



Admissions Policy

Aims

- To welcome pupils from all backgrounds who will thrive in an academically selective environment
- To admit pupils who will benefit from and contribute to the ethos and activities of the school community

Most children apply for entry to the Nursery but vacancies also occur in other year groups. No child will be refused entry on the grounds of race, culture, religion, ethnicity or gender. The School is open to applications for prospective pupils from any ethnic background and welcomes pupils for whom English is not their first language.

Entry is by competitive assessment at every point of entry. The criteria at entry for Nursery is academically selective and identical for all candidates, including siblings of current pupils and children of staff.

Parents of a pupil who has a disability or special educational need are advised to provide the School with full written details at registration, prior to assessment. The School can then assess those needs and consult with parents about the adjustments that can reasonably be made to cater for the pupil's needs both during the admission process and if an offer of a place is made.

Open Mornings

Open Mornings are held on most Wednesday mornings, by appointment, throughout the school year. A small group of parents is given a guided tour of the School which includes a short presentation by the Head of Nursery and the Head of Pre-Preps. The morning concludes with coffee and further discussion with the Headmistress. Parents seeking admission for a place other than in Nursery may also request a separate tour and a meeting with the Headmistress.

School Policies

All School policies are available on request.

Admissions Procedure

Entry to the Nursery

Children are given a short informal assessment by an experienced member of the Early Years Team. Each child is assessed individually. The child is given approximately ten small tasks and scores are given for each task. We look for clearly able children who are eager and ready to learn and who have well-developed concentration and language skills. We also look for imagination, creativity and a degree of independence.

Entry to Reception

Should a vacancy arise in Reception, prospective pupils are tested in numeracy, phonics, reading skills and writing. The tests will depend on the time of year a vacancy becomes available and the age of the child.

Entry to Key Stage 1 (Years 1 and 2)

A few places sometimes become available in Years 1 and 2. Children are assessed in Maths, English and Reasoning.

Entry to Key Stage 2 (Year 3)

In-house examinations are set in Maths, English and Reasoning in late January. External candidates take these tests at the same time.

Years 4, 5 and 6

Occasionally children join the school in other year groups. To assess their ability, they are given standardised tests in English, Maths and Reasoning appropriate to their age. Wherever possible, applicants will be invited to spend the day with the class they may be going into to give them the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the school and their peers.

General Information

Account is always taken of pupils with special educational needs.

The School reserves the right to establish from any previous school/nursery that there are no outstanding fees or unresolved issues.

Offers of places are made as soon as possible following the assessments. Places are offered to pupils who meet our admission requirements according to the number of places available.

Bursaries

A number of means-tested bursaries are available for pupils from Year 3 upwards where parents are unable to pay the full tuition fee. We make these awards after careful consideration of financial circumstances. We would expect the pupils awarded bursaries to meet the academic criteria expected of all other applicants.

Parents who apply will be asked to complete a confidential statement of their financial circumstances. If they are offered an award, this will be reviewed annually.

A copy of the Bursary Application Form is available from the School Bursar upon request.