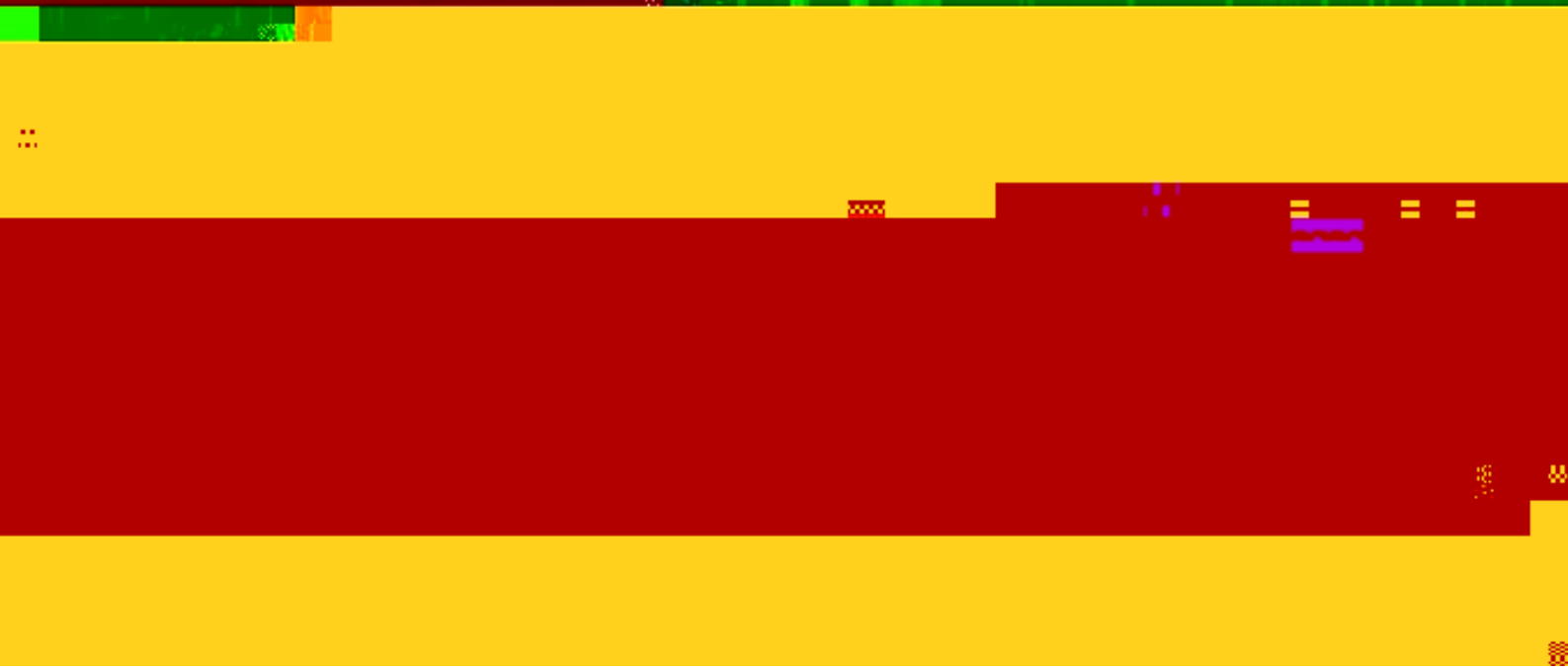




SAFETY AND SECURITY



Date of issue: September 2023

Updated: September 2023

Date of review: September 2024

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed in full by the Governing Body on an annual basis (or sooner if required).

The policy was last reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body on 25 September 2023.

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Explain how to apply for a place at the school
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to be aware that the naming of Sandwell Academy and the ranking on the Local Authority's online form are taken into consideration by the Local Authorities and, as a consequence, by the Academy. If Sandwell Academy is not named on the Local Authority online form, a place will not be offered.

Applications received after the closing date will be considered where the Academy identifies that exceptional circumstances apply. Applications received after places have been offered will be kept on file and form the basis of the 'Applications to Transfer to Year 7' which will include casual admissions.

Those who are offered a place at the Academy will be informed in March of the year of entry by their Local Authority. Those not offered admission will be informed at the same time and will have been offered a place at an alternative school by their Local Authority.

Parents/Carers of a young person with an Education, Health and Care Plan who wish to name Sandwell

Residency of applicants will be established and checked at the time of application for a place. The Academy's ruling on residence, as defined by the Funding Agreement is final. Original official documentation will be

'Mop Up' testing

places will be allocated in each of the five bands of ability and for the towns Smethwick and West Bromwich, eight places will be allocated in each of the five bands of ability.

The following examples show how the Academy would allocate places:

Example 1 Only five applications in Band 3 Tipton – one further place would be allocated to the applicant with the shortest distance to one of the six Centroid Points using the distance criteria.

Example 2 More than six applications were eligible for places on sporting aptitude from Band 4 Oldbury – a maximum of six places would be allocated.

Preference is not given in favour of siblings or those with medical conditions. The term siblings includes biological siblings, step siblings, foster siblings, adopted siblings and other children living permanently at the same address or siblings who are former pupils of the Academy.

Tie Breaker

Random allocation will be used as a tie-break in category '4' above to decide who has highest priority for admission if the distance between two children's homes and their closest centroid point is the same. This process will be independently verified.

If a tie-break is required in earlier categories to decide who has priority for admission between two children, priority will be determined on the basis of distance between an applicant's home address and the centroid point nearest to their home.

Challenging behaviour

We will not refuse to admit a child on behavioural grounds in the normal admissions round or at any point in the normal year of entry. We may refuse admission in certain cases where the specific criteria listed in the School Admissions Code (paragraph 3.8) apply, i.e. where section 87 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 is engaged.

We may refuse admission for an in-year applicant for a year group that isn't the normal point of entry, only in such a case that we have good reason to believe that the child may display challenging behaviour that may adversely affect the provision we can offer. In this case, we will refer these pupils to the Fair Access Protocol. We will not refuse admission on these grounds to looked-after children, previously looked-after children and children with EHC plans naming Sandwell Academy as the school.

Fair Access Protocol

We participate in Sandwell's Fair looked

If an application has not previously been made for your child, you may complete a Secondary Mid Year Application form. Sandwell Academy does not have its own Secondary Mid-Year Application form. All applications for a change of school must be made through the Local Authority. Parents/Carers will be notified of the outcome of their application, by Sandwell Local Authority, in writing within 15 school days.

For further information for Sandwell residents and a copy of the Secondary Mid-Year Application form, please visit the Sandwell Council website: