



## ADMISSIONS POLICY

*Distribution: School website, School Policy Library*

### 1. Principles

1.1 Where places are available, the School may, at the Head's discretion, admit into the School pupils of any age (between 3 and 18) who best satisfy the three criteria below. At the point of entry and throughout their time at the School thereafter, pupils should:

- a) Demonstrate the willingness and ability/potential to benefit widely from, and contribute richly to, what the School has to offer.
- b) Have not only the financial, but also the moral support of parents/guardians to meet both Rishworth's fee-paying requirements (as agreed between the Head and the parents/guardians in each case (see point 1.2)) and our educational expectations of a communicative and productive home-school partnership.
- c) Have individual aptitudes which will serve to sustain a diverse and harmonious school community and which will otherwise help the School to achieve its aims.

1.2 Every effort is made, within the financial constraints of the School, to assist with fees and to minimise financial factors as a potential obstacle to admission: we provide an advisory service, offer flexibility in methods of payment, and, where possible, award scholarships on merit and grant means-tested bursaries.

### 2. Admissions Procedure

2.1 A pupil can be considered for entry to Rishworth at any age from 3 upwards.

2.2 Entry into other year groups, when places are available, is subject to satisfactory assessment. All pupils entering Heathfield Prep will be appropriately assessed through satisfactory reports and references from their current school, plus the satisfactory completion of a taster day.

2.3 The main points of entry into the Senior School are at 11, 13 or 16 years, but pupils are accepted at any age, provided there are places and the entry requirements are met. A pupil then has the opportunity of a continuous education through to A Levels at 18 years. Admission is subject to interview, a satisfactory report and reference from the child's previous school, and satisfactory completion of the entrance assessment.

2.4 There is an Entrance Assessment for pupils at 11 years old. This is held in January each academic year. In the case of pupils seeking entry at other times, applications are dealt with individually

and on merit. Special consideration is given to pupils with a brother or sister already at the School.

- 2.5 Transfer from Heathfield Prep to the Senior School is expected, but is subject to a satisfactory report from the Head of Heathfield Prep.
- 2.6 Students from other schools are accepted each year into the Sixth Form. Admission is dependent upon a good report from the previous school, an interview, a school reference and satisfactory GCSE results.

### **3. Scholarships And Bursaries**

- 3.1 Entrance scholarships may be available for candidates who demonstrate excellence in Academics, Sport and Performing or Creative Arts. Means-tested bursaries may also be available to help with fees. Details of these awards are available from the Head of Admissions or Bursar.

### **4. Special Educational Needs and Disabilities**

- 4.1 Rishworth pays due regard to the Equality Act 2010 and reasonable adjustments are made for students with special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- 4.2 Rishworth is an inclusive school and welcomes applications from students with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Parents are invited to discuss their individual requirements with the SENDCo prior to the admissions process to ascertain whether the school can meet the individual needs of their child.
- 4.3 Special educational provision is underpinned by high quality teaching and most students will be supported within the classroom with appropriate interventions. Sometimes it is appropriate to recommend further additional support. Where specific provision is required, parents may be asked to pay an additional charge to meet those needs (staffing and/or resources).
- 4.4 The school must be informed about any special educational need and/or disability prior to admission so that these may be discussed with full candour, enabling the appropriate reasonable adjustments to be put into place.
- 4.5 Rishworth will consider applications from students with an Education, Health and Care Plan if we are able to meet their needs and deliver the provision outlined in the Plan. Admittance is dependent on the school receiving the appropriate funding from the Local Authority. The school must be satisfied that their admission is compatible with the provision of education for the children with whom they will be educated.
- 4.6 A student cannot be admitted into the school if it is clear that their special educational needs and/or disabilities cannot be provided for with reasonable adjustments in place.
- 4.7 The school's facilities for children with physical disabilities are limited due to the limitations of the school site. However, the school will do all it can to ensure reasonable adjustments are made so that pupils with disabilities have full access to the curriculum, procedures, and policies.