

PANGBOURNE

ADMISSIONS POLICY



Last reviewed by Admissions Dept. June 2016	Approved by HM, June 2016
Next review June 2018	Approval by HM, June2018

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Pangbourne College is an independent boarding and day school for boys and girls aged 11-18 years.

Applications are welcome from pupils and families sympathetic to the Christian ethos of the College irrespective of nationality, race, religion, language and ethnic background.

Entry Procedure

Pangbourne College is a selective school in that we must feel confident in our ability to educate fully any applicant child in line with his/her potential and in parallel with the advancement of his/her peers.

Selection is based upon academic merit which is assessed through the College Entrance Test. In addition the College gives due consideration to school reports, references and an interview (where appropriate). Our selection process is designed to identify pupils who are able to benefit from our balanced and well rounded education and who are likely to make a positive contribution through commitment and good behaviour to the aims, ethos and co-curricular life of the school.

The usual points of entry are at 11+ (Year 7), 13+ (Year 9) and 16+ (Year 12, Sixth Form). On average we aim to admit 30+ pupils into the First Form (Year 7), 40+ pupils into the Third Form (Year 9) and 25+ pupils into the Sixth Form (Year 12). We may also have occasional places at other ages. Please contact the Registrar for details.

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. Means tested bursaries are offered in order to make it possible for as many as possible who meet the school's admission criteria to attend the College (See *Bursary Policy* for full details).

Pangbourne College is committed to equal treatment for all, regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background.

Special Needs

We do not discriminate in any way regarding entry. We welcome pupils with special educational needs, providing they are deemed capable of succeeding within the academic framework of the College and our Learning Support Department can offer them the support that they require.

The College is aware of the need for access for the physically disabled. We continue to review and improve our existing facilities to ensure that our responsibilities are met (see *SENDA – Improving Access Policy* for full details).

We advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirement with Pangbourne College before he or she sits the entrance

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examination so that we can make adequate provision for him/her. Parents should provide a copy of an Educational

Psychologist's report or a medical report to support their request, for example for extra time or other special arrangements.

We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can be reasonably made for a child if he/she becomes 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 learning in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that extend beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. Pangbourne College has strong traditions in music, drama, art and sport and encourages the development of confidence, leadership and teamwork.

No specific preparation for the entrance tests is required. All candidates start on an equal footing, with identical opportunities to display their academic aptitude and, where appropriate, co-curricular skills. An individual's performance in the entrance test remains confidential and the College will not enter into a dialogue or provide details about individual performance.

Entrance for all pupils to the Third Form (Year 9) and below is via computer-based assessment tests taken here at the College, a review of up to date school reports and informal interview. Entrance to pupils to the Fourth Form (Year 10) includes a review of up to date school reports and may include a computer-based test taken here at the College.

An offer of a place at 16+ (Sixth Form) is conditional upon a candidate achieving a minimum of 6 passes (at least three B grades and two C grades) at GCSE including English and Mathematics or the equivalent if from abroad (Overseas applicants see below).

Detail of the dates for the assessment process are available from the College Registrar.

Siblings

Pangbourne College recognises and greatly values families and the enduring relationships that can be built. Where a sibling is judged to meet the College's entrance criteria, they will normally be given priority for a place over other candidates. However siblings are subject to the standard College application procedures and must register for a place within the appropriate time frame.

Most siblings join the College at 11+, 13+ or in the Sixth Form. 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.

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Scholarships and Bursaries

Pangbourne College offers a limited number of financial awards in recognition of excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. Means- tested bursaries are also available. Full details are available from the College Registrar.

Overseas Applicants

We welcome overseas students provided that they have a relative or legal guardian living in the UK with whom they can stay for some weekends.

Overseas pupils are expected to complete a course of study such as the two year GCSE programme or two year, pre-university programmes. Only exceptionally are overseas pupils offered a short term programme (2 terms minimum).

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International pupils are offered places on the basis of recent school reports, written tests in English and Mathematics and interview (where appropriate).

Tuition in English as an Additional Language can be arranged at the expense of the parents. However, before entry, pupils will be expected to demonstrate a sufficient and appropriate level of English Language skill so as to allow them to advance in their studies.

Religious Beliefs

Although Pangbourne College has a Christian tradition, we do not select for entry on the basis of religious belief, and we seek to offer the opportunity for those of other recognised faiths to practice their own beliefs. However, parents should be aware that there is compulsory Saturday morning school, and that all pupils are expected to attend whole school community events eg. Headmaster's Assembly in Chapel, College Sundays and annual events like the Carol Service and Founders' Day Service.

College's Contractual Terms and Conditions

Copies of the College Contractual Terms and Conditions are sent to all parents as part of the admissions process. Additional and subsequent copies are available on request.

Complaints

We hope that you and your child do not have any complaints about our admissions process; but a copy of the College's complaints procedure is available on the College website.