



ALDENHAM SCHOOL

ADMISSIONS POLICY

**Revised January 2020
by The Headmaster**

1. Admission to the School at 11+

For Year 7, there is a four or five form entry of between 80 and 100 pupils. Applicants should have attained the age of eleven before 1 September in the year of entry. Places are offered on the basis of a satisfactory performance at the 11+ test, interview and school report. The entrance examination is held in January and the aim is to test the skills of the candidates whatever their educational background. Papers are set in English, Mathematics and Verbal Reasoning. If Aldenham School is the only choice and the application has been received before the beginning of Year 6, an early Reserved Offer may be made, subject to a satisfactory interview and school report. The test is sat in the normal way to confirm the place and the formal full offer is made at the same time as all other offers in February of Year 6.

Pupils in Year 6 of Aldenham Preparatory School or St Hilda's School, Bushey (which are both part of The Aldenham Foundation), are assessed by internal testing during the Christmas Term and, for those who satisfy the entry requirements, an opportunity to transfer to Aldenham School can be offered by December. Those wishing to take up the opportunity of transfer sit the entry test with external candidates in January for the purposes of setting and to allow them to be considered for scholarships.

2. Admission at 13+

Up to 20 places are available at 13+ to enter Year 9 and to join the pupils moving up from Martineau's House (Aldenham Year 8). Places are offered on the basis of 13+ test, interview and school report. The test is in January and papers are set in English, Mathematics, a Modern Foreign Language (French or Spanish), Science and Verbal Reasoning. If Aldenham School is the only choice and the application has been received before the beginning of Year 8, an early Reserved Offer may be made, subject to a satisfactory interview and school report. The test is sat in the normal way to confirm the place and the formal full offer is made at the same time as all other offers in February of Year 6.

3. Admission to Sixth Form

Up to 25 places are available at Sixth Form level for both boys and girls. Offers are based on a school report and individual interview and are made conditional upon GCSE results. A minimum of 5 GCSE passes at grade 6 or above is required, with at least grade 6 expected in any subject to be studied at A Level. Some subjects (eg. Mathematics, Sciences and Economics) have a higher entry requirement for A Level study. Details of the grade requirements are contained within the Sixth Form Information Booklet, which is published in November of each year and distributed to prospective candidates.

For students who apply to join the Sixth Form from overseas, offers are based on a school report and individual interview where possible. This interview may take place via telephone, Skype or Whereby, or could be carried out by the School's appointed agent in a foreign country. It is a condition of entry that students joining the School have demonstrated either a level of competence in English which will allow them to access the academic curriculum, or have a plan in place to enable them to do so before arriving at the School. On arrival at the School their level of English is re-tested and an appropriate course of English as an Additional Language (EAL) is put in place. Individual EAL lessons are charged as an extra to parents on a termly basis.

4. Admission at other ages

Vacancies sometimes arise other than at 11+, 13+ and 16+ and enquiries for admission should be made in the usual way by contacting the Admissions Coordinator.

5. General points regarding admissions

An offer of a place to any pupil requiring a visa to study in the UK is conditional on the appropriate clearance being issued by UKBA.

Subject to the entry criteria above, we look favourably on applications of siblings of current Senior School pupils and seek to offer them places in the School.

All pupils joining at Year 7 or Year 9 are screened on entry to establish whether learning support is likely to be a necessary feature of their education. If this is indicated, the outcome of the screening is discussed with parents and a suitable plan proposed. Wherever possible, learning needs will be accommodated within the curriculum, but if specialist support is necessary this will be charged as an extra to parents.

Any applicants who have an identified learning need, disability or medical condition prior to application are required to make this clear on the School Registration Form and supply appropriate information to enable the School to properly consider whether any adjustments may be necessary.

Those families who would require financial support in order to enable them to take up a place in the School are asked to make this clear at the time of registration. They are then asked to complete a confidential financial circumstances form and, if necessary, a meeting with an external advisor which will allow the Headmaster and the Director of Finance to determine whether such support could be offered. Any bursarial support is offered for one year initially and is subject to an annual review of the family's financial circumstances. All bursary applications are subject to audit by the School's Governors.

Review date: January 2020
Next review: January 2021
Reviewed by: Headmaster and CEO of the Aldenham Foundation