

BMAT
Policies and Procedures
Outstanding Education, Exceptional People



BMAT STEM Academy
Admissions Policy
For September 2021



Supporting primary and secondary schools across Essex and East London, BMAT is a growing multi-academy trust with a singular vision: **schools, teachers and pupils freed to succeed.**

This policy should be read in conjunction with BMAT's single equality Policy. This policy reflects measures established in law through the **Equality Act 2010** and emphasises that BMAT opposes all forms of racism, homophobia, prejudice and discrimination.

The **Equality Act 2010** replaced all existing equality legislation such as the Race Relations Act, Disability Discrimination Act and Sex Discrimination Act.

We are committed to the promotion of community cohesion at Academy Trust, local, national and global levels, comparing our Academy Trust community to its local and national context and implementing all necessary actions in relation to:

- Ethnicity,
- Religion or belief, and
- Social-economic background.

In accordance with the values of BMAT we pledge:

- To respect the equal human rights of all our pupils;
- To educate them about equality; and
- To respect the equal rights of our staff and other members of the Academy Trust community.

We will assess and analyse our current Academy Trust practices and implement all necessary resulting actions to ensure pupils are not discriminated against because of their:

- age
- disability
- gender re-assignment
- marriage and civil partnership
- pregnancy or maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation

These '**Protected characteristics**' have been set out in law in the **Equality Act 2010**.

BMAT is committed to eliminating practices, which could result in unfair or less favourable treatment for persons with a protected characteristic.

Admission Arrangements 2021-2022

Introduction

In 2021 the BMAT STEM ACADEMY will participate in the co-ordinated admission arrangements operated by Essex County Council. Pupils will be required to apply for entry via the local authority in which they reside.

For information on the admissions process, please view the information on the BMAT STEM ACADEMY website www.bmatstem.org.uk or telephone the admissions office on 01279 621570.

Published Admission number

Year 10 -75 PUPILS (50 from BMAT & 25 external)

Consideration of applications

BMAT STEM ACADEMY will consider all applications for places. Where fewer than the published admission number for any relevant age group Year 10 are received, BMAT STEM ACADEMY will offer places to all those who have applied.

Special Educational Needs

Pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs (SEN), where BMAT STEM ACADEMY is named on the statement, will be admitted first.

The Oversubscription Criteria

After the admission of SEN pupils, and where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the criteria below in the order in which they are set out.

1. “Looked After Children” and previously “Looked After Children” as defined in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).
2. Priority will be given to siblings; ie brothers or sisters of existing pupils with common parent(s) or step-siblings sharing the same home address at time of Application. Applications from sets of twins or other children from multiple births will be treated as individual applicants, this may result in one child being allocated a place under random allocation and another not.
3. Up to 50% of remaining places allocated to applicants from postcodes CM17, CM18, CM19, and CM20 (“the Catchment”).
4. The remaining places will be allocated to pupils living outside the Catchment, with those living closest to the BMAT STEM ACADEMY (as the crow flies) being prioritised.

If places remain unfilled after pupils living outside the Catchment, then they will re-allocated to pupils living within the Catchment by independently verified random allocation.

Definitions

In determining which applicants live closest to the BMAT STEM ACADEMY, distances from home to school will be measured in a direct line between the visual centre of the applicant's home address point and the reception within the main BMAT STEM ACADEMY building (using the Local Authority's computerised mapping system).

In the event that we are unable to distinguish between applicants for the final available place, such as in the case of students who live in the same block of flats, then the final place will be made through random allocation which will be independently verified.

The applicant's home address is the home address as registered with the Doctor.

Arrangements for admitting pupils to other year groups, including to replace any pupils who have left BMAT STEM ACADEMY.

With regards to the admission arrangements relating to applications submitted for years other than the normal year of entry, the Academy will consider all such applications and if the year group applied for has a place available admit the applicant. If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria shall apply. Parents of pupils whose applications are turned down are entitled to appeal.

Waiting list

Subject to any provisions regarding waiting lists in the LA's co-ordinated admission scheme, the Academy will operate a waiting list. Where in any year BMAT STEM ACADEMY receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the Academic Year. This will be maintained by BMAT STEM ACADEMY 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.

An applicant'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 those on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Appeals

There will be a right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel for internal pupils refused transfer and external applicants refused admission. Details of the appeals process will be published on the BMAT STEM ACADEMY's

website and contained within the letter notifying the pupil of the decision not to offer a place.

The appeals process will be run in line with statutory duties of the school admission appeals code.

For entry to year 10 from September 2021. Applications must be made in accordance with the co-ordinated scheme operated by Essex Local Authority. This is detailed in the Secondary Education in Essex booklet. Information is also placed on the Essex County Council website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions. The closing date for applications, including on-line, is **31st October 2020**. The national offer date is **1st March 2021**. The LA will send offer/refusal letters for places at all schools to parents of all pupils living in Essex, by first class post. each year (exact dates may vary from year to year) to fit in with the timetable for the co-ordination of admission arrangements.

Late Applications

Applications received after the closing date will only be considered alongside those applicants who have applied on time if there are exceptional reasons for missing the deadline e.g. a major change of circumstances.

A late application will not affect the right of appeal or the right to be placed on the waiting list.

Late applications will only be considered only after on-time applications and if places are still available. All late applications will be placed on a waiting list unless they fulfil the criteria to be considered alongside applicants who have applied on time.

Admissions to Sixth Form

The school is proposing to admit a maximum 120 in Year 12, in September 2021 including internal applications.

Year 12 students will be admitted to study an academic A Level pathway only if they meet the entry requirements of Grade 5 in English and Maths and 4 other GCSE grades at 5 or above or equivalent.

To follow a vocational BTEC Pathway a Grade 5 in English and Maths plus at least 3 other GCSE grades 4 or above or equivalent is needed. In addition students must meet the specific requirements for individual subjects detailed in the prospectus.

Existing Year 11 students applying for a Sixth Form place and external students applying to be admitted for the first time will be offered a place according to the school's existing Admission Arrangements.