



Windsor Olympus Academy admission arrangements for 2024/2025

Introductory statement

Windsor Olympus Academy is a free school which opened in Sandwell in September 2023. The secondary school will be non-selective (10% for sport) and cater for students aged 11 to 16. It opened with Year 7 pupils only and will grow year on year to provide education for 900 students after five years. Windsor Olympus Academy will embody the Windsor Academy Trust values. It will be an innovation for learning, raise aspirations, and unlock students' academic and personal potential.

Admission number(s)

The school has an admission number of 180 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

Year 7 admissions for September entry will be administered on behalf of Windsor Olympus Academy by Sandwell Local Authority (Admissions Service) using the criteria outlined below.

The timetable for the process of admissions will follow the same timetable as the Local Authority (Admissions Service) who will apply the criteria of this policy on behalf of the Local Advisory Board of Windsor Olympus Academy

The closing date for applications is 31/10/2023.

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan 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 order¹ as well as children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted².

2. Next, 10% of the PAN will be allocated to children who have demonstrated an aptitude in our specialist subject area -Sport.

Parents will need to complete an additional application form if they wish their children to be considered for one of these places. This can be found at <https://www.olympusacademy.org.uk>

Tests will be held on 29/09/2023 and 30/09/2023 and parents will be informed of the result of the test before the closing date for applications which is 31/10/2023. Details of the test are set out at the end of this policy.

Children not demonstrating aptitude will be considered under our other oversubscription criteria, applied in order, for a place if their parents apply for a place.

3. Priority will next be given to the siblings of pupils attending the school at the time the application is received . Where an older sibling is in year 11 siblings will not be prioritised under this criterion.
4. Other children – prioritised by distance measured in a straight line from a child's home address to the centre point of the school site.

Tie-break

If in categories 2-4 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 from the child's home to the centre point of the school in a straight line

Random allocation undertaken by the local authority will be used as a tie-break in categories 2-4 above to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between a child's home and the 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 Olympus Academy after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If,

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).

² A child is regarded as having 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.

following consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list.

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 for each year group. Where the school receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of 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.

The Local Authority will administer this process on behalf of Windsor Olympus Academy, the relevant form and guidance notes can be obtained from Local Authority.

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.

Sports Aptitude Test:

Assessment is through a variety of health-related and skills-based fitness tests. Standardised scores are awarded for performance in each of the tests and the scores are tallied. Where appropriate, age and/or gender adjustments are applied. When all of the tests have been completed, a rank order of students is produced, with the highest scoring student ranking first.

Sports Aptitude places will be allocated to either;

1. The top scoring 10% of students based on a series of internationally recognised and standardised physical tests, to determine potential to succeed at a high level in Sport. The physical tests will measure aerobic endurance, speed, power, agility, coordination and flexibility. The physical tests are generic and measure aptitude across a range of sports for which the Academy has expertise and facilities. Each applicant will be awarded a standardised score with the applicants with the highest scores being allocated places based on sporting aptitude.
2. Should fewer than 10% of applications based on sporting aptitude either be received or not be deemed suitable for admittance on sporting aptitude, then places will continue to be allocated using the remaining criteria.