



Holyhead

Teach What Matters

HOLYHEAD SCHOOL

Milestone Lane, Holyhead Road, Birmingham B21 0HN Tel: 0121 523 1960

www.holyheadschoo.org.uk

Type:	Academy
Age range:	11–18
Published Admission Number:	210
DFE No:	330 4241

How to make an In-Year application

[In-Year Admissions](#)

How to apply for Year 7 in September 2026

An application must be made online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions.

Previous admission pattern at the time of offer of places for Year 7

In 2023, 2024 and 2025 this school received more applications than there were places available.

- 2023 –794 preferences received ranking the school 1 – 6. Last child admitted lived 1103 metres from the school
- 2024 –735 preferences received ranking the school 1 – 6. Last child admitted lived 2113 metres from the school
- 2025 –741 preferences received ranking the school 1 – 6. Last child admitted lived 2450 metres from the school

Historic admissions offer information

[Secondary school \(year 7\) historic offer information](#)

Statement

Holyhead is an Academy, co-educational, admitting students in Year 7 (roll 1300) and Sixth Form (roll depending on applications).

Children with an Education Health and Care Plan

Any child with an Education, Health and Care Plan is required to be admitted to the school that is named in their plan. This gives such children overall priority for admission to the named school. This is not an oversubscription criterion.

Oversubscription Criteria

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to decide which children to admit:

1. Looked after and previously looked after children (in public care).
2. Siblings, Children with an older brother or sister already at the school who will still be in attendance at the time the sibling enters the school.
3. Children of Staff at the School.
 - a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made or
 - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable shortage
4. Children who live nearest the school.

Holyhead have adopted the Local Authority's definitions for 'Looked after or previously looked after children', 'Distance', 'Sibling', 'Shared Responsibility' and 'Separating "Final Qualifier" applications (blocks of flats etc)'.

To view the Local Authority's definitions, click on the below link;

[DEFINITIONS FOR COMMUNITY SCHOOLS AND THOSE SCHOOLS THAT HAVE ADOPTED LOCAL AUTHORITY DEFINITIONS](#)

Late applications

Late applications will be dealt with in accordance with the Local Authority's co-ordinated admissions scheme. Consult www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions for further details. You are encouraged to ensure that your application is received on time.

UK Service & Crown Service Personnel

For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting, or crown servants returning from overseas, the school will:

- allocate a place in advance of the family arriving in the area (as long as one is available), provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date.

Admission authorities must not refuse to process an application and must not refuse a place solely because the family do not yet have an intended address, or do not yet live in the area.

- use the address at which the child will live when applying their oversubscription criteria, as long as the parents provide some evidence of their intended address.

Admission authorities must use a Unit or quartering address as the child's home address when considering the application against their oversubscription criteria, where a parent requests this.

Appeals

Where parents are not satisfied with the school allocated by the Local Authority for Year 7 entry, or refused admission 'In-Year', arrangements exist for appeals to be heard by an Appeals Panel, which is independent of Holyhead School.

Appeals in respect of Admission to Holyhead School should be sent to the Clerk to the Governing Body at the school's address, in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Waiting Lists

If Holyhead was a parent's preferred choice of school and they have not been allocated a place, they will be informed of their right to appeal and asked if they wish to go on to Holyhead's waiting list, which will be held for at least one term in the academic year of admission.

Children named on the waiting list will be ranked in the same order as Holyhead's published oversubscription criteria.

Should places become available at Holyhead, an offer to students from the waiting list will be made.

Inclusion on Holyhead's waiting list does not mean that a place will eventually become available. It may be that those already allocated places do not give them up and that Holyhead is unable to make further offers in the future.

Admissions Criteria for Holyhead Sixth Form

Every year a proportion of students from Year 11 enter the Sixth Form to continue their studies and students from other schools and colleges may be eligible to join them.

Sixth Form Capacity: September 2026

Year 12 125

Year 13 125

Internal applicants

Priority for places is given to students in Year 11 currently on roll who meet the entry requirements for Sixth Form courses.

If the number of applications exceeds the admission number, the Governors will give priority to applications in accordance with the criteria in the order listed, depending upon applicants achieving the relevant entry requirements for individual subjects.

External applicants

Applications from internal candidates who meet the academic requirements will be considered first.

For external applications the remaining places available on a particular course will be offered to those who have the better grades at GCSE or subject specific requirements.

Advice and guidance

All students will receive advice and guidance to support them in making the correct post-16 choices.

Academic entry requirements

All students are required to meet the following academic entry requirements to be considered for a place at Holyhead Sixth Form:

Year 1 of A Level/Level 3 BTEC courses (including Applied 'A' levels):

- A minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4/C and above (to include Maths and English at Grade 4 or above)
- A Grade 6 (or Grade 6 in Maths and English) in a subject studied at GCSE for which they intend to study at A Level, e.g. History A Level requires a Grade 6 in History at GCSE, Maths and Science A levels require a Grade 7.

With the school no longer entering students for external AS Level exams there is an additional entry requirement for students to continue into the Year 13 part of a course in

individual subjects, based on their performance through Year 12 culminating in their end of year exams:

- A minimum of Grade D and above from their end of Year 12 exams in the subject if studied at A Level
- A minimum of a Merit in BTEC/Level 3 Applied General/Technical subject

(Students not meeting these requirements for a subject will be provided with an alternative subject option).

Year 12 – Initial Application Meeting

Each student who applies to the Sixth Form will have a meeting with the Director of Post 16 or a member of the School Leadership Team to discuss course options, academic and other requirements pertinent to joining Post 16 education. The academic requirements to enter Sixth Form will be the same for internal and external applicants.

The process

For all candidates, final and firm offers can only be made upon receipt of examination results in August. There is no guarantee that a subject that has been advertised will run. Applicants should note therefore that admission is to the Sixth Form and not to study a particular course of study.

The Sixth Form will admit up to 10 external students into Year 12. The school reserves the option to allocate up to 5 additional places or to reduce by 5 places in order to balance overall numbers in the 2 years in the Sixth Form, taking into consideration health & safety requirements with regards to building capacity and staff/student ratio.

The school will keep a waiting list for students who still wish to attend Holyhead Academy Sixth Form, have met the entry requirements, but for whom there is no place due to oversubscription. The waiting list will be operated up to 31 December in the year of offer year or throughout the whole of Year 12 [and Year 13].

Confirmation of a Place in the Sixth Form

A place will only be confirmed on GCSE results day when a student is in receipt of their grades and enrolls into the Sixth Form.

Over subscription criteria

The over-subscription criteria of looked after children, siblings and distance will only be used if the number of external candidates exceeds the amount of places the school is able to admit.

Appeals

Where applicants are not satisfied with the school's decision, arrangements exist for appeals to be heard by an Appeals Panel, which is independent of Holyhead School.

Appeals in respect of Admission to Holyhead Sixth Form should be sent to the Consultant Clerk to the Governing Body at the school's address, in accordance with prescribed procedures.

Unsuccessful applicants will be informed of their right to appeal and asked if they wish to go on to Holyhead's waiting list, which will be held for at least one term in the academic year of admission.

Fair Access Protocol

The Local Governing Board have adopted the LA policy for admission of previously excluded or hard-to-place children.

Fair Access Protocols may only be used to place specific groups of vulnerable and/or hard-to-place children, where they are having difficulty in securing a school place in-year, and it can be demonstrated that reasonable measures have been taken to secure a place through the usual in-year admission procedures. For more information, please see the following weblink: [Fair Access Protocol](#)

Note: Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight line measurement between the applicant's home address and the School gate on Milestone Lane (as the crow flies).

Important

School Admissions and Fair Access Service make every effort to ensure that the information contained in the 'Secondary Admissions Arrangements 2026' for each school is up to date and correct. However, for a copy of the school's full and most recent admissions policy and oversubscription criteria, please feel free to visit the [School's website](#)