



ADMISSION OF STUDENTS INTO YEAR 7 IN SEPTEMBER 2026

Sir Christopher Hatton Academy (the academy) is a co-educational, non-denominational academy providing education for boys and girls in the 11-18 age range. From September 2004 the school was designated by the DfES as a Specialist Mathematics and Computing College. The school converted into an academy under the Department for Education's high performing school's converter academy programme in March 2012.

The admission arrangements determined by Hatton Academies Trust (the Trust) are in accordance with the statutory framework currently set out in the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (and regulations made thereunder) the School Admissions Code (2021). The academy's published admission number (PAN) is currently 240 students.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Parents must apply for a place through the LA online system or using the LA's common application form. The application forms must be completed and submitted or returned by the national closing date **Friday 31st October 2025**.

Applications should be made through the Local Authority where the student lives, not where the school is based. Living in the area does not guarantee you a place at your closest school.

The academy will consider all applications for places. Where fewer than 240 are received, the academy will admit all those who have applied. Sir Christopher Hatton is regularly oversubscribed.

Oversubscription Criteria

Places will be allocated to children who have an EHC Plan naming the school. When there are more applications for places than there are places available, priority will be given in the following order:

1. Looked after children and all previously looked after children (see Note A)
2. 10% (24 places) allocated on an aptitude test in ICT (see Note B)
3. Children of employees (see Note C)
4. Children with an older sibling already in attendance and expected to continue at the academy at the time of admission of the younger child (see Note D)
5. Children who attend Hatton Academies Trust primary schools. Specifically, Oakway Academy, Victoria Primary Academy, Ecton Village Primary Academy. A total of up to 135 places will be allocated inclusive of those successful within criterions 1, 2, 3 and 4 who attend a Trust primary school. (See Note E and F)
6. Attendance at a primary school that has traditional links to Sir Christopher Hatton Academy will be allocated using a process of random allocation (See Note F)
7. Any remaining places will be allocated a place using a process of random allocation (See Note G)

Note: Criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 will be applied strictly in the order stated above. Where in any criterion the number of applicants exceeds the number of places available, a process of random allocation will be applied to denote the order in which these applicants will be allocated. Such process will be overseen by an independent third party.

Allocation of places

In all criteria where there are more applicants than available places, priority will be determined through a process of random allocation. Names of applicants will be selected at random in the presence of an independent observer.

Notes

A. Looked after Children and Previously Looked After Children

A looked after child is one who is (a) in the care of the local authority, or (b) being provided with accommodation by a local authority in the exercise of their social services functions (see section 22(1) Children Act 1989) at the time of making an application to the school.

A previously looked after child is a child who was looked after but ceased to be so because the child was adopted (under the Adoption Act 1976 or Adoption and Children Act 2002) or become the subject of a child arrangements order (section 8 Children Act 1989) or a special guardianship order (section 14A Children Act 1989).

PLAC includes 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 local authority, a religious organisation, or any other provider of care whose sole or main purpose is to benefit society.

Evidence from the relevant social services department may be requested to determine eligibility under this criterion.

B. Aptitude test in ICT

As a Specialist Mathematics and Computing Academy, the Board of Directors have decided that 10% (24) places are allocated on the basis of aptitude in Information Technology, established by tests taken at the academy. Applicants are invited to take the ICT Aptitude Test at the academy on Saturday 11th October 2025 (**time to be advised after the deadline**). If parents are unable to attend on the allocated day, they must inform us in advance of the testing date so that alternative arrangements can be considered.

The opportunity to take the ICT Aptitude Test must be indicated on the online Supplementary Information Form available on the [academy website](#). The form must be completed by 4:00pm on Thursday 2nd October 2025 at the latest. **This form does not replace the Local Authority application requirements.**

In line with paragraph 1.32 of the School Admissions Code, reasonable adjustments will be made to ensure that children with a disability are not disadvantaged in the testing process. Any such arrangements will be confirmed with the child's primary school in accordance with our usual procedures.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING

- Your child does not have to take the ICT Aptitude test.
- If you choose for your child not to take this test, then any subsequent application for a place at the school will not be prejudiced.
- If your child does sit the test then the result of this will not prejudice any subsequent application for a place at the school.

C. Children of employees

Priority will be given to children of staff at the academy. This will be where either:

- a. The member of staff has been employed at the academy for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the academy is made; or
- b. The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post at the academy for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

To qualify under this criterion, the staff member must be a 'direct employee'. A staff member is classified as a 'direct employee' of the academy in which they are primarily registered to work, as specified in their employment contract with the Trust. Staff contracted in to provide services to the school do not count as 'direct employees'.

For the purposes of this criterion, 'children of employees' are taken to include a son, daughter or step-son/daughter, or a child who is adopted or fostered or for whom a special guardianship order is in place, in all cases providing they are living at the same address as the parent who is employed by the academy. Parents/carers will be required to submit evidence that they are eligible for this criterion. This will also include evidence to support living arrangements.

D. Sibling Link

A sibling link will arise where one of the conditions in each of A and B are satisfied.

Condition A

- A brother or sister living at the same address, who shares the same parents
- A half-brother or half-sister living at the same address, where two children share one common parent
- A step brother or step sister living at the same address, where two children are related by a parent's marriage
- Adopted or fostered children living in the same household

Condition B

For the sibling link to apply, one of the siblings must be a registered pupil at the academy at the time of application and is expected to remain on roll at the point of admission.

E. Trust Feeder Primary schools

The Trust as the Admissions Authority have agreed to give a preference of up to 135 places to primary schools in Hatton Academies Trust including those who attend a Trust primary school but were allocated a place under criterion 1, 2, 3, or 4. Specifically the Trust feeder schools are, Oakway Academy, Victoria Primary Academy, Ecton Village Primary Academy.

Where the number of applicants exceeds the number of place available under this criterion, places will be allocated based upon random allocation, see note G. If the number of applicants from the Trust primary schools exceeds 135, any applicants who are not successful in this criterion will have their application considered in criteria 6.

F. Traditional Feeder Schools

These are local schools that are located with the vicinity of Sir Christopher Hatton Academy. Redwell Primary School, Park Junior School, Freemans Endowed CofE School, All Saints VA Primary school. (Please note that any applicants from primary school in Hatton Academies Trust who have not been allocated in criteria 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 will have their application considered in criteria 6).

Where the number of applicants exceeds the number of place available, places will be allocated based upon random allocation, see note G.

G. Random Allocation

In accordance with the School Admission Code (September 2021) the use of random allocation is not used before all looked after children and previously looked after children have been prioritised. The academy administers the random allocation process, through the use of an online randomiser. Applicant's names are placed in the randomiser which places them into a random order. This denotes the order in which these applicants will be allocated. A person independent of the academy will supervise this process.

Further information

Application form

ALL students who seek a place at the school under criteria 2 (ICT Aptitude test) must complete the online **Supplementary Information Form** available on the academy website by **5.00pm on Thursday 2nd October 2025, as well as** submitting the Local Authority Application Form to the Local Authority by midnight **Friday 31st October 2025**.

Please Note all students who seek a place at the school under any of the criteria must submit the Local Authority Application Form to the Local Authority by midnight **Friday 31st October 2025**

Appeals

In the event of a place not being allocated, there is a right to appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel. The Appeal Panel will be independent of the academy. The arrangements for appeals will be in line with the

School Admissions Code and the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education (DfE). The determination of the Appeal Panel will be binding on all parties.

Parents or Carers may appeal by completing a Notice of Appeal form. The Notice of Appeal and guidance notes are available on our website.

Distance

Distance to the academy is not considered as part of the admissions criteria. Therefore, the distance from the applicant's home address to the academy has no bearing on any application that is submitted.

Year 7 Waiting list

The waiting list will be administered by the LA on behalf of the academy. Places which become available are filled from the academy's waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

From the 1st March until the 31st December 2026, children's position on the Year 7 waiting list will be solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant, places will be offered to the applicant at the top of the waiting list. The waiting list will be re-ranked each time a candidate is added to the waiting list. That will include a fresh round of random allocation for any applicants under criteria 7.

After the 31st December of the year of entry in Year 7, the In Year Admissions policy and waiting list will be applied.

Parents/carers will be asked to reconfirm they wish their child to remain on the waiting list within one week of the start of each new academic term. Failure to do so may result in removal from the waiting list.

In addition, the academy is committed to working in partnership with the Local Authority to ensure that children who are hard to place are admitted through the Fair Access Protocol, as required by the School Admissions Code (Section 2.15). Admissions made under the Fair Access Protocol will take precedence over any waiting list, and the Academy will act in full accordance with the statutory requirements.

Withdrawing an offer of a place

The academy reserves the right to withdraw an offer of a place if it was made in error, a parent fails to respond to the offer of a place within a reasonable period of time, or it is established that the offer of a place was obtained through a fraudulent or misleading application. Where a parent fails to respond to the offer of a place, the academy will give the parent a further opportunity to respond and explain to them that the offer of a place will be withdrawn unless they respond by the specified date. Where an offer of a place is withdrawn on the basis of misleading information, the academy will consider the application afresh, and will offer a right of appeal if admission cannot be offered.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

As a general rule, the academy would expect children to be educated in their normal age group. Parents of gifted and talented children, or those who have experienced problems or missed part of a year, for example due to ill health, may decide to seek admission to a year group outside their child's normal age. The academy will make a decision based on the circumstances of each case and will advise parents of the information they are required to submit with their application. In some certain circumstances the academy

may determine that a child is to be educated in another year group apart from their age range. Any such decision will be determined on educational grounds and will be a condition of admission to the academy.

Open Weeks and Evening

The academy is open to visits by appointment from Monday 29th September to Thursday 16th October 2025. Appointments are available to book via Main Reception from Monday 22nd September.

Our Open Evenings will take place on Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th October 2025. Further information will be available in September.