

Admissions Policy for September 2026

School name	Bishop Vesey's Grammar School		
School address	Lichfield Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands, B74 2NH		
Headteacher	Mr Dominic Robson	Tel no:	0121 250 5400
Admission Number	192		
Admissions Criteria	<p>Bishop Vesey's Grammar School is an Academy for boys aged 11-16 years with a co-educational Sixth Form and is designated as a selective grammar school under S104 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The school is part of 'The Grammar Schools of Birmingham' Consortium.</p> <p>Admission to the school is on the basis of selection by reference to ability. Only boys who attain the required standard in the prescribed arrangements for selection are eligible to be considered for admission to the school. These arrangements require that prospective pupils are considered for admission on the basis of a combined score, standardised according to the age of the pupil, on standardised tests of verbal, numerical and non-verbal reasoning ability.</p> <p>Boys born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015 are eligible to apply for admission in Year 7 in September 2026.</p> <p>In order to be eligible for admission to the school, candidates must achieve a minimum standardised score (the 'qualifying score') in the selection test. Where the number of applications for admission exceeds the number of places available at the school, places are offered to children as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Looked After Children/Previously Looked After Children/ Internationally Adopted Previously Looked After Children who achieve the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score; 2. Children attracting the Pupil Premium, who achieve the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score but limited to no more than 38 pupils in this category; 3. Other children who achieve the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score. <p>Where children are equal on standardised score, places will be offered to those who live nearest the school. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the applicant's home address and the foot of the steps leading to the main school entrance. Birmingham Local Authority uses a computerised system, called Cartology, which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address within this system.</p>		

Children with a statement of special educational needs	Those who have a statement of special needs (Education Health and Care Plan) naming the school and with a qualifying score will be allocated a place. This gives such children with a qualifying score overall priority for admission to the named school. This is not an oversubscription criterion.
Definitions	<p>A child who is looked after or previously looked after</p> <p>A child who is looked after is a child who is in the care of a local authority, or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see the definition in Section 22(1) of the Children Act 1989).</p> <p>A child previously looked after is a child who, immediately after being looked after, became subject to an adoption, child arrangement order, or special guardianship order.</p> <p>Internationally Looked After/Previously Looked After children are those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.</p> <p>In the case of children previously looked after, admission authorities may request a copy of the adoption order, child arrangement order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child confirming that she was looked after immediately prior to that order being made.</p>
Pupil Premium	<p>Children attracting Pupil Premium are those who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the 6 years prior to the closing date for test registration. The school will require evidence of Pupil Premium registration and reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if the offer has been made on the basis of an incorrect, fraudulent or misleading application.</p> <p>Parents/carers of children attracting Pupil Premium must have ticked the Pupil Premium box when registering their child for the test. Any alterations to this box cannot be made after submitting your selective test form. The deadline to submit your selective test form is 30 June 2025 at 4PM.</p> <p>Parents will need to provide evidence of Pupil Premium registration to our School Business Manager no later than the end of November 2025. Any evidence received after this date will be considered as late and will be considered after the main round of allocations has been made.</p>
Shared responsibility	Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the week, then the main residence will be determined as the address where the child lives the majority of the week. Parents may be requested to supply documentary evidence to support the address used.

<p>Separating 'final qualifier' applications (twins, blocks of flats etc)</p>	<p>In a very small number of cases it may not be possible to decide between the applications of those pupils who are the final qualifiers for a place, when applying the published admission criteria.</p> <p>For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or where there are twins, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, blocks of flats. If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria and to admit both or all of the children would cause the legal limit to be exceeded, the local authority will use a computerised system to randomly select the child to be offered the final place.</p>
<p>Applicants out of chronological age group</p>	<p>Although most boys will be admitted to the school within their own age group, the school will consider requests from parents for their child(ren) to be educated outside of their normal age group. Parents are advised to contact the school to discuss such a request and submit any relevant evidence with their formal application. The decision whether to offer a place out of year group rests with the school and decisions will be taken in line with the School Admissions Code. Parents will have a right to appeal if a place is refused at the school. Parents do not have a right to appeal if a place is offered in a year group other than the year group for which they applied.</p>
<p>Local authority fair access arrangements</p>	<p>The school also participates in the local authority's fair access arrangements and this may require the school to offer a place in a year group even where the school is full.</p>
<p>Waiting list</p>	<p>A Local Authority waiting list, of those boys who sat the test for admission in September 2025, and who did not receive an offer from our school, or a more preferred school, will be held in strict oversubscription criteria order until the end of the first term of the academic year. Each child added to the waiting list will require the list to be ranked again in line with the oversubscription criteria.</p>
<p>In Year Applications</p>	<p>Year 7 (first term) See Waiting List.</p> <p>January of Year 7-Year 11</p> <p>From January of Year 7 onwards, parents may apply for a place directly to the school. Places will be offered in accordance with the published admissions criteria. Being added to the school's waiting list does not mean that a place will become available as in-year places normally only become available if a current student leaves the school.</p> <p>On receipt of an in-year application, the school will notify the Local Authority of both the application and its outcome, to allow the Local Authority to keep up to date with figures on the availability of school places in Birmingham.</p> <p>If a place becomes available, candidates on the waiting list in the appropriate year group will be invited to take a selective admission test appropriate to the year of entry and the place will be awarded to the highest scoring candidate above a minimum standard.</p>

Appeals	If a parent/carer is refused a place at a school for their child, they have the right to appeal to an independent Appeal Panel set up under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. Appeals for Bishop Vesey's Grammar School are administered by the School Admissions and Pupil Placements Service. Parents must not be refused the opportunity to make an application or be told that they can only be placed on a waiting list rather than make a formal application. Upon receipt of an in-year application, the admission authority, or the local authority if it is coordinating the admissions authority's in-year admissions, should aim to notify the parents of the outcome of their application in writing within 10 school days, but they must be notified in writing within 15 school days.
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	Sixth Form									
Sixth Form External Admission Number	80									
Admissions Criteria	<p>Admission to the Sixth Form is based on performance in a student's best 6 GCSE subjects plus GCSE English Language and Mathematics (throughout this document this is referred to as 'Best 8').</p> <p>Points are awarded as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="504 1167 751 1570"> <tr><td>9 for a grade 9</td></tr> <tr><td>8 for a grade 8</td></tr> <tr><td>7 for a grade 7</td></tr> <tr><td>6 for a grade 6</td></tr> <tr><td>5 for a grade 5</td></tr> <tr><td>4 for a grade 4</td></tr> <tr><td>3 for a grade 3</td></tr> <tr><td>2 for a grade 2</td></tr> <tr><td>1 for a grade 1</td></tr> </table> <p>In order to qualify for the Sixth Form students must have achieved at least 52 points as their Best 8 score and have attained the minimum criteria below for at least three A Level subjects that they wish to study. However, please note the oversubscription criteria below, should more students achieve this benchmark than the number of places available.</p> <p>Students need to achieve a minimum of a 5 in English Language and Mathematics GCSE.</p>	9 for a grade 9	8 for a grade 8	7 for a grade 7	6 for a grade 6	5 for a grade 5	4 for a grade 4	3 for a grade 3	2 for a grade 2	1 for a grade 1
9 for a grade 9										
8 for a grade 8										
7 for a grade 7										
6 for a grade 6										
5 for a grade 5										
4 for a grade 4										
3 for a grade 3										
2 for a grade 2										
1 for a grade 1										

Minimum criteria to study each 'A' level subject:

A Level Subject	Prerequisite
Art	Grade 7 GCSE Art
Biology	Grade 7 GCSE Biology or Grade 8 8 GCSE Combined Science
Chemistry	Grade 7 GCSE Chemistry or Grade 8 8 GCSE Combined Science
Computer Science	Grade 7 GCSE Computer Science (or Grade 7 GCSE Maths where GCSE Computer Science not studied)
Design Technology	Grade 7 GCSE Design Technology
Economics	Grade 7 GCSE Economics or Business Studies (or Grade 7 GCSE Maths where GCSE Economics or GCSE Business Studies not studied)
English Literature	Grade 7 GCSE English Literature
French	Grade 7 GCSE French
Further Mathematics	Grade 8 GCSE Mathematics and studying A Level Mathematics
Geography	Grade 7 GCSE Geography
History	Grade 7 GCSE History (or Grade 7 in either English Language or English Literature where GCSE History not studied)
Mandarin	Grade 7 GCSE Mandarin
Mathematics	Grade 8 GCSE Mathematics
Music	Grade 7 GCSE Music (or either Grade 5 Theory or Grade 7 Instrumental where GCSE Music not studied)
Physics	Grade 7 GCSE Physics or Grade 8 8 GCSE Combined Science. 'A' Level Mathematics must also be chosen
Physical Education	Grade 7 GCSE PE (or Grade 7 GCSE Biology or Grade 7 7 GCSE Combined Science where GCSE PE not studied)
Psychology	Grade 7 English Literature
Religious Education	Grade 7 GCSE RE (or Grade 7 in either English Language or English Literature where GCSE RE not studied)
Spanish	Grade 7 GCSE Spanish

<p>Sixth Form Oversubscription</p>	<p>Priority will always be given to students who have studied their GCSE qualifications at BVGS, if they meet the qualifying standard.</p> <p>We have 80 places allocated for external applicants.</p> <p>In case of over subscription, priority should be given to students based on the following criteria. The criteria will be applied in rank order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Looked After Children/Previously Looked After Children. 2. Students attracting the Pupil Premium, who achieve the qualifying score by rank order of standardised score but limited to no more than 20 pupils in this category <p>Students attracting Pupil Premium are those who have been registered for free school meals at any point in the 6 years prior to the Sixth Form application closing date of 31 January 2026. The school will require evidence of Pupil Premium registration and reserves the right to withdraw the offer of a place if the offer has been made on the basis of an incorrect, fraudulent or misleading application.</p> <p>Parents/carers of students attracting Pupil Premium must have ticked the Pupil Premium box when applying to Bishop Vesey's Grammar School by 31 January 2026. No alterations to this box can be made after 31 January 2026.</p> <p>Parents will need to provide evidence of Pupil Premium registration to our School Business Manager no later than the end of May 2026. Any evidence received after this date will be considered as late and will be considered after the main round of allocations has been made.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Offers will be then made (depending on there being availability in an applicant's chosen subjects) to external students with the highest (Best 8) GCSE score. 4. If distinguishing between external applicants with equal Best 8 subject scores, we will then apply the average score of the 3 stated A Level subjects or an equivalent subject, if it is not taken at GCSE. (In the cases of Economics and Computer Science, we will take the predicted GCSE Mathematics grade. In the case of Psychology we will take the predicted GCSE English Literature grade. In the case of those students opting for A-Level History, who have not taken GCSE History, we will also take the higher of the GCSE English Language or English Literature grade.) 5. If data is still identical then a tie breaker will be applied based on a closest proximity to the school (See above for the calculation).
<p>Students opting for 4 'A' levels</p>	<p>Typically around a quarter of our students take 4 'A' levels. To qualify to do 4 'A' levels, pupils need to score a minimum of 66 points in their Best 8 GCSE subjects.</p>

PAN for external students at Year 13	Zero
Waiting list	If a student meets the general admissions requirement but we are unable to offer a place based on the criteria detailed above; they will be automatically placed on a waiting list.
Appeals	If a parent/carer is refused a place for their daughter or son at Bishop Vesey's Grammar School Sixth Form, they have the right to appeal. Appeals must be sent in writing The Clerk to the Governors, Bishop Vesey's Grammar School. The Clerk will arrange an appeal within 30 school days of receiving the appeal.