

SEVENOAKS SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

GENERAL

Sevenoaks School is a co-educational independent school for pupils from ages 11 to 18. The school has about 1000 pupils, 350 of whom are boarders. Deciding on the right school for your child is very important, and we believe that a personal visit is invaluable. We very much hope that you and your child will visit Sevenoaks. We hold a number of open events throughout the year which give a general introduction to the school. Details are published on our website. We are also very happy to welcome prospective parents and their children at other times. Please contact the Assistant Registrar (regist@sevenoaksschool.org) for Year 7 and Year 9 entry, or the Assistant Sixth Form Registrar (regist6@sevenoaksschool.org) for entry to the Sixth Form, for more information or to arrange a visit.

Parents should be aware that there is compulsory Saturday school and that there are uniform requirements. Sport, swimming and fitness activities are compulsory and classes are not always segregated by gender.

Once enrolled at Sevenoaks School, pupils would normally be expected to stay and complete their schooling at Sevenoaks. Contractually, they are required to stay for at least a complete stage of education: 11-13; 13-16; 16-18.

CRITERIA FOR ENTRY

Selection for entry to the School is on merit. All candidates are assessed through entrance tests, references from the candidate's current school, as well as interviews and reports depending on the entry level. Successful candidates will have met our academic entry requirements. They will also have demonstrated ability and/or interest in co-curricular areas, and excellence of character. 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.

The usual points of entry are at 11+/Year 7, 13+/Year 9 and 16+/Year 12. Details of the entry procedures at all three entry points, information on preparation for the tests and the dates of the tests for this year's entry can be found at: www.sevenoaksschool.org/admissions

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Sevenoaks School's 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. The school is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's sex, race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation or social background. Additionally, bursaries (see appropriate section below) are offered in order to make it possible for those who meet the School's admission criteria to attend the school. The school's provision for bursaries is described below.

SPECIAL NEEDS

The school welcomes pupils with special educational needs providing that its learning support department can offer them the support that they require. We also welcome pupils with disabilities provided that our site can accommodate them. We strongly advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical or mental disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with us before he/she sits the entrance exam. Parents should provide a copy of an educational psychologist's report or a medical report if they have one. The school will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child and whether we can meet their needs before a place is offered. A more detailed document is available on request from the Pastoral Deputy Head.

OVERSEAS APPLICANTS

We welcome overseas pupils who can study at Sevenoaks as boarders provided that they have a relative or guardian living in the UK with whom they can stay for some weekends.

Fluency in English

All subjects are taught in English at Sevenoaks School. Students must therefore have a high level of fluency in English, both written and spoken: between an Intermediate and Upper Intermediate level, equivalent to between B1 and B2 (CEFR); ALTE level 2/3; or IELTS level 6. Formal language qualifications are welcomed but not required. Support in English as an Additional Language (EAL) can be arranged at the parent's expense.

OLD SENNOCKIAN FAMILIES AND SIBLING POLICY

Applications from the children of Old Sennockians are welcomed, as are those from the siblings of children attending the School. However, selection is based on merit and all applicants will be required to meet the criteria for entry (see above).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Sevenoaks offers 50 scholarships a year for excellence in:

- Academic subjects
- Music
- Sport
- Art
- Drama

Academic and Music scholarships are available at 11+ 13+ and 16+. Sport, Drama and Art scholarships are additionally available to internal and external candidates at 13+ and to external candidates at 16+.

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. In recognition of this achievement, for entry in Years 7 and 9 a scholar is offered a fixed amount (£1,000 per annum) of reduction from the day/boarding fees and for entry in Year 12 the scholar is offered a 10 per cent reduction in the day fees, throughout his/her time at Sevenoaks. In addition up to 50% of the day fee may occasionally be offered following means testing. Music scholars are offered free tuition in one or two musical instruments. Parents are asked to indicate on the registration form whether they wish to apply for a scholarship. Details of the arrangements will be sent to all who express an interest. Details of the procedure and criteria for all scholarships can be found on our website at www.sevenoaksschool.org/scholarships.

BURSARIES

A bursary is means-tested financial support for school fees. Our bursary policy can be viewed on our website at www.sevenoaksschool.org/bursaries. Sevenoaks School's bursary programme is designed to make it possible for those able students who meet our entry criteria to take up a place at the School, irrespective of parental income. Bursaries are means-tested in accordance with the criteria published on the School's website.

Parents are asked to indicate on the registration form if they wish to apply for bursary funding. Late indications of financial need may not be successful as available funds may already be fully allocated.

RELIGIOUS BELIEFS

Sevenoaks School is a lay foundation and it does not select for entry on the basis of religious belief. It offers the opportunity for pupils of different religious backgrounds to practise their own faiths.

SCHOOL'S CONTRACTUAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

Copies of the School's contractual terms & conditions are available on the School's website and will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

COMPLAINTS

The School hopes that parents and pupils do not have any complaints about the School's admissions process, but copies of the School's complaints procedure can be sent to parents on request.

REVIEW

The Admissions Policy has been set by the Governing Body in accordance with the School's charitable objectives and is reviewed periodically.

October 2016