

Admission Consultation: Admissions Policy 2024 - 2025

The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School would like to propose the following changes to our Admissions Policy for the school year commencing September 1st 2025. There is a requirement by admission authorities to consult when proposing changes. The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School, as the admission authority is seeking comments on the following proposed changes.

Proposal

The Governing Body of The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School propose to define Church Worship in relation to its admission policy, make the admissions process more accessible to families attending named Church of England Primary schools by removing the requirement to complete a Supplementary Information Form, support and retain employees of the Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School by adding an additional criteria, and amend the approach to age of applicants for each year group from September 2025 henceforth. The change to the admission policy will not affect current students at the school and those who choose to accept an offer for a Year 7 or Sixth Form place in September 2024. The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School does not propose to make any other changes to our admissions policy, which can be accessed on our website.

Proposed Amendments

The Governing Body of The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School propose the following amendments and reasons to the Admissions Policy:

- 1) The school has had a temporary variation of an additional 30 places to its published admission number increasing it from 180 to 210 places for the past five years. Governors propose to make this a permanent change to a PAN of 210, as the school continues to be over subscribed.
- 2) An amendment to the definition of church worship under criteria 3, to make applying for a place at Bishops' against the admissions criteria clearer and more defined.
- 3) Amendment for families applying under criteria 4 to not be required to complete a Supplementary Information Form, (families whose children attend Church of England Primary Schools). This would ease the process of application for families of children who attend the named schools in our policy when applying for a place at The Bishops' Blue Coat CoE High School.
- 4) Removal of Waverton Primary as a named school under criteria 4, it is not a Church of England Primary School.
- 5) Addition of children of staff as a criterion 5, to support employee's working at The Bishops' Blue Coat CoE High School.
- 6) Amendment to children admitted outside of their chronological age, to support families and their children's transition to secondary school if dealing with personal situations such as ill health. Families wanting their child to attend outside of their chronological age group will be required to write a letter to the Headteacher giving further details to the request. Each case will be handled individually and in the best interests of the child.
- 7) Separation of the Sixth Form admissions policy and criteria from the Admissions policy. Making it easier to access for parents/carers and prevent confusion with the Admissions Policy. There has also been an amendment to the admissions criteria for clarity.

The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School understands an annual review of Admissions Policy may be needed if the local context dictates. This propose is for September 2023 and we would like to ensure that all current and future parents and any other interested stakeholders have the opportunity to make comments on this

proposal.

How to Respond

This consultation will run from Monday 30th October 2023 to 11th December 2023. You are invited to submit your comments, in writing, to the Chair of Governors, The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School, Vaughans Lane, Great Boughton, Cheshire, CH3 5XF or by email: clerk@bishopschester.co.uk

Following the consultation period, The Bishops' Blue Coat CofE High School will consider any comments received and how to proceed.