



THE FULHAM BOYS SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY 2024-25

RESPONSIBLE COMMITTEE

Education Committee

RATIFIED BY GB

Autumn 2022

REVIEW DATE

Autumn 2023

The master copy of this document can be found on the FBS Google Drive, under the "Policies" folder. This is one of a number of policies that are reviewed by the Governing Body, the full list can be found on the FBS Google Drive in the Policies Folder. Minor revisions that just adjust factual items (eg contact details / names) can be made by the author without formal review, and must be recorded in the Revisions table at the back of this policy.

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Overview

1. The Fulham Boys School is a publicly funded Church of England Secondary School for boys with a distinctive Christian ethos at its heart. The following admissions policy is designed to deliver the school's educational vision for an inclusive and supportive environment where boys will learn and flourish in a setting shaped by Christian values.
2. The school welcomes applications from all members of the community – Christian, of other faiths and of no faith – but expects all parents/carers and applicants to respect the Christian ethos of the school, recognising that the Christian values of compassion, inclusion and generosity will be at the school's heart and central to its commitment to providing a secure learning environment and opportunity for all. The practical application of this ethos is explained in the Home School Agreement.
3. Responsibility for the admission of pupils rests with The Fulham Boys School Trust.
4. All applications for places at the school will be considered in accordance with the arrangements set out below.

Published Admissions Number

5. The school will admit up to 120 boys in year 7.

Applications

6. Admissions at the start of Year 7 will be administered by the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham as part of the Pan-London co-ordination scheme, with in-year admissions processed by the school.
7. Applicants for a sports aptitude place should also fill in a sports aptitude application form. This is available from the school directly or can be downloaded from the [school website](#). More information on sports aptitude places is in paragraph 13 below and on the website.
8. Boys with Education, Health & Care plans naming The Fulham Boys School will be admitted before the application of the over-subscription criteria.

Oversubscription Criteria

9. If The Fulham Boys School is oversubscribed, the following over-subscription criteria will be applied to support the school's vision of being an inclusive, Christian and local school, providing opportunity for applicants of all abilities:

Looked After Children & Previously Looked After Children

10. First priority will be given to Looked After Children (LAC) and previously Looked After Children. A looked after child is defined as a young person who is in the care of a local authority, or being provided with accommodation by a local authority in exercise of its social services functions. A previously looked after child is defined as a young person who was looked after, and those children who appear (to the admission authority) to have been in state care outside of England but ceased to be so because they were adopted under the Adoption Act 1976 or the Adoption and Children Act 2002, or became subject to a child arrangements order, or became subject to a special guardianship order.

Founders' children

11. After admissions in paragraph 10, priority will be given to the sons of Founders. (see paragraph 24 below).

Children of Staff

12. After admissions in Paragraph 11, priority will be given to children of Fulham Boys School staff who have been in post for at least two years at the time of the application and / or have been recruited to fill a vacant post in a demonstrable skill shortage area. To qualify under this criterion the member of staff must have been employed on a permanent, full time contract.

Sports Aptitude

13. After admissions in paragraph 12, up to eight boys who have applied under the sports aptitude scheme will be admitted. See note 1 below. More information about how to apply and an application form can be found on the [school website](#). The school reserves the right to admit fewer than eight pupils under this criterion if there are insufficient applicants reaching the required standard.

Christian Faith and Open Places

14. After admissions in paragraph 14, to support the school's vision of being a Christian learning environment, half of the remaining places will be offered to boys applying for a Christian faith place. The other 50% of places will be offered to boys of all faiths and none (open places). Note that any unfilled Christian faith places automatically become additional Open places and vice versa. See paragraph 23 below for the definition of Christian faith.
15. To support the school's vision of being a local Fulham school a priority admissions zone is identified for both Faith and Open places for boys living within two miles of the school's permanent location at Heckfield Place SW6 5NL. The distance is as measured by the Hammersmith and Fulham admissions process and is measured to the pupils' entrance to the school in Heckfield Place. (See paragraph 21 below for the definition of residence).

Christian Faith Places

16. If Christian faith places are oversubscribed, applications will be prioritised in the following order:
- a) boys applying for a Christian faith place with a sibling in the school on the date of admission. That sibling may or may not have been admitted under the Christian Faith criteria. A sibling is defined as a full brother, a step/half-brother living at the same address, a child who is living at the same address as part of the family by reason of a court order, or a child who has been placed with foster carers as a result of being looked after by a Local Authority;¹
 - b) boys who themselves or their parents/carers are practising members of the Anglican Church and who are resident in the priority Admissions Zone;
 - c) boys who themselves or their parents/carers are practising members of other Christian churches and who are resident in the priority Admissions Zone.

See Paragraph 23 below for how to apply for a Faith Place.

Open Places

17. If open places are oversubscribed, applications will be prioritised in the following order:

- a) boys with a sibling in the school on the date of admission. A sibling is defined in paragraph 17a above;
- b) boys who are resident in the priority Admissions Zone;
- c) other boys.

Tie Break

18. If any group remains oversubscribed after application of the above criteria, places will be assigned by random allocation. The process will be conducted independently by computer programme.

Sixth Form Admissions

19. Admission to the Sixth Form will only become available to external applicants if internal candidates have not taken up the available places. The Published Admissions Number for external applicants to the Lower Sixth for admission in September 2024 is 20.

Both internal and external students wishing to enter the Sixth Form must meet the minimum academic requirements for entry of five GCSEs graded 9-5, including any specified entrance requirements for courses to which they are applying.

If either internal or external applicants fail to meet the minimum course requirements they will be given the option of pursuing any alternative courses for which they do meet the minimum course requirements.

The minimum course requirements will be published on the school's website. When the Sixth Form is undersubscribed, all applicants meeting the minimum entrance of five GCSEs graded 9-5 and the specific course requirements will be admitted.

When there are more external applicants who satisfy the entry requirements, and once places have been offered to students of special educational needs (SEN) or those with an education, health and care (EHC) plan naming The Fulham Boys School, places will be offered first to young people who are in public care (looked after children) or who were in public care (see paragraph 10 above for definition). Thereafter, when places are oversubscribed they will be offered first to applicants living within the 2 mile priority admissions zone defined in paragraph 15 above, with the same process of random allocation used for tiebreak as explained in

paragraph 18 above.

To help candidates decide which courses are most suitable for them all candidates who are predicted grades that match or exceed our subject requirements will be offered an advice and guidance meeting with a senior member of staff at the school before offers are made. Details will be published on the school website.

Appeals

20. The school will abide by the School Admission Appeals Code and any parents whose applications for places are unsuccessful will be given an opportunity to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel set up in accordance with statutory provisions. Details will be posted on the school website and notified to any unsuccessful applicants

Definitions:

22. Residence

For the oversubscription criteria locality will be defined by the child's normal residence during term time. Where parental responsibility is shared, this will be taken to be the residence where the child lives for the majority of the school week.

23. Christian Faith places

Faith places will be offered to boys who themselves or whose parents/carers are practicing members of a Christian church which is a full member of "Churches Together in Britain and Ireland" or "The Evangelical Alliance". Anyone applying for a faith place should complete the Faith Application form available from the school or downloadable from its website and must have the support of their priest/minister/other referee as indicated on that form in verifying they are practicing members of that church.

Any boy unsuccessfully applying for a faith place will automatically become an applicant for an open place, and will be subject to the same oversubscription criteria as applicants of other faiths and no faith as laid out in paragraph 17.

24. Founders' Children

The Founders of Fulham Boys School have received permission from the Secretary of State for derogation from the school admissions code giving priority in the oversubscription criteria to their children. This is limited to the individuals who

played a major role in establishing the school, during the application and pre-opening stages, and who have continued to play a significant role in the running of the school, but are not required to do so. A list of relevant founders is available from the school on request.

Further information on the applications process

25. Offers

Offers of places are administered by the Home Authority who will post them to parents in March. The offer letter will specify the date by which applicants must inform the Authority of their decision to accept or reject the offer.

26. Waiting list

All unsuccessful applicants will be placed on the waiting list. The waiting list will be ranked in accordance with the over-subscription criteria set out earlier in this policy. This means that each time an applicant is added to or removed from the list the list will be re-randomised. The list will be open until December each year.

27. Appeals

The school will abide by the School Admission Appeals Code and any parents whose applications for places are unsuccessful will be given an opportunity to appeal to an Independent Appeals Panel set up in accordance with statutory provisions.

28. In-year admissions

Applications for vacancies that arise outside the normal annual admission round will be considered at any time during the year. Information and application forms may be obtained from the school. Where there is more than one application for a vacant place, the offer of a place will be prioritized in accordance with the priority admission zone, with a tiebreak as in paragraph 20.

29. Verification of information

All applicants will be required to produce proof of residence (i.e. a utility bill) and an original or certified copy of the child's short birth certificate (a passport will not be accepted in place of a birth certificate). The Governing Body also reserves the right to seek verification from the local authority in which the applicant is resident.

30. Admission outside the normal age group

Parents are entitled to request a place for their child outside of their normal age

group. Any such request should be notified to the school's admissions officer at the time of application and processed as part of the normal admissions round as detailed in this policy. Decisions will be made on the basis of the circumstances of each case, and in the best interests of the child concerned. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, this will include taking account of:

Parents' views;

Information about the child's academic, social and emotional development;

Where relevant, their medical history and the views of a medical professional;

Whether they have previously been educated out of their normal age group;

Whether they may naturally have fallen into a lower age group if it were not for being born prematurely;

The Headteacher's views.

Parents do not have a right to appeal if they are offered a place at the school but it is not in their preferred age group.

Notes

¹ The sports aptitude tests will be held in mid-October 2023. Anyone wishing to apply for a sports place must complete a sports aptitude application form and return it to the school by 1st October 2023. Details of the timings of tests will then be emailed to all applicants under this scheme. The school will take all reasonable steps to inform parents of the outcome of the tests before the closing date for secondary applications on 31st October.

² Where applications are received from twins, triplets or same-year siblings the following procedure will be followed: if one child is selected for a place within their band, the twin/triplet/same year sibling will be ranked in their own band immediately after looked after children.

Revisions Table

Date	Description of Change/Item Edited
Spring 2021	No Amendments
Autumn 2022	PAN reduced from 130 to 120