



## **September 2022 first round allocation statement for Bristol Free School**

As Bristol Free School is oversubscribed, the admissions criteria published on the School and Local Authority website have been applied to allocate the places that are available at the school.

The published admission number is 200 and remains 200. But in anticipation of families in the Admissions Priority Area (APA) who also seek places in the independent sector, the school has agreed to Bristol City Council “over offering” by 20 places in the first round only. This is to avoid the large number of students with BFS as a preference being needlessly disappointed in the first round. The criteria stated in Bristol Free School’s admissions policy have been applied to allocate the 220 offers of places at the School in the first round. Any places, including those over 200, accepted in the first round, will be admitted by the school in September 2022

### **Number of applications received**

600 on-time applications (285 first preferences, 189 second preferences and 126 third preferences) have been received for Bristol Free School which has a published admission number of 200.

### **How the initial allocation of places was made**

8 places were required for pupils with the school named in their Education, Health and Care Plan.

This left 212 places to allocate using the published criteria.

The 212 places have been offered to the following children:

1. Children who are in the care of a local authority or provided with accommodation by that authority in accordance with section 22 of the Children Act 1989, at the time an application for a school is made; and children who have left care through adoption, a residence order or special guardianship order. (4 places)

2. Children who, on the date of admission, will have a sibling on the roll of the school. Sibling means a full, step, half, adopted or fostered brother or sister, but not cousin, who will be living permanently with them at the same address at the date of their entry to the school; the school may require proof of relationship. This will only apply, if at the time of entry, both siblings reside at the same address inside the defined Admissions Priority Area (APA) (94 places)

3. Children of staff\* directly employed by the Russell Education Trust on a permanent full time or fractional contract at Bristol Free School in either of the following circumstances:

i) The member of staff has been employed for two years or more before the admission application and still employed, without having given notice or been given notice that the employment will end, at the time the offer is made;

ii) The member of staff is recruited to fill a vacant teaching post for which there is a demonstratable skill shortage (determined by the Headteacher with the Chair of Governors and CEO of RET) (2 places)

3. For entry into the school (normally Year7) an Admissions Priority Area (APA) will apply. The APA is a geographic area based upon the Neighbourhood Partnership Area (NPA), centred upon, the BS9 area, modified to incorporate the area close to the school.

i. 20% of the available places will be allocated to those applicants whose home address is closest to the school. The point to which measurements will be made is the mid-point on a line drawn between the centre of the Burghill Road and Concorde Drive entrances to the school. (22 places)

The furthest distance offered a place in this category was 0.527 km.

ii.80% of the available places will be allocated to those whose home address is closest to a point defined by the mid-point at the junction of Elmlea Avenue and Rylestone Grove; this point lies close to the centre of the NPA. (90 places)

The furthest distance offered a place in this category was 1.133 km.

4. Should there be fewer applications from within the APA than there are places available, then all applicants from outside the APA will be considered. Again, 20% of the available places will be allocated to those applicants whose home address is closest to the school. The point to which measurements will be made is the mid-point on a line drawn between the centre of the Burghill Road and Concorde Drive entrances to the school. 80% of the available places will be allocated to those whose home address is closest to a point defined by the mid-point at the junction of Elmlea Avenue and Rylestone Grove; this point lies close to the centre of the NPA. (0 places were offered on this basis as the school was oversubscribed from within the APA)



## Letter of Appeal – Bristol Free School

### Parent Carer Contact Details: use block capital letters

Parent/Carer Name

Telephone number and email address

### Child's details

First name(s):

Surname/Family name:

Date of birth:

Address

### Reasons for preference or grounds for appeal

Please provide your grounds for appeal in writing as soon as possible. We can't set up an appeal hearing until your written grounds for appeal are received. If required, please continue on a separate sheet.

Signed (Parent/Carer):

Date:

Return to by emailing it to [school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:school.admissions@bristol.gov.uk) by **6th May 2021**

If you have no alternative please post to School Admissions (City Hall), PO Box 3399, 100 Temple St, Bristol, BS1 9NE

**\*\*\*Do not return this document to the school\*\*\***

## Bristol Free School appeals guidance

'Under the Education Act parents have the right to appeal to an Independent Appeals panel against a school's decision not to offer their child a place.'

### How do I appeal for a place?

Parents wishing to appeal for a place for their child at Bristol Free School should consider the following points before completing an appeal form.

To appeal, complete the Appeal Pro Forma which is available on Bristol City Council's website and attach additional information if you wish and return to the School Admissions Team at Bristol City Council. They will forward all relevant documentation to Democratic Services at Bristol City Council who will then organise the appeal giving you an appointment date and time.

Democratic Services will arrange an independent Appeals Panel which consists of 3 people who have no prior connection with the school: a lay person, a Chair and a member acquainted with education. The panel will consider the case put forward by you wanting to attend Bristol Free School and Bristol Free School's refusal to offer a place.

The panel must exercise discretion by balancing the weight of your reason for wanting your child to attend Bristol Free School against the school's published admissions arrangements. I.e. the prejudice that an additional student would cause to the education of the students already offered a place and the Health and Safety of all the students in Bristol Free School, also considering Bristol Free School's published admissions arrangements.

If you appeal, the place offered at an alternative school will be reserved until the result of the appeal is known. Places may become available at Bristol Free School at a later date because some parents, who may have been offered a place, change their mind or move from the area. If this happens, places will be allocated using the school's published admissions policy, giving equal consideration to those children whose parents have appealed for the school concerned and those children whose parents have indicated that they wish to remain on the waiting list for the school concerned.

N.B using your right to appeal will not affect your child being on the waiting list.

If, at any time, you want to withdraw your appeal or remove your child's name from the waiting list, please inform the school immediately. If your child qualifies for a place which has subsequently become available at Bristol Free School your appeal will be cancelled.

### Key points – if you choose to appeal

- Send in your Appeal Pro Forma to Bristol City Council. **Do not send it to the School.**
- Think about your child's needs.
- Find out about Bristol Free School and the offered school
- Decide what is unique about Bristol Free School in terms of meeting your child's needs
- Prepare your case
- Back up your points with evidence – simply stating your child has always wanted to attend Bristol Free School is not evidence.

Please note that this guidance applies to Bristol Free School ONLY. It is based on the School's Admissions Arrangements and the Department for Education's Code on School Admissions Appeals.

### For Further Information

For a copy of the Bristol Free School Admissions Arrangements, please visit our website [link to Bristol Free School's website](#)

or contact the school using the contact details above. For a copy of the DfE Code of Practice please visit [www.education.gov.uk](http://www.education.gov.uk).