





### Waycroft Multi Academy Trust Admissions Policy 2024/25

Signed (Chair):  	Name:  Andrew Bowden	Date:  25/05/2023
Signed (Head):  	Name:  Tracy French	Date:  25/05/2023
Ratified by: Governing Body on 25/05/2023		Next Review: May 2024

#### Waycroft Multi Academy Trust

**Executive Headteacher:** Tracy French

Early in 2014 Waycroft Academy became Waycroft Multi Academy Trust and now includes Wicklea Academy in St. Anne's, Bristol and Woodlands Academy in Stockwood, Bristol. Woodlands, Wicklea and Waycroft Academies use the same approach to curriculum planning, use a 'Building Learning Power' methodology to learning and advocate a shared professional expertise across the academies. There are opportunities for pupils from all three schools to work together on different projects.

Waycroft MAT provides a broad and exciting curriculum which encourages all talents to be nurtured and which results in high standards being achieved year on year. All adults and children understand the importance of valuing and inspiring each other within a stimulating, caring and friendly environment.

**Waycroft Academy Headteacher:** Adam Smith

**Address:** Waycroft Academy, Selden Road, Stockwood, Bristol BS14 8PS

**Tel:** 0117 377 2198

**Fax:** 0117 377 2285

**e-mail:** [info@waycroftacademy.com](mailto:info@waycroftacademy.com)

**PAN:** 60

**NOR:** 438 including Nursery

Waycroft Academy is a vibrant two form entry school for 2-11 year olds with spacious grounds. It is a large school with a small school ethos where children love to learn. Waycroft provides a broad and exciting curriculum which encourages all talents to be nurtured and which results in high standards being achieved year on year.

**Wicklea Academy Headteacher:** Heather Morris

**Address:** Wicklea Academy, Wick Road, Brislington, Bristol BS4 4HR

**Tel:** 0117 9030480

**e-mail:** [info@wickleaacademy.com](mailto:info@wickleaacademy.com)

**PAN:** 90

**NOR:** 241

Wicklea Academy is a new purpose-built Junior Academy with outstanding facilities and wonderful grounds. It offers an education that supports and challenges each child to fulfil their true potential. Pupils leave Wicklea confident, motivated and fully prepared for the next stage of their education and look back on their time here with affection and pride.

It is a school with high expectations of staff and pupils. 'Leaders, including Governors, are ambitious for pupils in terms of what they want them to achieve. They act with integrity and make decisions that will inspire children.' Ofsted 2021

Wicklea Academy is paired with St Anne's Infant School. If a child attends St Anne's Infant School they will end Year 2 and transfer automatically to Wicklea Academy. Bristol City Council publish a Coordinated Scheme for Infant to Junior Transfers.

### **Woodlands Academy**

**Headteacher:** Lisa Craig

**Address:** Woodlands Academy, Whittock Rd, Stockwood, Bristol.

**Tel:** 01173 533506

**e-mail:** [info@woodlandsacademybristol.com](mailto:info@woodlandsacademybristol.com)

**PAN:** 30

**NOR:** 141 including Nursery

Woodlands Academy is a vibrant single form entry school for 3-11 year olds with a well maintained and attractive learning environment. It is a small school set in spacious grounds backing onto fields and trees. Pupils are encouraged to become independent and lifelong learners where all adults and children understand the importance of valuing and inspiring each other within a stimulating, caring and friendly environment.

'Pupils are proud and happy to attend Woodlands Primary School. They are positive about their learning, especially reading, which they really enjoy. Leaders have high expectations of pupils. They want the very best for them which means that pupils' best interests are at the heart of leaders' decision making.' Ofsted 2022

**Waycroft Multi-Academy Trust**  
**WAYCROFT ACADEMY**  
**Policy for Admissions**  
**2024 - 2025**

**RATIONALE:**

Applications to attend any of the academies in Waycroft MAT are welcomed from all families.

The Trustees of the MAT are responsible for their own Admission Policy and arrangements are in line with the Admissions Code of Practice and the Bristol City Council Coordinated Admissions Schemes.

**TIMING OF ADMISSION**

Pupils will normally be admitted at age 4 in Waycroft and Woodlands and 7 in Wicklea in the September of the school year during which they reach their fifth or seventh birthday. Parents have the right to defer their child's admission to the start of any subsequent term up to and including the term after their child reaches the age of 5, providing the offer of a place has been made and accepted during the normal admissions round.

**TIMING OF APPLICATIONS**

All parents and carers must complete the common application form for the Local Authority in which the child is resident, known as the "home" Local Authority.

Applications for Reception places for children resident in Bristol must be made on the Bristol common application form. The Local Authority will take all reasonable steps to ensure that every parent and carer of a child of Reception year age and a resident of Bristol will receive information about the coordinated admissions scheme. The application form may be used to express a preference for any school in Bristol or another Local Authority. The common application form cannot be used to express a preference for an independent school.

Applications for places at schools in Bristol made by parents and carers of children residing outside the Bristol Local Authority area will be made on a common application form issued to them by the Local Authority in which they are resident, known as the "home" Local Authority. The home Local Authority will notify Bristol Local Authority of applications received for schools in Bristol. Bristol will inform the relevant Local Authority of any applications received for Bristol resident children for schools outside Bristol.

Bristol uses a standard Common Application Form for all schools **including academies** for children resident in Bristol. This is available from **early September**.

The closing date for applications (which must be submitted to the Local Authority on the Common Application Form) will be **15<sup>th</sup> January 2024**. Applications submitted after the closing date will be considered as "late" applications and will be dealt with at a later stage when all "on-time" applications have been processed. In very exceptional circumstances e.g. illness of a lone parent, a "late" application may be considered as "on-time" if the application is made before 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024, the date the authority exchanges application details with other admission authorities.

Bristol will not accept more than one address as the child's home address. Where a child regularly lives at more than one address the Local Authority will have to reach a conclusion about which should be counted as the main address when allocating places. This will normally be the address where the child is registered with a medical GP. Where parents are living separately and do not agree on the child's home address, they are urged to reach agreement. If this does not happen Bristol will determine the address used for allocating a school place.

Parents and carers must inform Bristol of any change of address as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in any offer of a place being withdrawn. Documentary evidence will be required before any change is accepted. Examples of independent confirmation of a change of address are a solicitor's letter confirming the exchange of contracts with a completion date, or a tenancy agreement signed by both parties.

The final date for changes of address to be accepted, for the initial round of allocations, will be 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Changes received after this date will be taken into account of any subsequent allocations.

## **THE PROCESS OF ALLOCATION**

The Local Authority will send details of applications for schools outside Bristol to the relevant Local Authorities by 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Details of applications for own admission authority schools in Bristol will be sent to the relevant schools by 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024.

The LA will draw up a list of children who will be admitted to one of the MAT academies checking that parents are given their highest possible preference. If the Academy is oversubscribed Bristol will use the oversubscription criteria as specified later in this policy.

The LA will send offer letters to parents on the National Offer Day 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024 on behalf of the Academy.

By 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024 Bristol Local Authority will inform other Local Authorities of the initial outcome of applications by their residents for schools in Bristol. Other Local Authorities will inform Bristol of the initial outcome of applications for schools in their area by Bristol residents by the same date.

Where the child is not eligible for a place at any of the nominated schools, Bristol Local Authority will consider how to place them in a school within its area giving regard to any reasons expressed by the parent or carer for their (unsuccessful) preferences. This may include approaching other admission authorities in Bristol with vacancies should this be appropriate.

By 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Bristol Local Authority will send electronically to its neighbouring Local Authorities the final list of pupils to be allocated places.

## **OFFERS OF A SCHOOL PLACE**

On 16 April 2024, the Local Authority will make the offer of one place at a primary or infant school to the parents and carers of children due to start school in September 2024. Parents and carers will be notified of the outcome of their application by 1st class post or e-mail.

Parents and carers not offered a place for their child at their preferred school(s) will be offered a place at a school with a place available.

All parents and carers refused a place for their child at any preferred school will be informed of their other options at that stage, including their right of appeal.

Parents and carers will be requested to respond to the offer of a place direct to the Local Authority by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

**On time appeals need to be submitted by 3 June 2024.**

Any change in preference received before the closing time and date will override all previous applications which will be withdrawn.

**LATE APPLICATIONS**

Applications received after the closing date given above will not be considered until all on-time applications have been assessed according to the priority criteria below.

For undersubscribed schools, late applicants will be offered a school place on 16 April 2024, or as soon as possible after that date. Applications received after the submission date will be dealt with in order of date of receipt in School Admissions.

If any undersubscribed school becomes full, any places which subsequently become available will be offered to any late applicants by applying the published admissions criteria.

On-time appeals where Bristol City Council presents appeals for schools or academies need to be submitted by 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024.

**Admission of children outside their normal age group**

All parents and carers may seek a place for their child outside of their normal age group.

In addition, the parents and carers of a summer born child (children born between 1 April and 31 August) may choose not to send their child to school until the September following their fifth birthday and may request that they are admitted to reception rather than year 1.

Where Parents and carers wish to make an application for a place outside of their normal age group an application must be made by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, together with written reasons for wishing to delay admission. Parents and carers will receive the response to their request before primary national offer day of 16 April 2024.

Decisions are made on an individual basis, in the best interests of the child. When making the decision the Multi Academy Trust will take account the views of; parents, professionals (E.g. medical) together with information concerning academic, social and emotional development.

If the request is refused, the parents or carers must decide whether to accept the offer of a place for the normal age group, or to refuse it and make an in-year application for admission to Year 1 for the September following the child's fifth birthday.

The statutory right of appeal does not apply if a place is offered at the preferred school but not in the preferred age group.

## **OVER-SUBSCRIPTIONS CRITERIA FOR WAYCROFT MAT**

The oversubscription criteria are as follows:

- Children in public care, or those previously looked after or who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or an Education, Health and Care Plan that names the school.

### **Special Educational Needs**

Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan follow the transfer arrangements set out in the SEN Code of Practice and associated regulations and are not subject to the general admission arrangements.

Other children without a Statement of SEN/Education, Health and Care Plan will be subject to the general admission arrangement.

1. Any Children who have a brother or sister already at the school who will still be on roll in the September of the year of entry.
2. Children living closest to the school as measured in a direct line from a point on the home address, as held by the Local Authority, to a central point within the main school building using local authority computerised mapping system.

### **SIBLING**

Sibling refers to brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling.

## **APPLICATIONS AT OTHER TIMES OF THE YEAR (IN-YEAR APPLICATIONS)**

Each individual Academy is responsible for co-ordinating all in-year admissions. An application form will need to be completed for children wishing to apply after the normal admissions round, or for years other than Reception. This form must be completed online on the academy website of the Academy applied for. The Academy will then inform the parent/guardian of the decision. Parents/carers applying for places in an oversubscribed school will be informed of their right of appeal.

### **WAITING LISTS**

Where a place at the Academy of choice cannot be offered, parents/carers will be able to request that their child's name is placed on a waiting list.

Where an application is received the child's name will be retained on the Academy waiting list until the end of the academic year. If a place becomes available at the school, the place will be offered in accordance with the published oversubscription criteria and not the length of time a child's name has been on a waiting list. Names will be removed from the lists if requested or if the offer

of a place that becomes available is not accepted. Positions on waiting lists may change due to new applications received.

Placing a child's name on a waiting list does not affect the parents' right of appeal against an unsuccessful application.

### **APPEALS PROCEDURE**

Parents have a right of appeal to an independent panel against any decision made by the Trustees regarding the admission of their child.

Information about the appeal procedure will be provided where a place at Waycroft MAT has been refused. Please read this in conjunction with Bristol City Council Admissions Policies which give further information including When the academy has the right to withdraw an offered place.

Contacts:

[info@waycroftacademy.com](mailto:info@waycroftacademy.com)

[info@woodlandsacademybristol.com](mailto:info@woodlandsacademybristol.com)

[info@wickleaacademy.com](mailto:info@wickleaacademy.com)

[school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk).