

Walsall Academy



Admission to the Sixth Form for September 2021

**Determined by the
Local Governing Board before 28
February 2020**

Admission to the Sixth Form September 2021

Walsall Academy has developed courses which offer considerable breadth for students through a range of A levels and technical or applied level 3 courses including BTEC National courses. It is possible for students to study a combination of these courses.

The general aim of the Academy is to enable each student to become an effective independent learner to prepare them for further education or the world of work. Students and parents must be supportive of the Academy's longer working day and year. Students are encouraged to take part in Physical Education courses and become involved in voluntary work or work placements.

The Academy will admit a minimum of 160 students into Year 12. Students will be 16 years of age on 31 August 2021.

Procedures for Admission

Internal Students

All students who are currently in Year 11 at the Academy will be given the opportunity to transfer into the Sixth Form.

External Students

Students and/or parents of prospective students will be asked to complete an application form. At least twenty places are allocated for external students. The Headteacher will invite students and parents to a presentation. Students will be asked to consider and decide on preferred courses. This preference will be based on GCSE predicted grade outcomes and the student's intended career pathway. Students will be considered for entry into Year 12 based upon their academic attainment and the availability and suitability of courses at the Academy. Entry to Year 12 is not dependent upon attendance or behaviour records. The minimum entry requirements for all courses is GCSEs in four different subjects with grades 9 to 4.

Students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) which names the Academy will be offered a place.

Oversubscription

When the Academy becomes oversubscribed places will be allocated to applicants who fulfil the requirements for the preferred course. The entrance requirements for individual courses are published at the Sixth Form Information Evening. Current achievement data and GCSE predicted grade outcomes will be used to help determine the student's intended career pathway.

The Academy is committed to a fair and equal treatment of all individuals regardless of disability and welcomes applications from students with disabilities. The Academy's admissions arrangements will not disadvantage unfairly, either directly or indirectly, a

student from a particular social or racial group, or a student with a disability or special educational needs as required by the Department for Education Admissions Code. The highest priority **will** be given to looked after children and previously looked after children as defined in the School's Admissions Code.

Looked after children are defined as children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by a local authority. This also includes previously looked after children who were looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order.

Children of staff at the school are given the next priority. Where a member of teaching staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made, and/or the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Students living closest to the Academy as measured in a straight line from their home address will next be offered a place. Distance is measured from the centre point of the Academy site to the centre point of the applicant's address post code.

In the event of a tie and same measurement the place will be offered on the basis of random allocation.

Waiting List for Admission to Sixth Form

Unsuccessful applicants will be offered a place on a waiting list. If vacancies arise, those on the waiting list will be offered a place using the Academy's Admissions Criteria outlined previously. Applicants who do not obtain a place may appeal to the Academy against the decision. There will be an Independent Appeals Panel appointed in accordance with the provisions of the School Admissions Appeals Code.

Sixth Form Information

Walsall Academy has developed a curriculum model which will offer considerable breadth for students through a range of A levels, technical and applied level 3 courses including BTEC National courses.

Students follow a two year programme of study and can choose from the following subjects:-

	A levels	Applied Level 3
Art and Design	Geography	Applied Business
Biology	German	Applied Science
Business	History	Health and Social Care
Chemistry	Mathematics	IT
Economics	Music	Performing Arts (Dance, Drama, Music and Music Technology)
English Language	Physics	Sport
English Literature	Physical Education	Travel and Tourism
EPQ (AS)	Product Design	
Film Studies	Psychology	
Further Mathematics	Core Maths (AS)	AAT Accountancy (Level 2 and 3) Child Care (Level 2)

Determined by 28 February 2020 for September 2021 intake

Additional Courses

The Academy offers GCSE English and GCSE Mathematics re-sits in the Sixth Form. All students that do not have at least the equivalent of grade 4 at GCSE English and/or Maths must continue to study them in Year 12.

Voluntary Work

Students are actively encouraged to take part in regular voluntary work in the community or at the Academy.

Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards are followed by many students in the Sixth Form. Any students wishing to start or continue with the award scheme are encouraged to do so.

Physical Education

In addition to the qualifications that students can pursue in the Sixth Form the PE department offers an optional half session of sport a week. A number of activities are on offer from game sports to fitness and aerobic type activities. This is popular with students and provides a release from academic studies whilst helping students maintain a level of fitness and encouraging a healthy lifestyle. Students can also work towards the Sports Leaders Awards.

Sixth Form Work

We expect students to demonstrate a high level of motivation and have the capacity for hard work. Sixth Form work is demanding and students will be encouraged to take increased responsibility for their own learning through Independent Learning. All Sixth Form students have the opportunity to develop leadership skills as they become actively involved with our younger students and assist with the day to day organisation of the Academy.

Dress and Code of Conduct

We aim to create the environment of a large city office. Our practices mirror those found in the world of industry and commerce. Many students will be working alongside employers both in the Academy and out on work placements. Smart office wear must be worn to conform to the highest standards found in the modern workplace. The rule will be simple: Expect to be interviewed for a job at any time and dress appropriately. Jacket, collar and tie, a suit or skirt is acceptable. Financial support will be available for students who qualify.

A no-smoking policy operates throughout the Academy buildings and grounds.

Personal Advice and Guidance

Each Sixth Form student has a Personal Tutor. The Personal Tutor is expected to develop a close working relationship with the student and offer support and guidance throughout the course. There will be frequent meetings during the week where progress will be discussed, targets agreed and timescales negotiated. Students are encouraged to identify areas of concern and thus tackle problems positively. The Personal Tutor will have a full profile on each personal student and will always act as the first point of contact for parents.

Social Cultural Spiritual Education

This is seen as an important aspect in the development of students in the Sixth Form. The Academy is committed to the social, cultural and spiritual education of all members of the Sixth Form. The Academy uses a variety of opportunities for delivery including: the broad based curriculum and charity and community liaison. Spiritual education is reinforced through Academy, broadcasts and assemblies.

Library and Independent Learning Centres

For about 20% of the week (two half days) students have the opportunity of working independently on carefully planned work as part of their course in the Library and Independent Learning Centres. This method of learning will be part of our strategy to prepare our students to be able to cope successfully in Higher Education and adult life.

Bursaries and Business Sponsorship

Bursaries and business sponsorships may be available for our students. These bursaries will be awarded to students who are in need of financial assistance due to circumstances outside their control. There may be the possibility that students will secure Business Sponsorship to help them financially through Higher Education and Training.

Careers Guidance

The Director of Careers and Industry Links, through his team of experts, will provide careers guidance to all students. Every student will receive an individual appointment and will be given expert advice in preparing a Curriculum Vitae (CV).

Applications to University

Students aspiring to apply to University, including Oxbridge, will be given expert guidance. The Academy provides opportunities for students to visit Universities and will prepare a detailed reference to support every applicant.

Employment

We have created a network of contacts within the business community to enable us to access the full range of employment opportunities for our students. The Academy encourages employers to contact us directly to ask us to recommend students for employment. We believe that it is the responsibility of every Sixth Form student to develop the Academy's reputation in the business community.

Student Council

Students will have the opportunity to be elected onto the Student Council. The Council meets with the Headteacher and other senior staff each half term to advise the Headteacher of the students' opinions on a wide range of issues.

GCSE Results Service

The Academy will offer a comprehensive advice service for students in August 2021. Once GCSE results are known, students may wish to reconsider their plans. For some, it can be an anxious time so help is available.

Walsall Academy

Sixth Form Admission September 2021

Timescale: External Students

November/December 2020

Students and parents are invited to an information evening at the Academy.

Information will be provided on the Admissions Process and Curriculum.

Students and parents may tour the Academy with current sixth formers.

There will be an opportunity to meet with course teachers.

Spring 2021

Confirmation of an offer of a place to students and a provisional programme of study.

An Appeals Panel will be convened if required.

July 2021

Induction Programme for Students

August 2021

GCSE Results	26 August 2021 (TBC)
Sixth Form 2021 Registration	26/27 August 2021 (TBC)

September 2021

Start of Year 12