Belmont Academy

Admission Arrangements 2026/27

ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2026/27 FOR BELMONT ACADEMY

1. **ADMISSION TO NURSERY CLASSES**
2. **ADMISSION TO RECEPTION**
3. **POLICY FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF HOME TO SCHOOL DISTANCE**

1. ADMISSION TO NURSERY CLASSES

1. Children born between 01.09.23 and 31.08.24 may be admitted from September 2027.

2. Admission numbers for nursery classes are given below.

3. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming a school will be admitted to that school as a result of that process and will be given precedence for admission. This includes pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan admitted into the school's virtual resource provision which offers placements for pupils with a visual impairment and/or physical, medical need.

4. All first preference applications for a nursery class will be considered before second and third preference applications, and all second preferences will be considered before third preferences.

5. In the event of there being more applications than places the following oversubscription criteria will be used:

Priority 1 is given to children in public care (looked after children) and children previously looked after immediately before being adopted or subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. To qualify for this priority, children must fall within the definition of 'looked after' as in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989.

Priority 2 – children resident within the London Borough of Bexley
Applications for nursery classes from Bexley residents will be considered before any applications from out-borough residents.

Priority 2A
This is given to a child with a brother or sister who will be attending the school of parental preference at the time the child is due for admission to the nursery class. This priority does not include brothers or sisters due to transfer to secondary school in the next academic year.

For this priority, brother or sister includes a full, half, step or adopted brother or sister living at the same address.

Priority 2B
This gives priority for admission to children of a member of staff at Belmont Academy where the family are residing within the London Borough of Bexley, **AND**

a) where the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made,
and/or
b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Priority 2C
This gives priority to pupils living nearest to the nursery class based on the distance from the home address to the nearest school entrance measured as a straight line in accordance with the London Borough of Bexley's policy on the measurement of home to school distance. Home will be taken as the address at which the child lives with the parent or registered guardian who is the main carer (the parent eligible to receive Child Benefit and/or Child Tax Credit) at the time of application.

Where one or more applicants live exactly the same distance from the school applied for and all would qualify for the last available place, the allocation of the last place will be made by drawing lots. The first child drawn will be offered the place, and the remaining children are placed on the waiting list in the order of the draw.

Priority 3 – children living outside the London Borough of Bexley

Applications from out-Borough residents will be considered after **all** applications from Bexley residents in the same sequence as the priorities in group 2.

For all applicants:

6. A waiting list will be established by the London Borough of Bexley for applicants not offered their first preference and kept in the sequence of the priorities.

7. There is no right of appeal against decisions not to offer a nursery class place.

NURSERY CLASS ADMISSION NUMBERS 2026/27

There are 26 nursery places at Belmont Academy. All 26 are for a morning placement only. Belmont does not currently offer any afternoon provision.

2. Entry to Belmont Academy Reception (PRIMARY)

Reception Classes

1. Children born between 01.09.22 and 31.08.23 will be admitted in September 2027.

2. Admission numbers for schools are given below.

3. Children with an Education, Health and Care Plan naming a school will be admitted to that school as a result of that process and will be given precedence for admission, this includes pupils admitted into the school's virtual resource provision.

4. In the event of there being more applications than places the following oversubscription criteria will be used:

Priority 1
This is given to children in public care (looked after children) and children previously looked after immediately before being adopted or subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. To qualify for this priority, children must fall within the definition of 'looked after' as in section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989.

Priority 2
This is given to children with a medical condition such that it is **essential**, on medical grounds, for the child to attend the preferred school. Equally, this priority will apply where **either** the disability or medical condition of a parent or sibling would cause significant hardship if the child did not attend the preferred school. The London Borough of Bexley's own medical adviser may be asked for a professional opinion on the case presented. Priority will normally only be given if the school applied for is the closest school to the home address, unless the medical adviser considers that an alternative school is essential for medical reasons.

Requests for this priority must be made with supporting evidence at the time of application. Later requests will be considered only if the medical condition occurs after the closing date for applications. Medical conditions consequential from failure to obtain the preferred school, for example emotional distress (whether or not leading to a recognised medical condition), do not fall within this priority.

Priority 3
This is given to children with a brother or sister who will be attending the school of parental preference at the time the child is due for admission to that school. This priority does not include brothers or sisters due to transfer to secondary school in the next academic year.

For this priority, brother or sister includes a full step, half or adopted brother or sister living at the same address.

Where in an allocation of places, children who are twins, triplets or from other multiple births would qualify for fewer places than the number of children, all will be treated as siblings and therefore accorded the sibling priority. That means that in these circumstances only, twins, triplets or children from other multiple births will be given priority over all other children who qualify to be admitted on distance.

Priority 4
Priority will be awarded to children with a parent employed at Belmont Academy school where;

a) the member of staff has been employed at the school for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made,
and/or
b) the member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

Priority 5
This gives priority to children living nearest to the school based on the distance from the home address to the nearest school entrance measured as a straight line in accordance with the London Borough of Bexley's policy on the measurement of home to school distance. Home will be taken as the address at which the child lives with the parent or registered guardian who is the main carer (the parent eligible to receive Child Benefit and/or Child Tax Credit) at the time of application.

Where one or more applicants live exactly the same distance from the school applied for and all would qualify for the last available place, the allocation of the last place will be made by drawing lots. The first child drawn will be offered the place, and the remaining children placed on the waiting list in the order of the draw.

Nursery pupils

A child who attends the nursery class attached to a school is given **no** priority over children who did not attend the nursery.

For all Bexley primary admissions:

1. Any Bexley resident applicants not offered a place at Belmont Academy, will be allocated a place at the school nearest to the home address, which has a vacancy. This will be administered by the London Borough of Bexley.

2. Parents may request that their child be included on the waiting list. This will be kept in the sequence of the over- subscription criteria. Waiting lists will be in place from 1 May 2027. Waiting lists for Reception places will be merged with in year waiting lists from 1 September 2027.

3. Where parents are not offered a place at the school of their preference, they will also be informed of their statutory right of appeal to an independent School Appeals Panel and sent further information on the appeal process on request.

Date of entry to Reception classes and admission outside the normal age group

All children can start in a Reception class in the September of the academic year when they become five years old. Compulsory school age is the beginning of the school term after the child's fifth birthday.

Parents of children born between 1 April and 31 August may request entry to Reception, rather than Year 1, in the September after the child's fifth birthday. Admission outside a child's chronological year group is uncommon and each request will be considered on the basis of the individual circumstances of the child and what is in their best interests.

Parents/carers wishing to request admission outside their child's chronological year group must contact the school as early as possible and, in all cases, before primary school places are offered. The request must be supported by evidence from relevant professionals. This professional evidence is required for the request to be considered and should explain why admission outside the child's chronological year group is appropriate and in the child's best interests.

The decision will be made by the Head Teacher of the school, taking into account the views of the parents/carers, professional advice and supporting evidence, whether the child has previously been educated outside their normal age group, and any other relevant circumstances. Professional advice may be sought from relevant social, educational and medical professionals where appropriate.

Applications for admission outside the normal age group should be made through the same process set out in this policy. The standard application form must be accompanied by the required supporting evidence and submitted within the relevant application period.

If the request is agreed, the application for an academy place will be processed in the following year's application period. If the request is not agreed, the child must either start school before their fifth birthday or start school in Year 1 in the September following their fifth birthday. A place will not be allocated unless the child qualifies for a place under the published admission criteria, either in the normal or deferred year of entry. In-year requests for admission outside the normal age group (i.e. other than for entry to Reception) must be made at the time of application and supported by appropriate professional evidence.

If a child is admitted to Reception one year later than normal, a new request must be made for admission outside the normal age group when the child transfers to secondary school.

All decisions on admission outside the normal age group to multi-academy trust schools will be made by the Head Teacher of Belmont Academy in consultation with the Multi-Academy Trust and the London Borough of Bexley.

There is no right of appeal against a decision not to admit a child outside their normal age group.

(Subject to legislative change)

ADMISSION NUMBERS 2026/27: BELMONT ACADEMY

The academy is for children aged 5-11. There are 60 places per year group at Belmont Academy to include places for pupils into the school's Specialist Base for pupils with a visual impairment, physical or medical need.

Notes

1. The London Borough of Bexley may consult on and make decisions about the expansion of primary schools before September 2027. Such decisions would override the admission numbers shown above.

2. POLICY FOR THE MEASUREMENT OF HOME TO SCHOOL DISTANCE

All home to school distances will be calculated by the London Borough of Bexley's computerised pupil database to ensure consistency.

Home to school distances will be measured using the intersection of the geographical grid co-ordinates (known as eastings and northings) supplied by the National Land and Property Gazetteer (NLPG), or equivalent database, for the home address and for the nearest school entrance approved by the Governors as an official entrance.

Home to school distances will be measured by radial distance (straight line) from the intersection of the NLPG co-ordinates of the home address to the nearest official school entrance.

This method applies to home to school distance measurements for applications for community and voluntary controlled schools, and for all other schools where the admission authority (LSEAT) commissions the London Borough of Bexley to measure distances on its behalf.