



Admission arrangements

6 week consultation from 30 November 2018 to 11 January 2019

In line with the school admission code (DFE septmber 2015), it is a requirement to consult on school admission arrangements where changes are proposed or atleast once every seven years. The Blue Coat School sets out below a number of proposed changes to its admission arrangements and invites comment from any interest parties.

Policy ref	Focus	Proposed change	Supporting rationale
9	Admission arrangements for Year 7 How the test is made up	The Blue Coat School proposes to change what the entrance test consists of. Current admission arrangements include separate tests for non-verbal reasoning, English and Mathematics. The new proposed admission arrangements will include tests for English and Mathematics only.	The Blue Coat School strives to provide an entrance test that evaluates all applicants fairly. It is committed to providing tests that do not advantage those applicants who may have been tutored. The non-verbal reasoning test is highly predictable and easy to tutor for.
10	Admissions arrangements for Year 7 How the proposed changes will impact on the test score for all applicants and for those eligible for free school meals	The above changes will affect the total score that students can get. Current admission arrangements allow for students to reach a maximum score of 450. Students eliigle for free school meals are eligbile for a place if they score 320 or more. The new proposed admission arrangements will allow students to reach a maximum score of 300. It is proposed that students eligible for free school meals will be eligible for a place if they score 213 or more.	The new arrangements reduce the total score that applicants can achieve by one-third. Applying the same rule to the score that makes free school students eligible for a place gives a score of 213.
11	Admissions arrangements for Year 7 How the proposed changes will impact on processes used in the event of a tie for places	The admission arrangements must make it clear what happens in the event that students achieve the same overall score. Current admission arrangements use the non-verbal reasoning test score as the decider in the event of a tie, followed by the English test if there is still a tie. The new proposed admission arrangements will use the English test as the decider in the event of a tie. In the event that English scores are also tied, the school will use the score on Section B of the English test as the decider.	Performance on the English test offers a more broad indicator of ability across a range of subjects than performance on the Mathematics test. Section B of the English tests will focus on key fundamental knowledge, understanding and skills necessary to access and use English across a wide range of subjects.

The Blue Coat School invites comments from interested parties between 30 November 2018 and 11 January 2019. You can submit comments to the Blue Coat School through:
schoolconsultation@bluecoatschool.org.uk