

# PANGBOURNE

## ADMISSIONS POLICY 2020



**Last reviewed by Admissions Dept. December 2020**

**Approved by HM, December 2020**

Next review December 2021

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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 and character. These are assessed by an entrance examination, school reports and references, in addition to an interview or observation day at the College. 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), 45+ pupils into the Third Form (Year 9) and 20+ pupils into the Sixth Form (Year 12). We may also have occasional places at other ages. Please contact the Head of Admissions 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 examination so that we can make adequate provision for him/her. Parents should provide, at the point of registering their child, 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.

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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.

There may be exceptional circumstances in which we are not able to offer a place for reasons relating to a child's disability. For example, if, despite reasonable adjustments, we feel that a prospective pupil is not going to be able to access the education offered, or that his/her/their health and safety or those of other pupils or staff may be put at risk, we reserve the right to decline a place 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 either at the College (Year 7) or at a pupil's current school (Year 9), a review of up to date school reports and a Head's reference, and observation in group activities.

Entrance to pupils to the Fourth Form (Year 10) includes a computer-based test, a review of up to date school reports and a Head's reference, and an interview.

16+ (Sixth Form) candidates complete a computer-based assessment in addition to an interview. Offers of places are conditional upon the achievement of five passes at GCSE (minimum grade 4, but candidates should observe the specific grades required to access certain subjects at A Level) including English Language and Mathematics, or the equivalent from abroad (see Overseas applicants below)

Details of the dates for the assessment process are available from the Head of Admissions.

## **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 Head of Admissions or via this link to the College website:

<https://www.pangbourne.com/prospective-families/fees-scholarships-and-bursaries>

## **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).

International pupils are offered places on the basis of recent school reports, computer-based tests in English and Mathematics and interview (remotely, 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 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**

The School's Complaints Procedure is on the School's website and can be sent to prospective parents for information on request. Please note that the Complaints Procedure is not available for use by prospective parents.

## **Records and Review**

Applicants' details will be held on file with due regard to data protection legislation and the School's Privacy Notice and Retention of Records Policy.

The School will not hold the personal data of you or your child for longer than is necessary for a lawful purpose.