

Sir John Cass Foundation & Red Coat School  
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# Sir John Cass

Sir John Cass's Foundation &  
Red Coat Church of England Secondary School

*Consultation on the Proposed  
Admissions Policy for  
Sir John Cass Foundation and  
Red Coat CE School*

*2014-15*

[www.sjcr.net](http://www.sjcr.net)



## Admissions to Year 7 (Year 11)

Sir John Cass Foundation and Red Coat Church of England Secondary School is an all ability co-educational school for girls and boys aged 11-19. The Governing Body is responsible for the admission of pupils and admits 180 pupils to Year 7 each September. This admission limit has been agreed between the Governing Body and the Local Authority.

### Oversubscription Criteria

Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat School has adopted the Local Authority's policy of banding to ensure that it takes an even balance of children in different ability ranges. The available 180 places are divided equally across the four bands of ability. Therefore 45 children from each band will be admitted according to the criteria set out below.

### Children with Statements of Special Educational Needs

A child with a statement of special educational needs naming Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat CE School will be offered a place, unless there are particular reasons why the School is unable to do so. The place will be provided in the appropriate band of ability. **(See note 1)**

### Aptitude in Modern Foreign Languages

16 places will be offered to pupils who demonstrate an aptitude for Modern Foreign Language, having completed the School's independently moderated Language Aptitude Test. The four highest scoring pupils in each band of ability will be offered places. **(See page 3)**

### Foundation Places

A total of 36 places (9 in each band of ability) will be offered to pupils whose families are faithful and regular worshippers in a recognised Christian Church **(see note 2)**. If there are more than 36 applicants, places will be allocated according to the following criteria. These are stated in order of priority:

- 1) Children looked after by the local authority including adopted children who were previously looked after and children who leave care under a special guardianship or residence order. **(See note 3)**
- 2) Children who have a strong medical or social reason to attend the school. This can include the parents', carers' or other family members' medical conditions and the family's social needs. Parents must complete the relevant section on the application form and attach medical and/or social reports from a suitable professional (e.g. a doctor or social worker) to support the application. The reports must be received by **31st October 2013**. **(See note 4)**
- 3) Children who live in the parishes of the Tower Hamlets Deanery within the Church of England and the following parishes:

Bermondsey: St James	Rotherhithe: St Mary	St Katharine Creek
Bermondsey: St Katharine	St Leonard Shoreditch	St Mark Noel Park
Bermondsey: St Mary Magdalene	All Hallows-by-the-Tower	St Mary Lansdowne Road
Rotherhithe: Holy Trinity	St Botolph: Without Aldgate	

- 4) Children whose older brother or sister already attends the school and will still be at the School in September 2014. **(See note 5)**

- 5) Any other children whose parents wish them to attend the school based on distance measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way, using the Local Authority's computerised map.

In the event that two or more applicants have equal rights to a place under any of the above criteria, the Governing Body will accept the applicant that lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way.

## Open Places

The Governing Body has designated 128 places as open places (32 in each band of ability) to be offered to pupils who do not qualify for a specialist language or foundation place or whose parents have chosen the School for the type of education it provides. Governors hope that parents who have chosen this school for their child have done so knowing that it is a Church of England school with a distinctive Christian ethos. If there are more than 128 applicants, places will be allocated according to the following criteria. These are stated in order of priority:

- 1) Children looked after by the local authority including adopted children who were previously looked after and children who leave care under a special guardianship or residence order. (See note 3)
- 2) Children who have a strong medical or social reason to attend the school. This can include the parents', carers' or other family members' medical conditions and the family's social needs. Parents must complete the relevant section on the application form and attach medical and/or social reports from a suitable professional (e.g. doctor or social worker) to support the application. The reports must be received by **31st October 2013**. (See note 4)
- 3) Children living nearest the school who are the eldest child in the family (up to five places in each band of ability).
- 4) Children whose older brother or sister already attends the school and will still be at the School in September 2014. (See note 5)
- 5) Any other children whose parents wish them to attend the school based on distance measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way, using the Local Authority's computerised map.

In the event that two or more applicants have equal rights to a place under any of the above criteria, the Governing Body will accept the applicant that lives nearest to the School, measured along the shortest safe walking route to the School's main gate on Stepney Way.

**Note 1:** Parents of children with statements of special educational need should note that the Local Authority seeks to ensure that pupils with statements do not become unduly concentrated in a few schools, as this could compromise the efficient education of children and the efficient use of resources. This means that if any particular school receives a large number of applications for pupils with statements, some of these may be refused. All applications for pupils with statements are considered by the Local Authority's Special Educational Needs Panel.

**Note 2:** To attend worship at least twice per month for at least one year. It must be a Church which is a member of Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and/or the Evangelical Alliance.

**Note 3:** Confirmation of a child's looked after status will be required.

**Note 4:** Applications under this category are considered by the Admissions Sub-Committee of the School's Governing Body who will decide whether the application should be given priority under this category.

**Note 5:** 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. The address used should be the one that the child usually lives at and attends school from.

## Modern Foreign Language Aptitude

The Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat Modern Foreign Language Aptitude Test aims to identify pupils who have an aptitude for learning the subjects covered by Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat Modern Foreign Languages. No part of the test will be conducted in these subjects and prior knowledge of any modern foreign language is not required. The aptitude test is designed to indicate a student's potential to learn a foreign language and make full use of the opportunities available to them at the school. Students who are admitted to the school through the MFL aptitude test will join the selective stream in this subject, where individuals will have access to a specialist curriculum studying Spanish with the option of either French or Bengali.

All applicants for a Modern Foreign Language (MFL) place must complete the School's MFL Application Form that can be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the school website [www.sjcr.net](http://www.sjcr.net). The form should be returned direct to the school by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2013**. They must also complete the Local Authority's secondary transfer form, which can be obtained from the Local Authority's Pupil Admissions Team on tel: 020 7364 5006 or completed online at: [www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/school\\_admissions](http://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/school_admissions) from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2013. Applicants will be required to attend an aptitude test at the school to be administered on the morning of **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2013** (subject to agreement).

### The Language Aptitude Test:

The test is designed to assess the aptitude of students to recognise the meaning of non-familiar language. Produced by an external agency and based on research which indicates that cognitive talent assessed by the test plays a significant role in language development, this written assessment will indicate the likelihood that a child will perform highly when learning an additional language.

Regrettably, due to the nature of the test, it will not be possible to provide sample questions. All instructions will, however, be made clear on the day and an independent agency will be appointed to moderate and mark the test. Where the minimum standard for the test is reached, the four highest scoring pupils in each band of ability (16 in total) will be offered places. In the event that there is a tie for the last place(s) available within each band, the place will be offered to the child who lives nearest the school. If fewer than 4 children qualify to be admitted in any band the unused places will be filled by Modern Foreign Language applicants in adjacent bands. If fewer than 16 children qualify for the Modern Foreign Language places, the number of

places available under the 'open places' admission criteria will be increased in each band accordingly.

Parents will be notified of the outcome of their child's application for a Modern Foreign Language place by **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013**. This is before the deadline for school applications. Children who have not been successful can be considered for a place under the other admission criteria, provided they have named Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat School as one of their preferences on the Local Authority's secondary transfer form.

### **Co-ordinated admission arrangements**

Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat School is part of the locally agreed co-ordination scheme and the timescales for applications to be received and processed are those agreed with the local authority. Parents must complete their home Local Authority's Common Application Form and return the form to their home Authority, even if they are applying for a school in another Local Authority area. If parents are applying for a place at this School, they must name this School as one of the preferences on their home Local Authority's Common Application Form. Parents who wish to apply for a foundation place must also complete the school's supplementary form and return this to the School by the end of January. Failure to return the supplementary form will mean that the school cannot consider the application under the church criteria, in this case the application will be considered under the next most appropriate criteria based on the information on the Common Application Form.

### **Late applications**

The Governors will consider late applications in accordance with the procedure in the Tower Hamlets Local Authority co-ordinated scheme as published in its 'Ready for Secondary School' brochure.

### **Waiting list**

If there is no place available at the School, parents/carers may have their applications placed on the School's waiting list. In the event of a vacancy the Oversubscription Criteria will be applied in order to determine the offer of places. Periodically, those applicants on the waiting list will be contacted and asked to confirm if they wish it to remain on the waiting list. If confirmation is not received by a given date the application will be removed from the waiting list.

### **Appeals**

Parents who are not offered a place for their child have the right to appeal to an independent appeal panel. All appeals are handled for Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat by Tower Hamlets Local Authority. Parents wishing to appeal can obtain an appeal form from:

Pupil Admissions Team  
Tower Hamlets Local Authority  
Town Hall  
Mulberry Place  
5 Clove Crescent  
E14 2BG  
Tel: 020 7364 5006

## In-Year Admissions

Applications for In-year admission must be made to the Local Authority's Pupil Admissions Team on the 'in year' application form available from the school office or from the Local Authority's Pupil Admission Team. The Local Authority will refer the application to the school which will inform the applicant whether or not a place can be offered and advise the Local Authority of the outcome.

## Protocols on "hard to place" children

Sir John Cass Foundation and Redcoat School is committed to taking its fair share of vulnerable children who are hard to place, in accordance with the Local Authority's Fair Access Protocol. Accordingly, outside the normal round of admissions, the Governing Body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested in agreement with both of the Governing Body and the Diocese for the current admission year. The Governing Body has this power even when admitting such a child would exceed the school's normal admission number.

## Responses to the consultation should be sent to:

Terry Bryan  
Head of Pupil Admissions and Exclusions  
Tower Hamlets Children Schools and Families  
Town Hall  
Mulberry Place  
E14 2BG

Email: [terry.bryan@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:terry.bryan@towerhamlets.gov.uk)