



SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS POLICY FOR 2021 ENTRY

Review Date: Autumn 2020

THE BLUE COAT SCHOOL
Egerton Street, Oldham. OL1 3SQ

Blue Coat School

Sixth Form Admission Policy for entry 2020

Context

We are a high-achieving 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

Blue Coat Sixth Form has a total capacity of 410 places, with up to 220 students entering Year 12 each year. Blue Coat students who meet the academic entry requirements transfer from Year 11. Applications from existing Blue Coat students for a place in the Sixth Form should be submitted to the school by not later than Friday 29th November 2020. The admission number may be exceeded if the demand for available courses can be met, provided that the applicants meet the academic entry requirements. Applications from external candidates for a place in the Sixth Form should be submitted to the school by not later than Friday 11^h December 2020 using the application form available from the school's website or to collect at Sixth Form Open Evening in October 2020. Applications from existing Blue Coat students are submitted electronically via the school's VLE platform.

Oversubscription Criteria

After the admission of:

- i) Any student with a statement of Special Educational Need/Education Health Care Plan which names the school and who meet the academic criteria set out below

and

- ii) Looked-after children and previously looked-after children 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;
and
- (2) Students from other schools or colleges who meet the entry requirements stated below.

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 (Pre-U Global Perspectives, 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: To guarantee a place at Blue Coat Sixth Form, all students must hold a minimum of 5 GCSE's 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 in order to guarantee a place on their chosen courses. 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 (eg Biology with Chemistry or Biology, Chemistry, Physics etc), students must also achieve a Grade 6 in Maths in order to guarantee their chosen study programme.

Additional requirements

Before an offer of a place can be made, a satisfactory school report supporting a candidate's proposed course of study 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.

Offers

When making offers, we look at:

- the predicted grades given by the student's current school,
- the level of oversubscription for the subjects they have chosen to study.

Guidance meetings are held with students to discuss options and academic entry requirements for particular courses. An applicant will be offered a place in the Sixth Form on the basis that they meet the entry requirements as described above. Where subjects are over-subscribed those who are best qualified for the places available on their chosen courses will be allocated the available places. Grade 7 will be required in the subjects the student wishes to study, and priority for places in particular subjects will be given to those students best qualified for the subjects for which they are applying.

Students who meet the entry requirement but are not amongst the best qualified for their chosen subject(s) will be offered an alternative course.

An applicant will be made a conditional offer. This means they will be offered a place in the Sixth Form on the basis that they meet the entry requirements as described above and that they are the best qualified for the places available on their chosen courses at their enrolment meeting. Additionally, all courses are subject to timetabling constraints.

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.