthshire. A health promoting school is one that actively promotes, protects and embeds the physical, mental and social health and wellbeing of the whole school community through positive action. Schools are encouraged to work in partnership with health professionals and community representatives to deliver consistent health messages to children and young people. Including health topic areas such as: mental and emotional health and wellbeing; food and fitness; personal development and relationships; substance use and misuse; environment, safety and hygiene. All of Monmouthshire's maintained schools have registered to participate in the scheme. Schools are at various stages of the scheme, from Phase

1 to Phase 5! When a school has successfully completed a 'phase', they are assessed and are awarded with a Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Plaque.

Schools also have the opportunity to apply for the National Quality Award.

Healthy Pre-School Scheme

This is an extension of the healthy schools scheme and is aimed at preschool childcare provisions, including nurseries, playgroups, and flying start. It is designed to complement and enhance current frameworks that are already in place within Early Years settings, focusing on health topic areas.

For more information please contact the Healthy Schools and Pre-Schools Officer on **01633 644576**









www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place

When your child enters school their care transfers from the health visitor to the school nurse. During your child's school life the school nurse is available to discuss any health and development concerns and will refer to other services if appropriate.

All reception children will be offered a health check which includes:

- height and weight measurements in line with the Child Measurement Programme Wales.
- Distance vision screening

For further information please contact the school nursing team: Caldicot/Chepstow 01291 426729 Abergavenny/Monmouth/Usk 01873 735202

Protecting your child's health at school: Immunisation

Before your child starts school it is important that they are up to date with their vaccinations so that they are protected against a number of vaccine preventable diseases. Every year vaccination saves more lives worldwide than any other medical intervention. In Wales, vaccination is a key measure in keeping children healthy and giving them the best start in life.



For more information on childhood vaccinations please visit the website: NHS vaccinations and when to have them - NHS (www.nhs.uk)

Routine childhood vaccinations are highly effective, safe and free. There will be other vaccinations scheduled throughout your child's school life. When your child is due to receive a vaccination in school you will receive an information letter and a consent form, it is important that you complete, sign and return the consent form promptly.

For more information please visit **www.nhsdirect.wales.nhs.uk/** LiveWell/vaccinations



The Local Authority prides itself in providing a good range of healthy and nutritious meals to fulfil the nutritional requirements of growing and developing children, and in preparing them to be the next generation of healthier young adults of the future.

We work continuously with local suppliers and national manufacturers, and, in line with Welsh Government Regulations, offer healthy, nutritious menus consisting of a balanced two-course meal daily. Menus are planned to incorporate both freshly cooked food and promoting healthy eating objectives including increasing fibre, and reducing fat, sugar and salt. All meals are prepared on site using locally sourced ingredients, where possible. In addition, we prioritise cooking methods such as steaming and oven baking to ensure nutrients are retained, and texture and taste enhanced.

Our menu is run on a 3-week rotational cycle with a strong focus on fresh fruit, vegetables and salad, and with new menus being introduced twice a year. Several themed days are arranged throughout the year. We try to plan these to reflect and reinforce learning in line with projects that the schools may be studying.

We are fully inclusive, catering for all pupils, inclusive of those with medically prescribed diets and those opting for alternative diets for ethical/ religious reasons. If your child has an allergy or food intolerance a member of the catering team will meet with the Dietitian, parents and cook to discuss and arrange alternative meal choices.

Our whole school approach involves:

- Prioritising nutritious food containing high quality, fresh, and unprocessed ingredients
- Making continual improvements to menus so that pupils eat healthy, and tasty meals
- Developing supply networks that assist local producers in supplying local schools
- Bringing about an awareness amongst primary school children about the importance of a healthy diet, creating good habits for life
- Raising the profile of food and nutrition within the curriculum

- Assisting catering staff in fulfilling their roles as "health workers in disguise"
- Making it easier for teaching staff to make learning about nutrition "fun" and involving parents and school governors in the process.

An example of a menu is shown below. Please note specific dietary requirements can be accommodated.

For further information, please contact the School Catering Department on 01633 644156

WEEK 1	HOT MEAL OF THE DAY	SANDWICH BAR	DESSERTS
	WEEK COMMENCING: 12/04/2021 • 26/0	4/2021 • 10/05/2021 • 24/05/2021 • 14/06/2021 • 28/06/2021 • 12/0	17/2021
MONDAY	Jacket Potato filled with Chicken or Vegetable Balti, Crusty Bread Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink	Ham or Cheese Sandwich, Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink	Carrot Cake & Fresh Apple
TUESDAY	Homemade Beef or Vegetable Pasta Bolognaise, Garlic Bread Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink	Chicken Mayo or Cheese Savoury Wrap, Vegetables Slicks & Fruit Drink	Iced Sponge & Fresh Satsuma
WEDNESDAY	Warm Beef or Glamorgan Pattie Roll & Potato wedges, Tornato Ketchup, Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink		Cherry Flap Jack & Fresh Apple
THURSDAY	Chicken or Tomato & Basil Pasta Bake with Crusty Bread Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink	Coronation Chicken or Egg Mayo Baguette, Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink	Shortbread Biscuit & Fresh Satsuma
FRIDAY	Hotdog or Glamorgan Hotdog, Chips, Tomato Ketchup Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink		Chocolate Topped Jaffa Sponge & Fresh Apple
WEEK 2	HOT MEAL OF THE DAY	SANDWICH BAR	DESSERTS
WCCK 2			
	WEEK COMMENCING: 19/04/2021+ 04/0 Filed Jacket Potato with Tuna Mayo or Beans & Cheese	5/2021 • 17/05/2021 • 07/06/2021 • 21/06/2021 • 05/07/2021 • 19/0 Tuna Sweetcom & Mayo or Cheese Sandwich.	7/2021
MONDAY	Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink	Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink	Iced Bun & Fresh Satsuma
TUESDAY	Meatballs or Meat Free Balls in Homemade Tomato Sauce, Pasta, Garlic Bread, Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink	Ham Salad or Cheese Salad Wrap, Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink	Mandarin Sponge & Fresh Apple
WEDNESDAY	Warm Turkey or Glamorgan Pattie Roll, Potato Wedges Tomato Ketchup, Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink		Crispie Cake & Fresh Satsuma
THURSDAY	Chicken or Vegetable Balti, Rice & Garlic Bread Vegetable Sticks & Fruit Drink	Ham or Egg Mayo Baguette, Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink	Jam Bun & Fresh Apple
FRIDAY	Fish Fingers or Veggie Bake Roll, Chips, Tomato Sauce Vegetable Slicks & Fruit Drink		Chocolate Muffin & Fresh Satsuma
	Due to circumstances beyond	d our control, there may at times be a slight variance in our menus; we apo The fruit and vegetables we serve are also subject to seasonal var	opte let any inconvenience this may cause.

Compliance with Healthy Eating in Schools Regulations

We care about our children's' health and wellbeing. As such, we have created a range of school meals compliant with Welsh Government Standards and including a variety of red meat and poultry dishes, omega-3 rich oily fish, rice and pasta. All food and drink in our primary schools is analysed to comply with the Healthy Eating in Schools (Nutritional Standards and Regulations) (Wales) Regulations, and this analysis is externally verified as compliant.

School Meal Charges

The current meal prices (as at September 2021) are as follows: Infants - £2.45 Juniors - £2.45 (please note meal prices are subject to review)

Payment for meals should be made directly to the School on a weekly basis or termly in advance. In line with the Authority's financial instructions, a maximum of 5 credit meals may be granted per pupil, and parents will receive letters advising them of any monies owed. Once this credit has been breeched, parents will be required to make their own arrangements to provide their child with a lunchtime meal until the debt levels have been cleared.

Free School Meals

Who qualifies?

Pupils will qualify if parents / carers are in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit, provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) that does not exceed £16,190.
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit.
- Working Tax Credit 'run-on' the payment someone may receive for a further four weeks after they stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.
- Universal Credit (with annual earnings of less than £7,400, £616.67 weekly).

Pupil Development Grant

The Welsh Government has introduced a new grant to assist families on low incomes for the purchase of:

- School uniform including coats and shoes;
- School sports kit including footwear;
- Uniform for enrichment activities, including but not limited to, scouts; guides; cadets; martial arts; sports; performing arts or dance;
- Equipment e.g. school bags and stationery;
- Specialist equipment where new curriculum activities begin such as design and technology; and
- Equipment for out of school hour's trips such as outdoor learning e.g. waterproofs.

The Funding is available to pupils who are going into Year 7 who are eligible for free school meals or are looked after. The amount payable for the academic year 2021/22 is £200 (this could change for the academic year 2022/23).

Funding may also be provided for each eligible pupil and entitlement will be automatically assessed alongside your free school meal application in years Reception, 1,3,5,8,9,10,11 although Welsh Government have not yet confirmed the criteria.

Please note that if you are enquiring about Free School Meals or the Pupil Development Grant for a child who is Looked After by Monmouthshire County Council, please make your enquiry to the School and Student Access Unit on accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk or 01633 644508.

If you become eligible during the financial year or have any further queries please contact the Benefits Team on **01495 742037** or **742377**

Confirmation of benefit entitlement

Parents / Carers are no longer required to provide supporting documentation to verify their benefit entitlement. If a claimant is already in receipt of Benefits with Monmouthshire County Council we do not require proof of benefit, however, if the claimant is not on our system (this is generally, although not only, people living out of the Monmouthshire area) then the authority will need proof of income.

Monmouthshire looked after children will be entitled to claim a free School meal once confirmation from Social Services has been received. You must contact accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk or 01633 644508 to discuss a claim/query for a Monmouthshire Looked After Child.

It is the parent/carers responsibility to apply for free school meals each academic year. Schools will not be able to provide your child with a Free meal until an application has been authorised by the Shared Benefit Service at Torfaen. The Shared Benefit Service can be contacted on 0300 456 3559 or emailed at benefitapplication@torfaen.gov.uk

Free leisure facilities pass

Those pupils who have been assessed and authorised for Free School Meals will also be eligible for free use of swimming pools and some other leisure activities within Monmouthshire Leisure Centres. Your details will be shared with the Leisure Services team who will automatically activate the Free Leisure pass following approval of your child's Free School Meal entitlement. For further information please contact **01633 644791**.



Each school has a Governing Body, which plays an important role in the life of the school. The Governing Body is accountable for the conduct of the school and improving standards for children and young people. Specifically, each governing body is responsible for the delivery of the national curriculum, target setting, the schools finance, the appointment of staff and so on.

Governing Bodies are made up of local people and will include parents, appointees of the Local Authority, teachers, school support staff, headteachers, and may include representatives of the local business community and the church. The number of governors and frequency of meetings will depend upon the type and size of the school.

Details of how to become a school governor may be obtained from the EAS Governor Support Team on **01443 863221**.

Health & Safety

In addition to the County Council and Local Authority Health & Safety policies, every school has an individual Health and Safety Policy that is tailored to the specific needs of the school.

Local Authorities and Governing Bodies are required to conform to the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and will have either a Health & Safety sub committee or nominated governor responsible for health and safety matters.

Further information regarding health and safety matters can be obtained from the Support Services Team on **01443 863221**

Website: www.monmouthshire.gov.uk

Education Welfare Service

Regular school attendance is important for all pupils and we encourage parents/carers to work in partnership with the school to ensure their child is punctual and attends school regularly in accordance with Welsh Government Guidance.

Research has shown that attendance has an impact upon how well pupils do at school. A pupil with 90% attendance would mean that they miss 19 days a year. Research shows that missing 17 days education could have the effect of GCSEs being 1 grade lower.

Pupils are expected to attend school every day unless they are prevented from doing so due to illness. One of the strategies implemented to assist in raising the level of attendance is First Day Absence Contact.

If your child is unable to attend school parents/guardians are required to:

- Contact the school on the first day of absence within 30 minutes of the start of the school day explaining the reason for the absence (it is good practice to contact the school on subsequent days if your child is unlikely to be able to attend)
- If unable to contact via telephone the parents/guardians are required to provide a note explaining the reason for their child's absence upon the child's return to school.
- To support your child and the school in achieving high rates of attendance, we would ask that if possible, appointments for the GP, dentist are made outside of school hours.



It is very important that parents inform schools for the reasons behind absences. It is the Head Teacher who will make a decision whether to authorise or not authorise an absence. If there is no justifiable reason then the absence is unauthorised and if the level of unauthorised absence exceeds 10 sessions in a term (a session is half a day) then the school can request that the Local Authority impose a fixed penalty notice. The sessions that the child misses do not have to be consecutive.

Monmouthshire Education Welfare Officers provide support to schools, pupils and their parents/carers to encourage regular school attendance. If you have any concerns in relation to your child's attendance, please contact the school initially.

If you require any information or advice on attendance issues, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school if you wish to speak to the Education Welfare Officer designated to your school.

A Guide for Customers

The Local Authority is committed to providing good quality services that you want and have the confidence in, but sometimes things do go wrong and we do not meet our normal standards. When this happens, we need to know about it.

Likewise, we would like you to let us know of any suggestions or comments you may have about improvements to services or compliments about something we have done well.

Your feedback is important to us; we want to show you that we:

- Listen
- Learn from our mistakes
- Try continuously to improve our services

Do you have a concern or complaint about your child's school?

School Complaints Procedures

Complaints about schools should be referred to the Headteacher. If the complaint is about the Headteacher ,then the complaint should be referred to the Chair of Governors, c/o the School and marked "**Private and Confidential**"

Further information is available in the School's complaints policy, which is available from the School or the School website. Procedural advice is available from the Governor Support Team on **01443 863221**

If your concern, complaint, or compliment is about the level of service offered by a section within Monmouthshire County Council, you should follow the Corporate Feedback policy. This is available on www.monmouthshire.gov.uk and further information is available from the customer service manager on 01633 644644.

What do you do if you are unhappy about the curriculum your child is studying?

Complaints about schools should be referred to the Headteacher. You are advised to discuss issues of concern regarding the curriculum with your child's Headteacher as this should hopefully resolve most issues. If a matter cannot be resolved in that way, a special procedure exists for dealing with complaints about education provision for pupils.

Full details of the procedure are available in the document entitled: "Complaints about The School Curriculum and Related Matters", which is available for inspection at all schools maintained by the Local Authority, public libraries, One Stop Shops and the Directorate for Children and Young People.

A copy will be supplied on request to any person wishing to make a complaint under the procedure.

Local Authority Maintained Nurseries in Monmouthshire

The Local Authority has twelve nursery units attached to mainstream schools. The Authority maintains these nurseries that provide free part-time Early Education for pupils from the term following their third birthday, if there are spaces available. Children may attend for five morning or five afternoon sessions a week.



Name of Nursery / Phone Number	Address	Head	Times	Admission number	Phone number
Cantref	Harold Road, Abergavenny, NP7 7DG cantrefprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.cantrefprimaryschool.co.uk	Richard Brunsdon	9am — 11.30am	30 AM	01873 854697
Deri View	Llwynu Lane, Abergavenny, NP7 6AR deriviewprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.deriviewprimary.com	Tim Kane	9am - 11.30am & 12.30 – 3pm	60 AM & 60 PM	01873 735010
Dewstow	Woodland View, Caldicot, NP26 4HD dewstowprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.dewstowprimary.co.uk	Gill Bray	09.05-11.35am & 12.25-2.55pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01291 636360
Durand	Alianore Road, Caldicot, NP26 5DF durandprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.durand.wales	Allison Waters	9-11.30am & 12.40-3.10pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01291 422296
Kymin View	Wyesham Road, Monmouth, NP25 3JR kyminview@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.kyminviewprimary.org.uk	Sally-Anne Wright (Exec Head)	9-11.30 am	30 AM	01600 714146
Magor Church in Wales	Magor, Monmouthshire, NP26 3EG magorvaprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.magorciwprimary.co.uk	Suzanne Hamer	9.05-9.15am - 11.25- 11.35am & 12.45-12.55pm 3.05-3.15pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01633 880327
Overmonnow	Rockfield Road, Monmouth, NP25 5BA overmonnowprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.overmonnow.monmouthshire.sch.uk	Jo Child	9-11.30am & 12.30pm & 3pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01600 713458
Pembroke	Pembroke Primary School, Fairfield Road, Bulwark, Chepstow, NP16 5JN pembrokeprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Mrs H Hampson	9.10 — 11.40am & 12.40 — 3.10pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01291 622310
Thornwell	Thornwell Road, Bulwark, Chepstow, NP16 5NT thornwellprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.thornwell.monmouthshire.sch.uk	Tim Appleby	9.20-11.45am - 1pm -3.20pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01292 623390
Undy	Pennyfarthing Lane, Undy, Magor, NP26 3LZ Undyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.undyprimary.monmouthshire.sch.uk	Cathy Edmunds	9-11.30am & 12.30-3pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01633 880021
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin	Sandy Lane, Caldicot, NP26 4NQ ysgolgymraegyffin@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.ysgolyffin.com	Catrin Daniel	9-11.45am	30 AM	01291 420331
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni	St David's Road, Abergavenny, NP7 6HF ysgolgymraegyfenni@monmouthshire.gov.uk www.ysgolyfenni.co.uk	Sarah Oliver	9-11.30am & 12.30-3pm	30 AM & 30 PM	01873 852388

Foundation Phase Nursery provision can also be provided at an approved non-maintained provider if a school nursery is not suitable. This could be a private nursery or playgroup that has been approved by the local authority to provide education to children the term following their 3rd birthday until they start school. They follow the Foundation Phase curriculum and are inspected by Estyn to ensure that the education they offer is of an acceptable level.

Details of this provision can be found at www.monfis.org.uk

Monmouthshire Family Information Service:

Monmouthshire Family Information Service is a free, impartial service available to parents, carers, families and professionals throughout Monmouthshire.

You can find information about childcare (childminders, playgroups, day nurseries, after school care and holiday care) on the Family Information Website at www.monfis.org.uk

Information is also available about the childcare offer, parent and toddler groups, leisure activities, family events, family support and more.

Monmouthshire Family Information Service contact details:

Website:	www.monfis.org.uk
Tel:	01633 644527
Email:	childcare@monmouthshire.gov.uk
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/MonCFIS
Twitter:	www.twitter.com/MonFamilies
Instagram:	www.instagram.com/MonFamilies

The Childcare Offer

The Childcare Offer for Wales is a Welsh Government funded scheme providing up to 30 hours a week of education and childcare for eligible working parents of 3 to 4 year olds, for up to 48 weeks of the year. For more information about eligibility, application dates and holiday entitlement, please visit www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/the-childcare-offer

All up to date information is also available at www.facebook.com/monchildcareoffer





Primary Education in Monmouthshire (4–11) All Monmouthshire Primary Schools are Co-educational



www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place

Community Primary Schools (Age range 4-11 years) Abergavenny Cluster

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Cantref Primary School & Nursery Unit 30 Harold Road, Abergavenny, NP7 7DG Tel: 01873 854697 cantrefprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Richard Brunsdon	30	210	30	13	0
Deri View Primary School & Nursery Unit Llwynu Lane, Abergavenny, NP7 6AR Tel: 01873 735010 deriviewprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Tim kane	47	330	24	0	0
Gilwern Primary School School Lane, Gilwern, Abergavenny, NP7 OAY Tel. 01873 830325 gilwernprimary@monmouthshire,gov.uk	Roger. Guy	30	210	25	0	0
Goytre Fawr Primary School School Lane, Penperlleni, Pontypool, NP4 OAH Tel. 01873 880369 goytrefawrprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Mike Gough	30	210	30	5	0
Llanfoist Fawr Primary School, School Way, Llanfoist , Nr Abergavenny NP7 9LS Tel. 01873 853093 Ilanfoistprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Stuart Davies (Exec Head)	30	210	30	6	0
Llanvihangel Crucorney Primary School Pandy, Abergavenny NP7 8DL Tel: 01873 890416 Ilanvihangelcrucorneyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Stuart Davies (Exec Head)	11	77	12	0	0
Our Lady & St Michael's Catholic Primary School Pen-y-Pound Road, Abergavenny NP7 SUD Tel: 01873 735080 ourladystmichaels@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Viv Evans	30	210	27	0	0

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, St David's Road, Abergavenny, NP7 6HF Tel: 01873 852388 ysgolgymraegyfenni@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Sarah Oliver	36	257	60	0	0
Llantilio Pertholey Church in Wales Primary School Hillgrove Avenue, Mardy, Abergavenny NP7 6LZ Tel: 01873 853 746 Ilantiliopertholeyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Helen King	30	210	24	0	0



Community Primary Schools (Age range 4-11 years) Caldicot Cluster

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Castle Park Primary School Church Road, Caldicot, NP26 4HN Tel 01291 420465 castleparkprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Claire Orford	30	210	14	0	0
Dewstow Primary School Green Iane, Caldicot, NP26 4HD Tel. 01291 636360 dewstowprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Gill Bray	30	210	30	0	0
Durand Primary School Alianore Road, Caldicot, NP26 5DF Tel. 01291 422296 durandprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Allison Waters	30	210	22	0	0
Rogiet Primary School Station Road, Rogiet NP26 3SD Tel: 01291 420348 rogietprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Paul Hamer	30	210	29	0	0
Undy Primary School Pennyfarthing Lane Undy, Magor NP26 3LZ Tel: 01633 880021 undyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Cathy Edmunds	51	359	45	0	0
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin Sandy Lane, Caldicot, NP26 4NQ Tel: 01291 420331 ysgolgymraegyffin@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Catrin Daniel	25	180	13	0	0
Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary School Crick Road, Portskewett NP26 5UL Tel: 01291 420526 arwprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Caroline Swann	30	210	29	0	0
Magor Church in Wales Primary School Magor NP26 3EG Tel: 01633 880327 magorvaprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Suzanne Hamer	55	388	48	0	0

www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/applying-for-a-school-place

Community Primary Schools (Age range 4-11 years) Chepstow Cluster

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Pembroke Primary School Fairfield Road, Bulwark, Chepstow NP16 5JN Tel: 01291 622310 pembrokeprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Jade Whitby	30	210	15	0	0
Shirenewton Primary School Shirenewton, Chepstow NP16 6RN Tel: 01291 641774 shirenewtonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Jillian Mitchell (Acting Head)	30	210	30	7	0
The Dell Primary School Welsh Street, Chepstow NP16 5UQ Tel: 01291 635641 thedellprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Steve King	60	420	50	0	0
Thornwell Primary School & Nursery Unit Thornwell Road, Bulwark, Chepstow NP16 5NT Tel: 01291 623390 thornwellprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Tim Appleby	51	357	30	0	0
St Mary's RC Primary School Bulwark Road, Chepstow NP16 5JE Tel: 01291 623006 stmarysprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Rosie O'Donnell	30	210	19	0	0



Community Primary Schools (Age range 4-11 years) Monmouth Cluster

Too U U U Cross Ash Primary School	Headteadter Headteadter Katherine Everley	26 Admission No	School Capacity Number	58 No of applications allocated 2021/22	 No of applications refused 2021/22 	 No of successful appeals 2021/22
Cross Ash, Abergavenny, NP7 8PL Tel 01873 821427 crossashprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk						
Kymin View Primary School, Wyesham Avenue, Monmouth, NP25 3LD Tel: 01600 714146 kyminviewprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Sally-Ann Wright (Exec Head)	30	210	18	0	0
Llandogo Primary School Llandogo, Monmouth, NP25 4TJ Tel. 01594 530388 Ilandogoprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk.	Sally-Ann Wright (Exec Head)	15	111	11	0	0
Overmonnow Primary School & Special Needs Unit Rockfield Road, Monmouth NP25 5BA Tel: 01600 713458 overmonnowprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Jo Child	59	417	40	0	0
Trellech Primary School Trellech, Monmouth NP25 4PA Tel: 01600 860395 trellechprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Karen Christofi	25	180	25	0	0
Raglan Church in Wales VC Primary School Chepstow Road, Raglan NP15 2EN Tel: 01291 690704 raglanprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	TBC	30	210	18	0	0
Usk Church in Wales Primary School Monmouth Road, Usk NP15 1SE Tel: 01291 673818 uskcvprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Victoria Evans	40	300	41	4	0
Osbaston Church in Wales Primary School Osbaston Road, Monmouth NP25 3AX Tel: 01600 775070 osbastonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Catherine Jones	30	210	30	4	0
Voluntary Aided and Denominational Schools Voluntary Aided Schools

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Archbishop Rowan Williams Church in Wales Primary Church Road, Portskewett NP26 SUL Tel: 01291 420526 Archbishoprowanwilliamsprimary@ monmouthshire.gov.uk	Caroline Swann	30	210	29	0	0
Magor Church in Wales Primary Magor NP26 3EG Tel: 01633 880327 magorvaprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Suzanne Hamer	55	388	48	0	0
Our Lady & St Michael's Catholic Primary Pen-y-Pound Road, Abergavenny NP7 SUD Tel: 01873 735080 ourladystmichaelsprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Viv Evans	30	210	27	0	0
St Mary's RC Primary Bulwark Road, Chepstow NP16 5JE Tel: 01291 623006 stmarysprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Rosie O'Donnell	30	210	19	0	0

Denominational Schools

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2020/21	No of applications refused 2020/21	No of successful appeals 2020/21
Llantilio Pertholey Church in Wales Primary Hillgrove Avenue, Mardy, Abergavenny NP7 6LZ Tel: 01873 853 746 Ilantiliopertholeyprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Helen King	30	210	24	0	0

Name of School	Headreacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Osbaston Church in Wales Osbaston Road, Monmouth NP25 3AX Tel: 01600 775070 osbastonprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Catherine Jones	30	210	30	4	0
Raglan Church in Wales VC Primary School Chepstow Road, Raglan NP15 2EN Tel: 01291 690704 raglanprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	TBC	30	210	18	0	0
Usk Church in Wales Primary Monmouth Road, Usk NP15 1SE Tel: 01291 673818 uskcvprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Victoria Evans	40	300	41	4	0

Welsh Medium Schools

Name of School	Headteacher	Admission No	School Capacity Number	No of applications allocated 2021/22	No of applications refused 2021/22	No of successful appeals 2021/22
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Ffin Sandy Lane, Caldicot, NP26 4NQ Tel: 01291 420331 ysgolgymraegyffin@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Catrin Daniel	25	180	13	0	0
Ysgol Gymraeg Y Fenni, St David's Road, Abergavenny, NP7 6HF Tel: 01873 852388 ysgolgymraegyfenni@monmouthshire.gov.uk	Sarah Oliver	36	257	60	0	0

Monmouthshire Secondary Schools (Age 11-19)

All Monmouthshire Secondary Schools are co-educational

Caldicot School

(Incorporating Special Needs Units for Mild and Severe Learning Difficulties)

Headteacher: Head of School	Mr M Belli (Exec Head) Mr S Grech
Admission Number 253	Woodstock Way Caldicot NP26 5XA Tel: (01291) 426436 www.caldicotschool.com
Number of 2021/22 applications allocated Number of Appeals	218 0
Chepstow School	
Headteacher: Deputy Head:	Mr M Sims Miss K Bowd/Mr B Sillince
Admission Number 193	Welsh Street Chepstow NP16 5LR Tel: (01291) 635777 info@chepstowschool.net www.chepstowschool.net
Number of 2021/22 applications allocated	105

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King Henry VIII Comprehensive

Number of Appeals

Headteacher:	Mrs E Lewis (Exec Head)
Head of School	Mr M Stockham
Admission Number 216	Old Hereford Road Abergavenny NP7 6EP Tel: (01873) 735373 info@khs.schoolsedu.org.uk www.kinghenryviiischool.org.uk
Number of 2021/22 applications allocated	185
Number of Appeals	0

Monmouth Comprehensive

Headteacher:	Mr H Hutchison
Contact for Enrolment:	Mrs Sarah Bradley
Admission Number 270	Old Dixton Road, Monmouth NP25 3YT Tel: (01600) 775177 sarah.bradley@monmouth.schoolsedu.org.uk
Number of 2021/21 applications allocated	270
Number of Appeals	0

Denominational Secondary Education St Albans RC High School

Headteacher: Admissions Contact:

Admission Number: 165 for 22/23

Mr Stephen Lord Miss Claire Williams 01495 765800

St Alban's RC High School, The Park, Pontypool NP4 6XG

Tel: (01495) 765800 staenquiries@stalbans.schoolsedu.org.uk www.stalbans-pontypool.org.uk

St Joseph's RC High School

Headteacher: Contact for Enrolment:

Admission number: 240

Mrs Jackie Jarrett Gina Evans

Pencarn Way, Tredegar Park, Newport, NP10 8XH Tel: (01633) 653110 sjhs@newport.gov.uk www.sjhs.org.uk

Welsh Medium Secondary Education Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw

Headteacher: Contact for Enrolment:

Admission number: 200

Miss Elan Bolton Miss Helen Rogers

Folly Road, Trevethin, Pontypool NP4 8JD Tel: (01495) 750405 heg@gwynllyw.schoolsedu.org.uk

Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed

Headteacher: Deputy Headteacher: Contact for Enrolment:

Admission Number 150

Mrs E Jones Mrs A Williams Mrs M Turnbull

Ffordd Dyffryn, Dyffryn, Casnewydd, NP10 8BX Tel: 01633 851614 gwent.iscoed@newport.gov.uk

Useful Contacts

Monmouthshire Website		www.monmouthshire.gov.uk
Access Unit		accesstolearning@monmouthshire.gov.uk 01633 644508
Passenger Transport Unit		01633 644777
Additional Learning Needs		01633 644511
Special Educational Needs		01633 644511
Education Welfare Service		01633 644533
Education Psychology Service		01633 644512
Home Tuition		01633 644533
Governor Support Services		01633 644508
Education Achievement Service		01443 864963
Monmouthshire Early Years		01633 644534
Family Information Service		01633 644527
Early Years Education		01633 644461
Abergavenny Community Hub		01873 735980
Caldicot Community Hub		01291 426425
Chepstow Community Hub		01291 635730
Monmouth Community Hub		01600 775215
Usk Community Hub		01291 426888
B U S K (Belt Up School Kids)	buskuk@aol.com	01633 274944
WG (Welsh Government)		
Local Authorities (LA's)	www.wales.gov.uk	02920 825111
Newport City Council		01633 233488
Torfaen County Borough Council		01633 648119
Powys County Council		01597 826000
Blaenau Gwent County Council		01495 350555
Herefordshire County Council		01432 260925
South Gloucestershire County Council		01454 863155/7
Gloucester County Council		01452 425300

Catchment Area

The geographical area served by a school, this does not guarantee a place at that school.

Curriculum

The curriculum consists of all the learning opportunities provided by the school, many of which take place in the classroom under the direct control of the teacher, supplemented by a range of activities outside the classroom including educational visits and field studies.

Local Authority (LA)

The Local Government body responsible for the organisation and maintenance of the Education Service in its area. In Monmouthshire, this responsibility is undertaken by the County Council and delivered through the Directorate for children and young people.

LA Maintained School

A school for which an LA has financial and administrative responsibility.

Non-Maintained or Independent School

A school not funded by the Local Authority.

Voluntary Aided School

A school set up and owned by a voluntary body, usually a church body, largely financed by an LA. The governing body employ the staff, and control pupil admissions and religious education.

School and Student Access Unit

The group of staff that deal with applications for admission to schools in Monmouthshire.

Admission Number

The maximum number of pupils to be admitted into a year group of a school.

Passenger Transport Unit

The group of staff that deal with the assessment of entitlement and transportation of pupils to schools.

Booklet designed by www.artmattersstudio.co.uk 01873 831440

Addysg Gymraeg yn Sir Fynwy

Dwyieithog o'r dechrau

Welsh medium Education in Monmouthshire

Bilingual from the beginning





Croeso!

Prif amcan y daflen hon yw cyflwyno gwybodaeth am ddarpariaeth addysg cyfrwng Cymraeg yn yr awdurdod ynghyd â manteision cyffredinol dwyieithrwydd. Mae wedi'i thargedu ar gyfer pobl Sir Fynwy ac yn seiliedig ar brofiadau rhieni lleol.

Penderfynu ar addysg eich plentyn fydd un o'r dewisiadau pwysicaf a wnewch fel rhiant. Cofiwch fod cyngor a chefnogaeth ar gael gan lu o fudiadau sy'n gweithio i hyrwyddo'r Gymraeg wrth i chi bwyso a mesur eich dewisiadau. Hyderwn felly y bydd y daflen yma'n codi cwr y llen ar yr ystod presennol o ddarpariaeth cyfrwng Cymraeg a geir yn Sir Fynwy ac yn eich ysbrydoli i ymchwilio ymhellach. Gall nifer cynyddol o rieni'r ardal dystio mai profiad gwerthfawr a chadarnhaol oedd cyflwyno'r Gymraeg i'w plant. Ewch amdani – wnewch chi ddim difaru!

Welcome!

This leaflet's main objective is to provide information about Monmouthshire's current Welsh-medium provision and the wider advantages of bilingualism. It's targeted at the people of Monmouthshire and based on the experiences of local parents.

As a parent, deciding on your child's education will be one of the most important decisions that you will ever make. Remember that you can seek advice and support from a number of organisations who work to promote the Welsh language as you weigh up your options. We hope that this leaflet will give you an overview of the Welsh-medium provision currently available in Monmouthshire and inspire you to carry out your own personal research. An increasing number of the county's parents can testify that introducing the Welsh language to their child has been a positive and worthwhile experience. Go for it – you won't regret it!

Beth yw manteision bod yn ddwyieithog?

Mae dysgu siarad Cymraeg yn sgil ychwanegol fydd yn rhoi mantais i'ch plentyn wrth dyfu'n hŷn:

- Bydd eich plentyn yn medru mwynhau dau ddiwylliant sy'n cyfoethogi eu profiadau ac ehangu'u gorwelion.
- Mae dwyieithrwydd yn gwneud dysgu ieithoedd tramor yn haws o lawer! Bydd eich plentyn yn siarad dwy iaith yn rhugl cyn dechrau ysgol uwchradd. Ni fydd ychwanegu ieithoedd eraill yn broblem!
- Ar y cyfan mae disgyblion mewn ysgolion Cymraeg yn perfformio o leiaf mor dda a disgyblion mewn ysgolion Saesneg ymhob pwnc, gan gynnwys Saesneg.
- Mae dwyieithrwydd yn arwain at hyblygrwydd a sensitifrwydd meddwl ynghyd â'r gallu i feddwl yn fwy creadigol. Mae siaradwyr dwyieithog hefyd yn tueddu i wneud yn well mewn profion IQ!
- Mae ymchwilwyr o Ganada wedi profi fod dwyieithrwydd yn cael effaith gadarnhaol ar yr ymennydd trwy'i gadw'n weithgar ac hyd yn oed yn helpu i leihau'r tebygolrwydd o gael dementia.
- Cyfleoedd byd gwaith: mae cyflogwyr yn gynyddol edrych am weithlu sydd yn meddu ar sgiliau cyflawn dwyieithog, a sgiliau iaith ehangach.

Cofiwch!

Nid yw medru mwy nag un iaith yn beth anghyffredin – mae rhwng 60% a 75% o boblogaeth y byd yn ddwyieithog.

What are the benefits of being bilingual?

Learning to speak Welsh is a valuable extra skill which will give your child a head start:

- With the opportunity to speak Welsh your child will benefit from the broader horizons of two cultures.
- Bilingual children also find foreign languages easier to learn! Your child will have two languages under their belt by the time they get to secondary school and won't be phased by a third or fourth language.
- On average pupils attending Welsh medium schools perform at least as well as their peers at English medium schools in all subjects, including English.
- Bilingualism leads to flexibility of thinking, more creative thinking and improved sensitivity. Bilingual people also tend to do better at IQ tests compared with monolingual people!
- Researchers from Canada have demonstrated that bilingualism has a positive effect on the brain by keeping it active later in life and has even been shown to reduce the risk of dementia.
- Opportunities in the workplace employers are increasingly looking to employ staff possessing comprehensive skills in both Welsh and English, and a wider appetite for languages.

Remember!

The ability to speak more than one language isn't uncommon. Between 60% and 75% of the world's population is bilingual.

Cyfeiriadau ~ References

Bialystok, E. (2011)," Reshaping the Mind: The Benefits of Bilingualism", Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology, Vol. 65, No. 4, 229–235 Alladi, S. et al. (2013), "Bilingualism delays age at onset of dementia, independent of education and immigration status", Neurology, 81(22):1938-44

Ysgolion ~ Schools



Ysgolion Uwchradd ~ Secondary Schools

1. Ysgol Gyfun Gwynllyw	Folly Road, Trevethin, Pontypool, NP4 8JD	01495 750405
2. Ysgol Gyfun Gwent Is Coed	Yn agor Medi 2016 ar safle dros dro / opening Sept 2016 at a temporary site (Brynglas Drive, Newport, NP20 5QS)	http://www. gwentiscoed. cymru

Cylchoedd Ti a Fi ~ Parent and Toddler Groups

Cyfle gwych i blant, newydd anedig hyd at oed ysgol, a'u rhieni gwrdd unwaith yr wythnos i gymdeithasu, rhannu profiadau ac i chwarae gyda'i gilydd mewn awyrgylch anffurfiol Gymraeg.

Offering children, from birth to compulsory school age, and their parents an opportunity to meet once a week to socialise, share experiences and to play together in an informal Welsh environment.

- 1. Cylch Ti a Fi Y Fenni (Abergavenny)
- 2. Cylch Ti a Fi Rhaglan (Raglan)
- 3. Cylch Ti a Fi Brynbuga (Usk)
- 4. Cylch Ti a Fi Cas-gwent (Chepstow)
- 5. Cylch Ti a Fi Cil-y-coed (Caldicot)
- 6. Cylch Ti a Fi Magwyr (Magor)

Cylch Meithrin ~ Playgroup

Sesiynau gofal ac addysg ddyddiol i blant 2-5 mlwydd oed. Daily sessional care and education for children 2-5 years old

7. Cylch Meithrin Y Fenni (Abergavenny)

Cyswllt / Contact: Teleri Jones, 07800 540316, teleri.jones@meithrin.cymru www.meithrin.cymru

Ysgolion Cynradd ~ Primary Schools					
1. Ysgol Gymraeg y Fenni & Uned Feithrin / Nursery Unit	St. David's Road, Abergavenny, NP7 6HF	01873 852388			
2. Ysgol Gymraeg y Ffin & Uned Feithrin / Nursery Unit	Sandy Lane, Caldicot, NP26 4NQ	01291 420331			
Cyngor Sir Fynwy/ Monmouthshire County Council www.monmouthshire.gov.uk/welsh-medium-education					

Cwestiynau cyffredin: cyngor gan rhieni

Bydd fy mhlentyn yn colli'r cyfle i wneud ffrindiau 'lleol'.

'Wrth edrych nôl, mae hyn yn llai o bryder nag yr oeddwn wedi'i dybio'n wreiddiol. Mae fy mhlant wedi gwneud ffrindiau lleol da mewn clybiau a gweithgareddau ar ôl ysgol."

Beth os nad ydw i'n siarad Cymraeg? Sut alla i helpu gyda gwaith cartref?

"Na phoenwch! Bydd yr ysgol yn eich cefnogi pob cam o'r ffordd gan ddeall bod 95% o rieni yn ddi-Gymraeg yn ardal yr hen Went. Mae'r athrawon yn barod iawn i gynnig unrhyw gymorth sydd ei angen. Mae nifer o fudiadau a gwefannau ar gael er mwyn eich cefnogi."



Beth am gludiant?

"Roeddwn i'n poeni'n fawr am hyn i ddechrau ond mae fy mab yn mwynhau'r cyfle ar y siwrnai i ddal lan gyda'i ffrindiau. Mae'r sir yn darparu bws am ddim i blant sy'n byw dros 1.5 milltir* o'r ysgol gynradd." Sut bydda i'n dod i nabod rhieni eraill os bydd fy mhlant yn mynd ar fws i'r ysgol?

"Byddwch chi ddim ar ben eich hun! Mae cymdeithasau rhieni ac athrawon cryf i helpu wneud ffrindiau ymysg rhieni eraill."

Common concerns: parents respond

My child will lose The opportunity to make local friends.

"Looking back, this was less of a problem than I might have anticipated. My children have made good friends locally through clubs and after school activities."

> What if I don't speak Welsh? How can I help with homework?

"Don't worry! The school will support you every step of the way - understanding that 95% of parents in the old Gwent don't speak Welsh. Teachers are very willing to help in any way and homework instructions are bilingual until your child is able to translate. There are also many organisations and websites you can turn to for help."

How will I get to know other parents if my children go to school on the bus?

"You're not alone! Welsh medium schools' PTAs are usually very strong and provide a great forum for making friends."

What about transport?

"I really worried about this initially but my son enjoys the chance to chat to friends on the bus on the way to school. The county provides a free bus service for children who live more than 1.5 miles* from the priman school."

* a dros 2 filltir o'r ysgol uwchradd * and more than 2 miles from the secondary school Mudiadau lleol

Mae'r Gymraeg ar waith yn Sir Fynwy! Dyma fanylion mudiadau eraill sydd yn gweithio i hybu'r defnydd o'r iaith:

Cymraeg i Oedolion: Canolfan Gwent

- Mae'r Ganolfan yn cynllunio a darparu rhaglen gynhwysfawr o gyrsiau i apelio at ddysgwyr o bob lefel!
- Offering a comprehensive range of courses to appeal to learners at all levels!

01495 333 710 welsh@coleggwent.ac.uk www.learnwelsh.coleggwent.ac.uk

Menter Iaith Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen a Mynwy

- Mudiad sy'n hybu a hyrwyddo'r defnydd o'r Gymraeg yn y gymuned.
- An initiative to increase and promote the use of Welsh in the community

01495 755 861

siangriffiths@menterbgtm. org

menterbgtm.org

Mudiad Meithrin

- Mudiad Gwirfoddol sy'n ceisio rhoi cyfle i bob plentyn ifanc yng Nghymru fanteisio ar wasanaethau a phrofiadau blynyddoedd cynnar trwy'r Gymraeg.
- A voluntary organisation that aims to give every child in Wales the opportunity to benefit from early years services and experiences in Welsh.

Vicky Cotter 07792 952107 vicky.cotter@meithrin.co.uk www.meithrin.co.uk

Cymdeithasau Cymraeg / Welsh Societies Cyfle i bobl o bob oedran gymdeithasu yn y Gymraeg. Croeso mawr i ddysgwyr! A chance for people of all ages to socialise in Welsh. Learners very welcome!

Cas-gwent a'r cyffiniau / Chepstow & area http://cymgymcasgwent.weebly.com/

Trefynwy / Monmouth http://www.cymdeithasgymraegtrefynwy.org. uk/ Using your Welsh in Monmouthshire! Local organisations that promote the use of the language:

Local organisations





