

# Information for Parents

about admissions to Secondary Schools  
in September 2018



Walsall Council

---





Dear Parent/Carer

### **Transfers to Secondary schools in September 2018**

I am pleased to endorse Walsall's Information for parents about Admission to Secondary Schools for September 2018. This provides advice and guidance on the process for applying for a secondary school place for September 2018, much of which is governed by statutory legislation. As your child was born between 1 September 2006 and 31 August 2007 they are due to transfer to a secondary school in September 2018.

This year, Walsall Council will again take part in an Inter Authority Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme with a number of Local Authorities in the Midlands, including Birmingham, Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire and Wolverhampton. An explanation of how the inter-LA scheme works is given on page 47.

Please do contact and visit the schools you are interested in, look around and ask questions so you can feel positive and confident about making the right decision for your child. Walsall schools welcome visits; please find a list of Open Morning and Evening events on pages 14-15 of this booklet.

Every Walsall school is committed to giving your child the best possible start to their secondary school life and to help them be the very best learner, who aspires, believes in themselves and achieves.

The Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team are available to help and support you and talk through any queries that you may have. They can be contacted on 01922 652585 or email to [secondary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:secondary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk). Alternatively, you can contact the Parent Support Adviser on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

Every best wish to you and your child for a successful application and transition to secondary school.

Yours sincerely

**Lynda Poole**

Assistant Director – Access & Achievement  
Walsall Council

## Contents

Advice on the Secondary School Admission Process (Parent Support Adviser) .....	3
Submitting an application .....	4
Important dates for parents .....	5
Your child's transfer to secondary school – Frequently Asked Questions .....	6
Changing schools during the school year .....	10
Admissions and the Disability Discrimination Act .....	11
What happens if your child has a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan .....	12
What are the chances of getting my child into the school I want? .....	12
Map of Walsall Secondary Schools .....	13
Walsall Secondary Schools – Contact Details and Open Evenings.....	14-15
School information pages .....	16-45
Transport to Secondary Schools .....	46
How the Inter-LA Co-ordinated Admission Scheme works.....	47
Examples of how the Inter-LA Co-ordinated Admission Scheme works .....	48
Late Application Policy.....	50
Waiting List Policy for Admission to Year 7 .....	50
How to appeal if your application is unsuccessful .....	51
Offer of a place at a school.....	51
Withdrawing the offer of a place at a Walsall school.....	51
Definition of admission criteria .....	52
General information .....	53
Information about Year 7 Admissions to special schools.....	55-57
Information about admissions to 14-19 Studio Schools, Colleges and Academies ....	59-61

## Advice on the Secondary School Admission Process

If you have any questions or require advice on the secondary admissions process and procedure you can contact our Parent Support Adviser for admissions.

A key function of this role is to provide advice and support to parents and carers during the secondary school transfer process.

The Parent Support Adviser will be able to assist parents in a variety of ways, including:

- assistance with the completion of on-line applications and advice on how to list preferences in the best order
- advice on the admission criteria for secondary schools
- providing information on how school places have been offered in previous years
- giving general advice on transferring your child from primary to secondary school

Over the coming weeks the Parent Support Adviser will be arranging drop in sessions at primary schools and secondary school Open Evenings. The Parent Support Adviser will also be holding drop in sessions at the First Stop Shop in the Civic Centre. Parents and carers will have the opportunity to ask any questions concerning the secondary transfer procedure and, where necessary, arrange to attend further advisory sessions.

Parents and carers can also arrange individual appointments with the Parent Support Adviser if more in-depth assistance is required.

Please contact the Parent Support Adviser to discuss any aspects of the secondary school transfer process:

Parent Support Adviser  
Walsall Council  
Zone 2E, Civic Centre,  
Darwall Street,  
Walsall  
WS1 1TP

Phone: 01922 652578

Email: [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk)

## Submitting an application

If you live in Walsall and your child is due to transfer to secondary school in September 2018, you will apply through Walsall Council for his or her school place.

You should complete your application on-line. The on-line application process is quick and easy and the benefits are:

- **The system is safe and secure so that your information is protected**
- **You will receive email confirmation that your application has been received**
- **By logging back into your on-line application, you can make changes to your preferences up until the closing date (31 October 2017)**
- **You can opt to receive the outcome of your application by email on 1 March 2018**

**To complete your application on-line visit:**

**[www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)**

where you can follow the link to Education – Secondary School Admissions and you will find step by step guidance to filling in the on-line form.

If you require further assistance with the on-line application process, please contact the Parent Support Adviser (Admissions) on 01922 652578 or the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team by email on: [secondary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:secondary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk), or telephone 01922 652585.

**Follow the link at [www.walsall.gov.uk/education](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/education)**

## Important dates for parents

### Now:

- Read this Booklet – it is important to understand how the Inter-LA Co-ordinated Secondary Admissions Scheme works.
- If you intend to apply for a school that is not in Walsall, you must obtain a copy of the relevant LA's Information Booklet, or visit the LA's website, to see the admission criteria for that school and to ascertain whether or not you would need to provide additional information to the school.
- Contact individual schools for copies of their prospectuses.
- Use the Internet – most schools have websites. Details are given in the school information pages in this booklet – or go to the Walsall Council website ([www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)) and follow the link to Education. Ofsted reports are also available at [www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk).
- Check the tables – read the recent GCSE Performance Tables. They are available at [www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance](http://www.education.gov.uk/schools/performance)
- Parents and carers will still be able to contact the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team, and the Parent Support Adviser, during the half - term period for advice and support. ( Contact details at the bottom of the page)

### - **During September/October:**

- We strongly recommend that you visit schools before completing your application. Open evenings and open days are held for parents and pupils – see the school information pages (14-15) for details.
- You can name up to 5 preferences – you must submit your on-line application by 31 October 2017. Please provide proof of your address with your on-line application by including your Council Tax reference number where indicated.
- Return the school's own Registration Form (if appropriate) directly to Queen Mary's Grammar School, Queen Mary's High School, and Walsall Academy. An additional school form is also required for Specialist Music places at Aldridge School and Specialist Sports places at Ormiston Shelfield Community Academy. These forms are available from the schools.
- If you are applying for a place at a Walsall Faith School, Aldridge School, Brownhills School or Shire Oak Academy, please complete the required Supplementary Information Form and return it directly to the school, together with any relevant attachments, by the due date.
- Schools outside Walsall may require additional information or registration forms to be completed - you may want to check this with the LA in question.
- Additional forms are also available on individual schools' websites.

### **March 2018:**

- The National Notification Date is 1 March 2018 (or, if 1 March is not a working day, the next working day). A letter, offering your child a place at ONE school, will be sent on Thursday 1 March 2018.
- If you opted to receive the outcome of your on-line application by email, the email will be sent on Thursday 1 March 2018.

# Your child's transfer to secondary school: Frequently asked questions

## How do I apply for a place at a secondary school?

You should apply **on-line** by logging on to **[www.walsall.gov.uk/education](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/education)** and following the link provided, and then following the instructions given.

**When making an application, you must name all of the schools where you wish your child to be considered for a place. These should be listed in order of preference, including Walsall schools or schools in other authorities.**

**If you wish to apply for a Specialist Music Place at Aldridge School or a Specialist Sports Place at Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy, you must name these as separate preferences. If you wish to also apply for a place at the schools, please name the schools separately. If you are expressing preferences for both options at the same school, you must name the specialist place higher than the school place, as your preferences are considered in the order that they are listed on your application.**

## Secondary Schools in Walsall

There are 18 secondary schools in Walsall, offering 20 options for preference. These are the **only** Walsall schools that can be entered on your application. There are other schools in Walsall for which applications **must** be made directly to the school. Examples include Palfrey Girls' School, Abu Bakr Girls' School, Abu Bakr Boys' School and Hydesville Tower School.

There are 16 secondary schools in Walsall where places are offered to boys and girls of all levels of ability:

- 2 Catholic voluntary aided schools
- 1 Foundation school
- 13 Academies

At the following four schools, all or some of the places are offered based upon the performance of children in an entrance examination, a musical audition or an aptitude test for sports, set by the schools:

- 2 Grammar (or selective) single-sex schools (both Academies)
- Aldridge School offers Specialist Music Places
- Ormiston Sheffield Academy offers Specialist Sports Places

## How do I apply for a school outside Walsall?

If you live in Walsall you can also apply for places at schools outside the Walsall borough by naming your preferences for those schools in your on-line application. For information about admission criteria for schools outside Walsall you are advised to obtain a copy of the maintaining LA's information booklet or look at the Authority's website. Contact details for the West Midlands Authorities are given below.

### **Birmingham LA - Tel: 0121 303 1888 (choose Option 4)**

School Admissions and Fair Access Service, PO Box 16513, Birmingham, B2 2FF  
([www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions))

### **Dudley LA - Tel: 01384 814223 (choose Option 2)**

People Directorate Education Outcomes School Admissions, Dudley Council House, Priory Road, Dudley, DY1 1HF  
([www.dudley.gov.uk](http://www.dudley.gov.uk)) Email: [admissions.cs@dudley.gov.uk](mailto:admissions.cs@dudley.gov.uk)

### **Sandwell LA - Tel: 0121 569 6765**

School Admissions Service, Sandwell Council House, PO BOX 16230, Freeth Street, Oldbury, B69 3EX  
([www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.sandwell.gov.uk/schooladmissions)) Email: [annual\\_schooladmissions@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:annual_schooladmissions@sandwell.gov.uk)

### **Staffordshire LA - Tel: 0300 111 8007 (Select option for School Admissions & Transport)**

School Admissions and Transport Service, Staffordshire County Council, 2 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2DH  
([www.staffordshire.gov.uk](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk)) Email: [admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:admissions@staffordshire.gov.uk)

### **Wolverhampton LA - Tel: 01902 551122**

Admissions and Appeals Section, School Places and Transport, City of Wolverhampton Council, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1RR  
([www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/schooladmissions)) E Mail: [school.admissions@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

## Will I need to provide any additional information?

If you name any of the following schools in your application, you must also complete the school's own Registration Form, available to download from the Walsall Council website ([www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)). If you are intending to name any of the following schools, please contact the school to request a Registration Form:

- **Aldridge School Specialist Music Place (separate preference from Aldridge School)**
- **Brownhills School**
- **Queen Mary's High School (for Girls) complete the on-line registration form on the school website**
- **Queen Mary's Grammar School (for Boys) complete the on-line registration form on the school website**
- **Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy – Specialist Sports Place (separate preference from Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy)**
- **Shire Oak Academy**
- **The Walsall Academy**

The school's own Registration Form must be returned direct to the secondary school concerned, by **31 October 2017**. (or in the case of Queen Mary's Grammar School and Queen Mary's High School by Friday 7 July 2017). You **must** also name the school or Specialist Place on your on-line application.

Your application **WILL NOT** be considered unless **BOTH** are completed and returned on time. Other schools outside Walsall may also require you to complete a registration form or to provide additional information, so please remember to check with the relevant Local Authority.

## St Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College, St Thomas More Catholic School, Brownhills School or Shire Oak Academy

If you wish to express a preference for either or both of Walsall's Catholic Secondary Schools, Brownhills School - or Shire Oak Academy, you will need to send any required supporting information, eg baptismal certificates and letters from a minister of religion, direct to the school, together with a completed **Supplementary Information Form** – available to download and print from the school admission pages of the Walsall Council website or the website of the school. Supplementary forms are also available on request from the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team or the school.

## Walsall Church of England School

If you wish to express a preference for Blue Coat Church of England Academy, you will need to complete a **Supplementary Information Form** or a **Foundation Place Form** – available to download and print from the school admission pages of the Walsall Council website or the website of the school. Supplementary forms are also available on request from the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team or the school.

## When should I apply?

See also important dates on page 5. The closing date for receipt of applications is **31 October 2017**. Applications received after this date, will be considered after those applications received on time unless there are exceptional reasons, and this may result in your child not being offered a place at your preferred school.

Although the closing date for applications is 31 October 2017, we recommend that parents and carers submit their application by **20 October 2017**. This year's deadline day falls immediately after Autumn half-term and parents may find that support is limited if they require assistance from their child's primary school to submit an application during the half-term period.

For information about schools in neighbouring local authorities, please contact the relevant local authority or other local authorities. Contact details can be found on page 6.

## What happens if I do not submit my application by 31 October 2017?

On-line applications cannot be made after the closing date, and Late Preference Forms received after **31 October 2017**, without good reason, **will only** be processed after all other applications have been finalised. Such applicants are less likely to be offered their preferred schools. If you have good reason for returning your form after the closing date, please attach a letter to your form, explaining the reasons for the late return. Any letters received will be considered, but there is no guarantee that your application will be processed with those received before the deadline date.

## **Late Applications for Walsall secondary schools received up to 4 weeks after the Closing Date (between 1 November 2017 and 29 November 2017):**

Late applications received up to four weeks after the closing date may be considered as being on-time but only where there are exceptional circumstances:

- Where the family was unable to complete the online application form by the closing date because they moved into the Borough of Walsall after the closing date.
- The family was unable to comply with the admission timetable because of exceptional circumstances that prevented the submission of an on time application.
- When a lone parent has been ill for some time.

In these cases the circumstances must be given in writing and they will be subject to verification by the Director of Children's Services, Walsall Council.

## **What happens if I would like to change my school preference after I have submitted my application?**

Up to the closing date of **31 October 2017** parents may change their preferences if they wish to do so. After the closing date any change in preferences, other than in exceptional circumstances will be regarded as a late application and will be considered under the late application policy. Documentary evidence is required to support claims of exceptional circumstances.

Preferences **cannot** be changed after the closing date without a significant change in circumstances. When notifying a significant change of circumstances the applicant must supply documentary evidence to confirm the changes. An example of this is a house move that necessitates a change of preference(s). This would need to be validated by documentary evidence such as a solicitor's letter confirming exchange of contracts or a copy of the tenancy agreement.

## **Won't my child automatically transfer to secondary school from his/her present school?**

Children do not automatically transfer from primary to secondary school, other than at Bloxwich Academy see page 19 for further details. Every parent must complete an on-line application to ensure that their child is considered for a place at their preferred school. Where a parent does not make an application for any school, a place at the nearest Walsall school with places available will be offered. This may not be your local school and transport assistance may not necessarily be provided.

## **If my child has an older sibling already in attendance at my preferred school, do I still have to apply?**

You must submit an application for your preferred school by the closing date regardless of whether or not your child has an older sibling at the school at the time of admission. Details of 'siblings' definitions can be found within the school's admission arrangement on their website.

## **When will I know the outcome of my application?**

If you have made your application online, you can opt to receive the outcome of your application by email (please see page 4 for details).

If you reside in Walsall, Walsall Council will post your offer letter on Thursday 1 **March 2018** (the National Offer day is 1 March or if that date is a non-working day, the next working day), making one offer of a school place. You should not receive more than one offer of a place within the co-ordinated scheme.

In the case of offers to Walsall resident children for places in schools outside Walsall, Walsall Council will make offers on behalf of the relevant local authority.

## **How many places are available at each school?**

Each school has a Published Admission Number which is the maximum number of pupils that the school can admit, taking into account the accommodation and resources available. The published admission number for each school is shown on the school information pages. You will also find information about how places were allocated in previous years on these pages.

## What is the Co-ordinated Admissions Scheme?

The scheme indicates the way in which Walsall Council will co-ordinate admission arrangements. The purpose of the scheme is to ensure that each pupil living in Walsall receives only one offer of a school place on the same date, whether that is at a school in Walsall or at one maintained by a neighbouring authority.

The neighbouring authorities co-ordinating in this scheme are: Birmingham, Dudley, Sandwell, Staffordshire and Wolverhampton.

Details of how the scheme operates are given on pages 47 to 49.

## What can I do if I am unhappy with the school offer made?

Along with your offer letter, you will receive information on how to proceed if you are not satisfied with the school place you have been allocated.

You can call the Parent Support Adviser by telephone on 01922 652578, who will be able to advise you which other schools have places and explain the options available to you.

If it is not possible to offer a place at your preferred Walsall school, parents have the opportunity to appeal against the decision to an Independent Appeals Panel. Information on how to make an appeal for the different types of Walsall schools will be sent to parents with the offer letter. Details about how to appeal are given in the school information pages later in this booklet.

Where appeal forms are received after the deadline date, this may result in the appeal not being heard in the summer term, therefore, if you are not happy with the offer of the place you have received, you are strongly advised to request and return the appeal form by the specified date.

## What if my appeal is unsuccessful?

The decision of an Independent Appeal Panel is final and binding on all parties.

Repeat appeals cannot be considered in the same academic year unless there have been significant and material changes in the circumstances of the parent or the school.

In the event of your appeal being unsuccessful, you may wish to contact the Parent Support Adviser or the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team who will be able to advise you which schools have places available if you do not want to accept the school place that you have been offered.

## How do I put my child's name on a waiting list if my application is unsuccessful?

If your child has not been offered a place at your most preferred school and a place has been offered at a lower preference school, your child's name will automatically be placed on the waiting list/s of the Walsall school/s you named as higher preferences on your original application.

Waiting Lists for all Walsall schools except for Walsall Academy, will be maintained by the Local Authority until the last day of Summer Term 2018. Parents may enquire about their child's position on any waiting list by telephoning the School Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team from Monday 12th March 2018. From September 2018 waiting lists will be maintained by individual schools.

Parents may enquire about their child's position on the waiting list for Walsall Academy by contacting the school

Parents wishing their child to be included on this list should contact the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team on 01922 652585. Waiting lists will be held for one term only, and new lists will be started at the beginning of each term.

Children who are the subject of a direction by a local authority to admit to a school or who are allocated to a school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol must take precedence over those children on the Waiting List.

Please see further information about the Waiting List Policy on page 50.

## Who should I contact if I have any queries about the admissions process?

You can contact the Parent Support Adviser who can give impartial advice and support to parents and carers. Parents can arrange appointments with the Parent Support Adviser if more in-depth assistance is required. Please contact the Parent Support Adviser on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

Contact details for the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team are given on page 1 of this booklet.

Information on the Walsall Council website may answer your queries: [www.walsall.gov.uk/education](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/education).

## Changing schools during the school year

Moving your child to another secondary school is a very serious step to take. It can affect your child in many ways. It is important that you consider whether a transfer is really the best option. Before deciding to move your child to another school, please read this information carefully.

Moving to a new school may not mean that a problem is solved – it can happen again and could be worse because your child will not know new teachers and pupils and your child and her/his needs will not be known by school staff.

Many things that worry parents and pupils can be resolved without the need to move schools. Talking to your child and staff at your child's present school should make a transfer to another school unnecessary in almost all circumstances.

While all schools follow the National Curriculum, schools will teach different topics at different times of the year. If your child moves schools, he or she may miss work which will affect his or her ability to be entered for, or succeed in, examinations and national tests. This is especially important once pupils reach Years 10 and 11, when it is possible that their preferred options may not be available at a new school.

There may be some circumstances when a change of school is unavoidable, for example:

- where a child in public care has moved carers and direct travel to the existing school is not possible;
- where a child receives a Statement of Special Educational Needs which names the school;
- a house move into Walsall;
- a house move within Walsall where direct travel to the current school is not possible;
- where a court order makes it impossible for the child to continue attending his or her current school.

If none of the above circumstances apply, we strongly advise you to take the steps outlined below before seeking a change of school.

**If your child is unhappy at school or you feel he or she is being bullied:** speak to the child's class teacher, or make an appointment to see the headteacher.

**If you have a complaint about the school, the teachers or the work your child is doing:** if it cannot be resolved by the teaching staff or the headteacher, put your complaint in writing to the school's Governing Body.

**If your child is not attending school:** talk to your child about why he or she does not want to attend and speak to the teachers. You can also talk to an Education Welfare Officer.

**If your child has special educational needs:** speak to the teacher in charge of special needs (SENCo) or contact the Special Educational Needs Team on telephone 01922 652871.

### General information:

If you decide to continue with your application to transfer your child to another school, do not remove your child from the current school until he/she has been offered a place at a new school.

Applications for midyear admission to a Walsall school should be made directly to the school. Application forms are available from individual schools and from Walsall Council (telephone 01922 652585).

The Midyear Admissions Preference Form must be returned to the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team, Walsall Council or to the school for which you are applying.

If you wish to apply for midyear admission to a school which is outside of Walsall please contact the Local Authority for the area in which the school is located.

If you have any questions or require advice on the midyear admissions process you can contact the Parent Support Adviser on **01922 652578** or by email at [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admissions and the Disability Discrimination Act 1995/SEN and Disability Act 2001

The principle behind the Disability Discrimination Act 1995 is that disabled people should not be discriminated against. The Act affects virtually everyone who provides goods, facilities and services, including access to education.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 defines a disabled person as someone with 'a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities'.

Since 2002 it has been unlawful to discriminate against children and young people who have a disability. This part of the law also applies to admissions to schools.

The Acts ensure that children and young people with disabilities cannot be treated less favourably than all other children and young people, other than in exceptional circumstances. It also sets out that schools and local authorities must take reasonable steps to ensure that children and young people with disabilities are not placed at a substantial disadvantage compared to other pupils in the school.

The Act identifies specific duties in relation to school admissions. The Act states that Local Authorities and schools must not discriminate against a disabled child:

- in the arrangements that they make for determining the admission of pupils to the school, this includes the schools' admission criteria and the operation of those criteria;
- in the conditions on which they offer to admit a disabled pupil to a school;
- by refusing or deliberately omitting to accept an application for admission to the school from someone who is disabled

If you have any concerns about the admission arrangements you should contact the responsible body and try to resolve the issues. The responsible body for community schools is the Local Authority, for foundation and voluntary aided schools and academies it is the governing body.

Claims of unlawful discrimination in respect of a refusal to admit to a school are heard by admission appeals panels. A claim of unlawful discrimination is made and heard in the same way as for other admission appeals. Please see page 9 and the school information pages in this booklet for details of admission appeals.

You must let us know as soon as possible if you consider that your or your child's disability under the terms of the Act could affect your application for a place at a particular school. The first page of this Booklet provides details of how to contact us. For example, for schools that require pupils to take an examination, assessment tasks or a musical audition, it may be appropriate for the school to make available test material in an adapted format, provide an amanuensis (scribe) or to allow additional time, depending on the needs of the child – please contact the school concerned.

The Disability Rights Commission help line can provide advice and information. The help line can be contacted as follows:

Telephone: 0808 800 0082  
Text phone: 0808 800 0084  
Website: [www.drc-gb.org](http://www.drc-gb.org)

## What happens if your child has a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan?

The admission of a child with a statement of Special Educational Needs to a school is the responsibility of the Local Authority (LA) which maintains the child's statement or Education, Health and Care Plan, this is the Authority to which you pay your Council Tax.

The transfer to Year 7 for those children is dealt with under the SEN Code of Practice and a different process is involved.

Where a parent of a child with a statement of special educational needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan expresses a preference for a school and the Local Authority (LA) is satisfied that the school is suitable for the child's needs, a place must be offered to the child. The LA and the school must comply with the parent's preference, unless:

- the school is unsuitable to the child's age, ability, aptitude or special educational needs, or
- the placement would be incompatible with the efficient education of the other children with whom the child would be educated, or
- the placement is an inefficient use of public resources.

All schools in Walsall are able to meet a wide range of special educational needs. However, there will be occasions when the Local Authority judges that a parental preference is not suitable for their child for one or more of the reasons above. For example, if the school that parents have expressed a preference for is a significant distance away from the home address and transport is provided by the Local Authority, the Local Authority could refuse as this would be an inefficient use of resources.

The Government has set a different timescale for the admission process for children with statements. This means that places will be given to children with a statement or Education, Health and Care Plan before places are allocated to other pupils. From 15 February 2018 the statement EHCP will be amended to name the secondary school that the child will attend in September 2018. The exceptions are the grammar schools where admission is by ability and is decided through the schools' own entrance examinations. The statement EHCP for any pupil obtaining a grammar school place will be amended after those places are allocated.

Parents or carers of children who live in Walsall should apply on-line on the Walsall Council website. They should make sure that they show on the application that their child has a statement on EHCP. The Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team will forward details of all relevant applications to the SEN Team, who will complete the process.

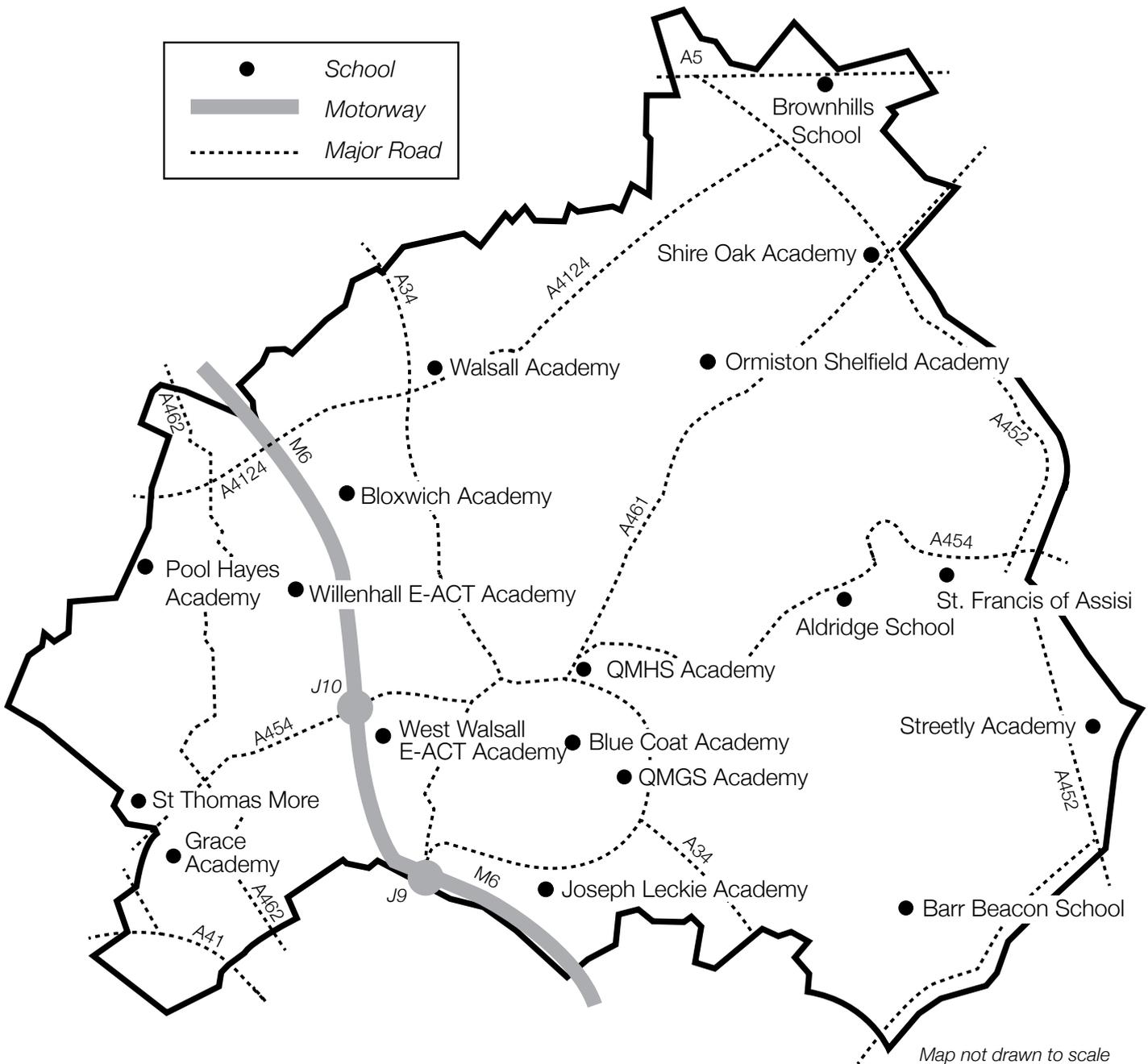
## What are the chances of getting my child into the school I want?

**It is not possible to give guidance that will guarantee a place at a particular school. However, if you take time to consider the following, it may increase the chances of one of your preferences being offered:**

- Read the 'Information for Parents' booklet thoroughly.
- Only submit an on-line application to Walsall Council if you live in Walsall. If you live outside Walsall you must apply to the local authority where you live (your home Local Authority).
- Do any of your preferred schools require another form to be sent in? For Walsall schools check 'How to Apply' in the school information pages. For schools outside Walsall, check the information booklet or the website for the relevant local authority.
- Give the name and date of birth of any sibling who is already at a school you are applying for, and who will still be in attendance in September 2018, remembering Shire Oak Academy accept former siblings as a connection.
- Check the admission criteria for your preferred school carefully. Does your child meet the criteria for the school(s) you prefer?
- Be realistic. Would your child have met the admission criteria last year, or the year before? If in doubt, please contact either the Parent Support Adviser or the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team for guidance.
- Make sure you include as a preference at least one school where your child meets the admission criteria. This is likely to be a nearby school where one of the main admission criteria is distance. Requesting a local school may give your child the option to walk there.
- Do not include as preferences too many schools where you live further away than the cut-off distance in the past two years as this could prevent any of your preferences being offered.
- When you are naming your preferred schools, do not put the same preference down more than once. If you do, we will treat this as one application unless you are applying for a specialist Sports or Music place (please see School Information pages).
- You can name up to five schools that you would like your child to go to and rank them in order of preference. The school you name first should be the one you would most like your child to go to.
- **You must submit your application (see page 4 for details) before 31 October 2017.**

# Information about Walsall Secondary Schools

## Map of Walsall Secondary Schools



# Walsall Secondary Schools - Contact Detail

SCHOOL	ADMISSION NUMBER	TYPE OF SCHOOL	TELEPHONE NUMBER
Aldridge School – Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust	259 (including up to 25 Music places)	Academy	01922 743988
Aldridge School – Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust Specialist Music Places	25	Academy	01922 743988
Barr Beacon School	252	Academy	0121 366 6600
Bloxwich Academy	120	Academy	01922 710257
Blue Coat CE Academy	150	Academy	01922 720558
Brownhills School	125	Foundation	01543 452886
Grace Academy Darlaston	150	Academy	0121 568 3300
Joseph Leckie Academy	240	Academy	01922 721071
Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy	240 (including 24 Sports Places)	Academy	01922 685777
Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy - Sports Places	24	Academy	01922 685777
Pool Hayes Academy	200	Academy	01902 368147
Queen Mary's Grammar School (for boys)	150	Academy	01922 720696
Queen Mary's High School (for girls)	120	Academy	01922 721013
Shire Oak Academy	240 (including 2 specialist places)	Academy	01543 452518
St Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College	180	Voluntary Aided	01922 740300
St Thomas More Catholic School Business & Enterprise College	243	Voluntary Aided	01902 368798
Streetly Academy	243	Academy	0121 353 2709
Walsall Academy	208	Academy	01922 493910
West Walsall E-ACT Academy	210	Academy	01922 720741
Willenhall E-ACT Academy	270	Academy	01902 368221

# Open Evenings and Open Evening/s Information

	EMAIL AND WEBSITE	OPEN EVENING/S AND DAYS
	Email: <a href="mailto:info@aldrigedgeschool.org">info@aldrigedgeschool.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.aldrigedgeschool.org">www.aldrigedgeschool.org</a>	Wednesday 20th September 7pm-9pm Music Scholars Information evening 20th September 6.15pm until 7pm Thursday 21 September 7pm-9pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk">postbox@barrbeaconschool.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk">www.barrbeaconschool.co.uk</a>	Thursday 21st September 6.30pm-9pm Friday 22nd September 10am-11am
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@bloxwichacademy.co.uk">postbox@bloxwichacademy.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk">www.bloxwichacademy.co.uk</a>	Thursday 14th September 5.30pm-7.30pm Monday 25th September to Friday 29th September 9.20am-10.10am
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@bluecoatacademy.org">postbox@bluecoatacademy.org</a> Web: <a href="http://www.bluecoatacademy.org">www.bluecoatacademy.org</a>	Thursday 5th October 6pm-8pm Open Week from 9th October - parents to contact school to make an appointment
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@brownhills.walsall.sch.uk">postbox@brownhills.walsall.sch.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.brownhills.walsall.sch.uk">www.brownhills.walsall.sch.uk</a>	Tuesday 19th September 6pm-8.30pm Open Mornings Thursday 21st September, Tuesday 26th September and Tuesday 3rd October from 9.15am-10.30am
	Email: <a href="mailto:darlaston@graceacademy.org.uk">darlaston@graceacademy.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.graceacademy.org.uk">www.graceacademy.org.uk</a>	Thursday 21st September 5pm-7pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk">postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk">www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk</a>	Wednesday 27th September 7pm-9pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@scacademy.co.uk">postbox@scacademy.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.scacademy.co.uk">www.scacademy.co.uk</a>	Wednesday 20th September Thursday 21st September Please contact school for times
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@poolhayesarts.com">postbox@poolhayesarts.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.poolhayesarts.com">www.poolhayesarts.com</a>	Tuesday 26th September Please contact school for times
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk">postbox@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk">www.qmgs.walsall.sch.uk</a>	Queen Mary's Grammar School holds an open evening in June and an open morning event in July for pupils in years 5 and 6. Please check the school's website for dates and further details. Sixth Form Open Evening on Thursday 2nd November – please contact school for times.
	Email: <a href="mailto:qmarys@qmhs.org.uk">qmarys@qmhs.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.qmhs.org.uk">www.qmhs.org.uk</a>	Wednesday 11th October 11am-12.15pm Thursday 19th October 11am-12.15pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@shireoakacademy.co.uk">postbox@shireoakacademy.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.shireoakacademy.co.uk">www.shireoakacademy.co.uk</a>	Wednesday 27th September 6.30pm-9.00pm Open Days - Thursday 28th September and Friday 29th September beginning from 9.15am
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@stfrancis.cc">postbox@stfrancis.cc</a> Web: <a href="http://www.stfrancis.cc">www.stfrancis.cc</a>	Thursday 28th September 7pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@st-thomasmore.walsall.sch.uk">postbox@st-thomasmore.walsall.sch.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.st-thomasmore.walsall.sch.uk">www.st-thomasmore.walsall.sch.uk</a>	Wednesday 27th September 5pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@thestreetlyacademy.co.uk">postbox@thestreetlyacademy.co.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.thestreetlyacademy.co.uk">www.thestreetlyacademy.co.uk</a>	Please contact schools for details
	Email: <a href="mailto:enquiries@walsallacademy.com">enquiries@walsallacademy.com</a> Web: <a href="http://www.walsallacademy.com">www.walsallacademy.com</a>	Please contact schools for details
	Email: <a href="mailto:info@wwea.org.uk">info@wwea.org.uk</a> Web: <a href="http://www.wwea.org.uk">www.wwea.org.uk</a>	Thursday 28th September 4.30pm-7.30pm
	Email: <a href="mailto:postbox@willenhalle-actacademy.org.uk">postbox@willenhalle-actacademy.org.uk</a> Website: <a href="http://www.willenhalle-actacademy.org.uk">www.willenhalle-actacademy.org.uk</a>	Please contact schools for details

# Aldridge School – Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust

Tynings Lane, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0BG (DfE No. 335 5405)

**Headteacher:** Mr I Bryant

**Chair of Governors:** Mr W Hodson

**Admission Number:** 259 (including up to 25 specialist music places)

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,287

## How to apply for a place:

To apply for a place you must

Submit an application to your home local authority; Walsall residents must submit an online application to Walsall Council by the closing date of **31 October 2017**.

Walsall Residents must submit an online application to Walsall Council by **31 October 2017**. Where the child attends a primary school outside Walsall the online application must be submitted to Walsall Council.

Parents living outside Walsall must submit an application to their home Authority.

An application for a place at the school is separate from an application for a Specialist Music Place. If you apply for a Specialist Music Place and your child is not successful, your child will be considered for a place at the school only if you have expressed a separate preference for the school in your secondary application.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk)

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children.
2. Pupils who have a sibling attending the school at the time of admission. - See admissions arrangements for full details
3. Relevant exceptional medical or social factors independently verified in writing by a doctor or other relevant professional which show that a place at the school is essential.
4. Where the child is attending one of the following named Community feeder primary schools: Cooper and Jordan CE Primary, Whetstone Field Primary, Leighswood Primary, St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Rushall Primary.
5. Priority is given to the children of members of staff who have been employed by Aldridge School for at least 2 academic years.
6. Distance will be measured in a straight line, from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school with priority given to those living closest.

A maximum of 25 of these places have been reserved as specialist music places. If you want to apply for a specialist music place, please express a separate preference, as Walsall Council and Aldridge School treat preferences for Music Places and a place at the school as separate applications.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 726 preferences were expressed for places in 2016. Places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and for pupils assessed on distance, places were offered to pupils who lived up to 2.345 miles from the school.

A total of 803 preferences were expressed for places in 2017. Places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and for pupils assessed on distance, places were offered to pupils who lived up to 2.584 miles from the school.

### How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:

Appeal forms and information can be obtained from the school website ([www.aldrigedgschool.org](http://www.aldrigedgschool.org)) or by contacting the Headteachers PA.

## Information provided by the school:

Aldridge School is proud of its history and proud of our community. We aim to develop the positive potential of every student in our care. We want all our students to do as well as they can, not just some or even most of them. We all work hard to teach, support and encourage them to do this. Those with special talents and abilities are stretched and achieve very highly and we celebrate this success.

We know that all students are individuals. We know that they will have many different interests, talents and ways of learning. We aim to provide for all in a way that maximises their potential. In this way we achieve our mission of 'Achieving excellence together'.

We want every young person to be proud of their school and their contribution to it. We seek for every student to achieve the highest possible level in examinations, but we know that preparing young people for life involves much, much more.

# Aldridge School – Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust - Specialist Music Places

Tynings Lane, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0BG (DfE No: 335 5405)

**Headteacher:** Mr I Bryant

**Chair of Governors:** Mr W Hodson

**Admission Number:** Up to 25 Specialist Music Places

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

## How to apply for a place:

### To apply for a place you must complete 2 forms:

1. Walsall Residents ( where a child/children attends a Walsall Primary School) they should complete an online application by **31 October 2017**.

Parents living outside Walsall must submit an application to their home authority.

2. The Aldridge School registration form (Music) available from the school or via the school website and the Walsall Council website. To be returned to Aldridge School by the stated deadline.

An application for a music place at the school is separate from an application for an ordinary place. If you apply for a Specialist Music Place and your child is not successful, your child will be considered for a place at the school only if you have expressed a separate preference for the school in your LA application.

To be considered the application does require all 2 forms to be completed..

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team 01922 652585 or the Parent support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or e mail [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk)

Parents who consider that their child has a disability under the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) should contact the Headteacher as soon as possible to discuss any special arrangements to allow their child to undertake the audition process for a specialist music place.

## Admission criteria:

Applicants who wish to be considered for a Music place must attend a Saturday audition. Candidates will be informed of the date and time of their audition once the application form is returned.

### 1. Audition

- a) Performance of two contrasting pieces with accompaniment where applicable
- b) A short sight-reading test and
- c) Aural test – pitch, rhythm, melody and musicianship

2. **Written theory paper** ( a copy of the past theory paper is available on request)

### Marks will be allocated as follows:

Audition (performance) 60 marks (2 x 30)  
Sight reading 10 marks  
Aural 20 marks (4 x 5)  
Written 10 marks

### 100 marks in total.

**Allocation of places:** A rank order will be formulated and places offered in accordance with the rank order to ensure that each category of instrument is represented in the intake. Where there are a number of candidates with the same mark then the performance mark will be used to distinguish between candidates.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Request an appeal form from the School, these will also be available via the school website ([www.aldriggeschool.org](http://www.aldriggeschool.org)).

# Barr Beacon School

Old Hall Lane, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RF (DfE No: 335 5406)

**Headteacher:** Ms L Draycott

**Chair of Governors:** Dr Deborah Park

**Admission Number:** 252

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1317 + 173 Sixth Form

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. If your child attends a primary school outside the borough of Walsall or an independent school in Walsall, please apply on-line. Parents living outside Walsall must submit an application to their home Local Authority and return it as stated.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Where a child has an older sibling currently attending the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school in years 8-11 in September of the relevant year. Siblings of Sixth form students DO NOT qualify for sibling claim.
3. Where there are essential medical or social grounds for admitting the child (relevant social or medical grounds that show that attendance at the school is essential and supported in writing by a medical practitioner or social worker. These would be subject to verification by the school's Admission Committee)
4. Children of Staff employed at The Academy: Where a member of staff (\*\*) has been employed at The Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.  
 \*\* All full time teaching staff  
 All full time support staff - (defined as those on a 37 hour week and above contract)  
 The definition does not include contract staff. If service has been 'in house' and is subsequently 'contracted out' children of staff will no longer be eligible for priority admission under this criterion.
5. Pupils from the following feeder primary schools: Meadow View JMI, Park Hall Junior Academy, Pheasey Park Farm Primary. Living within 2.25 miles of Barr Beacon School as measured in a straight line.
6. Proximity of a child's home to Barr Beacon School, with

those living nearest being accorded the higher priority, the distance being measured in a straight line. The home address of the child is considered to be the permanent residence of a child in a residential property when the place is offered. The address must be the child's only or main residence and be either owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian or be leased to or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardian under a lease or written rental agreement of not less than six months. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 1048 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. Places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and offers assessed on distance from the home address to the school were made to children living up to 1.312 miles from the school.

A total of 1120 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. Places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and offers assessed on distance from the home address to the school were made to children living up to 1.467 miles from the school.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Parents whose children are refused admission to the school have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. The necessary forms and information should be obtained from the Clerk to the Governing Body, Barr Beacon School, Old Hall Lane, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RF. Please mark the envelope **ADMISSION – APPEAL**.

Appeals in respect of Year 7 intake for September 2018 should be lodged by 27 April 2018.

## Information provided by the school:

At Barr Beacon School we expect:

- Outstanding behaviour
- Excellent Attendance
- High standards of uniform
- Respect for each other

- Traditional values
- High aspirations

Please only express a preference for Barr Beacon if you support our traditional values and high expectations for your child.

# Bloxwich Academy

Leamore Lane, Leamore, Walsall, WS2 7NR (DfE No: 335 4001)

**Headteacher:** Mr A Seager

**Chair of Governors:** Mr Keith Hoey

**Admission Number:** 120

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 524

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must complete an on-line application no later than **31 October 2017**. If your child attends a primary school outside the borough of Walsall or an independent school in Walsall, please apply on-line. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

**Please note that the current year 6 pupils attending Bloxwich Academy will transfer straight into year 7, and therefore the number of available places for external applicants will be reduced.**

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Pupils who have an older sibling already in attendance at the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Pupils for whom a place at the school is essential on medical grounds as supported in writing by a medical practitioner (applications will be subject to verification by the Admissions Committee).
4. Children of Staff employed at The Academy. Where a member of staff(\*\*) has been employed at the Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.  
 \*\* All full time teaching staff, All full time support staff - (defined as those on a 37 hour week and above contract) The definition does not include contract staff. If service has been 'in house' and is subsequently 'contracted out' children of staff will no longer be eligible for priority admission under this criterion.
5. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 136 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the published admission criteria, 118 places were offered.

A total of 201 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. After applying the published admission criteria, 144 places were offered.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Chair of Governors at the academy address. Please mark the envelope **ADMISSION APPEAL**.

# Blue Coat Church of England Academy

Birmingham Street, Walsall, WS1 2ND (DfE No: 335 4004)

**Headteacher:** Mr D Smith

**Chair of Governors:** Mr David Tonks

**Admission Number:** 150

**Type:** Academy Trust

**Denominational Affiliation:** Church of England

**Total N° of Pupils (May 2017):** 703

## How to apply for a place:

There are two parts to this application.

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. If your child attends a primary school outside the borough of Walsall or an independent school in Walsall, please apply on-line. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

Parents applying for a place on Christian faith grounds must complete the Supplementary Information Form (which can be

obtained from Year 7 Admissions Officer, Blue Coat CE Academy, Birmingham Street, Walsall, WS1 2ND, Tel: 01922 720588, Email [admissions@bluecoatacademy.org](mailto:admissions@bluecoatacademy.org) or from the Local Authority) and return this form **direct to the Academy Admissions Officer at Blue Coat CE Academy**, signed by an appropriate faith leader.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk)

## Admission criteria:

150 places are offered by the Governors for entry into each academic year. Out of the 150 places, the Governing Body intends to allocate up to **50 "Foundation Places"** (for practising Christians) and at least **100 "Open Places"** for the whole community.

Children with a Statement of Educational Needs that names the Blue Coat CE Academy will have absolute priority in admission for both Foundation and Open Places in Year 7 and for admissions to Year 12.

Parents/guardians must submit a **separate application for each child**, including for multiple-birth applications. When considering twins, triplets or larger number of siblings, which are the product of a multiple birth, where there are insufficient spaces for all siblings, the Academy will exceed its admission number so that same family twins, triplets etc do not have to attend separate schools.

If there are more than 50 applicants for Foundation places, the places will be allocated according to the following criteria. These are stated in order of priority:

- (i) Looked after children (including previously looked after children) whose families are faithful and regular worshippers;
- (ii) Children with known medical, social or pastoral needs who have an exceptional need for a place at Blue Coat CE Academy Walsall, and whose families are faithful and regular worshippers;
- (iii) Children whose families are faithful and regular worshippers in a Church of England Parish Church or other Anglican place of worship and who have attended one of the designated 'partner' Church of England primary schools, as set out in Appendix A;
- (iv) Children whose families are faithful and regular worshippers in (a) a Church of England Parish Church or other Anglican place of worship; **or** in (b) another accredited Christian Church (e.g. Baptist; Methodist; Roman Catholic; Orthodox; United Reformed Church, Salvation Army; or in another Christian Church affiliated to Churches Together in Britain and Ireland and/or the Evangelical Alliance).
- (v) Children who will have a sibling in the Academy at the time of application and at the time of admission, and whose families are faithful and regular worshippers;

In the event that two or more applicants have equal right to a place under criteria (ii) – (v) above, the Governing Body will apply the subsequent criteria, in order of priority, to the applicants.

If there are more than 100 applicants for Open places, places will be allocated according to the following criteria. These are stated in order of priority:

- (i) Looked after children (including previously looked after children);
- (ii) Children with known medical, social or pastoral needs who have an exceptional need for a place at Blue Coat CE Academy;
- (iii) Children who have a sibling in the Academy at the time of application and at the time of admission;
- (iv) Children who have attended one of the following designated 'partner' primary schools:
  - Birchills CE Primary Community
  - Blue Coat CE (A) Junior School
- (v) All other children

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

There were 276 preferences expressed for places in September 2016 and after applying the admission criteria, places were offered to 150 pupils

There were 326 preferences expressed for places in September 2017 and after applying the admission criteria, places were offered to 150 pupils

For further details about the school please contact Miss Chloe Greenwood, Student Services, at [admissions@bluecoatacademy.org](mailto:admissions@bluecoatacademy.org)

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Contact the school and request an appeals form.

## Appendix A

### Designated 'partner' Church of England Primary Schools relevant for 'Foundation' Places

- All Saints National Academy
- Birchills CE (C) Academy Community
- Blue Coat CE (A) Junior School
- Christ Church CE (C) Primary School, Leamore
- Cooper and Jordan CE (A) Primary School
- Holy Trinity CE (C) Primary School- Clayhanger
- Little Bloxwich CE (C) Primary School
- Old Church CE (C) Primary School, Darlaston
- St Giles CE (C) Primary School
- St John's CE (C) Primary School
- St Michael's C of E (C) Primary School
- St Margaret's CE (C) Primary School

# Brownhills School

Deakin Avenue, Brownhills, Walsall, WS8 7QG (DfE No: 335 4057)

**Headteacher:** Mrs Helen Keenan  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr Keith Parr  
**Admission Number:** 125

**Type:** Foundation  
**Denominational Affiliation:** None  
**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 615

## How to apply for a place:

To apply for a place you must complete two forms.

Apply on-line or complete your home Authority's Preference Form and return by the date stated. For Walsall resident parents apply on-line and return by **31 October 2017**.

AND

Complete the Brownhills School Supplementary Information Form - available direct from the School or via a link from the school website - and return it either direct to the School or on-line by **31 October 2017**. If you are returning this form via your child's primary school please allow sufficient time for it to be forwarded to Brownhills School

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Pupils who have an older sibling already in attendance at the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Pupils for whom a place at the school is essential on medical or social grounds as supported in writing by a medical practitioner or a social worker.
4. Children of staff employed at School
5. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

**How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:** A total of 368 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to 125 pupils, with the furthest distance being 4.83 miles.

A total of 393 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to 150 pupils, with the furthest distance being 1.362 miles.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to Karen Shaw, Headteacher's Secretary, at the school address to request an Appeal Form.

## Information provided by the school:

Brownhills School is a small, traditional and ambitious school. We offer a disciplined and positive approach that allows children to thrive in a safe, happy and academic environment. We set high expectations for all pupils in terms of behaviour, attendance, uniform and achievement. We demand and expect respect for staff and fellow students and these core values are at the heart of everything we do.

It is **essential** that parents who choose the school support these expectations and values in order to help their child be successful in school. Good attendance, punctuality, behaviour and hard work are **non-negotiable** expectations and we insist that parents support the school in ensuring we achieve this with every child. We also expect parents to play an active part in their child's education. Our care and guidance for pupils is excellent with strong transition links to primary schools ensuring that year 6 pupils make a confident start to their secondary education.

Ofsted praised the school for its outstanding Leadership and Management in 2013 commenting on the drive for continual improvement. In May 2017 we enjoyed a one day Ofsted inspection for GOOD schools which reinforced these outcomes and confirmed that we continue to be a very good school. Ofsted stated that the leadership of safeguarding and teaching and learning is a strength of the school. It noted that staff "ensure that the well-being and safety of pupils are of the highest priority. Leadership is clear, thorough and compassionate and consequently, a culture of shared responsibility exists among staff and Governors. A caring and professional approach contributes strongly to the positive ethos in the school."

Ofsted noted that our students are polite and friendly to each other and visitors. Their attitudes to learning are good and they are proud of the changes that have taken place over recent years that, they say have made us an even better school.

Ofsted also complimented staff on "having a clear understanding of what needs to be done to ensure that all pupils at the school fulfil their potential. Leaders have clearly identified the strengths and weaknesses of the school and developed a Leadership Team with the capacity to improve the school further."

We are clearly focused on what we need to do to secure excellence in all areas of school life and we are ambitious for our young people. It is pleasing that Ofsted validated our very accurate self-evaluation. At Brownhills School however, we work very hard to improve the school for the benefit of our students and parents. It is their feedback and satisfaction which is the most important to us.

The school is recognised as a centre of excellence for music and the performing arts with the school choir VIP (Voices in Partnership) winning national competitions and having the largest school choir in the West Midlands. Musical productions take place each year with several students going on to professional careers in the performing arts and music. The school is also involved in a national University of Oxford Mindfulness Project which promotes well-being for students. As a Sports College, teams are organised in all sports and competitions and we have a Leadership Academy to promote leadership skills in sport. The school holds the Gold Quality Mark from the Youth Sports Trust for its excellent provision and participation in sport.

The school offers a broad and balanced curriculum which includes: additional courses for gifted and talented students and individual support and specialised tuition for students with special educational needs. There is an extensive extra-curricular programme with activities to suit all abilities and interests. We have an annual ski week in Switzerland, a trip to France and a range of educational visits to local and national places of interest.

Our geographical position makes Brownhills School accessible for Walsall and Staffordshire children and due to the low birth rate locally, we are able to recruit students from a wider area. Subsidised bus routes are available to support parents who wish to seek the best secondary school place for their child regardless of the distance to be travelled. The school is now oversubscribed as a result of its good reputation and high standards.

**Open Evening is Tuesday 19 September from 6pm to 8.30pm. Open mornings are Thursday 21 September, Tuesday 26 September and Tuesday 3 October 9.15 – 10.30am**

**Visits are welcome at other times by prior arrangement. Please contact Di Lindsay on 01543 452886**

# Grace Academy Darlaston

Herberts Park Road, Darlaston, West Midlands, WS10 8QJ (DfE No: 335 6907)

**Principal:** Mr C. Salt  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr Ian Baker  
**Admission Number:** 150

**Type:** Academy  
**Denominational Affiliation:** None  
**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 625

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Pupils who have a sibling currently attending the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Pupils for whom a place at the school is essential on medical or social grounds and supported in writing by a medical practitioner or a social worker.
4. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with priority given to those living closest.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 181 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to 152 pupils.

A total of 328 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to 240 pupils.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to Chair of Governors, Admissions Appeals, Grace Academy Darlaston, Herbert's Park Road, Darlaston, West Midlands, WS10 8QJ

## Information provided by the school:

Grace Academy Darlaston is an exciting place to learn; a lively and happy learning community with high expectations, where talents are nurtured. The pursuit of excellence and the raising of standards is our mission, with a real emphasis on creativity and innovation at the forefront of educational thinking and achievement.

**Grace Academy .... a unique blend of traditional values and modern approaches** Grace Academy has a distinctive ethos based on Christian principles and values. The Academy is a specialist Business and Enterprise college, with a focus on links with local business, commerce and universities. Enterprise is a strong theme throughout the Academy developing confidence in our students and preparing them for the world of work and lifelong learning.

**Grace Academy .... high quality teaching and learning relevant to the world of work** Grace Academy has a broad curriculum where students of all abilities are guided via Individual Learning Plans through appropriate pathways to provide the very best curriculum opportunities for all. With an emphasis on Core Skills the needs of the individual learners are met. At Grace Academy Years 9-11 study academic, vocational and industry standard qualifications and the Sixth Form will stretch, develop and challenge our students and prepare them for employment, training or further study.

**Grace Academy .... superb accommodation and facilities** Our state of the art building boasts superb educational ICT systems and equipment, fantastic sports facilities, Learn Centre and community hub.

**Grace Academy .... in partnership with parents** The Academy provides educational trips, clubs, sports and leisure facilities for students and operates as an extended school. Grace Academy serves the needs of the local community with clear communication and direct parental involvement in the support of learning.

**Grace Academy .... where individuals are important** Grace Academy takes an individualised approach to care and guidance through a personal tutor in our vertical tutor groups who understands and cares for each student's academic, personal and social progress. Students entering Year 7 who are transferring to Grace Academy from their primary school will have the support of an extensive induction programme.

For further information or a prospectus please contact Grace Academy or visit our website at [www.graceacademy.org.uk](http://www.graceacademy.org.uk)

**Grace Academy** – A great place to learn, to work and to achieve

# Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, WS5 4PG (DfE No: 335 4007)

**Headteacher:** Mr Keith Whittlestone

**Chair of Governors:** Mr Matloob Hussain

**Admission Number:** 240

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,000

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Pupils who have an older sibling already in attendance at the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Pupils for whom a place at the school is essential on medical or social grounds as supported in writing by a medical practitioner or a social worker.
4. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 317 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to 207 pupils.

A total of 408 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to 240 pupils.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Parents will need to contact the Academy for details on how to appeal.

## Information provided by the school:

**Curriculum:** Throughout Key Stage 3 students will study all National Curriculum subjects plus Religious Education, with this Key Stage being taught over 2 years. During Year 8 students will have the opportunity to make choices from an extensive range of GCSE or equivalent qualifications. It is expected that the majority of students will study 2 EBAC subjects alongside their core curriculum; however they will have free choice of at least 3 qualifications within our student pathways. The full range of subjects offered to students at Key Stage 4 is available on our website. You can be assured that the Academy will work with students and parents to ensure that students are placed on the most appropriate courses to allow them to succeed and continue in their further education. All courses have progression routes to Post 16 opportunities which include a wide range of traditional A Levels alongside vocational courses at Levels 2 - 3 inclusive.

As students progress through their Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 courses the Academy has additional and dedicated provision which allows for a personalised curriculum and supported study.

The Academy was inspected by Ofsted in April 2013 and was judged to be good in all 5 areas of the inspection framework. It is felt that the Academy has made good progress since the last inspection.

**A caring and supportive Academy:** Our pastoral system is organised into year groups. We take great care in making sure that all of our students get the most out of the many opportunities we offer. Heads of Year, along with form tutors, support students' learning. Tutors know members of their tutor group well and are the first point of contact for parents.

**Excellent facilities:** A new 21 room teaching block opened in September 2016 and houses history, geography, RE and ICT teaching facilities. There are also state of the art English and Maths facilities as well as a new drama studio. In addition we have a large number of networked computer rooms, a video conferencing suite, new humanities rooms, refurbished science laboratories and a well-stocked library. Our sports facilities include a sports hall, gymnasium, weights area, swimming pool and grass pitches. Work will begin on the next phase of the re-build in January 2018 and will comprise new music, modern foreign languages and business studies classrooms as well as a new reception area, administrative offices and outdoor social/play areas. Work is anticipated to take 12 months to complete.

**Community / Extended Services:** An extensive programme of educational, vocational, recreational, social, sports and leisure opportunities are available during the day, evenings, weekends and holiday periods. Joseph Leckie Academy is an Extended School with many agencies collaborating in the delivery of the curriculum as well as supporting the students, their families, the community and staff in a variety of ways. We have a breakfast club which meets every day before the academic work begins as well as homework clubs, revision and booster classes.

In 2009 Joseph Leckie was judged to be the best Extended School in the country.

# Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy

Broad Way, Pelsall, Walsall WS4 1BW (DfE No: 335 6906)

**Principal:** Mr S Turnbull

**Chair of Board of Governors:** Mr P Crowe

**Admission Number:** 240 (including up to 24 Specialist Sports Places)

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,148

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**.

Up to 10% of places in Year 7 are available for students on the basis of sports ability. **An application for a school place is separate from an application for a Specialist Sport Place and must be expressed as a separate preference on-line or on the Preference Form.**

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applicants exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children with Statements of Special Educational Needs – where the Academy is named on the child's statement
2. Children in Public Care (Looked After Children)
3. Children of current members of staff (as per school's admission arrangements)
4. Children who have an older sibling
5. Thereafter, on the basis of distance between the centre point of the Academy address to the centre point of the applicant's home address measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the Academy receiving the higher priority.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to The Clerk to the Admission Appeals Panel, c/o Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy to request an Appeal Form

## Information provided by the school:

### **Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy**

Our academy values are: Aspiration; Positivity; Responsibility; Achievement. These values permeate throughout academy life and are key to our culture of success. Students have high aspirations, adopt a positive attitude, behave responsibly and celebrate outstanding achievements." There is a positive and supportive climate for learning across the academy" Ofsted 2015

### **Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy can offer:**

#### **A Curriculum which Engages and Inspires**

Our personalised traditional curriculum ensures that students are stretched, challenged and engaged. The academy's Curriculum Enrichment and Cultural Entitlement programme ensures that students develop crucial personal, social, health and economic skills, as well as ensuring access to a wide range of educational visits and broader learning experiences outside of the classroom to develop a genuine passion for learning.

#### **Excellent Pastoral Care**

A caring and supportive atmosphere is provided through our well established pastoral systems and our dedicated Children's Services academy team. A range of effective support systems are in place to ensure that students are safe, happy and successful within the academy.

#### **High Aspirations and High Expectations**

As our academy values suggest, there is an emphasis here at Sheffield on high aspirations and an expectation that students are responsible and positive. We have high expectations in terms of standards of uniform, attendance, behaviour and learning and parents are supportive in enabling us to uphold these high standards." Students are well behaved, punctual and attentive in lessons. They show courtesy and respect for other students and staff" Ofsted 2015

### **A Sense of Community**

Parents, students and staff work in partnership to ensure that students experience enjoyment and achievement at the academy. We work closely with primary schools ensuring students have a smooth academic transition with a range of partnership projects taking place. Parents' evenings give parents the opportunity to discuss academic and pastoral progress and progress reports are also shared. Our parent voice group meets termly and a range of community events take place here. We are particularly proud of the support students have offered to local community charities.

### **Outstanding Facilities**

A major rebuild here at Sheffield means that students are educated in a stunning environment with world class facilities and resources. Students have access to technology which is second to none.

### **Purpose Built Sixth Form:**

We also have a flourishing sixth form. Large numbers of students now opt to continue their studies into Sixth Form and are successful in gaining university places or pursuing employment or further training. In 2016 the Academy achieved its best ever sixth form results and has been recognised by Ofsted as 'good'.

**Students at our academy are safe, supported and successful. You can be confident that your son or daughter will be too.**

**Rated Good by Ofsted in May 2015 for all areas Leadership; Learning and Teaching; Behaviour and Safety; Achievement; Sixth Form.**

# Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy – Specialist Sports Places

Broad Way, Pelsall, Walsall WS4 1BW (DfE No: 335 6906)

**Principal:** Mr S Turnbull

**Chair of Board of Governors:** Mr P Crowe

**Admission Number:** Up to 24 Specialist Sports Places

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

Up to 10% of the places in Year 7 are available for students on the basis of aptitude for sports.

## How to apply for a place:

To apply for a place you **must** complete **three** forms:

- 1) Apply on-line or complete your home Authority's Preference Form and return by the date stated. For Walsall resident parents apply on-line and return it by **31 October 2017**

### AND

- 2) Complete the Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy's Registration Form - available direct from the Academy – and return it either direct to the Academy or on-line by **31 October 2017**.

### AND

- 3) Complete the Aptitude for Sport Admission – available direct from the Academy – and return it to Sheffield Academy by **31 October 2017**

Your application will not be considered unless all **THREE** forms are returned by the dates stated.

An application for a Specialist Sports Place at Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy **must** be expressed as an additional preference on-line. If your child is not successful in the application for a Specialist Sports Place, he or she will **not** be considered for a place in the school unless you have also named the school in your application.

**It is recommended that you name the Specialist Sports Place higher on your application than the school place, as all preferences are considered in order of preference.**

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

Prospective students will be invited to attend a practical testing session at the Academy during the autumn term, **date to be confirmed**.

A series of tests and assessments will be used which will include holistic observation, activity specific measurement and ability specific strategies. This will enable the Academy to identify talented students. The process will include assessments of:

- a. Balance
- b. Co-ordination
- c. Dynamic skills
- d. Aerobic capacity
- e. Speed

A copy of the full requirements will be lodged with the Local Authority.

Administration of the tasks will take place in a session of approximately 90 minutes duration.

Students will be placed in rank order as a result of their performances in each of the assessments. In the unlikely event that two pupils achieve identical scores for the last available place, the pupil with the best dynamic skills scores will be allocated the place.

Children with disabilities who display an aptitude for sport will follow a separate programme of assessment owing to the wide range of disabilities that exist. The British Federation of Disability Sport in partnership with individual disabled sports associations will carry out an assessment on a needs basis of any disabled child wishing to pursue admission by aptitude.

A parents' information session will be held during the Academy Open Evenings in September which will outline the programme more fully including what to expect at the testing session.

# Pool Hayes Academy

Castle Drive, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV12 4QZ (DfE No: 335 4106)

**Headteacher:** Mr L Baker

**Chair of Governors:** Mrs J Thompson

**Admission Number:** 200

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 901 + 6<sup>th</sup> Form

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children).
2. Pupils who have an older sibling already in attendance at the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

Please note that up to two of the 200 places may be offered to pupils who experience communication difficulties. These places will be allocated by Walsall Council.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 357 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the published admission criteria, 211 places were offered.

A total of 417 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. After applying the published admission criteria, 213 places were offered.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Clerk to the Governors, Pool Hayes Academy, at the school address to request an Appeal Form.

## Information provided by the school:

When looking to choose a secondary school for your child there are a number of key factors that every parent looks for as they make their choice.

Will my child be pushed to achieve their best? Will my child be supported and cared for? Will my child work in a firm but fair disciplined environment? Will my child benefit from opportunities to thrive and explore outside the classroom?

The answer to these questions is simple at Pool Hayes: it is 'Yes', 'Yes', 'Yes', and 'Yes'.

Converting to an Academy in April 2016 has helped the school maintain its momentum towards outstanding. Summer 2015 saw the schools results improve by 10% in the headline A\*-C including English and MATHs and the schools 6<sup>th</sup> Form results were Outstanding.

Nonetheless, the past results only paint part of the picture and for any prospective Year 7 parent it is the future that matters more than the past. Thankfully, the future is an area where our school genuinely shines.

Certainly, the site is enjoying significant renovation and new facilities are playing a major role in making our provision outstanding and making our school stand out in the local community.

The school is already making waves through our superb provision and focus on helping student achieve their best possible grades. Our weekly Saturday School (10.00am-1.00pm) regularly has 80+ students voluntarily attending as they work in a more informal way to maximise coursework and receive tuition in specific subjects. This extended hours provision is echoed through a multitude of sport, dance, drama and music clubs, as well as academic provision including homework club and subject clubs. Equally, we run extensive field trips, with destinations ranging from Birmingham to London, and from Iceland to New York.

The extended Sixth Form area has large study facilities and a superb communal area to make sure that our students combine the maturity of a university and the nurture and support of a school. Meanwhile, the new KS4 Learning Hub has a dedicated team to support every ability of student in fulfilling their potential - whether it be 'straight A scientists' having a career talk with a local vet, or a group of students having withdrawal support to help with a tricky assignment.

Elsewhere, the recently renovated sports area has a state of the art dance studio, multi gym and boxing studio, all alongside the current sports hall, gymnasium and swimming pool. The new pastoral area has a customer-service style support desk to help students, as well as a suite of mentoring rooms to offer 1-to-1 guidance for all those in need of support.

Even so, the school is not all about 'new-this-and-that'. The basic provision that every parent wants is well set up and is making sure that standards are getting higher all of the time.

Our Positive Discipline system sets out clear rewards and guarantees daily feedback on your child's achievements and behaviour, as well as offering rewards and incentives through reward trips and presentations. Meanwhile, our excellent 'Class Support' package ensures that every child has personalised support in every lesson - meaning that your child will be taught as an individual even though they are in a class.

We are also moving towards a House system which will see students of all ages working together and mixing across the year groups - though rest assured there is still a comprehensive induction and support plan in place to make sure our new Year 7s settle in well and set the foundations for a successful 7 years at the school.

The key message for parents thinking of Pool Hayes comes from our Headteacher: "I want a school that is exceptional enough for my own children. If it is not good enough for them, then it isn't good enough for anyone else's. Pool Hayes is already a school I am extremely proud of and one that will make every parent of every student proud of their achievements as well".

# Queen Mary's Grammar School (for Boys)

Sutton Road, Walsall, WS1 2PG (DfE No: 335 5404)

**Headteacher and CEO of the Mercian Trust:** Mr T J Swain , M.A.

**Head of school:** Mr R J Langton, B.A.

**Chair of Governors:** Mr P J Sturrock M.B.E.

**Admission Number:** 150

**Type:** Converter Academy (in a Multi-Academy Trust)

**Denominational affiliation:** None

**Total No. of pupils: (May 2017) 596**

## How to apply for a place:

Parents who wish to apply to Queen Mary's Grammar School will need to apply on-line to both the Local Authority and also to the School to register for the entrance tests at the School. Registering for the test is not a legal requirement, but if parents do not complete the School forms, the School will not be able to make appropriate arrangements for their son to take the entrance tests.

### 1. Application to the Local Authority

Complete your on-line application for your home Authority's Preference Form and return it by the date stated, including Queen Mary's Grammar School as one of your preferences.

### 2. Application to the School

Complete the Queen Mary's Grammar School on-line application by **4pm on Friday 7th July 2017**. Please call the School if you have not done this.

Your application will not be considered unless **both** sets of forms are returned by the due dates. For Walsall parents apply on-line by **31 October 2017**.

The Entrance Test for the School takes place in September 2017 so you will know the results before the closing date for the return of your Local Authority's on-line form. You will receive a letter from Queen Mary's Grammar School giving you information that will allow you to make a judgment about the likelihood of your son being offered a place. This information will assist your decision when completing your Local Authority on-line application. If your son has not taken the entrance test please contact the School.

If you require advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email; [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

Parents who consider that their son has a disability under the terms of the Equality Act (2010) which would disadvantage him during the application of the School's admission procedures should indicate this on the test registration form and provide evidence to support the request for special arrangements to be made when asked to do so.

## Admission criteria:

Places are awarded by the Governors based upon the performance of children in the School's entrance test.

The PAN for entry to Year 7 is 150 pupils. As a selective school which offers places based on ability, the Governors are not obliged to admit pupils to the PAN.

In order to be eligible for admission to the school, candidates must achieve a minimum standardised score (the 'qualifying score') in the selection test. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available at the school, places are offered to children as follows:

Looked After Children/Previously Looked After Children who achieve the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score;

Children attracting the Pupil Premium\* at the time of the test who achieve the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score but limited to no more than 30 pupils in this category;

Other children who have achieved the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score until the Published Admissions Number is reached.

If one or more candidates satisfy the admissions criteria and are equal on the order of merit, the positions in the three skills areas of the Test will be added together, and the candidate(s) with the lowest number will be offered the place(s).

\* *The School will require evidence to confirm Pupil Premium status*

The Entrance Test for entry to the School in September 2018 takes place on 18th September 2017.

**How places were offered in September 2016 and 2017:** By reference to the child's performance in the selective examination and at his time there was no Pupil Premium criteria.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place: Write to the Clerk to the Governors:** Mr C Underwood, Whitehouse Ridsdale, 26 Birmingham Road,

## Information provided by the school:

Queen Mary's Grammar School was founded in 1554 by Mary Tudor. We have been shaped by our past and we are proud of our traditions, but we are also confident of an exciting future as we help to shape the new educational landscape.

Queen Mary's is an academically selective school. It is our aim to support pupils to achieve their full academic potential. We value the life of the mind and we want to pass on a love of learning.

Outside the classroom, we offer a range of life enriching opportunities: time at our Field Centre in Wales; membership of our thriving Combined Cadet Force; individual and team sports; foreign exchanges and travel; participation in music, drama and many other activities. We believe that achievement and enjoyment go hand in hand.

We equip our pupils to meet the challenges of a rapidly changing world. Most choose to go on to higher education. Through partnership between School, pupil and parents, we aim for the examination success that will open doors to the very best HE institutions and international employers. We were rated as 'outstanding' by Ofsted and it is our mission to attain excellence in all that we do.

Our House system celebrates the four pillars of School life at Queen Mary's; an academic focus, an international ethos, an enterprising spirit and a generous approach to life. We enjoy our social, cultural and ethnic diversity and recognise our many privileges. We are keen to share what we have – experience, enthusiasm- both with those who live on our doorstep and those from further afield.

To do so is very much in the spirit of our motto ***quas dederis solas semper habebis opes***: it is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches.

The School is a Founder academy of a new Multi Academy Trust in Walsall: The Mercian Trust.

Our MAT is a group of Schools working together under a common banner, but each retaining their autonomy, unique heritage and distinct identity.

Pupils in the Mercian Trust will be part of a family of schools forming an educational community. We are convinced we are stronger together. The MAT is already shaping the educational landscape in exciting ways; every pupil in the Trust will be part of that story.

# Queen Mary's High School (for Girls) – Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust

Upper Forster Street, Walsall, WS4 2AE (DfE No: 335 5403)

**Headteacher:** Dr A Bruton

**Chair of Governors:** Miss Rebecca Hearsey

**Admission Number:** 120

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 565

## How to apply for a place:

The Entrance Test take place on **Monday 18 September 2017**. Registration closed on Friday 7 July 2017 so **any further applications will be considered as 'late'**. Please see the admissions policy on our website [www.qmhs.org.uk](http://www.qmhs.org.uk) for further details.

Parents who wish to apply to Queen Mary's High School need to register on-line via the link on the school's web site. They must also complete their home Local Authority's online application and return it by **31 October 2017**, including Queen Mary's High School as one of the preferences.

Before the closing date for the return of your Local Authority's online application parents will receive a letter from Queen Mary's

High School indicating their daughter's performance in the test. This information will assist in decision making when completing the application.

Parents who consider that their daughter has a disability under the terms of the Equality Act (2010) which would disadvantage her during the application of the school's admission procedures, should indicate this when registering for the test and provide evidence to support the request for special arrangements as required.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

Places are awarded by the Governors based upon the performance of children in an examination set by the school.

An examination for entry to the school in September 2018 takes place on **Monday 18 September 2017**.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

By reference to the child's performance in the selective test. No other information was taken into account.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Clerk to the Governors: Mr C Underwood, Whitehouse Ridsdale, 26 Birmingham Road, Walsall WS1 2LZ

## Information provided by the school:

Please see our web site [www.qmhs.org.uk](http://www.qmhs.org.uk) for further information about the school.

Queen Mary's High School is an outstanding girls' grammar school with a reputation for the highest academic standards, a school where the individual needs the highly able students are met and the development of the 'whole person' together with the enjoyment of learning lie at the heart of its ethos and culture. Queen Mary's high School has a commitment and responsibility to its own community and communities locally, nationally and internationally.

Queen Mary's is a school where students' needs are met through the quality of teaching and learning, pastoral care and guidance and the breadth and richness of the curriculum, both formal and informal, which supports students with individual learning needs or particular talents. The achievements of everyone in the school community are celebrated. The quality of the school will be obvious through outside scrutiny, external awards and data comparison.

The high expectations for teaching and learning and positive relationships between staff, students and parents are clear in all induction procedures, and in staff development and performance management. Students can expect consistently high-quality teaching and in return commit to the responsibilities of their school work and membership of the school community. Staff can expect the best possible working and employment conditions

and career opportunities. Parents are supportive of the school's ethos, systems and procedures and are kept fully informed about their child's progress, feel comfortable to come in to school to meet with staff and be confident that the school is providing high quality learning experiences for their child. Governors receive clarity and transparency about school matters and sufficient training and links with the school to ensure they are able to play their part in its strategic development. The school demonstrates its commitment to charity fund raising.

Finally, the school's reputation, culture and family atmosphere are such that all who are connected with it are happy to continue an association with Queen Mary's High School long after they have ceased to be connected with it on a daily basis.

# Shire Oak Academy Founder Academy of the Mercian Trust

Lichfield Road, Walsall Wood, Walsall, WS9 9PA (DfE No: 335 5402)

**Acting Principal :** Mr Ray Beech

**Chair of Governors:** Mr Kevin Hubery

**Admission Number:** 238+2

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,218

## How to apply for a place:

To apply for a place you must complete **two forms**.

- 1) Apply on-line or complete your home authority's Preference Form and return by the date stated. For Walsall resident parents apply on-line by **31 October 2017**.

**AND**

- 2) Complete the Shire Oak Academy Supplementary Form - available direct from the Academy - and return it to the Academy by **31 October 2017**.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in public care (looked after children) and previously looked after children.
2. Sibling – pupils who have a sibling at the academy or are a sibling of a former pupil of the academy (that sibling having left the academy within the last 5 years (no earlier than the end of term in July 2013 subject to verification by the academy)
3. Medical factors – pupils for whom a place at the academy is essential on medical grounds and supported in writing by a medical practitioner and should state why the preferred school is the only school that can meet the child's needs. (applications will be subject to verification by the academy's Admissions Committee).
4. Children of staff at the Academy (subject to verification by the academy) - priority given to children of members of staff where the member of staff has been employed at the academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made.
5. Where the child is attending one of the following named Shire Oak Primary Partnership schools: Leighswood Primary, St Michael's Church of England Primary School, Ryders Hayes Primary.
6. Distance between the home address and the academy as measured in a straight line, priority given to those living closest.

In line with Walsall Council's development proposals for special educational needs, the governors at the academy agreed to an additionally resourced provision being maintained within the academy. The additional resources are deployed so that the needs of up to ten children in total who have specialised learning needs (including dyslexia) can be met. The children would be of compulsory school age.

It may be considered appropriate to offer a place in our enhanced learning facility for specialised learning needs to those students who, despite sustained intervention at School Action Plus, have made little or no progress, taking into consideration the points above. However, in the event of there being restricted places then children and young people with a Statement of SEN giving specialised learning needs as their primary special need would have first priority in accessing the resource. It follows that these children could be placed into the school to benefit from the developed expertise and additional resources available to meet their needs. These children could be placed over and above the admission number published for the academy.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 580 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. Places were offered to pupils who met the criteria 1,2,3,4 and for pupils assessed on distance, places were offered to pupils who live up to 2.08 miles from the school.

A total of 602 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. Places were offered to pupils who met the criteria 1,2,3,4 and for pupils assessed on distance, places were offered to pupils who live up to 1.907 miles from the school.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Clerk to the Governors at the academy address, or telephone the academy office to request Appeal Forms and further information.

## Information provided by the school:

### Mission Statement - *“Turning potential into excellence”.*

#### Vision Statement

- To provide a safe, secure, caring and supportive environment in which all students may take advantage of the opportunities we provide to develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to prepare them for taking up an adult place in 21st Century society as responsible, responsive and enterprising citizens who become effective lifelong learners and make a positive contribution to society.
- To enable our students to develop their intellectual, social, moral and spiritual potential to the full and, in so doing, value their role as healthy and proactive citizens.
- To ensure that all members of the academy’s community are able to contribute to and benefit from the academy’s focus on the national Every Child Matters agenda.
- To ensure that our students develop a moral, spiritual and aesthetic awareness that makes them receptive to the world around them, bringing with it a sense of wonder and openness to the most important ideas in our own and other cultures.
- Our academy recognises the crucial importance of its staff in pursuing the aims above and, as a good employer, undertakes to provide them with appropriate support such as continuing professional training, review and development.

#### Our aims and aspirations

##### Academic

- To ensure that every student fulfils his or her academic potential.
- To ensure that all members of staff and all students pursue excellence in teaching and learning.
- To provide appropriate personalised learning and personal development opportunities for all our students.
- To ensure that our students appreciate the value of learning and achieving to their highest levels by consistent effort, enthusiasm, creativity and excellence.
- To ensure that our students develop a love of learning, both individually and with others, and acquire a wide range of learning skills.
- To maintain a vital and relevant curriculum which has a sound balance between the development of skills and the acquisition of knowledge and understanding.
- To create an environment in which students are confident in their ability and increasingly ready to take responsibility for their own learning.

##### Pastoral

- To ensure that every student receives excellent pastoral care within an ethos of tolerance and mutual respect.
- To ensure that students develop relationships with peers and adults in a way that prepares them for life beyond the academy.
- To ensure that our students acquire a sense of responsibility and self-discipline and that they understand that self-discipline is based on an underlying concern for others.
- To ensure that our students benefit from a wide range of opportunities for enterprise, leadership and the management of others.

##### Personal and Social Development

- To recognise the individuality of all students, to encourage that success is to be shared and to celebrate it in a wide variety of ways.
- To ensure that our students gain an understanding of themselves and develop self esteem.
- To encourage our students to participate in a variety of physical activities and experience a sense of well-being and self-confidence that arises from good health and fitness.
- To ensure that our students have respect for themselves, others and for their environment.
- To ensure that our students benefit from a comprehensive personal and social education that helps them to lead happy and fulfilling lives.

##### Extra-curricular

- To provide a varied range of activities beyond the curriculum.
- To assist our students to discover and develop their own skills and interests at our academy in preparation for adult life.
- To encourage our students to be adventurous and participate in a range of activities, appreciating the rewards of teamwork.
- To ensure that our students have as many opportunities as possible for personal achievement and fulfilment in a way befitting their own aspirations.

##### Aims as a Science College

- To raise standards of achievement in each specialist subject through the increased quality of teaching and learning.
- To extend curricular opportunities in the specialist subjects, including subject enrichment areas, out of hours learning, industry/business links and the relationship between specialist subjects.
- To increase take-up and interest in specialist subject courses, particularly post 16.

# St Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College

Erdington Road, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RN (DfE No: 335 4606)

**Acting Headteacher:** Ms P Hanrahan

**Chair of Governors:** Fr David Mellor

**Admission Number:** 180

**Type:** Voluntary Aided

**Denominational Affiliation:** Catholic

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 894

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority.

A copy of your child's Baptismal certificate should be sent directly to the school together with the Supplementary Evidence Form, in line with the deadline for returning your home Authority application form. In special circumstances where this is

unobtainable (eg applicants from abroad) a letter from your current parish priest or minister of religion must be sent directly to the school to support the application.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, the governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria listed, provided that the governors are made aware of that application before decisions on admissions are made.

**In all categories, priority will be given to those who have a sibling attending St Francis of Assisi Catholic Technology College at the proposed time of admission**

**Category A** - Baptised Catholic children who are in the care of a Local Authority (looked after children) or provided with accommodation by them (eg children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order)

**Category B** – Baptised Catholic children attending the original Roman Catholic Primary Schools in the parishes which St Francis was designed to serve. These are:

St Mary of the Angels, Aldridge	St Gabriel's, Tamworth
St Francis RC Primary, Sheffield	St Elizabeth's, Tamworth
St Anne's, Streetly	St Joseph's, Lichfield
St Bernadette's, Brownhills	St Peter and Paul, Lichfield
St Mary's the Mount, Walsall	

**Category C** – Baptised Catholic children who currently live in the Parish area of a designated catholic feeder school who are not currently attending the designated Catholic feeder school.

**Category D** – Other Baptised Catholic children

**Category E** – Non-Catholic children who are in the care of a Local Authority (looked after children) or provided with accommodation by them (eg children with foster parents) (Section 22 of the Children Act 1989) and children who were previously looked after but ceased to be because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order)

**Category F** – Non-Catholic children who attended the feeder schools listed in Category B.

**Category G** – Non-Catholic children, including those who have a brother or sister in the Dyslexia Unit.

**Note 1:** Children with a statement of special educational need will be given priority. This will reduce the number of places available to applicants

**Note 2:** Evidence of Catholic Baptism or reception into the Church will be required. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of baptism should contact their Parish Priest.

**Note 3:** In all categories, priority will be given to those who have a sibling or brothers or sisters who are legally adopted and attending St Francis of Assisi at the proposed time of admission. The definition of a sibling is:

- A sibling sharing the same parents;
- Half brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent;
- Step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parent's marriage;
- Adopted or fostered children
- A sibling must be living at the same address

**Note 4:** If there is oversubscription within a category, the Governors will give priority first to siblings, then to children living closest to the school. The distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school address, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

**How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:** A total of 368 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. Places were offered only to pupils who met admission criteria A, B, C, D and some in Category E.

A total of 315 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. Places were offered only to pupils who met admission criteria A, B, C and some in Category D.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** In the first instance write to the Chairman of Governors at the school address shown above. If this does not resolve the matter write to the Secretary of the Appeals Committee for Admissions at the above school address.

## Information provided by the school:

Expectations at St. Francis of Assisi are high. We expect excellent attendance, attitude to work and behaviour, which reflects our Catholic ethos. We continue to be one of the top performing schools in Walsall.

"This is a vibrant spiritual and learning community in communion with Christ and the Catholic church. All its members are known and cared for."

*Diocesan Inspection- May 2013*

"Students have outstanding attitudes to learning."

"Students say they feel safe and are proud of a caring community."

"Attendance is above average and the levels of exclusions are low."

"The Headteacher and her senior leadership team are uncompromising in their drive for improvement."

"The governors are dedicated to improving standards and provide appropriate high levels of support and challenge."

*Ofsted Inspection- Feb 2017*

"Teachers and leaders at all levels are enthusiastic and ambitious."

"high standards are expected of pupils in both their academic achievement and behaviour. Staff commitment is summed up in the English translation of the school's motto, 'Only the best is good enough'."

"Leaders, other staff and pupils work together to create a calm, purposeful and hard-working atmosphere."

"Attainment is significantly above average in all subjects."

# St Thomas More Catholic School - Business & Enterprise College

Darlaston Lane, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV14 7BL (DfE Number 335 5401)

**Headteacher:** Dr S Hatfield  
**Chair of Governors:** Mr R Dalton  
**Admission Number:** 243

**Type:** Voluntary Aided  
**Denominational Affiliation:** Catholic  
**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,204

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must apply online to their home Local Authority and return it, as stated. Any supporting evidence/letters of support should be sent direct to

the school together with the supplementary information form.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

1. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below) who are looked after or previously looked after (See Note 3 below)
2. Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below) currently attending a named feeder school (see Note 5 below)
3. Baptised Catholic children of staff (see Note 7 below)
4. Other Baptised Catholic children (see Note 2 below)
5. Non-Catholic children who are looked after or previously looked after (see Note 3 below)
6. Non-Catholic children with a sibling attending St Thomas More Catholic School at the time of application (see Note 4 below)
7. Non-Catholic children currently attending a named feeder school (see Note 5 below)
8. Non-Catholic children of staff (see Note 7 below)
9. Non-Catholic children currently attending a Catholic school
10. Other Non-Catholic children

**Note 1:** Children with an Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plan that names the school **MUST** be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available to applicants. This is not an oversubscription criteria.

**Note 2:** In all categories, for a child to be considered as Catholic, evidence of Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church will be required. For a definition of a Baptised Catholic, see the Appendix. Those who face difficulties in producing written evidence of a Catholic Baptism or Reception into the Church should contact their Parish Priest.

Parents making an application for a Catholic child should also complete a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) **which should be returned directly to the school**. If you do not provide the information required in the Supplementary Information Form and return it by the closing date, together with all supporting documentation, this is likely to affect your child's chance of being offered a place at this school.

**Note 3:** A "looked after child" has the same meaning as in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989, and means any child who is (a) in the care of the local authority or (b) being provided with accommodation by them in the exercise of their social services functions (e.g. children with foster parents) at the time of making the application to the school. A "previously looked after school" is a child who immediately moved on from that status after

becoming subject to an adoption, child arrangement order or special guardianship order.

**Note 4:** For all applicants the definition of a brother or sister is:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents
- A half-brother or half-sister, where two children share one common parent
- A step-brother or step-sister, where two children are related by a parents' marriage or where they are unrelated but their parents are living as partners
- Adopted or fostered children

The children must be living permanently in the same household.

**Note 5:** The name feeder schools for St Thomas More Catholic School are:

St. Joseph's Catholic Primary, Darlaston

Corpus Christi Catholic, Wednesfield

St. Patrick's Catholic Primary, Walsall

Holy Rosary Catholic, Wolverhampton

St. Mary's The Mount Catholic Primary, Walsall (also a feeder school for St Francis of Assisi)

Holy Trinity Catholic, Bilston

St. Thomas of Canterbury Catholic Primary, Walsall

St. Teresa's Catholic, Wolverhampton

St. Peter's Catholic Primary, Bloxwich

**Note 6:** Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school address using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

In a very small number of cases, where the school is oversubscribed, it may not be possible to decide between the applications of those pupils who are the final qualifiers for a place when applying the published admission criteria. For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and the school is exactly the same, for example, blocks of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both, or all, of the children would cause the

Published Admission Number for the child's year group to be exceeded the Governing Body will randomly select the child to be offered the final place.

The governing body will, where possible, admit twins and all siblings from multiple births where one of the children is the last child ranked within the school's published admission number.

A child's home address is considered to be a residential property that is the child's only or main permanent residence and is either:

- Owned by the child's parent (s);
- Leased to or rented by the child's parents (s) under lease or written rental agreement of not less than twelve months duration.

Evidence of ownership or rental agreement may be required, plus proof of permanent residence at the property concerned.

Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the week, then the main residence will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the week. Parents may be requested to supply documentary evidence to satisfy the Governing Body that the child lives at the address put forward by the parents.

If a place in the school is offered on the basis of an address that is subsequently found to be different from a child's normal and permanent home address, then that place is liable to be withdrawn.

**Note 7:** For children to be prioritised as children of staff, the staff member must have been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or the member of staff has been employed at the school for less than two years but has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

## APPENDIX

### Definition of a "Baptised Catholic"

A "Baptised Catholic" is one who:

- Has been baptised into full communion (Cf. Catechism of the Catholic Church, 837) with the Catholic Church by the Rites of Baptism of one of the various ritual Churches in communion with the See of Rome. Written evidence of this baptism can be obtained by recourse to the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the baptism took place (Cf. *Code of Canon Law, 877 & 878*).

Or

- Has been validly baptised in a separated ecclesial community and subsequently received into full communion with the Catholic Church by the *Rite of Reception of Baptised Christians into the Full Communion of the Catholic Church*. Written evidence of their baptism and reception into full communion with the Catholic Church can be obtained by recourse to the Register of Receptions, or in some cases, a sub-section of the Baptismal Registers of the church in which the Rite of Reception took place (Cf. *Rite of Christian Initiation, 399*).

**NB. All parents should complete a Supporting Evidence Form and return it to St Thomas More School. If your child is a baptised Roman Catholic, please attach a copy of his or her baptismal certificate. This evidence should be returned to the school. Failure to complete and return the Supporting Evidence Form may affect the criterion in which the child's name is placed.**

**Over-subscription:** if there is over-subscription within a criterion, the Governors will give priority first to brothers and sisters and then to children living closest to the school determined by shortest distance. Distances are measured as a straight line from the centre point of the applicant's home address to the center point of the school using the local authority's computerised measuring system. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system.

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a child. The address must be the child's only or main residence. Documentary evidence may be required. Where care is split equally between mother and father, parents must name which address is to be used for the purpose of allocating a school place.

Governors may request extra supporting evidence when the written documents that are produced do not clarify the fact that a person was baptised or received into the Catholic Church (ie where the name and address of the Church is not on the certificate or where the name of the Church does not state whether it is a Catholic Church or not).

**Note:** In the event of oversubscription within each category, priority will be given to:

- children who have a sibling attending St Thomas More at the time of admission
- distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with priority being given to those living closest.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 527 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. 243 places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1 to 7 and some in category 8.

A total of 584 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. 243 places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1 to 7 and some in category 8.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Secretary of the Independent Appeals Committee at the school address shown above.

## Information provided by the school:

The Mission Statement of St Thomas More Catholic School is “to guide and encourage students to be responsible, caring and confident in a climate of Gospel values where they can realise their full potential and celebrate each other’s success”. In order to realise the school’s Mission Statement and bring out the best in each young person, we set out to accomplish the following aims in all aspects of school life:

- To foster understanding and practice of the Catholic faith;
- To encourage intellectual, creative and moral growth and the physical welfare of each pupil;
- To develop all the talents and gifts of each pupil;
- To encourage respect for, and understanding of, other people and society;
- To develop a mature and responsible attitude to life.

### Theory into Practice

The pastoral care system and relationships between people encourage care and concern for others and foster values of honesty, integrity, justice and compassion. We value each individual and strive to support every member of the community.

The taught curriculum offers the highest possible standards of expertise in teaching in order to promote learning. All pupils are encouraged to reach their full potential, regardless of ability or background. The structures of the school are designed to foster a strong sense of teamwork and mutual responsibility so that everyone has a stake in the development of the institution. The high staying-on rate of students into the sixth form reflects the trust and confidence which students and parents have in the school.

The school has had three successful Ofsted reports. We are committed to maintaining and developing our standards of achievement even further.

# The Streetly Academy

Queslett Road East, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2EX (DfE No: 335 5400)

**Headteacher:** Mr William Downie

**Chair of Governors:** Mr Roland Roberts

**Admission Number:** 243

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,241

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority and return it as stated.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children) (Definition: children who are in the care of a local authority or who are provided with accommodation by a local authority)
2. Where a child has a sibling attending the school when the application is made and who will be still attending at the proposed time of admission
3. Up to a total of 5 children across all age groups with exceptional physical disabilities as defined by Walsall Council who require a mainstream education in a school with specialist modifications and facilities to support physical disabilities and for whom Streetly School is considered to be the nearest, appropriate school.
4. Children of staff employed at The Academy. Where a member of staff has been employed at the academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
5. Where the child is attending one of the following named feeder primary schools: Blackwood School, Lindens Primary School or Manor Primary School and lives within 2.5 miles of the Streetly Academy, as measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the Academy address using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system.
6. Proximity of the child's home to the school, with those living nearer being accorded the higher priority, the distance being measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school address, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

A total of 884 preferences were expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and children who lived 1.22 miles or less from the school.

A total of 956 preferences were expressed for places in September 2017. After applying the published admission criteria, places were offered to pupils who met criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and children who lived 1.012 miles or less from the school.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Complete and submit your application online using the online appeal application form which can be found on the school website [www.thestreetlyacademy.co.uk](http://www.thestreetlyacademy.co.uk)

## Information provided by the school:

The Streetly Academy is an 11-18 comprehensive school. We believe in our 'Partnership for Success' in which staff, students and parents work together to ensure that all students achieve their full potential, develop pride in personal achievement and respect the achievement of others.

The school has creative, enthusiastic and hard-working staff who strive to make seven years here happy and fulfilling for all students. We have students who respect the school and its environment, are well-behaved, well-motivated and willing to learn. We strongly uphold certain traditional values, which we believe are essential to a harmonious society. These values have been enhanced by our designation as a Sports College, enabling us to develop a very positive ethos in PE and sport, which supports quality learning across the whole school.

# Walsall Academy

Lichfield Road, Bloxwich, Walsall, WS3 3LX (DfE No: 335 6905)

**Headteacher:** Mr S Rogers

**Chair of Governors:** Mr C Whittington

**Admission Number:** 208

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 916

## Information Evenings

All parents are invited to an Information Evening where they can find out more about the Academy. All applicants will receive an invitation upon receipt of a completed Registration Form. (available to download from [www.walsallacademy.com](http://www.walsallacademy.com))

## How to apply for a place:

To apply for a place you must complete **two** forms.

1) Apply on-line to your home Authority or complete your home Authority's Preference Form and return by the date stated. For Walsall resident parents, apply on-line. Your application must be submitted, as stated, by **31 October 2017**.

### AND

2) Complete the Walsall Academy Registration Form - available direct from the school - and return it to the school by 4pm, **4 October 2017**

Please note: Parents/Guardians should fill in **both** the Walsall Academy form and submit all applications to their home Local

Authority for the application to be considered within the nationally agreed timescale.

Parents who consider that their child has a disability under the terms of the Disability Discrimination Act (1995) which would disadvantage him/her during the application of the school's admission procedures should contact the Head at the earliest opportunity to discuss possible special arrangements for Admission Testing. Please advise the Academy if you have a disability or special needs which would affect your ability to attend the Information Evening or access any information, also it would be helpful for you to have an interpreter present at the Information Evening.

## Admission criteria:

### Places Available

Applications are welcomed from children of all abilities and with physical disabilities. All applications will be considered and processed in the same way by the Walsall Academy. Please inform the Academy of any specific disability which may result in a prospective student requiring individual help during the Admissions procedure.

The Governors have approved an Additional 40 places for September 2018.

The published pupil admission number (PAN) is 168 and with the additional 40 agreed provides a total of 208 for September 2018. These places will be filled by allocating places from the full range of ability of applicants, in accordance with the criteria embodied in the Funding Agreement between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education.

### Banding Tests

All children who apply for a place at the Academy will be invited to attend an assessment, namely the NFER (National Foundation of Education Research) Non-Verbal Reasoning Test. The assessment will last one hour and will be held at Walsall Academy. Children cannot "fail" the NFER assessment and therefore any request to resit the assessment will be refused.

Following the assessment, your child will be placed in one of five ability bands. The assessment results will be used to ensure that the Academy admits children of all abilities. Parents will be advised of the results of the NFER test and the Academy will take all reasonable steps to advise parents of the outcome in accordance with the Statutory Code.

The Academy can decide how many bands and what proportion of children to place in each band, as long as no level of ability is substantially under or over represented (as set out in Section 101 of the 1998 Act of the School Standards and Framework Act and amended by Section 54 of the Education & Inspections Act 2006).

## Admission of Students

Children with a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan) will be admitted where the Academy is named in the Statement.

## Admissions Oversubscription Criteria

When the number of applications for admission is greater than the published number (168 pupils plus 40 additional places approved by Governors = 208 total), the Academy will be oversubscribed and all applications will be considered against the criteria set out below and places will be allocated in the following order:

### Looked After Children and Previously Looked After Children

Children in Public Care (Looked after Children) will be given highest priority for admission within each band. Looked after Children are children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by a local authority. This also includes previously looked after children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.

### Banding of Children

If the Academy is oversubscribed, all children will be placed in one of 5 ability Bands based upon their score in the NFER Non-Verbal Reasoning Test.

If in any band there are more applicants than places available, then pupils living closest to the Academy, as measured in a straight line from their home address, will be offered a place. Distance is measured from the centre point of the Academy site to the centre point of the applicant's postcode.

If in any Band there are less applicants than places available, then all the children will be offered a place and the remaining places offered to children in an adjacent band.

Should more than one application, in the same NFER ability band, be received from the same postcode, a second measurement is taken using the Ordnance Survey map. This will be from the applicant's address to the centre point of the Academy site.

In the event of a tie and same measurement the place will be offered on the basis of random allocation.

Home address is defined as the home address considered to be the permanent residence of a child when the place is offered. The address must be the child's only or main residence. The residence must be owned or leased for at least six months by the child's parent(s)/carer. Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the week, the main residence will be determined as the address where the child spends the majority of the week. Documentary evidence may be required.

The Academy is committed to taking its share of vulnerable children who are hard to place, in accordance with locally agreed protocols.

Parents/carers must read the full Rules of Admission for further details, obtainable from <http://www.walsallacademy.com>.

Walsall Academy no longer operates an Inner and Outer Catchment area.

No preference is given to siblings.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Clerk to the Independent Appeals Panel at the above school address.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

There were 675 applications for places in September 2016 and 794 applications for places in September 2017. Places were offered to pupils in accordance with the Academy's admission criteria.

## Information provided by the school:

Walsall Academy is an 11 – 18 comprehensive school specialising in technology. It is an independent state funded school, sponsored by the Mercers' Company of the City of London and Thomas Telford School.

The Academy aims to maximise student performance in all its forms. The Academy will offer a broad curriculum, which includes the National Curriculum with the opportunity of specialising in more science, technology and mathematics.

In the Sixth Form a wide range of vocational and academic opportunities will be available for students of all abilities.

# West Walsall E-ACT Academy

Primley Avenue, Walsall, WS2 9UA (DfE No. 335 4003)

**Principal:** Mr Qamar Riaz

**Chair of Governors:** Dr Andrea Mayne

**Admission Number:** 210

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 639

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority and return it as stated.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

If the number of applications exceeds the Admission Number, places will be allocated in the following order:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Pupils who have an older sibling already in attendance at the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Pupils for whom a place at the school is essential on medical or social grounds as supported in writing by a medical practitioner or a social worker (applications will be subject to verification by the Managing Director, Children's Services – Education).
4. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

There were 229 preferences expressed for places in September 2017 and after applying the published admission criteria, 143 places were offered.

There were 235 preferences expressed for places in September 2016 and after applying the published admission criteria, 206 places were offered.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the Chair of Governors at the school address.

## Information provided by the school:

The academy is committed to providing the very best education for all our students through hard work, support and challenge. We value each and every student as an individual, regardless of gender, faith, ethnicity or ability and ensure that they are safe and supported in their studies. We expect all members of the academy to share these beliefs and make a clear commitment to giving of their best at all times, within the academy and in the surrounding community.

We have high expectations of all our students and demand the highest standards of behaviour and attendance at all times. Learners have a right to learn in a calm and supportive environment which stimulates the mind and pushes the boundaries of their understanding. The academy uniform is smart and functional and clearly demonstrates a pride in what we stand for. The use of rewards is central to our positive and our on-line system, Vivo, allows students to take an active role in managing their achievements and selecting their own rewards.

Teaching builds on the foundation learning established at our partner primary schools and promotes an active engagement in the learning process through meaningful dialogue and interactive challenge. Lessons in Key Stage 3 (Years 7 and 8) focuses on the development of knowledge and the acquisition of essential skills in a broad range of subjects and in particular in literacy and

numeracy. Our students follow a broad and balanced curriculum, just as at other schools, and have a full range of options in Years 10 and 11, creating flexible pathways that allow all students to personalise their learning journey and follow areas of interest or expertise alongside studying in the essential core subjects of English, Mathematics and Science and other EBACC subjects.

Facilities are good and we consistently strive to update them. Increasing use is made of ICT-based learning technologies to engage and enthuse learners. The Academy site is also the location of the Innovation Centre, a 21st century facility designed to combine the delivery of learning with active business engagement. The centre provides learning space for Post 16 subjects, as well as meeting rooms and training facilities for members of Walsall's wider learning community.

West Walsall E-ACT Academy has staff committed to success and you are welcome to visit the academy at any time. Please contact us on 01922 720741 to arrange your visit.

# Willenhall E-ACT Academy

Furzebank Way, Willenhall, West Midlands, WV12 4BD (DfE No: 335 4002)

**Headteacher:** Ms Kirsty Jones

**Admission Number:** 270

**Type:** Academy

**Denominational Affiliation:** None

**Total No. of Pupils (May 2017):** 1,082

## How to apply for a place:

Parents living in Walsall must apply on-line no later than **31 October 2017**. Parents living outside Walsall must submit all applications to their home Local Authority and return it as stated.

If you require any advice or information before you complete your application, please contact the Parent Support Adviser for Walsall on 01922 652578 or email [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk).

## Admission criteria:

In the case of over subscription, places will be awarded using the following Admission Criteria in order of priority:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children)
2. Pupils who have an older sibling already in attendance at the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school at the proposed time of admission.
3. Pupils for whom a place at the school is essential on medical grounds as supported in writing by a doctor (applications will be subject to verification by the Admissions Committee).
4. Distance between the home address and the school as measured in a straight line, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

### How places were offered for September 2016 and 2017:

There were 313 preferences expressed for places in September 2016. After applying the admission criteria, 174 places were offered.

There were 260 preferences expressed for places in September 2017. All on time applicants were offered a place.

**How to appeal if you do not obtain a place:** Write to the School Admissions Manager, at the above school address, or telephone the school office to request Appeal Forms and further information.

## Information provided by the school:

At Willenhall E-ACT Academy we pride ourselves on delivering a high quality, balanced curriculum, supported by up-to-date teaching practices. We are determined to ensure that every student reaches their potential and is fully prepared to take the next steps in their development. By succeeding in this we produce well-rounded young people who positively contribute to society both within and beyond the Academy.

The Academy's specialisms are Sport and Science and we work through these areas to drive innovation and creativity across the Academy. We work closely with our local Primary and Secondary schools through our Schools Games Organiser in order to further promote PE and Sport, which are so vital for increasing students' well-being, confidence and self-esteem.

The Academy is fully involved in a range of initiatives and programmes, which are designed to stretch and challenge students and broaden their experiences, giving them new skills and developing their sense of ambition and self-esteem. The School plan to run the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme and offer a wide range of extra-curricular provision.

We fully recognise that the well-being of children is vital to their development. We provide support around same age tutor groups, focusing closely on individual need and being able to intervene and support wherever possible.

Whilst our open evening is an ideal opportunity to see all we have to offer your child, you are welcome to visit us on other occasions, simply ring and arrange a time for your visit. We look forward to meeting you.

## Transport to Secondary Schools

### Free Transport Criteria from September 2018:

To qualify for a free scholars bus pass each pupil must satisfy the following criteria:

1. If 8 years of age or above, the pupils home address must be 3 miles or more from his/her nearest qualifying school.
2. If 7 years of age or younger, the pupils home address must be 2 miles or more from his/her nearest qualifying school.
3. Pupils living at temporary addresses and who meet the distance criteria may qualify for short term assistance provided that their previous permanent address was within the Borough of Walsall.
4. If a pupil moves address during year 10 or year 11 a free scholars pass will only be issued if the distance criterion is met.
5. Children aged between 8 and 11 years from low income families would qualify for a free scholars pass if they live 2 miles or more from their nearest qualifying school.
6. Pupils aged 11 or over from low income families will qualify for a free scholars pass to 1 of their 3 nearest qualifying schools where they live more than 2 miles but not more than 6 miles from that school.

### Examples relating to eligibility based on income:

Child A is an 8 year old child entitled to free school meals. Their nearest qualifying school is 2.5 miles from their home. Child A would qualify for a free scholars pass.

Child B is an 8 year old child whose parents are in receipt of their maximum level of Working Tax Credit. Their nearest qualifying school –y- is 2.2 miles from their home, and the second nearest qualifying school –z- is 5.5 miles away. Child B would be entitled to a free scholars bus pass to school ‘y’ but not to school ‘z’.

Child C is an 8 year old child whose parents are not in receipt of their maximum level of Working Tax Credit and who is not entitled to free school meals. Their nearest qualifying school is 2.5 miles from their home. Child C would not be entitled to a free scholars pass.

Child D is an 11 year old child entitled to free school meals. Their nearest qualifying school is 2.5 miles from their home, the second nearest qualifying school is 3 miles away, and the third nearest qualifying school is 5 miles away. Child D would qualify for a free scholars pass to each of these three schools.

Child E is an 11 year old child whose parents are in receipt of their maximum level of Working Tax Credit. Their nearest qualifying school –x- is 1.5 miles from their home, the second nearest qualifying school –y- is 2.2 miles away and the third nearest qualifying school –z- is 5.5 miles away. Child E would qualify for a free scholars pass to schools y and Z but not to school x.

Child F is an 11 year old child who is entitled to free school meals. School –x- is their nearest qualifying school, and is 4 miles from their home. School –y- is their second nearest qualifying school which is 4.5 miles away, and the next suitable school is –z- which is 10 miles away. Child C would be entitled to a free scholars pass to schools x and y, but not to school z.

## How the Inter-LA Co-ordinated Admission Scheme works

1. The Inter-LA Co-ordinated Secondary Admission Scheme allows parents/carers to express preferences for up to 5 secondary schools, rank them in order of preference and, if appropriate, give reasons for their preferences (e.g. medical or social reasons).
2. Parents/Carers who live in the borough of Walsall must apply on-line at [www.walsall.gov.uk/education](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/education) to apply for a place at any secondary school in Walsall or at a secondary school outside Walsall (**do not** name Palfrey Girls' School, Abu Bakr Girls' School, Abu Bakr Boys' School or Hydesville Tower School on the form). Each school named is regarded as a separate application.
3. The national closing date for secondary applications is **31 October 2017**.
4. **IMPORTANT** - If you name any of the following schools on your on-line application, you must also complete the school's own Registration/Supplementary Information Form, available to download from the Walsall Council website ([www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk))

- **Aldridge School Specialist Music Place**
- **Blue Coat CE Academy**
- **Brownhills School**
- **Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy**
- **Ormiston Sheffield Community Academy – Specialist Sports Place**
- **Queen Mary's High School (for Girls)**
- **Queen Mary's Grammar School (for Boys)**
- **Shire Oak Academy**
- **The Walsall Academy**

Other schools outside Walsall may also require you to complete a registration form or supplementary information form so please remember to check with the relevant LA.

5. If you wish to express a preference for either or both of Walsall's Catholic Secondary Schools, you will need to send any supporting information, eg Baptismal Certificates and a Supplementary Information Form, direct to the school.
6. Schools where the Governing Body is the admission authority will be informed of all applications naming their school, but not the rank given by you. However, once places have been offered your rankings may be disclosed to a school if you request an admission appeal.
7. After the Closing Date of **31 October 2017**, the admission criteria for each of the schools that you have expressed a preference for will be applied by the appropriate admission authority to determine whether your child meets the schools' admission criteria and could be offered a place.
8. The admission authorities will inform us whether your child meets their admission criteria and could be offered a place.  
If your child meets the admission criteria of only **ONE** of your named schools, you will be offered a place at that school.  
If your child meets the admission criteria of **TWO** or more of your named schools, you will be offered a place at the highest ranked of those schools.  
If you are a Walsall resident and your child does not meet the admission criteria of any of your named schools, we will offer a place at an alternative Walsall school with places available.  
If you live outside Walsall and do not meet the admission criteria of any of your named schools, your child will not be offered a place at an alternative Walsall school, but your Home Authority is responsible for offering a place at an alternative school in your home authority area.  
Parents will not be able to hold places at more than one secondary school. If your application for any preferred Walsall school is unsuccessful, please read the Waiting List Policy on page 50.
9. On the National Notification Date, 1 March 2018 (or next working day), Walsall Council will, write to all parents resident in Walsall on behalf of the relevant admission authority, informing them of the outcome of their applications.  
If appropriate, this letter will also inform you of the reason for the refusal of a place, your right of appeal and will give you contact details for appeal information.
10. Examples – the examples shown on the following two pages will help you to understand how places will be offered using the Inter-Local Authority Co-ordinated Secondary Admission Scheme.

## Examples of how the Inter-LA Coordinated Scheme works:

These four examples use the names of fictitious schools.

**Hassan** lives close to Grangetree School and even closer to Roundhill School. His parents know that they live a long way from High Fields School which is usually oversubscribed but they want to see if he will be offered a place there.

The school they really prefer is Holmetown Boys' Grammar, but they mistakenly think they should rank other schools higher in case Hassan fails the grammar school's examination.

Ranked Order	School	Hassan's Details	School's Admission Criteria Met?	Place Offered?
1	High Fields School	Lives 2½ miles away	No	No
<b>2</b>	<b>Roundhill School</b>	<b>Lives ½ mile away</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
3	Grangetree School	Lives 1 mile away	Yes	No
4	Holmetown Boys' Grammar	Has taken the examination	Yes	No
5	Marsh Hill School	Lives 1 mile away	Yes	No

Hassan lives too far from High Fields to be offered a place. He qualified for places at Roundhill, Grangetree and Marsh Hill. He also qualified for a place at Holmetown Boys' Grammar School because he passed the examination. His parents would have preferred a place at Holmetown Boys' Grammar but the other schools for which Hassan also qualified were ranked higher. **He is offered a place at Roundhill, the highest ranked of the four schools for which he qualified.**

If Hassan's parents had ranked Holmetown Boys' Grammar first they would have been offered a place there.

**Louise's** nearest school is Marsh Hill. Her parents would like her to go to High Fields, slightly further away, or to Bishop Green, a Catholic school that is a short bus ride away. They also want her to sit the test for Holmetown Girls' Grammar School.

Ranked Order	School	Louise's Details	School's Admission Criteria Met?	Place Offered?
1	Holmetown Girls' Grammar	Has taken the examination	No	No
<b>2</b>	<b>High Fields School</b>	<b>Lives ¾ mile away</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
3	Bishop Green Catholic School	Is a baptised Catholic in a feeder primary school	Yes	No
4	Marsh Hill School	Lives ½ mile away	Yes	No
5	Grangetree School	Lives 3 miles away	Yes	No

Louise did not pass the Holmetown Girls' Grammar School examination. She met the Bishop Green's criteria because she is a Catholic and attends a Catholic feeder primary school. She also meets the admission criteria for Marsh Hill, High Fields and Grangetree because she lives near to all schools.

**Louise is offered a place at High Fields because the school was ranked higher than Bishop Green, Marsh Hill or Grangetree.**

## Further examples of how the Coordinated Scheme works:

**Joshua** lives ½ a mile from Wellbourne, his local school, but his parents don't want him to go there. They do not want their son to sit a grammar school test and prefer a place for Joshua at a local Church of England school. The other schools they named on their application are a long distance from their home.

Ranked Order	School	Joshua's Details	School's Admission Criteria Met?	Place Offered?
1	St Paul's Church of England School	Lives 1 mile away	No	No
2	Hall View School	Lives 3½ miles away	No	No
3	Grangetree School	Lives 4 miles away	No	No
4	Marsh Hill School	Lives 3½ miles away	No	No
5	High Fields School	Lives 4 miles away	No	No

Joshua lives close to St Paul's but did not meet the religious criteria of the school and did not qualify for a place. He lives too far from his parents' other four preferences to qualify for places.

None of his parents' five preferences could be met. His closest school, Wellbourne, filled its places with children whose parents had ranked it as one of their preferences. **The LA therefore offers Joshua a place at Hempley Hall School. This school is 3 miles from his home, but is offered by the LA, as it is the nearest school with places still available.**

**Jagdeep** lives 1½ miles from Hall View School and 2 miles from Grangetree. Jagdeep lives in the catchment area of Kingsmere Academy (which is the only school with a catchment area) and her parents want her to sit the Academy's "assessment tasks". Their closest school is Roundhill.

Ranked Order	School	Jagdeep's Details	School's Admission Criteria Met?	Place Offered?
<b>1</b>	<b>Kingsmere Academy</b>	<b>Has sat the assessment tasks</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>
2	Hall View School	Lives 1½ miles away	Yes	No
3	Grangetree School	Lives 2 miles away	Yes	No
4	Roundhill School	Lives ½ mile away	Yes	No
5	Marsh Hill School	Lives 2½ miles away	Yes	No

Jagdeep did the assessment tasks for Kingsmere Academy and her score in the tasks was average. However, pupils cannot fail Kingsmere Academy's assessment tasks. As Jagdeep lived closer to Kingsmere than other children in the catchment area with a similar score she qualified for a place.

Jagdeep qualified for a place at Grangetree, Hall View and Marsh Hill because all schools offered places to everyone who lived within 3 miles. She also qualified for Roundhill because it was able to offer places to all applicants.

**Because Jagdeep qualifies for five of her parents' preferences, the school ranked highest by her parents, Kingsmere Academy, is offered.**

## Late Application Policy

On-line applications can only be made up to **31 October 2017**. Late Preference Forms (and, where appropriate, a school's own Registration/Supplementary Information Form) which are received after the closing date of 31 October 2017 are classed as late applications. Any request to change the name or ranking of your named schools made after the closing date will also be classed as a late application unless there are exceptional reasons for the change.

Late applications will normally be considered for places after applications that were received by the closing date of 31 October 2017. Therefore late applicants may be less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools.

If a Walsall Late Preference Form is received after the closing date, the application will be passed to the appropriate admission authority for consideration under its Late Application Policy. Each admission authority is required to publish its own Late Application Policy that explains how late applications will be dealt with. Walsall Councils late application policy is shown below. This policy is applicable to any Walsall secondary school which does not publish its own late application policy.

### **Late Applications for Walsall community secondary schools received up to 4 weeks after the Closing Date (between 1 November 2017 and 29 November 2017):**

Late applications received up to four weeks after the closing date may be considered as being on-time but only where there are exceptional circumstances:

- Where the family was unable to complete an application by the closing date because they moved into the borough of Walsall after the issue of the Walsall application packs;
- The family was unable to comply with the admission timetable because of exceptional circumstances that prevented the application being submitted on time;
- When a lone parent has been ill for some time.

In these cases the circumstances must be given in writing and attached firmly to the Walsall Late Preference Form: they will be subject to verification by the Executive Director of Children's Services, Walsall Council.

### **Late Applications received more than 4 weeks after the Closing Date (between 30 November 2017 and 28 February 2018):**

Applications for schools received more than 4 weeks after the closing date but before the Notification Date **will only be considered** after all other applications.

### **Late Applications received after Notification Date on 1 March 2018 (once places have been offered):**

Applications received after the notification date: a place will be offered at the highest ranked school if places are available. For Walsall residents, if a place is not available at any of the ranked schools a place will be offered by Walsall Council at the nearest alternative Walsall school with vacant places (following consultation with other admission authorities where appropriate) and the child's name will be added to the Waiting List for schools listed as preferences in admission criterion order.

## Waiting List Policy for Admission to Year 7

Waiting lists for all Walsall secondary schools, except Walsall Academy are maintained by Walsall Council until 31 December 2018. Parents may enquire about their child's waiting list position by contacting the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team (01922 652585). Parents who wish to enquire about their child's position on the waiting lists for Walsall Academy should contact the school direct.

Waiting Lists are kept for all children who have been refused a place at any school which was ranked higher than the school at which they have been offered a place, for example

- If your child is offered a place at the school that you ranked 2nd on the application then your child's name will only be placed on the Waiting List for the Walsall school that you had ranked 1st
- If your child is offered a place at the school that you ranked 1st on your application then your child's name will not be added to any Waiting List kept for your other ranked schools

We aim to offer parents a place at their highest ranked preferred school.

After 1 March 2018 a parent may contact the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team in writing, or by email, to apply for a place at an oversubscribed Walsall school. Their child's name will be placed on the school's Waiting List in admission criterion order. Any vacancies will be offered on the basis of the admission criteria for the school. Please note that pupils can move up and down on the waiting list throughout the admissions process.

## How to appeal if your application is unsuccessful

Parents who do not obtain a place for their child at a preferred school may appeal against the decision not to offer a place. An independent Admission Appeal Panel will hear the appeal. The decision of an Appeal Panel is binding on the school, the parents, the Admission Authority and the Local Authority.

If you wish to make an appeal against a decision not to give your child a place at a Walsall school, please refer to the information on the individual School Information pages. Please check the date for each school on the Appeals Information sheet that will be sent with your offer letter, as some schools have different return dates (eg Walsall Academy and Walsall Grammar Schools). If the school you wish to appeal for is situated outside Walsall you should contact the relevant LA for information on their process. If an appeal is unsuccessful, the policy in all Walsall schools is not to hold another appeal in the same school year unless there are significant changes in the circumstances of the child or the school.

## Offer of a place at a school

If you live in Walsall, Walsall Council will inform you of the result of your application by letter, to be posted to your home address on 1 March 2018.

On-line applicants who opt to receive an email notifying them of the outcome of their application, will receive an email on 1 March 2018.

If your child meets the admission criteria of only **ONE** of your named schools you will be offered a place at that school.

If your child meets the admission criteria of **TWO** or more of your named schools you will be offered a place at the highest ranked of those schools.

If you are a Walsall resident parent but your child does not meet the admission criteria of any of your named schools we will offer your child a place at one of the Walsall schools with places available.

Your child will be offered a place at one school only. Parents will not be able to hold places at more than one school.

## Withdrawing the offer of a place at a Walsall school

The offer of a place at an oversubscribed school may be withdrawn if your application contains fraudulent or intentionally misleading information that would prevent a place being given to a child with a higher priority. This may include, for example, where a false home address is given on the application.

Where a place is offered based on the address given on the application but the address is subsequently found to have changed, the place may be withdrawn.

## Definition of Admission Criteria

Where a school is 'oversubscribed', i.e. more applications are received than there are places available, the school's Admission Criteria are used to decide who places are offered to.

Admission Criteria for each Walsall school are shown on the School Information pages. This section gives more information about the admission criteria used by most Walsall schools. However, you should read the information page for each school carefully, as some schools differ slightly.

### Children with an Education Health & Care Plans or Statement of Special Educational Needs:

Education for some children is provided in accordance with their Education Health & Care Plan or Statement of Special Educational Needs. These children are placed in schools before applications are considered on behalf of other pupils.

#### 1. Children in Public Care (looked after children and previously looked after children)

The definition of children in public care is children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by a local authority and previously looked after children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order. These children are given priority over other children when applications are considered.

#### 2. Pupils who have a sibling already in attendance at the school at the proposed time of admission:

The definition of a sibling is a child who resides at the same address as the child for whom a place is being requested, and is one of the following:

- a brother or sister sharing the same parents;
- half-brother or sister sharing one common parent
- step-brother or sister (ie related by parent's marriage)
- any other child for whom it can be demonstrated that he or she is residing permanently at the same address (eg under the terms of a residence order).

The Local Authority will try to ensure that as far as possible siblings (including twins, triplets or children from other multiple births) can attend the same school. However, in the event that there is an insufficient number of places to allocate to twins, triplets etc, a decision will be made as to which child(ren) the place(s) will be offered. In this situation a place or places will be offered to the first born (older child(ren)) and in cases where this is not known, the offer will be decided by lot.

#### 3. Relevant medical or social grounds that show that attendance at the school is essential and supported in writing by a medical practitioner or a social worker

If parents believe there are specific medical or social reasons for claiming priority for a child to attend a particular school, the relevant part of the on-line application must be completed and evidence to support the claim must be submitted. This must relate to either the child or the parent/s, for example, where one or both parents or the child has a disability that may make travel to a school further away more difficult.

Requests for such consideration will be subject to verification by the school. This is necessary because parents will be asking the Authority to assess the child as having a stronger case than many other children, some of whom may live closer to the school.

**Medical:** Medical evidence **must be** submitted in writing from a medical practitioner and should state why the preferred school is the only school that can meet the child's needs.

**Social:** Social evidence **must be** submitted in writing from an appropriate professional and should state why the preferred school is the **only** school that can meet the child's needs.

**Please note that only in exceptional cases are places prioritised in respect of medical or social grounds. Applications will only be considered if supporting evidence from a medical professional or social worker is submitted to the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team.**

## 4. Distance

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school address using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

### Definition of a home address

The home address of a pupil is considered to be the permanent residence of a child in a residential property when the place is offered. The address must be the child's only or main residence and is either:

- owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian or
- leased to or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardian under lease or written rental agreement of not less than six months duration.

Documentary evidence of ownership or rental agreement may be required together with proof of actual permanent residence at the property concerned. In certain circumstances the child's current school will be asked to verify the address given.

Where parents have shared responsibility for a child and the child lives with both parents for part of the week, the main residence will be determined as the address where the child lives for the majority of the week. **Parents may be requested to supply documentary evidence to support the address used for the application.**

The offer of a place is based upon the address of the child when the offer is made. If a child is offered a place at an oversubscribed school the place may be withdrawn if it is found that the child moved (before the place was offered) to a new address that was further away from the school and the child would not have qualified for a place on the distance criterion.

In the event that a family moves between the application and the date of offer, the parent(s), carer(s) or guardian(s) **must** inform the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team as soon as possible of these circumstances.

If the home address is a flat (or apartment) and there is more than one flat at the same address, priority will be given to applicants living at the lowest numbered flat and/or the flat on the lower floor.

## General Information

### School Hours and Term Dates. Details of Term Dates are published on the Walsall Council Website

Details of school hours are available from each school and are also shown in each school's prospectus or on the school's website.

### Annual Governors' Report and Meeting for Parents

Under current legislation, every school Governing Body must produce an annual report for parents on the work of the school. Subject to the Annual Parents' Meetings (Exemptions) (England) Regulations 2003, Governing Bodies may be exempt from the requirement to hold a meeting for parents. Where a meeting is held, this usually takes place in the autumn term and parents are notified of arrangements by the school. This is an opportunity for parents to learn more about the school and to ask questions of the governors. Do try to attend these meetings if you can.

### Entry for Examinations

A variety of public examination courses are available in all schools. The responsibility for deciding whether a pupil should, or should not, be entered for a particular level of any public examination in any subjects rests with the Head Teacher of the school.

Parents are advised to discuss subject choices and examination entries fully with their child's teachers before final decisions are made.

### Charging and Remission Policy

Copies of the Authority's policy on charging and remission for school activities are available from Walsall Council. Each school can provide a copy of its own policy. These policies explain which school activities parents can or cannot be charged for and the circumstances in which they can be invited to contribute to the cost of such activities.

### Private Property

Walsall Council and the governors of all Walsall schools will not accept responsibility for the loss of, or damage to, clothing or other items of private property. Pupils who bring to school mobile telephones, jewellery, calculators and other items of private property do so at their own risk. Responsibility for the insurance of such items rests entirely with the owner. Insurers do not

accept liability for the loss of private property on school premises. This disclaimer does not affect your statutory rights.

## **Provision of Free School Meals**

It is the duty of the Local Authority (LA) to provide a meal for those pupils who are eligible for free school meals. Schools and some Colleges also offer this facility to students who are receiving a support payment in their own right, up to the age of 20 years.

## **Entitlement to Free School Meals**

For advice on free school meals entitlement, please telephone 0300 555 2855 or write to First Stop Shop, Benefits Service, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1XU.

Pupils will be able to receive free school meals if their parent or guardian receives:

- Income Support (IS)
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (JSA (IB))
- Employment and Support Allowance (income related) (ESA (IR))
- Child Tax Credit (CTC), provided you do not also receive Working Tax Credit and have an annual income, as assessed by the Inland Revenue, that does not exceed £16,190
- Guarantee Credit element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

## **Free school meals application form**

This form can be obtained from:

- your child(ren)'s school
- the Benefits Service at the First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1XU – by calling in person or telephoning us on 0300 555 2855
- or you can download an application form from the Walsall Council website ([www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk)).

## **Minimum Entry Requirements for Year 12**

Each school is required to publish in their school prospectus the minimum entry requirements for entry into Year 12.

Pupils will be considered for entry into Year 12 based upon their academic attainment and/or individual subject grade criteria and the availability and suitability of courses at the school. Entry into Year 12 is not dependent upon attendance or behaviour records.

Parents should contact schools directly to discuss making all applications for admission to year 12.

Pupils refused a place in Year 12 in their own school are entitled to appeal to an independent appeal panel.

## **Fair Access Protocol**

Walsall has an agreed Secondary Fair Access Protocol which is available on the Walsall Council website.

Fair Access Protocols exist to ensure that access to education is secured quickly for children who have no school place, and to ensure that all schools in an area admit their fair share of children with challenging behaviour.

Along with devolved funding and responsibility for alternative provision, an agreed protocol encourages schools to work together in partnership to improve behaviour and tackle persistent absence.

**The information contained in this booklet is correct at the time of publication in September 2017. It is, however, possible that there may be some changes affecting points of detail.**

The background of the entire page is a solid teal color. Overlaid on this background are several concentric, semi-transparent circular patterns. These patterns are composed of many thin, overlapping segments, creating a sense of depth and movement. The circles are centered on the left side of the page and expand outwards towards the right.

# **Information for Parents**

about Year 7 Admission to Special  
Schools in September 2018

## Year 7 Admission to Special Schools

This section provides information on Walsall Special Schools.

There are several special schools in Walsall which are provided to meet the complex learning needs of children with a statement of special educational needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan.

### How to apply?

Children can only be admitted to a special school if they have a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan which names the school.

Parents of a child who is due to transfer to secondary school in September 2018 and who either has a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan, or is currently undergoing the statutory assessment process may list a special school on their secondary application.

Applications for special schools must be made on a Preference Form by Walsall residents, it is not possible to submit an online application for a special school. The Walsall Preference Form is available from September 2017 from the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team (01922 652585). Non Walsall residents who wish to apply for admission to a Walsall special school must apply directly to their home local authority.

**Please note that it is important that if your child has a statement of special educational needs, or an Education, Health and Care Plan, or is undergoing the statutory assessment process it is essential that you discuss your preferences with the SENCo at your child's primary school and the SEND Team for your home local authority before submitting your application.**

## Special Schools

### Castle Business and Enterprise College

**Address:** Odell Road, Leamore, Walsall, WS3 2ED

**Telephone:** 01922 710129

**Email:** [postbox@castle.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@castle.walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 7-19

### Elmwood

**Address:** King George Crescent, Rushall, WS4 1EG

**Telephone:** 01922 721081

**Email:** [postbox@elmwood.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@elmwood.walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 11-16

### Mary Elliot

**Address:** Leamore Lane, Walsall, WS2 7NR

**Telephone:** 01922 490190

**Email:** [postbox@mary-elliott.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@mary-elliott.walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 11-19

### Oakwood

**Address:** Druids Walk, Walsall Wood, WS9 9JS

**Telephone:** 01543 452040

**Email:** [postbox@oakwood.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@oakwood.walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 3-11

### Old Hall

**Address:** Bentley Lane, Walsall, ws2 7LU

**Telephone:** 01902 368045

**Email:** [postbox@old-hall.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@old-hall.walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 3-11

### Phoenix Primary

**Address:** Odell Road, Leamore, Walsall, WS3 2ED

**Telephone:** 01922 712834

**Email:** [postbox@phoenix-walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@phoenix-walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 4-11

### The Jane Lane School

**Address:** Churchill Road, Bentley, WS2 0JH

**Telephone:** 01922 721161

**Email:** [postbox@jane-lane.walsall.sch.uk](mailto:postbox@jane-lane.walsall.sch.uk)

**Age Range:** 7-19

# Elmwood School, Rushall

King George Crescent, Rushall, Walsall, West Midlands, WS4 1EG (DfE 335/7014)

**Headteacher:** Mr Simon Hubbard  
**Deputy Headteacher:** Mr Lee Cross  
**Chair of Governors:** Mrs Chrissie Grainger  
**Admission Number:** 18

**Type:** Local Authority Maintained Special SEMH  
**Denominational Affiliation:** None  
**Total No. of pupils (June 2017):** 64

## How to apply for a place:

If you are a parent/carer of a pupil who has an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) highlighting Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) difficulties as their primary special need you can apply for a place at Elmwood School in the following ways:

### If you reside within Walsall borough;

You should contact the SEND Team at the Education Development Centre (01922 652800 / 652805) and inform them of your preference to 'name' Elmwood School.

You should arrange, through the SEND Team a "no-commitment" visit of the school to establish if this is the correct school to meet your child's needs.

### If you reside outside of the borough;

You should contact Walsall's SEND Team and the school expressing your interest to request a placement for your child at Elmwood School.

You should arrange, through Walsall's SEND Team a "no-commitment" visit of the school to establish if this is the correct school in meeting your child's needs.

### If you reside within Walsall borough (but have an EHCP within a mainstream provision);

You should liaise with the current school's SENCO and request a change of placement suggesting why the school can no longer meet the needs of your child. This review should be presented to the Walsall SEND Team who will make a decision based on the information presented to them through evidence of the Plan, Do, Review cycle in operation. If successful section I of the EHCP will highlight a "Specialist Provision for SEMH". Then proceed to the above (based on where you live).

All applications have to be completed in writing.

## Admission criteria:

Pupils must have an EHCP highlighting SEMH as the primary special need and section I of the EHCP must highlight either Elmwood School or Specialist Provision for SEMH. Pupils who attend Phoenix SEMH Academy will be offered a preferential

place but all other admissions will be based on level of need and availability of places within a specific year group. All pupils will be interviewed and undergo a period of phased integration (usually 4 weeks).

## Information provided by the school:

Elmwood School provides an exciting and alternative education to those who due to specific needs have not necessarily had a successful experience in mainstream education. We specialise in pupils with a diagnosis of Autism and/or ADHD many of whom have additional complex needs around insecure attachment, ODD, PDA etc. Most have had CAMHS involvement.

We offer high staff ratios with expert practitioners and small class sizes (6-8). The key to our success lies in positive relationships, humour and genuine affection for our learners. The school is split into discreet zones **Nurture Base** Years 7/8; **Transition Base** Year 9 and **Pathways Base** Years 10/11. Each area has its own community recreation room, dining area and ethos.

We offer a curriculum that focuses on core skills of Literacy and Numeracy. We offer Science, Art, Outdoor Learning, Design and Technology, Food Technology, Drama, SULP, PHSE and PE. We aim for every learner to leave with 5 Level 2 qualifications enabling them to go onto further education or the world of work. Our Outdoor Education curriculum is at the cutting edge nationally. We are committed to physical fitness and each day starts with a physical activity as well as regular PE and other sporting events.

Our rewards and reflective practice systems are highly effective in ensuring that learners develop self-control and take responsibility for their actions. We do not believe imposed sanctions have the same result. We are advanced Team Teach trainers for Walsall and all staff are trained and will, if necessary, intervene physically to safely enable a child to regain control. This is a last resort and

we are experts in de-escalation to ensure that interventions are at the lowest level to ensure safety for the child and community.

We are highly rated by parents and have been re-awarded the Leading Parent Partnership Award status. We employ Family Support Workers which shows our commitment to support families when they may be struggling to get support from other agencies. Parental communication and involvement is encouraged which is reinforced with the use of MarvellousMe, an App which enables parents/carers to be involved in their child's school day. We are part of The Evolve (Barr Beacon) and Lindens Teaching School Alliances and host SCITT students showing alternative approaches to SEN pupils. We also have three **Specialist Leaders in Education** in behaviour and discipline, outdoor learning and business management.

Pupils are happy at Elmwood and report feeling safe with very low levels of bullying. It is an informal happy environment but pupils are clearly focussed on academic achievements and make outstanding progress in most areas from starting points. To gain a further feeling for the school visit our website on [www.elmwood.walsall.sch.uk](http://www.elmwood.walsall.sch.uk) where a copy of our prospectus can be downloaded.

For further information or to arrange a visit please contact Mrs Dawn Canham our School Secretary on 01922 721081.



The background is a solid teal color with a complex pattern of overlapping, semi-transparent concentric circles and arcs in various shades of teal, creating a sense of depth and movement.

# **Information for Parents**

about admission to 14-19 Studio Schools,  
Colleges and Academies in September 2018

## **Admission to 14-19 Studio schools, colleges and academies**

This section is about the educational opportunities which are available for children who are due to move into Year 10 in September 2018. There are a number of schools in the Black Country region which admit pupils at a different age to typical 11 – 18 secondary schools and you may wish to consider applying for a place for your child at one of these schools. This does not mean that you are required to move your child from their existing school if this is still the best option for them.

On the next few pages is a list of schools within a reasonable distance of Walsall which offer admission to children from Year 10 and you may wish to consider whether you would like your child to move to one of these schools in September 2018. It would be advisable to look at the GCSE curriculum in your child's current school to help you consider what the best option is for the next two years of their education.

University Technical Colleges (UTCs) are set up by universities and businesses and specialise in one or two technical subjects. At GCSE they offer a similar curriculum to a typical 11-18 secondary school, including English and Maths as well as their specialist subject. Studio Schools are similar to UTCs in that they have employer involvement in the curriculum and focus on developing the skills needed for employment, involving personal coaching and work experience, alongside a similar curriculum to a typical 11-18 secondary school.

All schools have a statutory duty to secure impartial careers guidance for all Year 8 to Year 13 students to inspire young people to fulfil their potential and to make them aware of all opportunities open to them. We strongly recommend that your child discusses their options with a Careers Adviser in their current school.

There is currently one studio school in Walsall, the Walsall Studio School which specialises in the Performing Arts, Creative Media Industries and Business. The school has a published admission number of 55 for Year 10. Where the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the year.

If you decide that you would like to apply for a place at the Walsall Studio School you should contact the school direct. To apply for the other schools listed on the following pages you should contact the school, college or the relevant Local Authority. If your child has a statement of special educational needs or an Education Health and Care Plan you should contact the Local Authority that maintains your child's statement or plan in the first instance.

## 14 – 19 Provision within a reasonable distance from Walsall

### Aston University Engineering Academy (AUEA)

**Address:** 1 Lister Street, Birmingham B7 4AG

**Telephone:** 0121 380 0570

**Email:** enquiries@auea.co.uk

**Website:** www.auea.co.uk

### Birmingham Ormiston Academy (BOA)

**Address:** 1 Grosvenor Street, Birmingham B4 7QD

**Telephone:** 0121 359 9300

**Email:** Christopher Newbold (Admissions & Progression Manager) at christopher.newbold@boa-academy.co.uk

**Website:** www.boa-academy.co.uk

### Health Futures UTC

**Address:** Health Futures UTC, 350 High Street, West Bromwich B70 8DJ

**Telephone:** 0121 794 2888

**Email:** admin@healthfuturesutc.co.uk

**Website:** www.healthfuturesutc.co.uk

### JCB Academy

**Address:** Mill Street, Rocester, Staffordshire ST14 5JX

**Telephone:** 01889 506100

**Email:** Rebecca Lewis at r.lewis@jcbacademy.com

**Website:** www.jcbacademy.com

### Walsall Studio School

**Address:** The Goldmine Centre, 14a Lower Hall Lane, Walsall WS1 1RL

**Telephone:** 01922 621951

**Email:** enquiries@walsallstudioschool.co.uk

**Website:** www.walsallstudioschool.co.uk

### Waverley Studio College

**Address:** 470 Belchers Lane, Birmingham B9 5SX

**Telephone:** 0121 566 6622

**Email:** enquiry@waverleystudiocollege.co.uk

**Website:** www.waverleystudiocollege.co.uk

### West Midlands Construction UTC

**Address:** Springfield Campus, Cambridge Street, Wolverhampton WV10 0JR

**Telephone:** 01902 872180

**Email:** info@wmcutc.co.uk

**Website:** wmcutc.co.uk

**Open Event:** Please contact for details

### WMG Academy for young Engineers (Solihull)

**Address:** Chelmsley Road, Solihull, Birmingham B37 5FD

**Telephone:** 0121 289 3556

**Email:** solihull.info@wmgacademy.org.uk

**Website:** www.wmgacademy.org.uk

### Additional information

There is also provision available for students at Walsall College and Walsall Adult and Community College.

### Walsall Adult and Community College

**Address:** Hawbush Road, Leamore, Walsall, WS3 1AG

**Telephone:** 01922 663000

**Email:** info@wacc.ac.uk

**Website:** www.wacc.ac.uk

### Walsall College

**Wisemore Campus Address:** Littleton Street West, Walsall WS2 8ES

**Green Lane Campus Address:** Long Acre Street, Walsall WS2 8HX

**Telephone:** 01922 657000

**Email:** info@walsallcollege.ac.uk

**Website:** www.walsallcollege.ac.uk

For further information please contact:

**School Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team**

Walsall Council  
2nd Floor, Zone 2E  
Civic Centre  
Walsall  
WS1 1TP

**Tel:** 01922 652585

**Email:** [secondary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:secondary.admissions@walsall.gov.uk)

Apply on-line at [www.walsall.gov.uk](http://www.walsall.gov.uk) and follow the link to **Education - Secondary School Admissions**  
Parent Support Adviser on 01922 652578 or email: [schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk](mailto:schooladmissionsadvice@walsall.gov.uk)