



ST AMBROSE COLLEGE - YEAR 7 ADMISSION SEPTEMBER 2027

Admission Information

St Ambrose College (“SAC”) is a state-funded Catholic grammar school for boys aged 11-18 built on the vision and values of Blessed Edmund Rice. As a Catholic school, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our pupils. At a Catholic school, Catholic doctrine and practice permeate every aspect of the school’s activity. It is essential that the Catholic character of the school’s education be fully supported by all families in the school. We therefore hope that all parents will give their full, unreserved and positive support for the aims and ethos of the school. This does not affect the right of an applicant who is not Catholic to apply for and be admitted to a place at the school in accordance with the College admission arrangements.

The Laetare Catholic Multi Academy Trust is the admission authority and has delegated full responsibility for admissions to the Saint Ambrose College Local Governing Body.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for the year commencing 1 September 2027 is 140. Applicants must have a date of birth between 1 September 2015 and 31 August 2016.

The entrance examination for Year 7 entry in September 2027 will take place at the College on Friday 18th September 2026.

Applications

Applications will open on **Tuesday 21st April 2026** and will close at **midday on Monday 6th July 2026**. Late applications will not be considered until after 1st March 2027.

The online application form is available on the College website at: [Saint Ambrose College - Year 7 Admissions 2027](#)

On completion of the application form you will receive an automated acknowledgement followed by an email from the College within a few days. Please ensure that the correct email address is submitted on the application form. If you do not receive either acknowledgement, please email admissions@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk to ensure your application has been received.

You must also complete your Local Authority’s Common Application Form (CAF). In Trafford, this must be submitted to them by **31st October 2026**. If you reside outside of Trafford, please check the return date specified by your Local Authority. If you wish your child to be considered for a place at St Ambrose College, you must ensure that you have named it as a preference when completing your Common Application Form.

Information detailing examination arrangements will be sent during the week commencing 7th September. This will include a candidate sheet which will need to be completed and stamped by the applicant’s primary school to confirm identity. The applicant must bring the candidate sheet on the day of the exam complete with photographic ID. Failure to bring this form on the day will result in your child not being able to sit the exam on that day.



The Entrance Exam

The entrance exam consists of three tests:

Verbal Reasoning Paper (50 minutes) – multiple choice.

- Our assessment provider for this paper is GL Assessment and familiarisation papers can be found at: [Verbal Reasoning Familiarisation](#)

Maths Paper (35 minutes) – multiple choice.

- The Maths paper is prepared in-house and no sample or past papers are available.
- The Maths Paper will assess topics detailed in the National Curriculum for Key Stage 2 Mathematics up to and including those listed in the Year 5 programme of study

English Paper (35 minutes) – multiple choice.

- The English paper is prepared in-house and no sample or past papers are available.
- The paper will include a Comprehension and other English elements.
- There is no creative writing element to the test.

Access Arrangements

Please read the Access Arrangements Request Information available on the College website. You **must** indicate on your son's application form if there is a requirement for access arrangements. You will then be sent a link to the Access Arrangements Request form which you will need to arrange to be completed by your son's primary school. You and/or the primary school will need to provide any supporting documentation (Education Healthcare Plan (EHCP), relevant official SEND Assessment Report or formal diagnosis) detailing educational needs and adjustments that are required. The deadline for receipt of the form and supporting evidence is **midday on 6th July 2026**. Decisions regarding Access Arrangements will be communicated early September 2026.

Exam Results

The exam results are age standardised. Results will be sent to parents by no later than **23rd October**. This is ahead of the deadline to complete the Common Application Form of **31st October 2026**.

A successful outcome will be achieved by those applicants who score 320 or above in the entrance exam "the qualifying score". Success in the entrance exam does not mean that your child will automatically receive a place at the College.



Oversubscription Criteria

If the number of applicants achieving the qualifying score for entry exceeds the Published Admissions Number, then the following over-subscription criteria will apply in the following order to decide which pupils to admit.

Where a child has an EHC Plan which names the School, and the child has passed the Entrance Examination, then the school will admit the child and the number of available places will be reduced accordingly.

1. Baptised Catholic boys who are designated 'looked after children' or 'previously looked after children'.
2. Baptised Catholic boys who have a brother attending the school at the time of admission.
3. Baptised Catholic Boys whose home address postcode falls within a nominated Local Pastoral Area. Details are provided on the list of Nominated Local Pastoral Areas.
4. Other Baptised Catholic boys.
5. Other Boys who are designated 'looked after children' or 'previously looked after children'.
6. Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church.
7. Baptised Christian boys who have a brother attending the school.
8. Christian boys practising in other Christian denominations supported by a minister's reference confirming that they are a full and active member of the Church¹.
9. Other boys who have a brother attending the school at the time of admission.
10. Other boys.

In the event of over-subscription within any one of the categories, priority will be given to those boys who are in receipt of Pupil Premium followed by boys who live closest to the School. **Evidence of Pupil Premium must be provided at the time of application.** The distance from home to St Ambrose College will be calculated in a direct straight line from the child's permanent place of residence using co-ordinates held in Trafford's Local Land and Property Gazetteer (BS7666) and are available, on request, from Trafford's School Admissions Team. In cases where this data is not available, Royal Mail postal address information may be used. In the case of a child living in a block of flats the coordinates for all flats in that block will be the same. **Proof of residency will be required for any offers made.** Where more than one boy lives the same distance in any category, then priority will be given to the boy with the highest score in the Entrance Examination. If score is tied selection would take place by a random draw witnessed by all concerned parties.

¹ "Full and active" means a regular churchgoer who attends more than once a month, is known to the parish priest / minister and is involved in church activities.



Nominated Local Pastoral Areas

1 Saint Ambrose Deanery (Diocese of Shrewsbury)

The following Local Pastoral Areas include the following postcodes: All WA14, WA15, M31 and M33 postcodes.

St. Hugh and St John	West Timperley
St. Vincent de Paul's	Altrincham
All Saints	Ashton-on-Mersey
St. Margaret Ward	Sale
St. Joseph's	Sale
Holy Angels	Hale Barns
Our Lady of Lourdes	Partington
Holy Family	Sale Moor

2. Saint Ambrose Barlow Deanery (Diocese of Salford)

The following Local Pastoral Areas include the following postcodes: All M16, M21, M32 and M41 postcodes.

Our Lady's & St. Alphonsus	Moss Side/Old Trafford
St. Ann's & St. Hugh of Lincoln	Stretford
Our Lady and the English Martyrs'	Davyhulme/Urmston
St. Monica's	Flixton
St. John's and St Teresa's	Firswood / Chorlton

Supporting Evidence

To ensure that your son is placed in the correct Category for the purposes of over-subscription, the following evidence will need to be provided. Evidence can be uploaded on the Entrance Examination application form or emailed to admissions@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk.

Category	Definition	Evidence
1	Baptised Roman Catholic boys who are designated 'looked after children' or 'previously looked after children'.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Baptism Certificate or Certificate of Reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. • LAC/PLAC Evidence
2	Baptised Roman Catholic boys who have a brother attending the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Baptism Certificate or Certificate of Reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church. • Details of brother
3	Baptised Roman Catholic boys whose home postcode falls within a nominated Local Pastoral Area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Baptism Certificate or Certificate of Reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church.



4	Other Baptised Roman Catholic boys.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catholic Baptism Certificate or Certificate of Reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church.
5.	Other Boys who are designated ‘looked after children’ or ‘previously looked after children’.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAC/PLAC Evidence
6.	Catechumens and members of an Eastern Christian Church.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate of Reception into the Order of Catechumens; or • Certificate of Baptism or Reception from an Eastern Christian Church.
7.	Baptised Christian boys who have a brother attending the school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian Baptism Certificate • Details of brother
8.	Christian boys practising in other Christian denominations supported by a minister’s reference confirming that they are a full and active member of the Church.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministers reference (a blank form is available on the College website)
9.	Other boys who have a brother attending the school at the time of admission.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of brother.
10.	Other boys	

National Offer Day

In accordance with the Co-ordinated Admission Arrangements, all parents will be notified of the outcome of their application by their Local Authority on or about 1st March 2027.

Appeals Procedure

Following 1st March 2027, any applicant refused admission has the right to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel. Should you wish to Appeal you should email admissions@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk on that day for the relevant application form.

Please note that whilst the College issues the examination scores before 31st October 2026 to assist parents in making an informed choice when completing their Local Authority Secondary application form, you will be unable to appeal refused admission until **after** 1st March 2027 as no offers will be made until that day.

Waiting List

A waiting list for Year 7 admissions will be maintained until 31st December 2027 for those boys who have qualified through the entrance examination but have not been allocated a place initially due to over-subscription. If you wish your son to be added to the waiting list, please contact School Admissions at Trafford Local Authority after your allocation letter has been received - your child will not be automatically included on the waiting list. The placing of a boy’s name on the waiting list does not remove the right of appeal.



DEFINITIONS

Definitions

- A “looked after child” is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority, in the exercise of their social services functions (as defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989). A “previously looked after child” is a child who was looked after but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order (as defined in Section 14A of the Children Act 1989). This also includes children who have been in a state of care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A child is regarded as having been in a state of care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.
- “Brother” means any boy (full, half, step, adopted or foster brother) of admissions age who is residing permanently at the same address as the candidate and will attend St Ambrose College at the time of the proposed admissions.
- “Pupil Premium” refers to Pupil Premium and Service Premium. The Pupil Premium is additional funding paid annually to schools under Section 14 of the Education Act 2002 for the purposes of supporting the attainment of disadvantaged children. The Service Premium is additional funding paid annually to schools under section 14 of the Education Act 2002 for the purposes of supporting the pastoral needs of the children of Armed Services Personnel.
- “Home address” means the address where the child normally and permanently lives on a full-time basis, not the address of any child-minder, grandparent or any other relative. In the case of parents who are separated, the application will also be considered from the address where the child lives, even though the child may regularly spend some time at another address. Where it is claimed that the child’s residency is shared equally between two addresses parents may decide which address will be used for the purpose of the application.

Proof of residency at the home address must be provided for any offers made. The College is committed to ensuring that the allocation of school places is fair and transparent and takes very seriously any attempt to gain an unfair advantage in the admissions process. We will further investigate any application that appears to be misleading or fraudulent. Places allocated based on misleading or fraudulent information **will be** withdrawn and it is important to note, that a place can be withdrawn even after a child has started school.

Parents must always inform the School of any changes to their home address. For applicants who move address to within the nominated pastoral area following application, and who submit an on-time application to their home local authority including St Ambrose College as a preference, the new address will not be considered prior to 1 March 2027 but may be considered following 1 March 2027.

For applicants who move out of the nominated pastoral area after application will be considered from their new address with immediate effect.



Successful applicants who move house before 31 December 2026 will have their place reviewed. As a result of this review, if it is shown that the address previously given was misleading or fraudulent, the place may be withdrawn if, because of the misleading or fraudulent information, the applicant had been ranked a higher priority on the School's admissions criteria.

- "Catholic boy" means a member of a Church in full communion with the See of Rome. This includes the Eastern Catholic Churches. For the purposes of this policy, it includes a looked after child living with a family where at least one of the parents is Catholic. All Catholic boys will be required to produce a copy of their Baptism Certificate or Certificate of Reception into the full communion of the Catholic Church when they complete the registration form to sit the entrance examination. **The certificate must confirm that the baptism or reception took place before the closing date for applications.** The date the certificate is issued is not relevant; certificates printed or obtained after the deadline will be accepted if they confirm that the baptism or reception itself occurred before the closing date.
- 'Catechumen' means a member of the catechumenate of a Catholic Church. Catechumens should provide a certificate of reception in the Order of Catechumens. **The certificate must confirm that reception took place before the closing date for applications.** The date the certificate is issued is not relevant; certificates printed or obtained after the deadline will be accepted if they confirm that the reception itself occurred before the closing date.
- 'Eastern Christian Church' includes Orthodox Churches and should be evidenced by a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church. Applicants who are members of an Eastern Christian Church must provide a certificate of baptism or reception from the authorities of that Church. **The certificate must confirm that the baptism or reception took place before the closing date for applications.** The date the certificate is issued is not relevant; certificates printed or obtained after the deadline will be accepted if they confirm that the baptism or reception itself occurred before the closing date.

This document must be read in conjunction with the College [Admissions Policy 2027](#).

If you require further information, please email admissions@st-ambrosecollege.org.uk.