

The Canterbury Academy Trust

Schools for all the Talents



The Canterbury Academy in year admission arrangements 2026/27

Secondary phase Years 7 – 11

The Canterbury Academy recruits from the full range of abilities to create a comprehensive intake.

The number of intended admissions for the year commencing 2026 will be 210 (with an additional 6 places reserved for children with statements for entrance into the Speech and Language Unit and 4 additional places into the Cullum Centre Autism Spectrum Disorder special resource-based provision and 2 additional places into the Hearing Impairment special resource-based provision). Before the application of oversubscription criteria children with an Educational Health Care Plan which names the school will be admitted. As a result of this the published admissions number will be reduced accordingly.

Where applications for admission exceed the number of places available the following criteria will be applied, in the order set out below, to decide which children to admit:

Over Subscription Criteria

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.

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.

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.

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 vacancy or post which there is a demonstrable skills shortage. The definition does not include contract or temporary staff.

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.

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.

The tiebreaker for all arrangements will be distance. In a tiebreaker situation, the proximity of an applicant's home to the academy will be the decider. In the event that more than one applicant lives the same distance from home to the academy, as measured by the local authority, then a random selection will be applied.

For families of service personnel with a confirmed posting, or crown servants returning from overseas places can be allocated in advance of the family arriving in the area (as long as one is available) provided the application is accompanied by an official letter that declares a relocation date and the address that they will be living at, or some other form of evidence of.

After a place has been offered, the academy reserves the right to withdraw the place in the following circumstances:

1. When a parent has failed to respond to an offer within a reasonable time.
2. When a parent has failed to notify the school of important changes to the application information.
3. The admission authority offered the place on the basis of a fraudulent or intentionally misleading application from a parent.

Sixth Form years 12 - 14

Students will be admitted to Year 12 if they reach the necessary entry recommendations for the course they wish to follow. Further information is available in the sixth form prospectus. Priority will be given to existing students transferring from Year 11. The pupil admission number (PAN) for external candidates will be 50 but this figure may be exceeded in the event that this and the number of internal students transferring into Year 12 is less than the overall figure for the year group, which is 210. Consideration will also be given to students who wish to retake year 12. On occasions entry to year 13 will be permitted where the student has already completed year 12 at an alternative establishment.

In the event of oversubscription then the following will be applied:

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.

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.

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.

b) Places are then awarded to children on roll in the Trust (Secondary phase) at the time of application for a place in the sixth form

c) Children with a brother or sister attending The Trust (Primary and Secondary phase or 6th form) when the child starts. In this context, 'brother or sister' means a child who lives as a 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 vacancy or post which there is demonstrable skills shortage. The definition does not include contract or temporary staff.

e) Ability at sport or performing arts as determined by trial, audition, and references.

f) 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.

g) 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.

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