

**Policy:**

# Trinity Academy Halifax

## Admission Arrangements for 2025/6

### Introductory statement

Trinity Academy Halifax is a mixed comprehensive 11-16 academy located in Halifax, West Yorkshire. The academy is part of the Trinity Multi-Academy Trust, with schools in Halifax, Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield and Barnsley. Our academy has a relentless focus on helping every student meet their potential both academically and in character driven learning. We constantly strive to develop a love of learning, resilience, curiosity, kindness and ambition in all our students.

***Admissions will be Fair Banded (as explained in the Supplemental Guidance document) and applicants who sit the fair banding assessment will be considered for admission first.***

### Admission number(s)

The school has an admission number of 330 for entry in year 7.

### Timeline of the application process:

**September** The academy will hold an Open Evening in September. The academy will also publish its prospectus, explaining admission arrangements for the following academic year, including criteria for dealing with oversubscription.

**September** Parents must have registered their child to sit Trinity Academy Fair Banding Assessment (***see the academy's Admissions Supplemental Guidance for full details***).

**October** All applicants whose registration forms have been received by the deadline (***see Admissions Supplemental Guidance for details***), will sit a Fair Banding Assessment, organised by the academy.

**October** All Parents/carers of Y6 primary school children (regardless of which school they wish to attend) must also complete Calderdale Local Common Application Form (CAF) for Admissions. Please refer to their website for information on how to apply for a place at a secondary school <https://new.calderdale.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/admissions> - Closing date 31 October 2024.

**December**

authority with any Church Supplementary Information forms submitted by parents in support of their application.

**March** offers made to parents by the LA.

## **Procedure for allocating places, including dealing with oversubscription:**

Places will be allocated on the basis of Fair Banding as permitted by the Department for Education (DfE) School Admissions Code.

Students applying to TAH will be invited to sit a non-verbal assessment (based on cognitive ability) produced by a reputable national organisation. For further details please see Supplemental Guidance.

**Applicants who sit the Fair Banding Assessment are considered for admission first.**

Any applicants, including late applicants, who miss the October Fair Banding Assessment will be given a further opportunity to sit a Fair Banding Assessment in November.

Note: Applicants can only sit the Fair Banding Assessment once.

Trinity schools work collaboratively with many local primary schools to arrange for their Y6 children to sit the assessment in the familiar surroundings of their own classroom, where children feel more comfortable. Please contact your local primary school to establish if they are working with us. If your child attends a school where the assessment is not administered in-house, you will be informed via email and invited to sit the assessment at Trinity.

and will be ranked in order of priority (after all of the banded applicants), with the level of priority then determined with reference to the oversubscription criteria (below).

## **How Fair Banding Works.**

The assessment is not a traditional entrance exam in which children either pass or fail. It is done to ensure that our intake exactly matches the ability profile of the children applying. To achieve this, all applicants (by the deadline) are invited to take a non-verbal reasoning assessment to divide them into 4 ability bands. We will admit the required number from each band based on the spread of ability of those applying.

The assessment is externally set by a well-established educational assessment agency and the papers are collected and marked. The academy is then provided with a list of

Parents/carers of children who sit the Fair Banding Assessment in October will be informed of the band their child has been allocated to, prior to the national deadline for secondary school applications. Parents/carers of children who sit the later Fair Banding Assessment will also be informed of the band.

Looked after children and children in receipt of an Education, Health and Care plan (EHC), who do not take the assessment, will be allocated to the appropriate band based on capabilities, and the use of moderated professional judgment, to allocate the child into a band.

For children with SEND - At the request of a primary school or parent/carer, additional steps will be taken to ensure reasonable adjustments are made to the assessment or an alternative (more appropriate) assessment is sought.

## Oversubscription criteria

In the event of oversubscription within each band, after the admission of students with an Education Health and Care plan naming the academy, priority for admission will be determined using the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. (a) Children who are in public care (Children Act 1989) or children who were previously looked after but ceased to be so because they became adopted or became subject to a child arrangements or special guardianship order.  
(b) Children who appear (to the admission authority of the academy) to have been in public care outside of England and ceased to be in public care as a result of being adopted.<sup>1</sup>

*<sup>1</sup> A child is regarded as having been in state care in a place outside of England if they were accommodated by a public authority, a religious organisation or any other provider of care whose sole purpose is to benefit society.*

2. Children who attend Trinity Academy Akroydon.
3. Children whose siblings currently attend the academy and who will continue to do so on the date of admission.

*( adoptive brother or sister; the children of parents living together in the same family household. The elder sibling must still be on roll at the academy when the younger child starts at the academy i.e. sibling applications will only be accepted for siblings of students in years 7 to 10.*

4. anyone employed by the academy who has held a permanent contract with the academy for at least two years prior to the application or to staff recently appointed to a post for which there is a demonstrable skill shortage.

5. Children who are resident in the defined priority catchment area, as shown on the map following this policy and who regularly attend, or whose parents/guardians regularly attend a Church of England Parish Church. ***Parents must complete the***



## Admission of children outside their normal age group

In exceptional circumstances, the academy will consider requests for admission outside the normal age group and make a decision based on each individual case. The circumstances may, for example, involve the extremely high level of ability of a child, or personal and medical circumstances that have necessitated a student missing all or part of a year of education. The admissions officer will be able to advise parents/carers of the process for such applications.

When such a request is made, the Governing Body will base any decision on the circumstances of the case and in the best interest of the child concerned, considering the view of the Principal and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

The process for requesting such an admission is as follows:

Parents should contact \_\_\_\_\_, via the Admissions Officer, to request that the child be admitted to another year group (stating which year group) and the reasons for their application (email [contactus@halifax.trinitymat.org](mailto:contactus@halifax.trinitymat.org), and address it for the attention of the Admissions Officer)

Included with the e-mail or letter should be any evidence in support of their case; some of the evidence a parent might submit could include:

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