

Harris Academy Battersea

Admission arrangements 2021-2022, set in accordance with annex 1 of the supplementary funding agreement for the school.

Admissions to Year 7 – 2021-2022

1. The Academy has an admission number of 180 in Year 7.
2. The Academy will accordingly provide for the admission of this number of students each year if sufficient applications for entry are received. Where fewer 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.
3. The Academy may set a higher admission number as its Published Admission Number (PAN) for any specific year. The Academy is not required to consult on any proposed increase to the PAN, however it must notify the Local Authority of the increase and specify the changes on the Academy website. Students will not be admitted above the PAN unless exceptional circumstances apply.
4. Applications for places at the Academy in Year 7 will be made in accordance with the LA's co-ordinated admission arrangements, and will be made on the Common Application Form (CAF) provided and administered by the respective home LA's of the applicants.
5. Pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs where the Academy is named on the statement will be admitted under different regulations before applying oversubscription criteria, within the PAN of 180.

Oversubscription criteria

6. Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admissions number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. The criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below to create the rank order:
 - a). 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 were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted under the terms of the Adoption and Children Act 2002. Such students will be given top priority in each band before the rest of the oversubscription criteria is applied.
 - b). Siblings of children who will be attending the Academy in Years 7 to 11

at the date of admission. The term “sibling” includes foster brothers and sisters, half brothers and sisters or stepbrothers and sisters. In all these cases, the brother or sister attending the Academy must be living at the same address as the child for whom the application is being made.

c). Children of staff who are employed at the Academy at the date of admission, providing that:

the member of staff has been employed on a permanent contract at the school for at least two years, or
the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage;

d) Nearness to the Academy, as calculated by straight line distance from the pupil’s home to the front gate of the Academy, with those living closest having priority. Distance will be measured using the straight line distance between the applicant’s home and the main entrance to the Academy site according to a computerised Geographical Information System used by the London Borough of Wandsworth. Where a pupil lives in a block of flats the centre of the block will be used to measure the distance. If pupils from the same block of flats are tied for the last place in a band, independently verified random allocation will be used to decide which pupil should be offered the place. Where a student lives for part of each week at different addresses, the ‘home’ address shall be that address where the student spends the majority of the week.

7. Where distance is the determining factor, and more than one application has the same home to school distance for a single place, independently verified random allocation will be used to determine the rank order.
8. There is a right of appeal to an independent appeals panel for any applicants who are not offered a place. Arrangements for making an appeal and a timetable for hearing appeals will be published on the Academy’s website.

Waiting lists

9. 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 Autumn Term. 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.
10. Children’s position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out in paragraph 7. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Arrangements for admission to Post 16 provision

11. The Academy will operate a sixth form for 250 students. The Academy will publish specific criteria each year in relation to minimum entrance requirements for Year 12 based on GCSE grades or other measures of prior attainment. The 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 applicants and will be published in a prospectus and on the Academy's website.
12. Young people failing to meet the grades for their preferred course option will be offered alternative choices of courses if available, and they meet the required standard for admission to those courses. Pupils already on the Academy roll are entitled to transfer to Year 12 if they meet the published standards of entry
13. 135 places overall will be available in year 12 (the year 12 'capacity'). The admission number for year 12 is 30. This is the number of places which will be offered on an annual basis to eligible external applicants.
14. If fewer than 105 of the Academy's own year 11 students transfer into year 12, additional external students will be admitted until year 12 meets its capacity of 135.
15. If Year 12 is oversubscribed then, after the admission of students with Special Educational Needs where the Academy is named on the statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below to determine which student should be given priority for the places available on chosen courses, providing they have met the sixth form entry and course requirements:
 - a. Looked after and former looked after young people (see definitions in admission criteria for Year 7).
 - b. The distance of the applicant's home from the Academy with those applicants living closest being given priority. Please see the definition of home address in paragraph 7(b). above.
16. There will be a right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel for internal pupils refused transfer and external applicants refused admission..

Arrangements for admitting pupils to other year groups, including replacing any pupils who have left the Academy

17. The Academy is not part of the LA's co-ordinated admission arrangements for in-year and other year group admissions. If a parent applies for a place outside the normal admissions round for Year 7 or for any other year group they should apply direct to the Academy.

18. Where a Year Group has a Published Admission Number, the Academy must consider all such applications and if the year group applied for has a place available, admit the child. In the case of applications for such places in years 8-11 the Academy may refuse admission to challenging pupils in cases where there are fewer students in a particular year group than the published admissions number. Such refusals will only occur where the student concerned has been previously permanently excluded from two or more schools or where special circumstances apply. Parents/Carers whose application is turned down are entitled to appeal.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

23. Parents may request that their child is admitted to a year group outside their normal age range, for instance where the child is gifted or talented or where a child has suffered from particular social or medical issues impacting his or her schooling. All such requests will be considered on their merits and either agreed or refused, on that basis. If a request is refused, the child will still be considered for admission to their normal age group.

24. The process for requesting such an admission is as follows: Included with the application form, parents should request that the child is admitted to another year group (they should state which one), and the reasons for that request. Parents must submit any evidence in support of their case with the application, for instance from a medical practitioner, headteacher etc. Some of the evidence a parent might submit could include:

- information about the child's academic, social and emotional development, including their prior learning if recently admitted to the country from abroad;
- where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;
- whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and
- whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

The Academy will consider each case on its merits, taking into account the individual circumstances of the request and the child's best interests. The Academy will also ensure the parent is aware of whether the request for admission out of age group has been agreed before final offers are made, and the reason for any refusal.

25. Requests for admission out of the normal year group will be considered alongside other applications made at the same time. An application from a child who would 'normally' be a year 8 child for a year 7 place will be considered alongside applications for year 7.

This applies to all admissions whether made in the normal admissions round through the CAF or in-year admissions. In the case of students joining in-year who have recently entered the country we will counsel parents on when it is in

the best interest of the child to make an application for admission outside the normal age group.