



ISLINGTON

Arts & Media School

SCHOOL OF CREATIVITY

Admission Policy

Section 1 General Principles

Islington Arts and Media school is an 11-16 mixed comprehensive trust school. We are a Specialist Arts and Media / Creativity learning community but do not have any requirement for aptitude from prospective students.

The main principle of admission to Islington Arts and Media school is to maintain the character of the school as a comprehensive school, providing for the needs of young persons within the 11 - 16 age range, who live in Islington and the surrounding areas defined below. There is no guarantee of a place for children living in our priority admission area (or attending the named feeder school/s)

Admission to our school is not dependent on any 'voluntary' contribution.

The school will endeavour to provide places for pupils who live outside the priority admission area (who do not attend a named feeder school) whose parents wish them to attend the Islington Arts and Media school provided that they can be accommodated within the admission limits.

Pupils will be admitted at the age of 11+ **without** reference to ability or aptitude using the criteria below. The admission number for September 2011 and subsequent years will be 150

The school participates in the Local Authority co-ordinated scheme and all deadlines within that should be adhered to by applicants.

As required by the Regulations of 2005 the school will give top priority to applications on behalf of children in public care (Children in Care).

Section 2 – Definitions and Details

Priority Admission Area - 'catchment' area

Our priority admission area is Islington and the following boroughs

Haringey
Hackney
Enfield
Camden

Sibling

By sibling we mean:

Children living at the same address who have one or both natural parents in common

Children living at the same address who are related by a parent's marriage

Children living at the same address whose parents are living as partners at this address

We do not include 'cousins' within our definition of sibling

Home Address

Proof of residence will be required by the co-ordinated scheme. The offer of a place may be withdrawn if proof of residency is not met.

Where a child lives part of the week with one parent and part with another member of the family the '**home address**' will be considered to be the residence where the child spends at least three nights of the school week each week.

Ethos

The ethos of this school is based on valuing creativity in the curriculum. We regard good behaviour, loyalty to and respect for others, endeavour, team work and commitment as important attributes and expect our students to pursue excellence in all that they undertake.

Section 3

Oversubscription

Children in Care will be admitted as the top priority.

In the event of over subscription, applications from within the priority admission area will be considered first and determined using the following criteria:

1. Children with a brother or sister (sibling) attending the school at the time of application with a reasonable expectation they will be attending at the time of at the start of the new academic year.
2. Children residing in the priority admission area defined above and according to our map. If you need clarification of the exact boundaries on this map please contact the school where you will be able to view a large scale version. (or children attending the named feeder school/s)
3. **Tie-breaker**
In the event of oversubscription in any category above, priority will be determined by the proximity of the child's home to the Islington Arts and Media school using a straight-line distance from the main entrance of the school on Turle Road to the main door of the residence, with those living nearest to the school being given priority.

Apartments in the same block will be treated equally with the measurement taken to the main entrance to the block. If after applying the distance tie-breaker there are more applications than places available from the apartment block furthest away, a further **tie-breaker of Random Allocation** will be used for the applications from this block.

Applications from outside the priority admission area described above are considered if there are still places available and will be determined by the following criteria:

4. Children with a brother or sister (sibling) attending the school at the time of application with a reasonable expectation they will be attending at the start of the new academic year.
5. Children residing outside the priority admission area

Medical Need

Exceptional medical circumstances supported by written medical evidence may override the above. Any such applications must be received by the closing date in the co-ordinated scheme and will be considered by the Admissions Committee of the school.

The evidence should come from at least one registered health professional and should set out the particular reasons why Islington Arts and Media school is the most suitable school.

Evidence pertaining to the need of the child to attend Islington Arts and Media school because of an aptitude or interest in our specialism will not be considered under this criteria. The evidence must be included with the application form.

Waiting Lists

Under the co-ordinated scheme the LA will maintain a waiting list until the end of the autumn term. The school will continue to maintain a waiting list for subsequent terms. Applications for inclusion on a waiting list must be made on the school's appropriate form and they will be ranked according to our oversubscription criteria as described above. We have to admit any pupil who is the subject of a 'direction' by the LA or allocated to us according to the local Fair Access Protocol and any such pupils take precedence over the waiting list.

We also maintain waiting lists for all 'full' year groups.

In Year Admissions

Admissions for all other year groups will be dealt with in accordance with this policy. The LA will administer a co-ordinated scheme and applications should be made direct to the LA on the approved form.

Appeals

If you are not offered a place at our school you have the right to appeal to an independent panel. Appeal papers will normally be sent out with offer letters to all those parents who were offered a school lower on their preference list than Somewhere School. Please ensure that these are headed with the school name and address and are returned to the Clerk to the Appeal Panel at the school. The closing date on the appeal application form must be adhered to. If you are in any doubt please contact the school and we will send you appeal forms.

All appeals should be heard by the same panel and it is difficult to slot in late applications. Appeals will be heard before 6th July or the first working day afterwards if the 6th is a weekend.