



2019/20 DETERMINED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS for 11 - 16 provision

Bristol Cathedral Choir School is an academy and part of Cathedral Schools Trust.

Bristol Cathedral Choir School has a published admission number (PAN) of 120 pupils for entry into year 7. The school will accordingly admit at least 120 each year if sufficient applications are received. All applicants will be admitted if 120 or fewer apply.

Applications for places at Bristol Cathedral Choir School will be made in accordance with the local authority's co-ordinated admission scheme.

Admissions Timeline

Bristol Cathedral Choir School will use the following timetable for applications each year (exact dates within the months may vary from year to year).

By end of July 2018 – the school will publish on its website information about the arrangements for admission, including oversubscription criteria, for the following September (e.g. in July 2018 for admission in September 2019). This will include details of open events for prospective pupils and their parents/carers to visit the school and date for the music aptitude test;

September 2018 - the local authority admission application process will open.

31st October 2018 – closing date for parents/carers to complete the Common Application Form (CAF) via their home LA, which the LA provide and administer;

Offers will be sent to parents/carers on 1st March 2019 (or next working day) by the home local authority;

Closing date for parents/carers to accept places offered is 15th March 2019.

June 2019 - Appeals will be heard by an Independent Appeal Panel administered by Democratic Services at Bristol City Council on behalf of the school.

Consideration of Applications

The school will admit any pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) naming the school. Priority will then be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, **in order:**

1. Looked after children and previously looked after children.

A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services function (see the definition in Section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989). Previously looked after children includes children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children's Act

2002 (section 46 adoption orders). Subject to Adoption Order, Child Arrangement Order, or Special Guardianship Order.

2. Probationer Chorister

The school will admit up to 8 pupils of the year 7 intake based on their membership of the Probationer Chorister programme at Bristol Cathedral. Children admitted under this criterion are not included in the 10% admitted under Music Specialism. If there are more probationer choristers seeking admission than places available then the 8 places would be randomly allocated and the remainder placed on a waiting list.

3. Music Specialism

The school will admit up to 10% of the year 7 intake on the basis of those who most clearly demonstrate that they have an **aptitude**¹ in music, using a music aptitude test for pitch, melody, texture and rhythm.

4. Siblings

Pupils who, on the date of application, and on the date of admission, will have a sibling on roll at BCCS (Year 7 to Year 11 and including Year 12). The term “sibling” means a full, half, adopted, step brother or sister, but not cousins or other family members. A sibling must be living **permanently** with the applicant at the same address at the date of their application and admission to BCCS. The school may require proof of relationship and/or proof of residence.

5. Staff

Pupils who are sons / daughters of serving employees of Bristol Cathedral Choir School. This will include all staff, full and part-time working 28 hours or more per week during term-time and who have been employed permanently at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or where the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

6. Random Allocation

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break to decide the remainder of the places until all 120 have been filled from any of the following postcode areas from:

- BS1 to BS49

In the event of any places still available these will be allocated by random allocation to those applicants living outside of the above postcode areas. This process will be independently verified.

Multiple Births

However, if children of multiple births (twins and triplets) are tied for the final place, those siblings will be admitted over PAN.

Late year 7 applicants

The school defines a “late applicant” as one that arrives after the deadline date for submitting their common application to the local authority (31st October). These applicants will not be included in the first round allocation process for year 7 places. Late applicants will be included in the second round of allocation if places become available.

¹ *Aptitude measures potential, ability measures attainment or what has already been achieved and the two should not be confused.*

Admission of children outside normal age group

Children are normally educated in school with others of their age group; however, in exceptional circumstances parents/carers may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal age range, for instance where the child is gifted or talented or where a child has suffered from particular social or medical issues impacting his or her schooling. All such requests will be considered on their merits and either be agreed or refused, on that basis. If a request is refused, the child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

With the application, parents should request that the child is admitted to another year group (state which one), and the reasons for that request. Parents will submit any evidence in support of their case with the application, for instance from a medical practitioner, head teacher etc. Some of the evidence a parent might submit could include:

- Information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;
- Where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- Whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
- Whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

The Trust will consider each case on its merits, taking into account the individual circumstances of the request and the child's best interests. The Admissions Committee along with the Head Teacher will then decide whether such an out-of-year group place will be agreed or refused.

We will also ensure the parent is aware of whether the request for admission out of age group has been agreed before final offers are made, and the reason for any refusal.

Requests for admission out of normal year group will be considered alongside other applications made at the same time. An application from a child who would 'normally' be a year 8 child for a year 7 place will be considered alongside applications for year 7.

Waiting Lists

The school will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the school year. This will be maintained by the school 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 (1 – 6 above). Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added or leaves it.

Music Specialism Waiting List

A separate waiting list will operate for those applicants who applied under the music specialism criterion. This is held in rank order from the combined scores achieved in both

music aptitude tests. Where a music specialism place becomes vacant it will be reallocated from the next highest scoring applicant on the music specialism waiting list.

Unsuccessful music specialism applicants will be considered alongside all other children under the remainder of the school's admission criteria including random allocation.

Music specialism applicants will be on both the random waiting list and the ranked music waiting list.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have the right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

The school will prepare guidance for parents/carers on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on the website:

<http://bccs.bristol.sch.uk/admissions/appeals>

In Year Applications

Parents/carers, seeking admission, to a year group other than year 7 are able to make an in year application to the school. Parents/carers should complete the on line in year application form available on the school website or by requesting a form from the school.

Parents/carers will be notified in writing, of the outcome of their in year application and have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel if a place is refused. Parents/carers should indicate on the reply form, included with the notification letter, and return it to the school, if they wish their child's name to be placed on the waiting list and/or appeal for a place.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1, 4, 5 and 6). Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1, 4, 5 and 6). The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (1, 4, 5 and 6) whenever anyone is added or leaves it.

Each in year application made to the school is only valid for the academic year in which it is made. Parents/carers will be required to make a fresh application for each new academic year.

The school will participate in Bristol City Council's In Year Fair Access Protocol.

Registered Address

Head of School, Mr P G Atkins

Bristol Cathedral Choir School

College Square

Bristol

BS1 5TS

Tel: 0117 35 35000

admissions@bristolcathedral.org.uk