

The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust

Admission Procedure 2017-18



Admission Number(s) - Year 7

The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust has an agreed admission number of 180 pupils for Year 7 for the academic year **2017/2018**:

Admission into the Sixth Form

The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust operates a sixth form for a total of 215 students. 108 places overall will be available in Year 12 (the year 12 'capacity'). The admission number for Year 12 is 5. This is the number of places which will be offered on an annual basis to eligible external applicants. If fewer than 103 of the Academy's own year 11 pupil's transfer into year 12, additional external pupils will be admitted until year 12 meets its capacity of 108 as long as they meet our sixth form entrance criteria as published annually in the sixth form prospectus.

Process of Application

Arrangements for applications for places at The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust will be made in accordance with the Local Authorities (LA's) co-ordinated admission arrangements and will be made on the Common Application Form provided and administered by the relevant LA.

The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust will use Croydon LA's timetable for applications to The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust each year (exact dates within the months may vary from year to year). This will fit in with the timetable for the co-ordination of admission arrangements within Croydon LA as agreed by the Admissions forum, Croydon LA, local schools and Academies.

Procedures where The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust is oversubscribed

Where the number of applications for admission is greater than the published admission number, applications will be considered against the criteria set out below. After the admission of pupils with statements of Special Educational Needs where The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust is named on the statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

- a) Looked-after children and previously looked-after children who have been adopted.
- b) Medical:¹ Pupils with serious medical reasons for needing to attend the Academy.
- c) Siblings:² Children with a brother or sister who will be in attendance at the Academy at the time of enrolment of the new pupil.
- d) Children of staff at The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust.³
- e) Distance:⁴ Priority will be given to pupils living nearest to the school as measured from the centre of the child's home.

Post 16 admission criteria

Minimum entrance requirements for Year 12 and for individual courses based on GCSE grades are published in the Academy's prospectus and posted on its website.

Children meeting the general entrance requirements but failing to meet the grades for their preferred course option will be offered alternative courses if available. Children already on the Academy roll are entitled to transfer to Year 12 if they meet the published academic standards of entry.

If Year 12 is oversubscribed then, after the admission of students with Special Educational Needs where The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust is named on the statement, the criteria will be applied in the order in which they are set out below:

- a) Looked-after children and previously looked-after children who have been adopted.
- b) Siblings:² (as above).
- c) Children of staff at The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust.³
- d) Distance:⁴ Priority will be given to pupils living nearest to the school as measured from the centre of the child's home.

There will be a right of appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel for internal pupils refused transfer and external applicants refused admission.

¹ The medical reasons must be verified by a doctor or consultant and declared at the time of application if known at the time. (Claims for priority of admission on medical grounds will not normally be considered if submitted after a decision on the original application has already been made). Decisions on priority of admission on medical grounds will be made on the basis of recommendations of the Authority's medical advisor. The Application **must** be supported by a letter from a hospital consultant and/ or the Family's GP.

² A sibling is defined as a brother or sister, half brother or sister, step brother or sister or adopted brother or sister whose main residence is at the same address.

³ A member of staff is defined as:

- a) Someone who has been employed at The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust for two or more years at the time at which the application for admission to The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust is made, or
- b) Someone who has been recruited to fill a vacant staff post at The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

⁴ "Home" is defined as the address where the child normally resides as their only or principal residence. Addresses involved in child minding (professional or relatives) are excluded. Parents will be asked to provide documentary evidence to confirm an address and parental responsibility. The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust should be notified of changes of address immediately. Failure to do so could result in the child being denied a place at a preferred school. Distance will be measured in a straight line from the centre of the child's home address (including flats) to the main entrance of the school using the LA's computerised measuring system with those living closer to the school receiving higher priority. In the event that the distances are the same for two or more candidates the order of ranking will be determined by random selection independently scrutinised.

Operation of waiting lists

The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust will operate a waiting list for each year group. Where in any year The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust receives more applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until at least the end of the first term (normally late December). This will be maintained by The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust 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.

Children's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria set out above. Where places become vacant they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria.

Arrangements for admitting pupils to other year groups, including replacing any pupils who have left The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust

Local Authorities will co-ordinate admissions for in-year applications and for applications for year groups other than the normal point(s) of entry. This will not affect Academies' right to determine which applicants have priority for admission.

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, The Quest Academy – Coloma Trust will consider all such applications and if the year group applied for has a place available, admit the child unless one of the permitted reliefs apply. If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria above shall apply. Parents whose application is turned down shall be entitled to appeal.

Procedures where The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust may be undersubscribed

The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust will consider all applications for places at The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust. Where fewer than the published admission number(s) for the relevant year groups are received, The Quest Academy - Coloma Trust will offer places at The Quest Academy-Coloma Trust to all those who have applied.

Fair Access Protocol

The Academy may refuse entry to a child, outside the normal admissions round, with a record of challenging behaviour. In such cases, the Academy will refer the case to the local authority for consideration under the Fair Access Protocol. The use of the provision will depend on local circumstances and **must** be described in the LA's Fair Access Protocol. A copy of the Protocol can be obtained from Croydon Council via the Children, Families and Learning Team.

Fraudulent or intentionally misleading applications

A place may be withdrawn if it has been obtained through an intentionally misleading or fraudulent application. This includes the declared age of children applying for admission to the Academy.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Applicants may choose to seek a place outside their child's chronological (correct) year group. Decisions on whether to offer a place outside of a child's chronological year group will be made by the governors on the basis of the circumstances of each case and in the best interests of the child concerned. This will include taking account of the parents' views; views of the Principal, information about the child's academic, social and emotional development; where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional and whether they have previously been educated out of their

normal age group. Applicants must state clearly why they feel admission to a different year group is in the child's best interest and provide what evidence they have to support this.

Policy Review

The policy was approved by the Education Committee on 10 November 2015