

EXPLANATION OF PROPOSED CHANGES ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS – SEPTEMBER 2019

It is the responsibility of the Governing Board to consult on any proposed change to the admission arrangements. Therefore we are proposing the changes outlined in the attached draft admissions criteria for Years 7-11 and the Sixth Form. Suggested changes are highlighted in ***bold/italic*** on the draft criteria and an explanation is included below.

Admission Arrangements Years 7 – 11:

Changes to Criterion 2 – Exceptional Circumstances

- Changes have been included which seek to: provide clarity about the type of evidence that needs to be provided to support any such application. In addition, further clarification in the notes includes an explanation that provision of this evidence does not guarantee that an applicant will be given priority – any decision will be based on the merits of each case. Also for any in-year admissions, priority under this category is subject to places being available in the relevant year group.

Addition of Criterion 4 giving priority to children of staff at the school

- In line with the Admissions Code and the practice followed by many other similar local schools, the Governing Board are proposing the inclusion of a criterion giving priority to children of staff where the staff member has been employed for two or more years or is recruited to fill a post which is difficult to recruit to or for which there is a demonstrable skills shortage.
- Inclusion of this criterion will help the school to remain competitive in the current difficult recruitment market and to attract and retain high quality candidates.
- Any applications under this category must be supported by a new Supplementary Information Form which must be submitted to the Admissions Officer at the school.

Change to Notes regarding Re-Ranking of Waiting List

- Previously, the Year 7 waiting list was re-ranked at the very start of the autumn term, the feeder school criterion removed and any available places were then re-classified as in-year admissions. However, because some places become available during the summer holidays or right at the very start of term which the school have not been made aware of, the Governing Board is proposing that it is fairer to delay re-ranking of the waiting list until the fifth school day of the autumn term (not including any INSET Days) thereby continuing to allocate these places under secondary school transfer arrangements which include priority under the feeder school criterion. From the sixth school day, the waiting list will be re-ranked using Criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5b and 6 only i.e. excluding the feeder school criterion.

Admission Arrangements – Sixth Form:

Over-Subscription Criteria for External Students

- Inclusion of a criterion giving priority to children of staff at the school (as above) to ensure consistency with admission arrangements for Years 7 – 11.
- Any applications under this category must be supported by a new Supplementary Information Form which must be submitted to the Admissions Officer at the school.

Entry Requirements for Internal and External Students

- The wording has been amended to take account of the legislative change from alphabetical to numerical GCSE gradings but this does not raise the academic requirements for entry to the Sixth Form.

November 2017