

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The School is an academically selective independent boarding and day school for children aged between 13 and 18 years.
- 1.2 The aims of this policy are:
 - 1.2.1 to ensure compliance with the School's charitable purposes. The School has a moral and ethical framework underpinned by the protestant principles of the Church of England, while tolerant and supportive of other faiths.
 - 1.2.2 to identify and admit children who will benefit from an academic education and who will contribute to and benefit from the ethos and activities of our School community. We will only admit a child who has met the relevant admissions criteria as set out in this policy.

2 Procedures

- 2.1 To register for a place, parents are required to complete a Registration Form which is available on the School's website and to pay the applicable Registration Fee.
- 2.2 Parents are encouraged to attend one of the School's open days or are welcome to arrange a tour of the School at another time. Parents should contact the Admissions Office for further details.
- 2.3 **Entry points:** The following procedures apply at each of the main points of entry at 13+ and 16+ and also to candidates for occasional vacancies in any other year group.
- 2.4 **Admissions procedure:** The School's admission procedure has three elements:
 - 2.4.1 entrance assessments;
 - 2.4.2 interviews; and
 - 2.4.3 references and confidential information disclosure.
- 2.5 **Entrance assessments:** These are as follows:
 - 2.5.1 **For entry at 13+/Year 9:**
 - (a) **Common Entrance:** Candidates from the preparatory schools who take the Common Entrance Examination will sit it in the June of the year of Entry.
 - (b) **Pre Senior Baccalaureate:** Candidates from the preparatory schools who take the Pre Senior Baccalaureate will be expected to share their report in June of the year of Entry. These candidates will also be required to sit Stowe tests in English and Maths in January of the year of Entry.

- (c) **Non- Common Entrance:** For those who have not followed the Common Entrance syllabus, candidates will sit the Stowe 13+/Year 9 examination in January for Entry the following September, or by arrangement with the Registrar.
 - (d) **ISEB Common Pre-Tests:** All 13+ candidates will sit the ISEB Common Pre-Tests for Stowe. Day Candidates sit the tests for Stowe in Year 6 (or Year 7 if their application comes later), Boarding candidates sit the tests in Year 7.
 - (e) **International Pupils:** Pupils who live overseas and for whom English is not their first language will be required to take the UKiset test before an offer of a place can be made.
- 2.5.2 **For Admission to Fourth Form, Fifth Form or Upper Sixth:** The School sets its own tests in certain core / option subjects as appropriate.
- 2.5.3 **Lower Sixth Form/Year 12 Entry:** All candidates must sit two subject papers during the Sixth Form Entry Days held in November each year, or later if the Entry Days have already taken place. Offers of places are conditional on candidates gaining the required GCSE/IGCSE (or equivalent examination) results. Candidates will be informed of the applicable grade requirements. Pupils who live overseas and for whom English is not their first language will be required to take the UKiset test, and a written English paper (set by Stowe) before an offer of a place can be made.
- 2.6 **Interviews:** In addition to the entrance assessments set out above, all candidates will be interviewed. These are of two kinds:
- 2.6.1 **general interviews:** in all cases there will be a general interview to explore the candidate's interests, attitude to school, personal qualities, ability to contribute to the School community, suitability for boarding (where appropriate), support available at home and any relevant connection with the School;
 - 2.6.2 **option interview:** at Scholarship Entry Days there will be an 'option interview' to explore a candidate's academic ability in a particular subject. For certain option subjects (such as Art) candidates may be asked to submit samples of their work.
- 3 **Reference and Confidential Information:** The Head of the candidate's current school will be asked to provide a written reference and a report as to the candidate's academic ability, attitude and behaviour, involvement in the School community, talents and interest, and any other special circumstances such as special education needs, or a disability. Parents are asked to give full disclosure to the School about their child on a 'Confidential Information Form' to give the School a full picture of the Child's emotional, physical and educational needs.
- 4 **Equality, diversity and disability**
- 4.1 All candidates for admission will be treated equally, irrespective of their, or their parents' race, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity, gender reassignment or any disability. Candidates will also be treated equally in respect of their parents' age, gender or marital or civil partnership status.

- 4.2 The School is inclusive and welcomes applicants with disabilities and special educational needs. The School currently has limited facilities for the disabled but will do all that is reasonable to comply with its legal and moral responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 in order to accommodate the needs of applicants who have disabilities for which, with reasonable adjustments, the School can cater adequately.
- 4.3 Parents of a child who has any disability or special educational needs should provide the School with full details on registration. The School needs to be aware of any particular requirements which may affect a child's ability to participate in the admissions procedure and to take full advantage of the education provided at the School.
- 4.4 The School shall determine the reasonable adjustments that are required for the applicant based on the information provided, in accordance with the School's obligations under equality legislation. The School will consult with parents about the adjustments which can reasonably be made to ensure that the application procedure is accessible for the child and that the School can cater adequately for the child should an offer of a place be made.

5 Admissions criteria

- 5.1 The admissions criteria are:
- 5.1.1 success in the relevant entrance assessments and / or achieving the required GCSE grades, as appropriate; and
 - 5.1.2 satisfactory interview; and
 - 5.1.3 a positive confidential Reference or report from the applicant's present school (if applicable); and
 - 5.1.4 commitment to the School's ethos as described in the School's aims detailed in 1.2.
- 5.2 We reserve the right to offer places to children whom we feel can benefit from the broad and varied curriculum offered and make a positive contribution to the School community.
- 5.3 All successful candidates must have the legal right to live and study in the UK or, where appropriate, will be sponsored by the School to do so, subject to meeting UKVI regulations.
- 5.4 It is assumed that a pupil will automatically progress through the School, subject to him / her meeting the required standards of behaviour and relevant academic criteria at the time.

6 Siblings

- 6.1 Whilst we make every effort to accommodate siblings, admission is not automatic, and the candidate must meet the admissions criteria.

7 Scholarships and bursaries

- 7.1 A number of scholarships and bursaries are available. Please see the School's website for further information or contact the Admissions Office for details.

8 Records

- 8.1 A confidential admissions record will be kept for each candidate.