



**THE JOHN OF GAUNT SCHOOL**  
**- A Community Academy -**

**STUDENT ADMISSIONS POLICY 2023 – 2024**

| Originator | Reviewed by | Date of Review | Approved by | Date of Approval | Next Review Date | Website |
|------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|------------------|------------------|---------|
| School     | S&C         | 01/03/22       | Full Board  | 28/03/22         | Nov 2022         | Yes     |

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## *"Excellence Every Day"*

### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to make sure that all our students, regardless of their circumstances, discover their personal best and thrive academically, individually and socially.

We are relentless in driving high expectations and make no apology for ensuring high standards across the school. We will continually ensure every student achieves excellent results, with high-quality teaching and a first-class curriculum, underpinned by outstanding cultural capital experiences and exceptional pastoral care.

### **Values**

- **Excellence**
  - We strive for greatness in everything we set our minds to. We endeavour to do our very best and excel in all aspects of school life.
- **Respect**
  - We treat others in our diverse, inclusive community as we wish to be treated. We acknowledge individual differences yet join together in an uncompromising respect for each other.
- **Responsibility**
  - We understand that we own our actions. We work hard to understand our emotions and manage them effectively, whilst ensuring we put any mistakes right.
- **Resilience**
  - When we encounter challenges, we persevere and bounce back. We see setbacks as stepping stones to success and always give 100%.
- **Ambition**
  - Our ambition knows no limits. We will push ourselves to be the best version of ourselves to ensure success.



## 1. General Information

The “Academy Trust” is the admissions authority for The John of Gaunt School. The Published Admissions Number (PAN) is 265. The Academy Trust must operate in line with its Funding Agreement with the DfE.

## 2. General Procedures

The Admissions Panel will be formed by Governors of the Academy Trust. They will:

- 2.1 decide on the number of places to allocate
- 2.2 allocate places for in-year transfers, if necessary using the over-subscription criteria
- 2.3 rank all students in Year 6 who have indicated The John of Gaunt School as a preference by reference to the over-subscription criteria

## 3. Admissions Criteria for Year 6

Students will be admitted to The John of Gaunt School at age 11, without reference to ability, aptitude or culture.

Applications should be made via Wiltshire Council at <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/> or by submitting a paper copy to the address below. They should be received by midnight on 31 October 2022.

School Admissions Team  
Wiltshire County Council  
Bythesea Road  
Trowbridge  
BA14 8JN  
01225 713010

Students with a statement of special educational needs are automatically entitled to a place at The John of Gaunt School, if it is the named school on the statement.

## 4. Designated Area

The designated area is the geographical zone served by the school. The address that determines a student’s designated area is the place where he/she is permanently resident with his/her parent(s) or legal guardian(s). Evidence may be requested in order to reach a decision regarding home address (including where a



student lives with parents with shared responsibility for each part of the week) for the purpose of admissions e.g. registered address with GP or address to where child benefit is paid.

The designated area can be found at:

<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/schools-learning-forms-guides-policies>

## **In-Year Admissions**

5.1 Late applications for Year 6 students or those wishing to join another year group must be made directly with Wiltshire Council. The over-subscription criteria (6.1 to 6.8) will apply in the event of any year group having reached their Published Admissions Number. The school will contact the applicant on receipt of their application from Wiltshire Council.

5.2 The Admissions Panel may refuse to offer a place to a student with challenging behaviour or who meets the criteria outlined in the Wiltshire Council Secondary In Year Fair Access Protocol

(Available here: [https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/7027/Secondary-schools/pdf/In\\_Year\\_Fair\\_Access\\_Protocol.pdf?m=637655739373830000](https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/media/7027/Secondary-schools/pdf/In_Year_Fair_Access_Protocol.pdf?m=637655739373830000) )

if the application is received outside the normal admissions round the child may be referred to Wiltshire Council for consideration under the In-Year Fair Access Protocol.

## **6. Over-subscription Criteria**

Where the number of applications for places in Year 7 exceeds the Published Admissions Number, places will be allocated in order of the ranked criteria below:

6.1 Children in Care (Looked After Children): a 'looked after child' or a child who was previously looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order. 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 (see the definition in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989).

6.2 Vulnerable students: children from families registered with the National Asylum Support Service; children or families with a serious medical condition where written



evidence is provided at the time of application from a senior clinical medical officer and G.P. showing that it would be detrimental to the child or family not to admit to The John of Gaunt School.

6.3 Designated area multiple births: children who live in the designated area and are twins (or are of other multiple births).

6.4 Designated area siblings: children living within the designated area who have a sibling attending at the application deadline date. Siblings who are in Year 11 or Year 12 at the deadline date should have evidence to show that they intend to study at The John of Gaunt School at the admission date. Step, half and foster siblings are included.

6.5 Other children living within the designated area.

6.6 Non-designated area multiple births: children who live outside the designated area and are twins (or are of other multiple births).

6.7 Non-designated area siblings: children living outside the designated area who have a sibling attending at the application deadline date. Siblings who are in Year 11 or Year 12 at the deadline date should have evidence to show that they intend to study at The John of Gaunt School at the admission date. Step, half and foster siblings are included.

6.8 All other children not covered by these criteria.

## **7. Tie Break**

If the school is over-subscribed within any of the over-subscription criteria the straight-line distance from the student's home address to the school will be used as the determining factor. Distances will be supplied by Wiltshire Council using Ordnance Survey eastings and northings. Those living closer to the school will be given priority. In the event of there being equal distances the priority will be given by casting lots.

## **8. Service Families**

Applications for children of service personnel with a confirmed posting to the county, or crown servants returning from overseas to live in the county, will be considered in advance of the family moving into the county if necessary. Where possible, an application must be included in the normal admission round.



An official letter, such as a posting note or letter of support from the commanding officer should be sent to the local authority as soon as possible. This should include the relocation date and Unit postal address or quartering area address (the address of the closest house in the nearest 'quartering area').

Until a fixed address is available, the Unit postal address or quartering area address will be used and a school place allocated accordingly.

The local authority will not refuse a service child a place because the family does not currently live in the area, and will not reserve blocks of places for these children.

Children will be considered to be siblings if any brother or sister is going to be attending a school. Their position on any waiting list will be set accordingly.

## **9. Early Transfer**

In exceptional circumstances the Academy Trust will consider allowing under age entry into Year 7. The parents must put forward valid educational and social reasons for the application. Early applications will involve consultation with the current school, the Admissions Panel and Wiltshire Council's professional advisors. The application will not be agreed if any of these parties consider the transfer to be inappropriate.

## **10. Sixth Form Admissions**

The student capacity of the Sixth Form is 293. All students wishing to enter the Sixth Form are required to complete the standard application form accessed from the school website.

10.1 Students will be admitted to the Sixth Form based on their achievement of the entry criteria. Entry is not dependent on a student's previous pattern of behaviour or attendance.

10.2 The entry criteria for specific courses must be the same for internal and external applicants.

10.3 Internal students - applications are welcomed from internal students who will have attended Year 11 of the school during the 2022/23 academic year.

10.4 External students - applications will also be welcomed for entry to the sixth form from external applicants. The Published Admission Number for external applicants for



entry to Year 12 in September 2023 will be 30, but more places may be available subject to the take up by internal applicants.

10.5 Should applications from suitably qualified external students exceed the number of places available, the following oversubscription criteria will apply in priority order:

10.5.1 Looked After Children

10.5.2 Vulnerable students

10.5.3 Students who have a sibling attending the school at the admission date

10.5.4 Other applicants on the basis of nearness to the school measured by the straight-line distance from the student's home address to the school. Those living closer to the school will be given priority.

10.6 Students should refer to the Sixth Form prospectus and website for the academic entry requirements.

## **11. Previously Excluded Students**

11.1 The Admissions Panel has the right to refuse a place to any student who has been permanently excluded from two or more schools, for a period of two years from the last exclusion. This rule does not apply in the following situations:

11.1.1 the student was reinstated following permanent exclusion.

11.1.2 the student has a statement of special educational needs that names The John of Gaunt School.

11.1.3 the student is a looked after child or previously looked after child.

11.2 The John of Gaunt School must participate in Wiltshire Council's Fair Access Protocol.



## **12. Waiting Lists**

In the event of any year group being over-subscribed, a waiting list will be kept by the Academy Trust. Applicants on the waiting list will be given priority according to the over-subscription criteria, not date of application.

## **13. Appeal Process**

Parents have the right to appeal against any decision made by the Admissions Panel. Appeals should be made in writing to the clerk to the governors (via Wingfield Office) within 14 days of receiving an admissions refusal. The appeal will be considered by an Independent Appeals Panel.