



Frequently Asked Questions:

1. What are the chances of my child getting into Binfield CE Primary School (VA)?

A: *We are a very popular school, however, my advice to parents is that if you like our school and think it would suit your child, apply for a place. At the current time, there is a huge amount of change in the local area. There is a declining birth rate, coupled with an excess of school places within the borough. Your chances of getting a place are probably higher than usual. We did offer all 60 places this year and we had a waiting list. Some of the places did go to children living in Wokingham (as we are right on the border) and to children living just outside our catchment in Temple Park. There is always a lot of change during the first few days in September too. Places can sometimes become available e.g. if a family move area. It is always worth phoning up to see if this happens if you don't get offered a place straight away.*

2. When do I have to apply for a place by?

A: *15th January 2021 for new YR in September 2021 and at any time for in-year admissions. Please see our Admissions Policy for further information. [Click here for policy](#)*

3. We both work, do you offer wrap-around childcare?

A: *Under normal circumstances we offer a breakfast club 7.45-8.30a.m run by an external company; an After School Club run by our own staff 3.15-6 p.m. and a range of holiday club provision run by external providers. We also offer a wide range of paid and unpaid extra-curricular clubs throughout the year.*

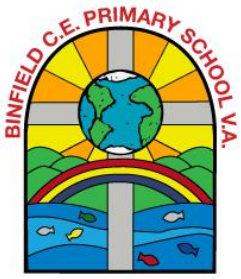
**At the current time, these services are limited due to the pandemic restrictions, but it is intended that they will resume as soon as we are able to.*

4. My child has additional needs, how will you cater for them? Who can I speak to?

A: *We cater for a wide range of needs at Binfield and are proud of our inclusion practice. The best starting point is to speak to our **SENDCO** (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator) Mrs Philippa Brazell. She will be able to advise further and give any advice if you are in the process of getting an EHCP for your child.*

5. My child is a twin, how do you cater for them?

A: *Our policy is generally to split twins into the two separate classes as it enables each to be themselves and develop as an individual. However, in Year R, whilst there are two classes they work as a unit for a lot of the time. This usually makes for a gentle transition period into school life and then into two separate classes in Year 1.*



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6. *My child has a summer birthday and I'm not sure they'll be ready for school in September. What would you advise? Should they go part-time or wait until later in the year?*

A: *After many years of experience, we have found that for almost all children, starting full-time in September with their peers is the best option. Friendships, routines and learning habits are established and the children usually cope really well with the unit-based, nurturing approach. Staff are expert at differentiating the curriculum to meet the varying developmental needs of the children and adjust expectations accordingly.*

It is rare for pupils to opt to go part-time and when they do, they are often the ones pleading with their parents to let them stay in school with their friends. Parents do have the option to defer a place too (see our Admissions Policy), however, children joining later in the year often take longer to settle and gain the confidence that their peers have already gained. Year R staff are more than happy to discuss any specific concerns you may have about your child, so please do get in touch.

7. *You are a church school; how do you cater for those of other religions or no faith? Do we have to go to a church to get in?*

A: *Our school was founded by the Church of England back in Victorian Times. However, in the Trust deed set up by the church, it was made very explicit that we are a school to provide an education to everyone (all faiths and no faith) and that this should be first and foremost to anyone in Binfield Village and the surrounding area. This is reflected in our Admissions Policy and there are no faith criteria in it.*

We do have a Christian ethos and have strong links with our local churches, however, we pride ourselves in our inclusivity. As such, we have pupils from a wide range of faith backgrounds including no faith. All pupils happily participate in daily assemblies and acts of worship.

8. *Do you have a PTA? How can we get involved?*

A: *We are very lucky to have a very active and vibrant PTA known as FOBS (Friends of Binfield School). When you become a parent at the school, you automatically become a member of FOBS too. There are many events held throughout the year that bring the wider community together and also help to raise much needed funds for the school. Have a look at their page on our website to find out more! [Please click here](#)*

9. *What are your school meals like? Can you cater for special dietary requirements?*

A: *We set up our very own on-site catering many years ago and are very proud of the high quality home-cooked meals we can provide. A good test is always what the children say and there is a very high take-up! There is always a meat and a vegetarian option each day and our chef Tina, can work with you to make adjustments to the menu where possible if your child has an allergy.*

We are a nut-free school.



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10. *Do infant children get a free meal?*

A: At the current time, all infant children (YR-Y2) are entitled to a Universal Free School Meal. This means they can have hot food every day for free. We have an online booking system and meals have to be booked a week ahead.