



## ADMISSIONS POLICY 2020/2021

Where the number of preferences for the school is more than the number of places available, places will be given to:

**Where the number of preferences for this school is more than the number of places available, priority will be given to:**

1. Children in public care
2. Children who live in the school's priority admission area\* who have an older brother or sister attending from the same address, who are at present in years 7 – 10 and who will still be attending the school at the time of admission (in area siblings).
3. Children who live in the school's priority admission area\*
4. Children who live outside the school's priority admission area\* who have an older brother or sister attending from the same address, who are at present in years 7 – 10 and who will still be attending the school at the time of admission (out of area siblings).
5. Children who attend another BDAT academy as a priority above 'other children'
6. Children who live outside the school's priority admission area\*

\* Where the school has more than one priority admission area, criteria 2 and 3 above will apply for the whole of the priority area 1 and then for the whole of priority area 2; if there remain unallocated places criterion 4 will then be considered before criterion 6.

When demand exceeds places in any one of the above criteria, the distance between home and school, measured by a straight line, from the main entrance of the home to the main entrance of the school will be used to decide who is to be given a place; those living nearest being given the available places

These criteria may be overridden and a place offered, where the parents' preference is based on:

- Special medical reasons for admission where they are deemed essential by an independent professional recommendation from the child's paediatrician/consultant, or
- Social reasons for admission where they are deemed essential by an independent professional recommendation and the governing body considers that a place should be offered on these grounds.

The admission of pupils with a statement of special educational needs is dealt with by a separate procedure. Such children will be admitted to the school named on the statement without reference to the oversubscription criteria.

The above oversubscription criterion is used when there are more applicants for a year group than there are places available. If parents request a place and the particular year group is full, we still have to keep to the admission number and it will not be possible to offer a place.

We are a BDAT Academy and therefore the governors are the admissions authority for the school. The admission number for Year 7-10 is 300 and year 11 is 270 and governors will apply the following policy only in the event that there are more applications than places available.

Parents do not have a free choice of school as this would lead to schools having to admit pupils above the limits of the building as agreed with the Department for Education.

The governing body have not been able to offer your child a place as the school has reached its published admission number and we believe that to put additional children into the school, above the published admission number, would be prejudicial to the provision of efficient education or efficient use of resources. The governing body are able to refuse admission on these grounds because of Section 86 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The governing body would not wish to admit more than the published admission number (270) which takes into account the available accommodation and organisation of the school which has been assessed as having a net capacity of 1549.

The governing body believes that to go above the admission number would cause a number of problems which are detailed in the attached statement.

The governing body are also concerned that placing additional pupils into already full schools will have a detrimental effect on undersubscribed schools within the district. School budgets are calculated on the basis of the number of pupils on roll. Admitting further pupils into schools that are already full will result in neighbouring schools being required to limit their spending on resources and staff. Both these measures will have a severe detrimental effect on pupils already at the school by impacting on the quality of education that can be delivered and hinder pupils' achievement.

Without affecting your right of appeal, staff in the Admissions Team will be pleased to discuss with you the alternative schools which may have available places.

**This statement represents the basis of the governing body's case. Please bring it with you to the appeals meeting.**

