

UPPINGHAM

Admissions Policy

Uppingham School is a co-educational boarding school for 13–18-year-olds. In a School of around 850, we anticipate 60 day pupils from September 2023.

Aims

Uppingham School aims to:

- ensure compliance with our charitable purposes
- employ assessment processes that are fair and consistent to all applicants.
- identify pupils whose academic level (or potential), personal qualities and other abilities match the standards expected to allow a young person to thrive in and contribute to the wide-ranging opportunities in a busy and demanding full boarding environment.

Points of Admission

Entry into Fourth Form (Year 9) at age 13: Each year we seek to admit 150 boarding pupils into year 9: 92 boys and 58 girls. Alongside these we will admit 10 day pupils – 5 boys and 5 girls, as long as space permits. Most of these places are awarded in the pre-tests that are sat in year 7. A smaller number of places are available to be awarded in Year 8. Details regarding our [pre-test processes](#) and making [late applications](#) are available on the Admissions section of our website.

Entry into Lower Fifth Form (Year 10) at age 14: Typically, there are a small number of places available for entry at this point each year. Candidates for these places are considered as [late applications](#) and the process described on the Admissions section of our website.

Entry into Lower Sixth (Year 12) at age 16: The number of pupils in the Lower Sixth year increases by 25% with the admission of about 35 girls and 15 boys annually. The majority of these girls join The Lodge, a house dedicated to girls who join at this point. The [Sixth Form assessment process](#) has its own timetable. Candidates should be registered with the School by the end of September and the assessments run from mid-October to mid-November for entry the following year. Offers are made on 1st December and initial replies are required within eight days.

It would be very rare that a pupil joins directly into the Upper Fifth (Year 11) or into the Upper Sixth (Year 13).

Registration

All prospective pupils should be registered formerly; our [registration form](#) is available online and a non-refundable fee of £200 is required. We may be able to waive this for families seeking a substantial bursary; direct contact with the Admissions office should be made to clarify this.

Families making late applications or seeking entry into Lower Fifth should clarify with the Admissions Department that there are places to compete for before registering.

Selection Criteria

It is a requirement that parents disclose all relevant information likely to have a bearing on the Admissions process. If information which should have been disclosed subsequently comes to light, the School will be entitled to take rescind an offer.

When the School is oversubscribed and we need to decide between two or more candidates who meet our admission requirements, the following will apply after all appropriate allowances and special consideration has been given:

- we may give preference to a child with a particular skill, talent or aptitude, or
- to a child who already has a sibling in the School or whose parent was a former pupil or
- to a child whose parent is a current member of staff

The Headmaster and Senior Deputy Head make admissions decisions, in consultation with the Deputy Head (Academic) and the Registrar. The Headmaster's decision is final.

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Equality and Accessibility

The School will consider pupils from any background and country. Race, ethnicity, religion, disability, sexual orientation and socio-economic factors are not issues in admissions decisions. If English is not the native language, applicants must have sufficient command of the English language to participate fully, in and out of the classroom. Participation in extra-curricular activities is an integral and essential part of pupil life and known talents and particular skills will be advantageous.

The School is inclusive and welcomes applicants with disabilities and special education needs. *We maintain and drive a positive culture towards inclusion of disabled people and those with special educational needs and will not treat an applicant unfavourably because of something arising from their disability or special education need without justification.* Pupils requiring learning support will be accepted on the basis that the School can effectively provide for their needs, and that they can achieve the set academic standards.

At present the School's facilities, physical and otherwise, for the disabled and those with special educational needs are limited, but the School continues to comply with its legal responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 in order to accommodate the needs of applicants who have disabilities for whom, with reasonable adjustments, the School can cater.

The School needs to be aware of any known disability or special educational need which may affect a child's ability to participate in the admissions procedure and take full advantage of the education provided at the School so that reasonable adjustments can be made to prevent students from being placed at a substantial disadvantage. Parents of a child who has any disability or special educational needs must provide the School with full details prior to the commencement of the admissions procedure and update the School with any new relevant information as and when it arises.

Scholarships and Bursaries

Scholarships seek to reward excellence and outstanding potential. They are available only for entry into the Fourth Form and into the Lower Sixth. Whilst the value of a scholarship is normally a 5% discount of the School's fees, means testing can extend this value to 110%. The [scholarships available and the related application timelines](#) are described in the Admissions section of the website. Our means tested Bursaries Policy is articulated separately and can be found [here](#). Please note that the bulk of our means tested support is awarded through success in the scholarship process.

Houses and House Allocations

Whilst every effort is made to support the ambitions of a candidate to enter a particular house, places are limited, and allocations made on a first come first served basis so long as a particular feeder school is not over-represented in the year group. Places may also be reserved for overseas students so that there is an appropriate balance of different EAL pupils across the houses.

Families are able to register their children for a particular house at the point of registration so long as space is available in that house. If a list is full, then a waiting list is put in place where the order is determined by the date of registration. Priority is also given to those with siblings in the house.

As our day pupil provision continues to expand, day house allocations for entry into Fourth Form are made in February of Year 7, once the School can be clear as to exactly where space for day pupils is available.

Siblings and Existing Relationship with the School

Family connections with the School are favourably considered and do form part of the decision-making process, but each applicant must reach the academic and other criteria set by the School; acceptance is not automatic. When the School is oversubscribed and we need to decide between two or more candidates who meet our admission requirements, after all appropriate allowances and special consideration has been given, we may give preference to a child with a particular skill, talent or aptitude; a child who already has a sibling in the school or whose parent is a former pupil here; a child whose parent is a current member of our staff.

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Overseas Pupils

At present, approximately 30% of Uppingham's pupil body live overseas. About 25% of the School community might not have English as a first language and 6% are English speaking families living abroad. We welcome applications from overseas.

Transfer from Day to Boarding

Applications to Uppingham are made either for a boarding place or for a day place. These applications are considered in separate pools and it is therefore, only rarely possible, once a day place has been offered, to switch to a boarding place. Requests can be made, and such candidates will be added to our waiting list and considered on merit. In the event that there are two candidates of equal merit, the place would be offered to the external candidate.

Conditions of Admission

Admission to the School is on the understanding that parents or legal guardians accept the terms and descriptions set out in this document, the Schools' Terms and Conditions and other School Policies such as the School Rules, the Guardianship Policy and other policies communicated through the New Pupils' Papers or that are made available via the Parent Portal or the School website.