

Founded 1642



New Hall School

Whole School Admissions Policy

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| Reviewed by | Senior Leadership & Management Team Governing Body |
| Date | December 2017 |
| Authorised by | Board of Governors of New Hall |
| Signed | |

New Hall School The Avenue, Boreham, Chelmsford, Essex CM3 3HS | 01245 467 588

Independent Catholic boarding and day school for boys and girls aged 3-18

newhallschool.co.uk

WHOLE SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY

1. Introduction

The principles relied on in the selection of students for admission are designed to ensure the school will remain a Catholic school. Applications for admission will be considered from parents and guardians who are in sympathy with the aims and ethos of the school and whose child will benefit from the academic curriculum of the school.

2. Criteria for places, scholarship and awards

The school is selective and offers are made based on entrance assessments, interview and current nursery/Headteacher's report or reference.

All students admitted to the school, and their parents/guardians, are expected to be supportive of the Catholic ethos of the school. Listed below are the various priority categories for places (subject to entry assessments), although there is no fixed weighting or ranking in relation to each other:

- Boarders (Years 3-13), with full or weekly boarders prioritised ahead of flexi-boarders
- Academic ability
- Religious commitment (see point 4 below)
- Siblings of current New Hall students or siblings joining simultaneously

It is normally the case that priority for a place or award increases with the number of above criteria that are met by a candidate.

In so far as selection for a place, bursary or scholarship is based on religious criteria, the following order would apply:

- Catholic baptised children of practising Catholic families
 - Children of Catholic families
 - Children of other Christian denominations who are practising their faith
- Please ask your priest to complete a *Certificate of Practice* to verify your child's Catholicity.

The following criteria (in no particular order) will be borne in mind when considering any applicant:

- Can the school meet the educational needs of the child within the context of the resources available?
- Are the parents in sympathy with the aims and ethos of the school - as expressed in the curriculum, the co-curricular activities provided and the religious values at the heart of the school?
- Does it appear that the child will be happy at New Hall?

The offer of bursaries, scholarships and awards shall be made in accordance with the current policy, which is reviewed annually.

Where waiting lists operate for places into a particular year group, the admissions criteria above will apply when selecting a child, should a vacancy occur.

3. Points of Entry to New Hall School

The main entry points to the school are:

- Pre-Reception (age 3+ i.e. the academic year in which a child has his/her 4th birthday)
- Reception (age 4+)
- Years 3-6 (ages 7-10+), for junior weekly and full boarders only (reserved Preparatory Division places)
- Year 7 (age 11+)
- Year 9 (age 13+)
- Year 12 (age 16+)

New Hall encourages children in independent preparatory schools to remain in their current school until the end of the final year and then to seek transfer to New Hall at the appropriate entry point. New Hall will endeavour to limit admissions to a maximum of 3 students from any one Year Group in another independent preparatory school who seek transfer into New Hall's Pre-Prep or Preparatory Division. A significant number of external places are always made available at both 11+ and 13+. However, children seeking junior boarding from 7+, whose current school does not offer this provision, are welcome to apply for Year 3-6 entry, since reserved places are available for junior boarders starting in Years 3-6.

Please note there are places reserved in the Senior Division for 13+ entry and separate scholarships are available at 13+, in order to provide for students transferring from preparatory schools that have provision up to 13+. Applications from Year 6 students who attend preparatory schools in Essex or Suffolk which make provision allowing them to continue their education up to 13+, and which are not part of a structure which connects them to a particular senior school, will only be accepted (subject to the other relevant criteria set out in this policy) for Year 9 entry. The assessments may be sat in Year 8, or earlier in Year 6 if preferred, and any offer made will be for a place at the start of Year 9.

4. Admissions Process

The current assessment process for each point of entry is set out in the Additional Information Booklet in the school prospectus and on the school website. The assessment process will normally include, for example, a trial session, interview, entrance examinations and a report or reference from the current nursery/Headteacher, as appropriate to the age of entry. The Principal or another member of the Senior Leadership Team, will normally meet with parents for an interview prior to their child being assessed for entry to the school.

5. Transfer between Divisions

5.1 11+ Internal Entry to the Girls' & Boys' Division

Priority is given to:

- Pupils from New Hall Preparatory School applying for Year 7 entry
- Pupils from New Hall's sponsored academy, Messing Primary School, applying for Year 7 entry

5.2 16+ Internal Entry to the Sixth Form

Priority for entry to the Sixth Form is given to Year 11 in New Hall's Boys' & Girls' Divisions. Students are interviewed in the Michaelmas Term of Year 11, by the Principal, the Head of Girls' & Boys' Divisions or the Head of Sixth Form. Students must meet the minimum entry requirement of 2As and 4Bs at GCSE (or the equivalent); some subjects require a minimum of an A grade (or equivalent) at GCSE in order to take the subject at A Level (see the Sixth Form handbook for details). In addition, students must have a satisfactory behaviour and work record, as confirmed by the Head of Girls' & Boys' Division (and Head of Boarding, if a Boarder). A number of places are available for external candidates, with offers made during Year 11; offers are subject to GCSE grades, interview and school report from the current Headteacher.