

Admissions Information & Frequently Asked Questions

Application Form - Please read the admission arrangements 2023/24 before submitting an application for Bristol Cathedral Choir School (BCCS).

How do I apply for a place at BCCS for my child?

Simply complete the Common Application Form (CAF) provided and administered by your home local authority. (This will be where you pay your Council Tax).

The CAF normally opens mid-September on your local authority website and must be submitted by 31st October 2022. Please make sure you name Bristol Cathedral Choir School as a preference of secondary school on this form.

Do I need to complete a supplementary information form for my child?

- If you are applying under the probationer chorister criterion for your child please complete [this supplementary information form](#) and submit to admissions@cathedralschoolstrust.org by 31st October 2022.
- If you are applying under the staff criterion for your child please complete this [supplementary information form](#) and submit to admissions@cathedralschoolstrust.org by 31st October 2022.
- If you are applying for a music specialism place you can find out more information [here](#).
- It is not necessary to complete any supplementary information forms for general admission. Information about your child's primary school or sibling status is included on the CAF.

It is my intention to name BCCS as my first preference on the CAF. Will this be taken into consideration?

No. Only the local authority is aware of parents/carers' preference choices. We consider all applications irrespective of preference choice against the published oversubscription criteria, in order of priority, as set out in the admission arrangements. The local authority will endeavour to offer you a secondary school place at your highest preference where there is a place available. Note that your **highest** preference where there is a place available may not be your first preference.

Is there any sort of test or entrance exam?

No, there are no tests for general admission. The only test is the optional music aptitude assessment test for those applicants seeking a music specialism place. You can find out more information about music specialism [here](#).

When will I know if my child has been offered a place?

Offers for September 2023 entry will be made by your home local authority not the school on the first working day on or after 1st March 2023. This is the national offer date.

Oversubscription Criteria

Do you need to attend Church to apply to BCCS?

No. The school is a Church of England faith school but we accept applications from families of all faiths and none. Faith is not an oversubscription criterion for the School.

I live close to BCCS and I know children who live further away from my address who attend BCCS, does this mean my child will be offered a place?

No. BCCS does not have a catchment or priority area. All applicants will be considered against the published oversubscription criteria, in order of priority, as set out in the

admission arrangements 2023/24 including random allocation for children living in the Bristol local authority postcode areas BS1 to BS16. Distance to school or ease of journey is not taken into consideration.

I live outside the Bristol postcode area BS1 to BS16, can I still apply for my child?

Yes. All applicants will be considered against the published oversubscription criteria, in order of priority, as set out in the admission arrangements 2023/24.

I live in the South Gloucestershire local authority postcode area BS15 or BS16, can I still apply for my child?

Yes. All applicants will be considered against the published oversubscription criteria, in order of priority, as set out in the admission arrangements 2023/24. South Gloucestershire applicants will be considered after Bristol applicants.

Does my child have to live in the Bristol Local Authority area to apply for a Music Specialism place?

No, anyone can apply for their child to sit the music aptitude test irrespective of where they live.

I have twins applying for Year 7 entry. If one is offered a place will the other be offered?

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

My child is applying for Year 7 and has a sibling who attends Cathedral Primary School; will he/she be considered under the sibling criterion?

No, in order to be considered under the sibling criterion your child would have to have an older sibling who is on roll at BCCS in Year 7 to Year 11 at the time of admission (see definition below):

Next, children who, on the date of admission, will have a sibling on roll at Bristol Cathedral Choir School (age 11-16 secondary provision).

A sibling is defined as a natural brother or sister, or a half brother or sister, or a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, or step brother or sister who will be living with them permanently at the same address. Step brothers/sisters are defined as children who are not necessarily related biologically (including foster children) but are living in the same household for the majority of the time at the address the admission authority considers to be the address of the child for whom the application is made. For the avoidance of doubt this does not include cousins, other family members, friends or siblings in the BCCS 6th Form (Post 16 provision). A sibling must be attending (or is expected by the admission authority to be attending) the school (age 11-16 secondary provision) at the time of admission. The admission authority may require proof of relationship and/or proof of residence. The applicant's address is not taken into consideration under this criterion.

My child is applying for Year 7 and has a sibling who attends the 6th Form at BCCS; will he/she be considered under the sibling criterion?

No, in order to be considered under the sibling criterion your child would have to have an older sibling who is on roll at BCCS in Year 7 to Year 11 at the time of admission (see definition below):

Next, children who, on the date of admission, will have a sibling on roll at Bristol Cathedral Choir School (age 11-16 secondary provision).

A sibling is defined as a natural brother or sister, or a half brother or sister, or a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, or step brother or sister who will be living with them permanently at the same address. Step brothers/sisters are defined as children who are not necessarily related biologically (including foster children) but are living in the same household for the majority of the time at the address the admission authority considers to be the address of the child for whom the application is made. For the avoidance of doubt this does not include cousins, other family members, friends or siblings in the BCCS 6th Form (Post 16 provision). A sibling must be attending (or is expected by the admission authority to be attending) the school (age 11-16 secondary

provision) at the time of admission. The admission authority may require proof of relationship and/or proof of residence. The applicant's address is not taken into consideration under this criterion.

My child has a sibling at BCCS; will he/she be guaranteed a place?

Only if there are not more siblings than there are places available. If there are more siblings than places, then random allocation will be used as a tiebreaker to determine who will be offered the places available.

I wish to make a request for my child to be educated 'out of year group', what should I do?

You should read the **admission arrangements 2023/24** for more details on how 'out of year group' requests are considered.

Complete the ['Out of Year Group' Application Form](#) with your request and detail the reasons why you feel it would be in your child's best interests to delay or accelerate starting Secondary school, and submit to; admissions@cathedralschooltrust.org

You should enclose copies of any relevant reports which support your request.

Further Questions?

Contact; admissions@cathedralschooltrust.org