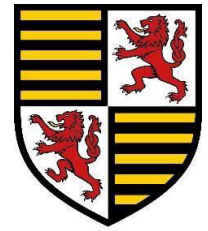


WARMINSTER SCHOOL



1707

ADMISSIONS POLICY

Date of Latest Review: 1 September 2023

Responsible Person: Deputy Head Academic

GENERAL

Warminster School is a co-educational independent school for pupils from ages 2 to 18. The Senior School is for pupils aged 11 – 18 and the Prep School is for pupils aged 2 – 11. Please contact the Admissions Team, on 01985 210160 or email admissions@warminsterschool.org.uk to arrange a visit.

ENTRY PROCEDURE

Warminster School is a selective school, though not in narrow academic terms. The breadth of our cohort is a feature which we celebrate. In admitting pupils to the School, we aim to ensure that all whom we accept will be able to access our broad academic curriculum. We aim equally to avoid the potentially damaging outcome of admitting individuals who might subsequently find the Warminster School experience inaccessible and therefore dispiriting.

In practical terms, selection is based upon academic merit which is evaluated through entry assessments, references from the candidate's previous school, and most commonly an interview at the School or via 8 x 8 (our video platform). Our selection process is designed to identify pupils who are able to benefit from our balanced and well-rounded education and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the School.

Applicants for admission should register using our online registration form.

EQUAL TREATMENT

Our aim is to encourage applications from candidates with as diverse a range of backgrounds as possible. This enriches our community and is vital in preparing our pupils for today's world. Bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for as many as possible who meet the School's admissions criteria.

Warminster School is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background. Our provision for bursaries is described below.

LEARNING SUPPORT

We do not discriminate in any way regarding entry. We welcome pupils with special educational needs, providing our Learning Support Department can offer the support that they require. We welcome pupils with physical disabilities provided that our site is appropriate for them. However, we advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with the School before they sit entrance assessments so that we can be confident that we will be in a position to make adequate provision for them.

We will discuss thoroughly with parents, and their medical advisers, the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if they become a pupil at the School.

THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The aim of the process is to identify potential. We are looking for well-rounded pupils with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The School has strong traditions in sport, music, drama, art, CCF and community activities. There are many co-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

No specific preparation for the entry assessments is needed: all candidates start on an equal footing, with identical opportunities to display their academic aptitude and extra-curricular skills. We do not assess candidates for entry who are below the age of 8.

All other candidates for entry (below 16+) sit age-specific papers in English and Maths.

The Sixth Form welcomes pupils from a broad range of backgrounds which reflects our status as an IB World School. The School offers its Sixth Formers the chance to choose between studying either for the International Baccalaureate Diploma or following a traditional A Level programme. A wide variety of subjects is offered in each of these programmes. Pupils come to us from a wide range of educational systems but must have demonstrated a potential to achieve well on an A Level or IB Diploma Programme.

The A Level Programme

We offer a wide variety of subjects at Advanced Level, including all of the traditional subjects. The A Level lessons are supplemented with a varied enrichment programme including the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ), a lecture series, enrichment groups and activities amongst other things. We require all pupils who wish to follow an A Level programme to obtain at least five GCSE passes at Level 4 (Grade C on legacy GCSEs) or above, as well as a minimum Level 6 (Grade B on legacy GCSEs) in any subject they wish to study.

The IB Diploma Programme

The school encourages applications from a broad range of pupils to the Diploma Programme and will judge each case on merit, judging each pupil holistically based not only on their academic performance, but also on their background and other attributes they could bring to the school and their course of study.

If a pupil is going down the standard GCSE route, we would be looking at five GCSEs at Level 4 (Or C on the legacy GCSE courses) or above, including at least a Level 6 (B on the legacy GCSE courses) or above in the subjects they are planning to take at higher level.

If a pupil is joining us from abroad and has not taken GCSE's then we would be looking at the equivalent grades from their school report.

The type of pupil suited to study the IB is someone who has a good breadth of knowledge across a number of subjects and is self-motivating as well as the ability to work independently. Therefore, these are all qualities that we would also be looking at for any potential Warminster School IB candidates.

The IB Career-Related Programme

In order to be not only be inclusive, but also to enable pupils to specialise in their career-related area, the school requires pupils to get a Level 6 at GCSE (or equivalent) in their chosen HL DP subjects and their career-related qualification, and a Level 5 in any SL subjects they choose. Pupils are encouraged to choose at least two HL DP subjects along with a pupil's choice of their career-related study. If a prospective pupil

has not got a GCSE or equivalent in a subject they wish to study, cases will be reviewed on an individual basis.

SIBLING POLICY

Most siblings join us at Warminster School. However, admission is not automatic, and there may be occasions where we judge that a sibling is likely to thrive better in a different academic environment.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Warminster School offers scholarships for excellence in:

- Academic subjects
- Music
- Sport
- Art
- Drama
- STEM
- Warminster Scholarship (two combined areas from the subjects above)

Purpose of Scholarships

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. In recognition of this achievement, the scholar is sometimes offered a reduction in the fees up to 10%. Music scholars may be offered free tuition in up to two musical instruments.

We encourage parents of Scholars who anticipate that they will experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees to apply at the same time for one of the School's means-tested bursaries described below. Ideally this should be done when they register their child.

Academic Scholarships

Candidates who are awarded academic scholarships are selected from the most outstanding performers in the entrance examinations.

BURSARIES

Our bursary programme is designed to make it possible for as many as possible of those who meet the school's entry criteria to take up a place here. Both parents are required to provide proof of their income and assets. The level of support varies according to parental need; but can extend to 100% fee remission in cases of proven need.

Our Bursary Policy can be obtained from the Bursar or on the School website.

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

Although Warminster School has Christian roots, we do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and we welcome pupils of other faiths, or of none. We offer the opportunity for pupils of other beliefs to practise their own faiths. However, parents should be aware that there are compulsory Assemblies in church and that all pupils are expected to attend church on appropriate occasions such as Speech Day.

SCHOOL'S CONTRACTUAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

Copies of the School's Contractual Terms and Conditions are on the School's website and will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

COMPLAINTS

We hope that you and your child do not have any complaints about our admissions process. However, copies of the School's complaints procedure can be sent to you on request.

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