

St. Mary's Star of the Sea Boys National School
ANNUAL ADMISSION NOTICE
in respect of admissions for the 2025/2026 school year

A copy of the school's **Admission Policy** and the **Application Form for Admission** for the year 2024-2025 is available as follows: –

To download at: www.starofthesea.ie

On request: By emailing office@starofthesea.ie or calling the school at +353 1 6686394

PART 1 – Admissions to the 2025/2026 school year

Application and Decision Dates for admission to 2025/2026 school year

The following are the dates applicable for admission to Junior Infants

The school will commence accepting applications for admission on	1 st October 2024
The school shall cease accepting applications for admission on	28 th October 2024
The date by which applicants will be notified of the decision on their application is	15 th November 2024
The period within which applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission is	From 15 th November to 29 th November 2024

Failure to accept an offer within the prescribed period above may result in the offer being withdrawn. The school will consider and issue decisions on late applications in accordance with the school's Admissions Policy.

The following are the dates applicable for admission to the school’s autism-specific Special Class.

The school will commence accepting applications for admission on	1 st October 2024
The school shall cease accepting applications for admission on	7 th March 2025
The date by which applicants will be notified of the decision on their application is	20 th March 2025
The period within which applicants must confirm acceptance of an offer of admission is	From 21 st March to 4 th April 2025

Explanatory Notes

Where, upon allocating places in accordance with the above order of priority, it appears that the number of applicants in the lowest relevant category of priority exceeds the number of remaining places, priority in that category (and in that category alone) will be given to the eldest applicant(s).

The Board of Management will not regard the residency requirement in category a) above as satisfied until the Parents/Guardians are able to provide proof on request by the Board of Management of the applicant’s residency in the Parish for three months prior to the closing date for applications, and continuing residency up to and after the date of entry to Junior Infants.

In relation to criterion (A), the Board of Management's determination as to whether the residency requirement has been satisfied in any given case shall be final and conclusive.

The Board of Management reserves the right to withdraw a place that has been allocated on the basis of residency at any time prior to the commencement of the relevant Junior Infant class in the school if the Board of Management is satisfied that the applicant no longer satisfies the residency requirement.

In the event that there are two or more pupils tied for a place or places in any of the selection criteria categories above (the number of applicants exceeds the number of remaining places), the eldest shall be given priority. If two or more pupils who are tied for a place have the same birthday, the place will be determined by the Principal by way of a lottery (a name will be drawn from a hat by the Principal with an independent person present).

Providing false or misleading information or withholding relevant information will invalidate an application.

The Board of Management reserves the right to amend any aspect of the above policy from time to time as may be deemed necessary.

Procedure:

- (a) Parents/Guardians must complete an Admission Application Form for the year of entry (available on the school website) accompanied by a copy of the boy's Birth/Adoption Certificate to the school which may be scanned (and emailed) or photocopied (and posted) to the school, **and obtain a letter of acknowledgment**. In the event of any dispute, only a letter of acknowledgment will be taken as proof of a valid application having been made.

- (b) Completed Admission Application Forms and accompanying certificates must be **received** by the school before the closing date for applications, which is on or before 3:00 PM on the 28th of October 2024 in the case of the Junior Infant class and on the 7th of March 2025 in the case of the Special Class. Responsibility for ensuring that the school receives the requested documents by the closing date lies with the Parent/Guardian making the application.

- (c) Details of boys for whom completed Admission Application Forms and accompanying Certificate have been received by the deadline will be placed on an applications list. Applications will not be recorded on the list until such time as all requested information has been received. The placement of any boy's name on the list merely confirms receipt of a completed application. The applicant will then be assessed for eligibility on the basis of the criteria outlined in the admission policy.

- (d) Parents/Guardians will be notified within 21 days of the closing date for applications of the outcome of their application. Offers must be accepted within the time specified in the letter of offer. In the event of an offer not being accepted within the specified period, the right to a place is automatically forfeited.

Number of places being made available in 2024/2025

The number of places being made available in Junior Infants	30
The number of places being made available in the autism-specific Special Class	0 (Unless a child presently enrolled moves school or transitions to another class)

PART 2 – Admissions to the school for the 2024/2025 school year

Information regarding the admission process for the Intake Group for Junior Infants and the Special Class for the 2023/2024 school year

In respect of the 2024/2025 school year, the total number of applications for admission to Junior Infants was 59.

Breakdown of places allocated for the 2024/2025 school year:	
Number of places available	30
Number of applications received	52
Number of Offers made and accepted under each criterion:	Criterion A: Parish and siblings: Offered: 32 Accepted: 23 Criterion B: Children of staff: Offered: 0 Accepted: 0 Criterion C: All others: Offered: 20 Accepted: 2
Total number of offers made	52
Number of names placed on waiting list for the school year concerned	0

In respect of 2024/2025 school year, the total number of applications for admission to the autism-specific Special Class was 11.

Breakdown of places allocated for the 2024/2025 school year:	
Number of places available	1
Number of applications received	11
Number of Offers made and accepted under each criterion:	Criterion A: Parish and siblings: Offered: 0 Accepted: 0 Criterion B: Children of staff: Offered: 0 Accepted: 0 Criterion C: All others: Offered: 1 Accepted: 1
Total number of offers made	1
Number of names placed on waiting list for the school year concerned	10