



GUIDANCE NOTES FOR PARENTS / CARERS APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY PHASE YEAR 7 PLACE AT BLUECOAT WOLLATON ACADEMY IN SEPTEMBER 2024

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION AND ADMISSIONS PROCESS



Bluecoat Wollaton
believe in yourself, in others, in God

When do I need to apply for a Year 7 place at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy to start in September 2024?

The application process for a place at Secondary School opens a year in advance so you must apply the preceding September (September 2023) when your child starts Year 6 at their primary school. You should apply between the first week in September and the 31st October 2023. If you do not apply between the correct dates set out by the Local Authority, unless for an exceptional circumstance, then your application will be considered late and this will affect your chances of getting a place at your preferred school. Please see refer to your home Local Authorities website for help when applying for a school place.

What forms do I need to complete to ensure I have applied for a Year 7 place at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy?

To apply for a place at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy you need to complete a 'School Common Application Form' via your Home Local Authority. You must chose Bluecoat Wollaton Academy as one of your preferences. If you live in the Nottingham City area this can be done online at www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/information-for-residents/education-and-schools/school-admissions/. If you live outside of the Nottingham City area, you must complete your home Local Authorities School Application Form e.g. Nottinghamshire County Council or Derbyshire County Council. Your Local Authority will then inform us once you have selected Bluecoat Wollaton Academy as a preference.

Secondly if you are applying for a place under the Children of Staff, Christian Faith or World Faith criteria you must also complete a Bluecoat Wollaton Academy 'Supplementary Form 2024-2025' by the **31st October 2023**. This form is available as an online form on the Academy website www.bluecoatwollaton.co.uk, under **Prospective Parent > How to Apply**. Alternatively a paper copy can be collected from the academy reception or at the Open Evening on Thursday 21st September 2023. All paper copies must be returned directly to the academy F.A.O Admissions by the **31st October 2023**.

Please note a supplementary form by itself is NOT a valid application. This form must be accompanied by a School Common Application Form completed via your Local Authority, otherwise your application to Bluecoat Wollaton will not be counted.

How do I apply if I live elsewhere in the country?

If you live outside of Nottingham City, Nottinghamshire or Derbyshire you are advised to contact the Nottingham City Council School Admissions Team to inform them of your situation. They will then be able to advise which form you need to complete. If you are applying for a Children of Staff, Christian Faith or World Faith place you will also need to complete a Bluecoat Wollaton Academy supplementary form.

Can I apply for more than one type of place at the Academy?

Yes, you may apply under multiple criteria if you believe yourself to be eligible. This will increase your chances of obtaining a place. Please see the Bluecoat Wollaton Academy Admissions Arrangements 2024-2025 for the detailed criteria. *For example you can apply for a Christian Faith place and a CofE Primary place at the same time. You need to indicate this by completing the supplementary form.*

If I am not applying under the Children of Staff, Christian Faith criteria or World Faith what will my application be considered under?

As outlined in the Bluecoat Wollaton Academy Admissions Arrangements 2024-2025 which explains how applicants are admitted to the Academy. If you are eligible under criteria a) Looked after or previously looked after children, d) Attending Bluecoat Primary Academy and/or e) attending a CofE Primary school we will be informed via your Local Authority once you have completed a School Common Application Form. All applications are considered under criterion g) siblings and distance.

What happens once I have submitted a Supplementary Form?

Once the academy has received your completed supplementary form an acknowledgement email will be sent to you within 10 school days of submission. If you have applied under either the Christian Faith or World Faith criteria we will write to your nominated referee to request a reference and also write to you to inform you we have done so. Please refer to Page 4 of the Admission Arrangements 2024-2025 for an in-depth explanation of these criteria.

Can my child sit the Technology aptitude test for a place at Bluecoat Wollaton?

No, the technology aptitude test is for places at Bluecoat Aspley Academy ONLY, your child can sit the test if you are applying to Bluecoat Aspley Academy. No tests will be considered for admission to Bluecoat Wollaton Academy.

What happens to my application if you do not receive a returned faith reference?

If we do not receive a returned reference form from your faith referee then the trust will not have sufficient evidence to rank your application under the faith criterion according to the admission arrangements, therefore your application would not be considered under the faith criterion at the time of ranking. However your application will still be considered under any of the other eligible criteria you apply for and criterion g) sibling & distance.

How likely is my child to get a place?

Bluecoat Wollaton Academy is a very popular oversubscribed Academy receiving in over 800 applications each year for the Year 7 intake alone. The success of your application will depend on how many of our oversubscription criteria you meet and how fully they are met in relation to all other applications. For the September 2024 intake there are 150 places available in Year 7.

If I put Bluecoat Wollaton Academy as a preference on the School Common Application Form will I automatically be considered for all of the Archway Learning Trust Secondary School's?

*(The Archway Learning Trust consists of the following secondary schools... **Nottingham:** Bluecoat Aspley Academy, Bluecoat Wollaton Academy, Bluecoat Trent Academy, Bluecoat Beechdale Academy, The Nottingham Emmanuel School **Derby:** Alvaston Moor Academy, Lees Brook Academy & The Long Eaton School)*

No, you will not be considered for all when choosing only one as a preference. The admissions for each academy/school are separate. For example if you apply to Bluecoat Wollaton Academy your application will be considered for a place at the Bluecoat Wollaton Academy only. If you apply to Bluecoat Aspley Academy your application will be considered for a place at the Bluecoat Aspley Academy only. And the same applies to all of the Archway secondary schools. If you would like to be considered for more than one of the Archway schools you will need to put each academy/school as separate preferences, the application allows up to a total of 4 preferences.

If I already have a child at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy, will their sibling who I am applying for be guaranteed a place?

No, having a sibling at the Academy does not guarantee your other child a place. Having a sibling is considered in criterion g) and as oversubscription criteria. Please refer to our Admissions Arrangements 2024-2025 page 2 for information on this and page 4 for an in-depth description of the classification of sibling.

I have missed the closing date for applications (31st October 2023), can I still apply for a place at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy?

Yes, you can still put in a late application by contacting your home Local Authority. Please be aware that if this is the case and you do not have an exceptional reason, then your application won't be considered until after all other offers have been made.

When will I find out if my child has been allocated a place at Bluecoat Wollaton Academy?

Your home Local Authority will send you a letter in the post or an email depending on how you applied, on National Offer Day which will be on 1st March 2024, to inform you which school your child has been given a place at. If you do not receive any communication from your LA please contact the School Admissions team at your home local authority and not Bluecoat Wollaton Academy directly as the academy are unable to inform you of the outcome. If you were unsuccessful in securing a place at Bluecoat Wollaton then you have the right to appeal. Please contact the Academy directly for more information and see page 3 of the Admission Arrangements 2024-2025.

Useful Links:

Bluecoat Wollaton Academy - www.bluecoatwollaton.co.uk/prospective-parents/how-to-apply/

Nottingham City Council - www.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/educationandschools

Nottingham County Council - www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions/hub

Derbyshire County Council - www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school-places

Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham - southwell.anglican.org/