



STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 INTAKE

NO CHANGES TO CURRENT ARRANGEMENTS

Walton Multi Academy Trust have a statutory requirement to consult with our wider school community every seven years and wishes to seek your views on proposed admission arrangements of the Academy for 2026/27.

In the event that the total number of preferences for admission to school exceeds the Academy's Published Admission Number (PAN) that is currently 210, the following order of priority will be used to allocate the available places.

1) Children in care and children who ceased to be in care because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangement order or special guardianship order), including those 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 adopted.

2) Children who satisfy both of the following tests:

Test 1: the child is distinguished from the great majority of applicants either on their own medical grounds or by other exceptional circumstances.

Medical grounds must be supported by a medical report (obtained by the applicant and provided at the point of application). This report must clearly justify, for health reasons only, why it is better for the child's health to attend the preferred school rather than any other school.

Exceptional circumstances must relate to the choice of school and the individual child, i.e. the circumstances of the child, not the economic or social circumstances of the parent/carer. It should be supported by a professional report (obtained by the applicant and provided at the point of application), e.g. social worker. This report must clearly justify why it is better for the child to attend the preferred school rather than any other school.

Test 2: the child would suffer hardship if they were unable to attend the preferred school.

Hardship means severe suffering of any kind, not merely difficulty or inconvenience, which is likely to be experienced as a result of the child attending a different school. Applicants must provide detailed information about both the type and severity of any likely hardship at the time of application.

3) Children who have an elder sibling in attendance at the preferred school and who will still be attending the school at the proposed admission date; (For admission purposes, a brother or sister is a child who lives at the same address and either: have one or both natural parents in common; are related by a parents marriage; are adopted or fostered by a common parent or are unrelated children who live at the same address, whose parents live as partners.)

- 4) Children living within the catchment area of the preferred school
- 5) Children who attend certain primary schools defined as major contributory primary schools. (See Additional Notes below.)
- 6) Children of staff who are employed at the school

Definition of Terms - "Staff will include all those who are permanently employed directly by the school. Staff will need to be employed for 2 years or more at the time when the application for admission to the school is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is demonstrable skill shortage. This is set out in paragraph 1.39 of the School Admissions Code (Dec 2014). Staff does not include contractors or peripatetic teachers".

7) Other children arranged in order of priority according to how near their home addresses are to the main gate of the school, determined by a straight-line measurement as calculated by the Local Authority's Geographical Information System.

Where it is not possible to accommodate all children applying for places within a particular category then the Local Authority will allocate the available places in accordance with the remaining criteria. If for instance, all the catchment area children cannot be accommodated at a school, children who are resident within the catchment area will be arranged in order of priority according to distance i.e. category (6).

Walton Multi Academy Trust aims to ensure that the arrangements continue to uphold the vision and ethos of the Academy and comply with all relevant admissions law.

A full copy of the proposed admission arrangements is attached and available on our website: [Walton High School - Stafford \(waltonstaffs.com\)](http://waltonstaffs.com)

Timeframe for Consultation

Monday 7 th October 2024	Opening date of the consultation period
Sunday 17 th November 2024	Closing date of the consultation period
Wednesday, 20 th November 2024	Formal determination of admission arrangements by the Governing Body at Full Governing Board Meeting.
1 st September 2026:	Effective date of admission arrangements

What Happens Next - How to Respond

Please send any comments you have (preferably by email) to: The Headteacher, Walton Multi Academy Trust, The Rise, Walton on the Hill, Stafford ST17 0JL

Email: headteacher@walton.staffs.sch.uk

Please note that the deadline for comments to be submitted is Sunday, 17th November 2024.