

Applying for a place at Dixons Allerton Academy

The admission arrangements are as follows:

- In the primary phase (Reception to Year 6) there are 60 places in each year group.
- In the secondary phase there are 245 places in Year 7 & Year 8 and 240 places in Years 9 to 11.

Vacancies rarely occur, but where they do, places are not offered based on the length of time names have been on the list. They are filled in coordination with the local authorities and in line with the oversubscription criteria (below). It is, therefore, possible that a child may be added to the list who qualifies more highly within the criteria than children already on the list because each time a child is added, the list will be ranked again in line with the published oversubscription criteria. Looked after children, previously looked after children, and those allocated a place at the school in accordance with a Fair Access Protocol take precedence over those on a waiting list.

Applications should be made on Bradford local authority's 'In Year Common Application Form' (ICAF) which needs to be returned directly to the local authority. On receipt of an ICAF the authority will send a copy of this to the Academy, and then respond to advise you if a place is available or not.

Oversubscription criteria

If the Academy is oversubscribed, after the admission of children with an Education, Health and Care Plan, where the Academy is named, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria in the order set out below:

- a) Looked-after children or children who were previously looked after. See note 1 for a definition of these terms.
- b) Children who have *exceptional* social or medical need, supported by a written recommendation from the child's paediatrician/consultant or a professional from Children's Services. The recommendation must explain why the school is the only suitable school to meet the child's needs and why no other school could provide the appropriate support for the child.
Consideration under this criteria will be decided based on the information received and parents will be informed if the application meets this criteria before the end of March. See note 2 for how to apply.
- c) Up to two children of staff, who have been in post for at least two years, or to staff recently appointed to a post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage. See note 3 for how to apply. If demand exceeds places at this point, the decision of who will be offered the place will be made by using a computerised random number generator programme (see note 4).
- d) Children whose siblings live at the same address, currently attend the Academy, and will continue to do so on the date of admission (see note 5 for a definition of sibling). If demand exceeds places at this point, places will be decided based upon proximity to the Academy as detailed at point e).
- e) Admission of children on the basis of proximity to the Academy using straight line measurement taken from the Ordnance Survey reference point for the home address (see note 6) to the main entrance of the school. Where the offer of places to applicants with equi-distant addresses would lead to oversubscription, the decision of who will be offered the place will be decided by using a computerised random number generator programme (see note 4).

Where a child is allocated a place and they have a sibling/s (brothers or sisters) applying for the same year group, the sibling/s will also be offered a place/s (see note 7).

Notes

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).

A previously looked-after child is a child who, immediately after being looked-after, became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order or special guardianship order, or a child who has been in state care outside of England and ceased to be so as a result of being adopted.

2. Applications must be in the form of a letter or e-mail to the Governing Body of the Academy, sent via the Admissions Officer, and accompanied by the supporting information described above.
The e-mail or letter is required in addition to the submission of a completed local authority application form.
3. Applications must be in the form of a letter or e-mail to the Governing Body of the Academy, sent via the Admissions Officer stating the name, post, and length of service of the member of staff and the child's name and date of birth.
The e-mail or letter is required in addition to the submission of a completed local authority application form.
4. All applications will be allocated a random number of between 1 and 8 that contains up to 7 decimal places. The numbers will be allocated by a computer programme and ranked from the smallest number at the top to the biggest number at the bottom.
The randomisation process will be supervised by an independent clerk of the independent appeals panel.
5. In addition to brothers and sisters, the term sibling includes half, adopted, step, or foster brothers or sisters *living at the same address*. It does not include cousins or other family members sharing a house.
6. 'Home address' refers to the child's permanent home at the time of admission. Where the child lives with split parents who have shared responsibility, it is for the parents to determine which address to use when applying for a school. Proof of residency may be required at any time during or after the allocation process.
7. Where twins or triplets or siblings (brothers or sisters) are applying for the same year group and only one place is available, the remaining sibling/s will also be offered a place/s above the admission number.

Infant class sizes

The law restricts infant class size to 30 pupils per class in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Only in very limited circumstances can admission over the limit be permitted. These circumstances are:

- a) children admitted outside the normal admissions round with statements of special educational need or an Education, Health and Care plan specifying a school;
- b) looked-after children and previously looked-after children admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- c) children admitted, after the initial allocation of places, because of a procedural error made by the admission authority or local authority in the original application process;
- d) children admitted after an independent appeals panel upholds an appeal;
- e) children who move into the area outside the normal admissions round for whom there is no other available school within reasonable distance;
- f) children of UK service personnel admitted outside the normal admissions round;
- g) children whose twin or sibling from a multiple birth is admitted otherwise than as an excepted pupil;
- h) children with special educational needs who are normally taught in a special educational needs unit attached to the school, or registered at a special school, who attend some infant classes within the mainstream school.

In these cases the children will remain 'excepted pupils' for the time they are in an infant class or until the class numbers fall back to the current infant class size limit.

Waiting lists and appeals

For in-year applications, the details will remain on the waiting list until the end of the academic year (July). You will need to make a new school transfer application (ICAF) in early July if you wish for your child to be placed onto the waiting list for the next academic year.

When places become available they will be filled as described above.

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code. This is a legal process and places are not 'reserved' for appeal panels to offer.

Before you can make an appeal, you must first have completed an ICAF and received notification from the local authority that a place has been refused.

If you are considering an appeal, there is further information available on our website: <https://www.dixonsaa.com/admissions/appeals> <https://www.dixonsaa.com/admissions/secondary-appeals>

Contacts

e-mail: appeals@dixonsacademies.com telephone: 01274 423134