



## **Y7 Guidance about the admissions process for September 2025**

### **Applying to sit the entrance test**

The Blue Coat School uses an Entrance Test to select its students.

Parents who wish their child to undertake the Entrance Test so that they may be considered for admission must submit an application to the Blue Coat School.

The Blue Coat School uses an online application form which can be accessed from the school website from Monday 1 July 2024. Applications must be received by the school by 4.00pm on Monday 2 September 2024.

The application form provides parents with the opportunity to inform the school of any physical disabilities, medical requirements or special educational needs which may need supporting during the admissions procedure.

Parents/carers whose children are in Year 6 are invited to submit applications to sit The Liverpool Blue Coat School in September 2024. Parents seeking a place for their child outside the normal age group must submit supporting information as part of the online application form which will be considered by Trustees on a case by case basis. Please refer to the school's Admissions Policy for details on this.

### **Sitting the Entrance Test**

A child may only take the test once. The Entrance Test consists of three elements: English, Maths and Creative Writing. Children are expected to show ability appropriate to the Key Stage 2 curriculum. No additional preparation is necessary. All three will be tested on one day in September and all tests will take place at The Blue Coat School. There are no 'practice papers' but a familiarisation paper is available on the website.

The Entrance Test will take place at The Blue Coat School on 21 September 2024.

Detailed arrangements for the Entrance Test will be sent to all eligible applicants whose completed application form has been received by the school.

The school will make all necessary arrangements to support any physical disabilities, medical requirements or special educational needs which it has been informed of. Information regarding this is on the online application form.



The Entrance Test is supervised by the school's senior leadership team and a team of invigilators who are assigned to look after small groups of children.

The school makes arrangements for a Reserve Test to support applicants who are eligible to sit the Entrance Test but are unable to attend because of medical, religious or other circumstances. Candidates may only be granted permission to take the Reserve Test by the Trust Board who must deem that there are extenuating circumstances.

### **Co-ordination between the Blue Coat School and Local Authorities**

Parents of children starting Year 6 in September 2024 will receive guidance from their primary schools about how to apply for secondary school places. This includes information about how parents may wish to complete their home Local Authority common application form.

Parents of children from a local authority other than Liverpool are advised to check with their home Local Authority about the arrangements and dates for secondary school applications.

The Blue Coat School works closely with Local Authority admission arrangements.

For a child to be considered for admission to The Blue Coat School, their parents must:

- Ensure they have applied to The Blue Coat School to sit the Entrance Test by Monday 2 September 2024.
- Ensure they have completed and returned the common application form to their home Local Authority by Thursday 31 October 2024.

Parents do not need to complete their home Local Authority common application form until they have been notified of the outcome of The Blue Coat School Entrance Test.

### **Admission to The Blue Coat School**

The Blue Coat School will admit 180 students in September 2025.

Candidates will be tested in English and Maths and Creative Writing. The English and Maths elements are marked by computer and age-standardised. All students with an eligible score from those two elements have their creative writing element assessed.

In order to be eligible for admission to the school, candidates must achieve an 'eligible score' which includes minimum standards in each element of the test. This is not a pre-defined pass mark, but reflects a candidate's position in the rank order of standardised scores in the Math and English elements, once a minimum standard for Creative Writing has been achieved. The Admissions Committee will determine, by reference to performance in the tests, an appropriate eligible score and a rank order of children who should be offered a place. Parents who apply for testing on time will receive notification if their child is placed on the eligible list as soon as possible. The Blue Coat School will post the results of tests securely online to parents in advance of the Common Application date (31<sup>st</sup> October 2025).



As part of The Blue Coat School's commitment to social mobility, places will be allocated according to the following criteria:-

- Up to 27 places will be available to the highest scoring applicants who are eligible for free school meals and who achieve the eligible score.
- The remaining places will be available to all other highest scoring applicants who meet the eligible score.

Parents should be guided by the following information:-

- The Blue Coat School will provide parents with the outcome of the Entrance Test so that they have the information they need to complete the common application form of their home Local Authority in the way they deem most suitable.
- The Blue Coat School places applicants in groups according to the outcome of the entrance test.
- If your child is in GROUP A and you wish your child to be admitted to The Blue Coat School, you should consider placing The Blue Coat School as one of your preferences. If your child is in GROUP B and you wish your child to still be considered for admission to The Blue Coat School you should consider placing The Blue Coat School as one of your preferences. However, please be aware that candidates in GROUP B are not guaranteed a place at The Blue Coat School.
- If your child is in GROUP C you should not consider placing The Blue Coat School as one of your preferences.
- The Blue Coat School does not release test papers.

The outcome of the Entrance Test will be sent to the email address included on the application form. Parents that have not heard from the school by Friday 25 October 2024 should contact the school.

The Local Authority will notify parents of school placements on Saturday 1 March 2025 in accordance with their admission arrangements.

## Appeals

Parents have the right to an independent appeal if they are dis-satisfied with an admission decision. You will need to contact The Blue Coat School to request information on appeals. Appeals must be submitted by 31 March 2025. All appeals will be acknowledged, and you should contact the school if you do not receive an acknowledgement within two weeks of submission. Independent appeals will be heard by the end of June 2025.

## Further information

If you have any questions about the admissions procedure, please contact the School office through [admissions2025@bluecoatschool.org.uk](mailto:admissions2025@bluecoatschool.org.uk). Please note that The Blue Coat School does not offer advice about the Entrance Test or offer any opinion about the suitability of applications.

