



THE BISHOPS' BLUE COAT CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL

Sixth Form Admissions Policy School Year 2026/2027

All of the policies that shape our lives and daily practice at Bishops' are informed by our Christian vision and values: to know, nurture and inspire our students to be the best version of themselves, so that they can live 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

Is this policy statutory?	Yes
Review Period	Annual
Date Approved	February 2025
Governor Committee	Full Governors

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1. Statement of Intent

Our vision statement states that:

The Bishops’ Blue Coat Church of England High School is an exciting place to be. We know, nurture, and inspire our community to be the best version of themselves through a better understanding of the Christian faith, our core values and a rich set of opportunities. Students achieve academically whilst growing personally and spiritually. Through their engagement in society, at Bishops’ and beyond, our students make a positive difference through wise action, resilience and a sense of responsibility. Our community is enabled to live a life guided by Jesus, to flourish and have “life in all its fullness” (John 10:10).

Parents should be aware before applying that in this school our ethos is based on the teachings of the Christianity and the Church of England. Our vision and provision is rooted in Christian values and teachings.

This policy is based on the following advice from the Department for Education (DfE), Diocesan Board of Education and Cheshire West and Chester Admissions:

[Cheshire West and Chester Admissions](#)

[Schools Admissions Code](#)

[School Admissions Appeals Code](#)

[Chester Diocese Board of Education GUIDANCE TO AIDED SCHOOLS AND ACADEMIES ON THE APPLICATION OF THE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS CODE OF 2021](#)

2. Governors’ Admissions Policy, School Year Beginning September 2026/2027

We are passionate about education and know that students, staff, and parents are working together to create an outstanding climate for learning. Our campus is an open, green, and attractive place to learn. There is a tangible sense of pride and positivity within our school, stemming from the belief that each student will be ‘Known, Nurtured and Inspired’ to progress academically and grow spiritually and personally to *be the best version of themselves*.

These admissions criteria explain admission to school year September 2026.

3. Sixth Form Admissions

Applications for admission to the Sixth Form of a Cheshire West and Chester school are dealt with by the school in line with the relevant published admissions arrangements and not by Cheshire West and Chester Council.

Students in Year 11 at The Bishops' Blue Coat CE High School are welcome to apply for Sixth Form and new applicants from other schools/colleges. The entry requirements for admission to the Sixth Form shall be the same for students on roll in Year 11 at the school and external applicants.

The maximum admission number for the admission of external candidates is 25. This number relates to the admission of external candidates only and is based on an estimate of the maximum number of external candidates likely to be admitted, although it would be acceptable to exceed this if demand for available courses can be met.

Minimum Entry Requirements for Admission to Level 3 Courses (A levels, BTEC and equivalent)

- Students must have attained passes of numerical grade 4 or higher in five separate courses at GCSE or BTEC equivalent, including English Language and Mathematics.
- Minimum entry requirements for admission onto courses vary and a full list of requirements are specified in the Sixth Form Course Guide, available on the school website.

Applying for a place in Sixth Form

An application form, which is available via the school website, must be completed and submitted no later than the application deadline published on the school website.

Applicants are advised to contact the school for further information. Evidence of relevant attainment must be provided at enrolment to validate an application.

The closing date for applications is the deadline published on the school website.

Guidance discussions will be held with all students who have expressed an interest (there are no formal interviews). Conditional offers of places for on-time applications (subject to GCSE results) will be made no later than 1st May. Courses will be confirmed after GCSE results day once viability of course numbers has been confirmed. Confirmation will be subject to the student meeting the minimum Sixth Form and course entrance criteria conditions, and the composition of option groups. This information is available in the Sixth Form course guide.

The Oversubscription Criteria below explain admission to school year September 2026. Should the number of applications exceed the criteria below, places will be allocated according to these criteria with priority given to those living nearest to the school.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where eligible applications from new applicants exceed the number of places available, places will be allocated according to the following priority order: -

- A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order as defined in the Admissions Code 2021.
- All new applicants who fulfil the entry requirements.
- Students living nearest to the school. Distances will be measured in a straight line from the centrally plotted Basic Land and Property Unit point (BLPU) of the child's home address to the centrally plotted BLPU point of the school as defined by Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG)