

BRYANSTON

ADMISSIONS POLICY

1 Introduction

The aim of our admissions procedure is to ensure that pupils who join Bryanston are able to thrive academically, socially and culturally within our academic, co-curricular and pastoral systems.

Bryanston is an academically selective school, but we endeavour to admit pupils with a broad range of talents who will benefit from the curricular and co-curricular opportunities available at the school and who are prepared to contribute enthusiastically to the school community. We value art, drama, music, outward-bound, sport and service, and look for pupils with a readiness to live as a boarder within our school community and make the most of all that is on offer at Bryanston. We aim to admit a diverse group of pupils each year and extra-curricular contributions and character are considered as carefully as academic ability.

2 Equal Opportunities

Bryanston is committed to equal treatment for all applicants regardless of race, disability, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation or background who are comfortable with the Christian ethos of the school.

We welcome applications from pupils with special educational needs or disabilities provided that our Learning Support department can provide any additional support required. We strongly advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical or cognitive disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before commencing the registration process. Parents should provide a copy of an educational psychologist's report or medical report if they have one.

We seek to manage our admissions procedures fairly and sensitively. We value family connections with the school and welcome new associations and links. Where there are more applicants than places, the following are considered in the Head's decision of an offer of a place:

- i the pupil's commitment to the school
- ii anticipated benefit for the applicant in coming to the school
- iii likely level of involvement in and contribution to the life of the school
- iv the reference from the previous school
- v the proposed academic programme
- vi connections with the school (siblings in particular)

Equal Opportunities Policy and Learning Support Policy are available on the website.

3 Selection

We accept registrations for a place on our entry list at any time, but recommend that registration is completed at least three years before arrival date. Once registered we communicate regularly with parents and with the child's current school to ensure that Bryanston is able to offer an educational environment in which each child can thrive.

Every child is interviewed by the Head or an Admissions Tutor and we look for potential and willingness to engage in the busy boarding life on offer at Bryanston. Admission is dependent upon a candidate passing Common Entrance or our own Entrance Tests. We pre-test all registered children in the Autumn Term of Year 7 and can offer a further pre-assessment in Year 8 for borderline candidates to ensure that Bryanston has appropriate structures to support their learning. The reference from the child's current school will form an important element of the overview of each child.

4 Scholarship & Bursary

We are committed to broadening access and help children who aspire to an education at Bryanston. Scholarships are awarded in competition and on merit in the following categories:

<u>Junior Scholarships</u>	<u>Sixth Form Scholarships</u>
Academic	Academic
Hunter (All Rounder)	Udall (sport)
Art	Music or Choral
Computing	
D&T	
Music	
Performing Arts	
Sport	

Details of scholarships can be found on the website or are available from the Admissions Department.

Bursaries are awarded on the basis of financial need and may either stand alone or be available in addition to scholarships. Further details can be found on our website.

5 Expectations

The following information is available for prospective parents when they enquire about admission and register their child's name on our entry list. This information can be found on the school website or the school will provide other means of access.

- The name and contact address of the Chair of Governors
- The school ethos/aims
- A copy of this admissions policy
- Behaviour policy and school rules
- Curriculum policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Health and Safety policy
- First Aid policy
- Information on educational and welfare provision for pupils who have EHC plans and pupils with EAL.
- Information on academic performance in previous year, including results of public examinations
- A copy of any inspection reports of the school
- Details of the school's complaints procedure and the number of complaints registered during the previous year

Pupils and their parents are expected to work with us for the good of the school community. They should understand our rules and expectations of behaviour and be prepared to work with us in order to achieve them.

Junior Application and Admission Procedures

Visiting the School

Most prospective parents arrange to visit the School at least three years before the pupil is due to join. For the first visit to the School, parents usually attend a small group where they meet the Head or an Admissions Tutor, teaching staff and a Housemaster or a Housemistress and have a tour of the School with a pupil. It is also possible to arrange an individual visit for members of the family to meet the Head or an Admissions Tutor, a member of the teaching staff and have a tour of the school with a pupil.

Registration

A child may be registered for admission at any time after birth. A non-refundable registration fee of £200 is charged and on receipt the child's name is added to the Registration List but registration does not in itself guarantee a place at the School.

Pre-testing

Formal academic assessment in the form of the ISEB common pre-test will take place for all registered candidates in the autumn term of year 7.

Children successful in the pre-test in year 7 will be offered a place at the school. Parents will be asked to confirm that Bryanston is their first choice and to pay a deposit. This payment confirms a place on the Main Entry List and delayed payment of the deposit may result in the loss of position on the list. Those who have not yet reached the point at which we feel comfortable making an offer will be offered a place on the Development List. We will stay in close contact with their current school to see how they progress, in the earnest hope that we will be able to offer them a place at a later date, after which parents would be asked to pay the deposit.

Invitation Afternoon

In the summer term of Year 7, an Invitation Afternoon is held for families of all registered pupils for that year, on the main Entry List, the Development List and the Head's Reserve List.

Registration List

The order in which the Registration List for any given year fills up is on a first come basis. Once the list for a given year is full, it is possible to hold a small number of additional names on the Head's Reserve List. Such pupils would need to be registered. Applicants on the Head's Reserve List would be invited to sit the ISEB and the deposit would be requested if the child is moved on to the Entry List.

Entry

Most pupils join the School at 13+, having passed the Common Entrance examinations in June of their year of entry. Pupils are expected to achieve a minimum of 50% in all papers to meet their conditional offers of a place. We do not accept Level 1 papers. Pupils who apply for and are awarded an Academic Scholarship do not need to sit Common Entrance.

Prospective pupils who have not been prepared for Common Entrance must pass entrance examinations set by the School, in February of the year of entry, in English, Science, Maths and a Modern Foreign Language (French, Spanish or German). Particularly able pupils may sit additional papers and be considered for an Academic Award.

Each prospective pupil will be expected to meet with the Head or an Admissions Tutor, either by arrangement or at interview for a scholarship or an award. A satisfactory report from the pupil's current school will also be required. Should the School, or the pupil's current school or parents, have concerns regarding the academic or pastoral suitability of the pupil, these would be discussed during the admissions process. Pupils with Special Educational Needs, or pupils identified by junior schools as borderline in core subjects, may be invited to Bryanston for a pre-assessment in the Autumn term of Year 8. The purpose of this pre-assessment is to ensure that the School is able to provide the appropriate level of support for pupils to be able to fulfil their potential, and the decision about suitability is made by the Head giving due consideration to the pupil's best interest.

If space is available it may be possible to join the School's second year, for the start of GCSE courses, but this is not a normal point of entry. The prospective pupil must pass academic tests and have an interview with either the Head or an Admissions Tutor. A report will also be obtained from the pupil's

current school. The offer of a place will depend on appropriate academic ability, a suitable character reference and performance at interview. The decision for an offer of a place is made by the Head giving due consideration to the pupil's best interest.

International Applicants

In addition to the above, a pupil with English as an additional language (EAL) coming into the first or second year should have, as a minimum, the Cambridge Preliminary English Test or equivalent. If a prospective pupil has FCE (Cambridge First Certificate in English), the next level higher, they will manage well.

Sixth Form Application and Admission Procedures

General Information

Bryanston's aim is to admit pupils at this point of entry who will integrate happily and successfully into the existing community, enhance the Sixth Form and make full use of the opportunities the School offers.

Entry Requirements

For pupils entering the Sixth Form from September 2019 currently studying GCSEs entry requirements are 40 points at GCSE where A* = 8, A = 7, B = 6, etc. The new GCSE grades 9 – 1 will be counted at face value. For further information please contact the admissions office.

Candidates who have studied for the IBMYP should have at least 36 marks or more with a 6 or above recommended for 'A' level or IBDP subjects. Pupils from countries with no public examinations at 16+ will be expected to submit their latest class grades:

For an EAL candidate, their level of English should be certified by one of the following:

- UKiset Test
- Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) at A or B grade
- IGCSE ESOL at A or B grade
- Cambridge Advanced Certificate in English (CAE)
- IELTS (International English Language Testing System) at least level 5.5

Admissions Procedure

Applications will be accepted one year in advance, i.e. at the beginning of a candidate's final GCSE year. Before submitting an application, candidates may attend one of two Information Afternoons held early in the Autumn Term. Application forms should be completed and returned with a £200 application fee to the Admissions Registrar by the dates published each year. The Head will then obtain a report from the candidate's current school together with predicted GCSE grades where relevant.

All A level applicants for standard entry will be expected to pass entry tests in English or Maths and IB candidates will be expected to pass entry tests in both English and Maths. Candidates can apply to attend a Test and Interview Day in November and will be interviewed by the Head, an Admissions Tutor and other members of staff and will also take an Abilities Test.

Academic Scholarship candidates will normally be tested in three of the subjects they intend to study in the Sixth Form, in addition to sitting a general English paper, a general Maths paper and an Abilities Test. Sport and Music Scholarship candidates will undergo specific assessments, in addition to sitting a general Maths paper or a general English paper (IB candidates would be expected to sit both papers) and an Abilities test. All scholarship candidates will be interviewed by the Head, an Admissions Tutor and other members of staff.

Offers of a Place

Initial offers of places are made on 1st December. Suitable applicants who are not included in this first round of offers may, if they wish, be put on a Reserve List. The number of places for entry into the Sixth Form is not fixed, but is dependent on various factors, and may vary considerably both from year to year and during the course of any one year.

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