



Bluecoat Beechdale
Academy

Belong, Believe, Achieve

Admission Arrangements 2021/22

Introduction

This document sets out the admission arrangements for Bluecoat Beechdale Academy.

Archway Learning Trust (hereafter referred to as the Trust), which is its own admission authority, has responsibility to ensure that the admission arrangements complies with the School Admissions Code and School Admissions Appeal Code, and is implemented objectively and fairly.

Admission number(s)

Bluecoat Beechdale Academy has an admission number of 180 for entry in year 7.

The Academy will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, all those who have applied will be offered a place at the Academy.

Application Process (How to apply)

Archway Learning Trust will process applications outside the normal local authority process for co-ordinating school offers. This means you will need to complete your Local Authority (LA) common application form for your other choices of secondary school in addition to a separate application for Bluecoat Beechdale Academy.

The closing date for applications for Year 7 in September 2022 is midday, **Friday, 26th February 2021**.

Offers will be made on **1st March 2021** by the Archway Learning Trust, in addition to your offer via the Local Authority for your other choice of secondary schools.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us via office@bluecoatbeechdale.co.uk or via telephone on 0115 913 5211.

Oversubscription criteria

When the Academy receives more applications than there are places and the Academy is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan (EHCP) naming the Academy, priority for admission will be given to those who meet the criteria set out below in priority order:

1. Looked after child or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including children who were previously in state care outside of England and who ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.
2. Priority will next be given to the Children of staff, specifically teaching or support staff, full or part-time working at Bluecoat Beechdale Academy at the time of admission, where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
3. Priority will next be given to children attending the following feeder school, Bluecoat Primary Academy.
4. Places will then be offered to applicants who have a sibling who will be attending the Academy at the time of the applicant's admission
5. Priority will next be given to children who live the shortest *distance from their home address to Bluecoat Beechdale Academy. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre of the child's main home to the entrance of Bluecoat Beechdale Academy.

Tie-break

In the event of the oversubscription within criterion 2-5, the following criteria will apply in this order:

- i) *the nearness of the child's home to Bluecoat Beechdale Academy.
- ii) In the event such a measure is identical to the nearest meter for two or more children and there are insufficient places available for both or all of them, the remaining place/s will be awarded by random allocation using lots drawn by a person independent of the Academy.

*Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre of the child's main home to the entrance of Bluecoat Beechdale Academy, Harvey Road, Nottingham, NG8 3GP. This point of measurement has been determined to be within a reasonable radius of the intended area the school will serve. Shared properties e.g. Flats, the centre will be taken from the centre of the building.

Late Applications

Archway Learning Trust will accept applications received after the deadline date and these will be dealt with after the national offer day.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested.

When such a request is made, the Trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interest of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the Principal and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

Waiting Lists

The Academy will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where the Academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term after the beginning of the Academic year. This will be maintained by the Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

In-Year Admissions:

Applications for in-year admissions should be made directly to the Academy. If a place is available and there is no waiting list then a place will be offered to the applicant. If more applications are received than there are places available then applications will be ranked in accordance with the over subscription criteria for the relevant year. Parents and carers whose application is turned down are entitled to appeal to an independent appeal panel.

In-Year Applications should be completed using our application form which can be found at: www.bluecoatbeechdale.co.uk/prospective-parents/how-to-apply/

Alternatively, where this is not possible an application can be posted on request, please email: office@bluecoatbeechdale.co.uk to request an application, providing you address and contact details.

Paper applications should be returned to:

Admissions

Bluecoat Beechdale Academy

Harvey Road,

Nottingham,

NG8 3GP

Please note the academy has different admission numbers for other year groups which have been determined by the operational capacity of the Academy. This is reviewed annually.

Year 8	-	180
Year 9	-	180
Year 10	-	180
Year 11	-	175

Arrangements for appeals panels:

All applicants refused a place have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

Appellants should contact the Clerk to the Appeals Panel, Bluecoat Beechdale Academy, Harvey Road, Nottingham, NG8 3GP within 20 school days of the refusal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website www.bluecoatbeechdale.co.uk

Fair access protocol

The 2009 School Admissions Code required all local authorities to establish in-year fair access protocols to ensure that access to education is secured quickly for children who have no education place, and to ensure that all schools and academies in an area admit their fair share of vulnerable and challenging children and young people. The code requires that all educational settings and academies must participate in their local authority's protocol in order to ensure that unplaced children are offered a place at a suitable educational setting as quickly as possible. This includes admitting children above the published admission number to schools and academies that are already full. Bluecoat Beechdale Academy and the Trust will participate fully in the Nottingham City Council's fair access protocol.

Notes:

1. A looked after or previously looked after child is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions in accordance with section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to a school. A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society. An adoption order is an order under the Adoption Act 1976 (see section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act 2002 (see section 46 adoption orders). Child arrangements orders are defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

2. Children of staff includes stepchildren that are living in the same household. Stepchildren are defined as children whose biological parent / legal guardian marries a person who isn't the child's biological parent.

3. Home Address The child's place of residence is taken to be the parental home, other than in the case of children fostered by local authority, where either the parental address or the foster parent's address may be used. Where a child spends part of the week in different homes, one of which is not a parental address, their place of residence will be taken to be their parent or parents' address. If a child's parents live at separate addresses, where the child permanently spends at least 3 school nights, i.e. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday will be taken to be the place of residence, even when the child stays there for all or part of the week.

Evidence that a child's place of residence is permanent may also be sought. Such evidence should demonstrate that a child lived at the address at the time of the application, and will continue to live thereafter the time of admission. Informal arrangements, even between parents, will not be taken into consideration. Proof of residence from the courts regarding parental responsibilities in these matters may be sought.