



Bloxwich Academy
A proud member of
Matrix Academy Trust

Bloxwich Academy

For the academic year 2024-2025

Bloxwich Academy is part of an inter-Local Authority Co-ordinated Admission Scheme
All dates referred to within this document are in line with this scheme

Year 7 Admission

Walsall Council's online application process will open in September 2023
Closing date for the submission of applications is 31st October 2023
Notification date – 1st March 2024 (or next working day if 1st March is not a working day)

Reception Admission

Walsall Council's online application process will open in November 2023
Closing date for the submission of applications is 15th January 2024
Notification date – 16th April 2024 (or next working day if 16th April is not a working day)

The school, as its own Admission Authority, is required to consult on Admission Arrangements every seven years unless there has been a change to the criteria. Once the consultation process has taken place determined arrangements are forwarded to consultees.

It should be noted that where a child meets the admission criteria of two or more schools named in their application then they will be allocated a place at the highest ranked of these schools.

For admission to Sixth Form, applications should be made directly to Bloxwich Academy.

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

Bloxwich Academy is an all through 3 – 18 Academy with 1580 pupils. The Academy's admission policy is in accordance with the guidelines below:

Entry into Reception September 2024

Primary Admission round will open November 2023 to parents of children in Nursery (and Year 2 of other Walsall Infant Schools).

Closing Date for return – 15th January 2024

Published Admission Number in Reception is 60

Entry into Year 7 September 2024

Pupils will be admitted without reference to ability, aptitude, race or religion. Children in Year 6 in the primary phase will automatically transfer to Year 7 of the secondary phase without the need to apply for a place. Parents of children not attending Year 6 at the school will need to submit an application to their home local authority, the closing date for secondary applications is 31st October 2023. Additional places are available for new pupils. The Published Admission Number in 2024 will be **180** for the secondary site and the Published Admission Number for the primary site will be **60**.

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below:

1. Children in Public Care (looked after children) and previously looked after children

Definition: A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order including those who appear [to the admission authority] to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted. 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.

2. Where a child has an older sibling currently attending the school when the application is made and who will be still attending the school in Years 8 – 11 in September of the relevant year. Siblings of Sixth Form students qualify for a sibling claim.

Definition: a child who resides at the same address as the child for whom a place is being requested and is one of the following:

- A brother or sister sharing the same parents
- Half brother or sister sharing one common parent
- Step brother or sister (i.e. related by parent's marriage)
- Any other child for whom it can be demonstrated that he or she is residing permanently at the same address (e.g. under the terms of a residency order)

3. Where there are essential medical or social grounds for admitting the child

Definition: relevant medical or social grounds that show that attendance at the school is essential and supported in writing by a medical practitioner or social worker. Requests for such consideration will be subject to verification by the Governing Body.

4. Children of Staff employed at The Academy

Where a member of staff (**) has been employed at The Academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage/or the member of staff has been seconded to support another school within the Matrix Academy Trust.

** All full time teaching staff
All full time support staff – (defined as those on a 37 hour week and above contract)

The definition does not include contract staff. If service has been 'in house' and is subsequently 'contracted out' children of staff will no longer be eligible for priority admission under this criterion.

5. Proximity of the child's home to the school, with those living nearest being accorded the higher priority, the distance being measured in a straight line

Definition of home address: the home address of the child is considered to be the permanent residence of a child in a residential property when the place is offered. The address must be the child's only or main residence and is either owned by the child's parent, parents or guardian or leased to or rented by the child's parent, parents or guardian under lease or written rental agreement of not less than six months duration.

Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre point of the home address to the centre point of the school, using the Local Authority's computerised measuring system, with those living closer to the school receiving the higher priority.

Waiting List Policy (Year 7 and Reception Intake)

Until 31st August 2024 parents may enquire about their child's position on the Waiting List by contacting the Admissions and Pupil Place Planning Team on 01922 652585. From 1st September 2024 the waiting list will be maintained by the school and parents should make enquiries by contacting Bloxwich Academy Admissions on 01922 710257 for secondary admissions and 01922 710226 for primary admissions.

From 1st September 2024 parents wishing their child/ren to be placed on the Waiting List should contact Bloxwich Academy Admissions in writing to make their requests.

Siblings

Siblings of Sixth Form students qualify for a sibling claim.

Mid-Year Admissions

The school manages its own mid-year admissions. Applications for mid-year admission (age groups other than the normal year of entry) must be made to Bloxwich Academy Admissions using the mid-year admissions form on Bloxwich Academy's website.

Parents will be notified of the outcome of their application within 15 school days of receipt of a completed mid-year application form.

Admission to Nursery Place

Every 3 and 4-year-old in Walsall is entitled to 15 hours free early years education through a number of providers. Please apply to Bloxwich Academy, Bloxwich Lane site for details of Nursery admissions.

Appeals

Parents whose children are refused admission to the school have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. The necessary forms and information should be obtained from the Clerk to the Appeal Panel, Bloxwich Academy, Leamore Lane, Bloxwich, Walsall, WS2 7NR to whom completed forms are returned. Please mark the envelope ADMISSION – APPEAL.

Appeals in respect of Year 7 intake for September 2024 should be lodged by 14th April 2024.

Late Applications (Year 6 – Year 7 transfer)

A late application is an application form received after the published closing date. Late applications will normally be considered for places after applications that were received by the closing date. Late applicants may be less likely to be offered a place at the school.

When places are offered, applications received by the closing date and valid late applications (see below) will be considered first.

Late applications received before the notification date (before places are offered):

Applications received by the closing date and valid late applications (see below) will take priority when places are offered.

Valid late applications can only be considered if the application form is received within four weeks of the closing date.

Explanation of valid late applications:

There are limited circumstances when a late application may be categorised as a valid late application and considered together with those applications that were received by the closing date.

Subject to verification by the Director of Children's Services, Walsall Council, a late application may be considered as a valid late application where:

- The family were unable to complete an application form before the closing date because they moved into the Borough of Walsall after the issue of application forms.
OR
- The family were unable to comply with the admissions timetable because of exceptional circumstances which prevented the application arriving on time – the circumstances must be given in writing and attached to the application form.

Applications received after the Notification Date (after places are offered):

Where the school is over-subscribed an application for a place which is received after places have been offered will be added to the school's waiting list in admission criteria order.

Minimum entry requirements for Year 12 for September 2024

Pupils will be considered for entry into Year 12 based upon their academic attainment and/or individual subject grade criteria and the availability and suitability of courses at Bloxwich Academy.

Bloxwich Academy's minimum entry requirements for Post 16 studies are as follows:

The minimum entry requirement for admission into Year 12 is grade 4 - 9 at GCSE (or equivalent) in 4 different GCSE subjects **AND** English (either Language or Literature) **AND** Maths requiring

Grade 5 at GCSE for entry. (There are also course suitability and individual subject availability criteria requirements for some courses, on request).

Pupils refused a place in Year 12 are entitled to appeal to an independent appeal panel.

To progress from Year 12 to Year 13, students must meet the academic selection criteria we set. Students will be notified of these criteria prior to them taking up their places in September of Year 12.