



The Blue Coat School, Oldham
(Proud to be part of the Cranmer Education Trust)

SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR 2024 ENTRY

Date of Next Review : Autumn 2023

APPROVED BY ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE ON 16TH NOVEMBER 2022
THE CRANMER EDUCATION TRUST
c/o The Blue Coat School, Egerton Street, Oldham. OL1 3SQ

Blue Coat School

Sixth Form Admission Policy for Entry 2024

Vision and Values

The Blue Coat School Oldham is a Church of England Academy committed to Christian ecumenism and interfaith dialogue which serves Anglican families and a wide community of faith across the region. The school welcomes applications from all families, of all faiths and none, wherever they live. The school does not have a catchment area.

Statutory Framework

The Cranmer Education Trust (CET) is the Admission Authority for the school, with the administration and implementation of the policy being delegated to the Local Governing Committee of the school. The school is required to act in accordance with the School Admissions Code 2021 and the Schools Admissions Appeals Code 2022, which are available at;

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/academy-admissions>.

Context

We are an academic school sixth form offering 30 academic A-Level courses which enable students to progress to university and the most competitive job and training opportunities. Because of our size and the skills, qualifications and expertise of our staff, we can only offer academic options, and in order to be admitted to the sixth form students must meet the school's academic entry requirements.

Admission to Blue Coat School Sixth Form is for those students who wish to study within the ethos of a Church School and who meet the entry requirements for their selected programmes of study. Though it is not expected that all students will be of the Christian faith we do insist that all show respect for the Christian ethos of the school.

Admission to the Sixth Form

The Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 12 is 220. The admission number may be exceeded if the demand for available courses can be met, provided that the applicants meet the academic entry requirements.

Oversubscription Criteria

After the admission of:

- i) Any student with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) which names the school and who meet the academic criteria set out below
- and
- ii) Looked After Children, or who are Previously Looked After Children (in Public Care) or Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children (See Definitions) who meet the academic criteria set out below.

The following criteria will be applied in order when offering places:

- 1) Students in Year 11 at Blue Coat School who meet the entry requirements stated below.
- 2) Students from other schools or colleges who meet the entry requirements stated below. ¹

¹ The pattern of previous years shows that annually between 75 – 100 external applicants join the Blue Coat Sixth Form.

Academic entry requirements for Blue Coat School Sixth Form

All students who come to study with us will choose 3 full 2-year linear A-Levels / Applied General Qualifications (L3) and will also take an additional qualification from our Futures Pathway (Global Perspectives and Research, Core Maths or an additional AS qualification, from a specific list of subjects, to be confirmed). With 3 A-Level courses on their timetables together with a supplementary accreditation from a chosen Futures Pathway, students need a very secure base at GCSE. Students are therefore expected to show a breadth of success across a majority of their GCSE subjects.

Basic academic entry requirement

- **Condition 1:** All students must hold a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grades 9 – 5, including a Grade 5 in Maths and English (Language or Literature).
- **Condition 2:** In addition, students must achieve at least a Grade 6 in the subjects that they wish to study. An equivalent subject with a similar skill set will be taken into account as an alternative measure in the case of an A-Level course which is not part of the standard GCSE curriculum.
- **Condition 3:** For the specific subject combination of more than one Science studied together (e.g. Biology with Chemistry or Biology, Chemistry, Physics etc.), students must also achieve a Grade 6 in Maths.

In addition:

Before an offer of a place can be made, a school report supporting a candidate's proposed course of study and including predicted grades must be provided. For students currently studying at The Blue Coat School, these will be automatically obtained from their Director of Learning. For external applicants a report will be sought from the Head of Year 11, equivalent member of staff, or senior member of staff of their current or former school.

Guidance meetings are held with students to discuss options and academic entry requirements for particular courses.

Offers are based on

- the predicted grades given by the student's current school,
- any timetabling or resource constraints resulting in a high level of oversubscription for the subjects the applicant has chosen to study.

All offers are conditional

Applicants are offered a place in the Sixth Form on the basis that they meet the entry requirements set out above, and there are sufficient places available in each subject. Where subjects are heavily oversubscribed by applicants who have all achieved the 3 conditions, both within the Blue Coat and external applicant criteria, priority will be given to those applicants who have achieved the highest grades.

Students who meet the entry requirements but who cannot be accommodated in their preferred subjects will be offered an alternative course.

Process of applying

Please refer to our website for details.

Timetable and deadlines for applications

Please refer to our website for details.

Fraudulent or intentionally misleading applications

Where the governing body discovers that a student has been awarded a place as the result of an intentionally misleading application which effectively denies a place to a student with a stronger claim, then the governing body is required to withdraw the offer of the place. The application will be considered afresh, and a right of appeal offered if a place is refused.

Waiting List

In the case of oversubscription, students may wish their application to be held on a waiting list. The school's waiting list will be ranked in line with the academic entry requirements listed above. In the case of the Published Admission Number not being met, those students who are best qualified for the places available on the available courses will be offered the available places.

Definitions

1. Children in Public Care/Previously Looked After Children (LAC/PLAC/IAPLAC)

This includes any "looked after child", "previously looked after children" and any child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 'Looked after' means that the child was

- (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.

This criteria also includes looked after children and all previously looked after children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society, and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.

2. An EHCP (Education Health and Care Plan) is a legal document that outlines a child or young person's special educational, health and social care needs and the provision a Local Authority must put in place to help them.

The Cranmer Education Trust Privacy Notice

In making an application for admission to the Blue Coat School Oldham, parents provide personal, sensitive information in relation to their child and themselves. This information will be stored in accordance with the School's privacy notice; a copy of which can be found at www.blue-coat.org/policies.