



WINCHCOMBE SCHOOL

Admissions Policy (2020)

Review Committee: FGB

Pupils will be admitted at age 11 (Year 7) without reference to ability or aptitude. The number of intended admissions (for the year commencing September 2021) will be one hundred and ten (110) and this number will be admitted in each subsequent year.

Over-Subscription

Where applications for admission into Year 7 exceed the number of places available, places will be offered in accordance with the following criteria.

- A. A 'looked after child' (1) or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption(2) child arrangements order (residency order) (3) or special guardianship order (4) .

- (1) *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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to a school. In Gloucestershire, such children are referred to as Children in Care.*
- (2) *This includes children who were adopted 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).*
- (3) *Under the provisions of s.12(page 2) of the Children and Families Act 2014, which amend section 8 of the Children Act 1989, residence orders have now been replaced by child arrangements orders.*
- (4) *See Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).*

- B. Children of full or part time salaried members of staff who have been employed at Winchcombe School for two years or more at the time of the application for admission, or of a member of staff recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
- C. Children with the strongest geographical claim, measured in a straight line from the Ordnance survey point of the child's home address (including flats) to the Ordnance survey point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority".

Where any particular category at point A-B above is oversubscribed, or in the event of a tie between two or more children when applying criterion C (strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance) where there are not enough places available to offer all children a place at the school, a process of random allocation will be followed by the Governing Body.

Appeals

Parents whose application for a place at the school has been unsuccessful have the right of appeal to an independent Appeal Panel. Appeals, which should be in writing on the official form, should be sent to the school for the attention of the Clerk to the Governors.

Appeals will be conducted in accordance with the current Code of Practice for School Admission Appeals. Parents, whose appeals have been unsuccessful, may only apply for a further appeal for the same academic year if there has been a significant or material change in their circumstances. Parents may then appeal in each following academic year but only once in each year.

The closing date for appeals will be Friday 8th May 2020.

**N.B. Admission of "casual entrants" during Years 7 to 11
will follow the same criteria in the case of over-subscription**

Pupils with Statements of SEN or an EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan)

We will offer places to children with statements of SEN or an EHCP that names the school.

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Waiting Lists

If the school is oversubscribed, a waiting list will be held. The waiting list will be held for (at least) the first school term (i.e. until October half-term), and prioritised according to the school's oversubscription criteria.

Fair Access Protocols

Winchcombe School has signed up to the In-Year Fair Access Protocols held by the Local Authority. Should a vulnerable child within these Protocols require a place at the school, they will take precedence over any child on the waiting list.

In-Year Admissions

In-year applications are all those made outside the normal round of admissions for children of compulsory school age i.e. those applications made during the academic year for a school place in Year 7 through to Year 11. In-year applications are no longer dealt with by the Local Authority. To apply for a place at Winchcombe School, parents/carers should, therefore, contact the school directly in the first instance. The school, however, will liaise closely with the Local Authority providing information in relation to current vacancies in the school.

Transport

Transport to the school is provided from the surrounding villages by Marchants Bus Company (Tel: 01242 257714). Transport from Cheltenham is also provided by Marchants Bus Company

This Policy was reviewed and adopted by the Full Governing Body