

EXCALIBUR ACADEMIES TRUST
SECONDARY ADMISSION – 2026/27 ACADEMIC YEAR
TIMETABLE FOR APPLICATION AND ENTRY (Dates relevant to all four Local Authorities unless otherwise stated)

31 OCTOBER 2025	NATIONAL CLOSING DATE for all Common Application Forms to be received by the School Admissions Team. Applications received by 31 October are 1 st round applications.
13 November 2025 (BCC) 14 November 2025 (WC) 5 December 2025 (SBC) December 2025 – January 2026 (RBC)	Details of applications which include preferences for schools in other LAs to be sent to those LAs.
21 November 2025 (WC) 25 November 2025 (BCC) 5 December 2025 (SBC)	LA forwards 1 st round application list to Admission Authority (Excalibur Academies Trust (EAT)).
4 November 2025 (BCC) 16 December 2025 (WC) 31 December 2025 (RBC) 12 January 2026 (SBC)	Deadline for any exceptional circumstances applications to be received by LA.
6 January 2026 (WC)	Final 1 st round application list sent by LA to Admission Authority (Excalibur Academies Trust (EAT)) (updated with any exceptional circumstances).
December 2025 – January 2026 (RBC) 5 January 2026 (BCC) 12 January 2026 (SBC) 13 January 2026 (WC)	EAT's Admission Authority returns ranked list of 1 st round applications to the LA.
3 February 2026 (WC) 10 February 2026 (BCC) 13 February 2026 (RBC/SBC)	The Local Authority will inform other Local Authorities of offers of places in Schools to be made to applicants' resident in their areas.
27 February 2026 (WC) 2 March 2026 (BCC)	LA will send list of successful 1 st round offers.
2 MARCH 2026	NATIONAL OFFER DATE - Notification of 1 st round offers despatched to parents from LA. Online applicants also able to view the outcome online.
6 March 2026 (WC)	Deadline for receipt by LA of 2 nd round/late applications (received after 31 October).
15 March 2026 (RBC/SBC) 16 March 2026 (BCC/WBC/WC)	Last date for 1 st round offers to be accepted by parents. (If an offer has not been accepted by this date it will be assumed the place is not wanted and will be offered to another applicant.)
17 March – 2 April 2026 (BCC)	Late applications, on-time applicants still seeking a place at their preferred schools and places not accepted to be exchanged between Local Authorities to enable a second round of allocations.
18 March 2026 (RBC)	Late applications for over-subscribed schools added to the waiting lists/change of preferences processed.
20 March 2026 (WC)	Details of second round applications received after deadline and before 6 March to be sent to Academies, Foundation and LA schools.
27 March 2026 (WC)	EAT to return ranked list of 2 nd round applications.
31 March 2026 (WBC/WC) 5 May 2026 (BCC) TBC (RBC)	Appeal deadline.
22 April 2026 (BCC)	The Local Authority informs schools of 1 st round offers accepted.
24 April 2026 (WC)	LA to confirm 2 nd round offers being made. Notification of 2 nd round offers despatched to parents from LA.
8 May 2026 (WC)	Last date for 2 nd round offers to be accepted by parents (If an offer has not been accepted by this date it will be assumed the place is not wanted and will be offered to another applicant.)
15 May 2026 (WC)	3 rd round/late applications (received after 6 March 2026) can be considered from this date (in date order)
TBC (RBC/WBC/WC) May/June 2026 (BCC)	Appeals heard.
31 August 2026 (RBC)	Coordination with other LAs ends.

BCC – Bristol City Council – applications to Fairfield High School/Redland Green School/Ashton Park School

RBC – Reading Borough Council – applications to The Wren School

WBC – West Berkshire Council – applications to John O'Gaunt School

WC – Wiltshire Council – applications to St John's Marlborough

