

Barton Manor School's admission arrangements for 2026

Introductory statement

Barton Manor School (BMS) is a non-selective, co-educational, secondary school for children aged 11-18 years old. Since opening in September 2022, we have welcomed our first four cohorts of 150 students and are thrilled to be expanding our school with a new intake of 150 Year 7 students in September 2026, taking the school to 750 students.

The Trust comprises of three schools: Barton Court Grammar School, The Charles Dickens School and Barton Manor School (BMS). BMS works collaboratively with the other schools in the Trust to strive for continuous academic and pastoral excellence, sharing expertise and resources. Barton Manor School is a 5-form, 11-18, non-selective school that will grow in size over time. The Sixth Form will open to students at a later date and the admission arrangements for this will follow consultation and publication nearer the time. As Barton Manor School will be located close to Barton Court Grammar School, an excellent selective school, rated Outstanding by Ofsted (February 2020) for Leadership & Management, Behaviour & Attitudes and Personal Development; both schools will be able to work closely together to provide an exceptional standard of education for all students, harnessing the academic track record of Barton Court Grammar with the state-of-the-art facilities and innovative curriculum provided by Barton Manor School.

Barton Manor School will be a centre of excellence for applied studies with specialist facilities and in partnership with Barton Court Grammar School, together they will provide a rich and successful joint post-16 provision in the longer term. This will create a unique opportunity for the local area with a new free school built on a strong foundation of success coupled with brand new modern facilities to complement high standards and achievement.

Admission number(s)

The school has an admission number of 150 for entry in year 7.

The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications.

Where fewer applicants than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year group are received, the Academy Trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Admissions Process

The local authority will coordinate applications for this school through their coordinated scheme. This means you will need to complete your LA common application form for all your choices of school, including for this school.

The closing date for applications is 31 October 2025.

Offers will be made on Monday 2 March 2026.

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1) Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children:

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. A previously looked after child means such children who were adopted (or subject to child arrangements orders or special guardianship orders) immediately following having been looked after and 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. 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.

2) Sibling/Current Family Association:

Priority will next be given to the sibling of pupils attending Barton Manor School at the time the application is received or who are attending Barton Court Grammar School.

3) Children of staff:

Priority will next be given to the children of staff who have been recruited to fill a skill-shortage area.

4) Exceptional medical or social need:

Priority will next be given to children based on their exceptional medical or social needs. Each application must include evidence, from a medical specialist or social worker of the child's need and why they must attend this school rather than any other, based on those needs. If evidence is not submitted to the School with the application, a child's medical or social needs cannot be considered.

5) Nearness of children's homes to school

We use the distance between the child's permanent home address (defined in KCC's annual admissions prospectus) and the school, measured in a straight line using the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG) address point. Distances are measured from a point defined as within the child's home to a point defined as within the school as specified by NLPG. The same address point on the school site is used for everybody. When we apply the distance criterion for the school, these straight-line measurements are used to determine how close each applicant's address is to the school. Where applications are made from properties or abodes that are not registered to the NLPG, including new build properties, KCC may be required to use planning sites or other relevant co-ordinates. In exceptional circumstances 3 where alternative co-ordinates are not available, measurements will be determined by a Senior Admissions Officer and confirmed by Head of Service.

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Tie-break

If in categories 2-5 above a tie-break is necessary to determine which child is admitted, random allocation undertaken by the local authority independent of the free school will be used as a tie-break to decide who will be admitted.

Random allocation will not be applied to multiple birth siblings (twins and triplets etc.) from the same family tied for the final place. We will admit them all and exceed our PAN.

Late applications

All applications received by the Local Authority after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applicants the school is oversubscribed, parents/carers may request that their child is placed on the school's waiting list.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested.

When such a request is made, the academy trust will make all decisions on the basis of the circumstances of each request with the best interests of the child considered, taking into account parents'/carers' views; information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional; whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group; and whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely.

Waiting lists

Barton Manor School will keep and maintain an up-to-date waiting list for each year group. The waiting list will be compiled according to the oversubscription criteria. Places will be allocated to students on that waiting list as they become available. The school's Waiting List will be reranked, in line with the published oversubscription criteria, every time a child is added and will be kept until the end of the academic year.

In-Year Entry: 2026-2027 (Year 7 - 11 only)

Applications outside the normal admissions round should apply direct to Barton Manor School. The application form can be obtained from http://www.bartonmanor.org/.

The Published Admissions Number and over-subscription criteria apply as above. In the event of the year group being over-subscribed, a waiting list will be held, ranked according to the over-subscription criteria.

Parents/carers have a statutory right of appeal, should an application be refused, by writing to the address provided within the Appeals section below.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

Appellants should contact the Clerk to the Governors, Admissions, Barton Manor School, Canterbury CT1 1SU - 01227 532140 for information on how to appeal. Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website at http://www.bartonmanor.org

Notes:

Home address:

The home address is where a child normally lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared parental responsibility, each for part of a week, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. If a child's residence is split equally between both parents, then parents will be asked to determine which residential address should be used for the purpose of admission to school. If no joint declaration is received where the residence is split equally by the closing date for applications, the home address will be taken as the address where the child is registered with the doctor. If the residence is not split equally between both parents then the address used will be the address where the child spends the majority of the school week.

Sibling:

'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, a step brother or sister or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place.

Medical and Social Need:

'Social need' does not include a parent's wish that a child attends the school because of a child's aptitude or ability or because their friends attend the school. 'Medical need' does not include mild medical conditions.

Skill-shortage area:

A "skill-shortage area" is a teacher who is recruited in a shortage subject defined as follows: The government Initial Teacher Training (ITT) funding guidance for shortage subjects or any vacancy in the school that has been advertised for over two months or at least twice.