



# Bishop Milner

CATHOLIC COLLEGE SECONDARY PROSPECTUS



# On behalf of Directors, Staff and Students I would like to welcome you to Bishop Milner Catholic College.

On behalf of Directors, Staff and Students I would like to welcome you to Bishop Milner Catholic College. Choosing the right school/college is one of the most important decisions a parent can make. Therefore, we trust this prospectus is both useful and informative in giving you an insight into life at our college.

At Bishop Milner Catholic College we look to provide a secure and caring environment which enables all of our students to develop their God given abilities and talents to the full so that they grow to become mature and responsible young men and women. When visitors come to our college, they regularly comment on three things, our distinctive Catholic ethos, how forward looking we are, and how well we focus on the important aspects of our students' education.

As a college we are a community which compliments the home in attempting to live out the values of the Gospel and our Catholic life. Our experienced and dedicated team of staff who work tirelessly to provide academic excellence, social awareness and spiritual development for all our young people in a stimulating learning environment.

We are justly proud of our excellent reputation within the community. The highest standards are expected from our students in all aspects of their college life. It is also important that we take time to celebrate their personal achievements. Our success is based on ensuring every child is known, by having high expectations of everything we do and a relentless focus on developing and sustaining outstanding teaching.

In June 2015 Ofsted judged our college as a 'good' whilst also recognising behaviour and safety to be 'outstanding', along with taking account of our many exceptional features. In June 2017 the Birmingham Diocesan Section 48 R.E inspection for Catholic Schools judged our college as 'Good'

Our facilities are bright and modern, which include a new sports hall and seven new state-of-the-art Mathematics classrooms, which in turn contribute to the excellent learning opportunities our students can experience. Links with local businesses are strong, as are our relationships with other schools/colleges and institutions of higher education.

If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the college, or arrange a visit. Our students are the very best advertisement and you will be sure to find a warm welcome. Alternatively visit our website at [www.bmilner.dudley.sch.uk](http://www.bmilner.dudley.sch.uk)

Richard May, Principal, BSc Hons.

WELCOME TO BISHOP MILNER  
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

# MISSION STATEMENT

‘Developing our God given talents’

Our college is committed to offering Christian love and care to each person within it. Everyone is valued as a gift from God and treated with respect.

In our college we learn together and aim to help all students achieve their very best.

## In order to achieve our mission to be a Christ-centred learning community we:

- recognise that each student is a member of God's family and as such, is a unique person at his/her own point in their journey of faith
- provide opportunities for prayer, the celebration of the Eucharist, days of reflection and daily collective worship
- provide a safe, supportive learning environment with a warm and welcoming atmosphere, where staff and students work together in a spirit of mutual respect
- aim for excellence so that everyone makes the best use of their God given gifts
- provide an inclusive environment that recognises that we are all unique

## In order to achieve our mission to be committed to the development of the whole person we:

- offer the highest quality of teaching and learning to prepare our students for adult life
- monitor and record student progress, celebrate student success and communicate regularly with parents
- liaise and collaborate with other schools and colleges in order to foster good relationships and ensure continuity of educational provision
- place great emphasis on the development of high standards of personal behaviour, self-discipline and the right use of freedom
- offer opportunities for students to be of service to the local community, the Church and society in general, and encourage students, staff, parents and Directors to be involved in the life of the college

## We hope that students leave Bishop Milner Catholic College with.....

- a sense of their own inherent value and worth as part of God's creation
- the necessary vision and skills to find and fulfil their mission in life
- a collection of memories and experiences that remind them how much they were and are cherished as part of our college family.



loving hopeful  
attentive learned curious  
faith-filled learned wise  
generous learned prophetic grateful  
eloquent prophetic discerning  
intentional compassionate  
truthful active



Bishop Milner is a Catholic College and as such it strives to live and serve as a witness to the teachings of our Lord Jesus Christ. Linked to our mission, we do this according to the traditions of the Catholic Church.

Our Catholic identity and spiritual life are reflected in all areas of our college and underpinned by the Jesuit Pupil Profile. Religious Education is taught to all year groups in programmes recommended by the Archdiocese. There are daily assemblies, weekly Masses, services of reconciliation and days of reflection in college. The college is also committed to the Common Good and regularly takes part in charitable events to benefit others. We are also very proud of the strong links we have with our Primary schools, St Joseph's and St Chads who are also part of the St John Bosco Catholic Academy.

All students and staff are supported by our RE Department, College Chaplain, Lay Chaplain and our Chaplaincy Team. A number of staff and students belong to the Chaplaincy Team. They respond to particular needs in the college community as well as aiming to be an active presence and force in the faith life of the college.

We give due respect to members of all Christian and non-Christian traditions.

We also celebrate the faith traditions of other religions as part of our assembly themes throughout the college year.

As a college we are totally committed to promoting community cohesion in all curriculum areas and in our faith practice.

**SPIRITUAL LIFE AND  
CATHOLIC IDENTITY**

Our first priority is our students' welfare and protection. Therefore we have designated Senior Staff responsible for Safeguarding Children (11 to 18). The names of these staff are displayed in reception and around the college.

There may be occasions when concern about your child means that these staff or other staff have to consult with external agencies before contacting you. The procedures we follow in these instances are those laid down by Dudley Children's Services which are in line with national guidelines.

There are also occasions when we use photographs or images of your child in display and publicity material re: our college. You have the right to ask us not to do this but must put your request in writing to the Principal.

Behaviour Management in our college is based on Gospel values. It aims to foster an environment where every student's contribution is valued, where everyone in the college is treated with respect and accords respect to others and where teachers and students work in a spirit of mutual co-operation.

We know that young people learn best in an atmosphere of good order and calm. We believe that every student has a right to study free from the fear associated with a lack of good behaviour and good order. What behaviour rules there are, are based on a respect for self, others and the environment as well as the need for our college to function as a community.

Our behaviour expectations have positive connotations and for this reason we have a college agreement in which student, parents/carers and the college recognise their duties and responsibilities in the partnership of education.

We pride ourselves on working with parents and students in support of outstanding behaviour. Our committed approach to behaviour was commended in our most recent Ofsted (June 2015) and graded as 'outstanding'.

## Year 7-8 - Key Stage 3

Each year group is taught in two bands. There is an equal spread of ability in each band and each of the bands is divided into two to three parallel teaching groups.

For the first two years all students follow a common curriculum which covers all areas of the National Curriculum: Religious Education, English, Maths, Science, a Modern Language, History, Geography, Design and Technology, Music, Art, Information Communications Technology and Physical Education. In addition there is a tutorial programme which further enhances our student's spiritual, moral, personal and social development.

Students with particular learning difficulties also receive specialised support from Learning Support Staff either within normal lessons, by being withdrawn from some lessons, and by receiving focused learning in their particular teaching group.

During Year 8 students choose their options which they will then study at KS4. Their 'option' subjects are arranged in three groups and are followed in Years 9, 10 and 11.

## Years 9, 10 & 11 - Key Stage 4

All students continue to study Religious Education, Maths, Science and English in teaching sets according to their performance and potential in these subjects. The core subjects to be studied also include Physical Education, French and a Humanities subject. Spiritual, Moral, Personal and Social Education is taught across all areas of the curriculum and as part of their Tutorial Period programmes along with careers and other identified areas of need.

Students are guided through their courses of study towards exam entry or final certification by their subject teachers.

## Year 12 & 13 – Key Stage 5

Here at Bishop Milner Catholic College we also have a thriving Sixth Form that offers a wide range of A Levels and BTEC National Level 3 Qualifications. In addition to their academic programme of study, students also benefit from comprehensive programmes of further enrichment and Post 18 guidance.





As a Catholic College we recognise the gifts and needs of each individual student. We are committed towards equality of opportunity and the provision of a broad and balanced curriculum suited to the needs of our students.

Nevertheless, your child may have a specific special educational need. This may be: a learning difficulty, a sensory impairment, a physical disability or an emotional and behavioural difficulty. The Special Needs Department offers support within and outside the classroom.

Our aim is to remove any potential barriers to inclusion and to enable students with SEN to feel valued and able to reach their full potential whilst preparing for a mainstream adult world.

# MONITORING STUDENT PROGRESS

Students' progress is monitored regularly and in a structured manner that allows students, teachers and parents to know current progress and its potential effect upon final exam grades. By utilising this data and information on a regular basis, this allows issues to be addressed by means of intervention, tailored to students' needs.

## Progress is monitored in the following ways:

- In lesson through verbal and written feedback
- Setting and assessment of homework
- Regular reporting on outstanding progress targets (OPT) and working at grades (WA) and your child's approach to learning (ATL)
- Annual college reports
- Parents'/carers' evenings, once per year
- Other reports and meetings as deemed appropriate to the needs of each individual child

Bishop Milner Catholic College recognises that students work best when there is close communication between home and college life. This is fostered with: Induction days/ evenings; parent's evenings; Curriculum booklets; Independent Study diaries; Progress and Form Tutor report's, Newsletters and other forms of appropriate communication.

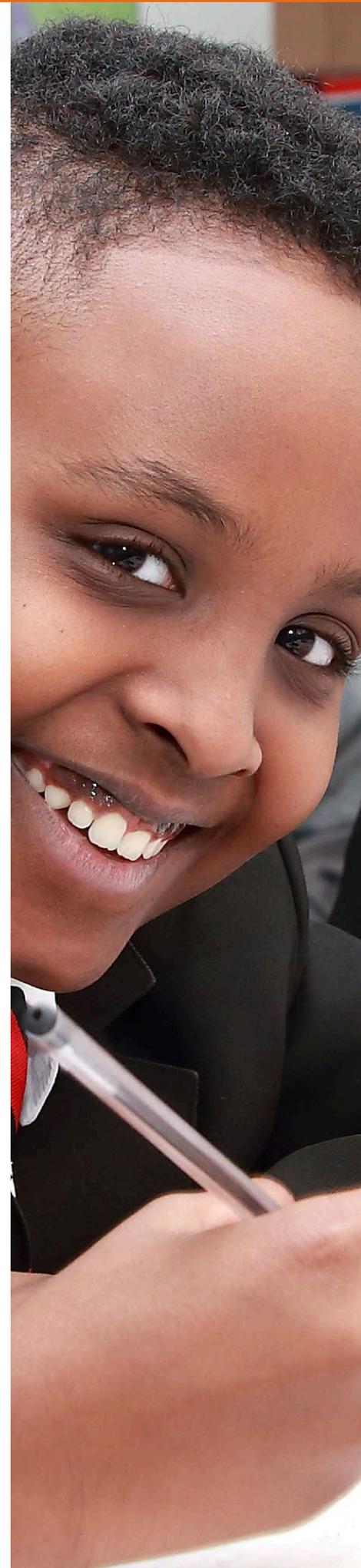


Our provision takes into account not only that every child matters but that every child is an individual and is 'made in the image of God' Genesis 1:27.

To support this we ensure that:

- The pastoral system at Bishop Milner Catholic College creates an environment which is supportive of our students' needs within a caring environment. To this end, when students arrive in Year 7 they are divided into 5 tutor groups who they will remain with as they work through the college.
- Our traditional Year group tutor system places students into tutor groups with other students within the same year group. This allows Student to focus on issues that are pertinent to them at various points throughout their time here at college, such as Transition in Year 7, Options in Year 8 and Year 9, Work Experience in Year 10 and Exams in Year 11.
- Each tutor group is headed up by a form tutor who is the first point of contact for each student and parent throughout the college day. Further to this, each Year group is led by a Head of Year who is responsible for the pastoral welfare of each student within their Year group.
- The pastoral curriculum is delivered via tutor time, assemblies, extended tutor days and workshops and is designed to look at a number of issues and topics ranging from .....

- Our Student Welfare Officer works closely with all students to ensure their physical and mental wellbeing is catered for and remains at the forefront of our pastoral care and duty towards all of our students.
- The college also has a Chaplaincy team which is made up of both staff and students.
- A Rainbow group is available throughout the college day offering support to students suffering from bereavement.
- A Counselling provision is in place for referrals by the Heads of Year.
- All of our students have access to careers advice, a College Health Advisor and a student Counsellor.
- The college employs a Behaviour and Inclusion Manager to support students in lessons and around college. Support ranges from 1:1 mentoring, in class support, group work and targeted interventions.



The college encourages students to become engaged in leadership activities and service to the college in support of our Catholic ethos. A sample of what is available can be seen opposite

## Milner Voice

Operates throughout Years 7 – 13, meeting regularly to discuss student questions, proposals and have an active input into the developments at Bishop Milner Catholic College.

## Student Leaders

Student Leaders play a vital part in the running of Bishop Milner Catholic College; assisting and supporting both staff and students. The college currently has a team of around 30 Student Leaders in Year 11.

Student Leaders perform lunchtime duties where they ensure that lunchtimes are a pleasant environment for all of our students.

The role of a Student Leader does not end here, however; their duties extend to making sure the college rules and general philosophy is upheld throughout the college at all times. In addition to this, Student Leaders provide a friendly face which students can both confide in and ask for help from.

## Peer Mentors

Where older students are matched with younger students to provide support and guidance for identified individuals. Through this special relationship, peer mentors serve as role models for younger students and help with problems such as college work or social issues.

## Fundraising and Liturgy Group

Students are invited to take an active role within these groups to play their part in developing the liturgical life of our community. The college seeks to create new and meaningful opportunities for students to reflect on their faith and spiritual life.

The college takes an active role in fundraising activities and prides itself on the support it gives to charities through the different activities of students throughout a college year.

## Young Ambassador

The Physical Education Department have a Young Ambassador programme, based around the principle that young people can drive opportunity, engagement and change for all younger people to be involved in sport. Young Ambassadors are selected due to their sporting talent, and more importantly, due to their outstanding commitment and ability as young leaders or volunteers.

The role of a Young Ambassador involves increasing participation in college sport and PE, spreading the word of the Olympic and Paralympic Values - respect, friendship, excellence, courage, determination, inspiration and equality.







# FAMILY LIFE AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

The primary role in family life and relationship education belongs to parents. The role of parents and carers is then supported within the context of “Relationships and life style choices” as part of Religious Education at Bishop Milner Catholic College.

The programme is firmly based on Christian principles and positive Catholic teaching, combining treatment of the biological, social, moral and religious aspects of sexuality and procreation and situates such treatment in the context of marriage, the family and family relationships.

The programme in all respects conforms to the teachings of the Catholic Church and is attuned to the respective needs and capacities of all students. Parents and carers have a right to withdraw their child from sex education lessons given within R.E., although this should never be necessary given the moral context of lessons and the communication existing between home and college.

If parents nevertheless wish to withdraw their child, they should request in writing an interview with the Principal to make their position clear and to discuss alternative arrangements, which may be made for their child.



# INFORMATION, ADVICE & GUIDANCE AND THE WORLD OF WORK

We are committed to providing an extensive programme of careers education and information, advice and guidance to all our students to give them the best opportunity as they move forwards in life.

All students at the college have access to an independent Connexions Advisor, provided through our relationship with the Dudley Connexions service who provide independent and impartial advice.

Events such as the college Careers Convention, Mock Interview Days and Work Related Learning activities help to inform students and provide them with the confidence to strive for their goals and the knowledge to know how to achieve them. Students also have the opportunity to engage with local employers, apprenticeship providers and a wide range of universities throughout the course of their time at the college.

# The Learning Resource Centre is a fantastic place to study, offering all students the opportunity to access written and online materials to support their learning.

It is open from 8.30 am – 4.30 pm Monday to Thursday and 8.30 am – 4.00 pm on Fridays.

The resources available include:

- Large selection of fiction and non-fiction books
- Periodicals
- 60 Computers plus laptops for speed printing
- Leaflets
- Educational board games

The Learning Resource centre is available for students to access before and after college and during breaks and lunchtimes.

To support curriculum provision our facilities are continually being invested in to ensure that our students are receiving the support they need to achieve the highest quality learning experience.

We do this through the use of our excellent facilities which include:

- 7 fully equipped Science Laboratories
- 5 IT Specialist rooms
- Learning Resource Centre
- 2 Specialist Technology Rooms
- Fitness Room
- Music Suite with 5 practice rooms.
- Sports Hall



# An important part of joining Bishop Milner Catholic College is your willingness to participate in the rich and varied opportunities provided to students beyond the normal curriculum.

All students have the opportunity to attend the annual Ski Trip during February half term. The Modern Foreign Languages department lead an annual trip to Paris at Easter which includes a visit to Disney Land. The History department regularly organise trips to Europe taking in destinations linked to World War I and II. In recent years the college has taken a small number of students on the annual diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes in France during May half term.

An integral part of joining Year 7 is an opportunity to attend a residential at Alton Castle Diocesan Retreat Centre in Staffordshire. Students participate in outdoor activities in their tutor groups, have opportunity for prayer services and organise their own Mass, building a sense of community with their peers and pastoral staff.

We also have many of our students undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme at Bronze, Silver and Gold level for our post 16 students.

Other residential opportunities are provided for students throughout their college career and they may engage in canoeing, camping, sailing, orienteering, hill walking and abseiling.

In addition to residential experiences, throughout the academic year there are a large selection of activities that students are encouraged to participate in:

- Whole college performances – most recently 'Hairspray' and 'A night at the Musicals' and 'Bugsy Malone'
- Orchestra/Choir
- Reading/Maths Club
- Public Speaking competitions
- Birmingham Science festival
- 'Oxbridge' and other university experiences
- Parliament visits
- Extra-curricular teams/sports clubs – including disabled sporting chances

## At Bishop Milner Catholic College we provide opportunities for students to extend themselves within college.

Differentiation is clear within lessons and appropriate providing opportunities are given for students to demonstrate their ability or suitable for stretch and challenge.

A range of opportunities are planned for independent learning and a wide range of learning styles are used in order to personalise learning so that every student can achieve to the best of their ability. The College curriculum has a range of opportunities that offer the chance to increase their knowledge and to form effective learning habits to maximise potential.

In addition we provide a programme of exciting enrichment and extension activities. This takes place through events and classes provided by the college such as lunchtime or after college clubs across a range of departments with opportunities including :

- Reading Club (English)
- National Cypher Challenge (Mathematics)
- College Orchestra / Guitar Club / Choir (Music)

Subject revision classes also provide the opportunity for students to excel in addition to supporting progress at examination level.

Students in Year 7 - 11 have had the opportunity to take part in off-site activities including visits to University of Oxford and other Russell Group universities, the British Science Festival, local events for Most Able students, university Masterclasses, Houses of Parliament and the opportunity to engage with local employers. Most Able Sixth Form students have participated in masterclasses linked to degree programmes at a wide range of top universities. In addition high achieving students are invited to participate in the Cambridge Higher Education Programme participating in an annual programme of academic lectures, admission talks and a visit to Girton College, Cambridge. Students have also had access to professionals from areas such as midwifery and medicine

Our aim is to provide all Most Able students with a broad, balanced and relevant education that enables them to reach their full potential.





Bishop Milner Catholic College offers and extensive range of extra-curricular activities to enhance the opportunities of our students.

Each college year brings new and exciting activities and interests. The following is a sample of what is on offer:

#### MUSIC

Encompassing such opportunities such as:

- Orchestra
- Guitar Club
- Vocal Lessons
- Choir

#### SPORT

College teams are offered in a range of sports including:

- Football
- Netball
- Rounders
- Cricket
- Athletics.

#### OTHER

- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme
- Chess
- Science Club
- Theatre Trips

OUT OF HOURS LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

The purpose of college uniform is to promote a sense of unity, equality, belonging and pride in our college. A smart uniform and appearance also enhances the good reputation of the college.

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## GIRLS COLLEGE UNIFORM YEARS 7 -11

- Black Blazer with College Badge sewn on.
- Red and White Striped Blouse to be worn entirely tucked into skirt/trousers.
- Girls College Tie
- Pleated Harrow Grey stitched down Trutex skirt or Bootcut Harrow grey Trutex trousers
- Socks OR Tights must be worn (NOT both). Socks must be white, black or grey, ankle length (No trainer socks) and plain in design and colour. Tights must be plain shades of tan or black.
- Shoes (ending BELOW the ankle) MUST be black and low-heeled and of normal college pattern. All footwear must fit securely and give proper support to the feet to meet our Health and Safety requirements. **BOOTS, SANDALS or SLINGBACKS ARE NOT ALLOWED.**
- Leather trainers or leisure shoes are NOT permitted including brands such as Vans, Converse or other sports brands

## BMCS BOYS COLLEGE UNIFORM YEARS 7 -11

- Black Blazer with College Badge sewn on.
- Plain White Shirt (No motifs or other patterns) to be worn entirely tucked into trousers.
- Boys College Tie (ONLY obtainable from College)
- Grey Trutex trousers (code TBT GRY). Canvas or cord material NOT ALLOWED.
- Socks must be plain white, black or grey.
- Shoes (ending BELOW the ankle) MUST be black and low-heeled and of normal college pattern. All footwear must fit securely and give proper support to the feet to meet our Health and Safety requirements BOOTS or SANDALS NOT ALLOWED.
- Leather trainers or leisure shoes are NOT permitted including brands such as Vans, Converse or other sports brands

### Optional additional items:

- A plain white round-necked T-shirt may be worn underneath the blouse for warmth in cold weather.
- Grey v-neck jumper with college name embroidered.
- Outdoor coat / jacket must be plain black or navy (not leather, denim or corduroy). NOT to be worn inside classrooms
- Football scarves, football hats and baseball caps NOT ALLOWED.

## PE UNIFORM YEARS 7-11

- Red Bishop Milner dry-fit polo shirts with logo
- Sports trainers, NOT fashion pumps or high tops
- Red knee-length football type socks
- Red Bishop Milner sports fleece
- Black Bishop Milner tracksuit trousers – NOT leggings
- Black Bishop Milner sports shorts
- Shin pads
- Black or red Under-Armour thermal garments may also be worn dependent upon weather conditions
- Mouth guard - advice will be given by PE staff as to when these are required
- Football boots - advice will be given by PE staff as to when these are required
- Towel



# COLLEGE FUND

This enables us to buy a few extras in the college and helps to pay for such items as diesel for the minibus, materials for project work and helps with miscellaneous college productions. In paying college fund parents and students elect to join in events organised by the college which are additional to the normal statutory provision.



# ADMISSION CRITERIA FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

## The Admission Policy of the Directors of the St John Bosco Catholic Academy for the Bishop Milner Catholic College is as follows:

The ethos of this academy is Catholic. The academy was founded by the Catholic Church to provide education for children of Catholic families. Whenever there are more applications than places available, priority will be given to Catholic children in accordance with the oversubscription criteria listed below. The college is conducted by its Board of Directors as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Articles of Association and seeks at all times to be a witness to Our Lord Jesus Christ.

As a Catholic college, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the college's activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the college's education be fully supported by all families in the college. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the college. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the college in accordance with the admission arrangements.

The Board of Directors has set its admission number at 140 pupils to be admitted to Year 7 in the college year which begins in September 2019. (See Note 1)

Where there are more applications for places than the number of places available, places will be offered according to the following order of priority. If there is oversubscription within a category, the Board of Directors will give priority firstly to children who will have a brother or sister (see Note 4) attending Bishop Milner Catholic College at the time of admission and then secondly to children living closest to the college determined by the shortest distance (see Note 6)

1. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2) who are looked after or previously looked after (See Note 3)
2. Baptised Catholic children who have a brother or sister attending Bishop Milner Catholic College at the time of admission (see Note and 4)
3. Baptised Catholic children who attend one of our recognised feeder primary schools. (see Note 5)
4. Other Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2)
5. Non-Catholic children who are looked after or previously looked after (See Note 3)
6. Non-Catholic children who have a brother or sister attending Bishop Milner Catholic College at the time of admission (see Note 4)
7. Non-Catholic children who attend one of our recognised feeder primary schools. (see Note 5)
8. Non-Catholic children

Please refer to the full Admissions Policy published on the Dudley Local Authority and college website.







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