



# Gloucester Academy

## Admissions Policy 2020/21

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## **The Admissions of Pupils to Gloucester Academy**

### **Pupil Ability**

Gloucester Academy will admit pupils at age 11 without reference to ability. Exceptionally able pupils will be considered for admission at 10+ if their application is fully supported by their Primary School's Headteacher.

### **Admission Number(s)**

The Academy Trust has the following agreed admission numbers for the Academy for the year 2020:

210 for pupils in Year 7.

### **Consideration of Applications**

The WHF Academy Trust will consider all applications for places at Gloucester Academy. During the normal round of admissions, where fewer than the published admission number for that relevant year group are received, the WHF Academy Trust will offer places at Gloucester Academy to all those who have applied.

### **Procedures where Gloucester Academy is oversubscribed**

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. After the admission of pupils with statements of Special Educational Need or an Educational Health and Care Plan where Gloucester Academy is named on the statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

**Priority 1.** A child in the care of a LA or provided with accommodation by that authority as defined by Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.

Previously looked after children (see definition below) have the same admission priority as 'looked after children' (also known as children in care), in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989.

'Previously looked after' children are defined as those who immediately after being in care became subject to an adoption order, child arrangements order or special guardianship order.

### Required evidence for a 'previously looked after' child

- a special guardianship order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian(s), under section 14A of the Children Act 1989
- a child arrangement order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live under section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.
- An adoption order under section 46 of the Adoption and Children act 2002 or Section 12 of the 1976 Adoption Act\*.

**Priority 2.** Children for whom only the Academy is appropriate due to an exceptional medical condition. Applications under this criterion will only be considered if they are supported by a written statement from the child's doctor. This must demonstrate that there is a very specific connection between the medical need and the facilities or resources of the Academy.

**Priority 3.** Children who have siblings (by which is meant full, step-, half- and adopted siblings living in the same household) at the school at the point of admission.

**Priority 4.** Children of current members of staff where the member of staff has been employed by the school for two or more years or who will meet a clear skills shortage at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.

**Priority 5.** Admission of pupils on the basis of proximity to the school using straight line measurement from the determined point of the academy (the main reception entrance of the new Academy building) and the Ordnance Survey point of the child's home address (this will be the child's permanent residence. If their parents do not live together this will be the child's main residence, and if they spend equal time at two homes it will be the address where the child Tax Credit / child benefit is paid that will be taken as the child's home address. Evidence may be required in this instance).

Where any particular category at points 1-3 above is oversubscribed, criterion 5 (strongest geographical claim based on straight line distance) will be used to determine which child is offered a place.

In the event of a tie between two or more children when applying criterion 5 (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.

### **Operation of waiting lists**

Where in any year Gloucester Academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the December term. This will be maintained by the WHF Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

### **Fair Access Protocols**

Gloucester Academy supports the In-Year Fair Access Protocols run by the Local Authority. Therefore, 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**

Any applications for Gloucester Academy made outside the normal application round must be made directly to the school. In accordance with its statutory duty, the WHF Academy Trust will be responsible for offering school places to children for Gloucester Academy.

### **Arrangements for Admission of pupils as Gloucester Academy builds to its Full Capacity**

Admission to Year groups as they progress through the school will be based upon the size of teaching groups already existing in Gloucester Academy, the capacity of the Academy building and the efficient use of resources.

Whilst every admission will be judged on individual merits, Gloucester Academy will annually review and be guided by reasonable expectations and benchmarks of cohort 'profile' to enable efficient distribution and planning of current resources

Gloucester Academy will liaise with the Local Authority Admissions team to establish changes to the Admission Number as a year group moves through the school as is reasonable and in line with the changing circumstances of Gloucester Academy.

### **Appeal**

There will be a right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel for unsuccessful applicants. Unsuccessful applicants will be advised of the reason admission was refused and advised of the right to appeal by setting out grounds in writing.