



The
Ongar
Academy

ADMISSIONS ARRANGEMENTS

ENTRY TO YEAR 7 – ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/20

INFORMATION

The Ongar Academy is an 11-18 mixed comprehensive school. The number to be admitted to Year 7 in the 2019/20 academic year will be 120.

High expectations, strong discipline and an intention to see all students attaining an English Baccalaureate (GCSEs in English, Mathematics, Science, History or Geography and a Modern Foreign Language) are central to the school's ethos and it is expected that parents and carers wishing to send their children to this school will support this fully, and students will be expected to accept and adopt the highest standards of behaviour. Parent and carers are expected to support the school in ensuring their child's compliance.

Applications for admissions need to be made directly through the Local Authority by the closing date, 31st October 2018. Essex residents can apply through Essex County Council using the following link: http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Admissions/Pages/Apply_for_a_secondary_school_place.aspx.

Residents outside of Essex should comply with their own Local Authority arrangements in respect of completing this form.

The Ongar Academy and its Governing Body are committed to ensuring consistency of treatment and fairness and will abide by all relevant equality legislation.

OVERSUBSCRIPTION CRITERIA

When the Academy is oversubscribed, after the admission of students with Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) where the school is named, the following criteria will be applied in the order set out below to decide which students to admit.

A maximum of 120 allocations will be available and allocated within criteria 1 to 7. Up to 12 allocations within the 120 are reserved for applicants taking the musical aptitude test.

- 1) Looked after children and previously looked after children. A looked after child is a child who is (a) in the care of a local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions. Previously looked after children are children who ceased to be looked after because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. (See the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989)

- 2) Where the child has a sibling* currently attending the academy at the time of application, unless the sibling is in the last year of the normal age-range of the school (ie Year 13).

*A 'sibling' means a brother, sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother, adopted sister, step brother, step sister or a child of a parent/carer of a child looked after living permanently at the same address from Monday to Friday.

- 3) Children** of a parent/carer who works at the school as a teacher, administrator or member of the support staff and who have been directly employed by the school on contract for a continued period of two or more years at the date of admission; or of a parent who has been recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable shortage.

**A child is defined by birth or adoption, of a member of staff, or a child by birth or adoption, of a wife/husband/partner of a member of staff living at the member of staff's home from Monday to Friday during term-time; or a child for whom child benefit is paid to a member of staff.

- 4) Children (as defined above) of a parent/carer who was a founder+ member of the school.

+A Founder Member is a parent or guardian whom the school has identified in its discretion as having genuinely played a material role in establishing the school and, where appropriate, whose continued role is deemed by the school to be needed to establish the school in its early years for the benefit of the public as a whole. The Founder Members list is available from the school on request.

- 5) Up to a maximum of 65 places will be allocated to students from the following group of primary schools:

Ongar Primary School, Chipping Ongar, Dr Walker's, High Ongar, Moreton.

- 6) Remaining applications – All applications received where applicants are not attending the named schools in criterion 5.

In the case of over-subscription within any of the above criteria, priority will be determined on the basis of straight line distance from the school, those living closest having the highest priority. Straight line distances are calculated by the LA, as defined in the Secondary Education in Essex booklet.

*When measuring distances, the home to school distance will be measured using a 'straight line' distance measurement provided by the Essex County Council software.

Should two applicants have the same home to school distance, (not including multiple-birth siblings at the same address who would both be admitted) a random allocation would be made. This will be independently supervised.

- 7) Up to 10% (12) of the places available will be allocated to students with a proven aptitude in music. Aptitude in music will be assessed by tests to be taken by applicants on 14th October 2018. If parents and carers wish for their child to take the Musical Aptitude test, they will need to communicate this with the school via email before Monday 8th October 2018. The tests have been devised to be taken by children whether or not they have had experience of, or formal training in music. More detailed information about the test is available from the school on request or via the school website.

The 12 places will be offered in rank order of aptitude, as displayed in the test.

In the event of a tie-break under criterion 7, the place will be allocated to the student who lives nearest (as defined above) to The Ongar Academy.

Should fewer than 12 children apply for these places or achieve the minimum score, the unfilled places will be allocated in accordance with the distance criterion.

For further information on the test, please visit our website www.theongaracademy.org – Entry to Year 7.

LATE APPLICATIONS

All applications received by the Academy after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applications, the school is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the Academy's waiting list.

WAITING LISTS

Prior to September 2019 the waiting list will be administered according to the criteria set out above. Students remaining on the waiting list in September 2019 will be ranked according to the In-Year Admissions Criteria which can be found on the school website.

APPEALS

All applicants refused a place have a right to appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with The School Admission Appeals Code.

To make an appeal regarding the refusal of a place at The Ongar Academy, the applicant would need to appeal within 20 days of the receipt of the refusal of acceptance letter.

The application to appeal should be made in writing to:
Statutory Appeals Officer
PO Box 11
Chelmsford
CM1 1LX

The school will publish details of admissions and of the appeals procedures each year. It will establish independent arrangements for appeals, currently administered by Essex County Council against non-admission. Applicants cannot normally apply for a place more than once in an academic year except where exceptional circumstances exist.