

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE ADMISSION OF PUPILS TO WIGAN UTC

PROCEDURE FOR ADMITTING PUPILS TO WIGAN UTC

Admission Number(s)

1. *WIGAN UTC* is part of the Northern Schools' Trust. The following admission number for *WIGAN UTC* has been determined by the governing body for the year 2020/21 for Year 10 and Year 12:

KS4

The planned admission number is **125 pupils**. *WIGAN UTC* is unable to admit more than this number as it would prejudice the efficient education of the children and/or efficient use of resources

KS5

The planned admission number is **125 pupils**

In 2019, the **Wigan** UTC will operate a sixth form for a **total** of 250 students. 125 places overall will be available in Year 12 (the year 12 "capacity") including for its own pupils progressing from year 11. A minimum number of 90 places will be available for external candidates. In such circumstances it will apply the same academic entry requirements as it does to pupils already on roll in the UTC and, if a tiebreak is necessary to determine who is admitted, it will apply oversubscription criteria in paragraph 10.

The same academic entry requirements will apply to external applicants as to pupils already on roll in *WIGAN UTC* and, if oversubscribed, *WIGAN UTC* will apply the oversubscription criteria in paragraph 10.

PROCESS FOR APPLICATION

2. Arrangements for applications for places at *WIGAN UTC* must be made directly to *WIGAN UTC*. Information on applications for places at *WIGAN UTC* will be communicated to the Local Authority to support co-ordination of school place allocation.

WIGAN UTC will provide information to the Local Authorities for signposting to enable parents to view the determined arrangements.

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WIGAN UTC will publish in its prospectus, and on the website, information about the arrangements for admission, including oversubscription criteria and the application process. This will include details of open evenings and other opportunities for prospective students and their parents to visit the school.

3. *The Northern Schools Trust will consider all applications for places at WIGAN UTC. Where fewer applications than the published admission number for Year 10 are received The Northern Schools Trust will offer places at WIGAN UTC to all those who have applied.*

For Year 12 where WIGAN UTC is undersubscribed all those applicants who have met the minimum academic requirements will be admitted.

4. All applications should be submitted by the deadline of **1st February 2019**. All applications received by this date will be classed as “on time” and will be considered first. WIGAN UTC will allocate places on **1st March 2019**. If places remain available, an additional admission round will run to allocate remaining places on **30th June 2019**.

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATIONS

Admission arrangements for 14-16 provision

5. The UTC will allocate places on the 1st March 2019. If places remain available, an additional admission round will run to allocate remaining places on the 30th June. i.e. if 100 places are allocated on 1st March then 25 places remain available.

Should the UTC be full on the 1st March 2017 then the oversubscription criteria in section 10 will be applied.

There will be a further round of applications and these will be allocated on the 30th June. E.g. if 10 places are available then applications from 1st March to 30th June are considered on the 30th June for allocation at that time. Should the UTC be full on the 30th June then any further applications will be placed on a waiting list.

6. The home address of the child is their principal and genuine place of residence, i.e. where they are normally and regularly living (and as registered with the child’s GP). Where parents have shared responsibility for a child and the child lives with both parents for part of the school week, the address that is registered with the child’s GP will be deemed to be the principal place of residence.

If a child is resident with friends or relatives (for reasons other than legal guardianship) the friends’ or relatives’ address will not be considered for allocation purposes.

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Admission arrangements for post 16 provision

- 7. The UTC will publish specific criteria in relation to minimum academic entrance requirements for admission or transfer to the UTC sixth form.
- 8. Both internal and external pupils wishing to enter the sixth form will be expected to have met the minimum academic entry requirements for the sixth form.
- 9. If the sixth form is undersubscribed, all applicants meeting the minimum academic course entry requirements will be admitted.
- 10. The first date for offers for Key Stage 5 applications will be the 31st October in any year.

PROCEDURES WHERE WIGAN UTC IS OVERSUBSCRIBED IN YEAR 10 AND YEAR 12

- 11. Where a pupil’s statement of special educational needs (SEN) or Education, Health and Care plan (EHC) plan names WIGAN UTC that pupil will be admitted to *WIGAN UTC* and the number of available places within the planned admission number will reduce accordingly.

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number applications will be considered against the criteria set out below, in priority order:

- (a) Looked after children and previously looked after children as set out in the School Admissions Code.
- (b) **Siblings of children already pupils in the school.**
- (c) Children who live within a ten mile radius of the Wigan UTC (post code: WN1 1RP).
- (d) Children living nearest to *WIGAN UTC*, as measured in a straight line from the applicant’s home address to the front gates of *WIGAN UTC* using Wigan Council’s computerised measuring system.

Where priority cannot be determined at (c) on account of the prospective pupils living identical distances from *WIGAN UTC* priority will be determined through the process of independently verified random allocation. This includes where prospective pupils live in the same block of flats or are twins / triplets or other multiple birth.

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LATE APPLICATIONS

12. Applications received after the closing date will be considered after the on time applications.

If there have been exceptional reasons for the late application (i.e. a major change of circumstance), and places have not yet been offered *WIGAN UTC* will consider whether to include the application in the allocation processes as described in paragraph 10. If all places have been allocated the applicant will be added to the waiting list as described in paragraph 13.

13. A late application will not affect the right of appeal.

OPERATION OF WAITING LISTS

14. Subject to any provisions regarding waiting lists Wigan Council's (the LA) co-ordinated admission scheme, *WIGAN UTC* will operate a waiting list. Where in any year *WIGAN UTC* receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until 31st December 2019. This will be maintained by *WIGAN UTC* and it will be open to any parent to ask for his or her child's name to be placed on the waiting list, following an unsuccessful application.

15. The applicant's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out in paragraph 10 above. Where a new unsuccessful applicant is added to the year 10 waiting list all applicants on the waiting list will be subject to further random allocation to determine priority for the place available.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR ADMITTING PUPILS TO OTHER YEAR GROUPS, INCLUDING TO REPLACE ANY PUPILS WHO HAVE LEFT WIGAN UTC

16. *WIGAN UTC* will participate in the LA's In Year Fair Access Protocol.

17. Subject to any provisions in the LA's co-ordinated admission arrangements relating to applications submitted for years other than the normal year of entry, *WIGAN UTC* will consider all such applications in accordance with paragraphs 2.17, 2.17A and 2.17B of the Admissions Code and DfE Guidance and if the year group applied for has a place available, admit the child unless one of the permitted reliefs apply as set out in the School Admissions Code. If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria in paragraph 10, shall apply.

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All decisions will be made in the best interests of the child and on a case by case basis.

APPEALS

18. *WIGAN UTC* will act in accordance with, and will ensure that an Independent Appeal Panel is trained to act in accordance with, all relevant provisions of the School Admissions Code and the School Admission Appeals Code published by the Department for Education (“the Codes”) as they apply at any given time to maintained schools and with equalities law and the law on admissions as they apply to maintained schools. For this purpose, reference in the Codes or legislation to “admission authorities” shall be deemed to be references to the governing body of *WIGAN UTC*.

Parents may submit an appeal to the independent appeal panel for unsuccessful applications to KS4 in-year applications and KS5 applications. For KS5 applications, both the parent and pupil have a separate right of appeal.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS

19. Where a local authority proposes to name *WIGAN UTC* in a statement of educational need or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan made in accordance with the Children and Families Act 2014, *WIGAN UTC* shall consent to being named, except where admitting the child would be incompatible with the provision of efficient education for other children; and where no reasonable steps may be made to secure compatibility in deciding whether a child’s inclusion would be incompatible with the efficient education of other children.

WIGAN UTC shall have regard to the relevant guidance issued by the Secretary of State to maintained schools.

20. In the event of any disagreement between *WIGAN UTC* and the local authority over the proposed naming of *WIGAN UTC* in a statement *WIGAN UTC* may ask the Secretary of State to determine whether *WIGAN UTC* should be named. The Secretary of State’s determination shall, subject only to any right of appeal which any parent or guardian of the child may have to the Special Education Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST) will be final.

Definitions

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Looked After Children in the care of the local authority and children who were previously looked after, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a residence order or special guardianship order).

Children with exceptional Medical or Social Need means that the child's welfare would be best served if they attended the school. Parents would need to provide evidence in the form of a letter or report from a social worker or other professional in the area of children's welfare to

support their case. They would have to establish that the school was the best / only school to service their child's needs.

Siblings : Brothers and sisters includes foster brothers or sisters, half brothers or sisters and stepbrothers or sisters living at the same address and as a family unit.

Distance to Wigan UTC is measured by straight line distance from the child's permanent home address (including flats and apartments) to the main entrance to the school. Direct distance routine calculates the straight line distance between the child's permanent home address coordinates and the school address coordinates by using the mathematical routine Pythagoras Theorem based on the Local Land and Property Gazetteer (LLPG) data and national grid coordinates for the school and the permanent home address.

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