



# ABINGDON

## Admissions Policy

### 1. Aims of this Policy

To ensure compliance with Abingdon's charitable purpose to promote the independent education of boys by providing a day and boarding school for their secondary education. Abingdon School is an academically selective school. Our selection procedure is designed to identify boys who have the aptitude and capacity to profit from a rigorous academic training as expressed in the School curriculum, combined with an ability to contribute to the School's extra-curricular "Other Half" programme.

To welcome applications from candidates from as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world. Abingdon School is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background.

### 2. Selection

The main criteria for admissions are as follows:

- Academic potential, which may be measured in a number of ways: pre-test\*, entrance examinations, Common Entrance results\*, GCSE scores, reference from current school, other examination and test scores and interviews. *EAL speakers may have additional tests to determine their understanding and usage of the English language.*
- Behaviour: the School only accepts boys with a good behaviour record.
- Potential to make use of the opportunities afforded by Abingdon School. This implies some interest in one or many of the wide range of activities on offer such as music, sport, drama, art. Interest and competence in some such activities will be a strong recommendation.
- Health: satisfactory general health.
- Fees (if applicable) at the current school have been paid and the parents are able, if required, to satisfy the Head that they are in a position to pay the fees for Abingdon School.

\*these measures are only relevant to Third Year 2019 candidates

### 3. Siblings

The School has a strong family ethos and encourages those with family connections to apply (i.e. those cases where a sibling or where a relation has attended the School). Priority will be given to those with such connections when offering places (subject to satisfactory performance in the appropriate entrance tests).

#### **4. Special Educational Needs and Disability**

In keeping with the Equalities Act 2010, we do not discriminate in any way regarding entry. We welcome pupils with special educational needs and disabilities, providing that they are able to cope with the academic and Other Half curriculum with reasonable adjustments and that our Learning Support Department is able to offer them the support that they require. We welcome pupils with physical disabilities provided that our site can cope with them. However, we advise parents of children with special educational needs or disabilities to discuss their son's requirements with the School as early as possible in the admissions procedure. Parents should provide the school with full written details at registration, or as soon as special educational needs or disabilities become apparent during the admissions procedure. The School needs this information so that, in the case of any boy with particular needs, we can assess those needs and consult with parents about the adjustments that can reasonably be made to cater adequately for the boy's needs both during the admissions process and if an offer of a place is made and he becomes a pupil at the School.

#### **5. Guardians and Visas**

Abingdon School does not undertake to accommodate any pupil during the School holiday time. For this reason all pupils who are unable to travel home during these periods must have a parent or UK based guardian who lives close enough to the School to care for that pupil during half-terms and holidays and on the occasions when the School is closed. Responsibility for the appointment of guardians rests with the parents of the pupil concerned.

According to UK immigration regulations all non-EEA citizens wishing to attend school in the UK must have a valid student visa. Abingdon School possesses the appropriate sponsorship licence to support child student visa applications however the responsibility for the visa process rests with applicants and their parents.

#### **Registrar**

Last internal review: January 2019

Last governor review: January 2018

Next governor review: January 2019

Full details of the Admissions Procedure are available on the school website under the Admissions tab, Introduction to Admissions and as part of the Prospectus, also under the same tab, in the Additional Information Booklet.