



Bloxwich Academy
Admission Arrangement
Nursery Class

For the academic year 2027-2028

Every child is entitled to 15 hours a week, free learning in an early years setting, from the September following their third birthday, for 38 weeks in a full year.

Some children may qualify for 30 hours a week of education and childcare in an early years setting from the September following their third birthday, for 38 weeks in a full year.

Bloxwich Academy is fully inclusive and welcomes applications for the admission of children with special educational needs (SEN), physical, mental or behavioural disabilities and other protected characteristics defined by the Equality Act 2010. The school's admission arrangements are determined and implemented with its equality duties in mind, including the public sector equality duty (PSED).

Definition of a “parent”

In education law, the definition of a “parent” includes a natural or adoptive parent of a child (regardless of whether the child lives with them, has contact with them, or they have parental responsibility for the child). It also includes a person who is not a natural or adoptive parent of the child but who has care of and/or parental responsibility for the child.

Planned Admission Number

Pupils will be admitted in the academic year in which they are three.

The academy offers 30 hour places to eligible pupils or part-time places area available as a morning session of 15 hours or an afternoon session of 15 hours.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following oversubscription criteria, in order of priority as set out below, will be used to decide which children will be admitted.

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.

Applications in this category may need to be supported by documentary evidence confirming the child's status, such a signed letter from the child's social worker or former social worker confirming their current or previous status, an adoption, child arrangements or special guardianship order.

In the case of children adopted from state care outside England (as defined above), evidence of having been in state care outside of England and of being adopted will be required. Ideally, this should be received prior to the application deadline in the normal admission round. When assessing the evidence provided, the DfE's current guidance will be followed.

Where the Virtual School Head has already verified the child's status, parents should let the Local Authority/school know, as there should be no further evidence to be provided in this case.

2. Where the child has a sibling currently attending Bloxwich Academy Primary (Reception to Year 5) who will still be in attendance during the year of admission of the child.

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 by Matrix Academy Trust 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 school 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 a 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.

The school reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if a change in circumstances between allocation and admission would have resulted in a child not being offered a place at the time of allocation.

Tie Breaker

Where there are more applications than places received in any of the above categories, places will be allocated by reference to the distance of the child's home to the school, as measured in a straight line, from the centre point of the child's home address to the centre point of the school, using a computerised measuring system, with those living closest to the school being accorded the highest priority.

Where there are two or more children for whom the distance is equidistant, random allocation will be used to allocate the place. The random allocation process will be supervised by someone independent of the school.

Multiple Births

While the school recognises the importance of allocating children who are twins, triplets or children of higher multiple births together, it is not always possible to ensure this. The school 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 twins, triplets etc. a decision will be made to consider going over the academies PAN.

Admissions Timetable

For admission to the Nursery, parent(s) should make enquiries to the School Office about the procedure and the timetable to be followed.

Waiting List

A waiting list will be maintained in respect of the Nursery Class until the end of the academic year of admission.

Appeals

Parents do not have a statutory right to an independent appeal panel in relation to nursery admissions.