



Policy for supporting applications to St Aidan's and Richard Taylor Schools, April 2020

At St John's and St Luke's we receive many requests each year to support applications for children to gain a place at St Aidan's Church of England Secondary School and Richard Taylor Church of England Primary School and we are happy to respond to these requests.

Both schools are part of the Yorkshire Causeway Academy Trust and have similar criteria when it comes to churches supporting applications for foundation places and can be found on their application forms:

<https://www.staidans.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/Application-Form-SIF.pdf>

<http://rtsharrogate.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/Final-Pol05-Adms-2020-SIF.pdf>

The specific questions they ask about church attendance are reproduced below.

St Aidan's

In the last three years how often has your <u>child</u> attended a place of worship in the religious tradition? (See Appendix 1)				
Weekly	3	points		
2 – 3 times/month	2	points		
Monthly	1	point		
In the last three years how often has a <u>parent or guardian</u> attended a place of worship in the religious tradition? (See Appendix 1)				
Weekly	3	points		
2 – 3 times/month	2	points		
Monthly	1	point		

Richard Taylor

Are you applying for a Foundation Place?

(See Priority 4 Admissions Policy)

Yes

No

Name of church/place of worship:

Denomination of church:

Church attendance is measured by the category which best defines the average church attendance of the family for the **three year period** immediately before the date of application. Please note that family church attendance is defined as one parent or legal guardian who attends with the child.

In the last three years how frequently has your family attended a place of worship in the religious tradition?	
Weekly*	
2/3 times monthly	
Monthly	

*Weekly indicates every week except for sickness and family holidays and would usually therefore be in excess of 40 weeks in the year. The impact of irregular shift patterns will be taken into consideration if supporting evidence is provided

The definition of each category is contained in the school admission policy.

Priest or Minister's signature confirming the above

(Please be aware that the Governors will not be able to consider your application for a Foundation Place without a Church Leaders signature)

As you can see, both schools need us to confirm how often parents and children have worshipped at either St John's or St Luke's over a three year period (if families have moved to the area within this three year period, attendance at another place of worship will be taken into account. Equally if a parent or child has come to faith and has become a committed member of the church within this 3 year period, this will also be taken into account).

Therefore in order for us to support your application (which we want to do) and be fair to all applicants, we will look at our Sunday school and creche attendance registers to ascertain your frequency of attendance and then complete the form accordingly.

We are aware that no register is taken at our parade/all age services, or at Café Church, but hopefully we will be aware of your attendance at these services.

Please do not tick the appropriate attendance box(es) on the form ahead of us checking our records.

Obviously each school has a deadline for applications to be submitted, so we would ask you to contact us at least a week before the deadline to give us time to check our records.

We appreciate that getting your child into the preferred school is of utmost importance to parents, and so our clergy look forward to working with you to this end. One of the best times for us to look at your application forms is during our weekly church 'surgery' which takes place on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 6.30pm to 7.15pm.

Policy adopted by the PCC of Bilton St John and St Luke, May 2020