Admissions

Policy

2026-2027

INTREPIDUS

Kensington
Aldridge Academy

1. ADMISSION NUMBER(S)

1.1. The Academy Trust has the following agreed admission numbers for Kensington Aldridge Academy for the year 2026/27 and, subject to any changes approved or required by the Secretary of State, for subsequent years:

- 210 for pupils in Year 7
- 140 for pupils in Year 12

1.2. In any specific year, the Academy Trust may set a higher admission number than the Kensington Aldridge Academy's agreed admission number for an applicable year group. Pupils will not be admitted in any year group above the published admission number for that year group unless exceptional circumstances apply and such circumstances shall be reported to the Secretary of State.

1.3. If the academy admits a total of 26 pupils in excess of its admission number in any 3-year period it will determine a higher admission number, after consulting in line with the requirements of the codes and relevant admissions legislation, which at the date of this Agreement is section 89 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 as amended, and regulations under that section.

2. APPLICATION PROCESS

2.1. Arrangements for applications for places at the Kensington Aldridge Academy will be made in accordance with the local authority's co-ordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by the relevant local authority. For more information, please refer to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's (RBKC) publication *Transferring to Secondary School* (available via their website).

2.2. Kensington Aldridge Academy also admits up to 21 students (10%) of our annual Year 7 intake to students who are able to demonstrate an aptitude in Performing Arts through an aptitude test. Applicants for these places have to complete an online application form, available from the academy (Appendix B). Where candidates' test scores meet the minimum score, the first eleven offers will be to students who qualify for the "pupil premium". This is a safeguard to ensure the socio-economic background of students coming via the aptitude route will reflect that of the wider school. For families that apply through this route, proof of "pupil premium" status will be required upon application. Eligibility will be determined if families are in receipt of, or have previously been in receipt of (within the last 6 years), any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income- based Job Seekers allowance

- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

The second ten offers can be for pupil premium or non-pupil premium students – they will be offered on the basis of the score in the aptitude test. Further details can be found on our website.

Where applicants have a tied aptitude test score, the tie will be broken based on distance to the academy within the priority area.[1]

2.3. The Academy Trust will use the RBKC's timetable for applications to the Kensington Aldridge Academy each year (exact dates within the months may vary from year to year). This will fit in with the timetable for the co-ordination of admission arrangements within RBKC as agreed by the Admissions Forum, RBKC, local schools and academies.

2.4. Timetable for secondary co-ordination:

a) **By September** - The Academy Trust will publish in Kensington Aldridge Academy's prospectus information about the arrangements for admission, including oversubscription criteria, for the following September (e.g. in September 2021 for admission in September 2022). This will include details of open evenings and other opportunities for prospective pupils and their parents to visit the school as well as information regarding applications for PCA aptitude tests in Year 7. The Academy Trust will also provide information in relation to the Kensington Aldridge Academy to RBKC for inclusion in the composite prospectus, as required;

b) **September/October** - The Academy Trust will provide opportunities for parents to visit the Kensington Aldridge Academy.

c) **October** – PCA aptitude supplementary forms must be returned to the academy, if applicable. KAA carries out its aptitude test for PCA places and notifies parents of the scores. Common Application Form to be completed and returned to the pupil's home local authority to administer. From 2011-12 there will be a national closing date for secondary applications as follows: TBC.

[1] Proximity to the school will be calculated using a straight line (as the crow flies) measurement from the child's home 'address point' determined by Ordnance Survey Data to the centre of the school grounds as determined by the Royal Borough using its computerised measuring system. The child living closest to the school will receive the highest priority.

d) **February** - RBKC applies agreed scheme for own schools, informing other local authorities of offers to be made to their residents.

e) **February** - RBKC sends Kensington Aldridge Academy applications to the Academy Trust;

f) **2nd March** offers made to parents.

The academy will ensure its application processes enable parents to apply before these deadlines.

3. CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

The Academy Trust will consider all applications for places at the Kensington Aldridge Academy. Where fewer than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year groups are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the Kensington Aldridge Academy to all those who have applied.

4. PROCEDURES WHERE THE KENSINGTON ALDRIDGE ACADEMY IS OVERSUBSCRIBED

Admissions to Year 7 is 210 pupils. Kensington Aldridge Academy has been oversubscribed in each year of operation since it opened. The admission of pupils will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

Secondary phase oversubscription criteria

a) Children in Public Care, also known as Looked After Children (LAC), to include, children who were looked after, but ceased to be because they were adopted, or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order, this may also include children who are/were Looked After Children outside of England or ceased to be in state care as a result of being adopted.[2]

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[2] **Criteria for Children in Public Care:**

a) 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) at the time of making an application to a school.

b) This includes children who were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 (see Section 12 adoption orders) and children who were adopted under the Adoption and Children Act 2002 (see Section 46 adoption orders).

c) Child arrangements orders are defined in Section 8 of the Children Act 1989, as amended by Section 12 of the Children and Families Act 2014. Child arrangements orders replace residence orders and any residence order in force prior to 22 April 2014 is deemed to be a child arrangements order.

b) Up to twenty-one children who successfully pass the Performing Arts aptitude test, ten of which will be students that qualify for the 'pupil premium' if they reach the minimum score required.

c) Children who live in the defined priority area (see Appendix A) who have a sibling at the academy at the time of application;

d) Children who live outside the defined priority area who have a sibling at the academy at the time of application;

e) Children who live within the defined priority area who live nearest to the academy. Distances will be calculated using a straight measurement from the home address to the centre point of the academy;

f) Children who live outside the defined priority area who live nearest to the academy. Distances will be calculated using a straight measurement from the home address to the centre point of the academy.

For the purpose of criterion (a) the child's social worker must submit a letter confirming the legal status of the child and the local authority to whom the child is/was in care and quoting the child's full name and current address. For a child who is/was looked after from outside of England, evidence must also be provided showing the country, region and authority where the child was in care.

Where a pupil lives for part of each week at different addresses, the 'home' address shall be that address at which the pupil spends the majority of the school week.

For the purposes of criterion (c) and (d) above, a sibling is a brother or sister, half brother or sister, adopted brother or sister, step brother or sister or the child of the parent / carer's partner, and in every case, the child should be living at the same address. The sibling can be in any KAA year group at the time of application, and be likely to remain in the school at the proposed date of admission.

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d) Section 14A of the Children Act 1989 defines a 'special guardianship order' as an order appointing one or more individuals to be a child's special guardian (or special guardians)

e) A child is regarded as having been in state care outside of England if they were in the care of or were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

For the purpose of criteria (c), (d), (e) and (f) the defined priority area includes addresses located on both sides of the boundary roads.[3]

For the purpose of criterion (d) and (f) above, nearness to the school will be calculated using a straight line (as the crow flies) measurement from the child's home 'address point' determined by Ordnance Survey Data to the centre of the school grounds as determined by the Royal Borough using its computerised measuring system. The child living closest to the school will receive the highest priority. Accessibility by car or public transport will be disregarded. If applicants share the same address point (for example, those who live in the same block of flats or shared house) priority will be determined by random allocation.

Routes will be measured to four decimal places (if necessary). If two or more applicants live at exactly the same distance from the school, the offer of a place will be decided by random allocation.

If a tie-break involves twins or triplets, the academy will offer places over the published number to accommodate the children.

Notwithstanding the above arrangements, the Secretary of State may direct the academy to admit a named pupil on application to the LA; before doing so the Secretary of State will consult the academy.

5. OPERATION OF WAITING LIST AND IN YEAR ADMISSIONS (YEAR 7)

Where in any year the academy receives more applications than places available, a waiting list will be in operation and ordered in according to the degree to which they meet the school's published oversubscription criteria. The list will be maintained by the Admissions Team at RBKC. You will need to contact your Home Local Authority if you would like to either make a late preference for your child or to be added to the waiting list if you have already applied and were unsuccessful.

Similarly, In Year admissions are also managed by the Admissions Team at RBKC.

6. RIGHT OF APPEAL (YEAR 7)

If your child is not offered a place at Kensington Aldridge Academy, you have the right to appeal. The appeals are heard by panels which are independent of the school and of the local authority. If you wish to appeal against a decision refusing your child a place at Kensington Aldridge Academy, please this link to submit an appeal online. The appeal panel will consider appeals according to the terms of

[3] For families who lived in Grenfell Tower in 2017 and have therefore been rehoused at a greater distance from the academy, the Grenfell Tower postcode is used for the purposes of calculating the child's proximity under criterion (c), (d), (e) and (f).

the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the Code on Admission Appeals. You may attend the hearing yourselves and you may be accompanied by a friend or be represented. If you are unable to attend, your written appeal will be considered.

7. ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMITTING PUPILS TO YEARS 8 AND 9

Subject to any provisions in the RBKC's co-ordinated admission arrangements relating to applications submitted for years other than the normal year of entry, Kensington Aldridge Academy will consider applications. Where in any year the academy receives more applications than places available, a waiting list will be in operation and ordered according to the degree to which they meet the school's published oversubscription criteria. The list will be maintained by the Admissions Team at RBKC. Parents whose application is turned down are entitled to appeal to an independent Appeals Panel (see section 6).

8. ADMISSIONS TO YEAR 12

8.1. The Academy Trust will consider all applications for places at the sixth form at Kensington Aldridge Academy. KAA provides provision for post-16 pupils with a capacity for 140 students in Year 12 and a total of 280 students in the sixth form.

8.2. All external students wishing to enter the sixth form must meet the minimum academic requirements for entry, including any specified minimum entrance requirements for the courses for which they are applying. The school will only consider applicants for courses which it has published as being available, and will not make other courses available at the request of applicants. In some cases, where there is insufficient demand, an advertised course might not run. The academic entry requirements and minimum course requirements will be published on the academy's website and in our admissions prospectus.

8.3. When the sixth form is undersubscribed, all applicants meeting the minimum entrance and course requirements will be admitted. When there are more external applicants who satisfy the entry requirements, places will be offered in the following order of priority:

a) Young people who are in public care (looked after children) or who were in public care but ceased to be so because they were adopted or became subject to a child arrangement or Special Guardianship order (previously looked-after children).

b) Applicants living closest to the academy calculated as a straight-line distance.

9. OPERATION OF WAITING LIST (YEAR 12)

If Kensington Aldridge Academy receives more applications than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term, after the beginning of the school year. This will be maintained by the academy and following an unsuccessful application, the applicant will be informed if they have been placed on the waiting list.

10. CONDITIONS ONCE AN OFFER IS MADE (YEAR 12)

10.1. Applicants must provide original documentary evidence of qualifications and proof of identity during the enrolment process which will take place in the summer before school starts. Failure to provide all this information will mean that we are unable to guarantee the confirmation of your offer.

10.2. The Academy Trust reserves the right to request applicants to produce documentary evidence to substantiate any claim and this information must be provided when requested.

10.3. 'Permanent home address' is classified as the permanent residence of the parent/carer that the applicant spends most of his/her time with and must be where he/she is residing when the application is made. If the applicant resides at more than one address, all addresses must be stated on the application form. If the applicant's address has changed, then the relevant address is that which is on the application form, unless it can be demonstrated that ties with the previous address have been relinquished. The Trustees reserve the right to refuse an allocation where they have reasonable grounds to believe that the address on the application may be a temporary address only.

10.4. Any applicant who is unable to provide the documentation outlined will not be admitted to Kensington Aldridge Academy. If false or misleading information is used to gain entry to the academy, the offer of a place may be withdrawn.

11. ADMISSIONS TO THE GRANDIN CENTRE

11.1. The Autism Centre (called the Grandin Centre) in Kensington Aldridge Academy, as agreed with the Bi-Borough, has four places available in Year 7 and parents need to approach their Local Authority to express a preference for the Centre at KAA. The Bi-Borough will then assess the child's suitability for a place against their Admissions Guidance for Special Provisions documents and then provide documentation to the academy for consideration. The admissions criteria are published on the academy's website and in the Bi-Borough admissions prospectus.

11.2. To be accepted to the Grandin Centre, students should be able to display the ability to:

a) Access and make academic progress within a mainstream primary setting (with support);
b) Be above National Curriculum 'P' scales in all areas and be at Level 3 or above (in some cases, with the exception of one specific area of need);
c) Communicate as a minimum, their basic needs, verbally and in a timely manner.
d) Respond to adult intervention and requests;
e) Interact with other students with or without support and encouragement;
f) Be able to deal with some unplanned changes to schedules within the school day, with support;
g) Cope with the sensory stimuli within a mainstream environment, including where reasonable adjustments can be made to support students to manage this;
h) Respond to strategies employed to help students cope with their difficulties;
i) Be aware of their own safety and the safety of others in a large building, with hazards such as terraces or balconies, or the road outside the school;
j) Be able to undertake daily personal hygiene tasks and dressing independently (with the exception of needing help to do top buttons, ties and shoe laces).

11.3. Where the school deems a student appropriate for the Centre, the Bi-Borough will be notified that the Grandin Centre is able to meet the student's special educational needs. The Local Authority will then present the school acceptance to the family. Students whose parents accept the offer of a place at the Grandin Centre will be invited to attend an enhanced transition programme in the summer term of Year 6.

11.4. If a child does not meet the criteria, or is deemed to be incompatible with the ongoing education of the other students in the school, or Grandin Centre, a document outlining these reasons will be forwarded to the Bi-Borough.

Appendix A

Priority Area Map

Appendix B

Supplementary Information Form

[Performing Arts Aptitude Application for September 2026 entry]