

The Phoenix Collegiate



Admissions Policy 2021-2022

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Approval requirement agreed at FGB on 25/03/19: this policy needs to be approved by Full Governing Body		

General Principles

Phoenix Collegiate is an 11-19 mixed comprehensive situated in the North of West Bromwich/South Wednesbury area of Sandwell. Its Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 7 in September 2021 will be 350.

The main principle of admission to Phoenix Collegiate is to maintain the character of the school as a comprehensive school, providing for the needs of young persons within the 11-19 age range.

The school participates in Local Authority co-ordinated scheme and all deadlines within that should be adhered to by all applicants. Offers of places will be made on the basis of information on the Common Application Form.

As required by the Regulations the school will give first priority to applications on behalf of children in public care (looked after children) and children who were previously in public care but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order). Children with statements of Special Educational Needs naming the school must also be admitted. This will reduce the number of places available under the schools PAN for other applicants.

In year admissions

Where there are places in a year group, the school will consider applications for in year admissions based on the criteria below.

The school will continue to work within the LA Hard to Place protocol and will admit their fair share of children who are allocated through the Hard to Place panel.

Criteria for admission

When 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. These criteria will continue to be used to allocate places should any fall vacant after the initial allocation. (In all cases children with Statements of Special Educational Needs naming Phoenix Collegiate will be admitted before other applicants).

1. Children who are in public care and children who were previously in public care but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or a special guardianship order).
2. Children with a particular medical condition which can be met most appropriately by the school. Applications must be accompanied by a medical declaration form signed by the child's General Practitioner or Consultant confirming the condition and detailing the child's needs. All applications under this criterion will be assessed by the Governing Body to decide whether the child's needs can be met most appropriately by the school.
3. Having a brother or sister at the school (but not in 6th Form) at the time of admission.
4. Distance measured in a straight line from a child's home to the school's main entrance (as determined by the Head teacher).

Definitions and Further Details

Siblings

Siblings are defined as the following:

- Brothers and sisters who have the same parents and live at the same address
- Half-brother and half-sisters where one of the parents is the same and the children live at the same address.
- Step brothers and step sisters where the children are related by marriage of their parents and live at the same address.
- Adopted brothers and sisters living at the same address.
- Children of two unmarried parents living at the same address
(Proof of sibling link may be required.)

Distance From the school

The measurement used will be a straight line distance from the main entrance of the school on Clarkes Lane to the main door of the residence, with those living nearest to the school being given priority. Residences with a common front door (e.g. apartments/flats) will be treated equally with the measurement taken to that common front door.

Residence

The residence is defined as the address at which a parent with parental responsibility lives and is permanent residence of the child for the majority of the school week (Sunday to Thursday night).

Waiting Lists

The parents/carers of students who are unsuccessful in gaining a place in the normal round of applications may write to the Head teacher at Phoenix Collegiate to request that the student's name is placed on a waiting list for a place, irrespective of whether they make an appeal against the decision not to offer them a place. If a place becomes available, it will be allocated from the waiting list according to the Admissions Criteria listed above.

Appeals

Appeals against decisions not to admit a student will be heard by a Local Authority Independent Appeals Panel. The decision will be given to the family within 10 school days following the hearing. If a student is successful in gaining a place through appeal, they will be admitted to the school at the earliest opportunity.

SIXTH FORM ADMISSIONS

General Principles

Phoenix Collegiate offers a range of subjects and qualifications to sixth form students. Our policy is to ensure that students accepted into the sixth form choose courses that support their career aspirations. For this reason all applicants are invited to an individual interview that parents are encouraged to attend.

The Sixth Form capacity for Year 12 commencing September 2021 will be 150.

Students in Phoenix Year 11 will be invited to apply to the sixth form. Applications from students wishing to transfer from another school and who meet the relevant entry requirements will be considered if there are places available on the preferred courses of study after allocation has been made to the current Year 11 candidates.

Application Process

All students interested in applying to the sixth form must complete an application form and return it to the school office. Once this has been completed all applicants will be invited to an interview.

Entry Requirements

There are three pathways for students applying to sixth form to ensure that all students have the opportunity to be successful in their chosen courses.

Pathway One

This is the route for those who enjoy academic study and wish to embark on A Level courses. Students will usually need to have a minimum of 5 GCSE grades 9 - 5 in five separate subjects including the equivalent of 5 in English and Mathematics. Specific entry requirements for some subjects offered are detailed below:

Art: Preferably GCSE Grade 4 in Art and Design or Digital Photography.

Biology: Minimum GCSE Grade 6 in Separate Science OR Grade 6 in Science and Grade 6 in Additional Science AND Grade 6 in Mathematics and English.

Chemistry: Minimum GCSE Grade 6 in Separate Science OR Grade 6 in Science and Grade 6 in Additional Science AND Grade 6 in Mathematics and English.

English Language and Literature/English Literature and Language: Minimum GCSE Grade 6 in English OR English Literature.

Geography: Minimum GCSE Grade 5 in Geography AND Grade 5 in Mathematics.

History: Minimum GCSE Grade 5 in History and English.

Languages: A levels in French, German, Italian, Panjabi, Polish and Spanish may be offered – in all cases a GCSE Grade 6 in the relevant language is required OR the candidate needs to be a native speaker.

Mathematics: Minimum GCSE equivalent Grade 6 in Mathematics.

Further Mathematics: Minimum GCSE Grade 7 in Mathematics.

Physics: Minimum GCSE Grade 6 in Separate Sciences OR Grade 6 in Science and Grade 6 in Additional Science AND Grade 6 equivalent in Mathematics. In addition, the department strongly recommends that students choosing this subject also study 'A' Level Mathematics.

Photography: Preferably GCSE Grade 4 in Art and Design or Digital Photography.

Psychology: Minimum GCSE Grade 5 in English and Mathematics.

Pathway Two

This is a Level 3 route for those who enjoy more practical learning styles or who enjoy coursework. The entry requirements are five GCSE Grades 9 - 4 in four separate subjects including the equivalent of GCSE Grade 4 in English OR Mathematics.

Any Pathway Two student who does not have a minimum of the equivalent Grade 4 in either GCSE English or Mathematics must retake the subject.

Students may, of course, take a combination of Pathway One and Two subjects but they must have met the additional requirements of each subject.

Specific Entry requirements for Pathway Two subjects are as follows:

BTEC Applied Science: Minimum GCSE 5 in Science and Additional Science or GCSE Grade 5 in two separate science subjects. Grade 5 in GCSE Maths and English.

BTEC Business Studies: GCSE Grade 4 or equivalent in English and Mathematics.

Early Years: GCSE Grade 4 or equivalent in English or Mathematics.

BTEC Health and Social Care: Minimum GCSE Grade 5 in both English and Mathematics preferred.

BTEC ICT: Minimum pass in Level 2 ICT AND Minimum Grade 4 or equivalent in GCSE English.

BTEC Performing Arts: GCSE Grade B in Drama or Merit/Distinction in Level 2 BTEC AND GCSE Grade 5 equivalent in English. Students not meeting this criteria are welcomed but entry on to the course will be subject to an audition.

BTEC Sport: Minimum GCSE Grade 4/5 in English and Maths preferred AND GCSE Grade C in PE OR Level 2 Sport - Merit or Distinction preferred.

Level 3 Foundation Technical Level Engineering: GCSE Grade B in Engineering, Grade 6 in Mathematics & Science preferred.

Level 3 WJEC in Criminology: GCSE Maths Grade 4, GCSE English Grade 5.

Pathway Three

This is essentially a Level 2 Pathway where a package of subjects will be offered for students to follow. Students following this route will need to have GCSE Grades 9 – 3 or equivalent in 5 separate subjects.

Any Pathway Three student who does not have a minimum of Grade 4 in GCSE English and Mathematics must retake the subject.

Meeting the requirements of any course is no guarantee that the applicant will automatically be offered a place on his or her preferred choices.