



Bloxwich Academy

For the academic year 2027-2028

Bloxwich Academy is part of an inter-Local Authority Co-ordinated Admission Scheme (Reception & Year 6-7 Transition Only). All dates referred to within this document are in line with this scheme

Year 7 Admission

Walsall Council's online application process will open in September 2026

Closing date for the submission of applications is 31st October 2026

Notification date – 1st March 2027 (or next working day if 1st March is not a working day)

Reception Admission

Walsall Council's online application process will open in November 2026

Closing date for the submission of applications is 15th January 2027

Notification date – 16th April 2027 (or next working day if 16th April is not a working day)

Matrix Academy Trust, as its own Admission Authority, is required to consult on Admission Arrangements every seven years unless there has been a change to the criteria. Once the consultation process has taken place determined arrangements are forwarded to consultees.

It should be noted that where a child meets the admission criteria of two or more schools named in their application then they will be allocated a place at the highest ranked of these schools.

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2027-2028

Bloxwich Academy is an all through 3 – 16 Academy with 1361 pupils. The Academy's admission policy is in accordance with the guidelines below:

Entry into Reception September 2027

Primary Admission round will open November 2026 to parents of children in Nursery (and Year 2 of other Walsall Infant Schools).

Closing Date for return – 15th January 2027

Published Admission Number in Reception is 60

Entry into Reception - September 2027

Pupils will be admitted without reference to ability, aptitude, race or religion. The Published Admission Number in 2027 for the primary site will be **60**.

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below:

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

Definition: A '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 those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A looked after child is a child who 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.

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 1-6 in September of the relevant year.

Definition: 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
- Stepbrother or sister (i.e. 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 (e.g. under the terms of a residency order)

3. 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.

Note, this criterion 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.

4. Proximity of the child's home to the school, with those living nearest being accorded the higher priority, the distance being measured in a straight line

Definition of home address: 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 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.

Where parents have shared responsibility for the 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 the majority of the week. If the child equally shares living with both parents, the parents must inform the Local Authority which address should be used for admission purposes and which parent will make the application. Parents will be requested to supply documentary evidence to support the address used for the application.

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, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

In the event of an oversubscription in any of the above categories, places will be allocated according to those that live closest to Bloxwich Academy as calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the home and school whose circumstances remain unchanged on the day of admission. In a tie breaker situation where two or more applicants live the same distance from the school, then the place will be determined by random allocation that will be supervised by someone independent of the school. A fresh round of random allocation will be used for each tie breaker situation.

Entry into Year 7 September 2027

Pupils will be admitted without reference to ability, aptitude, race or religion. Children in Year 6 in the primary phase will automatically transfer to Year 7 of the secondary phase without the need to apply for a place. Parents of children not attending Year 6 at the school will need to submit an application to their home local authority, the closing date for secondary applications is 31st October 2026. Additional places are available for new pupils. The Published Admission Number in 2027 will be **180** for the secondary site.

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below:

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

Definition: A '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 those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. A looked after child is a child who 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.

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.

Definition: 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
- Stepbrother or sister (i.e. 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 (e.g. under the terms of a residency order)

3. 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.

Note, this criterion 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.

4. Proximity of the child's home to the school, with those living nearest being accorded the higher priority, the distance being measured in a straight line

Definition of home address: 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 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.

Where parents have shared responsibility for the 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 the majority of the week. If the child equally shares living with both parents, the parents must inform the Local Authority which address should be used for admission purposes and which parent will make the application. Parents will be requested to supply documentary evidence to support the address used for the application.

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, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

Tie Breaker

In the event of an oversubscription in any of the above categories, places will be allocated according to those that live closest to Bloxwich Academy as calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the home address and school whose circumstances remain unchanged on the day of admission. In a tie breaker situation where two or more applicants live the same distance from the school, then the place will be determined by random allocation that will be supervised by someone independent of the school. A fresh round of random allocation will be used for each tie breaker situation.

Children with an EHCP

Any child with an Education Health & Care Plan is required to be admitted to the school that is named in plan. This gives such children overall priority for admission to the named school. This is not an oversubscription criterion.

Applications for children to be admitted outside of their normal age group

Parents who wish for their child to be considered for admission to a class outside of their normal age group must make an application for the normal age group in the first instance by 31st October

2026 for Year 7 and 15th January 2027 for Reception. For Year 7, this will include parents whose child is currently being educated outside of their normal age group but where the child has reached the normal age of transition to secondary school (i.e. normal age group is Year 6; however, a child is being educated in Year 5). Parents may request that the child continues to be educated outside of their normal age group and be admitted to Year 7 in September 2028 rather than Year 8.

Any parent wishing to make such a request must put the request in writing to the Clerk to the Academy Trust Boards Admission Committee by no later than 31st October 2026 for Year 7 entry or no later than 15th January 2027 for Reception entry. This request should be in the form of a written letter of application outlining the reasons why they wish for their child to be admitted into a class outside of their normal age group and enclosing any supportive evidence and documentation that they wish to be taken into account as part of that request. Requests will be considered on an individual basis and decisions will be reached by taking account of the parent's views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The view of the Headteacher of the school will also be sought as part of the decision-making process.

If the request is agreed and the year group for which the parents have requested a place is for a future year group, i.e. Year 7 in September 2028 or Reception 2028, then the original application is withdrawn, and the parents must submit a fresh application for a school place in September 2028 when applications open in the autumn term of 2027 for Year 7 or spring term of 2028 for Reception. **Please note that parents only have the right to be considered for a different year group, and if agreed can re-apply for a place in that year.**

Where the decision is to agree the request for an application in Year 7 or Reception the following year, that application is considered alongside all other applications received and parents will be advised of the outcome of that application on national offer day. **No place is reserved or held for the child in advance.**

Parents should be aware that if the request is agreed and the child is admitted outside of their normal age group in September 2028, the child will remain with their adopted cohort and be educated outside of their normal age group for the remainder of their education at the school. **Please note that parents must make a new application when a child reaches secondary school age.** However, should a request be made to transfer from the allocated school to an alternative school, parents will need to apply to the admission authority of the new school to request that the child continues to be educated outside of their normal age group. Before any application is submitted it is strongly recommended that parents/carers also read the DfE guidance which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/summer-born-children-school-admission>.

Pupils Below Compulsory School Age – Reception Admissions

By law, parents must ensure that their children are receiving suitable full-time education at the beginning of the term after their 5th birthday, which is when a child reaches compulsory school age. The school offers places for children to be admitted to Reception Class in the September at the start of the academic year in which they reach five years of age.

Parents may defer their child's admission to the school until later in the school year, but not beyond the point at which they reach compulsory school age and not beyond the beginning of the final term of the school year of which the offer was made.

A parent has the right for their child to be admitted on a part-time basis during the Reception year but not beyond the point that they reach compulsory school age.

Waiting List Policy (Year 7 and Reception Intake)

Until 31st August 2027 parents may enquire about their child's position on the Waiting List by contacting the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team on 01922 652585. From 1st September 2027, the waiting list will be maintained by the school and parents should make enquiries by contacting Bloxwich Academy Admissions on 01922 710257 for secondary admissions and 01922 710226 for primary admissions.

The relevant waiting list will be maintained until at least 31st December in the year of entry. Every time a child is added to the list, it will be re-ranked in accordance with the oversubscription criteria with no priority given to the date of the application.

Withdrawing places

In certain circumstances the Trust may decide to withdraw a place offered if one of the following circumstances occurs:

- Where a parent has not responded to the offer of a place, even after chasing;
- Where fraudulent or intentionally misleading information is used as part of the application; or
- Where the offer has been made in error.

In-Year Admissions

The school manages its own in-year admissions. Applications for in-year admission (age groups other than the normal year of entry) must be made to Bloxwich Academy Admissions using the in-year admissions form on Bloxwich Academy's website.

Parents will be notified of the outcome of their application within 15 school days of receipt of a completed in-year application form.

Appeals

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 school website.

Appeals in respect of Year 7 intake for September 2027 should be lodged by Friday 16th April 2027.

Appeals received after this date will be heard in July 2027, only where practicable or within 30 school days of the appeal being lodged (whichever is later) where practicable. It may not be possible to hear late appeals before the start of the new term in September 2027. Appeals are not heard in the school holidays.

Late Applications (Year 6 – Year 7 transfer Transition only)

A late application is an application form received after the published closing date. Late applications will normally be considered for places after applications that were received by the closing date. Late applicants may be less likely to be offered a place at the school.

When places are offered, applications received by the closing date and valid late applications will be considered first.

Late applications received before the notification date (before places are offered):

Applications received by the closing date and valid late applications (see below) will take priority when places are offered.

Valid late applications can only be considered if the application form is received within four weeks of the closing date.

Explanation of valid late applications:

There are limited circumstances when a late application may be categorised as a valid late application and considered together with those applications that were received by the closing date.

Subject to verification by the Director of Children's Services, Walsall Council, a late application may be considered as a valid late application where:

- The family were unable to complete an application form before the closing date because they moved into the Borough of Walsall after the issue of application forms.
OR
- The family were unable to comply with the admissions timetable because of exceptional circumstances which prevented the application arriving on time – the circumstances must be given in writing and attached to the application form.

Applications received after the Notification Date (after places are offered):

Where the school is over-subscribed an application for a place which is received after places have been offered will be added to the school's waiting list in admission criteria order.