

Beaumont School

Admissions Criteria for the academic year commencing September 2015

Section 1 – General Principles

Beaumont School is a mixed secondary school in St Albans, Hertfordshire. The school caters for approximately 1200 including a large Sixth Form of 300 students and became an academy on 1st July 2012. We hold specialisms in Languages, Maths and Computing but provide a broad and balanced curriculum for all. Students will be admitted at the age of 11+ **without** reference to ability or aptitude using the criteria below. The school will endeavour to allocate places to students whose parents wish them to attend Beaumont School, provided they can be accommodated within the school's admission limits on student numbers. There can be no guarantee that such a place will be available.

The published admission number (PAN) for Year 7 for September 2015 will be **180**.

If the school receives more applications than it has places available, places will be allocated under the oversubscription criteria rules. These will be applied in the order in which they are printed below.

Children with a statement of special educational needs that names the school, or children with an EHC (Education, Health and Care) Plan that names the school will be admitted and will count towards the school's published admission number.

Section 2 – Oversubscription Criteria

Rule 1 Children in Public Care and children previously looked after but who ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or a special guardianship order.

Rule 2 Exceptional medical or social need. Children for whom it can be demonstrated that they have a compelling medical or social reason for attending the school.

Rule 3 Sibling. Children with a sibling already at the school at the time of application unless the sibling is in Year 13.

Rule 4 Children of staff.

Rule 5 Children who live in the priority admission area for whom it is their nearest Hertfordshire maintained school or academy that is non-faith, co-educational and non-partially selective.

Rule 6 Children who live in the priority admission area who live nearest to the school.

Rule 7 Children living outside the priority admission area on the basis of distance, with those living nearest to the school given priority.

If more children qualify under a particular rule than there are places available, a tie-break will be used by applying the next rule to those children.

Section 3 – Definitions and Details

Adopted: means under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 - Section 46 (adoption orders).

Children in public care/looked-after children: 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) at the time of making an application to a school.

Medical/Social: applications must be supported by recent evidence from at least one relevant medical professional, social worker or other professional. HCC officers will determine whether the evidence provided is sufficiently compelling to meet the requirements for this rule. The evidence must relate specially to Beaumont School and must clearly demonstrate why Beaumont is the only school that can meet your child's exceptional needs and why your nearest school cannot.

Residence Order: means under the terms of the Children Act 1989 - Section 8 which defines a 'residence order' as an order settling the arrangements to be made as to the person with whom the child is to live.

Sibling: a sibling means the sister, brother, half-brother or sister, (as defined above) brother or sister, or child of the parent or partner, living in the same *home* for at least three nights of the school week (Monday – Thursday). This definition of sibling does not include cousins. The rule will not apply where a sibling is in the final year of the normal age range of the school (i.e. Year 13).

Special guardianship order: means under Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 which defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

Children of staff: the school will admit a child of a member of staff provided that:

- a. The member of staff (defined below) 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, and/or
- b. The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

For the purposes of satisfying these criteria:

i) a member of staff is defined as a member of the full-time teaching staff, or of the part-time teaching staff with a 40% contract, or a member of the full-time support staff (on a 38 week and above contract), or of the part-time support staff who works 40% and above as determined by their role (on a 38 week and above contract). A panel from the Governors' Admission Committee will determine whether the member of staff meets the requirements for this rule.

This definition does not include contract staff. Where a service such as catering has been 'in house' and is subsequently 'contracted out', children of staff will not be eligible for admission under this criterion.

This definition does not include peripatetic staff employed by HCC.

ii) a child of a member of staff is defined as any child whom a qualifying member of staff:

- has parental responsibility for*, **or**
- looks after on a permanent day-to-day basis (but does not have parental responsibility).

*A qualifying member of staff has parental responsibility if:

- a. They are the child's natural mother; **or**,
- b. They are the child's natural father and **either** were married to the mother on the day of the child's birth or subsequently, **or** have entered into a legal parental responsibility agreement with the mother, **or** have been granted a residence order from the court directing the child will live with them, **or** registered or re-registered the child's birth after 1 December 2003, **or**,
- c. The child lives with them as the result of a court order.

Type of school: non-partially selective means that the school or academy does not offer any places based on academic ability.

Priority Admission Area: the school's priority admission area includes the following administrative parishes: **Ayot St Lawrence, Colney Heath, Flamstead, Harpenden, Harpenden Rural, Kimpton, King's Walden, London Colney, Markyate, Redbourn, Ridge, Sandridge, St Michael, St Pauls Walden, St Stephens, St Albans, Shenley, Wheathampstead.**

Distance measuring and home addresses: applications must be made from the child's permanent home address at the time of application. Measurements are made by Hertfordshire County Council who use a specialist software package to calculate them. The definition of home-school measurement corresponds to the one used by Hertfordshire County Council in the County's admission arrangements and application literature. It is a straight line distance measurement between a child's home address point and the school's address point.

If there are two identical distance measurements of separate applicants, the tie-break will be random.

In cases where the application of the admissions criteria would result in twins or siblings of a multiple birth being allocated to different schools, one of which is Beaumont School, the Governors will admit over the published admission number to avoid this occurrence.

Please note that address checking is undertaken as part of the application and allocation process and the offer of a school place will be withdrawn if fraudulent or misleading information has been provided in the application.

Section 4 – How to apply

All applicants must complete the Hertfordshire county Council's **COMMON APPLICATION FORM (CAF)** indicating your preferred schools, including Beaumont, in rank order of preference. The CAF should be completed online at www.hertsdirect.org/admissions or paper copies, from the "Moving On" booklet should be returned by post to Hertfordshire County Council, CHR 102, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertfordshire SG13 8DQ by 31 October 2014.

Parents applying under the "Children of Staff" rule must ensure they tick the relevant box on the Common Application Form (HCC's online or paper form). Evidence to substantiate the claim should be sent direct to the school.

Section 5 – Continued interest lists, in-year admissions and appeals

Continued interest lists: all unsuccessful applicants (who do not gain a place at a higher ranked school) will automatically be added to the school's continued interest list. Any places which become available will be allocated in accordance with the admission rules set out in this document.

Beaumont must admit any student who is admitted through the appeal process, or who is the subject of a 'direction' by the local authority, or allocated to us according to the local Fair Access Protocol. Any such students take precedence over the continued interest list.

In Year Admissions: the school will remain part of Hertfordshire County Council's coordinated In Year admissions scheme for 2015. Application forms can be accessed via www.hertsdirect.org/admissions or from the Customer Service Centre, 0300 123 4043. Parents should return the application form direct to the County Council (address on the form).

Appeals: Hertfordshire parents wishing to appeal who applied on line should log on to their online application and click on the link "register an appeal ". If you did not apply using Hertfordshire's on line application system please contact the Customer Service centre on 0300 123 4043 to request an appeal pack.

For In Year applications - parents wishing to appeal should contact the school directly in the first instance.

Section 6 – Sixth form admissions

Admission to the sixth form will be for any student who meets the minimum academic standards expected as set out in the sixth form prospectus. The PAN for external students is 30.

In the event of oversubscription, the following tie-break will be used:

Minimum entry requirements: minimum standards as set out in the prospectus

Tie break in the event of over subscription:

Children looked after or previously looked after

Highest average points score.

Students whose choices have least effect on the preferences of others.

Year 12 PAN (Pupil Admission Number): 30 (i.e. up to a total of 210 in Year 12)