

Frequently Asked Questions and Queries, October 2020

If my child attends an event in FHS such as ‘Magic Morning’, will that guarantee a place in FHS Yr 7, or at least increase their chances of getting a place in FHS?

All transition events including Magic Morning do not increase or improve your chances of getting a place in FHS. These events give students an opportunity to get to know the school, much like an open evening or open morning.

How many students will you be taking next year?

Our admission number is 216 for 2021. We expect to admit this number, but it is subject to change due to factors such as appeals or requests from the Local Authority to increase our intake.

My child goes to X primary school, will that guarantee/increase the chances of my child getting a place?

No. The primary school you attend doesn't feature in our admissions code. Please refer to the BCC criteria as detailed below.

How many people from your waiting list were given a place in Year 7 so far this year?

We issue places throughout the year if there are any movements of students. So, there is no definitive time. For instance, if a student and their family were to leave Bristol and a place became available in Year 7. It would be offered to the next student on our waiting list.

What is your catchment area? I live at X address will I get a place?

The catchment area is outlined on the council website. On the Bristol Council website you can input your postcode and it will tell you what school catchments are within your postcode.

Is FHS a specialist school?

FHS is not a specialist school, many schools were specialist schools in the past and some still have specialism in a particular area. FHS offers a broad curriculum, but does not specialise in any particular area.

When is the final date for applications?

The final date for applications is the 31st October 2020.

When do I need to accept my offer of a place?

Offers of a school place need to be accepted by 15th March 2021. All information is available on the Bristol Council website.

FHS Admissions Criteria

1. **Looked After Children** or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, child arrangements, or special guardianship order.
2. **Children who have exceptional social or medical needs**, supported by a written recommendation from the child's paediatrician/consultant, general practitioner or specialist to show that it would be detrimental to the child not to be admitted to the preferred Academy. The letter must explain why the school is the only suitable school to meet the child's needs and why no other school could provide the appropriate support for the child. All supporting evidence should accompany the original application or submitted by the deadline for exceptional circumstances supporting evidence.
3. **Students attending a linked academy or living in the catchment area and attending a feeder primary school**, where necessary, priority will be given to siblings.
4. **Other students living in the catchment area**, where necessary, priority will be given to siblings.
5. **Children of Excalibur employees employed at the academy** on a permanent, minimum 40% Full Time Equivalent contract with the Trust for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission is made or who have been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.
6. **Out-of-Area applications attending a feeder primary school**, where necessary, priority will be given to siblings.
7. **All other applications**, where necessary, priority will be given to siblings.

CONTACT DETAILS

Magic Mornings, Jackie Kramer-Arden jkramer@fairfield.excalibur.org.uk

All other questions about Transition and Year 7, email Donavan Shand: dshand@fairfield.excalibur.org.uk

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information relating to Admissions can be found on the Fairfield High School website:

www.fairfield.bristol.sch.uk, click on 'School', 'Admissions'