



ADMISSIONS POLICY

GENERAL

Bedstone College is a co-educational independent boarding and day school for scholars from ages 3 to 18. The school currently has almost 280 scholars with about 110 being full time boarders. We prepare the scholars for GCSE examinations in the first instance and subject to the criteria for entry to the Sixth Form being met for A levels.

The aim of the admissions process is to identify potential. We are looking for well-rounded scholars with a genuine interest in education in the broadest sense of the word, with interests that stretch beyond the confines of the academic curriculum. The school has strong traditions in music, drama, art, and sport. There are many extra-curricular activities, all of which are important in developing a well-balanced, confident individual.

Scholars will enter a teaching year group appropriate to their age but consideration will be given to overseas applicants who may be a year old for a particular year group for reasons of competence in English.

Bedstone holds a number of Open Days throughout the year which gives the ideal occasion for prospective families to view the school and talk to the pupils and academic staff. Where possible, pupils are encouraged to spend a day “taster day” at the school to experience for themselves the atmosphere of the school so that the entire family can be confident in their choice of school. Details of Open Days are published on our web site. We are also delighted to welcome prospective parents and their children at any other times for a tour by arrangement. Director of Admissions, Mrs Claire Reid-Warrilow on 01547 530961 or email on admissions@bedstone.org .

THE ENTRY POINTS

Bedstone College is a non-selective school and accepts pupils at various entry points, with the principal points of entry being; 3 years of age/Reception, and at 7 years of age /Year 3. 11+/Year 7, 13+/Year 9 and 16+/Year 12. Our entry procedure is designed to identify scholars who are able to benefit from our balanced and well rounded education and to make a positive contribution towards the life of the school.

The College takes applicants age on 1st September to determine the entry point into the school. However, in line with the College’s ethos of focusing on individual talents and abilities pupils may be offered a place into a year other than that suggested by their birth date at the Headmaster’s discretion, should he feel such an offer would be in the best interests of the pupil and the school.

Applicants are advised to register by May of the year preceding the September of the desired year of admission although later applications will be considered if places are available. (The registration form is at the end of this document).

SIXTH FORM

Entry to the Sixth Form for UK students is determined by candidates obtaining 5 GCSE grades at C grade or better. In addition a school report is required and candidates may expect an interview with the Headmaster or Director of Studies.

The wide range of international qualifications available world-wide means that it is not possible to specify country-by-country standard entry to the Sixth Form for international students. For students whose first language is not English a College-specified English test will be required in addition to other appropriate evidence of academic ability.

Places into other Years of the school other than those specified are offered on a case-by-case basis.

EQUAL TREATMENT

Boys and girls of all nationalities will be considered on an equal basis and admitted to the school regardless of a candidate's race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation or social background, whose personal qualities suggest they have the potential to contribute sufficiently to the school community and benefit from the many opportunities that are offered at the College subject to space available.

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 scholars for today's world. Means tested bursaries are available in order to make it possible for as many as possible who meet the school's admission criteria to attend the school.

Bedstone College is committed to equal treatment for all. Our provision for bursaries is described below.

SPECIAL NEEDS

We do not discriminate in any way regarding entry. Applications from pupils with specific learning difficulties (specifically dyslexia, dyspraxia and dyscalculia) are welcomed providing that our Learning Support Department can offer them the support that they require.

We welcome scholars with physical disabilities provided that our site can cope with them. However, we do advise parents of children with special educational needs or physical disabilities to discuss their child's requirements with Bedstone College and Parents are requested to provide a copy of an up to date Educational Psychologist's report or a medical report.

We will discuss thoroughly with parents and their medical advisers the adjustments that can reasonably be made for the child if he/she becomes a scholar at the school.

SIBLING POLICY

Most siblings join us at Bedstone College because of the strong family ethos that we have. When three members of a family are pupils at the same time, and for each of whom the standard fees are payable, then the eldest child qualifies for a 50% discount.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Bedstone College offers scholarships for excellence in:

- Academic subjects
- Music
- Choral
- Sport
- Art

Purpose of Scholarships

Scholarships are designed to reward excellence and to celebrate exceptional talent. In recognition of this achievement, the scholar is offered up to a 15% reduction in the fees throughout his/her time at Bedstone College. In addition, music scholars are offered free tuition in musical instrument. Scholarships are held in the first week of March. The dates and application forms will be posted on the school web-site.

We encourage parents of Scholars who anticipate that they will experience difficulty in meeting the balance of the tuition fees, to apply at the same time for one of the school's means tested bursaries described below, when they register their child.

Academic Scholarships:

Scholarships are held for the duration of a scholar's time at the school, provided he or she continues to work and behave in the manner expected of a Scholar.

All candidates will be interviewed in addition to sitting papers in:

11+ & 13+

VRQ
English
Mathematics
Science

Sixth form award:

Three subjects of their choice from amongst those offered by the College at A level.

Music Scholarships

Music scholarships are awarded to outstanding musicians who play any instrument or sing with exceptional ability. Candidates must obtain a specialist reference from their current Head of Music in addition to a reference from their Headmaster. They will be required to perform two short pieces on their chosen instruments together with aural and practical tests. They will also be interviewed by the Director of Music, or a member of the Music Department. He/she will be expected to demonstrate enthusiasm for and commitment to music, and will be expected to make a contribution to the musical life of the school throughout their time at the school as their talents and abilities allow through the choir and GCSE music.

Sports Scholarships

Sports scholarships are awarded to outstanding, all-round sportsmen/women who have achieved a high level of competence in one or more sports. He/she will be assessed and interviewed by the Head of Sport, and will be expected to demonstrate qualities of leadership and team play of a very high order. Candidates will be required to provide a specialist reference from their current Head of Sport and will be expected to take a practical skills test. They will be expected to make a full contribution to the sporting life of the school throughout their time at the school as their talents and abilities allow.

BURSARIES

Bursaries are means-tested. Both parents are required to provide proof of their income and assets. The level of support varies according to parental need; but can extend to full fee remission in cases of proven need.

Bursaries are always offered for 12 months at a time. The family is required to provide fresh information about its circumstances for every year that their child attends the school. Levels of support may vary with fluctuations in income.

The school's practice is to allocate its entire available bursary funding on entry. The school's expectation is that parents, who do not choose to apply for a bursary at the time that their child is being assessed, will not require financial support throughout the time that their child attends the school, except in wholly unforeseen circumstances.

Our Bursary Policy can be obtained from the Bursar.

OVERSEAS APPLICANTS

The school welcomes overseas scholars as a boarder provided that he/she has a legal guardian or relative living in the UK with whom he/she can stay when necessary. Bedstone also considers applications from Overseas Agents on behalf of pupils. Overseas Agents recommending pupils to the school are made aware of the entry procedures.

Fluency in English

It is expected that scholars entering upon an A level course will have at least IELTS level 5.0. Those entering the intensive English programme are expected to have basic English.

All international scholars are assessed for their language skills on entry to the College and expected to produce evidence of English skills with their application or on interview.

The College provides EAL tuition as a chargeable extra for scholars who need the additional support to reach the standard of English required.

SCHOOL'S CONTRACTUAL TERMS & CONDITIONS

Copies are on the School's web site and will be made available to parents as part of the admissions process.

Before a pupil enters the school a Registration Form and Conditions of Entry Form must be completed for contractual obligations.

COMPLAINTS

We hope that you and your child do not have any complaints about our admissions process; but copies of the School's complaints procedure can be sent to you on request.

WITHDRAWAL

All tuition fees are payable termly in advance and are due on or before the first day of term. Parents wishing to withdraw a boy or girl for any reason must give a full term's notice in writing to the Headmaster; otherwise a full term's fees are payable.

In all matters relating to admissions to Bedstone College the Headmaster's decision is final.