

# Admissions Policy 2026-27



## Basic Information

- Thrybergh Fullerton Church of England Primary Academy is situated in the Diocese of Sheffield and is maintained by the Rotherham Local Authority.
- The school primarily serves the ecclesiastical parishes of Thrybergh and Hooton Roberts.
- The school Governing Body being the “admissions authority” is responsible for determining and administering the policy relating to the admission of pupils to the school.
- Following statutory consultation with the LA and others, the Governing Body has set as its published admission number for 2026/27 at 30.
- In accordance with the provisions of Regulation 49 of the Education (School Government) Regulation 1999, the Governing Body has delegated responsibility for determining admissions to its Admission Committee.
- As requested by law, the Governing Body will not admit more than 30 pupils to any one reception or infant class (except multiple births where one of the children is the 30<sup>th</sup> child admitted, eg twins).
- Children with a statement of Special Educational Need/Education, Health and Care Plan with the school named will be admitted by law.

Date of admission to the school in each academic year is 1 September.

Although the law does not require children to be admitted to school until the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday, the Governing Body, being the Admissions Authority for this school, will admit children into school at one point during the school year as follows:

Children will be admitted during the autumn term following their 4<sup>th</sup> birthday. Where parents wish to defer entry or request that the child attends part-time, the request will be considered where it appears to be in the best interest of the child. All children will be admitted by the term following their 5<sup>th</sup> birthday – compulsory school age.

### Co-ordinated Scheme for Admission Arrangements

The co-ordinated scheme for admissions is a mechanism that ensures that all parents who have expressed a preference for a Rotherham school before the closing date will receive a single offer of a school place on the same day from the Authority.

In order to provide every parent with an offer of one single place the Authority will be working with the Governing Bodies of the Voluntary Aided primary schools and Academies within the Rotherham Area. Details of the co-ordinated scheme can be obtained from the Authority.

### Criteria for Admission:

Where there are more applications for admission than the admission number of 30, the Governing Body/Admission Committee will apply the following criteria in strict order of priority:

\* In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

Order for allocating places:

Selection Process	Admission Criteria Category
1	Category One
2	Category Two
3	Category Three
4	Category Four
5	Category Five

This is important where the school will have more applications than places available.

### **Category One**

1(a) Children who are in Public Care (Looked After Children).

1(b) Children with a statement of Special Educational Need/Education, Health and Care Plan with the school named will be admitted by law.

### **Category Two\***

*The children of parents/carers who are resident within the ecclesiastical parishes of Thrybergh and Hooton Roberts and:*

1. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend the parish churches of Thrybergh or Hooton Roberts and where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.
2. whose parents/carers regularly and frequently attend the parish churches of Thrybergh or Hooton Roberts.
3. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Church of England church and where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.
4. whose parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Church of England church.
5. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Christian denomination participating in "Churches Together in England" and where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.
6. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Christian denomination participating in 'Churches Together in England.

### **Category Three\***

*The children of parents/carers who are resident outside the ecclesiastical parishes of Thrybergh and Hooton Roberts and:*

1. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend the parish churches of Thrybergh or Hooton Roberts and where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.

\* In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

2. whose parents/carers regularly and frequently attend the parish churches of Thrybergh or Hooton Roberts.

3. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Church of England Church and where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.

4. where the parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Church of England Church.

5. whose parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Christian denomination participating in "Churches Together in England" and where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.

6. whose parents/carers regularly and frequently attend another Christian denomination participating in 'Churches Together in England'.

#### **Category Four**

*The children of parents/carers who are resident within the ecclesiastical parishes of Thrybergh and Hooton Roberts and:*

1. where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.

2. Children of staff where:

a. the member of staff has been employed at the school for a year or more at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made and/or

b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

3. whose parents/carers wish their child to attend this DSAT Academy.

#### **Category Five**

*The children of parents/carers who are resident outside the ecclesiastical parishes of Thrybergh and Hooton Roberts and:*

1. where the child will have an elder brother or sister in school at the anticipated time of admission.

2. Children of staff where:

a. the member of staff has been employed at the school for a year or more at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made and/or

b. the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage

3. whose parents/carers wish their child to attend this DSAT Academy. When deciding between applicants with otherwise equal entitlement to a place, the governors will take into account where

the applicants live and give priority to applicants who live the shortest walking distance to the school using public roads and footpaths.

\* In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

### **Tie-Breaker (Distance)**

If the admission number is reached mid-category, applications in that category will be prioritised by the measurement of distance from the child's ordinary place of residence to the school gates, with the shortest distance having the highest priority. When measuring distance, the Governing Body will measure the shortest walking distance to the school using public roads and footpaths.

### **In Year Transfers**

The Local Authority will co-ordinate in year transfers for our schools in 2026-27.

### **Church Attendance**

Parent/carers whose application is based on membership of a Christian denomination should enclose a letter of support from their priest/minister. The letter should include how long they have been attending the place of worship and the average frequency of such attendance:

1. more than weekly
2. weekly
3. more than monthly
4. monthly
5. quarterly

### **Notes:**

- i. the ecclesiastical parish of Hooton Roberts refers to the ancient parish boundaries in place at the time of the demise of the Hooton Roberts school.

The waiting list will be operated in accordance with the Rotherham Authority Scheme and detailed in the Admissions booklet.

### **Definitions**

Definition 1 – Brother/Sister Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living in the same family unit at the same address.

Definition 2 – Parent/Carer A parent/carer is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child. Where admission arrangements refer to 'parent's attendance at church' it is sufficient for just one parent to attend. 'Family members' include only parents and siblings. A parent/carer is any person who has parental responsibility or care of the child. Where admission arrangements refer to

‘parent’s attendance at church’ it is sufficient for just one parent to attend. ‘Family members’ include only parents and siblings.

\* In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

### Definition 3 – Regular and Frequent Church Attendance

Regular and frequent attendance by parents/carers is defined as attendance at a Church of England church or another Christian denomination participating in ‘Churches Together in England’ for at least once a month over the last 12 months.

Parents/carer whose application is based on attendance at a church of Christian denomination should submit the Minister/Religious Leader Reference Form available with the Common Application Form.

### Definition 4 – Looked after children

A looked after child is a child that is in the care of a local authority, or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time an application for admission to the school is made and who the local authority has confirmed will still be looked after at the time when he/she is admitted to the school. A previously looked after child is a child who was adopted or became subject to a residence or special guardianship order immediately following having been looked after.

### **Appeals against the Governing Body’s decision to refuse admission:**

1. If a place is not offered at the school, parents have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel formed in accordance with the legislation. Details of the appeals procedure will be sent to parents by the local authority.
2. Parents who intend to make an appeal against the Governing Body’s decision to refuse admission must submit a notice of appeal by the date set out in the decision letter. Appeals will be held within the timescales set out in the Admission Appeal Code.

### **Appeals information can be found at:**

<https://www.rotherham.gov.uk/xfp/form/1515>

*Churches together website: [www.churches-together.org.uk](http://www.churches-together.org.uk) (Please refer to the website for an up to date list.)*

\* In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.