

## **2024 Admissions - frequently asked questions:**

**Please also read our 2024 Admissions Policy**

- **Should I apply to St Hilda's or my local authority?**

YOU NEED TO DO **BOTH**.

You need to enter your preferences with your local authority on their common application form and you also need to submit St Hilda's supplementary information form (application form).

This form is on the Admissions Details page of our website and is sometimes referred to as the SIF. The deadline to submit St Hilda's supplementary information form is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.

- **What happens if I apply late?**

It will still be accepted but will be treated as a late application, which could reduce your chance of gaining a place at St Hilda's.

- **Will I stand more chance if I put St Hilda's as my first preference?**

St Hilda's operates an 'equal preference' system, meaning places are offered purely on the strength of how well children fit the admissions criteria.

Schools cannot favour children who listed the school as their first choice, nor rule out those who placed it lower down their list. In fact, the local authority do not even tell us where St Hilda's was ranked in a child's preferences.

- **Should I apply for more than one school?**

It is strongly recommended that you use all of your preferences to maximise your chances of being offered a place at a preferred school.

- **Are you normally oversubscribed?**

Yes, in which case we use oversubscription tiebreaks (see policy). Last year we received 1,327 applications for 170 places.

- **Do children come in for a taster day if they are allocated St Hilda's?**

All secondary schools usually have the same induction day. For 2024 admission, pupils will come in to St Hilda's on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024.

- **When is your open evening?**

Our Open Evening is due to be held on Thursday 21st September 2023. Please see our Open Evening page for further details. [Open Evening](#)

- **When and how will I find out which school my child has been allocated?**

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 is National Offer Day and you will be notified by your council.

- **I live within walking distance of the school, does this guarantee my child a place?**

St Hilda's **does not** operate a catchment area policy. Your address **will not** be taken into consideration when places are allocated.

- **Do you have an entrance exam?**

We no longer have an entrance exam. The last exam was held for 2020 admissions.

- **Is St Hilda's an all girls' school?**

No, St Hilda's started admitting boys as well as girls in 2015 and is now fully co-ed through Years 7 to 13.

- **Do you take equal numbers of boys and girls?**

Allocation is solely dependent on meeting the admissions criteria and we do not take sex/gender into account.

- **Do you have 'feeder schools'?**

No, our intake for Year 7 in September 2023 came from 54 different primary schools.

- **Can I apply if I don't live in the Liverpool council area?**

Yes, you can enter St Hilda's as a preference with your own local authority.

- **Do you give priority if a sibling is already at St Hilda's?**

Applications from siblings of St Hilda's students are not given priority however should a tiebreaker be needed for pupils of equal scores then the following tiebreakers will be used:

Applicants who, on the date of admission, will have a sibling at St Hilda's. Siblings who are former pupils of the school are excluded. Siblings are full brother or sister, half brother or sister, step brother or sister, legally adopted brother or sister, foster brother or sister who live at the same address and are part of the same family unit.

Evidence of the sibling relationship or address (correspondence address for child benefit) may be requested.

- **How do you score your Christian applications?**

The points system is set out in our policy which can be found on our website.

- **What was the lowest successful Christian score last year?**

For 2023 admissions the lowest successful Christian score was 108.

- **St Hilda's is a Church of England High School so can I only apply if I am an Anglican?**

We accept applications for all religions or from children with no religion, please see our policy for details of the application criteria.

- **I am Christian but not Anglican – do I apply under the Christian or Other World Faiths route?**

Apply as a Christian – Criterion D1.

- **How do I confirm my worship attendance?**

If you are applying under Criteria D1 Christian, D2 Other World Faiths – Muslim or D3 Other World Faiths, you must **also** ask your faith leader to complete the confirmation of worship form.

**D1 Christian:** Save and email the Confirmation of Christian Worship Form to your vicar/ priest/ minister/ lay eucharistic minister/ catechist/ deacon or church warden. A form must be supplied for each church listed. The form requests clergy (not the parent/carer) to complete and return direct to St Hilda's.

**D2 Other World Faiths – Muslim or D3 Other World Faiths:** Please save and email the Confirmation for Other World Faiths Worship Form to the leader of the world faith community. The form requests faith leaders (not the parent/carer) to complete and return direct to St Hilda's.

- **I don't agree with the attendance pattern that my place of worship has confirmed.**

St Hilda's will score your application based on the attendance pattern confirmed by your place of worship, if you disagree with this then you need to approach your place of worship to discuss this further.

- **My church won't complete school admission forms; will it affect my application?**

Unfortunately, we can only score your application if worship is verified by a vicar/ priest/ minister/ lay eucharistic minister/ catechist/ deacon or church warden.

- **I have not been able to attend church due to personal circumstances, will this be taken into consideration?**

Unfortunately, personal circumstances will not be taken into consideration at the application stage.

- **If I am allocated St Hilda's do I need to let you know if I am taking up the offer?**

Yes, please confirm if you wish to accept or decline the offer (or accept the offer but intend appealing for another school).

- **Will my child be placed on a waiting list if they did not secure a place?**

Yes, all children who applied to St Hilda's for admission in September 2024 and did not secure a place will be placed on a waiting list until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

- **What happens if a place becomes available?**

If a place becomes available it will be offered to the next highest scoring child. In the event of a tiebreak, a random allocation will be completed under the supervision of the local authority. A fresh round of random allocation will be used each time a child is to be offered a place from a waiting list.

### **More information:**

Liverpool City Council useful links:

<https://liverpool.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/school-admissions/transfer-from-primary-to-secondary-school/common-myths/>

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