



Admissions Policy 2022/23

School Name: John Madejski Academy
Version No: 1
Author: L Baker
Owner: L Baker
Approved by: G Kinneir (DoBS)

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John Madejski Academy (JMA) - Admissions Policy for Admission 2022-2023

NB: A revised School Admissions Code is anticipated in the early part of 2021; changes may be required to this policy before or after the date of determination.

1.0 Introduction

This document sets out the admissions arrangements for JMA for the academic year of 2022/23. This document forms an Annex to the Funding Agreement between JMA and the Secretary of State.

The Academy will comply with all relevant provisions of the statutory codes of the School Admissions Code 2014. JMA will take part in the Admissions Forum set up by Reading Local Authority (RLA) and have regard to its advice, alongside the Fair Access Protocol.

Notwithstanding these arrangements, the Secretary of State may direct JMA to admit a name student to JMA on application from RLA. Before doing so the Secretary of State will consult JAM.

2.0 Admissions Arrangements

The Admission arrangements for JMA for the academic year of 2022/23 are:

- JMA has an agreed Published Admission Number (PAN) of 180 students. JMA will accordingly admit 180 students if sufficient applications are received.
- JMA will admit 10% of 180 students by reference to aptitude in its chosen specialism - sport. Arrangements for selecting those students will be fair and transparent building upon expertise gained in applying such tests in other establishments with a sport specialism. The outline arrangements for aptitude testing appear in Appendix 1 of this document.

Where appropriate, provided they qualify for selection by aptitude, priority will be given in allocation of these places to siblings of students in Years 7 to 11, when the student admitted and who were previously selected by aptitude. Any applicant unsuccessful in the selection process will be considered against the oversubscription set out. The selection process will be carried out in November/December each year (after receipt of applications). Parents/Carers who wish to apply for JMA for its chosen specialism should complete the sports development programme application form (Appendix 2) This can also be obtained from JMA.

3.0 Process of Application

Applications for places at JMA will be made in accordance with RLA co-ordinated admissions arrangements. An online application can be made here:

<https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/schools/admissions/>

Key Dates

September 2021 - JMA will publish in its prospectus information about the arrangements for Admission, including the over subscription criteria. This will include details for open evenings and other opportunities for prospective students and their parents to visit JMA. JMA will also provide information to RLA for inclusion in the composite prospectus, as required.

31 October 2021 - closing date for on-time secondary school applications.

November/December 2021 - applications considered and aptitude testing undertaken.

1 March 2022 - National Secondary Schools offer date - parents will be notified by RLA on behalf of JMA

This timetable reflects the practice in RLA and the School Admissions Code 2014 and is intended to secure a co-ordinated approach to admissions for parents and students. JMA will take part in the co-ordinated admissions scheme for RLA.

3.1 Consideration of Applications

JMA will consider all applications for places according to the published admissions Criteria. Where fewer than 180 applications are received, JMA will offer places to all those who have applied.

3.2 Procedures where JMA is oversubscribed

Where the number of applications for admissions is greater than the PAN, applications will be considered against the following criteria:

Priority 1: A looked after child or previously looked after child, and those that have been in state care outside of England.

A looked after child or a child that was previously looked within England and outside of England, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order)

This change will be introduced for children that appear to be looked after outside of England only as a mandatory requirement under a revised School Admissions Code 2021. We anticipate that the Code will be revised in spring 2021. If the revision comes into force before this policy is determined, it will be included. If the revision comes into force after determination, it will be absent from the policy and will be added when it is required.

Priority 2: JMA admits up to 10% of 180 students (18) each year by reference to aptitude in its chosen specialism - sport. Arrangements for selecting these students will be fair and transparent, building upon expertise gained in applying such tests in other establishments with a sports specialism. Priority for these places will be as follows:

- Students applying for the sports specialism will undertake a series of tests to determine their aptitude in sport and will enter the "Gifted and Talented Program". Tests will include assessments of strength, agility, balance, flexibility, speed, co-ordination, reaction time and cardio vascular efficiency. Tests will be moderated according to the physical profile of each student. Priority in this category will be given to applicants who have the best performance scores.

Any applicants unsuccessful in the sport selection process and all other applications will be considered against the oversubscription criteria set out below:

Priority 3: Any child of a staff member employed by The White Horse Federation for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is being made (See supplementary information form - appendix 3)

Priority 4: Pupils whose home address falls within the designated area for the school whose siblings currently attend JMA and who will continue to do so in September 2022 in Years 7-11.

Priority 5: Pupils living within the designated area for the school.

Priority 6: Pupils not living in the designated area and whose siblings currently attend JMA and who will continue to do so in September 2022 in Years 7-11.

Priority 7: Children other than those falling into priority 1-5 above.

Definitions and Details

Students with Education, Health and Care Plan

Pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) at the time of allocation are required to be admitted to the school named on their plan. Once an EHCP reaches the formal proposed stage the administration of the admission of the young person becomes the responsibility of the Special Educational Needs Assessment Team (SENAT) at which point this policy no longer applies.

Child Looked After

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 including those who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England and ceased to be in the care as a result of being adopted. 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. If children have ever been Looked After or Adopted or subject to residency or special guardianship order evidence would need to be provided and the LA reserve the right to ask the parent to provide this.

This change will be introduced for children that appear to be looked after outside of England only as a mandatory requirement under a revised School Admissions Code 2021. We anticipate that the code will be revised in spring 2021. If the revision comes into force before this policy is determination, it will be included. If the revision comes into force after determination, it will be absent from the policy and will be added when we are required to do so.

Sibling

Sibling refers to a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister, a step brother or sister, or the child of the parent/carer's partner where the child for whom the school place is sought is living in the same family unit at the same address as that sibling. To be classed as a sibling, the child must be living at the same home address and attending the same school at the same time as the sibling.

Multiple Births

If necessary, the school will admit over its PAN to accommodate siblings born at the same (e.g. Twins, triplets etc.)

Children of Staff

Staff are defined as employees being on the permanent payroll of The White Horse Federation for two years. The completion of a supplementary form is required for consideration under these oversubscription criteria (see Appendix 3)

Supplementary Information Form

A common application form must be completed by all parents applying for admission to Year 7. All parents who lost their preferred schools on the Local Authority's Common Application form are regarded as having made a valid application. A supplementary form is attached to this policy or available from the school and must be completed for children applying under category 3 of the admissions criteria.

Designated Area

A designated area is a geographical area set around the school from which students are admitted. A map of RLA secondary schools showing the designated area for JMA's can be found in Appendix 4.

Decider

Priority within each category above will be determined by distance from the school to the home address.

RLA measures the straight line distance from the home to the school using Ordnance Survey data points of the home and the school using computerised software of Reading Borough Council. Every address has a unique data point which is determined by the Easting and Northing. This point can be anywhere on the property. This distance created is given in miles to three decimal points.

3.2 Operation of Waiting Lists

If an applicant is refused a place at the school, they will automatically be placed on the waiting list. The waiting list is held by the school until December 2022.

Placement on the waiting list will be determined by applying the published oversubscription criteria (see above). Names will be removed from the waiting list if requested or if the offer of a place that becomes available is not accepted. Positions on waiting lists may change due to new applications. It is made clear to parents on a waiting list that the priority for admission is subject to the published oversubscription criteria, and not the dated position on the waiting list.

Placing a child's name on a waiting list does not affect the parent's right of appeal against an unsuccessful application.

4.0 Arrangements for Appeals Panel

Parents/Carers have the right of appeal to an Independent Appeal Panel if they are dissatisfied with an admission decision of JMA. The Appeal Panel will be independent of JMA and will be composed of three members who will include:

- At least one person who has no personal experience of JMA defined as a "lay member"
- At least one person with experience in education.

The arrangements for appeals will be in line with the Code on School Admission Appeals published by the Department of Education and Skills as it applies to Foundation and Academy Aided Schools.

Parents/Carers will normally have 14 days after notification of a place not being offered at JMA to lodge an appeal. The notification will indicate reasons for refusal of a place and a right of appeal.

Parents/Carers will be given 14 days' notice of the appeal hearing, unless they agree to a shorter period of notice. At least 7 days before the hearing, JMA will provide the parent/carer with a written statement detailing the reasons why it has not been possible to allow the child to attend JMA. The Appeal panel will have the discretion to refuse to admit late evidence.

The Clerk to the Appeal Panel will write and inform the parents/carers of the Appeal Panel's decision within 7 days of the hearing. In the case of unsuccessful appeals, the letter will give the parents/carers the Appeal Panels reasons for not upholding the appeal.

5.0 Arrangements for Admission to Post 16

The majority of students will transfer from Year 11 into the sixth form. There will be a total capacity of 200 students in the sixth form. Up to 50 places would be available to students from outside the school. The minimum entrance requirements for the academic courses available would be five GCSE passes at 9-4 grades. Students will be considered by their individual needs for the wide range of other courses available. This criteria applies equally to external and internal applicants. The detailed information will be contained in the sixth form prospectus published on an annual basis.

Applications for admission including those already attending JMA will be considered by an Admissions Committee and the decision will be made in light of all the information available including previous school records.

If there are more applicants than places available in a particular course of study priority for places will be given as follows:

Priority 1: A looked after child or previously looked after child, and those that have been in state care outside of England.

A looked after child or a child that was previously looked within England and outside of England, but ceased to be so because they were adopted (or became subject to a child arrangements order or special guardianship order)

This change will be introduced for children that appear to be looked after outside of England only as a mandatory requirement under a revised School Admissions Code 2021. We anticipate that the Code will be revised in spring 2021. If the revision comes into force before this policy is determined, it will be included. If the revision comes into force after determination, it will be absent from the policy and will be added when it is required.

Priority 2: JMA admits up to 70% of 200 students each year by reference to aptitude in its chosen specialism - sport. Arrangements for selecting these students will be fair and transparent, building upon expertise gained in applying such tests in other establishments with a sports specialism. Priority for these places will be as follows:

- Students applying for the sports specialism will undertake a series of tests to determine their aptitude in sport and will enter the "performance sport Program". Tests will include assessments of strength, agility, balance, flexibility, speed, co-ordination, reaction time and cardio vascular efficiency. Tests will be moderated according to the physical profile of each student. Priority in this category will be given to applicants who have the best performance scores.

Any applicant's unsuccessful in the sport selection process and all other applications will be considered against the oversubscription criteria set out below:

- **Priority 3:** Any child of a staff member employed by The White Horse Federation for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is being made (See supplementary information form - appendix 3)
- **Priority 4:** Pupils whose home address falls within the designated area for the school whose siblings currently attend JMA and who will continue to do so in September 2022 in Years 7-11.
- **Priority 5:** Pupils living within the designated are for the school.
- **Priority 6:** Pupils not living in the designated area and whose siblings currently attend JMA and who will continue to do so in September 2022 in Years 7-11.
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- **Priority 7:** Children other than those falling into priority 1-5 above.

6.0 Applications at other times of the year (In-Year Applications)

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, JMA must consider all such applications and if the year group applied for has a place, admit the student. Where a year group in JMA has reached the PAN applicable to that age group, then JMA will operate a waiting list which will be open to any parent to ask for his or her students name to be place on the waiting list either initially or following an unsuccessful application and appeal for the school.

Student's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria (point 3) of this policy. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to students on the waiting list in accordance with the Admissions Policy of JMA.

There will be a right of appeal to the Appeals Panel for unsuccessful applicants, If a place has been offered at the school in a different year group than there applicant desires, there is no right of appeal.

Appendix 1: Outline Arrangements for Aptitude Testing for Sport.

It is anticipated that students may apply for entry under the selection arrangements at three levels:

- **Students with an international, national or elite profile in a chosen sport.**

Students at this level would not need to be tested for aptitude. They would be identified through a national sports body; they would have a nominated coach and training profile. They are likely to be undertaking 20+ hours of training a week. It is not anticipated that many 10 year old students applying for Year 7 entry would be in this category, however, it may apply to students wishing to apply to sixth form.

- **Students at county level or local equivalent.**

The Students would have membership of a recognised club and be involved in their young athlete programme. E.g. Reading Football Club. The student would have their own coach, a training programme involving 10+ hours of training a week. It is anticipated there will be some students at age 10 who will fall into this category as we all students applying for sixth form. These students may not require testing if they can provide a letter of recommendation from a recognised coach and a portfolio of their training structure that follows a recognised programme.

- **Other Students.**

Students in this category will require aptitude testing and will enter the Young Athlete Programme on entry. In consultation with the Sponsor, Principal and Director of Sport, there are at least 3 suggested testing routes:

- Multi Skills Test - testing a variety of generic skills; problem solving, thinking skills, organisational ability, communication skills and leadership skills. Designed through the specialism.
- Fundamental skills in sport e.g. gliding, balancing, kinaesthetic awareness, buoyancy, agility, speed, fitness.

Consideration will need to be given to differences between boys and girls, particularly age 10 when applying these tests and a balance to give equal opportunity developed. Boys tend to have better speed and endurance, while girls are more kinaesthetically aware and have better balance.

Consideration also needs to be given when applying tests at age 10 to those children in their year groups who have birthdays in September and July.

Appendix 2: Application for Sports Development Programme

**SPORTS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
APPLICATION FORM
FOR ENTRY SEPTEMBER 2022**



**JOHN MADEJSKI
ACADEMY**

John Madejski Academy
125 Hartland Road, Reading,
Berkshire RG2 8AF

www.johnmadejskiacademy.co.uk
info@johnmadejskiacademy.co.uk
0118 937 0200
Follow us on Twitter - @JMAcademy1

Only complete this form if you wish your child to be considered for entry via the Sports Development Programme

THIS IS NOT AN APPLICATION FORM

If you wish to apply to the Academy you must complete your Local Authority Application Form

Date of Birth				<i>For Academy use:</i> Application Number		
	<i>Day</i>	<i>Month</i>	<i>Year</i>	Male / Female <i>(please circle)</i>		
Child's Forename				Child's Surname		
Child's Permanent Address						
Postcode						
Name and Address of Current School						
Mother's/Carer's Surname				Initial(s)		Title
Contact Numbers	Home:			Work:		Mobile:
Father's/Carer's Surname				Initial(s)		Title
Contact Numbers	Home:			Work:		Mobile:

SECTION 2 – DECLARATION

The information you provide on this form may be shared with other admission authorities in order that school places offered and/or accepted can be checked.			
I confirm the information provided on this form is accurate and correct.			
Parent/Carer's Signature			Date

Appendix 3 – Supplementary Information Form

John Madejski Academy, 125 Hartland Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 8AF

Tel: 0118 937 0200 Email: contact@johnmadejskiacademy.co.uk

Appendix 2 - Supplementary Information Form

Admission to Secondary School 2022-2023

This form should be completed if applying for consideration of a place in Year 7 for 2022- 23 academic year and wish to be considered under the criteria 3 (Section 4)

Any child of a staff member employed by The White Horse Federation for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to the school is made.

Please complete the following and return to above email address

Name of Child for which application is being made	
Date of Birth	
Address	
Name of Parent employed at the school	
Capacity in which employed	
Date employment began	

Signed Date

This form should be returned to the school by 31st October 2021.

This form should be completed in addition to the Local Authority application form which must be completed in order for the request to be valid.

Office use only	
Date Received :	
Criteria confirmed:	

Appendix 4: Reading Secondary Schools Map

Map showing Secondary Schools in Reading and if they have a designated area. JMA is in red.

