



MARITIME ACADEMY

ADMISSIONS POLICY

2026-2027

Maritime Academy

Part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust

Date of determination: February 2025



THINKING SCHOOLS
ACADEMY TRUST

admissions@maritimeacademy.org.uk

STRENGTH - PRIDE - UNITY



Maritime Academy Admissions Arrangements 2026-2027

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Year 7 Admission number(s)

The school has a published admission number of 180 for entry in Year 7.

Year 7 Admission Arrangements

The arrangements for coordinated admissions in Medway will be set out in detail in the Medway LA booklet for parents 'Admission to Secondary School', a copy of which will be available from the admissions team. The main points are summarised below:

- Parents complete the Medway common application form (CAF) in accordance with the Medway Co-ordinated Admission Scheme. Parents wishing to apply for a place at Maritime Academy should put the Academy down as a preference on the common application form.
- The Local Authority will then act as clearing house for the administration of pupils' preferences. Parents will be informed on 1 March 2026.
- The school will also post to parents the decision of the governors on admission and details of the right of appeal against the governors' decision.

Medway Admissions can be found at [Apply for a secondary school place | Applying for a secondary school place | Medway Council](#)

Oversubscription criteria

If the number of applications for admission to the Academy is greater than the Published Admissions Number (PAN) of 180, places will be allocated in the following priority order, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care plan.

- 1st Looked After Children and all children who have been previously looked after, but following being looked after became subject to an adoption order, child arrangement order 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 state care as a result of being adopted.



- 2nd Children who, at the time of the admission, have a sibling who attends the Academy (Maritime Academy).
- 3rd Children who attend any of the following Thinking Schools Academy Trust's primary schools: All Faiths Children's Academy, Cedar Children's Academy and The Gordon Children's Academy.
- 4th Children of staff employed by the Academy: following the criteria above, priority will be given to the child of a person employed by the Academy to fill a vacant post for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
- 5th Child's health reasons. Written medical evidence from a General Practitioner or hospital consultant must be provided which demonstrates a specific health reason which requires the child to attend Maritime Academy.
- 6th Children who live closest to the school. Distance will be based on the shortest distance from home to school, using the Medway Co-ordinated scheme.
All distances and routes calculated are for the purposes of prioritising the application for admissions only and there is no expectation that a child should use this to walk to school. Distances and routes calculated will represent the shortest route to school from the child's home address using roads and paths that are known to the graphical information software (GIS) utilised by School Services.

The start point:

The centre point of the nearest road or footpath known to the GIS system to the seed point of the child's home (as defined by Ordnance Survey). This may not always be the postal address road, in circumstances where an alternative road or footpath is actually nearer to the seed point of the property.

Where a child's home is situated on a new road the distance calculation will begin from the nearest available known road plotted in the GIS. New property developments may be subject to this.

The end point:

This will be either a pre-defined point within the School site or the centre point of the road adjacent the School site. The same end point is used for all distance calculations to the School.

Routes/Footpaths:

The distance calculated is the shortest available route known to the Medway GIS (using the centre point of the streets and other available routes).



Not all footpaths, cut-throughs, shortcuts and new roads are known to the GIS system. Where a route is not known to the GIS system an alternative route will be used.

Tie break

If a tie-break is necessary, random allocation will be used to determine which child will be offered a place. This will be verified by someone independent from the school who will conduct the random allocation.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request their child is admitted outside their normal age group. Parents who wish to do so should include a request with their application, specifying the year group to which they wish their child to be admitted and why they believe it would be in their best interests. The academy trust will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and whether it may be in the child's best interests, taking into account the views of the headteacher and any information provided by the parent. The school will notify parents of the decision and set out clearly for the parent the reasons for their decision.

For Government Guidance on making a request for admission out of the normal year group please click [here](#)

If you require a printed copy of this information, please contact admissions@maritimeacademy.tsat.uk

Parents who are unhappy with the decision in respect of an application out of chronological age group can make a complaint about that decision in accordance with the school's complaints policy. [TSAT complaints procedure](#)

In Year admissions - all year groups

The Academy will consider all applications. Should a student be considered to be hard to place under Schools Admission Code 2021 paragraph 3.14, the admission request will be referred to Medway to be considered by the Fair Access Panel rather than follow the normal admissions process



All Year 7 Admissions are managed by Medway Council until the 31st December, please contact them at admissions@medway.gov.uk . From 1st January, In Year Admissions for Year 7 will be managed by the Academy admissions@maritimeacademy.org.uk

If you require any hard copies of any of these forms, please contact the school on 03333 602150 or email admissions@maritimeacademy.org.uk to request them.

If more applications are received than there are places available, the oversubscription criteria shall apply. Please see the oversubscription criteria section for more information.

Waiting lists

Children will be held on the waiting list by order of the oversubscription criteria in the Admissions Policy. No account can be taken of the length of time a pupil is on the list. A pupil's position can change on the list as new applicants join or other applicants come off the waiting list.

The Year 7 waiting list is managed by Medway Council until the 31st December, please contact them at admissions@medway.gov.uk . From 1st January, In Year Admissions for Year 7 will be managed by the Academy admissions@maritimeacademy.org.uk

Waiting lists for all other year groups is held by the school.

If you require any hard copies of any of these forms, please contact the school on 03333 602150 or email admissions@maritimeacademy.org.uk to request them.

Appeals

All applicants refused a place have a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel constituted and operated in accordance with the School Admission Appeals Code.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6335a0c88fa8f506931f6d44/School_Admission_Appeals_Code_2022.pdf

Parents should contact the admissions officer, via the email address admissions@maritimeacademy.org.uk or Maritime Academy, Chalk Lane, Strood, Rochester, Kent, ME2 4YG, by 28th March 2026. Appeals received after this date might not be heard at the same time as those submitted on time.



The right to appeal does not apply if your child is offered a place at the school, but it is not in their preferred age group.

Notes:

Term	Definition
“Home” address	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A child’s home is the place where they normally live. Where a child’s parents do not live together and the child spends part of the week with each parent, their home address will be the address at which they spend most nights from Sunday to Thursday during term time.
Sibling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A natural brother or sister, or half brother or sister• A legally adopted brother or sister, or half brother or sister• A step brother or sister• Other child living in the same household as part of the same family where they are living at the same address as the applicant on the date of the application.
Looked after children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children in the care of a local authority as set out in Section 22 of the Children Act 1989.
Previously looked after children	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children who were in the care of a local authority as set out in Section 22 of the Children Act 1989 but ceased to be so as a result of adoption, a child arrangements order or special guardianship order. Also, children who appear to the academy trust to have been in state care outside England and ceased to be so because they were adopted.