

## **ARENA ACADEMY 2025-2026**

Beeches Road, Great Barr, Birmingham B42 2PY Tel: 0121 360 4242

[www.arena-birmingham.academy](http://www.arena-birmingham.academy)

Published Admission Number: 180

### **Oversubscription Criteria**

Where there are more applications than there are places available, places will be allocated based on the following order of priority:

- a) Looked after or previously looked after children.
- b) Children with a brother or sister already at the school who will still be in attendance in September of the academic year of the sibling joining the school.
- c) Children who live nearest the school.

Within each of these categories, priority is given to those who live nearest the school. Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the applicant's home address and the main school gate on Beeches Road. The Local Authority uses a computerised system (Cartology), which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant's home address and the address of the School.

### **Children with an Education Health and Care Plan**

Any child with an Education Health and Care Plan is required to be admitted to the school that is named in the statement. This gives such children overall priority for admission to the named school. This is not an oversubscription criterion.

### **Looked after or previously 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, child arrangement order, 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). In the case of previously looked after children, admission authorities may request a copy of the adoption order, child arrangement order or special guardianship order and a letter from the local authority that last looked after the child confirming that he or she was looked after immediately prior to that order being made.

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 will be given equal first priority in admission arrangements, alongside looked after children (LAC) and children who were previously looked after by English local authorities (PLAC). These children are referred to as internationally adopted previously looked after children – “IAPLAC”. Evidence will be required from the carer confirming that their child meets the above criteria in accordance with the DfE’s non-statutory guidance on the admission of IAPLAC.

### **Siblings**

Siblings (brothers or sisters) are considered to be those children who live at the same address and either:

- i. have one or both natural parents in common;
- ii. are related by a parent’s marriage;
- iii. are adopted or fostered by a common parent.

Unrelated children living at the same address, whose parents are living as partners, are also considered to be siblings.

Children not adopted or fostered or related by a parent’s marriage or with one natural parent in common, who are brought together as a family by a same sex civil partnership and who are living at the same address, are also considered to be siblings.

### **Distance**

Distances are calculated on the basis of a straight-line measurement between the applicant’s home address and the main school gate on Beeches Road. The Local Authority uses a computerised system (Cartology), which measures all distances in metres. Ordnance Survey supply the co-ordinates that are used to plot an applicant’s home address and the address of the school.

### **Shared Responsibility**

Where parents have shared responsibility for a child, and the child lives with both parents for part of the week, then the main residence will be determined as the address where the child lives the majority of the week. Parents may be requested to supply documentary evidence to support the address used.

### **Final Qualifier**

In a very small number of cases it may not be possible to decide between the applications of those pupils who are the final qualifiers for a place when applying the published admission criteria. For example, this may occur when children in the same year group live at the same address, or if the distance between the home and school is exactly the same, for example, blocks of flats.

If there is no other way of separating the application according to the admissions criteria, and to admit both or all of the children would cause the Published Admission Number for

the child's year group to be exceeded, the Local Authority will use a computerised system to randomly select the child to be offered the final place. In the event of this occurring with twins or other multiple birth applicants, academies will be asked to admit over their Published Admission Number to accommodate the pupils.

### **Waiting Lists**

Waiting lists will not be fixed following the offer of places. They are subject to change. This means that a child's waiting list position during the year could go up or down. Any applicants will be added to the school's list in accordance with the order of priority for offering places. Waiting lists will be maintained until the end of each academic year.

### **Appeals**

Appeals are administered by the Local Authority for this school. Parents who wish to appeal against the decision to refuse their child admission should visit [https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school\\_admissions/207/appeal\\_against\\_a\\_decision\\_to\\_refuse\\_your\\_child\\_a\\_school\\_place](https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20119/school_admissions/207/appeal_against_a_decision_to_refuse_your_child_a_school_place) to complete an online appeal form. Appeals will be heard by an independent panel.

### **In-Year Applications**

Applications made outside the normal admissions round (in-year admissions) should be made directly to the school. Parents/carers can apply for a place for their child at any time and to any school. The school will notify parents of the decision in writing within 15 school days and will notify the local authority of both the application and its outcome to allow the Local Authority to keep up to date with figures on the availability of school places in Birmingham.

### **Fair Access**

The Governing Body of this Academy is committed to taking its fair share of children who are vulnerable and/or hard to place, as set out in locally agreed protocols. Accordingly, outside the normal admission round the governing body is empowered to give absolute priority to a child where admission is requested under any locally agreed protocol.