

Mendip Studio School - Admissions (2021/22 under consultation)

Mendip Studio School has an atypical start point - this means that all admissions are classed as 'in-year' and applications are submitted directly to the school and not to the LA. The school operates for Years 10 to 13 (or Y14).

When schools are oversubscribed the LA has to apply criteria to decide which children shall be admitted to the school. These are as follows:

Priority A - 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 arrangements, or special guardianship order. A looked after child is a child who, at the time of application, 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 (section 22 (1) of the Children Act 1989 applies).

Priority B - Children in receipt of the mobility component of the Disability Living Allowance in respect of a physical disability and whose home address is within the Area of Prime Responsibility (APR) for Mendip Studio School.

Priority C - Children whose home address is within the Area of Prime Responsibility (APR) whose older sibling will be attending the school on the admission date.

Priority D - Children whose home address is within the APR.

Priority E - Children whose home address is outside the APR whose older sibling will be attending the school on the admission date.

Priority F - Children whose home address is outside the APR

To be considered under the above criteria parents/carers must have named the school as a preference. Under all the above criteria all preferences are considered equally. If a child qualifies for more than one school they will be offered their highest preference as stated on their application form.

If under all the above criteria any single category resulted in oversubscription, priority would be given to those children whose home address is nearest to the school, as measured in a direct line between the home address and preferred school. This rule would still be applied strictly to both children living within Bath and North East Somerset and those from neighbouring authorities.

In the event of a school being over-subscribed, where the applicant for the final qualifying place(s) available within the admission number is the parent/carer of twins, triplets or other multiple births, the Midsomer Norton Schools Partnership will breach the admission number to allow these children to be offered places.

For admission purposes, the Admission Authority will consider the home address to be:

The address at which the child concerned is living, at the time of application, for more than 2.5 school days per week, with the person(s) who has legal responsibility for this child. This address should be clearly stated on the application form.

Where the child will be moving to a new home address and the parent wishes this to be taken into account, one of the following documents, depending on the circumstances of the case, must be made available at the time of application.

- A legal 'exchange of contract' which confirms the purchase of the property
- A copy of a formal tenancy agreement (minimum six month term) signed and dated by the applicant and the Landlord for the property
- Where the child will be living at an address other than the parental family home, for more than 2.5 school days per week (for example; with an extended family member, or in emergency or other public accommodation) - A formal written letter, signed and dated by the person responsible for the address in question. This must explain the living/care arrangements for the child and state how long these arrangements are expected to remain in place.
- For Children of UK service personnel with a confirmed posting to the area or Crown servants returning from overseas, an official letter confirming a relocation date and Unit postal address or quartering area address

For admission purposes, if a parent wishes a sibling connection to be taken into account, the sibling's details must be provided on the admission application form and he/she must qualify as a full, half or adoptive brother or sister, or a child living for the majority of his/her school time (more than 2.5 school days per week) within the same family unit and at the same home address.

Post 16

Entry to Mendip Studio School is by application to the Head of Post 16. Applications from external candidates are very welcome. Students applying to Mendip Studio School from other schools are invited to meet the Head of Post 16 to discuss their option choices and references are requested from their previous school. The references enable us to assess the students' predicted GCSE grades. In considering applications, our aim is to accept students on courses which they can be expected to have a good chance of success. Students are asked to make provisional course choices. This is not a final commitment and they will be able to reconsider their options after GCSE results are published and in light of the school timetable.

The admissions number for Mendip Studio School Post 16 is 100 students (20 of these are allocated for external candidates).

Specified Entry Requirements

A level GCE and applied GCE:

Students are usually expected to have gained a minimum of 5 GCSEs at Grade 4 for BTECs and 5 for A Levels. Each subject details its own entry requirements. Specific subject entry requirements and further information are available on the school website and in the Mendip Studio School Post 16 booklet.

For consultation: from September 2021

Mendip Studio School currently admits into Years 10 to 13. We are exploring approval for this to be extended to include Year 9 admission from September 2021. This has the advantage of giving young people an extra year to settle into our school before starting their GCSE studies. In order to do this, we would need to hold a current Ofsted "Good" rating, which we do and to conduct an all stakeholder consultation. There would also need to be agreement from the DfE and Regional bodies.

If an application for a place at Mendip Studio School is turned down, parents have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Committee who may decide to allow the pupil to be admitted.

For further details of Admissions Criteria and the Appeals Procedure, please see your copy of the B&NES booklet 'A Secondary School for your Child'. All parents should have a copy of this. Alternatively visit www.bathnes.gov.uk (Schools and Colleges).

Copies of these are available for inspection by parents but a charge not exceeding the cost of production will be levied if copies are to be supplied.

The following documents are held in school and are available for inspection by parents:

1. All statutory orders relating to National Curriculum subjects, and administrative memoranda relating to the parts of the 1988 Education Act which refer to the curriculum
2. Curriculum overviews currently used by teachers in the school
3. All syllabuses followed whether for public examinations or otherwise
4. The locally agreed syllabus for Religious Education
5. The School Policies on:
 - i Collective Worship
 - ii Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND)
 - iii Sex & Relationships Education
 - iv Behaviour
 - v Disability Arrangements
 - vi Child Protection & Safeguarding
 - vii Exclusions
6. Policies are also available to view on our website: www.mendipstudioschool.org.uk
7. The leaflet issued by the LEA referring to transfer and admissions
8. The Complaints Procedure
9. The full OFSTED Report on the Inspection of Mendip Studio School (March 2018). The summary is available free of charge.
10. The map showing the area of APR.