



BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy

Admissions Policy

Last review date:	September 2023		
Next review date:	September 2024		
Statutory Policy:	Yes		
Date	Version	Reason for change	Review
			Annually

BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy admission arrangements for students applying during the academic year 2023-2024, to start at the academy in September 2024.

1. Introduction

BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy is a 16-19 academy which offers a unique approach for students interested in administration, technical and production skills for film, television and theatre. The academy combines knowledge, understanding and skills within a practical context where students have real briefs and issues to solve relating to the industry and environment of stage and screen. The academy also provides a range of learning experiences and networking opportunities, which prepare students for the world of work.

2. Capacity

The Academy has a total capacity of 400 places (full-time equivalent) for students mainly in the age range 16-19. It will admit 200 each year.

3. Minimum study programme

All students are expected to enrol on a programme of study comprising a minimum of 580 planned hours per year.

Those students who have not achieved at least a GCSE grade 4 in both English and Maths will be required to study these GCSEs alongside their other subjects.

4. Minimum Entry Requirements

No student will be assessed for academic ability. The assessment will be on the student's aptitude and no other factor.

Where fewer applicants than the published admission number for the relevant year group are received, the Academy will offer places at the Academy to all who applied.

5. Applying for places

5.1 The application period will be made available under the admissions section of our website <https://www.boa-stageandscreen.co.uk/apply-now>. The Academy will consider all applications for places at BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy. **All applicants will be required to take the aptitude assessments.**

Stage 1 Applicants complete and submit the online application form.

Stage 2 Applicants are invited to attend an aptitude workshop to assess the applicant's aptitude in (his, her, their) chosen course.

Applicants are assessed in three workshops which are interactive and allow applicants to demonstrate collaboration, motivation, innovation/creativity, problem solving and progression. The workshops are designed to offer applicants the opportunity to demonstrate potential in their chosen area of study. The aptitude workshops will be conducted by BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy staff or industry professionals.

5.2 The aptitude day will consist of three workshops and a discussion:

- 2 group and 1 solo activity
- A discussion to give candidates the opportunity to talk with staff about their passions for the stage and screen industry (This activity is not assessed)

Members of staff who oversee each aptitude workshops will be looking for the following:

- a. Innovation and creativity in the specialist area
- b. Effective communication relevant to the specialism
- c. A positive response to the learning process, ability to take direction and progression over the workshop
- d. A flexible approach to a range of specialist area contexts

Applicants will be scored on a 1 to 5 scale.

Each area of the workshop will be marked out of 5 where 5 demonstrates the behaviour to a very high degree and 1 does not demonstrate the behaviour.

Students can score a maximum of 60 marks and a minimum of 12.

The discussion is not marked.

Members of staff have annual training to ensure all workshops assess aptitude – which is the individual's ability to learn and develop proficiency rather than test ability.

5.3 Equal Opportunities: The Academy is committed to equal opportunities and admits students across a full spectrum of academic abilities. All students have equal access to the curriculum and the Academy has a learning support programme to support students with additional learning needs.

5.4 The Academy Trust will publish a prospectus and application form. It will contain information about the arrangements for admission, including oversubscription criteria. It will include details of open evenings, information evenings and other opportunities for prospective students and their parents to gain information. The Academy Trust will also provide information in relation to BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy to Birmingham Local Authority and other relevant LA's for inclusion in the composite prospectus, as required.

5.5 The Academy Trust will provide opportunities for prospective students and parents to visit BOA Stage & Screen Production to seek information about the Academy.

5.6 The closing date for applications is 31st March 2024. Applicants should apply online on the BOA Stage and Screen Production Academy website using this link: [BOA Stage & Screen - APPLY NOW \(boa-stageandscreen.co.uk\)](https://boa-stageandscreen.co.uk) Offers will be sent out within two weeks of a student attending an aptitude workshop.

When offer letters are sent, applicants are given a date by which acceptance of the place offered must be received by BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy. If the applicant fails to accept the place by the due date, it will be assumed that they have refused the place

Term will begin in September.

6. Oversubscription criteria

6.1 Students will be allocated a place based on the aptitude scores; highest scores receive highest priority. If any students are tied for the final place, random allocation will be used to decide who will be admitted.

Waiting lists

6.2 Where, in any year, the Academy receives more successful applications for places than there are places available, a waiting list will operate until the end of the first term (October 2023).

Appeals

6.3 Stage 1: A student can appeal for a second chance. Second chance aptitude tests will be conducted by the relevant department and a senior leader. During the first and second chance workshops BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy staff will use their professional judgement of applicants, based on the criteria for admissions.

6.4 Stage 2: If after the second chance workshop an applicant is not offered a place an appeal may be made in writing within 14 days of the decision being communicated to the applicant. An appeals panel consisting of three people, including a Chair who is independent of the Academy supported by a clerk who is also independent of the Academy will hear the appeal. The panel may choose to invite the applicant to gain a better understanding of the grounds for the request or because the panel wishes to ask questions of the applicant or parent/carer.

A Stage 2 appeal may only be made on the grounds that the school has not followed its own admissions procedure. This is referred to as the "Permitted Grounds". Any appeal not made on Permitted Grounds will not be allowed to proceed. It is therefore very important that the letter requesting an appeal under Stage 2 must state clearly how the Academy has not followed its own procedure in reaching a decision not to admit an applicant.

6.5 After careful consideration of the request and reviewing any evidence and representation made by the applicant, parent/carer and Academy, the panel will conclude by:

- Upholding the original decision not to offer a place
- Determining if the applicant should be offered a place

The decision of the panel is final and will be communicated in writing. There will be no further right of appeal at this point.

7. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and any amended policy for the following September will be published on the Academy website before the end of the preceding September (i.e. the policy for 2024 will be published in September 2023). The policy will remain on the website throughout the academic year.

8. Complaints

If you are unhappy with any aspect of the admission policy or appeal process you may submit a complaint, outlining your concerns to the EFA at Academy.QUESTIONS@education.gsi.gov.uk, though you should first raise any concerns with the Academy via its website.

9. BOA Stage & Screen Production Academy Demographics

BOA Stage & Screen Production is a regional academy, drawing students from a wide geographical area. The demographics below represent the 2021 cohort and give an indication of expected intake for future students.

Birmingham (and Greater Birmingham, Solihull, Wolverhampton, Dudley, Sutton Coldfield etc.)	52%
Staffordshire	12%
Coventry and Warwickshire	11%
Worcestershire	12%
Shropshire	6%
Derbyshire	3%
Leicestershire	3%
The other 3% from Herefordshire, Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire and beyond	3%

