

Whitelands Academy (Secondary School), Bicester admission arrangements for 2021-22

Introductory statement

Whitelands Academy is a new school for secondary pupils from age 11-16 to meet the demand for places being created by the new housing developments in Bicester.

Admission number(s)

The school has an admission number of 120 for entry in year 7.

The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Application process

Applications for places at the Academy will be made in accordance with Oxfordshire LA's coordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form (CAF) provided and administered by Oxfordshire LA. Alternatively applications can be sent to Mrs Lucy Sullivan at the following address Whitelands School, Hexham Road, Bicester, OX26 1AY

The closing date for applications is 31/10/2020

Offers will be made on 31/03/2021. If we have not entered into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State opening the school by that date, they will be conditional offers and will be confirmed once we have a signed funding agreement.

The application form can be obtained from Mrs Lucy Sullivan, Whitelands School, Hexham Road, Bicester, OX26 1AY or complete online
<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/secondary-school>

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan or a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Looked after children and children who were previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to adoption, a child arrangements order, or special guardianship order.¹
2. Priority will next be given to the siblings of pupils attending the school at the time the application is received .
3. Priority will next be given to the children of staff of the school who have been recruited to fill a skill-shortage area.
4. Priority will next be given to children living within the catchment area set out in the map at the end of this policy. Children living on the boundary line will be considered to be living within the catchment area.
5. Priority will next be given to children attending the following TWHF schools:
Gagle Brook Primary School, Cranberry Avenue, Bicester
Southwold Primary and Nursery School, Holm Way, Bicester
6. Other children

Tie-break

If in categories 2-5 above a tie-break is necessary to determine which child is admitted, the child living closest to the school will be given priority for admission. Distance is measured using Oxfordshire system. In Oxfordshire the LA uses a measuring system using the shortest designated route as defined by the Directorate for Children Education and Families Geographic Information System.

Random allocation undertaken by the local authority will be used as a tie-break in categories 2-5 above to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between a child's home and the academy/free school is equidistant in any two or more cases.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins and triplets etc.) from the same family tied for the final place. We will admit them all and exceed our PAN.

Late applications

All applications received by the LA after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list.

¹ A looked after child is a child who is (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 (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested and the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place.

When such a request is made, the academy trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the headteacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

Waiting lists

The school will operate a waiting list. Where the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the academic year. This will be maintained by the Academy Trust 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. 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 to or leaves the waiting list.

Appeals

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

Appellants should contact Oxfordshire County Council for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable of the appeals process is on their website, www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/apply-school-place/school- or email: schoolappeals@oxfordshire.gov.uk for information on how to appeal.

Notes:

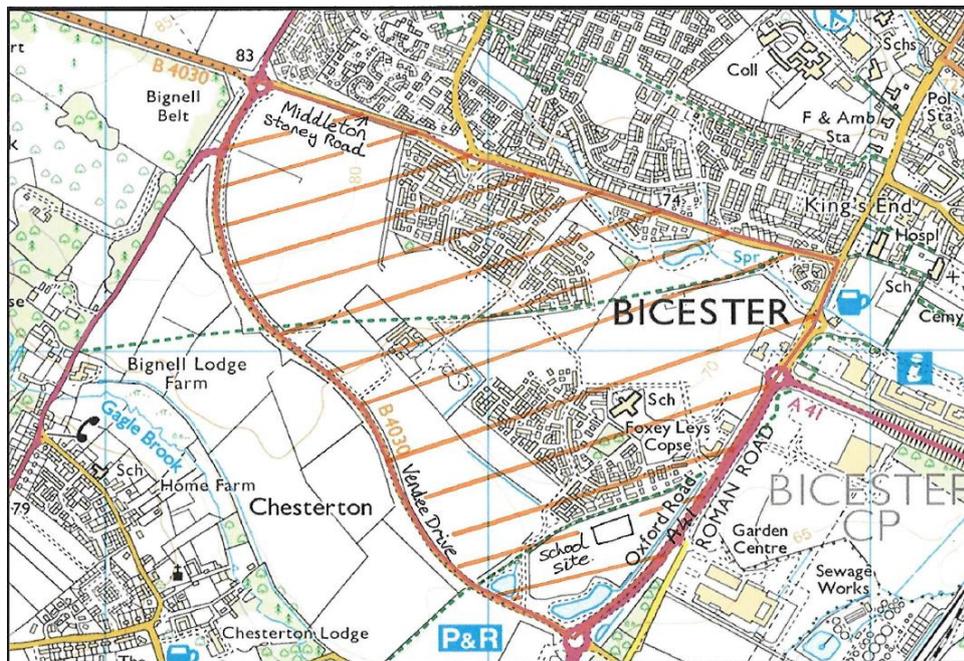
Home address:

The home address is where a child normally lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared parental responsibility, each for part of a week, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. If a child's residence is split equally between both parents, then parents will be asked to determine which residential address should be used for the purpose of admission to school. If no joint declaration is received where the residence is split equally by the closing date for applications, the home address will be taken as the address where the child is registered with the doctor. If the residence is not split equally between both parents then the address used will be the address where the child spends the majority of the school week.

Sibling:

'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, a step brother or sister or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place.

Catchment Area



Street names within the catchment area are, but not limited to:

Aintree Way	Hereford Close	Oxford Road	Sandown Road
Ascot Way	Hexham Road	Perth Road	Sedgefield
Catterick Road	Huntingdon Road	Pioneer Way	Stratford Way
Chepstow Drive	Kempton Close	Plumpton Road	Thirsk Way
Epsom Way	Lingfield Road	Pontefract Road	Vendee Drive
Fontwell Road	Ludlow Road	Redcar Road	Wetherby Road
Goodwood Close	Middleton Stoney Road	Ripon Close	Whitelands Way
Haydock Road	Newton Close	Salisbury Walk	