



The Schools at Somerhill

Admissions Policy

Policy reviewed: November 2010
Next review due: September 2012

The Nursery.

Children are admitted to the Nursery at the age of rising three.

Kindergarten Year.

Progression into the Kindergarten year is automatic provided there is satisfactory progress in the six areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Reception Year.

Progression into the Reception year from Kindergarten is automatic provided there is satisfactory progress in the six areas of the Foundation Stage Curriculum.

Yardley Court and Derwent Lodge.

It is expected that there is a natural progression from S.P.P. to Yardley Court and Derwent Lodge but this is dependent upon satisfactory progress.

Pupils wishing to enter Yardley Court or Derwent Lodge at Year Three are assessed in Year Two.

Pupils wishing to enter Yardley Court or Derwent Lodge at a higher level spend a day in the school(s) in an appropriate class setting where they may take a series of assessments within the normal school day.

Our entry tests are non-competitive and designed to assess a pupil's literacy and numeracy skills, along with his or her academic potential, within the context of the Schools at Somerhill's curriculum and of the entrance requirements of the senior schools to which our pupils transfer. We encourage each applicant for entry to spend a part of or a whole day with us typically during the year before entry. This gives us the opportunity to administer the assessments and observe the pupil in the classroom setting. Importantly, it also gives the pupil an opportunity to have a brief experience of the school, to meet his or her future classmates and so to allay some of the anxieties that inevitably accompany a move to a new school. A preliminary visit incurs no obligation on either side.

Where attendance may not be possible e.g. an ex-patriot family returning from abroad, current reports and records will be required for review prior to entry.

Reports and any appropriate SATs results will be requested by all three schools and occasionally books from previous schools will be requested.

Disabled Pupils Admissions Policy

Applications from pupils with a disability will be considered on an individual basis dependant on the child's ability to access the buildings and curriculum of the schools. The schools will endeavour to make reasonable change to the fabric of the buildings where practicable within the constraints of a Grade One listed building. Where children with a disability are offered and accept a place at one of The Schools at Somerhill, an assessment will be carried out and, where considered necessary, an appropriate person will be assigned to assist with movement around school.

Pupils with English as a Second or Additional Language

Pupils applying for admission to The Schools at Somerhill will be assessed before entry to ascertain their level of English language ability. The Schools will determine from this assessment, and from information provided by prospective parents, whether the child will be able to cope with the level of English language skill needed to cope with the curriculum. Admission to the school on this basis will be the decision of the Headteacher.

If a pupil whose first language is not English is admitted to The Schools at Somerhill, support will be given to the pupil in line with the Special Educational Needs Policy, should this be necessary.