

**Admission Appeal Generic Defence Statement  
Secondary School – The Canterbury Academy  
Admission Appeal for Year 7 in September 2025**

Published Admission Number for Year 7: 210
Number of Applications received: 865
How many places were offered on national offer day: TBC (National offer day is 03/03/2025) <i>(if over PAN please include these numbers and why you took over PAN e.g. you were instructed by the LA/bulge year, EHCPs etc)</i>

<b>Places Offered – (Please catalog oversubscription criteria along with the numbers allocated on National offer day for each catalog. If the numbers in each individual catalog is below 5, please state &lt;5 so individual children cannot be identified )</b>	<b>Numbers</b>
<p>a) 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.</p> <p>A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and those children who appear to the admission authority to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.</p> <p>A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.</p>	
b) Places are then awarded to children on roll in the Trust (Primary phase) at the time of application for a place at secondary transfer.	
c) Children with a brother or sister attending the Trust (Primary and Secondary or sixth form) when the child starts. In this context brother or sister means a child who lives as brother or sister in the same house, including natural brothers and sisters, adopted siblings, stepbrothers or sisters and foster brothers and sisters.	
d) Child of a permanent member of staff, providing the child lives in the same property as the member of staff. In this context child means a natural son/daughter, stepchild, adopted or fostered child. Members of staff must have been employed for two years or more at the time of application for school admissions is made and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a	

<p>vacancy or post which there is a demonstrable skills shortage. The definition does not include contract or temporary staff.</p>	
<p>e) Health and Special Access Reasons – Medical, health, social and special access reasons will be applied in accordance with the academy’s legal obligations, in particular those under the Equality Act 2010. Priority will be given to those children whose mental or physical impairment means they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend The Canterbury Academy. Equally, this priority will apply to children whose parents’/guardians’ physical or mental health or social needs mean that they have a demonstrable and significant need to attend this particular academy. Such claims will need to be supported by written evidence from a suitably qualified medical or other practitioner who can demonstrate a special connection between these needs and The Canterbury Academy.</p>	
<p>f) Nearness of children's homes to school - we use the distance between the child’s permanent home address (defined in KCC’s annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child’s home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant’s address is to the school. Where applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant co-ordinates. In exceptional circumstances where alternative co-ordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by Head of Service.</p>	
<p>Total number of pupils offered a place;</p>	

- The Canterbury Academy is full and oversubscribed in every year group, including a sixth form of over 800 students. It is a large, bustling and busy campus with class sizes which average around 30. The physical size of our classrooms is average and due to popularity, we have already had to implement a one-way system around the school to cope with pupil movement. Furthermore, we have needed to become increasingly flexible with our timetabled teaching, moving to a twilight (after school) model of teaching and delivering some lessons, largely to our sixth form, in order to allow inclusive and consistent access to specialist facilities for all age groups.
- In relation to our oversubscription criteria for admissions;
  - a) \*\*\*\*\* is not a Child in Care.
  - b) \*\*\*\*\* is not seeking a place in year 7 based on being previously on roll at The Canterbury Primary School.

- c) \*\*\*\* has no current sibling connection.
- d) \*\*\*\*\* is not a child of a permanent member of staff
- e) When applying for a place there is no EHCP in place.
- f) Therefore, \*\*\*\*\* would fall into the last criteria of distance.
- g) \*\*\*\*\* did not sit the banding assessment, the key priority in our admission process.

● The Canterbury Academy cannot admit students on balance because these students, or their parents, do not like the alternatives that are available.

● There comes a point when one more is too many and we are afraid we are passed that point.

● The Canterbury Academy, regrettably, has to conclude that there is no compelling argument which, on balance, should allow the admission of this child.

**Please be advised that each parent who lodges an appeal will have a personalised defence statement forwarded to them as part of their case papers.**

Completed by: Mr J Waston Date: February 2025