



The Brunts Academy

A Specialist Performing Arts College

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Feeder Primary Schools

High Oakham Primary School

King Edward Primary School

Mansfield Primary Academy

St. Peter's CE Primary School

Sutton Road Primary School

2016/2017 admissions

Planned admission number 260

Expected number on roll 1500

The Brunts Academy will consider all applications for places. Where fewer than 260 applications are received, The Brunts Academy will offer places to all those who have applied.



Brunts Performs

Admission Criteria 2016-17

Students who have a statement of special educational needs or education health and care plan which names the school will be admitted.

Over-Subscription

Where the number of applications for admission exceeds 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** Children and previously Looked After Children.
2. Children who live in the catchment area and who, at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the school.
3. Other children who live in the catchment area.
4. Children who live outside the catchment area but who are attending a linked Primary phase school on 31 October preceding admission to secondary school and who will have a brother or sister at the the Brunts Academy at the time of admission.
5. Children who live outside the catchment area and who, at the time of admission, will have a brother or sister attending the Brunts Academy.
6. Children who live outside the catchment area but who are attending a linked Primary phase school on 31 October preceding admission to secondary school.
7. Children of staff in either or both of the following circumstances:
 - 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, and/or
 - b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post where there is a demonstrable skill shortage
8. Children who attend another school within the Evolve Trust, ie Beech Academy or Bramble Academy.
9. Other children who live outside the catchment area.

If applications exceed the number of places available the school will operate a waiting list in which priority for places will be given on the basis of the above criteria.

Measuring distance ‘as the crow flies’

In the event of over-subscription within any criterion, preference will be given to children who live nearest to the school as the crow flies. Distances are measured from the entrance to the child’s home to the principal entrance to the main administrative building of the school by the Local Authority's computerised measuring software. In the event of two distances being equal, lots will be drawn and independently verified.

In-Year Admissions

The Brunts Academy participates in Nottinghamshire County Council’s in-year co-ordinated scheme. Application forms and details about how to apply are available at <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/learning/schools/admissions/changingschool/>. If a place is not available in the year group for which a student applies the academy operates a waiting list. Names are placed on this waiting list in the rank order of our published over-subscription criteria, not in the date order by which they are received.

Late applications

Late applications are those submitted after the closing date for the co-ordinated admissions scheme and will be dealt with in accordance with that scheme. Late applications will be considered up to the date in late December specified in the coordinated scheme providing the applicant can provide evidence that they have moved into the area after the closing date for applications or can establish at the time of completing the form that there were exceptional reasons for missing the closing date. Examples include family bereavement, hospitalisation, and family trauma. Supporting evidence may be required.

When the school is informed by the Local Authority that a place has been offered, it will write to the parent(s) seeking written confirmation that they will take up the place. If this confirmation is not received within four weeks, the school will notify the local authority that the offer of a place should be withdrawn and offered to the child ranked highest on the waiting list.

Waiting list

If, after the offer of places has been made, the school is over-subscribed, all unsuccessful applications will be placed on the waiting list which will be administered by the governors of the school in partnership with the Local Authority for the duration of the co-ordinated admissions scheme. Your position on this waiting list will be determined by the school's published over-subscription criteria. Once the coordinated scheme is closed, the waiting list will remain open but will be administered by the governors of the school. The waiting list will be maintained for the remainder of the current academic year.

Independent Appeals

Parents have the right to an independent appeals panel if you are not happy with the outcome of your application. Repeat applications in the same academic year will not be considered unless there is a significant and material change in circumstances. Appeals should be addressed to The Admissions Clerk c/o the school within twenty school days of refusal.

Coordinated admission scheme

All applications for places in the normal year of entry are made on the common application form. The Brunts Academy participates in Nottinghamshire County Council's Fair Access Protocol.

Applications outside the normal year of entry

In the event of a place being available in the appropriate year group for a mid-term application an offer of a place at the school will be made. If no places are available the child's name will be placed on the school's waiting list. The position on this waiting list will be determined by the school's published over-subscription criteria. Parents have the right of appeal to the refusal for a place.

Withdrawing an offer of a place

Any offers of a place found to be made on the basis of inaccurate information can be withdrawn. Such examples would include fraudulent applications, intentionally misleading applications, a false claim to residence in the catchment area and the failure of a parent to respond to an offer of a place within a reasonable amount of time.

Admission to the sixth form including admission number for those admitted for the first time

To be accepted on to Level 3 courses pupils will need at least five or more GCSE passes at Grade C or above (or equivalent) and meet specific course entry requirements. There will be a short interview process to ensure all students are placed on the correct programme of study. This does not form part of the admission process. The published admission number for Year 12 for **external** students is 30.

Applications are handled in the same way as other applications outside the normal year of entry. Any applicant refused entry can appeal against the decision. Should oversubscription criteria be required they will be as for Year 7, with the removal of criteria 4 and 6.

Admission of children outside the normal age group

Parents may seek a place for their child outside of the normal age group, for example, if the child is gifted and talented or has experienced problems such as ill health.

Nottinghamshire residents should submit a request in writing to Nottinghamshire County Council's school admissions team as early as possible. Designated officers will make decisions based on the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parent's views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, the child's medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have been previously educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely. The views of the headteacher of the school concerned will also be taken into account. When informing a parent of the decision on the year group to which the child should be admitted, the parent will be notified of the reasons for the decision.

When it is agreed that a child will be admitted out of the normal age group and, as a consequence of that decision, the child will be admitted to a relevant age group (ie the age group to which pupils are normally admitted to the school) the local authority and admission authority must process the application as part of the main admissions round on the basis of their determined admission arrangements only, including the application of oversubscription criteria where applicable. The parent has a statutory right to appeal against the refusal of a place at a school for which they have applied. This right does not apply if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Where a child has been educated out of the normal age group it is the parent's responsibility to again request admission out of the normal age group when they transfer to secondary school. It will be for the admission authority of the preferred school to decide whether to admit the child out of the normal age group. The admission authority must make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the child's best interests, and will need to bear in mind the age group the child has been educated in up to that point.

DEFINITIONS

Residence

This is defined as the child's ordinary place of residence which is deemed to be the residential property at which the child normally and habitually resides with the person or persons having parental responsibility for the child at the time of completion of the application form. If a child's parents live at separate addresses, whichever of the two addresses the child permanently spends at least three school nights (i.e. Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday) will be taken as the place of residence.

Addresses of other relatives or friends will not be considered as the place of residence even when the child stays there for all or part of the week. Proof of residence and other evidence from the court regarding parental responsibilities in these matters may be required.

Looked after Children

A 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence or special guardianship order. 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 in accordance with section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989 at the time of making an application to a school.

Previously looked after children are children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order). This includes children who were adopted under section 46 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002.

Child arrangements orders are defined in section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order. Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians).

Brother and sister

The governors define brother and sister as being those children who share the same biological parents. This includes half-brother or half-sister, legally adopted children, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters living at the same address as the child.

Where applications are received in respect of twins, triplets or children of other multiple births, the governing body will endeavour to offer places in the same school, admitting above the planned admission number where necessary. If this is not possible, the parent will be asked which child(ren) should take up the place(s). The parent will still have a right of appeal against a refusal of a place.

Parent

Section 576 of the Education Act 1996 defines 'parent' to include; all natural parents, whether they are married or not; and any person who, although not a natural parent, has parental responsibility for a child or young person; and any person who, although not a natural parent, has care of a child or a young person. Having parental responsibility means assuming all the rights, duties, powers, responsibilities and authority that a parent of a child has by law. People other than a child's natural parent can acquire parental responsibility.

Catchment area

Details of the catchment area school for your address can be obtained from the Nottinghamshire County Council website <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/findmynearest>.