

Academy and free schools admissions criteria for September 2013

Admissions arrangements for Chobham Academy



The Academy opens in September 2013 and will serve East Village (the brand new community being created after the Olympics in what was the Athletes Village) and the surrounding areas of Newham, Hackney and Waltham Forest. The planning permission for the Academy requires it to provide places for those occupying the development. East Village is currently planned to be occupied from March 2013 through to the February 2014.

The Academy needs to provide places for those moving into East Village – providing that does not compromise the provision of efficient and effective education of these children and others within the Academy. The admissions timetable, with coordinated admission arrangements administered by the Local Authority, does not assist making places available to those who move in during the period of occupation since parents will not have been aware of their move of house in October 2012 and January 2013 when applications close for places in Year 7 and Reception Year respectively. The admission arrangements therefore will allow for modest admission numbers to all primary years except Year 6 (with an assumption of creating mixed age classes in Reception through to Year 5) and these admission numbers will be reviewed with the Local Authority (LA) during the academic year when demand is clearer.

An admission number may be published for Year 6 in January 2014 if agreed with the LA that there is then the demand. If it is clear that demand from East Village will exceed the published admission number (PAN) in other year groups these will also be increased in January 2014 and April 2014.

The intention will be to provide primary age places for all children moving into East Village but this is not possible for secondary aged children – other than year 7 – because numbers are unlikely to allow a full and balanced curriculum to be offered to those in Year 8 and above. Transfers into Year 10 and 11 will be less popular in any case because of students being established in their schools and starting or engaged in GCSE courses. The exception will be Year 9 where a limited number of places will be available but for children who wish to take courses in the Academy's specialist area of performing arts leading to qualifications at age 16. However applicants will need to be aware that there will be strictly limited choices of course options at GCSE – as a performing arts focused course offer implies.

These admission arrangements only apply for the academic year 2013/14 and revised admissions with different PANs will be published in Autumn 2012/Spring 2013 for the 2014/15

year reflecting the growing size of the Academy, and then annually each year until the final arrangement is achieved. This is critical to admissions at Year 7 and Year 12 where, as numbers move through the Academy, there will be reduced places available for external entry. Eventually the intention is that there will be 90 places available in reception (and through the primary section), 90 places (plus any vacancies) in Year 7 (and 180 in total per year through the 11 – 16 section) and 30 (plus any vacancies) in Year 12.

Secondary (11 – 16) aged provision

The Academy has an admission number of 120 in Year 7 and an admission number of 60 in Year 9.

The Academy will accordingly provide for the admission of 120 pupils to Year 7 and 60 pupils to Year 9 in the academic year 2013/14 if sufficient applications for entry are received. Where fewer applications than the published admission number for the relevant year groups are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the Academy to all those who have applied.

There will be no admission number for Years 8, 10 and 11 and no pupils will be admitted to those year groups.

The Academy will admit students representing all levels of ability among applicants for admission to the Academy. For Year 7 all applicants will take a standardised non-verbal reasoning test, which will be standardised against the national distribution of ability. Then students will be placed in rank order and will be allocated to one of nine groups (with the number of places in each group determined by the national distribution of ability). There is no pass or fail to the assessment but the process produces valid and reliable scores so that places can be allocated from each of the nine groups to produce a balanced and equitable intake. Applicants who complete the common application form showing one of the preferences to be for the Academy will also be required to complete a Supplementary Application

Form which should be submitted to the Academy to allow arrangements to be made for the test and any special requirements allowed for.

The places in Year 9 will be to undertake a course focused on the performing arts (with limited choices of other subjects at GCSE) and applicants will be invited to an open meeting with the Academy before applying, to make sure the course content suits them and to understand the restrictions on choice of GCSE options. This meeting and any discussions arising will not be part of the admissions criteria. The admission criteria will not include banding on abilities.

Oversubscription criteria for Year 7

When the Academy is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with Statements of Special Educational Needs where the school is named in the Statement (who will be tested to determine which band they are in but this will not affect their admission), the following criteria will be applied to the children placed within each ability group to determine which children will be offered the places in that group, in priority order:

- a) Children who are looked after or former looked after children as defined in the Admissions Code
- b) Children who live in East Village. A map of the East Village will be available on the Chobham Academy website.
- c) Nearness to the Academy, as calculated by straight line distance from the main gate.

These criteria will be applied to candidates as they are allocated to each group as a result of the tests until the correct number in each group as identified in the previous page is reached.

If at the end of this process there are unallocated places in any group these will be filled by the applicants next in line for admission to the groups above and below, alternating between the group above and below, using the same allocation criteria set out above (e.g. if the group 4 has vacancies but all the applicants in the group 4 ability band have places, the place(s) will

be offered to unallocated applicants next in line for places in group 3, then group 5, then group 3 etc.)

Looked after children will always be allocated the first places in any group.

Proof of residence or offer of letting from landlord will be required (council tax bill, utility bill).

Other than children with Statements of Special Educational Needs and Looked after children, those who apply via the CAF and then do not turn up for the test, will be considered for a place after all those children who have sat the test.

Waiting lists

The Academy will operate a waiting list for Year 7. Where in any year the Academy receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term after the beginning of the school year This will be maintained by the Academy Trust and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where casual applications are made and a request made to be added to the waiting list the rank order of children on the waiting list will be recalculated using the oversubscription criteria.

Appeals

The school will offer an appeal to anyone refused admission. The appeal will be before an independent appeals panel constituted in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code. If refused admission you should contact the school to lodge an appeal.

To make sure you apply on time, **apply online.**
www.eadmissions.org.uk

Oversubscription criteria for Year 9

Because the places in Year 9 will be to undertake a course focused on the performing arts (with limited choices of other subjects at GCSE) all applicants will be invited to an open meeting with the Academy before applying, to make sure the course content suits them and to understand the restrictions on choice of GCSE options. This meeting and any discussions arising shall not be part of the admissions criteria.

If more applications are received than places available, after the admission of pupils with Statements of Special Educational Needs where the school is named in the Statement, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

- a) Children who are in the care of a Local Authority
- b) Children who live in East Village. A map of the East Village will be available on the Chobham Academy website.
- c) Nearness to the Academy, as calculated by straight line distance from the main gate.

Proof of residence or offer of letting from landlord will be required (council tax bill, utility bill).

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Oversubscription criteria for Year 12

The Chobham Academy operates a sixth form for a total of 420 students. 210 places overall will be available in year 12 (the year 12 'capacity'). The admission number for year 12 is initially 210.

It assumes that eventually when the Academy is full the PAN for external applicants will be 30. This is the number of places which will be offered on an annual basis to eligible external applicants.

At that stage, if fewer than 180 of the Academy's own year 11 pupils transfer into year 12, additional external pupils will be admitted until year 12 meets its capacity of 210.

To determine eligibility for admission, the Academy will publish specific criteria in relation to minimum entrance requirements for Year 12 based on GCSE grades or other measures of prior attainment. The Chobham Academy will also publish academic entry requirements for

each course available based upon GCSE grades or other measures of prior attainment. These criteria will be the same for internal and external transfers and will be published in its prospectus and on its website.

Young people failing to meet the grades for their preferred course option will be offered alternative courses if available. Young people already on the Academy roll are entitled to transfer to Year 12 if they meet the published standards of entry.

If Year 12 is oversubscribed then, after the admission of students with Special Educational Needs where the Chobham Academy is named on the statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

- a) Students in public care
- b) Students who live within East Village. A map of the East Village will be available on the Chobham Academy website.
- c) Nearness to the Academy, as calculated by straight line distance from the main gate.