

	Admission Arrangements for the academic year 2027/28	
Committee/Person Responsible for Policy:	Richard Huish Trust	
Date Reviewed by Local Advisory Body: Date Approved by RHT Board:	February 2026	

Introductory statement

Pyrland School is an inclusive 11–16 academy whose aim is to provide outstanding educational provision for all its young people, enabling them to flourish and achieve beyond their potential.

Admission numbers

The school has an admission number of 210 for entry in Year 7. The school will accordingly admit this number of pupils if there are sufficient applications. Where fewer applicants than the published admission number for the relevant year group are received, the trust will offer places at the school to all those who have applied.

Application process

The Local Authority coordinates applications for Year 7 students. You can access information at the Local Authority (Somerset County Council) website: www.somerset.gov.uk/admissions.

The closing date for applications is **31 October 2026**.

Offers will be made on **1 March 2027**.

The school will process in-year applications for students in Years 8-11. In-year applications for this school should be sent to:

Reception
Pyrland School
Cheddon Road
Taunton
Somerset
TA2 7QP
Tel: 01823 348200
Email: reception@pyrlandschool.com

The application form can be obtained from our website:

www.pyrlandschool.com/about-us/admissions

Oversubscription criteria

When the school is oversubscribed, after the admission of pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan or a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school, priority for admission will be given to those children who meet the criteria set out below, in priority order:

1. Looked after children (LAC), and all previously looked after children (PLAC), including those children 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 (IAPLAC). The School admission authority will deem a child to have been in state care if they were in the care of a public authority, a religious organization, or any other provider of care whose purpose is to benefit society.
2. Priority will be given to children living in the catchment area with a sibling attending Pyrland School at the time of application who lives at the same address.
3. Children living in the catchment area.
4. Children living outside catchment area with a sibling attending Pyrland School at the time of application.
5. Priority will next be given to the children of staff employed at Pyrland School who have been employed for over 2 years.
6. Priority will next be given for 15% (or less) of PAN to children who are practising members of a Christian Church which is a member of Churches Together in England or Churches Together in Britain and Ireland

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

7. Priority will next be given to children eligible for the pupil or service premium. Evidence of eligibility will need to be submitted with the application.
8. Other children.

Tie-break

In the event of oversubscription within any of the criteria listed above, preference will be given to applicants who live closest to the school as measured in a straight line by a Geographical Information System (GIS) method from the address point of the school site to the address point for the pupil's home. Where two distances are equal and it is therefore not possible to differentiate between them, priority will be determined by independent drawing of lots.

Multiple Birth Applications (For example: twins)

In the case of multiple birth applications, where it would only normally be possible to admit one child within Admission Number, a place(s) will be allocated above Admission Number at the point of allocation. This will ensure that multiple birth siblings can be allocated places at the same school (sibling definition still applies).

Late applications

All applications received after the deadline will be considered to be late applications. Late applications will be considered after those received on time. If, following consideration of all applicants the academy is oversubscribed, parents may request that their child is placed on the academy's waiting list.

Admission of children outside their normal age group

Parents may request that their child is admitted outside their normal age group. To do so parents should include a request with their application, specifying why admission out of normal year group is being requested and the year group in which they wish their child to be allocated a place.

When such a request is made, the academy will make a decision on the basis of the circumstances of the case and in the best interests of the child concerned, taking into account the views of the Head teacher and any supporting evidence provided by the parent.

Waiting lists

The governors operate waiting lists for year groups 7 – 11. Where a child is formally refused admission to any year group, parents may request that his/her child's name is placed on the appropriate waiting list. Waiting lists will be maintained for years 8-11 until the end of the academic year and the end of December for Year 7. A further in-year application would need to be made in order for a pupil to remain on the waiting list. A child's position on the waiting list will be determined solely in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. Where places become vacant, they will be allocated to children on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria. The waiting list will be reordered in accordance with the oversubscription criteria whenever anyone is added to or leaves the waiting list.

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. For information on how to appeal, appellants should contact:

School Admission Appeal Co-ordinator
Admissions and Entitlements Team
Somerset County Council
County Hall
Taunton
TA1 4DY
Tel: 01823 358298
Email: appealcoordinator@somerset.gov.uk

Information on the timetable for the appeals process is on our website.

Notes:

Home address:

The home address is where a child normally lives. Where a child lives with parents with shared parental responsibility, each for part of a week, the address where the child lives is determined using a joint declaration from the parents stating the pattern of residence. If a child's residence is split equally between both parents, then parents will be asked to determine which residential address should be used for the purpose of admission to school. If no joint declaration is received where the residence is split equally by the closing date for applications, the home address will be taken as the address where the child is registered with the doctor. If the residence is not split equally between both parents then the address used will be the address where the child spends the majority of the school week.

Sibling:

'Sibling' means a natural brother or sister, a half brother or sister, a legally adopted brother or sister or half-brother or sister, a step brother or sister or other child living in the same household as part of the same family who, in any of these cases, will be living at the same address at the date of their application for a place.

Pupil and Service Premium Priority:

To be eligible for pupil premium or recovery premium, pupils must be:

- Currently eligible for free school meals (FSM) or have been eligible for FSM at any point in the last 6 years
- Looked after by the local authority
- Previously looked after by the local authority or other state care.

Those eligible for **Service Premium** admission priority are:

Pupils are eligible if they meet the following 2 criteria:

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces, including pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full-time reserve service – this includes pupils with a parent who is in the armed forces of another nation and is stationed in England
- they have been registered as a ‘service child’ on any school census in the past 6 years

They would also be eligible if:

- one of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme

Parents will be required to provide evidence of eligibility with their application.

Free School Meals

Parents and carers who receive any of the following are entitled to free school meals.

- Income Support (IS)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Universal Credit with an annual household income of less than £7400 after tax
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance (IBJSA)
- Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit provided they are not entitled to Working Tax Credit, with an annual taxable income (as assessed by HMRC) of less than £16,190

Children of families who don’t receive these benefits may also qualify for free school meals if the family’s annual household income is no higher than the following:

- £22,700 for families outside of London with one child
- £26,300 for families outside of London with two or more children.

In addition to these thresholds, families must hold no more than £16,000 in capital and savings.

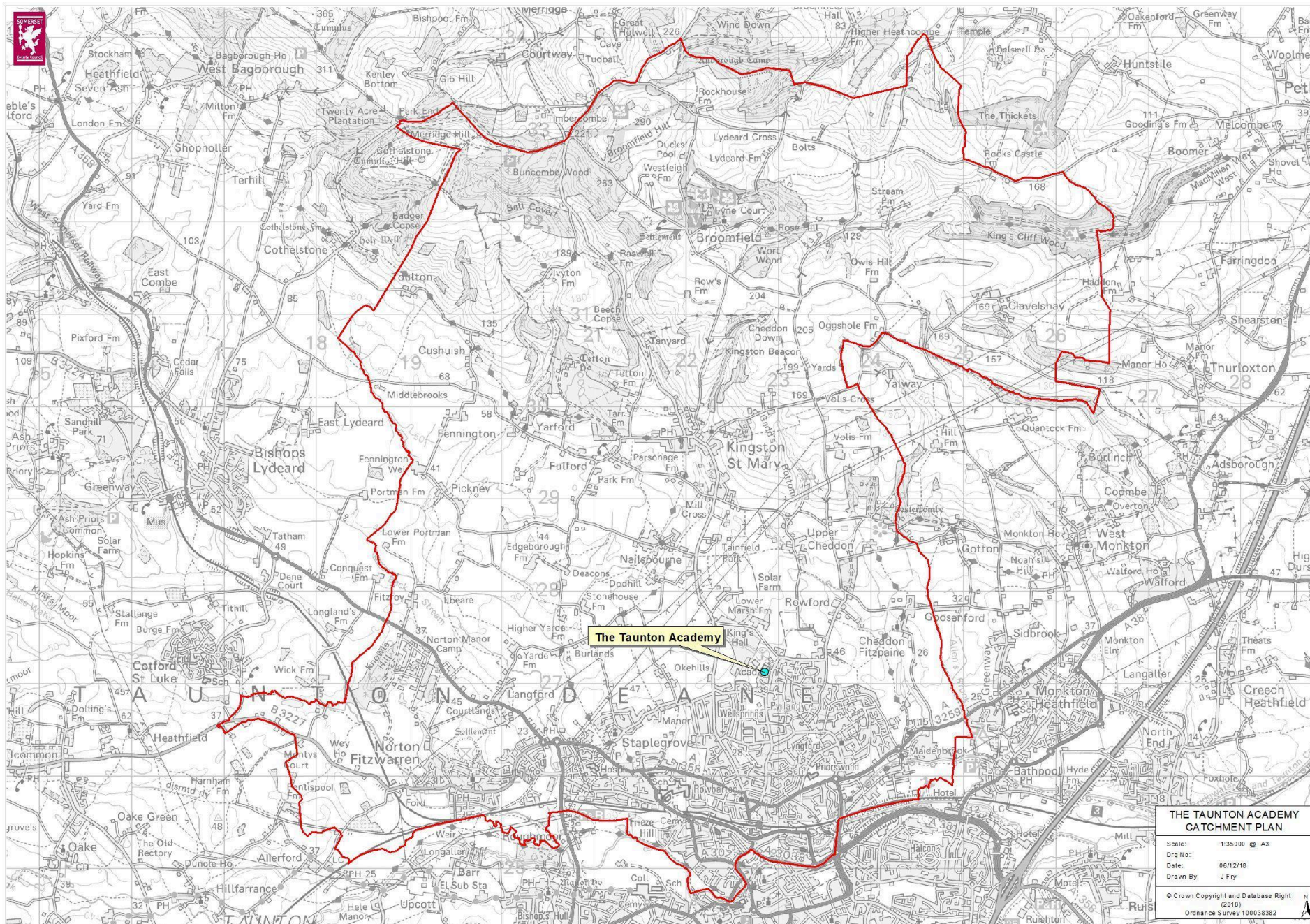
And the parent or carer meets any of the following criteria:

- you are a Zambrano or Chen carer
- families who have no recourse to public funds with a right to remain in the UK on grounds of private and family life under Article 8 of the European Convention on Human Rights

- families receiving support under Section 17 of the Children Act 1989 who are also subject to a no recourse to public funds restriction
- a subset of failed asylum seekers supported under Section 4 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- you hold a British National (Overseas) – BN(O) – passport
- you are a spousal visa, work visa or student visa holder
- you have no immigration status.

Establishing Faith:

'Faith' will be established by the Supplementary Information Form completed by a registered member of the Clergy. For the purposes of these admission arrangements 'of the faith' means that the family/child is baptised and practising members of the Church of England. "Practising" is defined as at least once per month for at least six months prior to the application closing date attendance at church by at least one parent and/or child.



Pyrland School Admission Arrangements for 2027/28

Supplementary Information Form (SIF)

This form must be completed and submitted to Somerset Local Authority if you would like your application for Pyrland School to be considered under criterion 6 of the over subscription criteria relating to regular church attendance which is:

Priority will next be given for 15% (or less) of PAN to children who are practising members of a Christian Church which is a member of Churches Together in England or Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, who will be prioritised in the following order

- Priority will next be given to children eligible for the pupil or service premium. Evidence of eligibility will need to be submitted with the application. See notes on eligibility.
- Other children.

“Practising” is defined as at least once a month for at least six months prior to the application closing date attendance at church by at least one parent and/or child.

In the event that during the period specified for attendance at worship the church [or, in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] has been closed for public worship and has not provided alternative premises for that worship, the requirements of these [admissions] arrangements in relation to attendance will only apply to the period when the church [or in relation to those of other faiths, relevant place of worship] or alternative premises have been available for public worship.

Please ensure that the attached form is completed by you and signed by the relevant church representative (vicar, priest, minister, pastor, church warden) and submitted to Somerset Local Authority. It must be received by Somerset Local Authority by midnight on the closing date. For in year admissions it must be submitted directly to the school alongside an in year application form.

Failure to send the correctly completed supplementary information form to Somerset Local Authority by the closing date will mean that your application cannot be considered under the church attendance criterion.

Please return form to:

Admissions & Entitlements Team
PPC402C
Somerset County Council
County Hall
Taunton
Somerset
TA1 4DY

Notes for Clergy

Notes for clergy or those responsible and authorised to sign supplementary information forms for those applying to Pyrland School under criterion 6.

The recommendation of the Bath & Wells DBE is that it is best practice to have a sub-committee of at least three members, including clergy, church wardens and those with responsibility for Sunday school to consider these requests and be authorised to sign the form if it is agreed appropriate.

Please also note that if this form is not received by Somerset Authority prior to the published deadline the child cannot be considered eligible under any church attendance criteria.

In order for the application to be considered under the criterion within the school's admissions arrangements, the following must be ensured:

1. The DBE does recommend that the child or a parent has attended actual worship and that attendance at toddler groups or other activities that are held at the church does NOT meet the requirements.
2. The completed form must be received by Somerset Local Authority by midnight on the closing date. For in year admissions the parent/carer must submit it directly to the school alongside an in year application form.
3. For applicants who have recently, or are about to move to a different area, the supplementary information form should be completed by the clergy at the church where they have been regularly worshipping. It is the responsibility of the applicant to organise this and ensure that the SIF is completed and sent in on time.

Please Note:

The application process is a legal one and every effort MUST be made to ensure that applications and any supplementary forms are completed accurately and on time. If applicants are unsuccessful, they have the right to appeal. **Clergy should not be pressured into signing a form if they know that the applicant does not, or are in doubt as to whether the applicant does, meet the criteria laid down by the school. This is one reason why a committee should consider every application. It is also particularly helpful where there is an inter-regnum or where clergy have been in post less than 6 months.**

Please complete your child's details then give this form to your clergy leader (priest/minister/pastor), who will complete the remaining part of the form.

Details of Child/Children

Applicants Name:.....

Childs Full Name:.....

Childs Date Of Birth:.....

Details of Church and Church Representative

Name and Address of Church:.....

.....

Name and Position of Church Representative.....

.....

Church Denomination (i.e. Anglican, Methodist etc).....

Tel:.....

Declaration

I, (insert name).....

confirm that the child and/or parent(s)/carer(s identified above has attended

(name of church).....

at least once a month for a minimum of 6 months prior to the date of application.

Signed:.....

Date:.....

Please return form to: Admissions Team, PPC402C, Somerset County Council, County Hall, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4DY