



POLICY: 200 - ADMISSIONS

St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School is dedicated to integrating faith and knowledge in the rich tradition of Catholic education. The school serves students 3 years of age through 8th grade. The school is affiliated with the Little Saints Early Childhood Program which serves students from 18 months through 4 years of age. A transition class for students who are of age to begin kindergarten, but are not socially or emotionally ready may be offered through the Little Saints Early Childhood Program, if enrollment numbers are met.

The school adheres to the policies stipulated by the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and the Texas Catholic Conference of Bishops Education Department. Special education, gifted and ESL/bilingual classes are not available at St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School. Admission to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School is based on an individual review of each applicant. Little Saints Early Childhood Program is licensed by the State of Texas Child Care licensing division. Texas state guidelines utilizing September 1st age requirements are used by both programs. Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and their affiliates afford equal opportunity to all applicants and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin.

The following policies have been formulated in relation to student admission:

1. New student admissions is conducted in conjunction with the Little Saints Early Childhood Program with applications received in the spring semester for the following school year. New student applications are also received for the current year based on openings. Applications are submitted online and accompanied by a non-refundable application fee. New student applications must contain all required documents before a student is considered for admission. Once classes are filled those wishing to be considered for vacancies are placed on a waiting list. New student applications for 8th grade are limited to siblings and applicants transferring from another Catholic school or moving into the area.
2. Admission to St. Anthony of Padua Catholic School for new students considers the developmental, scholastic, and behavioral qualifications of the applicant as well as the available openings in each grade level, the overall composition of the class, and the resources available to meet the student's needs. Applicants must show readiness to benefit from and contribute to the group learning environment present in our classrooms. Applicants must be English speaking in 1st grade and above. Students entering Pre-Kindergarten must be toilet trained.

3. New applicants are required to participate in admissions screenings determined by school administration. Screenings are conducted to place students appropriately within the school’s program and to assure that the needs of the student can be met through available resources. Admissions screenings include the following:

Grade	Requirements
PreK, K & 1 st Grade	<input type="checkbox"/> developmental readiness checklist <input type="checkbox"/> observational visit/interview
2 nd -8 th Grades	<input type="checkbox"/> standardized tests in reading and math <input type="checkbox"/> writing sample <input type="checkbox"/> observational visit/interview

4. Age Requirements: 3K Pre-kindergarten – 3 years of age on or before September 1
 4K Pre-kindergarten – 4 years of age on or before September 1
 Kindergarten - 5 years of age on or before September 1
 1st Grade - 6 years of age on or before September 1
 2nd-8th - Successful completion of the previous grade

5. New elementary and middle school applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - a. Average of “C”, 78% or better, in all academic subject areas
 - b. Standardized test scores appropriate to the grade level
 - c. Behavior ratings of satisfactory or better

In addition, parents are expected to disclose to appropriate school personnel any significant information, which may affect their child’s education progress or the classroom learning environment. Such information includes, but is not limited to, diagnostic evaluations, medications or specific family situations. Failure to disclose such significant information during the application process or as the situation changes may result in dismissal of their child from the school.

6. Admission will be based on the following priorities:
 - a. Currently enrolled students
 - b. Siblings of currently enrolled students
 - c. St. Anthony of Padua Parishioners – Higher priority will be given to parishioners who are currently enrolled in Little Saints. Families will be considered for admission using the earliest date of parish registration.
 - d. Families in other Catholic parishes and/or Catholic schools - Higher priority will be given to families who are currently enrolled in Little Saints.
 - e. Open registration - Higher priority will be given to families who are currently enrolled in Little Saints.

7. All new students are admitted on a probationary basis according to Archdiocesan policy.

8. Once accepted new students must complete the enrollment process online. The process includes providing additional data, required documents, forms and signatures by published deadlines. A non-refundable and non-transferable

registration fee as well as additional fees applicable to the student must be paid in order to secure the student's classroom placement.

9. Currently enrolled students must re-enroll each year completing the re-enrollment process online. The re-enrollment process includes updating demographic data and completing required documents and forms along with providing required signatures. A non-refundable and non-transferable registration fee as well as additional fees applicable to the student must be paid in order to secure the student's classroom placement. Families enrolling new siblings are directed to complete the new student admissions process.